

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
CITIZENS ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION**

ROOM 139, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / 500 WEST TEMPLE / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 / 974-1491

M I N U T E S

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, October 16, 1974  
PLACE: Hall of Administration, Room 864

Members Present:

Maurice Chez, Chairman  
John Byork  
Anne Collins  
Dr. Downey  
Catherine Burke  
Joe Lederman  
Earl Sachs  
Dr. Warren Schmidt  
George Shellenberger

Members Absent:

George Bodle  
Jerry Epstein  
Milton Gordon  
Mrs. Ray Kidd  
Leo Majich  
William Mortensen  
Robert Ruchti  
Carl Terzian

Maurice Rene Chez  
Chairman

George E. Bodle  
John D. Byork  
James J. Cunningham  
Roc Cutri  
Dr. Robert J. Downey  
Jerry Epstein  
Milton G. Gordon  
Catherine C. Graeffe  
Mrs. Ray Kidd  
Joseph A. Lederman  
Leo A. Majich  
Ferdinand Mendenhall  
W. J. Moreland  
William S. Mortensen  
Robert Ruchti  
George Shellenberger  
Carl Terzian

Burke Roche  
Executive Secretary

Mr. Chez called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. He acknowledged the presence of James Gonsalves, Deputy to Supervisor Schabarum, and Roye Love from the Chief Administrative Office.

At the last full commission meeting the members had voted to write a letter to the Board of Supervisors and review the recommendation made in the civil service study regarding the combined commission. Mr. Chez read the letter sent to the Board entitled "Correcting the Problems in the Present Civil Service System."

Catherine Burke stated that the civil service system had been designed in the 1800's and does not take into account the new and different problems of today. She feels that this commission would be doing a real service for the County if it made a thorough study of the system, which would include how the merit system operates--or fails to operate.

Mr. Chez said that her point was well taken, and there had been some discussion regarding such a study; but no decision had been made yet.

Mrs. Kidd, Chairman of the Task Force on Department Head Commissions, was unable to attend today's meeting and had requested Catherine Burke to make the presentation to the commission.

Mrs. Burke thanked the other members of the task force--Dr. Downey, Joe Lederman, and Earl Sachs. She said she especially wanted to thank Burke Roche who had done an incredible job on this very controversial report. She covered each section of the report and explained that it had been prepared in great detail because the task force felt it had to back up everything that was being recommended.

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In answer to a question by Dr. Schmidt, Mr. Roche said that the information in the report was based on the 1973-74 year, which was a typical year. He said it hadn't been put in the report but would be brought out in the verbal presentation.

Mr. Sachs asked if the staff had inquired into how many commissions receive stipends of \$100 a day. Mr. Roche said that this information had been developed.

The members questioned the value of the commissioner who was paid a stipend to serve versus the volunteer who served without any compensation of any kind.

Mr. Lederman said that the task force had met with the Business License Commissioners, and it was his opinion that if they are as civic minded as they say they are, they will not fight the reduction in the stipend.

Mr. Shellenberger moved that the task force report be accepted and presented to the Board of Supervisors; seconded by Dr. Schmidt and passed unanimously.

Mr. Chez said that the report will be presented formally to the Board on October 29, at 10 a.m. Presentation is being delayed until this time at the request of the Business License Commission. They wanted adequate time to study the report and prepare their rebuttal.

Mr. Chez reported as follows: The special investigative and audit agency report was submitted to the Board three and a half months ago. It is now scheduled to be heard on October 22. There are two major issues dividing the Board on this recommendation. Supervisor Ward feels that any individual supervisor should be able to initiate a study or investigation by the agency. Several other supervisors feel that the function should be in the Chief Administrative Office. Acting CAO, Harry Hufford, has advised the Board that his office is being reorganized, and this function should be in his department.

Supervisor Schabarum requested the commission to study Proposition F and take a stand on it. Mr. Chez explained to him that the commission's policy had always been to accept assignments from the Board as a whole in the form of a Board order or motion. Supervisor Schabarum withdrew his request.

Mr. Roche added that the commission had always reserved the right to accept or reject a study. In the early days of the commission, the Board had attempted to refer studies which the commission did not feel were proper subjects for a commission study.

Mr. Chez reported that the report on the Museum of Natural History was presented to the Board of Supervisors at the meeting last week. He said that Mrs. Kidd made a very effective presentation. Mr. Harrison, President of the Board of Governors of the Museum, and the Director, Dr. Giles Mead, also attended the meeting and were very complimentary about the report and the E & E Commission. The Board had unanimously adopted the report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.