

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 26, 1985

The meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Sales at 7:30 a.m. in Room 317 on the above date at the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: Sixteen members were present with Reps. Holliday and O'Connell excused.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 921: Rep. Bob Thoft, District #63, said that under the present law the Law Enforcement Academy must be attached to a unit of the University system and it was being requested, by this bill, to give the long range building subcommittee an opportunity to study other areas as possible sites for this academy. They have requested an appropriation of \$7.4 million to build a new Academy, however, Lewistown has an old radar station which has been used by a church group that has since gone into bankruptcy, that would be an ideal spot at a cost considerably less than \$7.4 million. The long range building committee simply wants the opportunity to look at other sites throughout the state such as Dillon or Lewistown or any other possible sites.

PROPOSERS: Rep. Gene Ernst, District #29, appearing in support of HB 921, said this would give the long range building committee the opportunity to look at all potential sites for a new Law Enforcement Academy. The Big Sky Christian Academy near Lewistown has offered their site which is 25 acres in size. It has three dormitories which house 150 people, dining room and kitchen; a \$450,000 classroom building built on the site in 1974, an auditorium, gymnasium and 27 residences which can or cannot be bought with the site. Dishes, chairs, etc. are all there as the Church just walked away from it. The asking price is \$2.25 million but the bank has said that could be negotiated down. Some areas, such as the residences, could be sold if they were not needed. It is located 14 miles from Lewistown and the only thing lacking would be the pistol firing range but that could be taken care of.

Sen. Bob Williams, District #15, said this was originally a government project so it is nothing but the best and a lot of money has gone into it. It is not in a remote area. They have asked for \$7.4 million to build a permanent Academy in Bozeman. He said that Lewistown is in the very central part of the state and is used by the highway patrolmen for their driving course and felt if the highway patrolmen could come to Lewistown for two days it would not have an adverse affect on bringing these people to Lewistown.

OPPOSERS: Lonn Hoklin, Attorney General's Office, asked that the Committee do not pass this bill because the law on the

books is a good law - it was when the Legislature enacted it and it is now. The Academy has more than just buildings to consider; it has to do with people and the expertise of teaching law enforcement people how to do their jobs. If it was moved away from a unit of the University system the duplication of various areas would be very costly. They share several facilities such as the Film and TV department, sociology department, emergency medical and WAMI programs, radio engineering, the learning center, speech communications and the food service. They train approximately 2,000 people per year. The food service bills on a per meal per day basis which is very economical to the Academy and to the University. It would be very costly to duplicate this food service. There are a lot of costs that do not show up at the present time. If some of these services are not going to be duplicated the calibre of the training sessions will be diminished.

Chuck O'Reilly, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers' Association, said that a lot of the reasons for not moving the Academy have already been raised, however, he said they would lose the interaction at the University with the students and the professors. They have mixed these factions on purpose so that the law officers would see the changes in the youth from time to time and the academics. He said this would be very hard, if not impossible, if moved off the campus. The Academy was started by the Sheriff's Association in 1959 on a voluntary basis and the University was very gracious about helping them get started and has been to the present time. At the present time they are located near the law and justice center in Bozeman. He also said that besides the \$7.4 million request they have an alternative to construct a firing range at a cost of approximately \$500,000. He said the purpose of the Academy is to provide the best possible training for the law enforcement officers throughout the state.

Rep. John Vincent, District #80, said it is true that the Academy has been good for Bozeman and the University but the opposite is also true. This move would not save the State any money even though it would appear to. The services that can be provided by Bozeman and MSU are very critical. The Academy should stay on a University campus and Bozeman has handled this very well for the last 16 years and will continue to do so.

Bob Correa, Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, said that the law was written for a good purpose. The relationship between the Law Enforcement Academy and the University is very important and the long term effects are very important also.

Time being of the essence, Chairman Sales asked that the remainder of the opponents stand and give their names.

Jim Wysocki, City of Bozeman; Judy Rolfe, Automobile Dealer representing the Bozeman area Chamber of Commerce, Jane Jelinski, County Commissioner and Kelly Addy, District #94.

William Tietz, President of Montana State University was also present as an opponent.

In closing Rep. Thoft said that the long range building committee would like the opportunity to study this and said that the committee would act responsibly. They are looking possibly at Dillon and would like to see them have the opportunity to study this site also.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 921: Rep. Nelson asked Mr. Hoklin what the \$7.4 million would cover for the Academy. Mr. Hoklin said that would be a new Law Enforcement Academy from the ground up. This was based on an evaluation of the new Wyoming Academy which was built at a cost of \$8.4 million one year ago. They have suggested an alternative to a new academy and that would be the construction of an indoor firing range at a cost of approximately \$500,000. It would be an indoor firing range so they could conduct training sessions year around rather than during the summer months when it is difficult for some of these officers to attend. It would be a 50 meter pistol range.

In answer to Rep. Campbell's question concerning cost per cadet, Mr. Hoklin said he did not have those figures and neither did Sheriff O'Reilly but said there are different courses offered at different prices. Rep. Cody asked what the charge would be to the county to which Mr. Hoklin answered that the basic course costs \$9.50 per day tuition that is charged to the county or the police department.

Rep. Cody said that the intent of the bill is to give them the opportunity to study other possible areas, however, she said that it appears they have already made up their minds that it would be moved to Lewistown. The only other site mentioned was Dillon and that was mentioned only once, the rest of the testimony was concerning Lewistown. Rep. Thoft said it was not true that they have already made up their mind but they are not allowed to even study other sites without this bill.

Mr. Hoklin said the proposed site in Bozeman is at the corner of Garfield and 19th which would allow enough room for a full Academy eventually.

Rep. Harbin had several questions, among them the impact on adjacent residences, firing range could possibly be objectionable, an additional cost of \$500,000 to construct this firing range and the maintenance costs in the years to come. Mr. Hoklin said an outdoor firing range would only be used for a very limited purpose for shotgun training but he did doubt there would be serious impact on the adjacent homes. In answer to one of the members, Mr. Hoklin said it costs \$630,000 per year to run the Law Enforcement Academy.

There being no further questions from the Committee and the time being short, the Committee went into executive session on HB 921.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 921: Rep. Campbell moved that HB 921 DO PASS, seconded by Rep. Jenkins.

Rep. Fritz made the SUBSTITUTE MOTION DO NOT PASS, seconded by Rep. Garcia.

Rep. Garcia said that if it is moved there would be a lot of moving of courses at a greater cost. Rep. Harbin said that the appropriate course of action would be for the long range building committee to study this for the biennium and come back next session with their recommendations but it was stated that they can't do this without the passage of this bill.

Rep. Phillips said that in talking about fiscal responsibility he felt they should have the opportunity to look at other sites around the state.

Rep. Cody said that the difference between \$7.4 and \$2.2 million is a big consideration, however, she said that any community should not have been brought into the discussion if they truly want to study other sites. She said it looked like they had already made up their minds. Rep. Campbell said they were only pointing those out as possible options and didn't think their hands should be tied by not being able to consider other options.

The Substitute Motion Do Not Pass passed, 9-7. See Roll Call Vote attached.

There being no further business and the hour being 8:00 a.m., the Committee adjourned.



WALTER R. SALES, Chairman

VISITORS' REGISTER

5 + Adm.

COMMITTEE

BILL NO. 921DATE 2-26-85

SPONSOR _____

NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Jane Jelinski	Gallatin County		✓
James L. Rolfe	Gall Co		✓
Chuck O'Reilly	mt. Sherriffs & Peace Officers Assn.		✓
Lynn Hicklin	ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE		✓
Tom Norrer	BOZEMAN		✓
Phil Tiets	Bozeman		✓
Irving E. Dayton	Commissioner of Higher Ed		
Kelley Hilly	231 McCullough		✓
Jim Wysocki	City of Bozeman		✓
Bob Correa	Boy Chamber of Commerce		

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

(Type in committee members' names and have 50 printed to start).

DAILY ROLL CALL

State Administration COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date 2/26/85

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Chairman Walter Sales	/		
V-Chairman Helen O'Connell			/
Campbell, Bud	/		
Compton, Duane	/		
Cody, Dorothy	/		
Fritz, Harry	/		
Garcia, Rodney	/		
Hayne, Harriet	✓		
Harbin, Raymond	✓		
HolliDay, Gay			✓
Jenkins, Loren	/		
Kennerly, Roland	✓		
Moore, Janet	✓		
Nelson, Richard	/		
Peterson, Mary Lou	/		
Phillips, John	/		
Pistoria, Paul	/		
Smith, Clyde	✓		

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 26

1933

SPEAKER

MR.

STATE ADMINISTRATION

We, your committee on

HOUSE

having had under consideration Bill No. 921

First

reading copy (White)
color

LEGISLATURE TO DETERMINE SITE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

HOUSE

Respectfully report as follows: That Bill No. 921

Do Not Pass
J.R.

(Type in committee name, committee members' names, and names of secretary and chairman. Have at least 50 printed to start.)

ROLL CALL VOTE

HOUSE COMMITTEE STATE ADMINISTRATION

DATE 2/26/85 House Bill No. 921 Time _____

NAME	YES	NO
Sales, Walter	✓	
O'Connell, Helen		
Campbell, Bud		✓
Compton, Duane		✓
Cody, Dorothy	✓	
Fritz, Harry	✓	
Garcia, Rodney	✓	
Hayne, Harriet		✓
Harbin, Raymond	✓	
Holliday, Gay		
Jenkins, Loren		✓
Kennerly, Roland	✓	
Moore, Janet	✓	
Nelson, Richard	✓	
Peterson, Mary Lou		✓
Phillips, John		✓
Pistoria, Paul	✓	
Smith, Clyde		✓

Louise L. Sullivan
Secretary

Walter Sales
Chairman

Motion: Do Not Pass - 9-7

(Include enough information on motion -- put with yellow copy of committee report.)

State of Montana

County of Gallatin

Bozeman



February 25, 1985

Committee on State Administration
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620

^{Sales}
Dear Chairman ~~Haffey~~ and Committee Members:

Please defeat HB 921 which would eliminate the requirement that the State Law Enforcement Academy must be located in a community which has a unit of the University system.

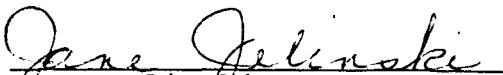
The Law Enforcement Academy here in Bozeman continually uses instructors from several different departments at Montana State University, uses the staff and equipment of the Film and TV Department, and uses the MSU food services. To place the Law Enforcement Academy in a community which does not have these professional, academic and physical resources would be very costly both in quality and economic terms.

HB 921 is clearly contrary to the public interest.

Sincerely,

GALLATIN COUNTY COMMISSION


Wilbur Visser, Chairman


Jane Jelinski, Member


Ramon S. White, Member

JJ:vj