

REPORT TO
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ON
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL COMMITTEE MEETING

OCTOBER 9, 1973

Attached is the agenda of the Legislative Fiscal Committee meeting of October 9, 1973.

Kevin Burns, Commissioner of Social Services appeared before the Committee to discuss the policy of the department and the differences in philosophy of the Superintendents at Woodward and Glenwood, however Jim Bethel was attending an out-of-state meeting so the Commissioner was asked to appear with Mr. Bethel at the November meeting to continue the discussion.

Representative Den Herder, speaking for the Human Resources Visitation Committee asked the Chairman to seek an early report from the Legislative Council from the Penal and Correctional Study Committee. The Visitation Committee has requested postponement of their visit to Fort Madison until that report is received and reviewed.

Senator Hill reported on the Transportation and Law Enforcement Visitation Committee's trip to the Highway Commission. Major items which will be in a supplementary appropriation request to the second session of the 65th General Assembly are: Funds to enable them to meet additional requirements of Federal Highway Safety Act; Funds to increase salaries of Highway Commission employees; A list of specific projects for planning and design consultants has been developed and funds will be requested for consultants; and additional support funds will be requested to alleviate inflationary pressures. The request for capital funds for a lab building was renewed.

A Management Review of the Highway Commission or various departments thereof, was discussed. It was reported that the Commissioners would welcome a review--the question is funding. The consensus of the Visitation Committee was that the review should be funded by the Legislature through an appropriation for that specific purpose, administered by the Legislative Fiscal Committee.

The Transportation and Law Enforcement Visitation Committee has determined there is a need for a new Armory building at Iowa Falls. Funds for this building were appropriated by S. F. 599, however the funds were not to be expended until March 1, 1974, which allowed time for a legislative site inspection of the present building.

In the absence of Senator McCartney, Mrs. Munson reported on the State Departments Visitation Committee's trip to the State Historical Society. Upon confrontation, the curators and staff of the Historical Society admitted there is duplication of effort in some facets of the State Historical Society and the Department of History and Archives. The Committee before making a formal report on their visit to the State Historical Society, requested permission to visit the Department of History and Archives. This request was approved by the Fiscal Committee, subject to approval of the Council. The tentative date was set for October 15.

Representative Small reported on the Natural Resources Visitation Committee's trip to Upper Iowa as follows:

The State Conservation Commission had entered into an agreement with the National Guard to allow Backbone State Park to be used for a training ground. As a result of the Legislative visit--the National Guard is looking for a different training site.

The Public Hearing arranged by the Committee served to clear the air between land owners and Conservationists in the area, and it appears some workable lease arrangement can be worked out. The Conservation Commission's plan to buy a large portion of the land along the river did not seem feasible to the Committee.

Additional funds for park maintenance was also discussed.

Reports were received on the out-of-state seminars attended by Legislators and Fiscal Staff during September.

The dates for the visits of the Education Visitation Committee were established as follows:

October 26 - University of Northern Iowa

November 3 - University of Iowa

November 9 - Iowa State University

An additional simultaneous visit to Area X at Cedar Rapids and Area XI at Ankeny was approved by the Fiscal Committee subject to approval of the Council.

A joint request by Senator Riley and Representative Kreamer to allow the full Education Subcommittee on Appropriations to attend these meetings was denied.

Permission for staff of the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to attend an Operational Performance-Management and Program Auditing Seminar to be held at the Hyatt House here in Des Moines, October 29-30 was granted.

The report of the subcommittee on a Microfilming-Records Retention Study and continuance of the Review of the Legislative Appropriations process were deferred until the November 13 meeting of the Fiscal Committee.

The Chairman set the date of November 20 for a meeting of the Fiscal Committee to draft its formal report to the Council for this interim.

Also, the Chairman asked the Fiscal Director to request an opinion from the Attorney General on the constitutionality of formally organizing the Legislature for the purpose of allowing the Appropriations Committees to hold hearings prior to session and paying Legislators-elect appointed to the Appropriations Committee per diem prior to session.

The Fiscal Director was also asked to write a letter to the Comptroller requesting that he make all departments aware of the Cost Expenditure objective computer program. A copy of this letter is to be sent to each department head.