

FINAL

MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, February 13, 1997

2:30 p.m.

State Capitol Building - Room 402-403

ATTENDANCE

Present were:

Senator Dick Posthumus, Chair
Speaker Curtis Hertel, Alternate Chair
Representative Tom Alley, Member
Senator Dan L. DeGrow, Member
Representative Pat Gagliardi, Member
Representative Michael J. Hanley, Member
Representative Charles R. Perricone, Member
Senator John J.H. Schwarz, Member
Representative Kenneth Sikkema, Member
Senator Virgil Clark Smith, Member
Senator Glenn Steil, Member
Representative Deborah L. Cherry, Alternate Member
Representative Dan Gustafson, Alternate Member
Senator Bill Schuette, Alternate Member
Representative Samuel Buzz Thomas, Alternate Member

Dianne M. Odrobina, Legislative Council Administrator
Terry Jacobson, Secretary to the Council Administrator
Clayton Burch, Legislative Corrections Ombudsman
Doug Miller, JCAR Administrator
George Needham, State Librarian
Robin VanAlstine, Director of Human Resources, Library of Michigan
Janet Laverty, Director of Internal Operations, Library of Michigan
Paul Groll, Director of Network and Information Systems, Library of Michigan
Tina Deitrich, Administrative Assistant, Library of Michigan
Kathleen Menanteaux, Director of Technical Services, Library of Michigan
Susan Nearing, Director of Public Services, Library of Michigan
Larry Seratti, Book Distribution, Library of Michigan
Elliott Smith, Director of the Legislative Service Bureau
Traci Kanillopoolos, Administrative Secretary to the Director, Legislative Service Bureau
Marcia Cornell, Human Resources Director, Legislative Service Bureau
Carol Cousineau, Director of Legal Division, Legislative Service Bureau
Jerry Lawler, Director, Legislative Council Facilities Agency

Present were (continued):

Carlo P. Ginotti, Attorney/Administrator of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission
Margaret-Mary Chiara, Administrator of the Trial Court Assessment Commission
Denise Konig, Administrative Secretary, Trial Court Assessment Commission
Jim Shane, Director of Information Systems, Legislative Service Bureau
Leo Kennedy, Director of Legislative Research Division, Legislative Service Bureau
George Weitzel, Legislative Assistant to Representative Kelly
Ray Brennan, Assistant Secretary of the Senate
Mark Howe, Legislative Assistant to Representative Geiger
Helen Freeman, Chief of Staff and Legislative Coordinator, Office of Senator Steil

A number of other individuals were present but did not identify themselves.

Members Excused:

Senator John D. Cherry, Jr., Member
Senator Jon A. Ciskey, Alternate Member
Senator Michael J. O'Brien, Alternate Member

ITEM 1. Convening of the Meeting

Acting Chair, Senator Posthumus called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. and asked Dianne Odrobina, Secretary of Legislative Council, to call the roll. A quorum was present.

ITEM 2. Election of Officers

Acting Chair, Senator Posthumus stated that a motion would be in order to nominate the Chair of the Legislative Council. **Representative Sikkema moved, supported by Speaker Hertel, to elect Senator Posthumus as Chair. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Council Chair, Senator Posthumus stated that a motion would be in order to nominate the Alternate Chair of the Legislative Council. **Representative Gagliardi moved, supported by Senator Steil, to elect Speaker Hertel as Alternate Chair. The motion was unanimously approved.**

The Chair asked for a motion to excuse absent members. **Speaker Hertel moved, supported by Representative Sikkema, to excuse the absent members of the Council. The motion was unanimously approved.**

ITEM 3. Appointments to Subcommittees of the Legislative Council

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the recommended list of subcommittee appointments. There was discussion. **Representative Hanley moved, supported by Representative Sikkema, to approve the list of appointments. The motion was unanimously approved.**

ITEM 4. Approval of Minutes of December 4, 1996, Legislative Council Meeting

After giving members an opportunity to review the minutes, the Chair asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the December 4, 1996, Legislative Council meeting. **Senator Smith moved, supported by Senator Steil, to adopt the minutes of the December 4, 1996 meeting. There was no discussion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.**

The Chair suggested to new Council members that they take time to read the materials distributed prior to Council meetings because of the sheer volume of material and the speed at which it must be covered at each Council meeting.

ITEM 5. Refer Council Rules and Policies to Subcommittees

The Legislative Council rules require a biannual review of those rules. The Chair asked that a motion be made referring Council Rules and Policies to subcommittees for review after which they will report back to the full Council any recommended changes. **Representative Gagliardi moved, supported by Senator DeGrow, to refer Council Rules and Policies to subcommittees. The motion was unanimously approved.**

ITEM 6. Legislative Council Budgets for 1997-98 Fiscal Year

Senator Posthumus explained to new members that the Council's function in the budget process is to approve a budget to be recommended within the appropriations process. Senator Posthumus, with Speaker Hertel's support, suggested that a budget vote not be taken this day, but rather that the Council meet again in two weeks to vote, allowing all members time to thoroughly review the materials presented at today's meeting.

Senator Posthumus asked Dianne Odrobina, Legislative Council Administrator, to review the budget materials (TAB 4). Ms. Odrobina presented the Legislative Council budget information and answered members' questions.

Two areas of concern were addressed. Senator Schwarz expressed his hope of increasing the appropriation for the Library of Michigan in the Governor's budget from 1% to 3%, noting that the Library of Michigan's original request for 5.8% was perhaps too ambitious. Secondly, Representative Hanley expressed a desire to review the Corrections Ombudsman's budget with regard to increasing staff to address the demand for more service.

Senator Posthumus asked Dianne Odrobina to change the format of the budget presentation. Ms. Odrobina indicated she would send copies of the amended budget information to all Council members.

Ms. Odrobina noted that a new commission has been added to the Legislative Council known as the State Court Information Management Commission. This commission has no funding source designated at this time. Ms. Odrobina stated that this commission was originally placed in the Department of Management and Budget but through the legislative process, became an "autonomous entity within the Legislative Council." Discussion followed regarding how and

why this commission became part of the Council. Representative Sikkema recommended that the Council speak directly to Representative Geiger who sponsored the legislation.

ITEM 7. Council Appointments

The Chair asked for a motion to support the recommended Council appointments (four members, one from each caucus) to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees. **Representative Alley moved, supported by Senator DeGrow, to appoint Senator Schwarz, Senator Alma Wheeler Smith, Representative Oxender and Representative Kelly to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

The Chair asked for a motion to support the recommended Council appointments (2 from each chamber) to the MERRA (Michigan Energy Resource Research Association) Board of Trustees. Speaker Hertel expressed his desire to be replaced on the MERRA Board. He will recommend his replacement at the next full Council meeting.

Senator DeGrow moved, supported by Speaker Hertel, to appoint Senator Schwarz to the MERRA Board of Trustees. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The next matter discussed was that of an appointment of a public member to the Michigan Commission on Uniform State Laws. **Senator Smith moved, supported by Representative Perricone, to allow the Chair and Alternate Chair to appoint a public member to the Michigan Commission on Uniform State Laws. The motion was unanimously approved.**

ITEM 8. Schedule of Legislative Council Meetings Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act

The Chair asked Council members to put the dates of April 29, 1997, and October 15, 1997, on their calendars as dates for Legislative Council meetings.

ITEM 9. Old Business

The Legislative Council Administrator, at the request of the Chair, updated the members on the Legislative Session Integration System project (LSIS). Delays have resulted due to a variety of reasons including previous inadequate staffing for the high degree of complexity on the part of the company with whom we contracted (IBM/ISSC). Significant changes have been made to the number and level of expertise among staff and project management of the company's team. The project remains within the budget parameters set by the Legislative Council.

Ms. Odrobina thanked the membership for the involvement of their Information Systems staffs; they have provided an invaluable asset to the project. Senator Posthumus added his thanks to the legal staff involved in the contract negotiations.

The Administrator answered the questions of the Legislative Council members. She then offered

to meet with individual members to answer more in-depth inquiries.

ITEM 10. New Business

Senator Posthumus asked if there was any new business. There was none.

ITEM 11. Public Participation

The Chair asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Council. No one responded.

ITEM 12. Time, Date, and Place of the Next Legislative Council Meeting

The next Legislative Council meeting will be held within two weeks of today's meeting. The time, date and place of this meeting are to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Odrobina
Secretary

DMO/tj

(Minutes approved at the February 25, 1997 Legislative Council meeting.)