Ontario

Legislative Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING #4/85
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY
HELD IN ROOM 180, SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
AT 11:00 A.M., TUESDAY, JULY 30, 1985

PRESENT:

The Honourable Hugh Edighoffer, Speaker, Chairman
The Honourable Robert Nixon
The Honourable Elinor Caplan
The Honourable Jack Riddell
Ms. Joan Smith, M.P.P.
Mr. Bud Gregory, 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, Director of Finance
Ms. Ellen Schoenberger, Director of Human Resources

Guests:

Mr. Peter Partington, M.P.P., Standing Committee on Administration of Justice
Mr. George L. Ashe, M.P.P., Select Committee on Energy
Dr. Robert G. Elgie, M.D., M.P.P., Standing Committee on Resources Development
Mr. David R. Cooke, M.P.P., Chairman, Select Committee on Economic Affairs
Mr. Robert V. Callahan, M.P.P., Chairman, Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills
Mr. Ronald K. McNeil, M.P.P., Chairman, Standing Committee on the Ombudsman
Mr. Ernie L. Eves, Q.C., M.P.P., Chairman, Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Mr. Michael J. Breaugh, M.P.P., Chairman, Standing Committee on Procedural Affairs and Agencies, Boards and Commissions
Mr. Franco Carrozza, Clerk
Mr. Douglas Arnott, Clerk
Mrs. Deborah Deller, Clerk
Mr. Smirle Forsyth, Clerk
Mr. Todd Decker, Clerk
Ms. Molly Pellecchia, Materials Manager
Ms. Jan Robinson, Assistant to the Director of Finance

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DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes of Meeting #3/85

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the minutes of Meeting #3/85 be approved as circulated.

ITEM 2: 1985-86 Budget Review: Standing Committee on Administration of Justice

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Standing Committee on Administration of Justice be approved in the amount of $45,354.

ITEM 3: 1985-86 Budget Review: Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be approved in the amount of $62,662.

ITEM 4: 1985-86 Budget Review: Standing Committee on Resources Development

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Ms. Caplan, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Standing Committee on Resources Develpment be approved as $96,656.

ITEM 5: 1985-86 Budget Review: Select Committee on Economic Affairs

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget and the 1985-86 Supplementary Budget for the Select Committee on Economic Affairs be approved in the amount of $210,998.

ITEM 6: 1985-86 Budget Review: Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills be approved in the amount of $24,780.

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Ms. Caplan, and agreed, that the Board approve the additional payment of $1,317.18 for counsel fees billed to the Committee during the 1984-85 fiscal year.

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ITEM 7: 1985-86 Budget Review:
Standing Committee on General Government

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Standing Committee on General Government be approved in the amount of $7,650.

ITEM 8: 1985-86 Budget Review:
Standing Committee on the Ombudsman

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Standing Committee on the Ombudsman be approved in the amount of $52,840.

ITEM 9: 1985-86 Budget Review:
Standing Committee on Procedural Affairs and Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Ms. Smith, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Standing Committee on Procedural Affairs and Agencies, Boards and Commissions be approved in the amount of $271,708, which reflects a reduction equivalent to the amount necessary to reduce travel costs of the proposed European trip to a level which would cover four Committee members and one staff person.

Mr. Martel opposed the motion.

ITEM 10: 1985-86 Budget Review:
Select Committee on Energy

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that the 1985-86 Budget for the Select Committee on Energy be approved in the amount of $351,580, which represents a reduction in counsel fees to $25,000 and consulting fees to $90,000.

ITEM 11: Members' Support Services

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Ms. Smith, and agreed, that the Members' Support Staff global allowance be reduced from $93,000 to $87,487 for the 1985-86 fiscal year, effective June 17, 1985.

Moved by Ms. Caplan, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed that, effective July 26, 1985, and for pay and benefits purposes only, all support staff hired by Members from the global staff allowance be considered employees of the caucus to which the Member belongs, and that the

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necessary payroll and benefit information be provided by the caucus administrative staff to the Members' Support Staff and Constituency Office Co-ordinator.

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Ms. Smith, and agreed that, effective July 26, 1985, all full-time support staff hired by Members from the global staff allowance be provided with the same benefit package as is presently provided to Members' Queen's Park Secretary/Assistants, including enrollment in the Caucus Employees Retirement Plan (CERP).

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed that, effective July 26, 1985, membership in the benefit and pension plan be compulsory for all eligible support staff hired from the Members' global staff allowance.

Moved by Mr. Riddell, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the following three distinct salary classifications for all Members' support staff be established:

Legislative/Constituency Assistant	-	up to $25,912
Special Assistant	-	up to $24,293
Executive Assistant	-	up to $32,000

Moved by Ms. Caplan, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that any future adjustment to salary ranges for Members' support staff be made by the Board of Internal Economy.

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Caplan, and agreed, that there be no limit on the number of staff hired for a Member out of the global staff allowance, and that Members be permitted to hire all categories of staff at either Queen's Park or their constituency.

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed, that the Members' Support Staff and Constituency Office Co-ordinator perform commitment accounting for each Member's allowance and provide the Member with a monthly statement of all staff salary spending. Negative balances in the global staff allowance are not to be permitted.

Moved by Ms. Caplan, seconded by Ms. Smith, and agreed, that Members' support staff be subject to the same salary adjustment regulations as are followed in the Ontario Civil Service and the Office of the Assembly (ie. 1 merit increment and 1 cost-of-living adjustment per year). In the case of new employees, the Member is permitted to award a merit increment after either a 3-month or 6-month probationary period.

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Promotions from one position to another do not fall under this provision.

Moved by Mr. Riddell, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that retroactive salary adjustments awarded to Members' support staff (other than the annual cost-of-living adjustment) be limited to a period not exceeding 30 calendar days prior to the date of receipt of the written request at the respective caucus administrative office.

Moved by Ms. Caplan, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the Members' global staff allowance applies to all Members and that the charge-back procedure between the Office of the Assembly and the Ministries be discontinued, effective July 26, 1985.

ITEM 12: Legislative Building: Bell Audio-Video Circuit Installation

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed, that the Board approve the installation of video and audio circuits in the Legislative Building, as outlined under plans 1 and 2 in the July 16, 1985 letter from Telecom Canada.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Caucus Allocations

(i) Opposition Leaders' Staff Allowance

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed that, effective June 26, 1985, the base allowance provided to the two Opposition Leaders be set at $12,000 per Member, and that a minimum base of 30 Members be applied to the Leader of any party that has a recognized membership of 12 or more persons in the Assembly.

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed that, effective June 26, 1985, the per-Member allowance provided to the two Opposition Leaders be set at $6,000 per Member.

(ii) unconditional (caucus administration) allowance

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed that, effective June 26, 1985, the unconditional (caucus administration) allowance be set

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at $12,000 per Member. In the case of the Government Caucus, members of the Executive Council are excluded from the per-Member allocation.

(iii) research allowances

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed that, effective June 26, 1985, the research and research support allowances be combined and set at $18,000 per Member, and that a minimum base of 30 Members be applied for the caucus of any party that has a recognized membership of 12 or more persons in the Assembly.

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that no future adjustment to the above three allowances would take place for the 1985-86 fiscal year.

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Nixon, and agreed, that up to a maximum of $5,513 may be transferred to an individual Member's support staff global allowance from the research allowance of the caucus to which the Member belongs.

b. Electronic Hansard

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the Board approve up to a maximum of $15,000 for project management consulting services for the electronic Hansard system.

c. Members' Services: Furniture and Equipment

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the Board approve $85,000 for the purchase of furniture and equipment for Members' Queen's Park offices.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

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

Hugh Edighoffer

Speaker

31/7/85