

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M I N U T E S
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
Legislative Council Chamber
July 10, 1974

CALL TO ORDER

The chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Senators: Berry, Danton, MacLeod

Representatives: Birt, Hewes, Martin, Simpson

Legislative Finance Officer, Mr. William H. Garside
Assistant Director, Office of Legislative Research, David S. Silsby
Chief of Legislative Staff, Mrs. Suzanne Havens
Law Librarian, Miss Edith L. Hary
Legislative Staff Member: George Viles

Guests: Representative Brooks Brown and Attorney Dana Childs
Mr. David E. Smith, Director, Central Computer Services
Dr. Alan M. Elkins, Chief of Psychiatry, Maine
Medical Center, Portland
Mr. Charles Priest, Applicant for Assistant Director
of Legislative Research Office
Mr. Leigh E. Hoar, Jr., Supt., Allagash Wilderness
Waterway, Parks & Recreation Dept. (Public Lands staff)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MOTION

Rep. Birt: That the Secretary's report be accepted as mailed.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Correspondence from Chancellor Donald McNeil requesting September meeting with Legislative Council. Request granted. (letter attached)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Legislative Administrative Director -

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That two new typewriters be purchased for the Legislative Staff providing that three old typewriters be traded in.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Cont'd)

Legislative Administrative Director - (Cont'd)

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the recommendation of Mr. Garside that Rodney L. Scribner be appointed as a Budget Analyst in the Legislative Finance Office at a salary of \$15,000 effective July 15 be accepted.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Legislative Staff - Oral report.
3. Legislative Reorganization - Oral report.
4. Collective Bargaining - No report.
5. Disaster Planning - No report.
6. Excise Tax Study - No report.
7. Appropriations & Financial Affairs - Oral report.
8. Business Legislation - No report.
9. Education - No report.
10. Health & Institutional Services - See attached report.

MOTION

Sen. Danton: That authorization be granted to the Health & Institutional Services Committee to visit a random selection of not more than five nursing, boarding and foster homes throughout the State of various sizes and that the operators be notified that the Health and Institutional Service Committee will be visiting during a certain week with no specific date or time.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Human Relations - No report.
12. Judiciary - No report.
13. Labor - No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Cont'd)

14. Legal Affairs -

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Legal Affairs Committee be granted permission to divide their committee and hold simultaneous public hearings on July 23 at Skowhegan and Ellsworth; and on July 30 at Norway and a York County location in lieu of their Wiscasset request.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Liquor Control - No report.

16. Natural Resources - No report.

17. Public Lands - See attached report.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the request from the Public Lands Committee for an amount not to exceed \$5,500 for retaining the services of Eugene Putnam as a Consultant Forester in the Committee's survey of the large land-ownings in the unorganized territory be granted.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

18. Public Utilities - No report.

19. State Government - See attached report.

20. Transportation - No report.

21. Veterans and Retirement - No report.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That the Committee Reports be accepted as presented.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That concept approval be given to the proposal of Brooks Brown to build an office building within the Capitol Complex next to the Health & Welfare building which will partially be leased by the Department of Health and Welfare, provided that it is also approved by and meets the standards and requirements of the Capitol Planning Commission, the Bureau of Public Improvements and the Department of Health and Welfare, and further provided that the building can be purchased at any time during the term of the lease.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Discussion.

Motion carried 6 - 1 (Sen. MacLeod)

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Legislative Staff report on study of H.P. 2068, Maine Management & Cost Survey Commission's recommendations which were not enacted at the special session of the 106th Legislature, be tabled until the next meeting of the Legislative Council.

Seconded: Rep. Birt

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That in view of the staff's workload, the study of H.P. 2103, relative to the organization and administration of activities now conducted by the Bureau of Social Welfare within the Department of Health & Welfare, not be undertaken.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried 6 - 1 (Rep. Martin)

Dr. Alan M. Elkins, Chief of Psychiatry of the Maine Medical Center and the Cumberland County Community Health Center, was invited to appear before the Council again to discuss his professional opinion of the State's Community Health Centers and their entire operation, including the Bangor and Augusta Mental Health Institutes. Considerable discussion ensued relative to inpatient mental care facilities, staffing and other problems.

OLD BUSINESS (Cont'd)

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Council accept the recommendation of David S. Silsby that Charles R. Priest of Portland, be appointed Assistant Director of Legislative Research commencing August 19 at a salary of \$14,000.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Silsby introduced Mr. Priest to the Council.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: that the Chief of Legislative Staff be authorized to attend the National Legislative Conference at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Seconded: Rep. Hewes

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: That the Legislative Council approve the appointment of Edward W. Potter, Brewer, as a Legislative Staff Assistant at \$11,000 a year effective July 15 and that his salary be reviewed April 1, 1975.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. David Smith, Director of Central Computer Services, discussed the status of the Computer System for the 107th Maine Legislature. Everything appears to be on schedule with new programs being considered. (Report attached)

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That the Council hire two additional Legislative Staff Assistants, Jonathan Hull and James A. McKenna, III, effective September 1 at a starting salary of \$11,000 a year subject to permanent employment on January 31 pending approval by the 107th Legislature for additional funds in the Legislative Account for their salaries and that their salaries be reviewed on April 1, 1975.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS (Cont'd)

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That the request of Rep. Thomas LaPointe for a bicycling study be referred to the Department of Transportation for their review and action.

Seconded: Sen. MacLeod

Discussion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: That Rep. William Garsoe, Cumberland, be the Legislative Council's designee relative to cost related items in the Collective Bargaining for State employees.

Seconded: Sen. Berry

Discussion.

Motion carried 6 - 1 (Martin)

MOTION

Sen. Berry: That the Council approve the request of the Marine Resources Commission for the transfer of funds from the Contingent Account to the Legislative Account totalling \$23,355. (The purpose is stated in the attached Order)

Seconded: Rep. Martin

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. MacLeod: That William H. Garside be appointed to another 7-year term as Legislative Finance Officer.

Seconded: Rep. Martin

Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The next meeting of the Legislative Council will be August 21, 1974, and Subcommittee Council Workshop will meet August 19th and 20th.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned its meeting at 12:55 p.m.



STATE OF MAINE
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330
June 28, 1974

The Honorable Larry E. Simpson
Chairman Legislative Council
Route # 1
Sebago Lake, Maine 04075

Dear Larry:

It is my pleasure to inform you prior to the July 1st date suggested by the Legislative Council that I have interviewed a number of qualified candidates and have selected Charles R. Priest of Portland for the post.

Mr. Priest is prepared to appear before the Council on July 10 for confirmation of his appointment as a technical assistant pursuant to Title 3, section 164, subsection 12 for a probationary period followed by a final appointment as Assistant Director of Legislative Research if he proves successful.

May I suggest for the purpose of long term employment and relinquishment of the practice of law that this candidate be employed at a starting salary of \$14,000 commencing August 19, 1974 with a possible increase upon final confirmation. This recommendation is consistent with the wage scale for a \$19,500 post and is firmly recommended by the Legislative Finance Officer.

I have every reason to believe that this candidate is the right man for the job and hope the Council agrees by acting favorably upon my recommendation.

If you will let me know what time you would like Mr. Priest to appear, I will make all the necessary arrangements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David S. Silsby".

David S. Silsby