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SENATE COMMITTEE ON PARKS

February 4, 1997 Hearing Room 137

3:00 PM Tapes 11 - 12

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Gary George, Chair

Sen. Joan Dukes

Sen. Veral Tarno

MEMBER EXCUSED: Sen. Bill Dwyer, Vice-Chair

STAFF PRESENT:

Glen Stonebrink, Administrator

Brad Harper, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:

Invited Testimony: Oregon Parks & Recreation Department

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

Tape/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 11, A		
005	Chair George	Convenes meeting at 3:07 PM. Discusses material submitted by Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD) (EXHIBIT A).
OREGON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT		
018	Nancy Rockwell	Representing OPRD. Overview of budget presentation planned for this meeting and Thursday's meeting. Summary of written material.
047	Rockwell	Overview of staff, planning and development division, legislatively mandated programs.
069	Sen. Tarno	Question about payroll staff.
071	Rockwell	Answer
087	Chair George	Point of clarification.
091	Rockwell	Overview of park areas and facilities.
111	Rockwell	Discussion of infrastructure.
121	Chair George	Comment regarding road miles.
123	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding governmental cooperation.
127	Rockwell	Response and continuation of presentation.
177	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding beach maintenance costs.
181	Rockwell	Discussion of complexity of beach management issue.
205	Sen. Tarno	Statement regarding law enforcement costs on beaches - up to high water mark.
220	Rockwell	Response and discussion of difficult program administration.
255	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding legislative mandate.
265	Nan Evans	Representative of OPRD. Response.
290	Chair George	Question
292	Rockwell	Response
294	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding scenic waterways.
296	Rockwell	Explanation of OPRD's efforts.
340	Chair George	Question regarding budget

350	Rockwell	Response and continuation of presentation.
390	Sen. Tarno	Question about railroad conversions into trails.
392	Rockwell	Response
TAPE 12,A		
010	Chair George	Question regarding allocation of funds.
015	Rockwell	Response
020	Chair George	Question whether trail funds can be used for other park projects.
025	Rockwell	No
027	Rockwell	Continuation of presentation. Discussion of park permitting.
048	Chair George	Question regarding staffing number.
050	Rockwell	Answer
052	Rockwell	Presentation shifts to revenue issues.
075	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding per-visitor revenue.
079	Rockwell	Response and discussion of dedicated funding.
091	Rockwell	Overview of budget request and spending proposals.
145	Rockwell	Discussion of staffing levels, uses and costs.
225	Rockwell	Discussion of park attendance and historical funding and park use levels.
255	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding handout.
265	Rockwell	Clarification
285	Rockwell	Summary of remaining sections of handout.
300	Chair George	Comment
305	Rockwell	List of large equipment and vehicle purchases.
310	Chair George	Comment
312	Rockwell	Completion of list.
330	Sen. Tarno	Comment regarding last purchase of fire truck.
335	Rockwell	Completion of presentation.
357	Chair George	Discussion of age of major purchases.
366	Bob Meinen	Director, OPRD. Discussion of past spending and current inventory. Possibility of leasing equipment and vehicles.

TAPE 11,B		
025	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding fleet cars and mileage allowances.
030	Meinen	OPRD policy and practice regarding fleet cars versus mileage reimbursement.
065	Meinen	Use of surplus property.
076	Meinen	Plan to discuss communication, Reservations Northwest, and organization budget on Thursday's meeting.
101	Sen. Dukes	Question regarding Reservations Northwest as state owned company.
105	Meinen	Response
110	Chair George	Question regarding future meeting plans.
115	Glen Stonebrink	Committee Administrator. Discussion of future agendas.
124	Meinen	Comment
127	Chair George	Question regarding OPRD inventory and reasonable exchange efforts.
136	Meinen	Basis for budgeting decisions and overview of prior biennium. Shortfall in renovation, rehabilitation, replacement schedule and other areas. Issues facing OPRD as underfunded agency.
215	Sen. Tarno	Question regarding long-range funding and restructuring options to prioritize future spending decisions.
237	Meinen	OPRD anticipates 4,000 different projects over next ten years at an estimated cost of \$107 million.
260	Sen. Tarno	Goal to reduce biennial funding costs.
274	Meinen	Discussion of prioritization. Currently, only 60 percent of necessary funding identified; the remaining 40 percent will likely appear over next ten years. Necessary to look at "life cycling" over 30 year period. Discussion of possibility of OPRD paying "rent" on OPRD buildings to cover future renovation and replacement costs.
344	Sen. Tarno	Statement regarding need to at least maintain existing system.
354	Meinen	Test for new parks should be based on user need and ability to generate sufficient revenue to support itself.
382	Chair George	Question regarding room tax expenditures.
390	Sen. Dukes	Currently seeking to eliminate room tax for OPRD.
395	Meinen	Response
400	Chair George	Question regarding beneficiaries of room use tax.

412	Meinen	Discussion of local option tax.
TAPE 12,B		
032	Sen. Dukes	Question regarding fee levels. Comment regarding Fort Stevens State Park.
042	Chair George	Private industry has self-interest in keeping parks open.
049	Meinen	Comment regarding Fort Stevens.
065	Chair George	Question regarding impact on staffing due to possible closures.
075	Meinen	Explanation of priority decisions and estimated loss of 60-90 positions. Discussion of "wagon wheel" concept of management and impact of possible park closures. Collier State Park, Chemult, as an example.
088	Chair George	Comment and adjourns meeting at 4:41 PM.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Brad Harper Glen Stonebrink,

Administrative Assistant Administrator

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EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A - Budget Overview, Robert Meinen, Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (105 pp).
