

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

ROOM 139, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION/500 WEST TEMPLE/LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012/625-3611, Ext. 64605

M I N U T E S

FULL COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Thursday, June 22, 1972
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Hall of Administration, Room 864

Members Present:

Robert Mitchell, Chairman
Davis Brabant
John Byork
Maurice Chez
Jerry Epstein
Leo Epstein
Milton Gordon
Dixon Harwin
Mrs. Ray Kidd
Harlan Loud
R. J. Munzer
Robert Olin
George Shellenberger
William Torrence

Members Absent:

Dr. John Bollens
James Cunningham
Roc Cutri
Joe Lederman
Irvin Mazzei
Ferdinand Mendenhall
Gus Walker

Robert Mitchell,
Chairman

Dr. John C. Bollens
Davis Brabant
John D. Byork
Maurice Rene Chez
James J. Cunningham
Roc Cutri
Jerry Epstein
Leo D. Epstein
Milton G. Gordon
Dixon R. Harwin
Mrs. Ray Kidd
Joseph A. Lederman
Harlan G. Loud
Irvin Mazzei
Ferdinand Mendenhall
R. J. Munzer
Robert A. Olin
George Shellenberger
William Torrence
Gus A. Walker

Burke Roche,
Executive Secretary

Mr. Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. He announced that he had just learned of the death of Ray Arbuthnot's wife and also Fran Wilcox who had been Chairman of this committee for a short time. He said Irvin Mazzei was going back to Texas for more major heart surgery.

Mr. Mitchell said the main consideration of this meeting would be to consider the fire services report. However, Mr. Munzer, Chairman of the construction projects study, would have to leave the meeting early, so his progress report would be the first item on the agenda.

Mr. Munzer named the other members of the sub-committee: Roc Cutri, Jerry Epstein, Milton Gordon, Joe Lederman, Robert Olin and Bill Torrence. He reported that the Los Angeles Technical Services Corporation had been hired to assist the sub-committee in this very complex study. This Corporation had estimated that the study would cost approximately \$65,000 and would take about six months time to complete. The committee had requested \$35,000 from the Board of Supervisors for the fiscal year ending June 30th. The next step is the allocation of further funds for the new fiscal year to complete the study. September 30th is the date set for completion of the report.

Mr. Munzer stated that studies of three specific projects had revealed that if they had been completed on schedule, the citizens of this County would have been saved approximately \$7 million. Studies indicate there could be a savings of about 15% in the construction costs if delays can be completely eliminated. He said it is questionable that they could be completely eliminated, but certainly they can be reduced.

Mr. Shellenberger said it was his opinion that the full committee recommended total funding at the time of the contract. Mr. Munzer and Mr. Roche verified his statement and explained it was just a matter of funding the second half for the new fiscal year. No further action by the committee was necessary.

Mr. Mitchell thanked Mr. Munzer for his report. He asked Mr. Loud to present the report on Fire Protection Services in Los Angeles County.

Mr. Loud thanked the members of the sub-committee for the time and effort spent on the report. Members were: John Byork, Maurice Chez, Jerry Epstein, Dixon Harwin, Bill Torrence and Robert Olin. He also thanked Mr. Roche and Miss Larsen. After copies were distributed, Mr. Loud read the sub-committee's conclusions and recommendations.

Mr. Gordon said he had hoped the recommendations would have been stronger and more definitive. He hadn't been able to attend many of the meetings but had hoped for stronger guidelines to the Board.

Mr. Roche said this could not be done without looking at each city as an individual case. No further recommendations can be made unless this is done.

Mr. Byork thought the report should be treated as a fact-finding document. He said Exhibit 9 was confusing because the level of service was not included.

Mr. Roche said there was no way of measuring the level of service. He said the fire department insurance grade was included to give some indication of the service, but better tools are needed for measuring the effectiveness of the fire departments.

Mr. Loud asked Mr. Byork if the committee had his approval to present the report to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Byork said they had his approval to present it as a fact-finding document.

Mr. Brabant suggested the report be studied by every member before any position is taken. He said this was the first time he had seen it, and he doesn't know its contents.

Mr. Chez said he would like to clarify a few points. He said there was a good reason that for the first time in the committee's history it took an assignment and did not come up with a final, definite, conclusive opinion or recommendation to the Board. As the summary of the report explained, it is impossible to come up with a specific conclusion for 43 cities. When the people in these cities have a factual document in front of them, they can decide for themselves what is best for their needs. He said he knew there could be tremendous savings for some of these communities if they would accept one of the alternatives offered.

Other committee members congratulated the sub-committee and Mr. Roche for a very factual document that could be used as a manual to help the cities.

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Mr. Chez made the motion that the full committee accept the report of the sub-committee for presentation to the Board of Supervisors next week. Motion was seconded by Mr. Shellenberger and passed unanimously.

The last item on the agenda was a progress report by Mr. Chez, Chairman of the County charter study. He said that Mr. Mitchell and he had been meeting with County officials and members of the Board of Supervisors to discuss charter reform. Three members of the sub-committee met with the Civil Service Commission, and the sub-committee is now setting up meetings with the major union representatives to hear their views.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.