

March 23, 1978

LB 914, 945

PRESIDENT: The Call is raised. Senator George.

SENATOR GEORGE: I move to advance LB 814 to E & R enrossing.

PRESIDENT: All in favor say aye. Contrary say nay. The bill is advanced. The Call is raised. LB 945.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Clark moves to return LB 945 for a specific amendment. The amendment may be found on page 1449 of the Journal.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President and members of the body, I'd ask to have LB 945 returned for specific amendment. What we are going to have to do is increase the cost of that tower out at Alliance. We just received the bids on the tower. They are \$899,644. Now as I understand it, there is a new system going on this tower out there that is already bid into the bids. It cost about \$37,000 to stop the galloping of the wires. What happens is when the rime ice gets on those wires they start galloping back and forth and this new device they have that has been working back in Ohio merely stops the galloping by attaching additional wires to it back into a ground and a pulley arrangement with springs and that does stop the galloping. I don't think anyone would want that tower back up there without some type of new arrangement that would certainly stop the tower from going down again. So I would ask to have the bill returned.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Two questions of Senator Clark. Senator Clark, how many bids did we get on this?

SENATOR CLARK: I think they had three bids on it.

SENATOR KEYES: Three bids, and what's the bids? What was the highest?

SENATOR CLARK: They have a lower bid on the antenna than the one they are accepting. Now they are not accepting these bids until Monday night when the Commission goes back into meeting. The only thing is with the cheaper antenna that they had, about \$100,000 cheaper, and it is much, much heavier than the antenna that they want to use up there, if they have a much heavier antenna on top, which is about 95 feet long, on top of it, then they would have to have a heavier tower and the difference in going back and getting new bids for the tower, a heavier tower to hold that antenna, would much more than offset the cost of the (interruption).

SENATOR KEYES: Then my interpretation is, if the state government comes along and says that we are going to raise the bid \$200,000, that the next bid that comes in will be \$200,000 higher. I'd say this, that if they can't build it for that, tell them to come back next year and get some more money, that the state is out of money. We have spent all we need to spend right now. We will pay for that tower as it is and I have never seen us underestimate anything yet. We always overestimate so probably you have all the money you need for that tower right now but I will guarantee you one thing, Senator Clark,

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