

MINUTES

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

September 22, 1993

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator William Palmer at 11:10 a.m. in Room 22 of the State Capitol Building. In addition to Chairperson Palmer, the following members were present:

Senator Florence Buhr
Senator Maggie Tinsman
Representative Pam Jochum
Representative Mary Lundby
Representative Brent Siegrist

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

A motion was made by Senator Buhr to approve the minutes of the July 21, 1993 meeting. The motion was seconded and the Committee approved the motion.

UPDATE OF CODE DATABASE CONTRACTS

Mr. Mark Johnson, Legal Counsel with the Legislative Service Bureau (LSB) explained that Mead Data Central, Inc. had contacted LSB and unofficially proposed a renewal of the existing purchase agreement for the electronic database of the Iowa Code. He stated that the current purchase agreement is \$12,500 per year and that it was entered into in 1991 and terminates with the delivery of the 1993 Code Supplement database. Mr. Johnson explained that the State of Minnesota recently renegotiated their agreement with Mead Data resulting in an increase from approximately \$15,000 to \$30,800 per year. He added that the Minnesota agreement has a broader scope than Iowa's in that it includes providing the Minnesota statutes, the administrative rules and the session laws.

Mr. Johnson stated that LSB proposes that the Administration Committee consider authorizing an offer to be made to Mead Data to renew the existing terms of the purchase agreement at an increased price of \$22,500 per year for a five-year period. In response to a question by Senator Buhr, Mr. Johnson explained that this would not be an exclusive contract and that LSB could sell the same data to other publishers who may be interested. Senator Tinsman questioned the increased asking price and Mr. Johnson explained that the increased price was based upon the fact that Minnesota had negotiated a substantial increase and that LSB anticipates providing Mead Data with additional data by adding court rules next year and administrative rules when they become available. Representative Siegrist moved the

recommendation that the Administration Committee recommend to the Legislative Council that the LSB negotiate the suggested contract price with Mead Data. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee.

The second issue, Mr. Johnson explained, was a tentative offer by the Michie Company to produce a CD-ROM containing an annotated version of the Iowa Code and the Iowa Court Rules. Mr. Johnson added that the marketing of this product by Michie may affect LSB's Iowa Code CD-ROM project as well as the sale of the printed version of the Code. Mr. Johnson proposed that the Committee consider the continuation of the discussions with Michie but that no precise offer be made at this time. He cautioned that any proposed offer should be at a "substantial" price as the potential loss of revenue will mean that fewer dollars will be recovered to defray the costs of free distribution and that higher prices will be charged to those remaining buyers.

Chairperson Palmer inquired as to the progress that LSB has made in negotiating sale of the CD-ROM to the Iowa State Bar Association (ISBA). Ms. Diane Bolender, Director of the Legislative Service Bureau explained that LSB has ordered 250 disks and that she anticipates ISBA will be responsible for purchasing 200 of the disks.

LSB BILL DRAFTING SYSTEMS UPDATE

Ms. Diane Bolender, LSB, explained that at the present time, bill drafting is done on the Unisys mainframe system, but that Unisys no longer produces the terminals. Therefore, she said, LSB has been trying to find a bill drafting program that can be operated on the PC system. She stated that Public Systems Associates (PSA) had contacted her about a new legislative system called LEGIScribe which PSA anticipates will include an automated amending system. She concluded that LSB will continue to have conversations with PSA regarding this possibility and that she will continue to keep the Committee apprised of developments.

STATE CAPITOL SPACE ALLOCATION

Mr. Mark Johnson introduced the issue of space allocation by referring to a memorandum prepared by General Services which details different options for reallocation of space in order to provide space for smoking in the State Capitol. The memorandum describes the costs for several options. He also referred to a letter from the Executive Council, which was included in the Committee's packet of information, stating the Council's opposition to moving the Executive Council Secretary's office from its present location and opposition to the use of funds for renovation purposes at this time.

Senator Buhr commented on a letter which was included in the handouts from the Department of Public Health in which the Department of Public Health disapproves of moving

the lactation area from its separate quarters to the women's rest room. Senator Buhr expressed the belief that Committee members had not said that lactation was not important. She said that the front portion of the women's restroom in the basement could be converted to a private lactating area. She said she would like to know the frequency in which the lactation room is presently being occupied and the numbers of persons who have used it in the past. Senator Buhr and Senator Tinsman volunteered to follow up on the lactation issue with the Department of Public Health.

Representative Siegrist commented that he believes that a lactation room could be established in the women's restroom for a lower price than the price suggested by the Department of General Services and stated that he was not opposed to the establishment of a smoking room but was opposed to spending \$20,000 of public funds to establish it. Senator Palmer responded that there is more space in the Executive Council Secretary's office than in many other legislative offices and that he would certainly like to utilize the space. He noted that this space utilization issue is a separate issue from the smoking issue and suggested that the nurse's station and the Executive Council office space be combined and then used to house the Legislative Information Office (LIO).

Senator Palmer asked who has jurisdiction over the Executive Council Secretary's space. Mr. Johnson responded that pursuant to section 2.43 the Legislature controls all of the space except for that occupied by the judicial branch and the Governor as of January 1, 1986. He added that a question has been raised whether the Executive Council falls under the Governor's jurisdiction for space allocation.

Representative Lundby commented that meeting room space is also an issue and that something needs to be done with the Legislative Dining Room and the inner Committee room as there is no sound barrier between the rooms when two committee meetings are being held simultaneously. She added that she agreed that LIO has inadequate space and that it is a distraction during session to walk through the LIO office to get to the inner committee room. Senator Tinsman commented on the dismal appearance of the legislative dining room in general and questioned whether better furnishings could be provided. Senator Palmer suggested that Property Division surplus may have tables and chairs. He commented that he had heard of several ventilation systems which were removed from the Lucas Building and asked whether one of those systems could serve as the ventilation system for the smoking room. He added that the only costs would be hiring someone to install it.

Senator Buhr asked if there had been any action taken to find the door to the legislative dining room. Mr. Michael Carlstrom, Director of the Department of General Services, who was present at the meeting, responded that his department has not been able to locate the door and commented in response to the earlier discussion that there are many items in surplus and that he and his department would be glad to help the Committee if possible. The Committee agreed that Senators Buhr and Palmer by virtue of the fact that they are located in Des Moines and would therefore not require a special trip, would meet with representatives from the Department of General Services and discuss the space issues. Chairperson Palmer stated that meanwhile the Committee would wait for a decision on who has jurisdiction over the

Executive Council Secretary's space and requested that the Legislative Service Bureau draft a letter on behalf of the Committee requesting an opinion of the Attorney General regarding this issue.

Chairperson Palmer recognized Ms. Maryjo Welch, Speaker Van Maanen's Administrative Assistant, for further information on the space issue. Ms. Welch stated that she had been authorized by the Speaker to discuss this issue with the Committee. She stated that the Speaker had been studying this issue and has a comprehensive proposal to bring to the Committee. Speaker Van Maanen's proposal is that the portion of the Legislative Fiscal Bureau which is located in the basement of the Capitol be moved to the Lucas Building, the Senate Indexing staff could move to the LFB's basement quarters and the outer room in the basement could be used as a Committee meeting room. She continued that the Legislative Information Office could then be moved to the Senate Indexing Office on the first floor of the Capitol and that the small dining room and the Legislative Information Offices could be used for a smoking room. She added that this would free up the Fiscal Director's Conference room which could then be used for expansion of House personnel.

Chairperson Palmer responded that it may be an excellent idea but when it involves that degree of movement he suggested that the proposal should be considered jointly by the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration and the House Committee on Rules. Representative Lundby commented on the fact that the Department of General Services placed a figure of \$500 per person as the cost of moving an employee space from one location to another. Chairperson Palmer commented that he would like to utilize the Old Historical Building. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

JULIE A. SMITH
Legal Counsel

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