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MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Place of Meeting: Room 437

Date Meeting Held: 1/25/72
Hour Meeting Held: 10:20 a.m.

Committee Chairman: Oscar L. Anderson

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

SUBJECT OF MEETING: Public Hearing

Roll Call:

Anderson, Oscar L., Chairman	<u>Present</u>
Blend, Virginia H., Vice-Chairman	<u>Present</u>
Arness, Franklin	<u>Present</u>
Ask, Thomas M.	<u>Present</u>
Erdmann, Marian S.	<u>Present</u>
Jacobsen, Arnold W.	<u>Present</u>
Payne, Katie	<u>Present</u>
Rollins, George W.	<u>Present</u>
Simon, Clark E.	<u>Present</u>
Sparks, M. Lynn	<u>Present</u>
Speer, Lucile	<u>Present</u>

INTERESTED PERSONS TESTIFYING:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation or Title</u>
Mary E. Westermark	Mont. County Treasurer's Assoc.
George L. Schroeder	Mont. County Treasurer's Assoc.
H. J. Pierce	Great Falls
Earl J. Holman	County Commissioner, Butte
Martha Weaver	League of Women Voters
Jean Anderson	League of Women Voters
Earl Daley	County Commissioner
Penny Egan	League of Women Voters
Gerald L. McCurdy	Hamilton, Mont.
Mr. Johnson	Intern
Dean Zinnecker	County Commissioners Assoc.
Opal Eggert	Elected County Officials Assoc.
Frank Adams	Great Falls Tribune
Dennis Curran	Lee Newspapers

Mrs. Blend called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The visitors and witnesses introduced themselves.

Mr. Zinacker distributed his proposal for the County Commissioners Association, Exhibit A (attached). It is a new Article except Section 2. Miss Speer asked if he felt that these provisions provide specifically for the merging of counties and Mr. Zinacker said they did, in Section 4.

It was decided to have Mr. Zinacker go over the proposal. He said Section 1 primarily provides for maximum self government for cities, towns and counties to provide as they see fit for their own localities. Section 2 retains present county seats except if change is voted by a majority of the people. Section 3 defines what units of local government are. Section 4 provides for any type of local government to be set up by the Legislature which would give guidelines. Section 5 sets up residual power for local governments. Section 6 allows for the cooperation or consolidation between local governments.

A question and answer period followed.

The Chairman introduced Mr. Pierce from Great Falls. He will testify later in the week.

Mrs. Jean Anderson, League of Women Voters, State Organization, testified next. Her prepared statement is attached (Exhibit C). A question and answer period followed her testimony.

The Chairman introduced George Schoeder, Cascade County Treasurer, President of County Treasurers Association, and Mrs. Mary Westermarck, Treasurer of Toole County, and Secretary of the Association.

The meeting recessed at 11:55 a.m., to reconvene at 2 p.m. The question and answer period with Mrs. Anderson continued at 2 p.m.

The Chairman reviewed the schedule for the next few weeks. He said our joint hearing with the Education Committee to discuss County Superintendents of Schools has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 3 at 1:30 p.m. No place has been set for the hearing yet. He also stated the procedure for minority reports from the Committee, stating that 3 members can have a minority report.

There was a short discussion on when to have the Constitution placed on the ballot. Five want it on the November ballot, three on the June ballot, and two in special elections.

The Chairman discussed the Citizen Suggestions (list attached, Exhibit E). Mr. Holloron will prepare a summary for the Committee.

Mr. Earl Holman, County Commissioner from Butte, was present. He gave testimony to the effect that the prohibition on gambling should be removed from the Constitution. He would like this left up to the localities. This is in the jurisdiction of the General Government and Constitutional Amendment Committee and he was referred to that room.

Miss Speer mentioned the suggested Colorado Local Government Article (attached Exhibit D).

It was decided that Mr. Arness should finish his commentary and answer questions on Delegate Proposal 9. He did so, and an hour discussion followed on the effects, implementation, and other pertinent questions followed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Time of adjournment: 5 p.m.

Oscar L. Anderson
OSCAR L. ANDERSON, Chairman

Pat Romine
PAT ROMINE, Secretary

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CITIZEN SUGGESTIONS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Substance of Suggestion</u>
8, 29, 7, 39	Retain all of Section 18, Article VIII
38, 2, 30, 233	Retain all of Section 5, Article XVI
45, 202, 26	Allow County Treasurers to Succeed Themselves
52, 218, 4, 49, 47, 205	Allow pay raise during term of office
212, 21, 11, 12, 17, 15, 18, 22, 240	Combinations of the above.
6	Keep in County Superintendent
240	Consolidate counties to 20, requirements for sheriff, police consolidation - facilitate
69	Appoint sheriff
187	Waldron - delete all structuring except Sec. 7 and redraft.
180	Keep Art XVI Sec 8 - County integrity
194	Co. Commissioners elect from own district only
167	Fix so city employees can reside outside city limits
229	No regulations to restrict ambulances
165	Metro Park Districts
181	City-County cooperation
187, 181, 171, 179	(Waldron) Home rule or residual powers