

MINUTES OF THE TRI-COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Held: May 11, 1977 - Noon

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cease, Chairperson; Bayless, Blunt, Bogue, Brickley, Bullier, Burgess, Gregory, Herrell, Jaeger, Jordan, Keller, Kirkpatrick, Maier, Mattersdorff, Mays, Montgomery, Nelson, Nightingale, Schedeen, Schumacher, Shepherd, Simpson, Sprecher, Stevenson, Stuhr, Tippens, Yost

EXCUSED: Moshofsky, Schwab, Webber

STAFF: Rich, Garbutt, Cross

The business meeting of the Commission began with Jerry Tippens' presentation of an inscribed gavel from the members to Chairman Ronald Cease.

Nelson moved to approve the minutes of March 17, the motion was seconded and passed.

REPORT ON H.B.2070

Cross reported the bill has come out of the House Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs with a "do pass" recommendation and it should be up for floor action next week. The Committee had spent four hours deliberating on the main features of the bill. The major change is the boundaries which were reduced to the MSD jurisdiction but will expand to other areas including Wilsonville. In addition, the elected council was reduced from 15 to 12 members, the veto power of the chief executive officer was deleted, the Port of Portland was deleted; the Boundary Commission was given the option to be included later. The bill will be referred to a vote of the people in the next special or state-wide election or in 1977 or 1978.

In reply to Jordan's question, Cross said MSD can assume responsibility for metropolitan parks by contract or by outright purchase or gift - similar to the operation of the zoo.

Cross suggested the members could help with the passage of the bill in the House by contacting their legislators.

Rich commented briefly on HB3284, the urban county bill which proposes creation of a 37th county. East Multnomah County would then be part of the rural area of Clackamas County. There would still remain the question of home rule. The charter would need to be changed to fit the new county. He explained other features relating to Washington County and the newly created urban county.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Brickley, Chairperson - Long Range Options Committee

(Report LR-24 was mailed to Commission members 4/12/77)

We began by looking at an idealized form of regional government; we then examined the process for obtaining a two-tier system either by statute or by constitutional amendment. Without being too specific, we set forth the

questions which would be addressed by the two-tier system. Our recommendations were based on the problems of overlapping tasks and responsibilities, and the double burdens on rate payers in urban counties with large unincorporated areas.

Brickley MOVED TO APPROVE THE LONG RANGE COMMITTEE REPORT; TIPPENS SECONDED THE MOTION, AND IT PASSED.

Discussion

Shepherd expressed his opposition to the report.

Burgess asked about the distribution of these reports.

Cease replied that a brief summary of Phase III report will include the committee recommendations. The Commission budget limits wide distribution of the complete Phase III report.

Stevenson, Chairperson - Community & Neighborhood Organization Committee

(Report CN-41 was mailed to Commission members 3/10/77)

We considered the following three categories: 1) governmental structure of the lowest tier, 2) citizen involvement, 3) a citizens committee. The Neighborhood Organizations should be general purpose rather than single purpose, flexible in the structure of functions, and local government should recognize the validity of neighborhood organizations. The MSC should have a representative of the neighborhood organizations.

Stevenson and Maier MOVED AND SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE REPORT, AND THE MOTION PASSED.

Nightingale, Chairperson - City-County-Special Districts Committee

(Report CS-33 mailed to Commission members 3/10)

Our major points were: 1) consolidation of special service district, 2) no new cities should be established, 3) tax base sharing plan similar to Minneapolis should be studied by the MSD and presented to the legislature, 4) inter-governmental contracts should be encouraged for mutual benefit.

Nightingale and Burgess MOVED AND SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CITY-COUNTY-SPECIAL DISTRICTS COMMITTEE REPORT.

Simpson expressed concern over the statement in the report, "no new cities should be established." Simpson moved to amend page three to read: "No new less than full service cities be established in a further effort to lessen future complications. The motion passed. The main motion as amended then passed.

Simpson said there is a need for a citizens league to continue the work of this Commission when it goes out of business. Our ad hoc Citizens League Committee made a proposal to the City Club of Portland which included a recommendation for a name change, broader dues structure, meeting places in areas other than downtown Portland and a procedure for implementation. The Board of Directors is studying our recommendations, and there is indication that there will be a favorable response to at least part of the recommendation. Simpson MOVED THIS COMMISSION CONTINUE AFTER MAY AS A CITIZENS LEAGUE. SCHEDDEN SECONDED AND IT PASSED.

Herrell said the City Club would remain primarily an educational organization.

Meeting adjourned 1:40 p.m.