

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 1)

November 15, 1955

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. McCutcheon,  
at 2:15 PM.

All members were present. The committee consists of:

Mr. Steve McCutcheon  
Mrs. Dora Sweeney  
Mrs. Helen Fischer  
Mr. Jack Hinckel  
Mr. John McNeese  
Mr. Eldor Lee  
Mr. George Cooper

Mrs. Dora Sweeney was Elected Vice=chairman.

Mr. John A. McNeese was named Secretary.

A general discussion was held, conducted by the Chairman as to the duties of the committee and the method of approach that would be made. It was generally conceded that we would proceed by reading the Public ~~Service~~ Administration Service Manual #5 entitled "The Legislative Department", taking time as we went through it to analyze and discuss the various points as we came to them. This we proceeded to do.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Signed:

John A. McNeese, Secretary

Approved:

Steve McCutcheon,  
President

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COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 2)

November 16, 1955

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. McCutcheon,  
at 2:30 PM.

All members were present:

Visitors: Mrs. Alice Stuart.

The meeting time was taken up with the continued reading of the  
Public Administration Service Manual entitled "The Legis-  
lative Department" with numerous questions and pauses for  
discussion on its various salient points.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Signed:

John A. McNees, Secretary

Approved:

Mr. Steve McCutcheon  
Chairman

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 3)

November 17, 1955

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Steve McCutcheon at 2:20 PM.

All members were present:

Visitors: The Convention President, Mr. Wm. Egan paid the Committee a short visit.

The meeting time was again taken up with the continued reading of the Public Administration Service Manual entitled "The Legislative Department". Considerable time was taken in discussions on the following points:

1. Age qualifications of Legislators.
2. Other requirements of Legislators.
3. Legislative Organization and Procedures.
4. Dual Office holding.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Signed:

John A. McNees, Secty.

Approved:

Steve McCutcheon,  
Chairman

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COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 4)

November 18, 1955  
(Friday)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. McCutcheon at 2:15 PM.

All members were present:

Visitors: Delegate Victor Fischer attended part of the meeting.  
Mrs. Alice Stuart.

The meeting time was again quite largely taken up with the continued reading of the Public Administration Service manual "The Legislative Department". Considerable time and discussion was held on the subject of Unicameralism vs Bicameralism. Considerable interest was shown in the relative merits of Unicameralism and it was agreed that further discussion and ~~XXXXX~~ study on the subject would be held. It was generally held that the age of 30 with a 5 year residence ahead of filing would be best for membership in the Senate, and that Age 23 and a 3 year residence be required for membership in the House. No definite conclusions however were reached.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Signed:

John A. McNees, Secty.

Approved:

Steve McCutcheon,  
Chairman

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 5)

November 21, 1955  
(Monday)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. McCutcheon, at 2:30 PM.

All members were present:

Completed reading of PAS manual No. 5 "Legislative Department" Committee recommended unanimously that the Resolution regards "Location of State Capitol", presented by Chris Foulson, do not pass.

Delegate

Proposal No. 11 referred back to the Convention with the recommendation that it should not become a part of the Constitution as it proposes matters that are transitory in nature and therefore should not become a part of the ~~Constitution~~ Constitution.

A discussion was held on the contents of the meeting at the proposed Televising of this Committee's meeting on Wednesday of the 23rd of November. It was generally agreed that the age qualifications of Electorate, and members of the House and Senate be one subject. Another subject to be the question of the merits and demerits of the Unicameral and bi-cameral Legislature.

Visitors present for the entire meeting were Charles Esch of Nome and Wm. Kelm of Fairbanks. Attending part of the meeting was Alice Stuart.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Signed:

John A. McNees, Secty.

Approved:

Steve McCutcheon,  
Chairman

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 6)

November 22, 1955  
(Tuesday)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Steve McCutcheon at 1:40 pm.

All members were present.

The committee discussion was more varied dealing with a wider variety of subjects than heretofore discussed:

The possibility of securing the advisory services of Mr. Dayton D. McKean, one of the Consultants recommended by the PAS. It was agreed to see when and if he would be available for our use.

J. McNeese led a discussion on the merits of Unicameralism which seems to have a growing interest by the Delegates as a whole.

Mr. McCutcheon provided the members of the committee with a study of the Legislative question to serve as a study guide.

Again in discussing the age and residence requirements of Legislators it was agreed that it would be age 30 and 5 yrs for the Senate, and age 23 and 3 yrs. for the House. If the Convention as a whole should approve Unicaeralism then it was thought that the age of 25 with 3 years residence would be recommended.

A discussion was held on Legislative Sessions and Mr. McCutcheon proposed: Session be 60 da. on odd years and 30 da. on even yrs. with any further extensions being authorized as follows: 3/5 for 10 da. extension, 2/3 for 20 da., 3/4 for 30 da., and 7/8 for 35 da. which would be a maximum. Special sessions called by either the Governor or the Legislative Council would require a 3/5 majority of all the members of the Legislature. No action was taken on the recommendation.

Mr. Winkel suggested a Legislative counsel of 5-11 members. No action was taken.

As a medium for setting Legislators salaries the suggestion was made that either the 'cost of living index' or the Chief Justice's salary be used as a guide. No action.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm to hold their next regular meeting at the TV studio in the Northward bldg.

Signed:

John A. McNeese, Secty.

Approved:

Steve McCutcheon, Chmn.

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COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 7)

NOVEMBER 23, 1955  
(Wednesday)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. McCutcheon, in the studio of Channel 11 in the basement of the Northward Bldg. at 3:45 pm.

All members were present and in the prescribed seating arrangement for the TV presentation when the camera was turned on and the committee introduced by the management at 4:00 pm. Discussion was then under way.

The discussion followed the general plan of our other meetings with the following subjects under discussion:

The merits and demerits of Unicameralism vs Bicameralism consumed most of the time of the meeting.

Other discussions included age and residence requirements of legislators and proposed size of the 'body' or 'bodies'. No definite conclusions, however were reached other than those covered in previous minutes of this committee's meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm at the conclusion of the TV presentation.

Signed:

John A. McNeese, Secty

Approved:

Steve McCutcheon  
Chairman

No meeting of the Committee was held on Thanksgiving, Thursday  
November 24th.

No meeting was held on Friday November 25th due to the absence  
of Steve McCutcheon, however members of the Committee att-  
ended the Committee on Suffrage, Elections and Apportion-  
ment.

No meeting was held on Saturday November 26th due to the absence  
of Steve McCutcheon, the Chairman.

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COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 8)

November 23, 1955  
(Monday)

No meeting was held on Thursday , November 24th.  
" " " " " Friday , November 25th.  
" " " " " Saturday , November 26th.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. McGutcheon, in the regularly assigned committee room in Constitutional Hall, at 2:40 pm.

All members were present.

Visitors: Mrs. Eldor Lee, Victor Fischer, Alice Stuart, R. R. Armstrong, and Victor Navasky.

The meeting consisted of a general discussion on the following points:

1) A general discussion on which of the various consultants the committee would feel would be deemed advisable and necessary to request.

It was generally conceded that the following men's services would be asked for. Mr. Jack McKay and Mr. Dayton D. McKean of the University of Colorado.

2) Additional study was made of the prepared folder entitled "Legislative branch prepared by Steve McGutcheon, with the following points coming under general discussion:

a- It was determined by vote that the Senator elect must be a resident of the area in which he decided to run for a period of 5 years. The vote was 4 to 2 in favor of 5 yrs. residence requirement as against 3 yrs.

b- It was determined by vote that the age of 21 would be acceptable for membership in the House. Vote 4 to 3 in favor of 21 as against 23 years.

c- Some discussion was held relative to age and residence requirements in the event of a Unicameral house, no vote was put.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 9)

November 30, 1955  
(Wednesday)

No meeting was held on Tuesday, November 29, 1955

The meeting was called to order at the regular committee room at 2:40 pm by the Chairman, Mr. Steve McCutcheon.

All members of the committee were present.

Mr. Jack McKay of the Consultant staff and a member of the Legislative Council from Juneau was present at the request of the Committee meeting of November 29.

Visitors in attendance at various times during the meeting were: Mrs. Alice Stuart and Victor Fischer.

The meeting consisted of a follow-up of the study of the pamphlet entitled 'Legislative Branch' with special time devoted to the various ramifications of the subject material for the benefit of Mr. McKay, our consultant in order that he could properly study our material in relation to the intent of the Committee.

a- discussion started with section 5 on page 2 of that pamphlet and ended with a completion of section 13 on page 5.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Signed :

John A. McNees, Secretary.

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COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (NO. 10)

December 1, 1955.  
(Thursday)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. McCutcheon, in the regular meeting room at 2:00 pm.

All members of the Committee were present.

Mr. Jack McKay, Consultant was present.

Visitors present were: Mrs. V. Fischer and George Sundborg.

The meeting consisted of a follow-up of the meeting of Nov. 30 on the discussion of the pamphlet on 'Legislative Branch' which has been the basic work sheet of the committee for study purposes, so that Mr. McKay would have the intentions of the committee's thinking with regard to the various subjects discussed.

a) study started with section 14 on page 5 of the manual and continued through section 19.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Signed:

John A. McNees, Secretary

Note: An additional convening of the entire committee was held this date in the studios of KFAR-TV at which all members of the committee were present. This was the regularly scheduled TV appearance of the committee and lasted for one-half hour beginning at 10:30 pm. No minutes were kept., as most of the material covered had been previously covered in regular committee sessions.