

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE REPORT

NAME OF COMMITTEE: General Services Committee
DATE: July 12, 1993
TIME: 7:30 PM
PLACE: Legislative Chambers
LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Legislators Sottile, Bischoff,
Crespino, Naccarato, Cranston, Sinagra,
Gerentine
LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Legislator Bertone
OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Hoose, Safety Office; Peter Savago,
Harry Castiglione, Board of Elections;
Joe Lemme, Information Services; Dr. David
Rosenblum and Linda Richards; Barbara
Applegate, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Philip Sinagra

Bob Hoose, Safety Officer distributed copies of Ulster County's 1992 Work Injury and Rates Report to members of the committee. The report showed that employees at the Ulster County Infirmary suffered 68 injuries in 1992, nearly all back problems, with total compensation costs of \$111,034. As a result 1,477 works days were lost last year, far more than any other department.

Bob introduced Dr. David Rosenblum, a Woodstock chiropractor, who showed a 6 minute video explaining an exercise program by the Back Care Center of Toronto. The video explained that four out of five people will suffer back problems at some point in their life, even those who don't perform heavy labor. This program focuses on a person's area of historic weakness, leading to lower compensation costs and better employee performance and morale. The program has been implemented at Rotron in Woodstock, beginning with 20 high risk employees. Dr. Rosenblum stated that the exercises have helped the employees avoid further problems for about seven months. The program for 20 people would cost about \$200.00 per

person. After the third class if the individual is not happy, money will be refunded. There are eight meetings in all. After discussion, Chairman Sinagra asked that he be given the names of other employers who are using the program. He also asked for a breakdown of costs, and testimonies from people presently involved in the program, as well as, copies of data charts. This will be further discussed at next months meeting.

I. BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Commissioner Savago and Castiglione presented the agenda.

Commissioner Savago stated that designated petition filing begins July 12th and will continue thru July 15th.

State Board representative, Paul Rundell, will be visiting Ulster County Board of Elections on July 20th. This is a follow up visit in regard to last years visit.

Commissioner Castiglione reported a seminar was held featuring the Unilect Signature Digitlizing System. This unit scans signature of voters, and would eliminate poll books.

New registrations for June is 258. Total registration to date is 2,412.

II. PLANNING BOARD

Herb Hekler presented the agenda.

Herb reported on UCRT operations. The first half stats show that ridership is up 3%, revenue up 2% and fares up 8%

Herb received a letter from the New York State Dept. of Transportation stating the formula will go up from 25 cents to 27 cents per passenger.

Herb stated the bus to New Paltz on Fridays is not being utilized. He has received requests from several people for bus service to the Aligerville area. Therefore, he would like to try running a bus to that area on Fridays to see if it would be cost efficient. The committee agreed that he should follow through on this matter.

Herb presented his budget to the committee for their review. Chairman Sinagra asked that members bring it home and look it over. If there are questions, the chairman should be notified and he will ask Herb to come in at 7:30 p.m. next meeting.

Herb reported on Economic Development Activities.

Herb stated he is presently spending 3/4th of his time on the economic development situation in Kingston. There are some good incubator programs coming in from SUNY New Paltz and UCCC. The response from the private sector has been disappointing. The banks in Ulster County have committed to contribute toward the efforts. Herb is part of a task force on incubators.

III. STOP DWI

Mary McMickle was excused, therefore there was no report.

IV. INFORMATION SERVICES

Joe Lemme presented the agenda.

He showed a six minute video on communications in the 21st century.

He reported on the following major projects either completed or in-progress. Projects completed are: Infirmary Time Clock System; Census Data Planning; Zip + 4/bar-code/Carrier Route. Projects in-progress: Vaccine Inventory/Tracking System; Office Vision; Labor Distribution System; Voter Registration System Enhancements; Computer Aided Dispatch; Budget Preparation; Infirmary Automation; Implement Personnel System; 93 Elections/Primary; Purchasing Billing System; Economic Development System; Modified Property Tax Bills; G.U.I. Interface; B.O.C.E.S. E-Mail Merger.

Joe stated he is presently preparing his 1994 budget. The area of personnel needs to be addressed. He is having difficulty in the area of customer support and equipment repair and installation. He has developed a reorganization plan to address these problems. The plan was presented last year, but was not adopted. There is a need for a marketing person and some one to copywrite software.

Charts showing the activity of the Operations Section were discussed. The charts included: On-Line Transactions; Most Active Users; Subscriber Activity; CPU Utilization; Line Usage, Revenues.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Legislator Bischoff presented his comments on the "Grace" Commission documentation discussed in April. He moved that a further resolve be added. There was no second. Legislator Sinagra asked other committee members to put together any comments they might have on

the matter. These comments and the Proposal of the Task Force will be studied and a meeting will be held August 3rd, 7:30 p.m. to further discuss this matter. A copy of the Task Force Proposal will be forwarded to all members of the committee for their review.

Chairman Sinagra reported briefly on the Equalization Rate Seminar held June 16th. (Resolution 107)

Legislator Crespino moved and Legislator Tipp seconded to adjourn meeting at 10:05 p.m. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip J. Sinagra
Chairman

000333