



Legislative Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING #8/87
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY
HELD IN SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM, ROOM 180, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
AT 3:30 P.M., MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1987

PRESENT:

The Honourable Hugh Edighoffer, Speaker, Chairman
The Honourable James Bradley
The Honourable Jack Riddell
Mrs. Joan Smith, M.P.P.
Mr. Ross McClellan, M.P.P.
Mr. Ernie Eves, Q.C., M.P.P.

Secretariat:

Mr. Robert J. Fleming, Director of Administration, Secretary
Ms Sandra Bowen, Administrative Co-ordinator

Legislative Assembly Staff:

Mr. Claude DesRosiers, Clerk of the House
Mr. R. Brian Land, Executive Director, Legislative Library
Mr. J. Thomas Mitchinson, Director of Information Services
Ms Ellen Schoenberger, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Larry E. Waters, Director of Finance

Mr. Harold Brown, Special Assistant, Speaker's Office
Ms Molly Pellecchia, Assistant Director, Supply and Services

Absent:

The Honourable Gregory S. Sorbara

Ms Beryl Venter, Assistant Director, Financial Planning and Control

Guests:

Mr. Richard F. Johnston, M.P.P.
Mr. William Fellows) The Coopers & Lybrand
Mr. Robert Belsey) Consulting Group
Dr. David McNaughton, Assistant Deputy Minister,
Ministry of Government Services
Mr. Richard Flis, Computer and Telecommunications Branch,
Ministry of Government Services
Mr. Bill Fowler, Director of Legislative Information Systems
Ms Susan Callum, Office Administrator,
Liberal Members Services Office
Ms Marcia Boyd, Office Manager, N.D.P. Caucus
Ms Bev DesLauriers, Acting Director of Administration,
Progressive Conservative Services Bureau

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DECISIONS OF THE BOARDITEM 1: Approval of Minutes of Meeting #7/87:

Moved by Mr. McClellan, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed, that the Minutes of Meeting #7/87 be approved, as amended.

ITEM 2: Legislative Information Systems Steering Committee: 1987-88 Operations Plan

Moved by Mr. McClellan, seconded by Mr. Eves, and agreed:

1. That the 1987-88 Operations Plan and budget be approved, as presented, in the amount of \$2,791,167.
2. That the following positions be approved by the Board in order to implement the Operations Plan:

Legislative Information Systems Office:

- 10 complement positions, plus the conversion of the existing contract position to permanent staff
- the transfer of 1 complement position from the Legislative Library

Each of the 3 Caucus Offices:

- 1 complement position
- 1 contract position

Legislative Library:

- 1 complement position
- 1 contract position

Administration Division:

- 2 contract positions (1 for Finance Branch and 1 for Human Resources Branch)
- 2 complement positions for Supply & Services department.

All positions to be effective September 1, 1987.

3. That the Legislative Information Systems Steering Committee report to the Board not later than December 31, 1987 outlining progress on the implementation of the 1987-88 Operations Plan.
4. That the Legislative Information Systems Steering Committee develop a proposal for temporary systems assistance in Members' constituency offices pending implementation of the permanent system, and that this proposal be presented to the Board for consideration not later than September 1, 1987.

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ITEM 3: Transfer of Caucus and Members' Staff to Ministries: Benefits

Moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed, that Caucus and Members' staff who transfer to Ministries be entitled to receive payment for existing severance and outstanding vacation credits upon transfer and the Office of the Assembly inform the relevant Ministry of the amount of any such payment. If the employee terminates with the Ontario Public Service after serving a minimum of five years combined service the Ministry shall deduct the amount of previous severance pay from the entitlement at the date of termination.

ITEM 4: Funding for Whips' Assistants:

This Item was deferred indefinitely in accordance with the amended Minute of Meeting #7/87.

ITEM 5: Political Activity by Staff of Members and Caucus:

Moved by Mr. Eves, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed that:

1. Section 7, Part 3 (Constituency Office Program) of the Manual of Administration be changed as follows:

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE STAFF:

(a) political activity - general:

A Member's constituency office may not be used to further his or her partisan political activities. The Constituency Office Program is designed to encourage stronger communication between the Member and all of his or her constituents and must be operated on a strictly non-partisan basis.

Offices may not be used for association meetings, political meetings or meetings of the Riding Association Executive. This restriction applies both during and after regular office hours.

(b) office hours:

The establishment of office hours is the responsibility of the individual Member.

(c) political activity of Constituency Office staff:

- i. No employee of a Member's Constituency Office shall during working hours:

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- (1) engage in any activity in the capacity of a candidate in a provincial or federal election;
 - (2) solicit funds for a provincial or federal political party candidate;
 - (3) canvass on behalf of, or otherwise actively work in support of a provincial or federal political party or candidate;
 - (4) speak on a public platform on any matter that forms part of the platform of a provincial or federal political party.
- ii. Should Constituency Office staff wish to actively work in an election campaign during what would be normal working hours, they must take leave of absence without pay, or otherwise be absent from work through use of accumulated time off in lieu of overtime, or accumulated vacation leave for such period and advise the Member and the Caucus Administrator accordingly. The latter forwards this information to the Human Resources Branch.
- iii. If a Constituency Office employee is nominated as a candidate in a provincial or federal election, that employee shall take a leave of absence without pay for a period not longer than that commencing on the day on which the writ for the election is issued and ending on polling day; and not shorter than that commencing on the day provided by statute for the nomination of candidates and ending on polling day.

Note:

The regulations regarding candidacy for a municipal office etc. remain unchanged (7-3-4 (J)).

2. It is further proposed to change the Personnel section, Part 13 (Caucus Employees) of the Manual of Administration as follows:

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CAUCUS/MEMBERS'/LEADER'S STAFF:(a) political activity:

During the period between the issuance of an election writ and the day of the election, staff in the above-captioned category shall carry out such responsibilities as may be assigned by their employer (Caucus Administrator, Member, Leader).

(b) candidacy:

If an employee in the above-captioned category is nominated as a candidate in a provincial or federal election, such employee shall take leave of absence without pay for a period not longer than that commencing on the day on which the writ for the election is issued and ending on polling day; and not shorter than that commencing on the day provided by statute for the nomination of candidates and ending on polling day.

Note:

- The regulations regarding candidacy for a municipal office, etc. remain unchanged (13-12 (7)).
- A resignation is not required, while actively campaigning or running as a candidate.

ITEM 6: National Assembly of Nicaragua:

- a) Request for Equipment:
- b) Request for Grants for English Courses:

Moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Riddell, and agreed, that this Item be tabled pending submission of a report by the Legislative Library. The Library's report shall include an outline of the ramifications of the two requests and an assessment of whether action on one or both of the requests falls within the mandate of the Board of Internal Economy.

ITEM 7: Report on Caucus Print Shops:

Moved by Mr. Eves, seconded by Mrs. Smith, and agreed that the Board approve Recommendation #1 in the amount of \$200,000 and that the distribution of equipment among the caucuses be determined by an ad hoc committee comprised of the Director of Finance and a representative from each of the three caucus offices. If agreement cannot be reached by the committee the matter shall be returned to the Board for resolution.

Mr. Bradley opposed the motion.

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It was agreed that Recommendation #2 falls within the mandate of the LISSC Committee and will be included as part of the 1987-88 Operations Plan approved by the Board under Item 2.

Moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Eves, and agreed, that Recommendation #3 be referred to the ad hoc committee referred to above.

ITEM 8: Relocation and Other Assistance Expenses:
Clerk of the Assembly

This Item was tabled pending further consultation with the Treasurer and the Provincial Auditor.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Members' Support Staff:

Moved by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. McClellan, and agreed that the global staff allowance for Ms Ruth Grier, MPP, be increased by \$10,000 in response to an extraordinary long term sickness involving one of Ms Grier's employees.

Mr. Waters and Ms Schoenberger were asked to investigate alternative methods of addressing similar future situations involving benefits paid to Members' staff and report at a future meeting.

b) Group Insurance Coverage:
Improvements to Dental Plan Coverage
and to Supplementary Health and
Hospital Plan

Moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. McClellan, and agreed, that the following group insurance benefits be extended to all retired Members of the Legislative Assembly and eligible dependents who are in receipt of an allowance under the Legislative Assembly Retirement Allowances Act, and to all retired employees of the Office of the Assembly, employees of Members and Caucuses and their eligible dependents, who are in receipt of a pension under the Public Service Superannuation Plan:

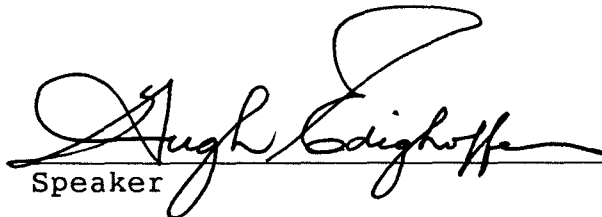
1. Effective January 1, 1987 the improved Dental Plan also pays 50% of the cost of Denture Services. Reimbursement is for up to 50% of the Ontario Dental Association Fee Schedule in force at the time the service was provided to a lifetime maximum of \$2,000 per insured person and eligible dependents.

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2. There are improvements to the Supplementary Health and Hospital Plan, effective January 1, 1987 as follows:
 - a) Hospital accommodation moves from \$25 per day to \$35 per day for semi-private or private accommodation.
 - b) Increase chiropractor, osteopath, naturopath, podiatrist, physiotherapist, speech therapist and masseur from \$8 per visit to \$12.
 - c) Increase psychotherapy rate from \$12 to \$16 for initial visit and \$8 to \$12 for all other visits.
 - d) Extend the 12 month limit to 18 months for the treatment of accidental injury to natural teeth.
 - e) Provide for surgery in a podiatrist's office up to \$100.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

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


Speaker

23/6/87