

**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, July 17, 1974
PLACE: Hall of Administration, Room 739

Members Present:

Maurice Chez, Chairman
George Bodle
John Byork
James J. Cunningham
Dr. Robert Downey
Jerry Epstein
Milton Gordon
Catherine Graeffe
Joseph Lederman
Leo A. Majich
W. J. Moreland
William S. Mortensen
Robert Ruchti
Earl Sachs
Dr. Warren Schmidt
George Shellenberger

Members Absent:

Roc Cutri
Mrs. Ray Kidd
Ferdinand Mendenhall
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 introduced Dr. Warren Schmidt, appointed by Supervisor Ward to replace Harlan Loud. Dr. Schmidt is Senior Lecturer in Behavioral Science at the UCLA Graduate School of Management. He is a Certified Psychologist in California, a Fellow of the NTL Institute for Applied Behavioral Science, and a charter member of the International Association for Applied Social Science. His most recent book is titled "Organizational Frontiers and Human Values," published in 1971. In addition to producing many articles in management and psychological journals, Dr. Schmidt has authored several widely-used films. One of his animated films, titled "Is It Always Right to Be Right?" won the Academy Award in 1971.

In the absence of Mrs. Kidd, Chairman of the Task Force on Department Head Commissions, Mr. Chez reported the following. The Business License Report will be completed in the next few days. It will probably be presented to the full commission about July 24 or 31. The task force has two more commissions to study--the Museum of Natural History and the Human Relations Commission. The ordinance to implement the recommendations made in the report on the Arboreta and Botanic Gardens and the Otis Art Institute is being prepared and is scheduled to be considered by the Board of Supervisors on August 30.

Mr. Chez also reported that Supervisor Schabarum had submitted three proposals for charter amendments at the July 9 meeting of the Board. Two of the proposals were adopted for placement on the November ballot; (1) removal of department

E & E COMMISSION MINUTES

July 17, 1974

Page 2

heads and heads of staff of commissions and chief deputies from Civil Service; (2) the E & E recommendation that the Director of Personnel be appointed by the Board of Supervisors instead of the Civil Service Commission. The third proposal --permit County functions to be performed by independent contractors where more economical and feasible--was continued to August 6, which is the deadline for placing proposals on the November ballot.

Mr. Chez announced that the staff specialist, Luke Heese, is leaving the commission to take a job in the Chief Administrative Office as a systems analyst.

Mr. Chez asked Mr. Majich, Chairman of the Task Force on the County Chief Executive and Size of the Board of Supervisors to present the task force report.

Mr. Majich thanked the other members of the task force--George Bodle, John Byork, Jerry Epstein, Catherine Graeffe, Joe Lederman, W. J. Moreland, Bill Mortensen, and Robert Ruchti. He reported that the task force had been unanimous in its agreement that the County should have a chief executive. It disagreed, however, on whether the chief executive should be elected by the voters or appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Five members of the task force felt very strongly that the chief executive should be elected; four members felt just as strongly that the chief executive should be appointed. Therefore, the task force recommends that both proposals be placed on the ballot, and the County voters can decide which they prefer.

There was considerable discussion on how lengthy the November ballot would be, the cost of a special election, and the recommendations made by the Grand Jury regarding the County Mayor and the size of the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Chez stated that the four absent members had cast their ballot on the recommendations, and he called for a vote of the members present.

The recommendation that the position of Chief Executive be established in County government through an amendment to the County Charter was approved unanimously.

Eleven members supported the recommendation that the chief executive be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Nine members supported the recommendation that the chief executive be elected by all County voters.

On the question of whether to place one proposal (appointed only or elected only) on the ballot or to place both proposals on the ballot, three members voted to place only the proposal for an appointed chief executive on the ballot; eight members voted to place only the proposal for the elected chief executive on the ballot; and nine members voted to place both proposals on the ballot.

E & E COMMISSION MINUTES

July 17, 1974

Page 3

Mr. Majich pointed out that the Board of Supervisors was also split on the issue of the elected versus the appointed chief executive, and it might be that the only way to get this on the ballot would be to submit both proposals to the voters.

Mr. Bodle said that he would change his vote from favoring one proposal to favoring two, and he suggested that the other members reconsider their votes.

All members, except one, who had voted for one proposal changed their votes in favor of both proposals. Two absentee voters had voted for one proposal, so Mr. Roche was instructed to contact them to see if they wished to reconsider. Final vote of the members present was 17 in favor of both proposals and one vote for the elected chief executive. (NOTE: Absentee voters changed their votes in favor of both proposals, changing the final vote to 19 for both proposals and one vote for the elected.)

The commission voted unanimously to support the recommendation to postpone placing the proposal to increase the size of the Board of Supervisors to seven members until the voters have decided whether they want an appointed or an elected chief executive, or no change from the present structure.

Mr. Chez asked for advice from the commission members on the problem the E & E Commission was having in getting its presentations before the Board at the time indicated on the agenda. He explained that during the past year, the E & E representatives sat in the Board room hour after hour, sometimes all day, waiting to make their presentation. This happened even though the Commission had a set time on the agenda, usually at 10 or 10:30 a.m.

He asked how the members felt about contacting their individual supervisors and asking them to please see that the Commission is heard somewhere near the scheduled time on the agenda. The members agreed unanimously to this suggestion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.