

41200
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SENATOR KEYES: Mr. President this is for the Senator that is able to answer it. In a special session not so long ago, we approved, I believe in the vicinity of two million dollars to help buy, to buy some land, I'll be with you in just a second, to buy some land to the north of this Capitol Building, to buy some plans that somebody had already designed and what has happened to this land and these plans for these buildings and is this, was there two million dollars appropriated and is this money costing us interest every year, I'd like to have someone who knows something about it to expound on that.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: We had it in the beginning as I recall, a leasing arrangement with the city of Lincoln in which they would construct with the revenue bonds or some similar bonds and over a period of time they took our word we would pay enough to (inaudible) and when we did, then we would give the physical profits to the state of Nebraska. I think we spent a couple of million dollars in round figures to acquire the land which is now owned by the state because the state reimbursed the city for that expenditure. We also have tied up, and I'm only guessing about a half a million dollars in plans, which is still in existence, which we could start from if we wanted to and the plans of course are becoming more obsolete day by day, because they lack of activity and the authorization to create the office building. Those things have been accomplished.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Kelly. Still speaking on Senator Carpenter's motion to direct the Executive Board to introduce a bill creating a new building commission.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President and members of the body, Senator Carsten, or Senator Carpenter would you yield to a question please? Sir I would like to know something about the history of the Capitol Building commission, such as when was it established, how many members, what is their authority, how are they created, I do not know anything about this commission.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well I can only tell you as I recall there are five members with the Governor of the State of Nebraska the Chairman. One of the other members is the State Engineer, and then there is an Architect, someone who represents the public and another member. I think the building commission has been in effect for quite a long time. The duties and the authorizations are delegated to them by this body at the time they were created, and of course what we create we can modify we can do anything with it that we want to, that 25 members want to do. Now that is the question today whether or not, we want a commission who is given the authority to, to be the final determining factor as to what we do in the area of our own accommodations, mainly two things, the acquiring of twelve more offices and eventually maybe the building of an office building.

SENATOR KELLY: Well, Senator all of these other remodelings that have taken place in the Capitol Building such as the Natural Resources District Office, were those approved by the Capitol Building Commission?

SENATOR CARPENTER: It is my understanding they were.

SENATOR KELLY: I thank you.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Nore, then Senator Snyder.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President and fellow members, I have wondered probably the reason that we don't, can't get this office building under way is because of the economic impact from the city of Lincoln to those few people who happen to own property that the state rents. Without a doubt they have a quite a bit of (inaudible) over in the Governor's office, and probably here, and until we decide we want a state office building, and do