

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Capitol Annex, Room 316

Boise, Idaho

January 29, 2009

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by President Pro Tem Robert Geddes. Members of the Legislative Council in attendance were Speaker Lawrence Denney, Senators Bart Davis, Patti Anne Lodge, John McGee, Kate Kelly, Les Bock and Nicole LeFavour; and Representatives Mike Moyle, Gary Collins, Eric Anderson, John Rusche, Anne Pasley-Stuart and Donna Pence.

Pro Tem Geddes introduced David Adkins, the new executive director for the Council of State Governments (CSG). Mr. Adkins said that CSG was dedicated to providing timely, topical and in-depth information to member states and to providing legislators with opportunities to network with their peers. He noted that Senator Davis now chairs the CSG Executive Committee and that CSG is holding its national spring meeting in Couer d'Alene in May 2009. In addition, Idaho will host the 2010 annual meeting of CSG-*WEST* in Sun Valley. The Pro Tem thanked Mr. Adkins for his visit to the Idaho Legislature and said the Legislature looks forward to working with CSG in the coming months to host its meetings.

Pro Tem Geddes, saying that the purpose of the Legislative Council meeting was to appoint new co-chairs to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee (JLOC), asked LSO Director Jeff Youtz to outline the authorizing legislation. Mr. Youtz explained that JLOC is a bipartisan committee and that its authorizing legislation requires membership of the committee to be evenly divided between the House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as between the minority and majority parties. He referred Council members to Section 67-457, Idaho Code, which was attached to the meeting agenda. Section 67-457 states, "The legislative council shall appoint cochairs who shall be from different houses of the legislature and who shall be from different political parties and shall determine the size of the committee."

In response to a question from Senator Davis regarding the number of years a House Democrat had served as co-chair of JLOC, Pro Tem Geddes said he had recently reviewed those numbers and thought it had been about nine years. The Pro Tem said he thought the 2007-2008 JLOC members and their co-chairs had done an excellent job. The retirement of Representative Henbest, however, afforded the Council the opportunity to consider changes. He went on to say it seemed that the

only time the co-chairmanship of JLOC changed was when a vacancy occurred. Speaker Denney said he thought the Legislature might want to consider rotating the JLOC co-chair positions regularly between houses on a two or four-year basis.

Speaker Denney made a motion to nominate Representative Cliff Bayer (R) as the JLOC co-chair for the House. Representative Anderson seconded the motion. Representative Pasley-Stuart made a substitute motion, with a second by Representative Pence, to nominate Representative Shirley Ringo (D) as JLOC co-chair for the House.

At the request of Representative Rusche, unanimous consent was granted for the Council members to break for a few minutes to consider the nominations. Pro Tem Geddes called for the vote when the Council reconvened. Representative Bayer was selected to co-chair JLOC for the House on 10 to 4 vote.

Because the authorizing legislation requires co-chairmen from different houses of the Legislature and from different political parties, and because the Council had just selected a majority member as co-chair for the House, a minority member of the Senate had to be selected as JLOC co-chair for the Senate. Senator Kelly moved that Senator Werk be appointed as co-chair for the Senate, and Representative Rusche seconded the motion. With no further nominations and with the assent of Senator Kelly, Pro Tem Geddes declared Senator Werk the Senate co-chair of JLOC by unanimous consent.

Mr. Youtz told Council members the Capitol restoration project is still on schedule. The project team wants to meet with the Council later in the session to finalize timing of the Legislature's move back into the Capitol and to answer any questions the Council may have concerning the logistics of the move and the project itself. Pro Tem Geddes reiterated the desire of the Legislature to move in before the 2010 session and said the Council would look forward to a meeting in March with the project team.

The Legislative Council meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.