

FINAL

MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, October 30, 1997
12:30 p.m.

State Capitol Building - Room 402-403

ATTENDANCE

Present were:

Senator Dick Posthumus, Chair
Representative Curtis Hertel, Alternate Chair
Representative Tom Alley, Member
Senator John D. Cherry, Jr., Member
Senator Dan L. DeGrow, Member
Representative Pat Gagliardi, Member
Representative Michael J. Hanley, Member
Representative Charles Perricone, Member
Senator John J.H. Schwarz, Member
Representative Kenneth Sikkema, Member
Senator Glenn Steil, 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
Elliott Smith, Director, Legislative Service Bureau
Traci Kanillopoolos, Secretary to the Director of the Legislative Service Bureau
Clayton Burch, Legislative Corrections Ombudsman
Doug Miller, Administrator, Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
George Needham, State Librarian, Library of Michigan
Jeff Johnson, Deputy State Librarian, Library of Michigan
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
Susan Nearing, Director of Public Services, Library of Michigan
Kathleen Menanteaux, Director of Technical Services, Library of Michigan
Paul Groll, Director, Network and Information Systems, Library of Michigan
Jerry Lawler, Director, Legislative Council Facilities
Marcia Cornell, Human Resources Director, Legislative Service Bureau
Carol Cousineau, Director of Legal Division, Legislative Service Bureau
Roger Peters, Director of Legal Editing, Legislative Service Bureau
Carlo P. Ginotti, Attorney/Administrator, Sentencing Guidelines Commission
Margaret-Mary Chiara, Administrator, Trial Court Assessment Commission
Phil Douma, Legal Counsel, Office of Representative Sikkema
Tammy Bagby, Project Coordinator, Office of Senator Posthumus
Alan Canady, Senate Democratic Counsel
Helen Freeman, Chief of Staff and Legislative Coordinator, Office of Senator Steil

Steve Benkovsky, Director of Facilities, Michigan Library and Historical Center
Tim Bowlin, Director of Administration, House Business Office
Jim Shane, Director, LSB Information Systems
Tony Abbatte, Director, House Information Systems
Nancy Childs, Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Gagliardi
Tish Davidson, Director, Democratic Caucus Services
Shelly Edgerton, Assistant Majority Counsel, Senate Majority Policy Office
Susan Ruch, Executive Assistant, Office of Senator Schwarz
Rolanda Ewell, Lead Document Room Assistant, Legislative Service Bureau
O. William Rye, Personnel Management Consultant, O. William Rye & Co.

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

Members Excused:

Senator Virgil Clark Smith, Member
Representative Deborah L. Cherry, Alternate Member
Senator Jon A. Cisky, Alternate Member
Senator Michael J. O'Brien, Alternate Member

ITEM 1. Convening of the Meeting

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and requested that Dianne Odrobina call the roll. A quorum was present.

The Chair stated that without objection, absent members would be excused. There were no objections.

ITEM 2. Approval of Minutes of the May 15, 1997, Legislative Council Meeting

The Chair asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the May 15, 1997, Legislative Council Meeting. **Representative Hertel moved, supported by Representative Sikkema, to adopt the minutes of the May 15, 1997, Council meeting. There was no discussion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.**

ITEM 3. Report of the Legislative Council Services and Administration Subcommittee

Senator Posthumus, Alternate Chair of the Services and Administration Subcommittee, asked Dianne Odrobina to give an overview of the subcommittee's report.

I. Personnel Matters

Dianne Odrobina explained that all names listed in the Personnel section of the report are non-Library of Michigan new hires since the last Legislative Council meeting. Senator Posthumus asked for questions. There were none.

II. Council Budget Requests for 1998-99

Ms. Odrobina summarized the recommended 1998-99 budget appropriations for the Legislative Council agencies and commissions.

National Dues

Senator Steil noted that the subcommittee recommended changes to the national dues budget appropriation. Senator Schwarz asked what changes were made to the original recommendation.

Senator Posthumus explained that the subcommittee looked at those dues which had increased significantly above the rate of inflation, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) 4.5%, Council of State Governments (CSG) 5%, and the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL) 5%.

Senator Posthumus stated that since Legislative budgets went up 3% it was the subcommittee's recommendation that Legislative Council limit national dues increases to 3%.

Senator Schwarz asked for the dollar figures which follow:

	1997-98	1998-99	Recommended 1998-99 (3% increase)
NCSL	\$160,534	167,349	165,350
CSG	\$144,200	151,410	148,526
NCCUSL	\$ 38,200	40,300	39,346

Senator Steil noted that since a survey on usage has not been done since 1993, a new survey should be administered. He also expressed concern that Michigan pays significantly higher dues than many other states. Senator Schwarz offered to supply Senator Steil with a list of NCSL dues for every state. Senator Schwarz stated he felt the services provided by NCSL are superb. He pointed out that there were no fees paid for the last NCSL study done of the Legislative Council structure and functions.

Senator Steil questioned how much CSG is used by the Legislature. Senator Cherry noted the CSG has changed executive directors and participation should be increasing in response to this new leadership.

The Chair requested, with no objections, that Legislative Council administer another usage survey for all broad-based organizations to which dues are paid, to determine which of their services are most frequently used by the Legislature.

Council Administered Commissions

Senator Posthumus stated that the subcommittee's recommendation is that the appropriation of \$260,000 for the Sentencing Guidelines Commission be reduced by \$130,000 because the Commission has come to agreement on guidelines and would soon issue its report. Senator Posthumus has since spoken with Judge Paul Maloney, Chair of the Sentencing Commission, who recommends setting the appropriation at \$200,000. Senator Posthumus asked for any other questions or comments regarding any of the recommended budget appropriations. There were none.

III. Council Compensation Study

Ms. Odrobina stated that the Council had requested the completion of an updated compensation study. Mr. O. William Rye, Personnel Management Consultant, conducted the compensation study; he was present and gave a brief summary of his recommendations.

Ms. Odrobina explained the five recommendations of the subcommittee based on Mr. Rye's report.

The Chair asked for any questions. There were no questions.

Ms. Odrobina did note that since the study's completion, the civil service rates were increased by 3%.

IV. Facilities Agency

Dianne Odrobina gave an overview of the recommended renovations to be completed at the Michigan Library and Historical Center, all of which are funded within the present budget.

Conservation of the Year Award Plaque

Representative Alley requested that this item be separated from the subcommittee report and he also wanted more detailed information before acting on this item. Senator Posthumus stated that, with no objections, this item would be tabled. There were no objections.

V. Michigan Manual Distribution

Dianne Odrobina reported that the Legislative Council statute requires that each Legislator receive one free copy of the Michigan Manual. The subcommittee's recommendation is to give each legislator up to 25 copies free of charge upon request. The free distribution to others would continue as in the past and be reflected in the subcommittee's report.

VI. Legislative Council Legislation

Dianne Odrobina noted that the House did pass the Internet bills mentioned in this section of the subcommittee report and have been moved on to the Senate.

The Chair asked for a motion to adopt the amended Legislative Council Services and Administration subcommittee report. **Senator Steil moved, supported by Representative Gagliardi, to adopt the Legislative Council Services and Administration subcommittee report as amended by the separation of the issue of the Conservationist of the Year Award plaque. Senator Posthumus asked for discussion. There was no discussion. The amended Legislative Council Services and Administration subcommittee report was unanimously adopted.**

ITEM 4. Report of Legislative Council Agencies Subcommittee

Representative Alley noted that the subcommittee had reviewed all materials. Dianne Odrobina reminded the Council that this subcommittee report did contain the recommended 1998-99 budget appropriation for the Library of Michigan.

Senator Posthumus asked for a motion to adopt the Legislative Council Agencies Subcommittee report. **Senator Schwarz moved, supported by Representative Perricone, to adopt the Legislative Council Agencies Subcommittee report. Senator Posthumus asked for discussion. There was no discussion. The Agencies Subcommittee report was unanimously adopted.**

ITEM 5. Old Business

Tim Bowlin, Director of House Administration, gave an overview of the Legislative Session

Integration Systems Project and passed out a brief report. Tim indicated that the project is on track and still very much on target with the original budget of \$9.9 million. Some project costs have come in lower than expected resulting in a savings of \$2 million. Senator Posthumus asked that Council be apprised of the recommendations for the expenditure of these funds.

ITEM 6. New Business

Appointment to the Law Revision Commission

Senator Posthumus stated that he and Speaker Hertel support the reappointment of former state senator, Anthony Derezinski, to another term on the Law Revision Commission.

A motion was made by Representative Gagliardi, supported by Senator Schwarz, to reappoint Anthony Derezinski to the Law Revision Commission. Senator Posthumus asked for discussion. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Renaming the Library of Michigan

Representative Gagliardi noted that when a bi-partisan bill renaming the Library of Michigan for former Senator Faust was vetoed by the Governor, the indication was that issues such as this should be more appropriately handled through the Legislative Council. Representative Gagliardi will be meeting with the Legislative Council Agencies subcommittee in an effort to place this issue under consideration by full Council.

Letter to Capitol Facilities Personnel

Representative Alley asked that a letter signed by the Chair and Alternate Chair of the Legislative Council be sent to those persons responsible for maintaining the beautiful Capitol grounds. Senator Posthumus asked that an appropriate letter be composed. Senator Schwarz suggested that a letter should also be submitted by the Capitol Committee.

ITEM 7. Public Participation

The Chair asked for public participation. There was none.

ITEM 8. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Odrobina, Secretary

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(Approved at February 3, 1998 Legislative Council Meeting)