

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

ROOM 163, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / 500 WEST TEMPLE / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 / 974-1491

M I N U T E S

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

May 4, 1977

Dr. Robert J. Downey, Chairman
Anne S. Collins, Vice-Chairman

Members Present:

Anne Collins, Vice Chairman
George E. Bodle
Catherine Burke
John Byork
Margaret Carr
Mario Di Giovanni
Carolyn Ellner
Douglas Ferguson
Milton Gordon
Richard Gunther
Robert Ruchti
Luis Ruiz
Warren Schmidt
George Shellenberger
Gloria Starr
Larkin Teasley

Members Absent:

Robert Downey - Resigned 4/30
Jerry Epstein
Mary Jane Kidd
Leo Majich
Bryan Walker

George E. Bodle
Catherine Graeffe Burke
John D. Byork
Margaret Paterson Carr
Dr. Mario Di Giovanni
Dr. Carolyn L. Ellner
Jerry Epstein
Douglas W. Ferguson
Milton G. Gordon
Richard S. Gunther
Mary Jane Kidd
Leo A. Majich
Robert Ruchti, II
Luis A. Ruiz
Dr. Warren H. Schmidt
George Shellenberger
Gloria Starr
Larkin Teasley
Bryan Walker

Burke Roche
Executive Secretary
John Campbell
Staff Specialist
Maxlynn Larsen
Commission Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Vice Chairperson Anne Collins. She said that the election for the new chairperson would be delayed until the rest of the members who planned to attend had arrived. She asked Burke Roche to proceed to the next item on the agenda.

Request for Additional Superior Court Judges - Burke Roche reported.

The Board had received the EEC report two weeks ago, which recommended that the request for 34 additional judges be denied. The CAO submitted a similar report which also recommended that the request be denied. At the Board meeting yesterday, the supervisors heard the proponents and the opponents on the issue.

Supervisor Hayes moved that a decision on the matter be delayed for two weeks to give him time to review the material presented. Supervisor Schabarum made a substitute motion that the issue be considered during budget deliberations. The motion failed by a 3-2 vote.

Supervisor Ward made a substitute motion that the recommendations of the CAO and the EEC be accepted and the request be denied. The motion failed for lack of a second. Supervisor Hayes motion to delay consideration for two weeks was passed. The issue is scheduled to be considered on May 17.

Progress Report on the County Budget Study - Mario Di Giovanni, Chairman of the Task Force, said that the task force had not met since he made his last report, and he would therefore have to defer to John Campbell to give an up-to-date report.

John Campbell reported that he and Burke Roche were working on an initial draft of the report for the task force, which would contain 20 to 25 detailed recommendations. They hope to get it to the task force very soon.

Election of Chairperson of the EEC - Dr. Downey moved to Orange County and resigned from the commission on April 30. Nominations for the new chairperson were held at the April meeting, and Anne Collins, Mary Jane Kidd, and Warren Schmidt were nominated.

Ballots were distributed and tallied. None of the candidates received a majority of the votes cast on the first ballot. A run-off election between the two top candidates was held in accordance with the commission by-laws. Warren Schmidt was declared elected to the position of chairperson of the commission.

George Bodle thanked Anne Collins for her service as vice-chairperson and said that the members were appreciative of the time she had given to the position.

Warren Schmidt stated that he would do all he could to use the talents of the members as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Robert Ruchti was excused at 10:10 a.m. to attend another meeting.

Commission Study Priorities - Burke Roche commented on the most recent requests for studies. He said the Executive Committee would have to meet to review the various requests and decide which ones would be given top priority.

Richard Gunther asked what had happened to the studies on management and finances. Burke Roche answered that the plan had been that the Management and Finances Task Force would take a vacation while the staff concentrated on the budget study.

George Bodle and Catherine Burke expressed their opinions about the need to study the whole civil service area. Warren Schmidt told them the Executive Committee would have to set a date for a meeting to discuss the priorities.

Special Meetings - Burke Roche announced that the commission was tentatively scheduled to meet with Harry Hufford on May 11th and scheduled to meet with Supervisor Hayes on May 25. Margaret Carr requested, and the members agreed, that instead of calling a special meeting for the 11th, Harry Hufford be invited to meet with the commission at its next regular meeting.

Modifying Legislation on County Secession - Burke Roche reported. The County is sponsoring this legislation, and the CAO asked him to go to Sacramento to testify on the bills on May 9th. This would require that he take time to brief himself on the bills. Since he and John are spending all their time drafting the budget report, he doesn't feel that he can take the time which would be needed for the briefing and the trip. He asked if any member could go in his place.

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Milton Gordon asked if anyone had researched the bills to find out if they would be on the Assembly or the Senate side on Monday. Mr. Roche said he would check the legislation to find out where the bills were and what the timing was.

Warren Schmidt requested that the commission notify the person who would be representing the County that the EEC would support the bills in any way it could - short of sending a body to Sacramento.

Milton Gordon was excused at 10:35 a.m. to attend another meeting.

Sacramento Government Efficiency Commission - Mr. Roche reported that he had received a phone call from a professor at the Sacramento State University who had been doing a study on county government. He had been talking to some of the Sacramento supervisors who wanted to establish a government efficiency commission.

He also received a call from the head of the State and Local Government Section of the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce regarding the same thing. Mr. Roche had sent them information on the history and operation of the EEC and was keeping in touch with them.

Staff Contracts - Mr. Roche reported that the Board had not yet acted on the staff contracts. Anne Collins suggested that the members call their supervisors and ask if they have any questions regarding the contracts.

Anne Collins announced that everyone was to meet at Noon for the farewell luncheon for Dr. Downey. She adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.