

M I N U T E S

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

August 8, 1979

The meeting of the Administration Committee of the Legislative Council was called to order by the Chairperson, Senator Calvin O. Hultman at 10:15 a.m., Wednesday, August 8, 1979 in Room 24 of the State House. Committee members present in addition to Chairperson Hultman were:

Senator James Briles
Senator Lowell Junkins
Representative Roger Halvorson
Representative John Clark

Other persons present included:

Secretary of the Senate Frank Stork
Chief Clerk of the House David Wray
Administrative Rules Committee Staff member Joe Royce
Code Editor Wayne Faupel
Deputy Code Editor Phyllis Berry
General Services Director Stanley McCausland
Legislative Fiscal Director Gerry Rankin
Senator Richard Ramsey

Several persons representing the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals and various legislative staff were also present.

Chairperson Hultman called on Representative Clark for the report of the Space Subcommittee of the Administration Committee. A copy of the report presented by Representative Clark is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Representative Clark briefly described each of the three recommendations contained in the Subcommittee report and moved receipt of the report. The motion passed.

Senator Junkins remarked that while he recognizes that the recommendations in the report represent a compromise among competing interests, they provide only temporary solutions to the problem of increasing the amount of space available to the General Assembly for committee work and that this is not acceptable. He opined that all offices including legislative offices that do not because of their function need to be located in the Capitol building should be moved to other facilities. Senator Junkins noted that rather than accepting a temporary compromise solution to the problem, the Administration Committee should recommend that the Legislative Council undertake a study of how many offices could be moved from the Capitol building to another location and the recommendations of such study should be implemented.

Representative Halvorson inquired concerning what space is currently available in the Lucas building. Representative Clark responded that the amount of space available in the Lucas building is sufficient to accommodate a sizable department. He explained that the space available is located immediately at the end of the tunnel connecting the Capitol building to the Lucas building and consists of an area located on the upper floor and a considerably larger area located on the lower floor. Representative Clark noted that the third recommendation in the Space Subcommittee's report relating to the use of space located at the end of the tunnel for committee rooms for the General Assembly refers to the area located on the top floor. He opined that the space he described in the Lucas building is really the only logical place to move any of the legislative offices if such a move is desired. He stated that he would be agreeable to moving other offices or personnel in addition to those recommended in the Space Subcommittee's report. He emphasized that the solutions offered in the report are temporary. Representative Halvorson commented that the General Assembly definitely needs larger committee rooms that are readily available at all times for committee use.

Chairperson Hultman stated that his only parameter for judging the reasonableness and suitability of any solution is keeping within the original legislative--executive--judicial agreement relating to the allocation of space in the Capitol building. He emphasized that the legislature should not be giving to other departments space that was allocated to the legislature in the original agreement. Chairperson Hultman pointed out that this is in fact being done because rooms formerly occupied by the Attorney General are according to the Space Subcommittee's recommendations being turned over to other agencies. Representative Clark pointed out that the agencies to which Chairperson Hultman is referring are legislative agencies. Chairperson Hultman argued that the original agreement intended that this space be used solely for committee meeting rooms.

There was considerable discussion concerning the number and size of rooms currently available to the General Assembly for committee meetings. It was pointed out that during the last legislative session appropriations subcommittees did not have sufficient space available to meet concurrently. It was also pointed out that the legislature would not lose Room B formerly occupied by the Department of Agriculture as a meeting room until the room on the south side of the recently vacated Attorney General's office is renovated and available for committee use.

Chairperson Hultman summarized the discussion and the situation by noting that the issues are whether the General Assembly will occupy the space available on the north side of the old Attorney General's office or the space available in the Lucas building at the end of the tunnel and whether the Fiscal Directors Conference Room will be subdivided to provide more office space for staff with

the result being that the General Assembly will lose additional committee space. Chairperson Hultman then recognized Chief Clerk of the House Dave Wray for his comments.

Mr. Wray referred to a letter that he had sent to members of the General Assembly and the Administration Committee of the Legislative Council on August 2 in which he detailed his concerns and solutions regarding the problem of the limited amount of space available to the General Assembly in the Capitol building. A copy of the letter is available in the Legislative Service Bureau. Mr. Wray commented that Iowa is one of the worst states of those that he has visited when it comes to committee space available to the General Assembly. He noted that in comparison the space available in Iowa is minimal and access is more difficult. Mr. Wray opined that a great many offices and a large number of personnel would have to be moved from the Capitol building in order to provide what he termed enough space to meet the needs of the General Assembly, however even if this were accomplished, the type of space that would become available would not be particularly useful for the needs of the General Assembly. Mr. Wray stated that the only solution he sees to the space problem is to add more space to the Capitol building.

In response to a question from Chairperson Hultman, Mr. Wray emphasized that he is not operating under the premise that the legislature will be spending more and more time throughout the year discharging its duties. Mr. Wray emphasized that a permanent long-range solution to the space problem requires careful planning and that the temporary solution offered by the Space Subcommittee in its report would allow sufficient time for this planning to be accomplished. Senator Junkins expressed concern that the temporary solutions offered by the Space Subcommittee will eventually become permanent.

Chairperson Hultman then asked Mr. McCausland to describe in detail the space available in the Lucas building. Mr. McCausland responded that there is approximately 1,200 square feet of office space located upstairs at the end of the tunnel and between 2,500 and 3,000 square feet of space located on the lower level. He noted that the space on the lower level is now subdivided into different areas but that it is his intent that the walls will be removed sometime next year and the space will be remodeled to suit the needs of the new occupant.

Senator Junkins suggested that most of the Legislative Fiscal Bureau could be moved to the Lucas Building location as well as the Office of the Code Editor. He explained that these people are located in the Capitol building for the convenience of the legislature rather than for their own convenience and that in order to increase available committee space, the General Assembly may have to suffer minor inconveniences in other areas. Mr. McCausland inquired concerning the exact number of people that

would be involved in Senator Junkins' suggested move. It was determined that there are about 15 staff persons in the Legislative Fiscal Bureau and 6 in the Office of the Code Editor. Mr. McCausland indicated that he could accommodate between 20 and 22 persons, possibly up to 25, in the space available on the lower level depending upon their particular functions and needs. Mr. McCausland noted that the space in question could be available almost immediately however the occupants would have to be moved to other temporary quarters late next spring so that the remodeling could be commenced.

Representative Halvorson inquired concerning the feasibility of locating of the Office of the Code Editor in the 1,200 square feet on the upper level and the Legislative Fiscal Bureau in the 2,500 square feet on the lower level. Mr. McCausland responded that he would prefer to subdivide the lower level to meet the needs of both offices. Representative Halvorson suggested that locating the Code Editor on the upper level would free up additional space on the lower level that could be used for subcommittee meetings.

Mr. Rankin noted that relocating the Legislative Fiscal Bureau outside the Capitol building would certainly cause inconveniences to members of the General Assembly. He noted that currently the bureau offices are accessible to legislators at all times during the day and that legislators do take advantage of the bureau's location and services. Mr. Rankin stated that if his offices were moved his staff would be working out of their briefcases each day because they would have to bring their work and other materials to the Capitol so that they would be available to legislators who needed their services. Mr. Rankin noted that while he will move wherever the Legislative Council determines that his offices should be located, he personally feels that moving the Fiscal Bureau to the Lucas building would destroy a large part of the effectiveness of the office.

Senator Junkins noted that while he agrees with Mr. Rankin's comments concerning the inconveniences that the move would cause for members of the General Assembly, those inconveniences must be balanced against the need for additional space for committee meetings. Senator Briles again pointed out that the recommendations presented by the Space Subcommittee in their report solve the space problems through the next legislative session. Representative Clark noted that the General Assembly may be interested in determining whether the space currently occupied by the Auditor's office might be available and suitable for their needs.

Representative Halvorson moved that the Administration Committee recommend to the Legislative Council that the Office of the Code Editor be moved to the 1,200 square foot area located on the upper level of the Lucas building at the end of the tunnel. Senator Junkins offered an amendment to the Halvorson motion that the

Administration Committee recommend that the Legislative Council authorize the Administration Committee to examine the possibility of moving legislative departments which because of their function do not need to be located in the Capitol building to the Lucas building in order to appropriately use the space available in the Lucas building and to provide additional space in the Capitol building suitable for committee work. The Junkins amendment passed. There were 3 affirmative and 2 negative votes on the Halvorson motion as amended. The motion failed to receive the number of votes necessary to make a recommendation to the Legislative Council. Chairperson Hultman indicated that the Committee will have to meet again to appoint a new Space Subcommittee for the purpose of reviewing the situation again and offering recommendations regarding the allocation of space in the Capitol building.

Mr. Rankin then noted that he has hired 3 persons to staff the program evaluation division and requested that he be authorized to temporarily locate these new personnel in the additional space being requested for that function and currently a part of the meeting area of the Fiscal Directors Conference Room. By unanimous consent the Committee agreed to recommend to the Legislative Council that Mr. Rankin's request be approved.

Chairperson Hultman then called on Mr. Wray for a report on the renovation of the area formerly occupied by the Attorney General's office for use by conference committees. A copy of the report filed by Mr. Wray and Secretary of the Senate Frank Stork is attached to and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Representative Clark moved that the Administration Committee recommend that the Legislative Council authorize the Chief Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate to meet with the firm of Hansen-Lind-Meyer to develop plans and specifications for the renovation of the areas located on the first floor of the Capitol building within the parameters described in recommendations 2, 3 and 4 of Mr. Wray and Mr. Stork's report. The motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Administration Committee at that time the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

The Administration Committee reconvened at 3:30 p.m. on August 8, 1979. The only item of business was the appointment of a new Space Subcommittee by Chairperson Hultman as follows:

Senator Hultman, Chairperson
Representative Halvorson
Senator Junkins

It was noted that the responsibilities of the new Space Subcommittee have been limited by the Legislative Council as follows:

1. The Office of the Code Editor will be moved to the space available on the upper level at the end of the tunnel in the Lucas building.

2. The sum of \$1,800 per desk will be available for furniture for the Code Editor's office.

3. The entire Legislative Fiscal Directors Conference Room will be made available for committee meetings.

4. The Administration Committee must determine what other legislative functions can be moved from the Capitol building to the Lucas building including the program evaluation and computer staff of the Legislative Fiscal Bureau.

5. The Administration Committee shall meet with the Auditor to discuss the possibility of locating the Auditor's office outside the Capitol building and making that space available to the General Assembly.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBBIE DAHAB
Research Analyst