Ontario

Legislative Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING #8/92
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY HELD IN
SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM, ROOM 180, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
AT 4:00 P.M., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1992

Present:

The Honourable David Warner, Speaker, Chairman
The Honourable Dave Cooke
The Honourable Gilles Pouliot
The Honourable Shirley Coppen
Mr. Steve Owens, MPP
Mr. Murray Elston, MPP
Mr. Ernie Eves, MPP

Secretariat:

Mr. William Ponick, Controller, Secretary
Ms Barbara Bishop, Executive Assistant, Assistant Secretary and Recording Secretary

Legislative Assembly Staff:

Mr. Claude L. DesRosiers, Clerk of the House
Mr. Brian Land, Executive Director, Legislative Library
Ms Barbara Speakman, Executive Director, Assembly Services
Mr. Ajit Deshmukh, Director of Finance
Ms Ellen Schoenberger, Director of Human Resources

Guests:

Ms Patty Park, Executive Director/NDP Caucus
Ms Sheila Green, Director Administration/NDP Caucus
Mr. Peter Curtis, Executive Director/Liberal Caucus
Ms Barbara Cowieson, Director of Administration/PC Service Bureau

DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

ITEM 1: <u>Approval of Minutes of Meeting #7/92</u>

Moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Pouliot, and agreed, that the Minutes of Meeting #7/92 be approved as circulated.

ITEM 2: **1992-93 ESTIMATES**

Office of the Assembly

Members' Indemnities and Travel [Vote 0201-09]

Moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Pouliot, and agreed, that the 1992/93 Budget for Members' Indemnities and Travel be amended to include 6% for rent review and that the original amount of $12,116,400 be approved.

Members' Office Support Services [Vote 0201-10]

Moved by Mr. Eves and seconded by Mr. Elston, that the 1992/93 Budget for Members' Support Services be amended to include 1% for COLA and that the amount of $30,593,900 be approved.

Ms Coppen, Messrs. Cooke and Owens were opposed. Mr. Pouliot abstained. The motion was defeated.

Moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that the 1992/93 Budget for Members' Support Services be approved in the amount of $30,281,700.

Messrs. Elston and Eves were opposed.

The Members' revised Global Budget for the 1992-93 fiscal year is $171,509.

L.A.R.A.A. [Vote 0201-14]

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Cooke, and agreed, that the 1992/93 Budget for the Legislative Assembly Retirement Allowances Fund [L.A.R.A.A.] be approved, as amended, in the amount of $2,224,700.

APPROVAL OF 1992-93 ESTIMATES

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Cooke, and agreed, that the 1992-93 Estimates of the Office of the Legislative Assembly be adopted, as amended, in the amount of $119,788,300.

Messrs. Elston and Eves were opposed.

ITEM 3: L.A.R.A.A.

Moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Elston, and agreed, that:

[a] Pensions above registration limits be provided through the L.A.R.A.A. account in the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and not through an RCA;

[b] For the part of the assets that support pensions above Revenue Canada limits, the Consolidated Revenue Fund will be used;

[c] All assets will be kept in the Consolidated Revenue Fund at the present time, while recognizing the possibility of investing in marketable securities in the future;

[d] Administration arrangements remain unaltered for the time being;

[e] The Board instructed the Director of Human Resources to obtain outside legal opinion on the effect of not amending the L.A.R.A. Act;

[f] It was agreeed that the new plans provide substantially and materially the same benefits as the existing Act, in a format necessary to meet the requirements of The Income Tax Act.

ITEM 4: **L.A.R.A. Pension Adjustments**

The Actuary's Report was received by the Board. A decision concerning an increase of pensions to retired Members and their dependents was deferred to the next Board meeting.

ITEM 5: **Sick Leave Payments**

- **Frank Miclash MPP**

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that Mr. Miclash's request for a one-time increase to his Global Budget in the amount of $17,497.64, to cover the cost of sick leave replacement, be approved.

- **Shelley Martel MPP**

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that Ms Martel's request for a one-time increase to her Global Budget in the amount of $9,648.90, to cover the cost of sick leave replacement, be approved.

- **Bernard Grandmaitre MPP**

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that Mr. Grandmaitre's request for a one-time increase to his Global Budget in the amount of $20,100.40, to cover the cost of sick leave replacement, be approved.

ITEM 6: **Appointment of Audit Firm to Audit the Office of the Provincial Auditor**

The Board unanimously agreed, via the pre-approval process, to approve the proposal regarding the appointment of Allen Miles Fox & Johnson to audit the Office of the Provincial Auditor.

ITEM 7: **Roof, Stonework and Windows Project**

Moved by Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that the additional expenditure of $2,000,000 for the fiscal year 1992-93 for the roof, masonry and windows renovation/restoration project be approved, along with the request to cover off $750,000 of the fiscal year shortfall from the Facilities Management Budget, with the stipulation that the balance must be funded from within the Office of the Legislative Assembly Budget. A report indicating where the money is coming from will be presented to the Board.

Assembly Services Division was asked to prepare revised long-term funding strategy options for the next Board meeting.

ITEM 8: **Acting Provincial Auditor's Salary/Jim Otterman**

The Board agreed that approval for Jim Otterman, Assistant Provincial Auditor, to receive a 10% increase in salary to reflect the position of Acting Provincial Auditor [that he has occupied since January 1, 1992 and will occupy until December 31, 1992] would be obtained via the pre-approval process.

ITEM 9: **New Provincial Auditor's Salary**

The Board agreed to utilize the pre-approval process to obtain approval regarding the salary for the new Provincial Auditor which is to be determined, "within the highest range of salaries paid to deputy ministers in the Ontario Civil Service" and that, pursuant to Section 3 of the Audit Act, the Speaker seek the appropriate Order-in-Council from the Lieutenant Governor, effective January 1, 1993.

ITEM 10: **Relocation Cost - New Provincial Auditor**

The new Provincial Auditor, who presently resides in Ottawa, is entitled to receive a relocation package. The following was submitted to the Board for their information:

1] Cost of moving a 4 person household from Ottawa (Nepean) to Toronto at an approximate cost of $6,000 - $7,000;

2] Enhanced Employee Owner Relocation Plan: payment of a housing differential between Ottawa and Toronto;

3] Apartment rental cost in Toronto, pending move, at an approximate cost of $2,200 per month;

4] Round-trip economy airfares each week, or mileage, between Ottawa and Toronto pending move. [$400 for return flight, including taxes];

5] One or two round-trip economy airfares, or mileage, for spouse for the purpose of house-hunting. [$800 for 2 return flights, including taxes].

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

The balance of items were deferred to the next meeting of the Board and the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 8, 1992, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in Room 180, The Speaker's Boardroom.**

Speaker