

House Committee on Appropriations

Minutes of Meeting
2016 First Extraordinary Session
March 7, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Cameron Henry, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. in Room 5, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Cameron Henry, Chairman
Representative Mark Abraham
Representative Beryl A. Amedée
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
Representative John A. Berthelot
Representative Robert E. Billiot
Representative Gary M. Carter, Jr.
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Rick Edmonds
Representative Franklin J. Foil, Vice Chairman
Representative Bob Hensgens
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Steve E. Pylant
Representative Jerome Richard
Representative John M. Schroder, Sr.
Representative Patricia Haynes Smith
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative James K. Armes, III
Representative Lance Harris
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Walt Leger, III

Representative Scott M. Simon

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Penny B. Bouquet, Administrative Secretary
Mr. Peter G. E. Conroy, Legislative Analyst
Ms. Nancy Keaton, Legislative Analyst

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

None

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

There was no discussion of legislation.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Treasurer John N. Kennedy, 900 North Third Street, Third Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-0010, gave an overview of state agency contracts, according to the 2015 Legislative Auditor's report, and suggested ways to reduce those contracts.

Treasurer Kennedy discussed, with Representative Smith, the contracts for after school tutoring, Century 21st grants and the contracts within the Department of Education.

Treasurer Kennedy addressed the committee regarding the Legislative Auditor's findings within the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism's Art Program.

Treasurer Kennedy discussed, with Representative Zeringue, the amount of State General Fund allocated for consulting contracts and the process for reviewing those contracts.

Treasurer Kennedy gave Representative Berthelot and Representative Carter a breakdown of the consulting contracts within the Treasurer's office.

Treasurer Kennedy discussed, with Representative McFarland, the statutory dedicated contracts, contracts for legal services within state agencies, and Medicaid expansion.

Mr. Randy Davis, Assistant Commissioner of Administration, 1201 North Third Street, Suite -210, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-7000, explained the Division of Administration's contractual review process with Representative Abraham and Representative Richard.

Treasurer Kennedy discussed, with Representative Smith, the cost of the Treasurer's Office's lease space.

Treasurer Kennedy discussed, with Representative Bacala, how many state agencies have the authority to write checks.

Mr. Matthew Block, Executive Counsel for the Governor's Office, 900 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-6945, discussed with Representative Richard, the Governor's efforts to reduce consulting contracts within his office.

Mr. Block addressed the committee regarding the Executive Order from the Governor's Office requesting a report of all state agency contracts.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Pylant offered a motion to adjourn, to which there was no objection. The motion passed by a vote of 20 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Henry, Abraham, Amedée, Bacala, Bagley, Berthelot, Billiot, Carter, Chaney, Edmonds, Foil, Hensgens, McFarland, Miguez, Miller, Pylant, Richard, Schroder, Smith, and Zeringue voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Cameron Henry
House Committee on Appropriations