

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting
April 3, 1961

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by the Vice-Chairman, Senator Smith, with all members present except Senators Lauterbach, Farmer, Hults and VanSickle.

House Bill #478 was discussed, and it was decided that the House Subcommittee which had worked on this bill should be invited to appear before this committee before further action should be taken.


Senator Ward moved that House Bill #479 should be recommended for passage. Motion seconded by Senator Glades, carried.

Senator Sanborn moved that House Bill #481 should be recommended for passage. Motion seconded by Senator Ward, carried.

The committee felt that the House Ways and Means Subcommittees should go over House Bills #483 and 484 before further action is taken on them.

Senator Laurin Jones, Chairman of the Senate Education Committee appeared before the committee re Senate Bill #373, which is an appropriation for Fiscal Years 1961 and 1962 for inaugurating Educational TV in Kansas. Senator Jones left a letter with the committee showing how the funds in this bill would be used. (See attached).

Meeting adjourned 11:00 A.M.



Glee S. Smith
Vice-Chairman

MINIMUM APPROPRIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION

It is difficult to give a safe estimate on the minimum amount of money which would be needed by a Kansas educational television authority to formulate plans and take the necessary steps to secure from the Federal Communication Commission rules allocating channels necessary for a state network system. The scarcity of available channels, the growing interest in educational television, and the possibilities of federal aid for purchase of equipment results in a situation which is somewhat fluid. Consequently, it is difficult to predict what might be the amount essential to accomplish the desired purposes. Certainly, it would be much safer to provide some money for construction purposes, and on this basis the appropriation of \$1 million would seem a reasonable minimum amount.

If it is not possible to appropriate money for construction of transmitters, for studio space, or the purchase of transmitting and studio equipment, the question arises as to whether the organization and financing of a state authority alone would be sufficient to hold the desired broadcasting channels. This may, of course, depend in part on what occurs in the surrounding states and the readiness of appropriate agencies in such states to act in the immediate future.

Another question is whether the financing of the state authority itself would be sufficient inducement to secure the services of a competent educational television director who could organize and manage the system. From this standpoint, he would be asked to accept the position of director for one year without assurance that the program would be continued, inasmuch as no funds were appropriated to guarantee progress in establishing the system. Consequently, there may be a danger that without provision for construction funds it might not be easy to secure an executive director to assume the position on this basis. On the other hand, delay in allocation of channels might postpone construction until late in 1961.

The minimum needs of the state authority itself might presumably amount to \$90,000 to \$100,000 and might be computed as follows:

Director	\$15,400
Engineer	12,000
1 Stenograph or Secretary	3,600
Program Director (6 Mo.)	6,000
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\$37,000

Travel	\$ 3,000
Office Expense	6,000
Office Rent	4,000

\$50,000

Allowance for 3 months (April 1 to July 1, 1961), Director, Secretary, Travel, Office Expense and Rental	\$8,000	
		<u>\$58,000</u>
State Authority - nine members - Expenses and travel estimated at \$360 a month x 12 months, plus first three months, April to July	\$5,500	
		<u>\$63,500</u>
Legal, Technical, and Engineering Services (One-half of Estimate)	\$30,000	
		<u>\$93,500</u>
Miscellaneous	\$ 6,500	
		<u>\$100,000</u>
Grand Total		\$100,000

If it is at all possible it would seem desirable to allow several thousand dollars for purchase of sites for transmitters or for studios.

If another \$50,000 could be provided for these purposes it would seem to be highly desirable. This would make a total of \$150,000.

This amount would not include any allowance for the construction of transmitters, the construction of program production studios, purchase of studio equipment, transmitting equipment, or microwave equipment, payment of teachers salaries, the purchase of test equipment, the payment of any drayage or freight expenses, in connection with construction and installation of television towers, studios, or the necessary equipment thereto.