

MINUTES OF THE
JOINT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 3, 1999, 2:00 P.M.
Room 403, State Capitol Building

Members Present: Rep. Bill Wright, Committee Co-Chair
Sen. Edgar Allen
Sen. Steve Poulton
Rep. Loretta Baca
Rep. Trisha Beck
Rep. David L. Hogue
Rep. Bryan D. Holladay

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

Members Absent: Rep. J.W. "Bill" Hickman
Rep. Matt Throckmorton

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

Others Present: Judge Fuchs, Drug Courts
James Hogle, Drug Courts participant
Mark Shurtleff, Salt Lake County Commissioner
Mike Peterson, Director, Salt Lake County Criminal Justice
Mark Payne, Superintendent, State Hospital
Joleen Meredith, Chair, Mental Health Committee of LCPD
Steve Jardine, Governor's Analyst
Kathy Lohmeyer, Parent, LCPD, Mental Health
Sherilin Roudy, Family Advocate, Lincs
Lisa Wade, Parent, Children's Mental Health
Cristina Heath, Parent, Mental Health
Genevieve Gallimore, Parent, Mental Health
Leon Povey, Director, Division of Substance Abuse
Dr. Stewart Wilkenson, Vice Chair, Substance Abuse Policy Board

List of Others Present on File.

Committee Co-Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

A.. Drug Courts - Judge Fuchs

Judge Fuchs presented information on Drug Courts. Four have been created in communities along the Wasatch Front. These courts combine intensive judicial supervision, mandatory drug testing, escalating sanctions, and treatment services to help offenders break the cycle of addiction and crime that often accompanies it. Drug Courts appear to be successful in keeping offenders out of jail and improving their quality of life. There is a significant cost savings potential in graduating offenders from drug court instead of housing them in jail. Judge Fuchs spoke in support of funding for the Drug Courts.

James Hogle, Drug Court participant, and Mark Shurtleff, Salt Lake County Commissioner, spoke in support of funding for the Drug Courts.

B. Approval of Minutes of February 1, 1999

MOTION: Sen. Allen moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 1999. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Budget Hearing: Division of Mental Health

1. Fiscal Analyst - Thor Nilsen

The Analyst recommends a total appropriation of \$65.1 million for the Division of Mental Health for FY 2000. This includes \$51.9 million from the State General Fund.

The FACT Legislative Group Meeting will be held Friday, February 5, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 303.

2. Division of Mental Health

Robin Arnold-Williams, Executive Director, Department of Human Services, introduced Dr. Meredith Alden, Director, Division of Mental Health, who presented information regarding this division. The Division of Mental Health is the State's mental health authority and has general supervision of the State Hospital in Provo. Other mental health services are delivered by the 11 community mental health centers in the state. Dr. Alden gave a brief reminder to the committee that the State has the responsibility to treat seriously mentally-ill people.

Mark Payne, Superintendent, State Hospital, responded to questions from the committee. He spoke in favor of funding for the operation costs for the new forensic facility. This facility will be ready by July, 1999.

3. Others:

Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities: (LCPD)

Joleen Meredith, Chair, Mental Health Committee of LCPD, presented information regarding PACT (Program of Assertive Community Treatment). She provided background on this program and spoke in support of funding for PACT.

Kathy Lohmeyer, parent, spoke in support of funding Children's Mental Health Treatment.

Sherilin Roudy, Family Advocate, responded to questions from the committee regarding the eligibility requirements of Medicaid for services to the multiple-needs patients.

Ms. Arnold-Williams will report to the committee her findings on the problems encountered with Medicaid and services for children who are mentally ill.

Sen. Poulton suggested the Department of Human Services explore the possibility of using insurance to create a solution to the problem of providing services for children who are mentally ill.

Rep. Baca requested that the Analyst draft Intent Language addressing a solution to the problem of services for mentally ill children.

Lisa Wade, parent, spoke in favor of funding Children's Mental Health and Early Intervention.

Cristina Heath, parent, spoke in support of funding early intervention, hospital staff for the new forensic building, and recreational therapy.

Genevieve Gallimore, parent, spoke in support of PACT funding.

D. Budget Hearing: Division of Substance Abuse

1. Fiscal Analyst - Thor Nilsen

The Analyst recommends a total appropriation of \$24.8 million for the Division of Substance Abuse for FY 2000. This includes \$10.4 million from the State General Fund.

2. Division of Substance Abuse

Robin Arnold-Williams, Executive Director, Human Services, introduced Leon Povey, Director, Division of Substance Abuse, and Dr. Stewart Wilkenson, Vice Chair, Board of Substance Abuse. Mr. Povey responded to issues of new funding and Drug Courts funds. He also explained the quality control system relating to local substance abuse authorities.

Dr. Wilkinson stated that the seven-member Board of Substance Abuse is the policy making entity for the Division.

MOTION: Sen. Hogue moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with Sen. Poulton and Rep. Baca absent for the vote.

Committee Co-Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Bonnie Brinton, Secretary.

Sen. Robert Muhlestein, Co-Chair

Rep. Bill Wright, Co-Chair