

M I N U T E S

LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 14, 1978

The Legislative Service Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order by the Chairperson, Senator William Palmer, at 9:10 a.m., Wednesday, June 14, 1978 in Senate Committee Room 22 of the State House. Members attending the meeting in addition to Senator Palmer were Senators Gene Glenn and Phil Hill and Representatives Gregory Cusack, Donald Doyle and Delwyn Stromer. Other persons present included Director Serge Garrison, Senior Legal Counsel Bernie Koebernick and Senior Research Analyst Phil Burks of the Legislative Service Bureau, Legislative Fiscal Director Gerry D. Rankin, Citizens' Aide Bill Angrick, and Director Alvin Clare Russie of the Temporary State Land Preservation Policy Commission.

At the request of Chairperson Palmer, Mr. Garrison reviewed the personnel and budget recommendations for the Legislative Service Bureau which he had previously mailed to all members of the Legislative Council, and presented additional information indicating the effect of the adoption of such recommendations. Copies of this information are on file with and may be obtained from the Legislative Service Bureau.

Mr. Garrison noted that, although not indicated on the material prepared for distribution to the the Council and the Service Committee, it is his recommendation that an additional one step advancement in grade for Terminal Operator III Chris Juehrs shall take effect January 1, 1979. Mr. Garrison explained that Ms. Juehrs had several years prior experience with another state agency, including some supervisory responsibility, prior to joining the Legislative Service Bureau staff, but that this experience was not fully taken into account in establishing her initial salary level with the Service Bureau because Mr. Garrison did not feel it appropriate to bring in a new Bureau employee at a salary level higher than other persons already employed by the Bureau in similar positions. Mr. Garrison added that the prospective additional advancement is in recognition both of Ms. Juehrs' previous experience as a state employee and her current meritorius performance in her present position and he will formally submit such recommendation prior to January 1.

Service Committee members directed to Mr. Garrison a few questions regarding details of the Legislative Service Bureau salary recommendations. At the conclusion of this discussion, Representative Doyle inquired whether Mr. Garrison believes that the adoption of Senate File 244, placing the Code Editor's Office under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Council and formally

assigning to the Legislative Service Bureau certain responsibilities in connection with preparation of the Code for publication, will affect the Service Bureau's terminal operation in such a manner that further changes in classification of some or all of the Bureau's terminal operators will be necessary. Mr. Garrison replied that he is not sure of the exact impact of Senate File 244 on the Service Bureau, but does not presently believe it will require reclassification of the Bureau's terminal operators since any functions likely to be assigned them in connection with preparation of the Code will be within their current capabilities.

Senator Hill moved that the Service Committee recommend to the Legislative Council approval of the personnel and budget recommendations submitted by the Director of the Legislative Service Bureau. The motion was seconded by Representative Cusack, and adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Chairperson Palmer recognized Mr. Rankin, who reviewed the personnel and budget recommendations for the Legislative Fiscal Bureau previously mailed to members of the Legislative Council. Additional information indicating the effect of adoption of these recommendations was distributed to Service Committee members and reviewed by Mr. Rankin.

After a brief discussion, Representative Cusack moved that the budget and personnel recommendations submitted by the Legislative Fiscal Director be recommended to the Legislative Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Representative Doyle and adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Senator Palmer next recognized Mr. Angrick for a presentation of the budget and personnel recommendations pertaining to the Office of the Citizens' Aide. Mr. Angrick reviewed the contents of a letter written by him to Chairperson Palmer, dated May 22, 1978, recommending the appointment of Mr. John Spinnato to the vacancy created by the resignation of former Specialist for Indian Affairs Andrew Roberts, and the appointment of Mr. Charles Richard to a newly funded general case work-correctional position. Mr. Angrick next presented a request for immediate position reclassifications for Legal Analyst Frank Thomas and Deputy for Corrections Ray Cornell, both from Grade 26, Step 8 to Grade 27, Step 7. Mr. Angrick noted that while these reclassifications would not change the actual salaries of these two individuals for the balance of the current fiscal year, it would put them in a position to receive an additional merit increase in the future. Also, by making the reclassifications effective immediately, it would be possible for these individuals to receive a cost-of-living salary increase from funds appropriated in 1977 by House File 634, rather than from salary funds appropriated directly to the Citizens' Aide Office.

Finally, Mr. Angrick presented to the Service Committee information on the overall effect of the budget and salary recommendations he had submitted as well as certain related

information. The latter included a report on the number of contacts by members of the Citizens' Aide Office staff during the past several years.

There was some discussion of Mr. Angrick's report and recommendations in the course of which Representative Cusack expressed some concern about the possible reaction to transfer of the responsibilities relating to complaints by Native Americans away from a person of this ethnic background to someone with a different background. Mr. Angrick stated that it would be difficult if not impossible to find a qualified Iowa Native American to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Roberts' resignation, and added that even if such an individual could be found it appears that there is enough friction among various tribal groups represented in Iowa's Native American population that the appointment of a person from any one of these tribal groups might be less than satisfactory to some of the other tribal groups. Also, Mr. Angrick pointed out that the experience of his office to date does not indicate that the Native American community in Iowa generates a sufficient number of complaints to require or justify the services of an individual assigned full time to only those complaints, and that the nature of many of the complaints that are received from Native Americans is such that a sensitivity to the concerns and reactions of ethnic minorities generally is probably as good a qualification to handle these matters as is a personal background in the Native American culture.

Representative Doyle moved that the Service Committee recommend to the Legislative Council approval of the recommendations presented by Mr. Angrick. The motion was seconded by Representative Cusack and adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Angrick stated that he had an additional matter to bring before the Service Committee. Pursuant to a complaint about the inaccessibility to physically handicapped persons of the building at 515 East Twelfth Street, which presently houses the Citizens' Aide Office, Mr. Angrick had contacted Director of General Services Stanley McCausland to inquire what steps would be necessary in order to have this situation corrected. Mr. McCausland had indicated to Mr. Angrick that the Department of General Services will be moving the Citizens' Aide Office to one of the large state office buildings within the next few months, and that intentions are to raze the present building at 515 East Twelfth Street, which is a former dwelling house. Mr. Angrick explained that he and his staff are well satisfied with the location and the physical features of the present headquarters of the Citizens' Aide Office, and added that he has some serious reservations about the desirability of locating this particular agency in a larger building where the agency would share quarters with some of the other agencies which it might at times have occasion to contact or investigate. Finally, Mr. Angrick noted it appears that under section 2.43 of the Code, the Director of General Services is not in a position to move a legislative agency from one location to another without prior consultation with the Legislative Council.

After a short discussion of this matter, Representative Cusack moved that the Legislative Service Committee take the matter under advisement and direct Mr. Garrison to request Mr. McCausland to meet with the Committee on this matter in July, and in the meantime take no further action toward moving the offices of the Citizens' Aide and his staff. Mr. Angrick commented that while he had no objection to Representative Cusack's motion, he would like to encumber a few hundred dollars from the remainder of the Citizens' Aide appropriation for the current fiscal year to be used to construct a ramp or other means of access to the agency's office for physically handicapped persons. Representative Stromer pointed out that this expense could be handled under section 2.12 of the Code and need not come from funds appropriated to the Citizens' Aide. Representative Cusack's motion was then adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Chairperson Palmer then recognized Mr. Russie, who presented a recommendation for the employment of Mr. Wayne Saur as Assistant Executive Secretary of the Temporary State Land Preservation Policy Commission at a salary of \$14,820 per year, which is comparable to the salary of an Attorney I under the 1977-1978 Merit Employment System. Mr. Russie reported that more than a dozen candidates for this position had been interviewed, and explained why he believes Mr. Saur's qualifications for the position are particularly outstanding.

Representative Cusack moved that the Committee recommend to the Council approval of Mr. Saur's employment, and the motion was seconded by Representative Doyle. In response to a question from Representative Stromer, Mr. Russie confirmed that it is proposed to employ Mr. Saur for a period of one year in a temporary, nonmerit position. He noted that there had been some difficulty in locating qualified persons willing to accept a position which would exist for only one year. Representative Cusack's motion was then adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Chairperson Palmer again recognized Mr. Garrison, who called attention to the added responsibility which the Legislative Council presumably will have under two of the bills passed during the recent session of the General Assembly, House File 246 and Senate File 244. He noted that House File 246, providing for establishment of a Legislative Oversight Bureau has been approved by the Governor but that no funds have yet been appropriated to implement it, while Senate File 244 placing the Code Editor's Office under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Council is still awaiting action by the Governor.

Chairperson Palmer suggested that the Service Committee recommend to the Council that it advertise for candidates for the position of the Director of the Legislative Oversight Bureau, should funding for that agency be approved. Senator Hill agreed that it is desirable to advertise for candidates but expressed belief that the Council should first agree upon qualifications which it will seek in the person to be employed in this position,

and establish a salary for the position. After further discussion, Chairperson Palmer appointed a subcommittee of the Service Committee consisting of Representative Cusack as chair, Representative Doyle and Senator Phil Hill, to review the provisions of House File 246 and consult with the Merit Employment Department and the Directors of the Legislative Fiscal Bureau and Legislative Service Bureau, and make recommendations relative to the qualifications and salary for the position of Director of the Legislative Oversight Bureau.

Mr. Garrison then reviewed the administrative provisions of Senate File 244, in particular those which relate to the functions which the Legislative Service Bureau will have in the future in connection with preparation of the various editions of the Code for publication. Mr. Garrison very briefly outlined some of his thinking in regard to the manner in which the Legislative Service Bureau should undertake to implement its responsibilities in this area.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

SERGE H. GARRISON  
Director

PHILIP E. BURKS  
Senior Research Analyst