

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 17, 1985

The meeting of the Natural Resources Subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Manuel on January 17, 1985 at 8:10 a.m. in Room 132 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

(Hail Insurance)

Vacancy Savings: Curt Nichols, Principal Analyst, (PA), said they have about a 5% Vacancy Savings rate in FY 1984. Discussion was held on this.

Representative Spaeth made a motion we exclude Vacancy Savings in this program. Senator Boylan seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous: Discussion was held on the Miscellaneous budget.

Representative Swift made a motion we accept the Governor's Miscellaneous budget, an increase of \$1,928 in fiscal 1986 and \$1,489 in fiscal 1987. Senator Boylan seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Modified Budget: Keith Kelly, Director, Department of Agriculture said there are no full time adjustors. Mr. Kelly said they are requesting more part time help and less travel. Discussion was held on this.

Senator Boylan made a motion we approve the .25 FTE. Senator Smith seconded. A Voice vote was taken. The motion carried with Representative Spaeth voting no.

(Wheat Research and Marketing)

Vacancy Savings: Senator Boylan made a motion we exclude Vacancy Savings from this program. Representative Spaeth seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Per Diem: Curt Nichols (15:A:310) said the per diem is the \$25 a day that the Committee gets for meetings. They have 7 Committee members that meet about 41 days costing \$7,250. They are requesting an additional 23 days of meetings for \$4,025.

Representative Spaeth made a motion we disallow this increase. Representative Swift seconded. Discussion was held.

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Representative Spaeth withdrew his motion. The Committee decided to leave this matter open for now.

Miscellaneous: Curt Nichols (15:A:558) explained the Miscellaneous budget. Discussion was held on this.

Representative Swift made a motion we accept the Governor's Miscellaneous budget for, an increase of \$2,887 in fiscal 1986 and \$993 in fiscal 1987. Senator Lane seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

(Centralized Services)

Vacancy Savings: Curt Nichols (15:B:28) explained the Vacancy Savings in this program. The Vacancy Savings in this program is a little over \$12,000.

Representative Swift made a motion we include Vacancy Savings in this program. Discussion followed the motion. Representative Nathe seconded the motion. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried with Chairman Manuel voting no.

Increased Travel: Discussion was held on in-state and out-of-state travel.

Senator Lane made a motion we accept the Governor's budget, an increase of \$1,834 each year. Representative Spaeth seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Maintenance Contracts: Curt Nichols explained the Legislature did not authorize equipment in the last biennium that should require the new maintenance contracts.

Mary Evans, Administrator, Department of Agriculture, Centralized Services, said they anticipate needing maintenance contracts for the word processors that have been moved into Centralized Services.

Senator Smith made a motion that we not take action on this at this time. Discussion was held.

Representative Swift made a motion we accept this budget. Discussion was held. Representative Swift withdrew his motion. Mr. Nichols will look into this further and see if there is a reduction of costs in some of the other departments.

Computer Work Station: Curt Nichols explained this is a request for two computer work stations, one each year, for \$1,500.

Mary Evans said they would have to replace typewriters if they did not get the computer work station. Ms. Evans said the computer work station would be a time saver for the secretaries.

Senator Lane made a motion we accept the budget for \$1,500. Representative Swift seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous: Senator Smith made a motion we accept the LFA's budget, a level of \$792 below the Governor in fiscal 1986 and \$139 above the Governor in fiscal 1987. Representative Nathe seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Funding: Curt Nichols and the figures the LFA's office has used in the current analysis include more earmarked Feed and Fertilizer funds and more Federal funds to maintain Centralized Services. Mr. Nichols said the Department's plan was to assess programs based on a 16.05% of Personal Services and 2.5% of grants. Mr. Nichols said that when they review the cost of Centralized Services program in relation to those expenditures in the agency they found that the percentage would have to be higher to fund Centralized Services. They applied that increase in those two programs with the resulting reduction in General Funds. Discussion was held on this. Mr. Nichols is going to look into this further.

Modified Budget:

Weed Coordinator: This is 100% General Fund. They do not have a Weed Coordinator right now. Discussion was held on this. The Committee decided to wait on this issue.

(Plant Industry)

Personal Services Adjustment: Senator Smith made a motion we accept the adjustment for \$5,973 in FY 1986 and \$5,795 in FY 1987. Senator Lane seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Replace Van at Grain Laboratory: Roy Bjornson, Administrator of the Plant Industry division, said that they use the van to carry their sampling equipment. Mr. Bjornson said they use the van as a warming place also, so it is running all the time and the engine in the van they have now is in poor shape. Senator Smith said that instead of replacing the vehicle they should replace the motor. Mr. Bjornson said this is in an earmarked account on fees collected from samples. Discussion was held.

Senator Smith made a motion we accept the Governor's recommendation to buy the van. Senator Lane seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

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Miscellaneous: Senator Smith made a motion we accept the LFA's budget on other items. Representative Swift seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Modified Budget:

Feed Contaminants: Mr. Kelly said that if this isn't funded by Federal funds the program would not be picked up. Discussion was held on this. Federal funds pay for the samples to be run. The information they get from the samples is shared.

Representative Spaeth made a motion we allow the modified budget of \$16,106 in fiscal 1986 and \$16,118 in fiscal 1987 and the program will cease if the Federal money is not there. Representative Swift seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

  
Rex Manuel, Chairman

DAILY ROLL CALL

NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date January 17, 1985

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NATURAL RESOURCES SUB COMMITTEE

DATE January 17, 1985

[illegible]

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.