LOS ANGELES COUNTY CITIZENS ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

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

MINUTES

FULL COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, October 1, 1969 DATE:

9:30 a.m. TIME:

PLACE: Hall of Administration, Room 739

Robert Mitchell. Chairman Raymond Arbuthnot Dr. John C. Bollens Davis Brahant Max Candiotty Maurice Rene Chez Dr. Warren S. Jones Mrs. Ray Kidd Harlan G. Loud P. S. Magruder Kiyoshi Maruyama

Irvin Mazzei L. E. McKee

Ferdinand Mendennall Louis Rogers

George Shellenberger Mrs. Benjamin Erick Smith

William Torrence Gus A. Walker Burke Roche, Executive Secretary

Members Present: Members Absent:

Robert Mitchell, Chairman Dr. John C. Bollens Davis Brabant Maurice Chez Dr. Warren Jones Mrs. Ray Kidd Harlan Loud L. E. McKee

Louis Rogers

Raymond Arbuthnot John Byork Roc Cutri P. S. Magruder Kiyoshi Maruyama Irvin Mazzei Ferdinand Mendenhall George Shellenberger

Mrs. Smith

William Torrence

Gus Walker

Meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. Mr. Mitchell said the date for the meeting had been set before he realized there would be so many members out of town. He asked Dr. Bollens to report on the progress of the County Charter task force.

Dr. Bollens reported that the task force met Monday afternoon, September 29th, and reached the conclusion that first priority should be given to the question of executive organization and second priority to the question of Board expansion. On the subject of executive organization, the task force agreed that speakers from other areas of the country with experience and knowledge in governmental operation should be invited to the first committee meetings.

The task force decided upon six names. Bernard Hillenbrand, Executive Director, National Association of Counties, has been invited to attend a meeting of the committee to be held on October 22, 1969. If Mr. Hillenbrand can attend this meeting, the committee will meet one week later, October 29th, to discuss and review his presentation. Mr. William MacDougall, General Counsel and Manager, County Supervisors Association of California, has been invited to appear before the committee on November 5, 1969.

The other four officials to be invited to appear at later dates include two appointed county managers and two elected county executives. These are:

Carl Johnson, County Executive, Sacramento County M. D. Tarshes, County Executive, San Mateo County John Spellman, elected County Executive, King County, Washington Lawrence Roos, elected Supervisor, St. Louis County, Missouri.

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It is probable that the associations will pay the expenses of the first two speakers if they agree to appear. The County will need to pay the expenses of the other four speakers. Supervisor Debs has asked the committee to see Mr. Hollinger and work out the arrangements with him.

Mr. Mitchell thanked Dr. Bollens for his report and said that the committee was very fortunate to have him as Chairman of the task force on this study. He is a nationally recognized expert in this field.

Comments from the committee members indicated that they felt the program, as outlined by Dr. Bollens, was very well organized, and they were looking forward to hearing the guest speakers.

Dr. Bollens added that the task force will develop a format of areas of inquiry it wants the speakers to talk on. They will be sent the format in advance of their appearance.

Mr. Mitchell called on Mr. Chez to report on the progress of the study on Capital Projects. Mr. Chez reported that the sub-committee is spending a great deal of time at meetings gathering information. It has met with Mr. Will, Department of Real Estate Management; Mr. Schoeppe, Capital Projects Division, CAO; and Mr. Ostly, County Treasurer-Tax Collector. These officials are co-operating with the sub-committee and doing everything possible to provide the information needed.

Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Roche to report on the Fire Services Consolidation Study. The chairman of the sub-committee, Mr. Arbuthnot is a director of the County Fair in Pomona and could not attend the meeting. Mr. Roche reported that the sub-committee had gathered a good deal of information and was now ready to go out and talk to officials in the various cities. The sub-committee will interview officials in cities that have consolidated fire service, those who do not, and those who have had it and now have their own. As soon as Mr. Arbuthnot and Mr. Torrence are available, the sub-committee will be ready to begin this survey.

Mr. Rogers asked if there weren't some way that the County can insist that a newly incorporated city join the consolidated fire district. Mr. Roche said that every city had a right to establish its own department. The real problem is to let the voters in that city know how much this right is costing them. The committee's main job is to gather the facts, and let the voters in the cities know what the facts are.

Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Roche to report on the discussion on insurance at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday. Mr. Roche reported that the subject of malpractice insurance had been discussed by the board. The County had been criticized by some citizens for not putting the insurance out to bid. The County put out bids in 1965, but received only a few bids. The County accepted the lowest bid and since that time has re-negotiated the contract each year at the same premium price.

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This year the company notified the County that it was raising the premium. The County was prepared to accept the re-negotiated contract until it was criticized for not putting the contract out for **b**id. The Board concluded that the CAO should prepare specifications and put the contract out to bid. Supervisor Hahn indicated the E & E Committee should have looked into this. Mr. Roche reported that he talked to Supervisor Hahn after the meeting and explained that the committee was involved in three major studies and could not take on additional projects without impairing its current studies.

Mr. Mitchell said that the matter had been brought before the board, and it had instructed Mr. Hollinger to take bids. Until the bids are received, no further action appears necessary.

Mr. Chez stated that the 1966 Grand Jury had checked into the subject of insurance and found that it was being handled properly at that time. They found the County was paying the lowest possible rate for insurance.

Mr. Roche reported that he had appeared before the Grand Jury on September 25th, to represent the committee at the hearing on the Sheriff-Marshal consolidation. The Sheriff and the Marshal also appeared at separate times. He emphasized to the Grand Jury that the committee would do everything it could to keep this issue before the public. The real problem was the opposition of the municipal court judges who did not want to give up the privilege of controlling the Marshal and selecting the bailiffs they wanted. He thought the questions the Jurors asked were perceptive and knowledgeable and indicated a deep interest in the issue.

Mr. Brabant raised a question about the County's jurisdiction on animal shelters. Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Brabant to gather more information on the subject and report back to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.