

MINUTES OF THE
JOINT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1999, 2:30 P.M.
Room 403, State Capitol Building

Members Present: Rep. Bill Wright, Committee Co-Chair
 Sen. Edgar Allen
 Sen. Steve Poulton
 Rep. Trisha Beck
 Rep. J.W. "Bill" Hickman
 Rep. David L. Hogue
 Rep. Bryan D. Holladay
 Rep. Matt Throckmorton

Members Excused: Sen. Robert Muhlestein, Committee Co-Chair

Members Absent: Rep. Loretta Baca

Staff Present: Spencer Pratt, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
 Thor Nilsen, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
 Bonnie Brinton, Secretary

Others Present: Robin Arnold-Williams, Executive Director, Utah Department of Human Services
 Rod Betit, Executive Director, Utah Department of Health

List of Others Present on File:

Committee Co-Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

A. Welcome of Committee Members

Committee Co-Chair Wright welcomed all committee members and excused Committee Co-Chair Muhlestein who is ill.

B. Introduction of Committee Members

Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

C. Discussion of Committee Procedures

Committee Co-Chair Wright outlined committee procedures and recommended a tentative vote on budgets as the session progresses. After all presentations are made a final vote would be taken on the budget.

Rep. Hickman requested that the directors of the programs or divisions present their budgets and the justifications for it, rather than spending extensive time extolling the benefits of their programs or divisions.

Rep. Holladay expressed his feeling that it is important to have the results of the programs presented to help with the decision making.

Sen. Poulton questioned the use of the term, "tentative vote." He suggested hearing all presentations of program or division budgets without voting until the final presentation has been made.

Rep. Hickman expressed a concern that the committee members would be allowed to review a budget after a vote has been taken.

MOTION: Sen. Poulton moved to adopt the policy that committee members would make no decision on budgets until all presentations have been made. All proposals will be heard but not voted upon until the end of the presentations.

Rep. Holladay reviewed the procedure of the committee in the past: the committee would hear and discuss a presentation, review all proposals, and vote on each section of the budget as presented. Each vote on a budget could be readdressed at any point. At the end of all presentations, a final vote on the budget is made. He also reviewed the use of a "Wish List, A and B, for discretionary money."

Committee Co-Chair Wright discussed using preliminary votes to resolve smaller issues to implement that section of the budget more quickly, reserving the voting on larger issues until the overall budget has been presented.

Sen. Poulton's summation included the recommendation to discuss each budget as it is presented and but not vote until all proposals have been presented. A vote could be taken if there were a consensus of committee members to vote on a specific budget. He also stated his desire for the committee to pressure the department heads to be efficient, have little or no waste in their use of the funds allocated, have competent employees, and do all they can to benefit the people who are served by their department.

The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Co-Chair Wright expressed his feelings regarding the importance of committee members staying within the given allocation of funds.

Robin Arnold-Williams introduced the Division Directors of the Department of Human Services.

Rod Betit introduced the Division Directors of the Department of Health.

Two analysts from the Governor's Office were introduced, Steve Jardine, Human Services, and Kim Hood, Health.

D. Agenda for Future Meetings

The agenda for the Health and Human Services meetings for the session was distributed.

E. Overview of Department of Health

Analyst Spencer Pratt presented preliminary information on the budgeting process including the sources of funding available. This information also listed the divisions of the Department of Health and information regarding these divisions.

Rep. Hogue cautioned committee members regarding FTE's and the differences between part-time employees and full-time employees and the benefits of each. He also requested a list of restricted accounts.

F. Overview of Department of Human Services

Analyst Thor Nilsen presented an overall picture of the Human Services department and discussed information regarding the eight divisions in the department with information on Total Funds, General Fund and FTE's.

Rep. Hogue expressed concern regarding the Division of Youth Corrections budget and emergency situations' impact on funding.

G. Other Business

Committee Co-Chair Wright reviewed the agenda for the meeting to be held Friday, January 22, 1999.

MOTION: Rep. Hickman moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with Rep. Throckmorton absent at the time of voting.

Committee Co-Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Bonnie Brinton, Secretary.

Sen. Robert Muhlestein, Co-Chair

Rep. Bill Wright, Co-Chair