



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

GOVERNOR: PERPICH, RUDY
**An Inventory of the Task Force on Waste and
Mismanagement Records**

PARTIALLY RESTRICTED

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** Minnesota. Governor (1976-1979 : Perpich).
- Series Title:** Task Force on Waste and Mismanagement records,
- Dates:** 1976-1981.
- Abstract:** Correspondence, reports, surveys and studies, and investigative files of the Governor's Task Force on Waste and Mismanagement, created to study and recommend to the Governor specific instances where governmental waste and mismanagement could be eliminated.
- Quantity:** 4.0 cu. ft. (4 boxes).
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON WASTE AND MISMANAGEMENT

The Governor's Task Force on Waste and Mismanagement was created by the 1977 Minnesota Legislature at the request of Governor Perpich [Laws 1977 c455 s11 subd6]. Directed by Robert J. Goff, the task force was to "search out instances of governmental waste and mismanagement, document the facts of the case, and recommend to the Governor how these instances can be curtailed or eliminated." Its main efforts were directed through the Governor's Cost Saving Program, which affected the operating (non-grant and aid) portions of all state agencies under the administrative direction of the Governor.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

The records include its final report (December 19, 1978), letters and memos (1977-1978), background (subject) files (1976-1978), and materials relating to later legislative committees on waste and mismanagement (1980-1981).

The letters and memos consist mainly of answers to letters received by Governor Perpich, either drafted for his signature or direct answers from task force personnel. There are also task force memos to Governor Perpich.

The background files include correspondence, memos, reports, statistics, and related materials documenting both the day to day activities of the task force and its various studies, surveys and investigations. Major areas investigated include procurement, contracts, employee professional development, food purchased by state institutions, forms control, inventory management, sick leave, telecommunications, motor pool, land acquisition, and the State Board of Investment.

Materials generated by the Senate Subcommittee and House Committee on Waste and Mismanagement detail their study of the status of the Task Force's recommendations. They include memos from Kathy Burek, Senate Finance Committee Legislative Assistant, and the answers of Administration Department Commissioner James J. Hiniker, Jr. to questions concerning his department's implementation of the recommendations.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Cost control.
Employee fringe benefits--Minnesota.
Forms reduction.
Government communication systems--Minnesota.
Government--Minnesota--Inventory control.
Government paperwork--Minnesota.
Government purchasing--Minnesota.
Government purchasing of food--Minnesota.
Government vehicles--Minnesota.
Investment of public funds--Minnesota.
Public contracts--Minnesota.
Sick leave--Minnesota.
Waste in government spending--Minnesota.

Places:

Minnesota--Public lands.

Persons:

Blixt, Robert.
Burek, Kathy.
Goff, Robert.
Hiniker, James J.

Organizations:

Minnesota. Dept. of Administration.
Minnesota. Governor's Task Force on Waste and Mismanagement.
Minnesota. Legislature. House of Representatives. Committee on Waste and Mismanagement.
Minnesota. Legislature. Senate. Subcommittee on Waste and Mismanagement.
Minnesota. State Board of Investment.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Restrictions:

Several files in Box 4 contain non-public interview data. Researchers may apply to use those records in accordance with the State Archives access statement. The restricted folders are noted on the folder list

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited volume and page or item and folder title here]. Minnesota. Governor (1976-1979 : Perpich). Task Force on Waste and Mismanagement records. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

Accession number(s): 979-61; 994-97; 998-117

Processing Information:

Processed by: Cheri Thies, Shawn Rounds, 1999
PALS ID No.: 0900321280 RLIN ID No.: MNHV87-A410

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.

Location	Box	
111.J.19.1B	1	<p>Final report, December 19, 1978. 1 volume and 1 folder. Letters and memos, 1977-1978. 3 folders. Mainly answers to letters received by Governor Perpich, either drafted for his signature or direct answers from task force personnel. There are also task force memos to Governor Perpich.</p> <p>Background files, 1976-1978. Administration Dept. Report on implementation of task force recommendations.</p> <p>Calendar of reports. Camp Ripley. Re its use as a conference center.</p> <p>Conferences - travel (in-state). Contracts: Report on Contracting by State Agencies, 1978. General. 2 folders.</p> <p>Cost/benefit book. Methods used by state employees to cut costs, increase efficiency, and maintain high standards.</p> <p>Cost savings program: Background materials. Charts. Status report. 4 folders.</p> <p>Cost savings memo to Governor. Summarizing cost savings activities.</p> <p>Departmental activities. Economic Development Dept. investigation. 2 folders. Re allegations of mismanagement and response of Jim Lukaszewski, Deputy Commissioner. Includes task force report, February 21, 1978.</p> <p>Employee professional development and communication. Equipment on loan. To the task force.</p> <p>File cabinets. Governor's moratorium on state purchase of file cabinets.</p> <p>Finance reports. Food (purchase by state institutions). Forms control. Governor's forms reduction program.</p>

Location	Box	
111.J.19.1B	1	Background files (cont.): Governor's presentation. Information requested by departments. Inventory management. Executive order No. 149 provided for a state materials inventory management program.
111.J.19.2F	2	Lee, Phil. 4 folders. Forms Advocate Task force member. Mainly correspondence with local government and school officials seeking their ideas on making state government more understandable and less time consuming. Lodging - union contracts. Management personnel. Mainly statistics on number of management level positions in each department/agency. Memberships - general. Costs per agency/department. Microfiche. National health testing services. Personnel Commissioner - hiring. Procurement Task Force. 4 folders. Minutes, correspondence, agency complaints, and reports. Professional development. Includes report on state employee travel, meetings, memberships, and subscriptions. Publications subscriptions. Statistics by agency/department. Purchasing and materials management task force report. Records control. Records management program. Sick leave. State employment statistics. State meetings. State facilities available for use. State printing and publications task force report. Task force personnel. Mainly Governor's Internship Program agreements. Telecommunications. Telecommunications Advisory Panel. Training.

Location	Box	
111.J.19.2F	2	Background files (cont.): Transportation Dept. Travel - general. Travel agencies. State's use of travel agencies. Travel responses. Travel policies of other states. University.
111.J.19.3B	3	Waste memorandum. Governor Perpich's memo to all department and agency heads, June 30, 1977. Motor pool files, 1977-1978. State Passenger Vehicle Report, December 1, 1977. Task force report to the Governor. Agency vehicles. Replies and statistics on each department/agency's vehicles. Agency vehicle reports. Audit report. Automobile leasing - National Car Rental. Automobiles and purchasing. Car auctions. Car color. History of maroon for state vehicles. Car complaints to the Central Motor Pool. Car cuts. Cuts agencies/departments felt they could make. Car purchasing. Information on costs. Certified public accountant study. Study of efficiency of a Central Motor Pool vs. individual agency/department ownership. Energy - gasoline consumption. EPA mileage. Implementation. State passenger car fleet management. Operating costs. Mainly statistics and reports. Other state car reports.

Location	Box	
111.J.19.3B	3	Background files (cont.): Motor pool files (cont.): Reconditioning of state vehicles. Discussion of pros and cons. Reimbursements. Representative Simoneau. Retreading tires. Transportation. Underutilization. Materials about the federal motor fleet. Use charts. Waage drafts. Land acquisitions study file, 1977-1978. State Land Acquisition Study - Natural Resources Lands, August 14, 1978. Appraisal problems. Attorney General Comments on Land Acquisition Study. Done June 21, 1978. Cooperative agreement. Between DNR and Administration Dept. Fact sheet status reports. 5 folders. Bureau of Land fact sheet re state lands.
111.J.19.4F	4	Fact sheet status reports. 2 folders. Federal government. 2 folders. Fee appraisers - list. Forms. Used by the DNR and Administration Dept. in land acquisition. Land acquisitions inefficiencies. Correspondence. Land acquisitions laws. Citations. Land acquisitions outline of the issues. Land acquisitions projects under ten percent. Lists. Land acquisitions study proposal. Land surveys.

Location **Box**

111.J.19.4F 4

Background files (cont.):

Land acquisitions study file (cont.):

LCMR reports.

Concerning recommendations for the land acquisitions study.

Low value transactional allowance.

Manfred property.

Re purchase of home and land of author Frederick Manfred.

Miscellaneous problems.

Personnel - lists.

Priesnitz memos.

Michael Priesnitz, Chair of Land Acquisitions
Investigation Committee.

Regional memos.

Relocation.

Review and certification procedures.

For appraisers.

A Review of Land Acquisition Policies and Procedures of the
State of Minnesota.

Legislative Auditor report.

Sequence numbers.

Time breakdown study.

Title insurance.

Workload.

State Board of Investment files:

The investigation centered around several allegations including: 1) improper personnel procedures with respect to salaries and hiring/firing/promotion practices; 2) misuse and false recording of leave and compensatory time; 3) misuse of government equipment and long-distance telephone services; 4) a pattern of sexual harassment and generally inappropriate conduct by Robert Blixt (the Board's Executive Secretary).

The investigation confirmed all of the charges except one—it could not independently substantiate the harassment allegations.

Final Report.

Correspondence from Executive Secretary Robert E. Blixt to
Task Force, February 1978.

Location **Box**
111.J.19.4F 4

Background files (cont.):

State Board of Investment files (cont.):

Miscellaneous documents including newspaper articles, investigator/interviewer notes, and police report on missing files.

State Board of Investment employee salary records.

State Board of Investment employee leave and compensatory time records.

State Board of Investment travel expenses, June 1976 - February 1978.

State Board of Investment long-distance telephone records, September - December 1977.

Lists of persons interviewed. **RESTRICTED**

Interview notes by Alan Harris. **RESTRICTED**

Interview notes by Audrey Kaiser Manka. **RESTRICTED**

Interview notes by unidentified investigator. **RESTRICTED**

Additional statements regarding job responsibilities and working conditions. **RESTRICTED**

Compilation notes based upon interviews. **RESTRICTED**

Senate Subcommittee and House Committee on Waste and Mismanagement files, 1980-1981. 2 folders.