

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

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

George E. Bodle, Chairperson
Dr. Carolyn L. Ellner, Vice Chairperson
Lauro J. Neri, Vice Chairperson
Gloria Starr, Vice Chairperson
Dr. Curtis Ventriss, Vice Chairperson

MINUTES

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

June 3, 1981

Susan Berk
John D. Byork
Margaret Paterson Carr
Anne S. Collins
Dr. Mario Di Giovanni
Milton G. Gordon
Mary Jane Kidd
Thomas F. Kranz
Dr. Richard G. Lillard
Abraham M. Lurie
Robert Ruchti, II
Dr. Warren H. Schmidt
Wally Thor
Bryan Walker

Commission Staff
John Campbell
Martha Ohanesian

Members Present:

George E. Bodle, Chairperson
Susan Berk
John D. Byork
Jack Drown
Carolyn L. Ellner
Thomas F. Kranz
Abraham Lurie
Lauro J. Neri
Peter L. Tweedt
Connie Worden

Members Excused:

Anne Collins
Milton G. Gordon
Richard G. Lillard
Robert Ruchti, II
Gloria Starr
Wally Thor
Bryan Walker

George Bodle called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

New Appointments

Joe Crail has been formally appointed on nomination of Supervisor Antonovich. George Bodle and John Campbell will contact him before our next meeting to welcome him aboard.

Task Force Reports

Task Force on Courts: Tom Kranz reported that the task force met with two former Presiding Judges of the Superior Court. The meeting which lasted 2 1/2 hours, gave some insight into the complex procedures of the judicial system. The task force has been most interested in the apparent economic incentives for delay in injury cases:

1. Constitutional ceiling on interest on judgments of 10%.
2. The time over which interest on judgments is payable starts after the amount is decided - that is, after trial.

There is a bill in Legislature which would require courts to assess pre-judgment interest when claimed (SB 1176, Petris).

The task force recommends that the commission schedule public hearings on the court reform issues. After discussion, and by common consent, the commission set the date for public hearings at the time of its next regular meeting, 9:30 a.m., July 1, 1981. The commission directed the staff to re-schedule to June 24 in the event that speakers could not attend on July 1. The commission further directed the staff to ensure notification of the general public by publishing a notice in the Los Angeles Daily Journal, and to invite the Supervisors, the press and media.

Tom Kranz reported that the task force had sent a memorandum to each Supervisor summarizing the status of the work and explaining the structure of the issues. Although the memorandum contains no recommendations and formal commission recommendations are not yet ready, George Bodle would transmit the memorandum with a letter explaining our view that the Board should act formally to dissolve the so-called Blue Ribbon Committee on Courts.

Task Force on Incentives

Susan Berk met with Herb Kaplan regarding the proposal developed by the task force to develop Jacques and Herzberg applications in the County. Basically our proposal ties in with the incentives programs the County is developing. Although the original idea was to seek outside financing for this commission project, recent events may make it more appropriate to recommend to the Board that the County act to incorporate the project in its efforts. The task force will pursue this question upon completion of Tom Kranz's project on the courts.

Task Force on Contracting

Lauro Neri reported the County has assigned a full-time staff person to assist Bill Kreger in supplying information and analysis to the Contract Services Advisory Committee. The County has been making slow progress on using contracting as a management device for improving cost-effectiveness, primarily because of increasing budgetary and political pressure.

George Bodle adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.