

M I N U T E S

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
of the
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

September 8, 1976

The Administration Committee meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Dale M. Cochran at 10:50 a.m. in the lower offices of the Governor. Members present were Speaker Cochran, Representatives Donald Doyle and Andrew Varley and Senators George Kinley, Clifton Lamborn, and Eugene Hill. Also present were the Honorable Robert D. Ray, Governor of the State of Iowa, Chief Justice C. Edwin Moore of the Iowa Supreme Court, members of the Governor's staff and the Chief Justice's staff, Mr. Burnette Koebernick of the Legislative Service Bureau, representatives of the news media and other interested persons.

Speaker Cochran noted that the Legislative Council has discussed on several occasions the use of space which will become available in the State House when the Department of Agriculture moves its offices to the Wallace building. He noted that the Iowa Supreme Court had indicated its desire to have the space being vacated by the Department of Agriculture because of its need for space for the new intermediate court which was created by the last General Assembly. Speaker Cochran stated that the members of the Administration Committee are aware of the space needs of each of the three branches of government and the Administration Committee feels that discussions between the three branches of government will lead to a better understanding of the needs of each branch and to making the best possible use of those facilities which will become available in the State House.

Governor Ray noted that the space which is being vacated is not practical for individual offices. He suggested that some of this space would be useful as committee rooms and suggested that the General Assembly consider the use of other committee meeting rooms which are presently available in the state complex. He also suggested that there is a possible problem with attempting to move elected state officials from the State House and agreed that there is an immediate need for space for the new intermediate court.

Speaker Cochran noted that Mr. Stanley McCausland, Director of the Department of General Services, appeared before the Legislative Council on October 15, 1975 requesting authority to expend funds within the existing appropriation for the new Hoover building for the construction of an additional floor since the necessary funds would be available within the existing appropriation. He noted at that time that the Legislative Council approved a motion which authorized the planning and addition of a fifth floor to the new state office building as proposed by the Capitol Planning Commission provided that first priority shall be

given to moving the elected state officials, other than the Governor, and their respective agencies out of the State House and assigning the space thus made available to the General Assembly. He said that this motion was unanimously adopted by the Council.

Governor Ray said that he is not aware of any state elected official who would like to move from the State House. Governor Ray also indicated that he assumed that there is no interest on the part of the General Assembly to use space available in the state complex other than that space which would become available in the State House.

Speaker Cochran suggested that if the Supreme Court uses that space which is presently occupied by the Department of Agriculture, there would be no space available in the state house for use by the members of the General Assembly unless some of the elected state officials are moved into the new office buildings. Speaker Cochran stated that the problem is that if the General Assembly would use space available in other buildings, it would still be necessary for all members of the General Assembly to move back and forth between the other office buildings and the State House since the House and Senate Chambers are located in the State House. He suggested that the state elected officials who presently have offices in the State House could move their entire operations into another building and that these officials could very efficiently perform their duties in one location.

Senator Kinley noted that the problem of space allocation arose with the approval of adding an additional floor to the Hoover building. He suggested that he is personally not opposed to allowing each elected state official to maintain some type of ceremonial office in the State House but suggested that all of the elected official's staff could move to another building.

Representative Varley stated that the present meeting rooms available to the General Assembly are useless. He noted that the rooms are very small and that the rooms are even unuseable for caucus purposes. He said that using meeting rooms available in other buildings on the state complex would not be workable. He suggested that before the General Assembly would consider using meeting rooms available in other buildings, committee meetings would be held in the rotunda. Representative Varley also pointed out that much of the space which will become available in the State House would be much more suited to use as committee rooms and hearing rooms rather than offices.

Senator Kinley indicated that it is not practical for members of the General Assembly to go to other buildings for committee meetings. Speaker Cochran also noted the national trend to use state houses for housing only the court, the governor, and the state legislature.

Senator Hill noted that in the past few years, since all of the legislative committee meetings have been open to the public,

there is greater attendance at the committee meetings and present facilities are unable to handle the number of people who attend these meetings.

Following additional discussions regarding the availability and use of space in the State House and the new office buildings, it was agreed that another joint meeting be held prior to the next Legislative Council meeting and the Governor indicated that he would discuss the matter with other elected state officials to get their views on the subject.

There being no further business, the meeting of the Administration Committee was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

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