

MINUTES OF THE TRI-COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Held: December 16, 1976, 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cease, Chairman; Halvorson, Vice-Chairman; Bayless, Blunt, Bonyhadi, Brickley, Buchanan, Burgess, Lang, Landauer, Kirkpatrick, Mattersdorff, McGilvra, Nightingale, Opray, Rieke, Roberts, Schedeen, Snedecor, Stuhr

EXCUSED: Clarno, Coleman, Herrell, Jordan, Montgomery, Nees, Russell, Sprecher, Telfer, Webber

STAFF: Rich, Garbutt, Cross, Macpherson, Mitchell, Etlinger

GUEST SPEAKER: Charles Warren, Project Manager - NAPA

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m.

Snedecor moved to approve the minutes of October 21. The motion passed.

COMMISSION LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

Rich outlined the items which were modified or added to the original bill submitted to the Interim Committee: 1. MSD clarified the wording concerning civil penalties, their ability to borrow from the state, and the wording on provision of services during the transition period. Previously omitted statements were: 1. Elected public officials would be prohibited from serving simultaneously on the MSC and in their other governmental capacity; 2. MSC would be required to produce an accounting and progress report every two years.

Rich said there was approval at the Marylhurst meeting that the Tax Supervision and Conservation Committee should be extended to include the Tri-County area.

The relationship of the chief executive officer to the council was a major legislative concern. The veto power of the executive office (page 8 of the bill draft) is one of the issues which will be scrutinized and possibly changed as we proceed through the legislature.

The number assigned to our bill is H.B. 2070.

The Chairman introduced Charles Warren, who briefly summarized the progress of the Denver Metropolitan Study Commission.

Warren: It was apparent at yesterday's meeting that the panel has not reached a consensus. Colorado has a very difficult constitution with which to work, and they are struggling with the concept of changing the basic structure. Two of the panel members are planning to run for Governor.

Possibly in February, they will propose something like an MSD, but they are not as far along with the basic regional concepts as Portland.

Denver's RTD, similar to Portland's Tri-Met, is proposing a new subway system, which the business community strongly favors. Another major issue

in Colorado is water; Denver water board controls all the water for the region. They have a tremendous amount of power because they have the first rights. The disadvantage is that they have to pay for all the capital facilities.

Generally, the public is quite satisfied with the present situation. The newspaper support has been very good. Colorado does have a land use law, but not as strict as Oregon's. The regional planning going on now is mostly advisory. They are studying four counties, the city of Denver being one of them. The population is slightly more than the Portland area.

Warren concluded his talk by congratulating Portland on the fine work the Commission and staff have done.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nightingale, Chairperson -- City-County-Special Districts Committee

During our three meetings so far in Phase III, we heard from several elected representatives and staff from cities and counties. Next week, the special districts will be represented. We are focusing on the major concerns of annexations, land use conflicts and duplication of services.

Bayless, Vice-Chairperson -- Community & Neighborhood Organization Committee

In our three meetings, we have tried to resolve the question, "what is a neighborhood?" Topics under discussion include a neighborhood organization rationale to present to local officials and the value of local government. Neighborhood Organizations could serve in an advisory capacity and, hopefully, develop a future of independent functions.

Bayless asked if the Commission would like this committee to pursue the role of the citizen in government. There was some agreement that the study of a citizens' committee would be useful.

Roberts questioned the effectiveness of a citizens' committee after we have set up the process of electing officials.

Schedeen, Vice-Chairperson -- Long Range Options Committee

At our last meeting, we reached a consensus to concentrate our efforts on the "ideal" plan, rather than simply expanding on what exists now. Our objective is still to keep government as close to the people as possible.

DECEMBER 3 CONFERENCE

Cross said a summary of the reports by the discussion leaders is being prepared and will be sent to members and participants along with the analysis of the questionnaires which is being done by Corky Kirkpatrick. Eleven of the twelve discussion groups supported an elected council at the regional level. Some concern was expressed about the veto power of the executive officer. The Port of Portland was treated as a different kind of entity by most of the groups.

Kirkpatrick said 225 people, representing a good cross-section of the public, attended the conference; most of the feedback was very positive. Our conference financial report shows we are within \$200 of breaking even. So far, we have received 26 completed questionnaires which were handed out at the conference.

Schedeen said the officers and staff of the Commission should be commended for their good work.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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