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LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Place of Meeting: Room 437

Date Meeting Held: 1/26/72
Hour Meeting Held: 10:15 a.m.

Committee Chairman: Oscar L. Anderson

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH 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:

Name

Occupation or Title

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

NAMEOCCUPATION OR TITLE

Frank Adams	Great Falls Tribune
Dennis Curran	Lee Newspapers
Opal Eggert	Elected County Officials Assoc.
Dean Zinnecker	County Commissioners Assoc.
John Kuglin	Great Falls Tribune
Gary Langley	Missoulian
Ann Whiston	Observing
Ralph Studer	Delegate - observing
George Schroeder	Great Falls
Fred R. Barclay	Missoula County Assessor
Margaret Brown	County Superintendent of Schools, Bozeman
H. J. Pierce	Observing
Hardin E. Todd	Secretary, Clerk of District Court Assoc.
Roger Barnaby	Mont. County Elected Officials Assoc.
J. J. Schmidt	Great Falls Deputy Clerk and Recorder
George Harvey	President, Clerk and Recorders Assoc.
Helen Kovich	Clerk and Recorder - Helena
Robert Herrig	Libby, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. May Jenkins	Yellowstone County Treasurer
Mary Westermarck	County Treasurer's Assoc.

The Chairman opened the meeting by introducing Mr. Robert Herrig, who read his prepared statement (Exhibit A). A question and answer period followed.

Mr. Fred Barclay, Missoula County Assessor, testified before the Committee. He said that Missoula is unique in that he is also the director of land classification, and this has worked very well in Missoula. His main point is that people in these offices should be appointed after examinations for qualifications. Also, the pay is not adequate to get and keep qualified personnel. A question and answer period followed.

Mr. Zinnecker introduced the county commissioners present. He said they have one minor revision to the testimony they gave yesterday and explained same (Exhibit B). Mr. Pierce requested time for his testimony on Thursday or Friday. The Committee recessed at 11:45 a.m. to reconvene at 2 p.m.

At 2 p.m. Mrs. Eggert read a prepared statement (Exhibit D). Most of the other witnesses present agreed with Mrs. Eggert's statement. Mrs. Brown distributed her prepared statement (Exhibit E). Both witnesses then answered questions from the Committee.

Mr. Schmidt suggested that instead of absentee ballots being delivered to the polls, it could be done better by delivering them to the court house to be counted under a special board under the direction of the county commissioners. Mrs. Blend and Mrs. Erdmann agreed to carry this suggestion as a delegate proposal. A long question and answer period followed.

Mr. Schraeder made a short statement about the problems there would be in combining city and county treasurers. He then

answered questions from the Committee.


Mr. Axtmann read his prepared statement (Exhibit F), and answered questions from the Committee.

There was some discussion about different committee schedules. Members of this Committee would like to attend other hearings.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Time of Adjournment: 5 p.m.


OSCAR L. ANDERSON, Chairman


PAT ROMINE, Secretary