Ontario

Legislative Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING #9/92
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY HELD IN
SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM, ROOM 180, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
AT 4:50 P.M., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1992

Present:

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

Absent:

The Honourable Dave Cooke

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
Ms Barbara Speakman, Executive Director, Assembly Services
Ms Mary Dickerson, Deputy Executive Director, Legislative Library
Ms Ellen Schoenberger, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Terry Mitchell, Assistant Director, Finance/Office of the Assembly

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
Mr. Jim Otterman, [Acting] Provincial Auditor
Ms Hildegard Halvachs, Director/Human Resources and Support Services, Office of the Provincial Auditor
Mr. Remo Mancini, MPP/Chair - Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Ms Tannis Manikel, Committee Clerk, Standing Committee on Public Accounts

DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

ITEM 1: **Approval of Minutes of Meeting #8/92**

Moved by Mr. Eves, seconded by Mr. Pouliot, and agreed, that the Minutes of Meeting #8/92 be approved with the following amendments:

Item #8 be revised to read:

"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 and that a request for a precise figure be included on the pre-approval form.";

and that the first paragraph of Item #10 be revised to read:

"The new Provincial Auditor, who presently resides in Ottawa, is entitled to receive a relocation package. A decision with respect to the value will be determined by the Board at a later date. The following was submitted to the Board for their information:"

ITEM 2: **Standing Committee on Government Agencies/1992-93 Budget**

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that the 1992/93 Budget for the Standing Committee on Government Agencies be approved in the amount of $88,628, as well as the 1992/93 Supplementary Budget in the amount of $7,650.

ITEM 3: **Standing Committee on General Government/1992-93 Budget**

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that the 1992/93 Budget for the Standing Committee on General Government be approved in the amount of $161,928.

ITEM 4: **Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills/1992-93 Budget**

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that the 1992/93 Budget for the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills be approved in the amount of $13,550.

ITEM 5: **Office of the Provincial Auditor/Supplementary Estimates 1992-93**

This Item was tabled for discussion.

A decision on the dollar amount of payment of the housing differential between Ottawa and Toronto was deferred, pending the outcome of a study to be made by a third party from the housing industry who will make a comparison between the house in Nepean and the house in Toronto, taking all factors into account.

A decision regarding personal income taxes payable as a result of the housing differential was also deferred.

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that every effort would be made to find reasonable accommodation in Toronto, pending the move, with a maximum expenditure of $7,000 for three months.

Mr. Eves was opposed.

The balance of this Item was deferred until the next meeting of the Board.

ITEM 6: **New Provincial Auditor's Salary**

Moved by Mr. Owens, seconded by Ms Coppen, and agreed, that a salary for Mr. Erik Peters [the new Provincial Auditor] be approved in the amount of $138,000, effective January 1, 1993.

ITEM 7: **Acting Provincial Auditor's Salary/Jim Otterman**

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Eves, and agreed, that Mr. Jim Otterman, Assistant Provincial Auditor, will receive a 10% increase in salary, retroactive to January 1, 1992, to reflect the position of Acting Provincial Auditor which he will occupy until December 31, 1992.

ITEM 8: **Pension Plan for Legislative Assembly, Caucus and Members' Support Staff Mandatory vs. Elective**

Moved by Mr. Pouliot, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that Management Board would issue the appropriate Order-in-Council to permit party caucus employees and employees of the Legislative Assembly to participate in the Public Service Pension Plan.

Moved by Mr. Eves and seconded by Mr. Elston, to adopt Option 2 recommending that: "Employees of the Caucuses and Members' support staff be on the same basis as Ministers' staff and be given a choice of membership, i.e. - membership to be elective."

Ms Coppen and Messrs. Owens and Pouliot were opposed. The Motion was defeated.

ITEM 9: **Roof, Stonework and Windows Project/Funding Strategy**

A report on Funding Strategies was presented to the Board and a decision was deferred, pending a review by the House Leaders.

OTHER BUSINESS

Use of Constituency Office Accommodations Budget Funds

Moved by Mr. Elston, seconded by Mr. Owens, and agreed, that Members be permitted to use their underspending in constituency office accommodations to fund other operating expenses within their Global Budget.

Underspending in the Global Budget may be used to offset expenditures in constituency office accommodations.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

The balance of items were deferred and will be circulated to the Members via the Pre-Approval process. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 19, 1992, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Room 180, The Speaker's Boardroom.**

Speaker