



Select Committee on Efficiency in Government

62nd Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

JON SONJU--Chair
EDWARD BUTTREY
MARY CAFERRO
JIM KEANE
EDWARD WALKER
DAVID WANZENRIED

HOUSE MEMBERS

MARK BLASDEL
RON EHLI
GALEN HOLLENBAUGH
PAT NOONAN
SCOTT REICHNER
KATHLEEN WILLIAMS

COMMITTEE STAFF TEAM

DAVE BOHYER, Lead Staff
DAVID NISS, Staff Attorney
DAWN FIELD, Secretary
SUE O'CONNELL, LSD, Health Care
SONJA NOWAKOWSKI, LSD, Nat'l Res.
QUINN HOLZER, LFD, Health Care
TARYN PURDY, LFD, Budgeting Process
BARBARA SMITH, LFD, Technology
LOIS STEINBECK, LFD, Health Care

MINUTES

Mission, Goals, and Objectives Subcommittee

October 6, 2011

Room 102, State Capitol
Helena, Montana

Please note: These minutes provide abbreviated information about committee discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. To the left of each section in these minutes is a time designation indicating the approximate amount of time in hours, minutes, and seconds that has elapsed since the start of the meeting. This time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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Hard copies of the exhibits for this meeting are available upon request. Legislative Council policy requires a charge of 15 cents a page for copies of the document.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sen. Jon Sonju -- Chair
Sen. Mary Caferro
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh
Rep. Ron Ehli

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED/ABSENT

Sen. Edward Walker
Rep. Kathleen Williams

STAFF PRESENT

Dave Bohyer, Lead Staff
Dawn Field, Secretary

AGENDA & VISITORS' LIST

Agenda, Attachment #1.
Visitors' List, Attachment #2.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Mission, Goals, and Objectives Subcommittee of the Select Committee on Efficiency in Government:

- approved language for a mission statement;
- approved language for one goal; and
- approved language for three objectives.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- 00:00:01 SEN. SONJU called the meeting to order at 11:14 a.m. The Secretary noted the roll, SEN. WALKER and REP. WILLIAMS were excused. REP. RON EHLI was also present at and participated in the meeting (Attachment 3). **David Bohyer, Research Director, Legislative Services Division (LSD)**, said that the purpose of the Subcommittee meeting is to continue its work on creating a Mission Statement with defined goals and objectives for the Select Committee on Efficiency in Government (SCEG). He said that the agenda items include the draft language from the August meeting, including revisions submitted by Rep. Williams and Sen. Walker (EXHIBIT 1); and additional revisions submitted by Rep. Williams (EXHIBIT 2).
- 00:01:07 SEN. SONJU asked for discussion on the draft language and revisions submitted by Rep. Williams and Sen. Walker (EXHIBIT 1).
- 00:01:43 REP. HOLLENBAUGH suggested that the full SCEG be given both the original draft language from the August meeting and the version approved by the Subcommittee today. SEN. SONJU agreed.
- 00:02:43 REP. HOLLENBAUGH said he would support Rep. Williams' suggested language (EXHIBIT 1, No. 1) and asked for discussion on how to include Sen. Walker's suggested language regarding private property rights (EXHIBIT 1, No. 2). SEN. SONJU asked if public property rights are addressed in House Bill 642. Mr. Bohyer said he did not recall language specific to private property rights. SEN. SONJU said while he appreciated SEN. WALKER's suggestion, he was not sure if the issue is relevant to HB 642. SEN. CAFERRO agreed that private property rights are important but that including the language in a mission statement may complicate the clear goals of the bill. REP. HOLLENBAUGH said it is important that everyone's voice is heard but agreed that the language may be better handled under the natural resources portion of HB 642. SEN. SONJU thought that was a good compromise. He said that he could not support the language as part of the mission statement but that the issue will be brought to the attention of the full committee.
- 00:06:59 **REP. HOLLENBAUGH moved to adopt, for presentation to full committee, the mission statement with the addition of Rep. Williams' revision, "public services and" (EXHIBIT 2). Mr. Bohyer read the motion back to the Subcommittee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**
- 00:08:19 SEN. SONJU asked Mr. Bohyer to discuss Rep. Williams' comments and discussion of the meaning and purpose of mission, goals, and objectives (EXHIBIT 2). Mr. Bohyer read aloud portions of the document.
- 00:12:14 **SEN. CAFERRO moved to adopt the goal language, as proposed by Rep. Williams (EXHIBIT 2). The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. SEN.**

SONJU asked if the Mission Statement, Goals, and Objectives will be posted on the SCEG website. Mr. Bohyer said that the bill language requires it.

- 00:12:50 SEN. SONJU asked to discuss the three objectives as submitted by Rep. Williams (EXHIBIT 2). REP. HOLLENBAUGH didn't want to specify the number of recommendations to be forwarded to the full committee. SEN. SONJU agreed. REP. HOLLENBAUGH said it is important to keep the SCEG's work transparent and to include public input. SEN. SONJU agreed that "public input" is important to the process and said it needs to be included in the objective language. Rep. Ehli said that keeping the language broadbased would be advisable.
- 00:17:41 After additional discussion, the Subcommittee agreed upon the following language for the first objective: *"Create mechanisms that foster suggestions for improved government efficiency, including public input, expert panels, online input tools, and individual solicitations for input via committee members and the internet."*
- 00:19:46 The Subcommittee discussed the second objective regarding the use of subcommittees for primary topics. SEN. SONJU said it may not be necessary to have a subcommittee for each issue. REP. HOLLENBAUGH suggested having a deadline by which subcommittee work must be completed in order to give the full SCEG and the public time to consider and comment. Mr. Bohyer said it would be difficult to staff all four subcommittees simultaneously and suggested that only one or two meet at one time. He suggested that all subcommittee work be completed by June, 2012.
- 00:25:05 SEN. SONJU said he didn't think the number of suggestions to be made by the subcommittees should be limited to just three. REP. EHLI said that there could be a long list of objectives for the full committee to consider and asked if the first objective, with a time line added, would be sufficient. The members discussed his proposal.
- 00:31:08 Mr. Bohyer said having only one broad objective may be too nebulous and that the number of objectives did not concern him, particularly if stated clearly.
- 00:34:31 Mr. Bohyer suggested the following language: *"Create a subcommittee for each primary topic in the committee's charge (subcommittees listed here) that would each agree on and propose recommendations to the full committee to improve government efficiency by the date specified in the work plan."* Mr. Bohyer noted that HB 642 also requires that a work plan be adopted and posted to the committee's website, which still needs to be done.
- 00:36:25 **REP. HOLLENBAUGH moved to approve the language, as read by Mr. Bohyer. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**
- 00:36:44 The Subcommittee discussed how the work plan would be developed and how priority-based budgeting/budgeting process study would be addressed. SEN. SONJU said that the budgeting issue would be in the work plan, that he envisioned having subject matter experts present on the topic, and that staff would research other states' budgeting processes.

- 00:40:10 Mr. Bohyer asked the members to discuss the third objective proposed by Rep. Williams. REP. HOLLENBAUGH thought that it needed to be addressed and that some reference to how the committee plans to deal with priority-based budgeting is needed. SEN. SONJU said that one possibility would be to include it in the Natural Resource Subcommittee. REP. HOLLENBAUGH suggested that the full SCEG work on the issue, using resources such as the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and executive branch agencies. SEN. SONJU said that a clear statement and objective dealing with priority-based budgeting is needed, in addition to having it in the work plan.
- 00:42:59 Rep. Ehli asked for clarification of if a budget subcommittee will be formed. SEN. SONJU said that would be decided by the full SCEG. He said it is a very important topic and agreed that the executive branch, including the Budget Director, and other groups should be included.
- 00:45:48 SEN. CAFERRO said that, for example, the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) has discussed programmatic performance measures being used by the Department of Public Health and Human Resources, and that the SCEG should be aware of things already being done. Mr. Bohyer agreed that Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD) staff could provide a good explanation of what is required under Montana law and suggested that they be utilized in this portion of the SCEG's work, in addition to SEN. SONJU's suggestions.
- 00:53:03 Mr. Bohyer asked for clarification of where the budgeting process objective is going. He said his understanding of the discussion so far is the objective is to review of other states' budgeting processes, including program outcome indicators; and to work with other executive branch agencies to assess similarities and differences between Montana's and other states' budgeting processes.
- 00:54:07 SEN. CAFERRO said that the language does not make it clear that Montana's legislative and executive branches will be included in the process. REP. HOLLENBAUGH asked Sen. Wanzenried to comment, based on his considerable experience with the budgeting process. Sen. Wanzenried stated that there is a difference between budgeting and appropriating and that all legislators need to have a better understanding of both. He discussed the example of performance measures, which are provided for in statute, but not incorporated into the appropriations process. SEN. SONJU said Sen. Wanzenried's point clarifies why the executive branch agencies must be included in the work.
- 00:58:16 SEN. SONJU asked Mr. Bohyer to read aloud the revisions to the third objective: *"Review Montana's and other states' budgeting processes, including program outcome indicators; and work with executive branch agencies to assess similarities and differences in budgeting processes and determine what changes, if any, should be recommended."*
- 00:59:00 **REP. HOLLENBAUGH moved to approve the language for the third objective, as crafted by Mr. Bohyer. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.**

00:59:50 SEN. SONJU said that the full SCEG would discuss the Subcommittee's recommendations at the next day's meeting. Mr. Bohyer said he would prepare the Subcommittee's recommendations for presentation to the full SCEG. He asked if the Mission, Goals, and Objectives Subcommittee planned to meet before the November meeting to finalize its work. SEN. SONJU said yes, but that any member of the SCEG could participate.

PUBLIC COMMENT

01:01:23 There was no public comment.

01:01:28 REP. HOLLENBAUGH asked if the full SCEG could get the Subcommittee's recommendations for today's meeting. Mr. Bohyer said they would be available by one o'clock.

01:01:58 SEN. SONJU adjourned the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

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