

**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

December 7, 1977

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  
Catherine Burke  
John Byork  
Anne Collins  
Carolyn Ellner  
Milton Gordon  
Hugh Henshaw  
Mary Jane Kidd  
Leo Majich  
Robert Ruchti  
Luis Ruiz  
George Shellenberger  
Larkin Teasley

Members Absent:

George Bodle  
Margaret Carr  
Mario Di Giovanni  
Jerry Epstein  
Richard Gunther  
Bryan Walker

Dr. Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. He welcomed Ann Murphy, former Grand Jury member, who was attending the meeting as an interested citizen.

Letter to the Board of Supervisors on the Paramedic Commission - Burke Roche reported. The E & E Commission conducted the study which resulted in the establishment of the Paramedic Commission (PC). It was created to operate as an impartial arbitration commission to settle disputes between the Department of Health Services and public and private agencies providing paramedic services.

A difference of opinion has developed between the PC and the Department as to the authority of the Commission's decisions. According to the PC, the Department has taken the position that the decisions of the PC are purely advisory. The PC wrote a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting the Board to reaffirm the function of the Commission and issue a Board Order making such arbitration and appeal functions binding on all parties, except in specific areas set forth in the Wedworth-Townsend Act. Attached to the PC letter were two letters from associations of fire chiefs opposing the criteria proposed by the Department for paramedic provider agencies. The Board will hold a public hearing on the issues on December 13.

The E & E Commission letter to the Board of Supervisors supports the PC request. It has been reviewed with Warren Schmidt and Mary Jane Kidd, the Paramedic Commission, the County Counsel, CAO, and the Director of the Department of Health services. It is now before the members for consideration.

George Shellenberger suggested that the word "ordinarily," on the last page, second line, should be deleted. All members agreed to the deletion.

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Leo Majich moved that the letter be approved with the one change and sent to the Board of Supervisors. The motion was seconded by Anne Collins and passed unanimously.

New County Formation Study - Report by task force chairperson, Mary Jane Kidd. The task force is about to embark on the final stage of the study, which is the drafting of the report for review by the membership. There will be one more task force meeting to get input from the League of Women Voters, who has just completed a study on the same subject.

The staff, and some members of the task force, have interviewed 134 people. They have talked to legislators and their staffs (7); elected city officials (4); city managers (6); new county employees (52); persons from the City of Los Angeles (9); and 12 other interested persons. The staff attended 6 public meetings (New County Formation Review Commissions, Lancaster City Incorporation Committee, and the Los Angeles City Council Committee).

The task force has approved an outline for the draft, and the report should be ready for official release in three or four months. It will include recommendations on each new county formation petition, alternatives to secession, remarks on current legislation, and will also discuss County reform measures being considered. It will end with the task force recommendations, which she hopes will be objective and constructive.

Mrs. Kidd invited the commission members to attend the task force meeting on December 14 to hear the presentation of the League of Women Voters.

Civil Service Commission and Personnel Administration - Report by task force chairperson, Catherine Burke. The task force has had its first meeting and is gathering basic data on the civil service system in the County. She and Warren Schmidt and Burke Roche met with Harry Hufford. They plan to meet soon with Bob Best, President of the Los Angeles Management Council. They will also be setting up meetings with union people. Dr. Gerald Caiden, USC, is assisting in gathering data.

Budget Analyst - Dr. Schmidt asked Milton Gordon if he had prepared anything for presentation of his idea for hiring a budget analyst for the County. Mr. Gordon replied that any presentation would have to be done in-depth to be effective, and he is not equipped to do it. He understands the Board of Education has hired a budget analyst, and San Diego is also studying the feasibility. He said that he feels it is important to pursue the possibility, either with the staff or an outside consultant.

Dr. Schmidt suggested that he jot down the remarks he has made to the commission and also include the amount of money required to hire a consultant, as he does not feel that the staff can be burdened with this.

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Contracting Services With Private Firms - Dr. Schmidt asked Leo Majich if he had been able to do anything on this issue. Mr. Majich answered that the staff couldn't spend any time on it, so nothing has been done.

Burke Roche reported that the Chief Administrative Office will be releasing a report which will delineate all the ramifications of contracting under the present situation and also an analysis of the charter amendment to guard against any kind of patronage. The report is due within two weeks, and copies will be sent to Leo Majich's task force.

Presentation to the Grand Jury - Burke Roche and Warren Schmidt had been invited to speak to the Grand Jury on the subject of County reform, which the Grand Jury may include as one of its studies. Warren Schmidt was unable to attend because of a previous commitment, so Burke Roche made the presentation. He said that he gave a history of the research which had been done in these areas. The last study was done by the Public Commission on County Government.

There being no further business, Dr. Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.