

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

February 26, 1985

The meeting of the Natural Resources Subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Manuel on February 26, 1985 at 7:10 a.m. in Room 132 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION

(Public Service Commission)

Additional Replacement Vehicle: The LFA allowed 2 replacement vehicles in their budget and the Executive allowed 3 replacement vehicles.

The Department is predicting 3 of their vehicles will have between 90,000 and 100,000 miles on them. One of these should reach this mileage in FY '86 and the other two in FY '87.

Madeline Cottrill, Administrator, Centralized Services, PSC, said one of the cars they would like to replace in FY '87 is used for the Railroad Safety Program. This is on a 50-50 match of State and Federal Funds.

One of the vehicles only has 30,000 miles on it. Discussion was held.

Representative Swift made a motion to approve two of the vehicles and disapprove the one with only 30,000 miles on it being replaced. Senator Boylan seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Inflation: Representative Spaeth made a motion to approve the LFA's budget of \$5,323 less in FY '86 and \$3,378 less in FY '87, than is contained in the executive budget. Representative Swift seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous: Representative Spaeth made a motion to approve the Governor's budget of \$869 less in FY '86 and \$379 less in FY '87, than is included in the LFA current level. Representative Swift seconded. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Modified:

Phase II Data Processing Plan: There would be \$134,480 in General Fund and \$20,400 in Federal Funds in FY '86 and \$137,620 General Fund and \$20,400 in Federal Funds in FY '87 for this system.

Ms. Cottrill (68:A:128) said it would cost \$50,846 for the Systems Analyst and Computer Technician. Representative Swift said he did not think we needed these people.

Curt Nichols, Principal Analyst, said they were appropriated about \$182,000 in the last session to get this started. They haven't hired any of these people yet. At the end of FY '84 the money was on accrual and it hadn't been spent. They had \$112,000 for FY '85.

Ms. Cottrill said they have made an invitation for bid now. They don't plan on hiring any people, they think with the system they have they can use one of the positions they have in house as a word processor or a systems manager to run whichever system they end up with.

Ms. Cottrill said they are going to try to modify their desks and equipment so they will not have to purchase a lot of furniture.

Darrell Hagen, Department of Administration, Information Systems Division (68:A:183) said they have spent \$42,000 for a group of micro computers. The invitation for bids they have let for the central system is estimated to come in around \$120,000. They may still need to purchase software which would bring this up to about \$154,000.

Mr. Hagen said the money that has been spent so far and the invitation for bids that is out right now will cover a lot of the automation equipment needs.

Mr. Hagen said case management would take the biggest share of this money. Case management is where there are a variety of documents that are related in a case and a variety of people working on the case. The case management system is designed to tie all of this together. This case management system will allow them to establish a history that will give the people working on a case better management of the facts for the current case and access to data and requests that were developed during previous cases.

Mr. Hagen said of the \$100,000 they spend on systems development about \$70,000 goes for people. This is the analysts and the professionals. About \$30,000 goes towards the actual machine time costs.

Mr. Hagen said IBM would help set up this system at a rate of \$180 per hour.

Discussion was held.

Representative Nathe made a motion to approve \$134,480 in FY '86 and \$137,620 in FY '87 for the Phase II Data Processing Plan. This would take out the \$20,400 each year of Federal monies. Representative Nathe also said to disallow the request for \$91,788 in FY '86 and \$91,825 in FY '87 for the Hearings Reporter, Auditor, Systems Analyst, and Computer Technician. Representative Swift seconded.

Discussion was held.

Representative Spaeth asked to amend Representative Nathe's motion to be a biennial appropriation. Representative Nathe agreed. Discussion was held. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program: Representative Nathe made a motion to approve option "C" on page 331 of the LFA's budget book. This option states they would appropriate \$225,000 in Federal funds each year of the 1987 biennium for the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. No additional general fund would be authorized under this option. This option would provide for one motor carrier safety supervisor, one administrative assistant, and four inspectors.


Mr. Budt asked if the \$225,000 was approved they would request approval to spend an additional \$83,000 Federal funds for driver testing. This would be an 80-20 match.

Representative Nathe amended his motion to approve option "C" and if the bill on driver testing passes that whoever ends up with this program be authorized to spend \$83,000 in Federal funds.

Discussion was held.

Senator Boylan seconded the motion. A Voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.


Representative Rex Manuel
Chairman

NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE

Date 2-26-85

CS-30

NATURAL RESOURCES SUB COMMITTEE

DATE 3-26-75

SPONSOR

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.