

GOVERNOR'S INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE ON
OUTDOOR RECREATION

MINUTES

Department of Game
September 10, 1964

I. PRESENT:

Mr. Norm Knott, Vice-Chairman, Department of Game
Mr. George VanMieghem, Central Budget Agency
Mr. Ray Berlin, Central Budget Agency
Mr. Hartly Kruger, Department of Commerce & Economic Development
Mr. Elmer Quistorff, Department of Fisheries
Mr. Don Erickson, Department of Fisheries
Mr. Eugene Maxwell, Department of Game
Mr. Al O'Donnell, Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Philip Parker, Secretary, Parks & Recreation Commission

ALSO PRESENT:

Mrs. Gene Hopkins, Dept. of Highways
Mr. Michael T. Gray, Director, Dept.
of Licenses
Mr. William LeMay, Department of Highways
Mrs. Rosemary Horwood, Department of
Commerce & Economic Development

- II. Minutes of previous meeting were corrected at the suggestion of Mrs. Horwood to show that Mr. Norm Knott had been elected Vice-Chairman instead of Vice-President as shown in the previous minutes.

The minutes were approved with the correction.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Plan Development

Mrs. Horwood presented the memorandum concerning criteria and policy proposals for the administration of State and Federal recreation land acquisition funds by the Inter-Agency Committee. Also presented was a suggested format for a manual of procedures. These are included in the official minutes as Exhibit "A".

Mr. Knott suggested that the report be discussed with respect to its overall content leaving detailed changes to be made later in written form.

Mrs. Horwood explained that the Sub-Committee recommended a permanent administrative staff and office because of the complexity of the work and legal requirements for handling funds which are anticipated.

Mr. O'Donnell expressed concern that there was no authority to create such an administrative office spelled out in either Initiative 215 or Referendum Bill No. 11.

Mr. Knott pointed out that Initiative 215 establishes a permanent Inter-Agency Committee and that this might be construed to imply a staff of some type.

Mr. O'Donnell agreed that there probably would be a need for a staff but doubted that the need would be large enough to warrant the complete staff proposed in the report, at least until some time in the future. At this point, Mr. Berlin presented the report prepared by James F. Ryan, Chief Budget Analyst for the Central Budget Agency, giving C.B.A.'s opinion regarding the administrative expenses associated with the I-A-C. That report is included in the official minutes as Exhibit "B". Discussion of this report led to a general consensus that the financing of any administrative staff for the I-A-C would probably have to be undertaken on a share-the-cost basis by the member agencies, at least until such time as other provisions could be made.

Mr. Quistorff pointed out that two separate questions were being discussed. First, the need for a staff, and second, the financing arrangements necessary to support the staff. He suggested that the committee concern itself at this time only with the need for a staff.

Mr. Knott suggested that recommendation number one be coupled with recommendation number four in the report, and that a staff be established after the following financing possibilities had been explored: (1) through existing departments, (2) through Initiative 215, (3) through legislative appropriations, (4) through the possible use of Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund money.

MOVED by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. VanMieghem that the Committee recommend that a permanent central receiving office for the I-A-C on Outdoor Recreation be established. After some discussion the motion was carried.

Mr. Knott commented that I-A-C should not put itself in a position in its program for administering funds of being responsible for the details of projects undertaken by the various governmental sub-divisions of the State.

It was agreed that the plan submitted by the Plan Development Sub-Committee should be reviewed in detail by each member agency, and that suggestions and recommendations for changes be written and sent to the Secretary not later than September 17, 1964. With the approval of the members present, Mr. Knott appointed Mr. Berlin, C.B.A., and Mr. Parker, Parks and Recreation Commission, to review these recommendations and write a report to be presented at the next meeting.

B. Budget

Mr. VanMieghem, Chairman of the Budget Sub-Committee introduced Mr. Michael T. Gray, Director, Washington State Department of Licenses, who reported on his plans for carrying out the provision of Initiative 215 calling for a survey by the License Department to determine the amount or proportion of motor vehicle fuel tax collected which is paid on fuel consumed for marine purposes. The Committee had requested Mr. VanMieghem to arrange for this report.

Mr. Gray's report is included in the official minutes as Exhibit "C". He said he plans to appoint a committee consisting of representatives from the Citizens for Outdoor Recreation, the Outboard Motor Boat Club of America, highway users, sportsmen, etc., to help select a firm to conduct the survey. He said such a committee would be appointed immediately upon passage of Initiative 215. Mr. Gray said that no money provided within Section 14 of Initiative 215 could be made available from fuel tax revenues. He estimated that such a survey would require six months to a year to complete and pointed out that it was unlikely that the survey could be undertaken before January 1, 1965.

Mr. LeMay reported that the experience of such other states as Ohio, California, Michigan, Oregon and Idaho indicated that the unrefunded portion of fuel tax collected on fuel used by motor boats was equal to approximately two-thirds of the estimate made by the Outboard Motor Boat Club of America. He said that organization had estimated Washington's unrefunded tax at being approximately 3%. He, therefore, concluded that the 2% limit established in Initiative 215 was probably a safe estimate.

C. Legislation

Mr. Knott reported that no written commentary had been received by his Sub-Committee on the report which had been circularized to members of the I-A-C. He asked that each agency review and comment within

one week on the August 8 report of the Legislative Sub-Committee and submit their comments in writing to him.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Letterheads

The I-A-C's new letterhead was shown to the members present. It was requested that a small supply be sent to each member agency.

B. Washington State Grange

The Secretary reported that Chairman Odegaard had sent a letter of reply to the Washington State Grange with reference to its proposals for legislation needed.

C. President's Economic Opportunity Act of 1964

Mrs. Horwood reported on the President's Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. She said it appears that some projects that would fit into programs which might be dealt with by the I-A-C were similar to the old CCC. However, she noted that emphasis in the new Job Corps will be on training and probably would limit the possibilities for use in many types of projects.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Land and Water Conservation Fund Bill

The need for more information on the part of I-A-C members about the Land and Water Conservation Fund Bill was discussed. The Committee selected to review the recommendations of the Plan Development Sub-Committee was instructed to take into account the provisions of the L.W.C.F.B. The secretary was instructed to invite Mr. Fred Overly, Regional Director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, to attend the October meeting of the I-A-C for the purpose of reporting as completely as possible on the provisions of this legislation as it would apply to the I-A-C. It was suggested that Mr. Overly be invited to appear before the Committee at 10:30 a.m.

B. Budgets of County and City Government

Mr. Knott called attention to the fact that Sections 12 and 14 of Initiative 215 spell out provisions for budgeting Initiative 215 and

Referendum Bill No. 11 funds for agencies of State government. However, there is no provision which specifies what budgetary process is required of other sub-divisions of government.

Mr. Berlin said that funds from these two sources would probably be given in a lump sum by the I-A-C to requesting agencies as matching grants, and no provisions for the budgetary process within their structure would be necessary.

- VI. Next meeting was set for October 8, 1964 at 8:30 a.m. in the Small Conference Room of the General Administration Building. The Department of Fisheries will act as host.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

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