

program for the area in the activities center which was phase one. In fact, we pushed the money up ahead because it is essential that that drainage is put in. Then the board of trustees have five options...four options on the balance of the money, all of which could not be done. Part of it is for additional equipment, it will generally be movable equipment within the activities center.

SENATOR VICKERS: But the simple fact of the matter is because the bids came in under this is still not going to increase the amount that was originally...saw as the amount? Is that correct?

SENATOR WARNER: But the total cost of the facility at Chadron will actually be something under the appropriation as authorized.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, thank you, Senator Warner. I only raise these...stand to raise the question that at the very time when you are having a difficult time buying groceries it is probably not the time you would remodel a kitchen. It seems to me and I know we have committed to some of these projects. We have actually started construction on some of them and I think it is appropriate that we continue the construction. I think it is appropriate that we provide the funds to keep the renovation of buildings. But I would simply suggest to this body that if there is any way that we can stop a project that we may have decided as a matter of society's needs that we ought to do, but because of the economy being in the situation that it is in right now, and because of the fact that tax revenues are down, I think we are going to see some more difficult times ahead that we ought to proceed very cautiously with the capital construction across the various places of this state, including higher education. We are talking at a time when we can hardly come up with the funds to operate the existing systems. I think it is a very poor time to be spending monies to continue to expand those systems and build buildings, if you will, monuments, recognizing the need for them. But as I indicated, most of us in our private lives and our private businesses when we have these times of economic distress is not the time we start remodeling our houses. I would also remind you that this particular bill...

PRESIDENT: One minute.