

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CITIZENS ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE**

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

M I N U T E S

FULL COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 1970
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Hall of Administration, Room 739

Robert Mitchell,
Chairman

Raymond Arbuthnot
Dr. John C. Bollens
Davis Brabant
John D. Byork
Maurice Rene Chez
Roc Cutri
Dr. Warren S. Jones
Mrs. Ray Kidd
Harlan G. Loud
P. S. Magruder
Kiyoshi Maruyama
Irvin Mazzei
L. E. McKee
Ferdinand Mendenhall
Louis Rogers
George Shellenberger
Mrs. Benjamin Erick Smith
William Torrence
Gus A. Walker
Burke Roche,
Executive Secretary

Members Present:

Robert Mitchell, Chairman
Joseph Bishop
Dr. John Bollens
Davis Brabant
John Byork
Maurice Chez
Roc Cutri
Mrs. Ray Kidd
Harlan Loud
Kiyoshi Maruyama
Irvin Mazzei
L. E. McKee
Louis Rogers
George Shellenberger
Mrs. Benjamin Erick Smith

Members Absent:

Raymond Arbuthnot
Dr. Warren Jones
P. S. Magruder
Ferdinand Mendenhall
William Torrence
Gus Walker

Mr. Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. He explained that the Board of Supervisors had asked the committee to assign one of its members to the insurance committee formed to study the insurance program in the County. Mr. Brabant was highly qualified for this position, and he had accepted the assignment. Mr. Mitchell then asked him to report on the progress of the committee.

Mr. Brabant said that the committee was composed of three members: Mr. Joe T. Parrett, representing the American Society of Insurance Management; Mr. Frank Hardcastle representing the Insurance Borkers Association of California; and he representing the Economy and Efficiency Committee. The insurance committee had been fortunate in having the help of Harry Hufford and Lynn Kirkhofer from the CAO, and they should be commended for the help they gave the committee. The work consisted of circularizing the insurance firms who have been active in making studies of insurance programs in order to see how many would respond to a proposal to make such a study for the County. Insurance for the entire County is at issue. The proposals ran from \$25 to \$50 an hour for services. The committee was unanimous in recommending Warren, McVeigh Associates from San Francisco to the Board of Supervisors, even though they were not the low bidders. The purpose of the study is to decide which areas in the County should be self-insured as opposed to carrying outside coverage. There is approximately \$1.5 million in annual premiums at stake. The committee feels confident that this firm will make the study and help the County implement whatever recommendations are made. He was happy to report that the Board of Supervisors voted to employ this firm at its last meeting. He added that the cutoff figure was \$48,000 but it may cost less than that.

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Mr. Mitchell thanked Mr. Brabant for his report. He then called on Mrs. Kidd to report on the Health Services Planning Committee.

Mrs. Kidd reported that the Health Services Planning Committee had been created by the Board of Supervisors in April, 1967, on recommendation of the CAO. The charge by the Board was to evaluate the present structure and organization of the departments that are delivering public health services to the population of Los Angeles County. The committee consists of 21 members, all of whom are members of the medical or para-medical hierarchy except her. The three concerned departments are Hospitals, Public Health, and Mental Health. The department heads and their number one and two assistants had been in on all the planning. The work has been done by three task forces. The job of the first task force was to identify and ascertain geographical boundaries of the districts and make them consistent. The second task force was charged with evaluating the organization and structure of the departments. The third task force reviewed the relationship between public and private medicine in delivering health care to the County. It has become apparent to everyone on the committee that serious problems exist in the area of health services, particularly in the areas of fragmentation and duplication and continuity of care for patients. A strong opinion has developed among the committee members that the County should adopt a personal health delivery system, utilizing existing facilities and personnel to the maximum and retaining the strengths in the present system. All members agreed that whatever is done regarding a new concept should be started in the Southeast Los Angeles area and co-ordinated closely with the King hospital. Specific recommendations will be presented to the Board on February 24th.

Mr. Mitchell thanked Mrs. Kidd for her report and asked Mr. Roche to report on the law enforcement charges to contract cities.

Mr. Roche said that the 1969 Grand Jury recommended that the County increase its charges for the Sheriff's patrol car services to the contract cities from \$139,000 per patrol car to \$303,000. This has long been a controversial issue between the contract cities and the independent cities. The Grand Jury report was referred to the CAO, the County Counsel, Auditor, and Sheriff. At a later date the Board included the E & E Committee. Supervisor Chace has requested a report by March 17. The committee has offered its assistance, as appropriate, once the County has submitted its report, but the committee is not participating in the preparation of the report.

Mr. Mitchell added that he had discussed this matter with the Supervisors and told them that because of its other studies, the committee did not have the time nor the facilities to conduct an in-depth study on this subject.

In answer to Mr. Brabant's question what was at issue on this subject, Mr. Roche answered that the independent cities have felt for a long time that these charges to the contract cities were too low. They felt they were subsidizing the contract cities.

Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Bishop, Foreman of the 1969 Grand Jury that made the report, to comment on it. Mr. Bishop said that he felt this was one of the real contributions the 1969 Grand Jury made to the County. The Grand Jury had one of the finest firms of public accountants who made the analysis. Mr. Mitchell asked if he did not agree that it required more than a casual look. Mr. Bishop said it is his feeling that the contract cities should bring in their own auditor if they want to question the figures.

Mr. Mitchell concluded the discussion with the statement that the committee would take no further action until the CAO's report was submitted.

Mr. Mitchell read a letter from the President of the Architectural Evaluation Board advising the committee of the progress of that Board. Mr. Mitchell said that from all he had heard the Board was doing the job that had been intended. Mr. Roche added that the members had been working very hard in developing the selection system. They expect to have it ready by April. They will then be able to recommend a list of architects for the Board's selection on each capital project.

Mr. Mitchell then asked Mr. Roche to introduce Mr. Buell Merrill. Mr. Roche introduced Mr. Merrill and explained that he would be working directly for the committee for a period of one year. He will be on leave of absence from the Forester and Fire Warden where he is Executive Assistant. He will be assigned to the Fire Services Consolidation and the Capital Projects studies.

Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Roche to report on the Sheriff-Marshal merger bill. Mr. Roche said that the 1969 Grand Jury wrote an excellent report recommending that the Marshal's office be consolidated under the Sheriff's. It also asked the 1970 Grand Jury to continue the fight. A bill is being submitted by Peter Schabarum. One change has been made in the bill. It states that the Board of Supervisors should be able to consolidate the Marshal's and Sheriff's departments subject to the approval of a majority of the voters. This would require the legislators to take a stand on whether this issue should be submitted to the voters and whether they should have a voice in deciding whether or not to eliminate the Marshal's department.

Mr. Mitchell announced that Mr. Mendenhall had just been elected President of the California Newspaper Publishers Association representing 113 newspapers in Los Angeles County.

Mr. Mitchell said the committee would now discuss the County Charter study. He said Phase I had been completed and the committee now would move into Phase II. He asked Dr. Bollens to carry on the discussion.

Dr. Bollens said the task force had two reports for the committee to approve. The first was the Program and Schedule pertaining to the Charter study. He asked that it be distributed and then read the report. He called the attention of the committee to the bottom of Page 2, where the organizations to be invited to appear before the committee during Phase II were listed. Some were listed by specific name and others by general categories. He asked if there were any other suggestions for organizational speakers.

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Mr. Rogers asked if the Board of Supervisors shouldn't be invited to give their reasons for or against expansion of the Board. Mr. Mitchell answered that the committee is an advisory board to the supervisors, and it might appear that the Board was trying to influence the committee.

Dr. Bollens said that all those invited wouldn't accept, and probably all who did accept could be fitted into not more than half a dozen meetings. He said it is very important to get local reaction and feedback to the out-of-area expert opinion the committee had received.

Mr. Mitchell said he again wanted to remind the committee that no conclusions have been reached yet. Therefore, individuals should be careful that they are not being quoted in any way with respect to the conclusions of the committee.

After a discussion on Paragraph 2, Page 3, Mr. Chez made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Kidd, to amend the first sentence to read, "During Phase II the chairman of the committee and the executive secretary will meet with individual newspapers, radio and television editors to discuss the Charter issues with them." The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chez made the motion that the report be accepted and approved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kidd and passed unanimously.

Dr. Bollens asked Mr. Roche to distribute the second report, "Charter Study Recommendations by Out-of-Area Guest Speakers." He said he would go over it word for word because it was an official document which would be distributed to the local organizational representatives when they were invited to appear before the committee. He emphasized that these were not recommendations of the committee but were recommendations made by the out-of-area experts appearing before the committee.

Dr. Bollens asked if there were any suggestions. Mr. Shellenberger said he questioned the last sentence on Page 1. It was agreed to change the wording to "If he is dismissed, he should have the right to a public hearing before the Board."

Mr. Cutri suggested that future reports be carried a bit further and reflect the points where the experts' recommendations were in agreement, or disagreement, with the existing County Charter. Dr. Bollens agreed and said that eventually the task force would make a similar report after the second phase of the study is completed. It will give the reactions of the local representatives; then the committee will have two substantial pieces on which to draw, plus other evidence, for preparation of a preliminary draft for the committee's review.

Mr. Mitchell said this was a progress report up to this point. The date of the next meeting will be set after replies are received from the local organizations who are interested in appearing.

Mr. Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.