

# FINAL

## MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

12:30 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  
Representative Samuel Buzz Thomas, Alternate Member

Representative Terry Geiger  
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  
Tina Deitrich, Administrative Assistant, Library of Michigan  
Elliott Smith, Director of the Legislative Service Bureau  
Marcia Cornell, Human Resources Director, Legislative Service Bureau  
Carol Cousineau, Director of Legal Division, Legislative Service Bureau  
Carlo P. Ginotti, Attorney/Administrator of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission  
Margaret-Mary Chiara, Administrator of the Trial Court Assessment Commission  
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  
Susan Ruch, Executive Assistant to Senator Schwarz

**Present were (continued):**

Fred Hall, Deputy Director of SMPO  
Phil Douma, Legal Counsel, Representative Sikkema's Office  
David Oppliger, Democratic House Legal Counsel  
Alan Canady, Senate Democratic Counsel  
Kristen Beltzer, Deputy Chief of Staff for Senator Posthumus  
Cindy Peruchietti, Deputy Chief of Staff for Speaker Hertel  
Judy Allen, Administrative Aide to Senator DeGrow  
Robin Risko, Financial Analyst, House Fiscal Agency

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  
Senator Bill Schuette, Alternate Member

**ITEM 1. Convening of the Meeting**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:37 p.m. A quorum was present.

**ITEM 2. Approval of Minutes of the February 13, 1997, Legislative Council Meeting**

The Chair asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 13, 1997, Legislative Council meeting. **Representative Hanley moved, supported by Representative Perricone, to adopt the minutes of the February 13, 1997, Council meeting. There was no discussion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.**

**ITEM 3. Old Business - Legislative Council Budget for 1997-98 Fiscal Year**

Senator Posthumus asked Dianne Odrobina to give an overview of the Legislative Council budget. Ms. Odrobina began with an organizational sketch and a historical perspective, noting that more and more functions have been entrusted to the Legislative Council in recent years. Elsewhere in the country as previously in Michigan, these functions have been found in the Executive (e.g. Facilities Agency) or Judicial (e.g.. Sentencing Guidelines) branches.

Ms. Odrobina recommended for fiscal year 1997-98, that all non-library Council agencies receive the budget increases proposed by the Executive branch.

Ms. Odrobina recommended that the Library of Michigan receive a 3.5% increase in a modified proposal from the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees. An additional increase in the operations line reflected a request by the Legislative Council Facilities Agency for their responsibilities for the building and grounds. This explains the 3.7% total increase request.

A copy of the budget recommendation is attached and will be part of the minutes by this

reference.

A copy of all budget information provided to Council members (TAB 3 in Council notebooks) is attached and will be part of the minutes by this reference.

The Chair asked for discussion.

Representative Gagliardi raised questions regarding the progress of the Legislative Session Integration System project, inquired about the status of the liquidated damages provisions for delay in delivery and about the budget implications of the project. The Legislative Council Administrator responded to his questions.

Senator Posthumus and Speaker Hertel stated that the Quadrant leaders have met and discussed this issue at length and they unanimously feel the best course is to move forward with ISSC at this point.

Ms. Odrobina sought direction from Council members in reference to staffing the State Court Information Management Commission. This commission has no funding at this time.

Senator Posthumus asked Representative Geiger to give background information with regard to how the State Court Information Management Commission came to be part of the Legislative Council. Representative Geiger provided the requested information to the Council.

**After discussion, a motion was made by Representative Perricone, supported by Senator Steil, to amend the Legislative Council budget recommendation by requesting \$250,000 for the 1997-98 fiscal year for the State Court Information Management Commission.**

The Chair asked for further discussion. Representative Alley reminded members that the Council does have the right to say “no” to additions to the Council.

**The Chair asked the Secretary to call the roll for the vote. The vote follows:**

<b>Senator Posthumus</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>Speaker Hertel</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>Representative Alley</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>Senator DeGrow</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>Representative Gagliardi</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>Representative Hanley</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>Representative Perricone</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Senator Schwarz</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Representative Sikkema</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Senator Steil</b>	<b>yes</b>

**The motion was defeated with (6) six “no” votes and (4) four “yes” votes.**

**Speaker Hertel moved, supported by Senator DeGrow, that the Legislative Council submit to the appropriations subcommittee for approval, the executive budget recommendation for all Legislative Council agencies excluding the Library of Michigan budget and a Library of Michigan budget increase of 3.7%.**

There was no discussion.

**The Chair asked the Secretary to call the roll for the vote. The vote follows:**

<b>Senator Posthumus</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Speaker Hertel</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Representative Alley</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Senator DeGrow</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Representative Gagliardi</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Representative Hanley</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Representative Perricone</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Senator Schwarz</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Representative Sikkema</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Senator Steil</b>	<b>yes</b>

**The motion was passed unanimously.**

Senator Posthumus asked if there was any other Old Business. There was none.

**ITEM 4. New Business**

Senator Posthumus asked if there was any New Business. There was none.

**ITEM 5. Public Participation**

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

**ITEM 6. Date of Next Legislative Council Meeting**

The next Legislative Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 29, 1997, at 12:30 p.m. in Room 402-403 of the Capitol.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. **Senator Schwarz so moved, and was unanimously supported. Senator Posthumus adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Odrobina, Secretary

DMO/tj

*(Minutes approved at the May 15, 1997 Legislative Council meeting.)*