

M I N U T E S
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

July 12, 1990

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The Administration Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order at 11:07 a.m. on Thursday, July 12, 1990, by Senator Donald Doyle, Chairperson, in House Room 1, State Capitol Building, Des Moines, Iowa. Members present in addition to Chairperson Doyle were:

Senator Julia Gentleman
Representative Florence Buhr
Representative Bill Harbor

PRESENTATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES CONCERNING
EMERGENCY LIGHTING IN THE CAPITOL BUILDING

Chairperson Doyle recognized Mr. Don Ashwell and Mr. Merlin Morris from the Department of General Services, for a presentation relating to the emergency lighting proposal prepared for the Capitol Building by Krishna Engineering Consultants, Inc. This proposal and the Department's addendum projecting a total project budget estimate were presented to the Committee and are attached to these minutes.

The lighting proposal provides that certain areas of the building would be wired so that in the event of a power loss, certain existing fixtures would continue to operate from the power generated by an emergency generator and allow occupants of the building to safely exit the building. The proposal would satisfy life safety requirements and meet the standards of the State Fire Marshal.

Chairperson Doyle inquired why the existing emergency power generator would be removed. In response to the question it was noted that the existing generator is too small to accommodate the entire building and that it is 25 years old. Direct replacement would enable the entire system for the Capitol Building to be powered with one generator located under the west steps of the Capitol Building where the existing generator is located.

Chairperson Doyle also inquired whether propane and natural gas generators had been considered, to which the Department responded that they had, but these fuels are more unstable than diesel fuel.

Representative Harbor inquired as to the extent of the system to be provided. The response was that it would be for exiting the building only. It would not provide enough light to continue full operation of offices within the building. It was also noted that some exit signs might be added depending upon room size.

Chairperson Doyle then inquired as to how the funding of the project should occur. He continued by noting that the judicial and executive branches would have to share in the expense of the project or funding would have to be provided through the appropriations process if lighting were to be provided in areas outside the control of the General Assembly. The Department's representative noted that the entire building should be completed at the same time, and that if this is not possible, additional space would have to be found for the new generator. The Department was requested to provide a breakdown of the cost of the project, separating the costs as appropriate among the three branches.

Representative Harbor moved that the proposal from Krishna Engineering with the Department's addendum be forwarded to the Legislative Council and that it be recommended that the Council should negotiate with the executive and judicial branches concerning their proportionate shares of the total cost. The motion failed. Senator Gentleman moved that the Council direct the Legislative Service Bureau to contact the executive and judicial branches on behalf of the Council, regarding their possible participation in sharing the cost of installation of emergency lighting in the Capitol Building. The response of these contacts are to be reported to the Administration Committee at its August meeting for further action. The motion was adopted.

UPDATE -- SENATE AND HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

The Committee received an update on the progress of work in the Senate and House chambers relating to environmental and life safety deficiency corrections.

UPDATE -- REPLACEMENT OF CAPITOL COMPLEX PHONE SYSTEM

The Committee received a progress report from the Department of General Services concerning the replacement of the Capitol Complex phone system. The replacement involves the installation of the state's own switching system, as well as replacement of all telephones. It is anticipated that the switch will be completed

by November 12, 1990. It is anticipated that the total cost of the project will be \$3.2 million and that the system will pay for itself within five years as the result of savings realized in long distance and local call costs. In response to a question by Representative Harbor, it was mentioned that costs after this five-year period will be greatly reduced from current costs.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Representative Harbor moved that the Committee adjourn. The motioned carried and the Committee adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MARK W. JOHNSON
Legal Counsel