

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

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

Dr. Warren H. Schmidt, Chairperson  
Gloria Starr, Vice Chairperson

George E. Bodle  
Dr. Catherine G. Burke  
John D. Byork  
Anne S. Collins  
Dr. Mario Di Giovanni  
Dr. Carolyn L. Ellner  
Jerry Epstein  
Milton G. Gordon  
Richard S. Gunther  
Hugh L. Henshaw  
Mary Jane Kidd  
Leo A. Majich  
Robert Ruchti, II  
Luis A. Ruiz  
George Shellenberger  
Larkin Teasley  
Bryan Walker

M I N U T E S

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

October 5, 1977

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Warren Schmidt, Chairperson  
Catherine Burke  
Anne Collins  
Mario Di Giovanni  
Carolyn Ellner  
Milton Gordon  
Hugh Henshaw  
Robert R. Ruchti  
Gloria Starr  
Larkin Teasley  
Bryan Walker

MEMBERS ABSENT:

George E. Bodle  
John D. Byork  
Margaret Paterson Carr  
Jerry Epstein  
Richard Gunther  
Mary Jane Kidd  
Leo Majich  
Luis Ruiz  
George Shellenberger

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

Warren Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

He announced that as chairperson of the Economy and Efficiency Commission he was invited to make a presentation at the Conference of County Managers to be held at a hotel in Costa Mesa on October 20 and 21. He reviewed the theme of his presentation with Commission members, who agreed that the emphasis should be on the problems confronting County managers and what the commission can do to help solve these problems.

Dr. Schmidt then stated that the principal subject of the meeting would be to review and establish plans of action and priorities on the eight projects which the Executive Committee have agreed deserve the commission's principal attention. After summarizing the projects, Dr. Schmidt asked for a discussion of each item.

1. Department of Health Services - Mary Jane Kidd being absent, Dr. Schmidt asked Burke Roche to report. Roche said the Executive Committee had agreed that a meeting should be held with Morrison Chamberlin, Acting Director of Health Services, to review Chamberlin's progress in solving the problems which had plagued the department. Members and staff attending were Warren Schmidt, Mary Jane Kidd, John Campbell and Burke Roche. Chamberlin reported

that he was making progress in bringing the department under control and asked the commission's support for his program. As a result of the meeting Mary Jane Kidd proposed that the commission send a letter to the Board of Supervisors supporting Mr. Chamberlin's objectives and advising that a comprehensive study of the department at this time does not seem appropriate.

The commission supported the recommendation with the addition that it should meet with Mr. Chamberlin in the near future to review his progress.

2. County Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education - Per the recommendation of the Executive Committee, Warren Schmidt appointed a task force consisting of Carolyn Ellner, Mario Di Giovanni, Anne Collins and Gloria Starr. The task force will review bugetary and associated operating data. A meeting will be held in November to determine specific areas for further study.

3. Civil Service Commission and Personnel Administration - Per the recommendation of the Executive Committee, it was agreed that a task force should be appointed to begin immediate exploration of the problems in this area. Warren Schmidt appointed Dr. Catherine Burke as chairperson of the task force and Hugh Henshaw, Robert Ruchti and Gloria Starr as members. He said he would confer with Dr. Burke on additional members.

Burke Roche reported that Supervisor Edelman had scheduled a hearing on the Civil Service issues relating to the Board Order of April 12, 1977. The Board Order proposed that the Charter responsibilities of the Civil Service Commission be amended to cover only matters involving hiring and promotion and requested the Civil Service Commission, Employees Relations Commission, Management Council, Department Heads, Chief Administrative Officer and the Economy and Efficiency Commission to submit their views on this proposal. The hearing has been delayed so that the other Board offices will have more time to review the replies prepared by the concerned agencies. It was agreed that this material would be sent to the task force members and a meeting would be shceduled in the near future.

At this point (10:15 a.m.) Dr. Schmidt announced that he had to leave the meeting to go to Mexico City for a conference. He asked Gloria Starr to chair the remainder of the meeting.

4. Legislative Analyst - Milton Gordon reported his concern about the need for this function in Los Angeles County. He said, however, that without substantial staff assistance, the necessary evaluation of all the facets could not be conducted. It was agreed that this issue would be reviewed with Supervisor Edelman when Warren Schmidt and Gloria Starr meet with him.

5. Follow-up of Commission Recommendations - Gloria Starr said that Warren Schmidt and she would coordinate this item with various members of the commission to determine appropriate action for reviewing the progress of the County relating to prior commission recommendations.

6. Contract Services with Private Firms - Gloria Starr asked Burke Roche to report on this item. Roche reported that the staff has sent a letter to County Counsel requesting a written opinion on certain legal aspects of this issue. The reply was due at the end of September. It has not yet been received. The staff will follow-up with County Counsel on this matter.

7. Impact of Federal and State Mandates and Grants - Luis Ruiz and Larkin Teasley will review the issues in this area and prepare a position paper for presentation to the full commission.

8. Consolidation of Los Angeles Criminal Division with the District Attorney's Office - Per the recommendation of the Executive Committee, it was agreed no specific action would be taken on this item other than to publize it as an area of duplication between the City and County.

Carolyn Ellner made a motion, seconded by Mario Di Giovanni, unanimously carried, that the actions agreed upon on each item be adopted.

Gloria Starr then asked for a discussion on the question of the commission's role regarding the campaign to delete the prevalling wage clause from the County Charter. This proposal is scheduled for the June, 1978 ballot. The Board is now discussing the specific ballot wording. The consensus was that the commission should take an active role in the campaign. The details will be developed by the task force on Community Relations.

Gloria Starr adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.