

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Held: March 16, 1977, 7:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cease, Chairperson; Halvorson, Vice-Chairperson; Mays

GUESTS: Charles Warren of NAPA
Robert Simpson

STAFF: Rich, Garbutt, Cross

Chairman Cease opened the meeting with the introduction of Charles Warren, Project Manager - National Academy of Public Administration.

Warren gave a brief report on the progress of the Denver Metropolitan Study.

They have several sponsors for their bill which calls for a referendum to create an elected regional service district. They are optimistic about the chances for success in September of 1978.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the March 2 Executive Meeting was moved and seconded by Tippens and Stuhr. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS (Telephone bill \$134.05) was moved and seconded by Tippens and Mays. The motion passed.

REPORT ON LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS

Halvorson said he met with Bogue, Moshofsky and Webber two weeks ago to discuss strategy for soliciting contributions from the business community. Each of them took a portion of the list of businesses which had been previously contacted, but had not replied.

Rich said at Bogue's request we sent another copy of the original letter to ORBANCO, and at Webber's request we sent a follow up letter to the Portland City Club Foundation.

Rich explained the seriousness of our financial position. James Ridgway, the accountant from NAPA, was here to review our projected expenses for continuing the Commission activities until the end of May. We still require an additional \$5,000. The present full time staff consists of Bill Cross, Barbara Garbutt and myself. In addition to Elaine Stamm, part time, we have two part time clerical people funded by CETA.

Tippens felt the prospects for our bill are good, but expressed doubts that it would get through the legislature without the staff on the scene to help it along. He asked if there was any chance of obtaining additional funds from NAPA. It is crucial to the success of the bill to have an active staff until the legislative work is completed.

Warren replied that the contract with HUD ends May 31, 1977. There is only a slight possibility that if Denver does not use all of their money it might be transferred to Portland, but we can't count on that.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Rich: City areas should be exempt from paying taxes for services which are provided only by the county. One of the problems our proposal should deal with is designing an equitable taxing system.

Yesterday, John North of KGW interviewed Rich in his office, during which he explained the tax differential.

Halvorson suggested there might be something the city pays for which the county benefits from, e.g. the bonds for ER Center. It would be worth researching the possibility of an exchange of services or facilities between the city and county.

Boundary Changes -

HB2070 has a provision for the MSD to expand to include the Tri-County area. The broad boundary would be for planning; the service boundaries would be whatever the function calls for.

Ragsdale and others feel our proposed boundaries are too broad and want to bring them in to the CRAG urban growth area. This leaves out the Mt. Hood corridor, Canby, Wilsonville, Boring, Estacada which are the areas of greatest pressure as far as conversion from agricultural use. Most of these areas are oriented towards the metro area, e.g. transportation.

Rich asked the committee members if the CRAG merger should be dropped from the bill in the event the legislature is adamant on the boundary issue.

Halvorson is opposed to omitting CRAG - that is one of the strengths of our bill. Many people would like to see CRAG changed - their framework plan limits facilities outside the urban growth area.

We might be able to arrive at a compromise with the House Committee.

Tippens: There would still be an opportunity to restore the boundaries when the bill reaches the senate. The House Committee is not the final word, but they can reduce the boundaries whether or not we approve.

Cross summarized the activities of the Boundary sub-committee. In Multnomah County the northwest boundary is Portland city limits. In Washington County the line follows CRAG urban growth boundaries down to the southeast corner where it then will drop southeast to pick up Wilsonville. It follows current MSD boundaries through Clackamas County with the exception that the proposed boundary will also include Happy Valley and Damascus. East boundary in Multnomah County would be the current MSD boundary. Ragsdale feels Tri-County planning should be very limited in scope; CRAG should have only review power to decide if local areas have followed state goals and guidelines. He likes the switch from comprehensive land use planning to functional planning. He feels issues such as transportation can be handled through voluntary intergovernmental agreements. With LCDC goals and guidelines established, the counties can handle those aspects of land use planning in the future.

Of the nine house committee members, the four from the suburban and rural areas (Ragsdale, Hanneman, Whallon and Otto) would like to reduce the boundaries.

Cease stated consolidation is a major part of our proposal and we should stand firm on the issue of boundaries, but be prepared to compromise if necessary rather than jeopardize the success of the bill. We have the option of reducing the boundaries or reducing the planning functions within the boundaries. It is fairly certain the veto power will be taken out of HB2070.

Cease asked Robert Simpson to comment on the relationship between the bill and proposed boundary changes.

Simpson said the greatest pressure for planning is in the fringe area. If we relax the boundaries we are back with the old problem of separating this function. We should not compromise on these critical areas.

Warren suggested too much compromise might destroy the logic of the argument. It could be said if you could change your proposal now perhaps it was not a well thought out concept to begin with.

It was generally agreed by those present that we should make every effort to keep the boundaries of the Tri-County area, but consider the possibility of excluding specific areas.

Cross reported there is a statement of intent to repeal CRAG; also to make them strictly a review body.

Cease said it is essential that the Commission members participate in Salem by talking to legislators and circulating accurate information concerning HB2070.

Stuhr: Even if we get the bill through the legislature and it goes to a vote, we may not stand a chance without a successful public information campaign.

In reply to Cease's inquiry, Mays said the League of Women Voters has not taken a position on HB2070. Any information to the contrary has not been authorized by the League.

Adjourned 9:20 a.m.

bjg