

SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting
February 27, 1963

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lauterbach at 10:00 a.m., February 27, 1963, with all members present except Senator Glades.

Also present were Messrs. George Curtis, chairman; William T. Niggemann, and C. V. Bargeman, members; and Lynn E. Burris, Jr., director, of the State Park and Resources Authority, in reference to the budget requests of the Authority.

Others present were Senator Alvin Bauman and Representative W. R. Brown.

Mr. Burris presented the Authority's requests (see listing on Attachment No. 1). The original request of the agency was \$1,293,253; the Governor recommended \$619,252. The total amount of the three items for which restoration is requested is \$7,232. Mr. Burris also made the following comments:

1. Concerning the position of Park Executive II, the Authority feels it is in the interest of services not only available now to the public, but to further services in the area. It is important to progress.
 - a. Six projects are administered by the Authority, with a book value of approximately \$3 million. To date the State has appropriated a little over \$750,000, or about 38 percent of book value. The concession investment represents about 5 percent of book value, or a ratio of about \$2 to \$7.
 - b. The need for a Park Executive II, vehicle, and supplies is dependent upon passage of Senate Bill No. 316. (See Attachment No. 2.) If the position is allowed, the Authority strongly urges the inclusion of the vehicle and supplies.
2. In response to a request by this committee to develop a revenue producing program, there is proposed a fee schedule for use of picnic, swimming, and camping facilities provided by the State. The Authority has studied the various means of collecting fees employed by other states, and it is their judgment that Senate Bill No. 316 represents the most feasible and equitable means of applying such a park user fee.
 - a. The federal government is not too receptive to the states making charges for general use of the areas; they will not tolerate any admission charge at the entrances. They will allow charges for use of designated areas. The stamp technique is acceptable to them.

- b. Out-of-state users would continue to be charged at the rate of \$1 a night.
- c. It is estimated that annual receipts from such fees would be \$287,710, based on admissions charged at the projects last year. It is hoped that fiscal year 1965 operating expenditures could be paid exclusively from these fees. The Authority would like to proportion these funds according to the parks use.
- d. Enforcement of the collection of fees will be handled by deputy sheriffs; and in cases of collection of fines, they would be handled the same as fines such as for speeding.
- e. Congress is now discussing the possibility of selling one stamp to cover use of all national parks. These permits would not apply to lands under State jurisdiction.
- f. In the administration of the \$5 stamp proposed, the sheriff can now check about 90 percent of the vehicles in the parks in 1 1/2 hours. The Authority has considered all aspects of selling one-night permits to residents, and it feels the administrative costs would be prohibitive and would impose too many problems in enforcement.
- g. Senate Bill No. 316, as written, would strike the general application of revenue bonds and only allow revenue to be assigned to feasible projects.
- h. There is included in the Authority's budget a \$75,000 item for construction of a permanent work camp at Toronto. The mobile camp at Tuttle Creek demonstrated the success of such a program.

Representative Brown made the following comments concerning the \$100,000 reappropriation for a Prairie National Park, which is included in the recommended budget.

1. The State has many other uses for the money.
2. There is no need to appropriate \$100,000 of taxpayers money to take 57,000 acres of land off tax rolls.
3. Ranchers already are faced by a shortage of grasslands in the area.

Representative Bauman made these comments in opposition to the Park:

1. A newspaper story in the Kansas City STAR indicated the Secretary of the Interior "is not interested in this park

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because the people have not gotten together".

2. There is no request before Congress for the park.
3. Farm organizations are against the establishment of the park, and "so am I".

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

August W. Lauterbach, Chairman
Senate Ways and Means Committee

SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

BUDGET HEARING

STATE PARK AND RESOURCES AUTHORITY

The Five Voting Members of the State Park and Resources Authority hereby submits and respectfully requests consideration by the Senate Ways and Means Committee to restore the following items, according to their number and priority.

- (1) (Park) Executive II - This person will be responsible for administrative work in the management activity of the State Park and Resources Authority, particularly in the establishment and administration of the Park and Recreation Vehicle Permit Act. He is expected to make minor policy decisions, make recommendations on major policy matters, such as rules and regulations pertaining to vehicle permit; he will supervise the business activities, the revenue producing operations and assist with the administrative details of concessionaire contracts. Salary Range No. 33, Step C - \$436 per month, \$5,232 annually plus F.I.C.A. \$5,232
- (2) Automobile - The Park Authority's present vehicle has traveled 44,000 miles plus. The annual average is approximately 33,000 and we anticipate this to increase 40,000 to 45,000 annually, should Item # (1) be granted. Thus projecting this mileage on the present vehicle places the approximate mileage at 100,000 by the second month of Fiscal Year 1965. Being allowed, each vehicle would travel in the average vicinity of 20,000 miles during F. Y. 1964. Total request \$1,800. \$1,800
- (3) Additional fuel and other supplies in the amount of \$200 is requested for the operations of both the present vehicle and that requested in Item # (2) for F. Y. 1964. Amount requested - \$200. \$ 200