Ontario

Legislative Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING #2/85
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY
HELD IN ROOM 263, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
AT 3:45 P.M., MONDAY, JUNE 17, 1985

PRESENT:

The Honourable Hugh Edighoffer, Speaker, Chairman
The Honourable James K. Gordon
The Honourable Robert C. Mitchell
The Honourable Sam L. Cureatz
Mr. Jack Johnson, M.P.P.
Mr. Robert Nixon, M.P.P.
Mr. Elie Martel, M.P.P.

Secretariat:

Mr. Robert J. Fleming, Director of Administration, Secretary
Mr. J.T. Mitchinson, Assistant Secretary
Mrs. Frances L. Edge, Recording Secretary
Ms. Sandra Bowen, Administrative Co-ordinator

Legislative Assembly Staff:

Mr. Roderick Lewis, Q.C., Clerk of the House
Mr. J.M. Miggiani, Finance Officer
Ms. Ellen Schoenberger, Personnel Officer

Guests:

Mr. Bernard Webber, Chairman, Legislative Information System Review Committee
Ms. Despina Georgas
Ms. Jan Robinson, Assistant to the Finance Officer

DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes of Meeting #1/85

Moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Nixon, and agreed, that the minutes of Meeting #1/85 be approved as circulated.

ITEM 2: 1985-86 Estimates Review: Office of the Assembly (Continued)

Sessional Requirements

Moved by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and agreed, that the Board defer a decision on the Final Report of the Legislative Information Review Committee to the next meeting of the Board, and that Mr. Webber and Mr. Robert Stupart, Director of the Legal Branch of the Ministry of Government Services be asked to attend the next meeting.

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Members' Indemnities

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and agreed, that, effective May 1, 1985, Members who hold leases of not more than one year on apartments in Toronto and cease to be elected Members for any reason, shall be responsible for all obligations under the lease until the end of the month in which they cease to be a Member. Thereafter the Office of the Assembly shall assume responsiblity for any such leases.

Moved by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and agreed that, notwithstanding action taken by the Board at Meeting #13/84, effective May 1, 1985, retired Members who are in receipt of a retirement allowance under the Legislative Assembly Retirement Allowances Act be given the option of continuing Supplementary Life Insurance coverage at the same or lower level in place at the time of retirement, subject to the condition that this option only be available to Members who have Supplementary Life Insurance in place at the time of retirement.

Members' Support Services

Moved by Mr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that all Members be provided with a global allowance of up to $93,000 per fiscal year to be used for support staff salaries in both the Queen's Park and constituency offices, effective June 17, 1985. The allowance is to be prorated for the 1985-86 fiscal year. The maximum salary payable to a Member's Queen's Park Secretary/Assistant and constituency office assistant is to remain at the current level, subject to adjustment by the Board. The 1985-86 budget for Members' Support Services is thereby approved, as amended, in the amount of $11,150,000.

Mr. Nixon opposed the motion.

Caucus Support Services

a. caucus administration
b. research

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and agreed, that the formula used to calculate funding levels for caucus administration and research for each caucus remain unchanged for the 1985-86 fiscal year, and that the Standing Committee on Members' Services be asked to investigate the matter and recommend to the Board the most appropriate funding method based on the needs of Members.

...Continued

c. research support funding

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, and agreed, that the formula used to calculate funding levels for research support funding for each caucus remain unchanged for the 1985-86 fiscal year, and that the Standing Committee on Members' Services be asked to investigate the matter and recommend to the Board the most appropriate funding method based on the needs of Members.

Mr. Martel and Mr. Gordon opposed the motion.

d. Opposition Leaders' staff allowance

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, and agreed, that the Opposition Leaders' staff allowance be doubled for the 1985-86 fiscal year, and that the Standing Committee on Members' Services be asked to investigate the matter and recommend to the Board the most appropriate funding method based on the needs of the Leaders.

Mr. Nixon opposed the motion.

e. non-formula funding

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the Board approve the sum of $30,500 for the purchase of replacement equipment for the NDP caucus print room.

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, and agreed, that the Board approve the sum of $16,200 for the purchase of an electronic key telephone system for the NDP caucus research office.

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Cureatz, and agreed, that the following figures be approved for non-formula caucus allocations for the 1985-86 fiscal year:

P.C.	-	$303,000
Liberal	-	$253,200
NDP	-	$257,000

The 1985-86 budget for Caucus Support Services is thereby approved in the amount of $5,565,700.

Administration Office

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Cureatz, and agreed, that the Board approve the sum of $40,000 for the purchase of an automated personnel information system for the Personnel Office.

...Continued

Moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Cureatz, and agreed, that the Board approve one additional complement position for the Purchasing Office of the Office of the Assembly.

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Cureatz, and agreed, that the 1985-86 budget for the Administration Office be approved in the amount of $2,405,600.

Constituency Offices

Moved by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Nixon, and agreed, that the 1985-86 budget for Constituency Offices be approved in the amount of $1,762,800.

L.A.R.A. Account

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Nixon, and agreed, that the 1985-86 budget for the L.A.R.A. Account be approved in the amount of $1,202,100.

Other Business:

a. Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Cureatz, and agreed, that one Member from each caucus be permitted to attend the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees in Whitehorse, Yukon on July 7-11, 1985.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

Hugh Edighoffer
Speaker

18/6/85