

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Minutes of the

LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 6, 2001
Harvest Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Senator Bob Stenehjem, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Senators Bob Stenehjem, Bill Bowman, Randel Christmann, Joel C. Heitkamp, Aaron Krauter; Representatives Wesley R. Belter, LeRoy G. Bernstein, Merle Boucher, Pam Gulleon, David Monson, Mike Timm

Others present: Dave Thompson, North Dakota Public Radio, Bismarck

Jay Johnson, Minot Daily News, Minot

Curt Zimmerman, Facility Management, Bismarck

Carla Unrath, Maryann Trauger, Karen Mund; Legislative Council, Bismarck

Dave Nething, State Senator, Jamestown

It was moved by Representative Timm, seconded by Senator Bowman, and carried on a voice vote to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2001, meeting of the committee.

Chairman Stenehjem said the meeting was called to finalize arrangements for the 2001 special legislative session. He requested the assistant director to present various reports to the committee.

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION ARRANGEMENTS

Senate, House, and Joint Rules Amendments

The assistant director referred to a memorandum entitled *Proposed Senate and Joint Rules Amendments Relating to a Special Legislative Session* and a memorandum entitled *Proposed House and Joint Rules Amendments Relating to a Special Legislative Session*. He said the memorandums contain amendments similar to the amendments that were made to the legislative rules during the 1991 special legislative session. He said the proposed amendments primarily address two issues--implementing a shortened procedure for considering bills once they have been reported from committee and limiting introduction of bills and resolutions to those introduced by the Legislative Council or through the Delayed Bills Committees.

In response to a question from Representative Timm, the assistant director said these rules amendments would be in effect only during the special legislative session because the motion during the organizational session of the 58th Legislative Assembly to adopt legislative rules would refer only to

the rules as adopted at the organizational session in 2000 and as amended during the regular session in 2001.

In response to a question from Senator Krauter, the assistant director said the procedure for holding a bill until the end of the day for purposes of reconsideration is the same as that followed during the 1991 special legislative session.

In response to a question from Representative Monson, the assistant director said the House and Senate membership of the joint committees established by proposed Joint Rules 303 and 304 would be determined by the Committee on Committees of the respective house.

It was moved by Senator Bowman, seconded by Representative Bernstein, and carried on a roll call vote that the committee approve the proposed amendments to the Senate, House, and Joint Rules and recommend the amendments for adoption during the special legislative session. Senators Stenehjem, Bowman, Christmann, Heitkamp, and Krauter and Representatives Belter, Bernstein, Boucher, Gulleon, Monson, and Timm voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

Session Employees

The assistant director said he had been informed by the session employment coordinator for the majority party of the employees to be hired by the majority party and the positions available for the minority party during the special legislative session. As proposed, he said, there would be 22 employees compared to 35 employees hired during the 1991 special legislative session. He said the employees and the positions they hold would be determined by the Employment Committees, which would need to report to the respective house during the session.

Senator Heitkamp said it reflects well on the Legislative Assembly that the number of employees needed for a special session has been reduced from 35 to 22 as the result of changes in procedures and use of information technology.

In response to a question from Senator Krauter, Ms. Karen Mund, Legislative Administrator, said Legislative Assembly employees receive reimbursement for meals, lodging, and mileage during the organizational session and any training classes

provided before the regular session at the same rate as provided state employees.

It was moved by Representative Boucher, seconded by Senator Krauter, and carried on a roll call vote that Legislative Assembly employees hired for the special legislative session receive reimbursement for meals, lodging, and mileage at the same rate as provided state employees. Senators Stenehjem, Bowman, Christmann, Heitkamp, and Krauter and Representatives Belter, Bernstein, Boucher, Gulleason, Monson, and Timm voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

It was moved by Senator Krauter and seconded by Senator Heitkamp that the committee recommend that session employees receive compensation only for days the Legislative Assembly is in special session. Senator Stenehjem said this does not recognize the need for training any employee before the session, nor does it recognize administrative requirements of desk force personnel after the session to wrap up matters, nor does it recognize time necessary for the committee clerks to complete committee minutes after the session.

Senator Heitkamp said his concern is whether additional days are needed by administrative assistants in the majority and minority leaders' offices. He said each should be treated equally. He said a decision should be made beforehand so that everyone knows the status of additional work requirements.

In response to a question from Representative Belter, Ms. Mund said the Employment Committees provide the information on the days for which each Legislative Assembly employee is to be compensated. Representative Belter said his concern is the activities needed at the end of the session to complete administrative work. He said employees should not be restricted in completing their work. **Senator Krauter, with the consent of his second, revised his motion to recommend that the Employment Committees adopt guidelines on the days for which each employee should be compensated, including any necessary work before the session and after the session.** After this revision and discussion, **the motion carried on a roll call vote.** Senators Stenehjem, Bowman, Christmann, Heitkamp, and Krauter and Representatives Belter, Bernstein, Boucher, Gulleason, Monson, and Timm voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

Committee Rooms

The assistant director said the Roughrider Room has been reserved for use by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee and the Harvest Room has been reserved for use by the Joint Technical Corrections Committee. He said House committee clerks would be located in the Roughrider Room and the Sakakawea Room and Senate committee clerks would be located in the Harvest Room.

Representative Timm said many legislators would be attending the meetings of the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee and suggested the Brynhild Haugland Room would be a better location for that committee to meet. The assistant director said that room would be reserved for use by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee.

Chaplains

The assistant director inquired whether the Legislative Council staff should arrange for chaplains for the first day of the special legislative session or for each day of the session, or whether members of the Legislative Assembly would make arrangements for chaplains. Representative Bernstein suggested the Legislative Council staff arrange for chaplains for the first day and the members of each house will be responsible for the remainder of the session.

Computer Training

The assistant director inquired whether training sessions should be scheduled for legislators to exchange their computers during the special legislative session. He said the time that would probably be available would be Monday afternoon.

Senator Stenehjem suggested notifying legislators who have yet to receive their replacement computers to determine the level of interest for scheduling computer training sessions during the session.

It was moved by Representative Monson, seconded by Senator Heitkamp, and carried on a voice vote that the rules changes approved by the committee and special legislative session arrangement recommendations be approved and recommended to the Legislative Council and that the chairman and the staff of the Legislative Council be requested to prepare a report and to present the report to the Legislative Council.

STATE CAPITOL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

Chairman Stenehjem recognized Mr. Curt Zimmerman, Director, Facility Management, for a presentation on Capitol security arrangements. Mr. Zimmerman said a new security center in the State Capitol has been in place for a year. He said new procedures with respect to security in the Capitol Complex have been instituted:

- The carport tunnel at the south entrance of the Capitol has been closed to vehicular traffic.
- Access through the west entrance now requires security cards, which are issued to state employees.
- Access to the Department of Transportation-Judicial Wing tunnel is now secured and soon will require security cards, which are issued to state employees.

- Access through the east Judicial Wing entrance will soon require security cards, which are issued to state employees.
- Deliveries to the Capitol are being directed to the north mailroom entrance.
- Vendors and contractors now must have photo IDs and must log in when entering the complex.
- Building hours have been adjusted to 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (during which time the public may access public entrances).
- There is a greater visible presence by Highway Patrolmen.

Mr. Zimmerman asked for authority to install video-cameras on the legislative information kiosk in Memorial Hall in order to provide video monitoring coverage of Memorial Hall to the east and the west of the kiosk. He also asked that consideration be given to closing the legislative chambers other than for guided tours.

In response to a question from Senator Krauter, Mr. Zimmerman said a majority of state employees (approximately 1,400 of 1,800 employees) have security cards. He said agency supervisors determine who is to receive cards within the agency.

In response to a question concerning security cards for legislators, Ms. Mund said security cards were issued during the regular session and will be reissued for the special session. She emphasized that legislators must key out if they use the cards to key in when entering the building. Senator Stenehjem said every legislator should have a security card and that card should not be limited to the special legislative session. Senator Heitkamp said he does not see a need for most legislators to have a security card valid throughout the year. He said he understands why legislative leaders should have security access cards, however, because they have offices in the Capitol and regularly attend committee meetings. Representative Monson said it is not that a legislator without a security card will have to enter the Capitol

through the north door, it is a question of whether security will be impaired with issuance of a large number of security cards.

Senator Bowman said if cameras are installed on the information kiosk, it should not be necessary to lock the doors to the chambers as long as the cameras have a record of three to five days of activity. He said he does not want to limit anyone from visiting the chambers when at the Capitol.

Representative Monson inquired whether it would be much of a problem to require visitors to sign in when entering the Capitol. Mr. Zimmerman said all delivery people are required to sign in. Although a sign-in requirement would be feasible most days, he said, it would be challenging on those days when large numbers of people arrive for whatever reason.

In response to a question from Representative Boucher, Mr. Zimmerman said there are people monitoring the 18 cameras 24 hours a day, seven days a week. He said some monitors are converted to motion sensors after regular office hours.

It was moved by Senator Krauter, seconded by Representative Guleson, and carried on a roll call vote to authorize Facility Management to install videocameras on the legislative information kiosk in Memorial Hall. Senators Stenehjem, Bowman, Christmann, Heitkamp, and Krauter and Representatives Belter, Bernstein, Boucher, Guleson, Monson, and Timm voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

Chairman Stenehjem said lack of action on the request for securing the chambers from unlimited access indicates access should remain as is.

No further business appearing, Chairman Stenehjem adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Jay E. Buringrud
Assistant Director