

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Minutes of the

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Friday, April 25, 2003
Prairie Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Senator Bob Stenehjem, Acting Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Members present: Senators Bob Stenehjem, Dwight Cook, Ray Holmberg, Aaron Krauter, Karen K. Krebsbach, Judy Lee, David P. O'Connell, Larry Robinson; Representatives Rick Berg, Merle Boucher, Al Carlson, Lois Delmore, Scot Kelsh, Clara Sue Price, Ken Svedjan, John Warner, Janet Wentz

Others present: Randel Christmann, State Senator, Hazen

Jim W. Smith, Jeffrey N. Nelson; Legislative Council, Bismarck

Acting Chairman Stenehjem announced that nominations for chairman of the Legislative Council were open.

Representative Wentz nominated Representative Berg. Senator Krebsbach nominated Senator Stenehjem. On a roll call vote, Senators Stenehjem, Cook, Holmberg, Krauter, Krebsbach, Lee, O'Connell, and Robinson and Representative Delmore voted for Senator Stenehjem. Representatives Berg, Boucher, Carlson, Kelsh, Price, Svedjan, Warner, and Wentz voted for Representative Berg. Senator Stenehjem was elected chairman.

Chairman Stenehjem announced that nominations for vice chairman of the Legislative Council were open. Representative Wentz nominated Representative Berg.

It was moved by Senator Holmberg, seconded by Senator Lee, and carried on a voice vote that a unanimous ballot be cast for Representative Berg as vice chairman of the Legislative Council.

Mr. John D. Olsrud, Director, Legislative Council, described the process for selecting studies and

establishing interim committees. Usually, he said, the Council meets two to three weeks after the legislative session to review study directives and establish priorities for discretionary studies. He said the Council traditionally authorizes the chairman to establish a committee structure based on the study directives approved for the interim, and a survey is sent to each legislator asking for committee preferences. He said it takes approximately two to three weeks to distribute, return, and tabulate the results from legislators. He said the chairman puts together a tentative committee list and presents that list to the Legislative Council, which approves committee membership assignments.

The Council discussed various dates for meeting in May and June. After reviewing conflicts members had on various dates, Chairman Stenehjem announced the Legislative Council would meet on Friday, May 16, to prioritize studies and on Monday, June 16, to approve an interim committee structure.

No further business appearing, Chairman Stenehjem adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Jay E. Buringrud
Assistant Director

John D. Olsrud
Director