Ontario

Legislative Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING #5/85
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY
HELD IN ROOM 180, SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
AT 12:30 P.M., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985

PRESENT:

The Honourable Hugh Edighoffer, Speaker, Chairman
The Honourable Robert Nixon
The Honourable Elinor Caplan
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
Mr. W. Michael Wiebe, Executive Assistant to the Director of Administration

Absent:

The Honourable Jack Riddell

Guests:

Mr. Ronald K. McNeil, M.P.P., Chairman, Standing Committee on the Ombudsman
Mr. Michael J. Breaugh, M.P.P., Chairman, Standing Committee on Procedural Affairs and Agencies, Boards and Commissions
Mr. R. Brian Land, Director, Legislative Library, Research and Information Services
Mr. Bernard Webber, Chairman, Legislative Information Review Committee
Mr. Robert D. Stupart, Q.C., Director, Legal Branch, Ministry of Government Services
Mr. Tim Casey, Manager, Client Services, Ministry of Government Services
Mr. Gunars Laivenieks, District Manager, Ministry of Government Services
Mr. Ray Foley, Senior Policy Advisor to the Minister of Government Services
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 #4/85

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Nixon, and agreed, that the minutes of Meeting #4/85 be approved as circulated, subject to further consideration of Other Business (a) (i) if necessary.

ITEM 2: Members' Office Automation/Networking System

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Nixon, and agreed, that the following action be taken with respect to the Members' Office Automation/Networking System:

a) That the Speaker be authorized to execute an agreement with Datapoint Canada Inc. for the acquisition of a Members' Office Automation/Networking System, as per the draft agreement negotiated by the Assembly's negotiating team.

b) That the Board approve the sum of $381,000 to be added to the cost of the System in order to substitute desk-top lazer printers for impact printers in Members' offices.

c) That the System be extended to all 125 Members' Queen's Park offices and to a maximum of 25 support offices by December 31, 1986.

d) That the installation in Members' offices follow a schedule which reflects party standings in the House.

e) That the Board approve the creation of the position of Manager, Information Systems, effective September 3, 1985, and two positions of Staff Instructor, one effective September 3, 1985 and the other effective January 1, 1986.

f) That the Board approve the sum of $45,000 for the remainder of the 1985-86 fiscal year to be divided equally among the three party caucuses for the purpose of hiring systems support staff for the project.

g) That the Board authorize the project staff to acquire the services of a temporary systems administrator and trainer who are experienced with Datapoint equipment, for a period of up to six months to assist the Manager in getting the installation underway. Costs to be absorbed from within the project funding already approved by the Board.

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h) That the former Members' Lounge space on the basement level of the North Wing be converted to a training centre for the project.

ITEM 3: Legislative Building: Space Allocation Study Proposal

Moved by Mr. Gregory, seconded by Ms. Smith, and agreed, that the Board approve the Option B space allocation proposal, as presented, subject to confirmation by Mr. Gregory after consultation with the P.C. caucus, and that the Board allocate $750,000 for necessary alteration costs.

ITEM 4: Standing Committee on Procedural Affairs: Report Re Electronic Hansard Coverage Guidelines

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the Board accept the report from the Committee entitled "Television Coverage of the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly", as presented, and that staff be instructed to take the necessary planning steps for implementation of the proposed televised system by March 1, 1986. The Board further instructed staff to consult with the Committee during this implementation process.

ITEM 5: Legislative Library: Research Service Contract Staff

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Ms. Caplan, and agreed, that the Board authorize the Legislative Research Services Branch of the Legislative Library to hire three research officers on a contract basis for six months, effective September 3, 1985.

ITEM 6: Committees of the House: Counsel Fees

Moved by Ms. Caplan, seconded by Ms. Smith, and agreed, that the Board reaffirm the existing guidelines for legal counsel to Committees of the House, and that Mr. Land be asked to prepare a report to the Board recommending a method of utilizing staff of the Legislative Research Service to provide legal counsel to Legislative Committees.

ITEM 7: Office of the Assembly: Computer Equipment Proposal

Moved by Ms. Caplan, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the Board approve the sum of $22,400 for the acquisition of word processing equipment for various offices and departments of the Office of the Assembly.

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ITEM 8: Internal Mail System:
Request from Joan Smith, M.P.P.

Ms. Caplan agreed to design a test for the internal mail system involving representatives of the three party caucuses, and to report to the Board at the next meeting.

ITEM 9: Members' Services:
OHIP Coverage for Retired Members

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Martel, and agreed, that the minimum age of 50 required for provision of OHIP, Supplementary Health and Hospital, and dental benefits provided to L.A.R.A. pensioners be removed, effective May 2, 1985.

ITEM 10: Caucus Support Services:
Electronic Key Telephone System for NDP Leader's Office

Moved by Mr. Martel, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that the Board approve the sum of $19,000 for the purchase of an electronic key telephone system for the NDP Leader's Office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Hansard Reporting Service:
Contract Staff

Moved by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that the Board authorize the Hansard Reporting Service to hire one console operator on a contract basis for six months, effective September 3, 1985.

b. Opposition Leader's Car:
Request from NDP Leader

Moved by Mr. Gregory, seconded by Mr. Nixon, and agreed, that staff be authorized to acquire a new car for the NDP Leader.

c. Constituency Office Program:
Request from Odoardo Di Santo

Ms. Pellecchia was asked to make the necessary arrangements for Mr. Nixon to assume the lease for photocopy equipment originally entered into by Mr. Di Santo.

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d. 1985-86 Salary Review:
Employees of the Office of the Assembly

Moved by Mr. Nixon, seconded by Mr. Gregory, and agreed, that the Director of Human Resources be authorized to proceed with the implementation of 1985-86 cost-of-living adjustments for employees of the Office of the Assembly, in accordance with adjustments approved for comparable classifications in the Ontario Civil Service.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

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

Hugh Edighoffer

Speaker

4/9/85