

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 3, 1974
PLACE: Hall of Administration, Room 739

Members Present:

Maurice Chez, Chairman
John Byork
James Cunningham
Roc Cutri
Jerry Epstein
Milton Gordon
Mrs. Ray Kidd
Joseph Lederman
William Mortensen
Robert Ruchti
Earl J. Sachs
George Shellenberger
Carl Terzian

Members Absent:

George Bodle
Dr. Robert Downey
Catherine Graeffe
Leo Majich
Ferdinand Mendenhall
W. J. Moreland
Dr. Warren Schmidt

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 9:45 a.m. He introduced Earl J. Sachs, Foreman of the Grand Jury which served from January 1973 to July of this year. He will serve for one year on the Economy and Efficiency Commission. Mr. Sachs retired two years ago as Vice-President of Corporate Business Development, Title Insurance and Trust Company, where he was employed since 1925. He has been director of a number of building industries and financial associations. He was a member of the Mayor's Community Development Advisory Committee, Secretary of Senior Citizens Housing Committee, and President and Director of the Spastic Children's Foundation.

The report on the Special Investigative and Management Audit Agency was presented by Mr. Chez. He explained that the Board of Supervisors had placed a 30-day deadline on preparing and submitting the report. Therefore, he and Mr. Roche had worked as a task force of two. Since the members had now had four or five days to study the report, he would read the recommendations and answer any questions.

Mr. Mortensen asked if the open, competitive examination for the director of the new agency would be written or oral. Mr. Roche answered that the Civil Service Commission determined the procedure for all examinations.

The method of initiating studies or investigations for the agency was discussed at length. Mr. Roche reported that, according to the County Counsel, any directive to the agency should come from the Board of Supervisors acting as a body.

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Mrs. Kidd stated that she believed it was very important that the agency have the authority to initiate investigations on its own. Mr. Chez agreed that in that case an individual supervisor could initiate an investigation through the agency.

Mr. Mortensen returned to the question of the open, competitive examination for the director of the agency. He said that a written test would disclose technical skills which are very important, but he did not believe management skills could be determined in a written test. He believed that an oral examination should be directed towards finding out what the people skills were. Mr. Chez said that he would stress this in his presentation.

During the discussion regarding salary levels, Mr. Roche reported that the City of San Diego had established a unit similar to the one proposed. The director had been brought to Los Angeles from New York at an expense of \$6,000, and his salary is \$39,000.

Mr. Roche stated also that the City of Los Angeles has a similar unit which was set up 10 or 12 years ago. Dr. Piper (CAO) stressed that headhunting would be the road to certain failure. The unit has developed a good reputation for positive and constructive work, and Dr. Piper reports that he can't satisfy all the requests for studies by this unit. The unit reports directly to Dr. Piper --not to the City Council or the Mayor.

Mr. Cutri said there should be a format set up for initiating studies in order to remove all sensationalism from the requests. He felt that no individual should make sensational public statements, and there should be no prejudgement. Mr. Shellenberger added that it should be kept confidential. Mr. Chez said that he would point this out in his presentation.

Mr. Cunningham moved that the report be adopted and presented to the Board of Supervisors as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mortensen and passed unanimously.

Mr. Chez reported on the progress of the recommendations made to the Board of Supervisors in the civil service and collective bargaining report. He pointed out that there were still two of the five recommendations which have not been acted on yet by the Board of Supervisors. One was the transfer of the authority to appoint the Director of Personnel to the Board of Supervisors from the Civil Service Commission. The other was the establishment of the combined commission. The County Counsel is drawing up the charter language for the combined commission, and when it is ready he and Mr. Roche will meet with County management and labor. As of this date, the Board is scheduled to consider the recommendation July 25.

Mr. Majich, Chairman of the Chief Executive Task Force, was unable to attend today's meeting; therefore, Mr. Chez reported the following. The report is now at the printers. It will be mailed to all members the first part of next week and will be presented to the full commission on July 17. This will give the members over a week to study the report before they vote on the issues.

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Mrs. Kidd said that she would be out of town the day of the meeting. She asked if she could submit her vote by proxy. Mr. Roche was asked to confer with the County Counsel regarding the procedure for registering the vote of absent members.

Mr. Chez thanked the members of the task force for their work. The members are: Leo Majich, Chairman; George Bodle, John Byork, Jerry Epstein, Catherine Graeffe, Joseph Lederman, W. J. Moreland, Bill Mortensen, and Robert Ruchti.

Mr. Chez asked Mrs. Kidd, Chairman of the Task Force on Department Head Commissions, to report. Mrs. Kidd reported that the task force had submitted its report on the Regional Planning Commission, and it had been unanimously adopted by the Board of Supervisors. The second report was on the Arboreta and Botanic Gardens and the Otis Art Institute, which was adopted by a vote of 4-1 by the Board. Supervisor Hahn had voted against it because he was not in agreement with the removal of the stipend. He agreed with the remainder of the report however. The task force has reached its final decisions on the Business License Commission report, and it will probably be presented to the full commission in August.

Mr. Chez said that he would like to see that report brought in by the end of this month. Mrs. Kidd said they would make every effort to do so. She thanked the task force members: Dr. Robert Downey, Catherine Graeffe, Joseph Lederman, and Bill Moreland.

Mr. Lederman, speaking for the task force, thanked Mrs. Kidd for chairing the meetings and said it has been a pleasure working with her.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.