

MINUTES

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 15, 1994

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The first meeting of the 1993-1994 Capital Projects Committee was called to order by the Acting Chairperson, Senator Emil J. Husak, at 1:25 p.m., Wednesday, June 15, 1994, in Committee Room 22, State House, Des Moines, Iowa. Members present in addition to Acting Chairperson Husak were:

Senator John Jensen
Senator Larry Murphy
Representative Ron Corbett
Representative Darrell Hanson
Representative Patrick Murphy

Also present were Ms. Diane Bolender, Director, Legislative Service Bureau; Mr. Thane R. Johnson, Senior Research Analyst, Legislative Service Bureau; representatives of the Department of General Services; other legislative staff; members of the news media; and other interested persons.

1994 IOWA INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY

Acting Chairperson Husak noted that a quorum was not present for the election of a chairperson so he postponed the election until a quorum was present. He then recognized Professor James Rowings, Construction Engineering Department, Iowa State University, to provide a progress report on the 1994 Iowa Infrastructure Study. Professor Rowings introduced Mr. David Harmelink who assisted on the earlier infrastructure study which is being updated and enlarged in scope by the 1994 Study. Mr. Harmelink distributed a written outline of the major components of the study for the Committee members. A copy of the study outline distributed by Mr. Harmelink is attached to these minutes.

CHAIRPERSON ELECTED

After a quorum was present, Acting Chairperson Husak interrupted the discussion of the 1994 Study outline to elect a chairperson for the Committee. Representative Hanson nominated Senator Husak for chairperson. There being no further nominations,

Representative Hanson moved that a unanimous ballot be cast for Senator Husak as chairperson. The motion was adopted.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED

Chairperson Husak recognized Ms. Bolender to provide the Committee with background about the 1994 Iowa Infrastructure Study. Ms. Bolender reported that a study committee was formed during the 1993 legislative interim to assess the infrastructure needs of Iowa. The Committee was unable to complete its study in 1993 and, subsequently, the Legislative Council voted to contract with Professor Rowings to broaden and update an infrastructure study completed earlier. She added that this meeting was called to allow the Committee to receive a progress report on the study.

Professor Rowings asked for questions and input from the Committee concerning the study outline. Representative Corbett stated that he hopes that the study includes information on what local governments are now doing for capital planning and infrastructure maintenance and replacement. He also requested that information on current deferred maintenance programs be included. He also asked if airports are included in the study. Mr. Harmelink responded that airport facilities will be included as a part of Iowa Department of Transportation infrastructure information which will be included in the study.

Senator Murphy asked if the proposed questionnaire to the local governments will provide data which is useful to the General Assembly to determine what infrastructure exists, its current condition, its value, and the functional needs of the governmental bodies. Mr. Harmelink replied that the questionnaire is designed to answer these and additional questions about capital needs and plans locally. Representative Corbett expressed concern that the responses from smaller communities will be missing pertinent information because of the lack of personnel and expertise on infrastructure matters. Representative Hanson suggested that extra effort be made to make certain that the information from the smaller communities is complete.

NEXT MEETING DATE

After discussion, the Committee agreed that further meetings should be held to receive additional progress reports on the study. Professor Rowings agreed that the September meeting would be appropriate for the next report to the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Hanson moved that the meeting of the Capital Projects Committee adjourn at 2:00 p.m. The motion was adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

THANE R. JOHNSON
SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST

2961LC

ATTACHMENT
1994 Iowa Infrastructure Study Outline