

M I N U T E S

SERVICE COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

June 10, 1980

June 11, 1980

A meeting of the Service Committee of the Iowa Legislative Council was called to order by the Chairperson, Representative Delwyn Stromer, at 10:15 a.m., June 10, 1980 in Committee Room 22 of the State House. Members present were:

Representative Delwyn Stromer, Chairperson  
Senator John Murray  
Representative Greg Cusack  
Representative Ingwer Hansen

Also present were:

Mr. Wayne Faupel, Code Editor  
Ms. Phyllis Barry, Deputy Code Editor  
Mr. Gerry Rankin, Legislative Fiscal Director  
Mr. Serge Garrison, Director, Legislative Service Bureau  
Mr. Bill Angrick, Citizens' Aide  
Ms. Diane Bolender, Legislative Service Bureau

Chairperson Stromer indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed budget allocations of the legislative agencies for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1980, including proposed pay plans for employees. He called upon Mr. Faupel to discuss the proposed budget allocation for the Office of Code Editor. Ms. Barry referred members to a memo from the Code Editor listing the budget allocation. A copy of the memo is attached to the minutes and by this reference made a part thereof. She noted that additional funds must be spent under the office equipment category in order to purchase card files for the administrative Code index and an additional typewriter is required. Ms. Barry commented that the General Assembly does not appropriate funds to the Office of the Code Editor, but section 14.22 of the Code authorizes expenditures necessary for the publication of the Code. With regard to the salary increases for employees of the Office of the Code Editor, Chairperson Stromer asked whether the step increases for employees are those that would be normally available to executive branch employees. Ms. Barry responded in the affirmative and noted that the Code Editor is not asking for a merit increase for all employees.

Chairperson Stromer asked about the percent of increase for salaries over that of the previous year. Mr. Faupel noted that the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1980 will include additional employees for publication of the Code of Iowa so it is not possible to compare the salary package from one fiscal year to the next. Senator Murray asked for the percent of increase from the previous fiscal year, subtracting salaries for extra personnel. Ms. Barry responded that the information had not been calculated prior to the

meeting, but that she would provide Committee members with the information prior to the adjournment of the Committee.

Chairperson Stromer thanked Mr. Faupel for his presentation and called upon Mr. Angrick for information about the pay plan and the budget allocation for the Office of Citizens' Aide. A copy of the proposed budget allocation for the Office of Citizens' Aide is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Mr. Angrick stated that his staff size is the same as that of last year and the total increase in salaries from the previous fiscal year to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1980 is 7.99 percent. Mr. Angrick expressed the belief that merit increases for his employees should be granted on the anniversary date of their employment rather than July first each year. Mr. Garrison interjected that many of his employees' merit review dates are July 1 since those persons were employed prior to the use of a merit pay grade, but for those employees hired after that date, merit increases are on the anniversary of employment date.

Mr. Angrick asked permission to increase the per hour pay scale for part-time employees from \$3.00 per hour to \$4.50 per hour. Discussion followed relating to the amount paid by other state agencies for hourly employees. Mr. Rankin noted that many clerical workers are grade 13 which is \$4.30 per hour plus the cost of fringe benefits which would raise the total per hour wages to about \$5.00 per hour. Mr. Angrick agreed to check with other agencies to determine what they are paying their clerical employees. Mr. Angrick noted that Mr. Ray Cornell, the Deputy Citizens' Aide for Corrections, is at the top of his salary scale but he noted that Mr. Cornell performs his functions excellently. He suggested that he may wish to reassign duties in order to raise Mr. Cornell's grade. Mr. Angrick discussed the merit pay increase for Mr. Richard, a General Deputy.

Senator Willard R. Hansen was present at the meeting.

Mr. Angrick noted that he proposes changing Ms. Mosher, the First Deputy from a Grade 29 to a Grade 33 based on an increase in administrative tasks. Discussion followed relating to this change. Senator Murray objected to governmental employers creating administrative duties for their employees in order to increase their salaries. Mr. Angrick reviewed Ms. Mosher's duties. Mr. Angrick stated in response to a question from Senator Murray that he had selected Grade 33 after a review of the duties of comparable merit system positions and House and Senate positions.

With regard to the budget allocation for the Office of Citizens' Aide, Mr. Angrick stated that he will revert around \$11,000 from the fiscal year ending June 30, 1980. He commented that he has curtailed Mr. Cornell's travel and expects that telephone costs will increase as travel decreases.

Representative Cusack moved to approve the budget allocation for the Office of Citizens' Aide, including the proposed pay plan. The motion carried.

Chairperson Stromer called upon Mr. Rankin for a discussion of the budget allocation and pay plan for his office. A copy of the proposed budget allocation for the Legislative Fiscal Bureau is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Mr. Rankin stated that the step changes proposed for his employees will take place at their appropriate employment anniversary date, some as late as next February. He commented that he has an authorized staff of sixteen, but only fourteen positions have been filled. He suggested that the Regulatory and Finance Subcommittee and the State Government Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committees be joined together again. He noted that if the two subcommittees are joined into a single subcommittee, the workload does not appear to be too great, and it would have the effect of deleting one staff member from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, as well as staff persons from the State Comptroller's Office, and caucus staff. He agreed that any decision on number of subcommittees of Appropriations Committees would rest with the Chairpersons of the Appropriations Committees and the leadership. Discussion followed relating to the workload of the various subcommittees of the various Appropriations Committees. Senator Murray suggested that the Legislative Fiscal Committee might discuss the concept of deleting one subcommittee. Mr. Rankin commented that he is making no attempts to fill either of his vacant positions. The Committee agreed it is not necessary at this time to fill either of the positions.

With regard to the funds appropriated for actuarial studies, Mr. Rankin noted that the Legislative Council approved a contract agreement with Fahr Analysts, Consultants and Technical Services, Inc., for detailed actuarial studies and \$3,300 of the amount appropriated remains for the 1980 interim and 1981 legislative session. He stated that if more money is needed for actuarial studies, he will try to support the studies from Legislative Fiscal Bureau funds.

Mr. Rankin explained that if the vacancies remain, the Legislative Fiscal Bureau can operate on the same total dollars for salary as were expended for the previous fiscal year. He added that if both positions are filled, about eight percent more would be expended for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1980.

Senator Murray moved that the budget allocation of the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, including the pay plan, be approved with the understanding that one position will remain unfilled until a decision is made later during the interim of the number of subcommittees which will be authorized for the Appropriations Committees. Representative Cusack seconded the motion, and it carried.

Chairperson Stromer called upon Mr. Garrison for a discussion concerning the proposed budget allocation of the Legislative Service Bureau. A copy of the proposed budget allocation of the Legislative Service Bureau is attached and by this reference made a part of these minutes. Mr. Garrison explained that a comparison of salaries for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1979 and salaries for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1980 indicates an increase of about eight percent over the previous year. He noted that he will be filling a vacancy for attorney in August, which vacancy was present during the last legislative session. The terms of employment had been negotiated prior to the employment freeze. He added that he is not filling two vacancies in the computer text processor positions. He noted that the text processor positions were vacant during the last session, but it is easier to have vacancies during the second session of the General Assembly than the first session. He expressed hope that bill requests will be submitted in November and December so that a number of bills can be ready at the beginning of the 1981 legislative session.

Mr. Garrison explained that he has a separate allocation for reapportionment costs and is attempting to employ a part-time programmer, but has not been successful.

Mr. Garrison reviewed the individual salary requests for employees of the Legislative Service Bureau. The Committee discussed the step increases under the merit system and asked whether Mr. Garrison follows the time frame of the merit system. Mr. Garrison said that in general he does follow the merit system, but at times has granted six month increases and at times has delayed the six month increase until one year. Mr. Garrison reiterated that the overall salary increases will be about eight percent. Senator Hansen moved that the proposed budget allocation of the Legislative Service Bureau, including the pay plan, be approved. Senator Murray seconded the motion, and it carried.

The Committee adjourned at 12:05 p.m., and members agreed to reconvene at 1:30 p.m. for discussion with Mr. Stanley McCausland, Director of General Services and Mr. Angrick concerning the location of the Office of Citizens' Aide.

Chairperson Stromer and Representative Hansen met with Mr. Angrick and Mr. McCausland in Committee Room 22 of the State House at 1:45 p.m. Mr. McCausland recommended that an architect be employed to define areas that need attention if the office remains in the building in which it is presently located. Chairperson Stromer noted that an amendment was adopted to section 2.12 of the Code which will allow the Legislative Council to authorize the expenditure of funds for remodeling of office space for legislative agencies.

Mr. McCausland expressed his opinion and the policy of the Capitol Planning Commission that houses, apartment buildings, and

other small buildings be removed from the Capitol Complex. He offered the Office of Citizens' Aide space on the third floor of the Wallace Building, noting that the area is private and is accessible to the handicapped. Mr. Angrick responded that his staff is comfortable in the building in which they are presently located and it would be difficult for clients to enter large government buildings to make complaints. Chairperson Stromer suggested that the Legislative Council may wish to consider employing an architect as reasonably as possible to look at the building in which the Office of Citizens' Aide is located and make suggestions concerning air conditioning and wiring.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

June 11, 1980

The Service Committee convened at the call of Representative Stromer in Senate Committee Room 22 at 1:25 p.m., Wednesday, June 11, 1980. Senators Willard Hansen, Murray and Rush, Representative Ingwer Hansen, and Citizens' Aide Bill Angrick, were also present.

Representative Stromer noted that the additional information which had been requested on the previous day regarding the Code Editor's budget had now been received. The information shows that total anticipated 1980-81 salaries and fringe benefits for that office will be eight point five percent higher than those for the 1978-79 fiscal year, the most recent year in which a Code was published as will be the case in 1980-81.

Representative Hansen moved that the Service Committee accept and recommend approval of the Code Editor's budget allocation, as amended. The motion was adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Representative Stromer reported that Mr. Angrick had requested authority to expend up to \$1,000 to obtain the services of an architectural engineer to perform a consulting evaluation of the heating and electrical systems, windows and other facilities in the structure at 515 East Twelfth Street (where the Citizens' Aide Office is located) with a view to determining the cost and most feasible way of upgrading the building. On motion of Representative Hansen, the request was accepted and recommended for approval by the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE BOLENDER  
Senior Research Analyst