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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

ASSEMBLY, NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE, SPECIAL SESSION, 1966

Joint meeting with Senate Finance Committee was called to order by Chairman James I. Gibson at 2:03 P.M., Monday, May 16, 1966 in Ways and Means Committee Room.

Present: Bailey, Johnson, Young, Gibson, Jones, Pozzi, Bastian, Glaser, Bunker

Absent: None

Senators present: McGowan, Lamb, Brown, Titlow, Fransway, of Finance Committee.

Other interested legislators present: Assemblymen Lawrence Jacobsen; Ray Knisley, Alleman, Olsen, Close, Mello, Fike, Palludin - Senators Berrum and Dodge; Fisher, Humphrey and Bay.

Meeting also attended by Norman Terrell and Bob Bruce, Fiscal Analysts, and Howard Barrett of Budget Department, members of the press, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce representative Bob Mitchell, members of League of Women Voters.

Representatives of Clark and Washoe County School Districts Procter Hug, Superintendent, Washoe County School District; Marvin Picollo, Washoe County School District; Jim Butler, Nevada State Education Association; Donald Perry, Assistant Superintendent Public Instruction, Department of Education; J. L. "Les" Glaspey, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, Clark County School District.

Chairman Gibson announced the purpose of the meeting was to consider Assembly Bill No. 7, Emergency School Fund.

Mr. Glaspey, with aid of overhead projector, presented the financial situation of the Clark County School District. Discussion of proposed reduction in services for 1966-67; ADA costs. Three top needs for additional funds - Vocational Technical Center; Reinstatement of pupil-teacher ratio and Reinstatement of reduction in custodial service. Discussion of higher teachers' salaries paid in Clark County. Mr. Glaspey told Mr. Glaser in answer to question that Clark County is in competition with southern California salary wise.

Senator Dodge discussed deficit spending. Mr. Glaspey said there would be no deficit this year. He said the school board had decided increase in teachers' salary would receive highest priority. Discussion of expenditures that could not have been foreseen by the school board and increments. Mr. Glaspey said one thing beyond their control was the problem at the Nevada Test Site which reduced attendance and cost about \$400,000. (Labor troubles at site). Mr. Gibson said he didn't think it was possible for the Board to foresee the changing curve of enrollment. He said they were caught in a bind with problems of teacher turnover, upgrading of teacher salaries and adopting a schedule in which longevity would bring increased rates and encouragement for upgrading individual teachers. Mr. Glaspey said teacher turnover had dropped because of higher salaries. Senator Dodge asked if 3/4 million dollars were appropriated if this would solve the problem and Mr. Glaspey said the most critical; Mr. Dodge said actually just a stopgap. Senator Brown brought up national figure on cost of instruction - 74%.

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Senator Lamb asked about custodial care - whether savings is just temporary. Mr. Glaspey said custodial services had been reduced by \$300,000 on a permanent basis. Senator McGowan discussed cutting back necessary services to bring about a balanced budget, questioning whether this was really a balanced budget. Mr. Glaspey stated that state aid was reduced because of bad attendance periods. Discussion by Senator Titlow on educational TV program in Clark County and question of money which would come from sale of an abandoned school building..could it be used instead of money from state. Mr. Gibson said the money couldn't be used because of a reversion clause. Discussion on teachers lost to California because of higher salaries. No exact figures. Mr. Gibson asked more about educational TV and other teacher aids. Discussion of nature of operation of Vocational Technical, aims, purposes and type of student. It would not be a dumping ground for dropouts.

Chairman Gibson called a 10 minute recess at 3:05 P.M.

Meeting resumed at 3:17 P.M.

All members present except Mr. Bunker, who came in at 3:26.

Proctor Hug introduced Mr. Picollo to the group. All school representatives present.


Mr. Barrett, Mr. Terrell and Mr. Bruce came back at 3:23. Also back, Art Olsen, Messers Close, Palludin, Jacobsen, Knisley, Humphrey, Allenan, League of Women Voters observers.

Mr. Hug discussed Washoe County School District financial problems. He said one major problem was created as a result of the phase-out of Stead Air Force Base and loss of students. The flu epidemic also brought about loss of attendance and created necessity for paying substitute teachers. Only alternative if legislature does not grant money is reduction of services. Senator Lamb asked if Washoe had to try to keep up with Clark County in matter of teacher raises in salary - Mr. Hug said he thought this was so. Discussion of teachers migrating to Las Vegas. Chairman Gibson asked if a statewide salary schedule was advocated and Mr. Hug said he did not favor this. Mr. Gibson asked if anywhere enough teachers were available from the University of Nevada and Mr. Hug replied in the negative. Mr. Knisley said he felt Clark County was setting salary schedule for entire state. Discussion. Senator Lamb felt increment raises were serious problem. Discussion merit system instead.

3:43 - Senators McGowan and Lamb departed.

Chairman Gibson discussed portion of instructional salary in budget, additional certified employee units for apportionment purposes (page 4 of Financial situation report passed out by Washoe School representatives). Mr. Butler discussed recruitment of teachers. Mr. Gibson said he felt University could make a contribution by producing more teachers. Mr. Hug finished at 3:52.

Chairman Gibson asked Mr. Barrett to present his views. Mr. Barrett said he felt the need was there, the state had the money, it should be used. Mr. Knisley spoke in behalf of all public employees' receiving increment raises, not just teachers. Chairman Gibson asked Mr. Pozzi to arrange for Mr. Bunten to come to meeting at 2:00 P.M., May 18. University due at 3:00. Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.


Agnes Nelson, Stenographer


James I. Gibson, Chairman