

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY**  
**ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION**

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

M I N U T E S

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

January 4, 1978

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

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

Members Present:

Warren Schmidt, Chairperson  
Gloria Starr, Vice Chairperson  
George Bodle  
Catherine Burke  
John Byork  
Margaret Carr  
Anne Collins  
Mario Di Giovanni  
Jerry Epstein  
Milton Gordon  
Richard Gunther  
Hugh Henshaw  
Robert Ruchti  
Luis Ruiz  
George Shellenberger  
Larkin Teasley  
Bryan Walker

Members Absent:

Carolyn Ellner  
Mary Jane Kidd  
Leo Majich

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. Dr. Schmidt announced that Keith Comrie, Director of the Department of Public Social Services, would arrive at 10:30 a.m. to give a presentation on the \$2 billion operation of his department.

Nominations for Commission Chairperson - Burke Roche read the nomination and election procedures adopted by the commission. Nominating ballots were distributed then returned to the staff for tabulation after the meeting.

Task Force on New County Formation - Mary Jane Kidd, Chairperson, was out of town; John Campbell reported. They are still working on the draft report, and the target date is the end of January. There is a question of timing on the March release date. The Formation Review Commissions expect to release their reports prior to the June election, and there may be a great deal of noise and interference at that time.

One of Catie Burke's classes in public administration, at USC, has been studying new county formation. The E & E staff identified specific tasks as an assignment for several of the students. They have been of enormous help in gathering data and working on the material available.

Warren Schmidt asked if the report would be ready for commission review by the February meeting. John Campbell answered that the report would be a large and complex one and would require extensive review by the task force members. In his opinion, March would be the earliest date it could be released.

Catie Burke thanked John Campbell for his compliment to the students and announced that she has arranged for the class to make a presentation of their findings to members of the task force on Tuesday evening, January 17, at the campus. She invited other members to attend if they were interested in hearing the presentation.

Task Force on Civil Service and Personnel Administration - Catie Burke, Chairperson, reported. They met with Bob Best, President of the County Management Council. At the request of Warren Schmidt, Mr. Best polled the County managers on their views as to what the E & E could do to improve the effectiveness of County government. The E & E received 95 replies. They also met with the Civil Service Commission. Next week meetings will be scheduled with union representatives and the Employee Relations Commission. She would like the task force to meet on January 20, if a majority of the members can meet at that time.

Arbitration and Appeals Function of the Paramedic Commission - Burke Roche reported. At the last meeting, the members approved an E & E letter which was sent to the Board of Supervisors in support of the Paramedic Commission letter requesting that the Board reaffirm the arbitration and appeals function of the commission. It also requested that the Board issue a board order making such functions binding on all parties, except in specific areas set forth in the Wedworth-Townsend Act.

Board discussion of the Paramedic Commission letter was postponed for one week. At the following meeting, Supervisor Hahn moved that a steering committee be appointed to develop policies and procedures for the paramedic program. The committee is to work with the providers of paramedic services in developing the procedures and report back to the Board in 90 days. The Board adopted that motion and Supervisor Hahn's second motion directing the County Counsel to prepare a supplemental board order per the request of the Paramedic Commission. The steering committee tends to duplicate the duties of the Emergency Medical Care Committee, and it will probably write a letter to the Board reminding it of the committee's responsibilities in this area.

Chief Administrative Officer's Recommendations on Streamlining the Board Agenda - In December, 1976, the Board requested the CAO to submit a report outlining recommendations to streamline the agenda so agenda items wouldn't have to be carried over week after week. The report was submitted to the Board for adoption in October, 1977. It has been continued ten different times.

The members discussed the idea of sending a letter to the Board in support of the recommendations. Catie Burke requested that, since the report had just been distributed at this meeting, the members postpone discussion until the next meeting to give them a chance to study the report. The members agreed.

Special Items, Chairperson - Warren Schmidt asked if the members would like to consider a different date for the regular monthly meeting. Members discussed their priorities and decided that the commission should keep the first Wednesday in each month as the regular meeting date.

He announced that Doug Ayers would be the special guest at the February meeting. Mr. Ayers was formerly the City Manager of Inglewood and now teaches at USC. He has a different approach to the budget process, which the members should find very interesting.

The last item is the parking problem. Some members are having difficulty in finding a parking place. After some discussion, it was decided that Dr. Schmidt would raise the question of parking when he meets with Supervisor Schabarum.

Commission Staff - Jerry Epstein raised the question of staff support for his task force, which was set up to monitor the Facilities Department. The staff is devoting full time now to the study of new county formation and the study of civil service and personnel administration.

Burke Roche reported that the County has now approved the funding of the student workers' program, and he is looking for a suitable candidate to assist the staff.

Warren Schmidt said that he didn't see any drastic change in additional staff, but he thinks that there will be a gradual change. There will be the addition of a student worker, and a professor at USC is giving one full day a week to the study on civil service and personnel administration.

Special Guest - Warren Schmidt introduced Mr. Keith Comrie, Director of the Department of Public Social Services.

Mr. Comrie said that he had brought some material to be handed out which summarizes the slides he will use. He asked the members to feel free to ask questions at any time during the presentation. (The attached document is the summary of the slides used in the presentation.)

At 11:50 a.m. Dr. Schmidt thanked Mr. Comrie for his informative presentation and adjourned the meeting.