

BUSINESS PAPERS

PART 2 – SECTION H

VOTES & PROCEEDINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, 9th FEBRUARY 2000

The session commenced at 2pm

Questions to Peter Law, Secretary for Local Government & Environment

The first 5 questions were reached.

2.19pm

Point of Order under SO1.9 - William Graham

William Graham wished to condemn recent comments which had been attributed to Members of Parliament alleging that the Presiding Officer had not been impartial in his conduct. He assured the Presiding Officer that he had his complete confidence.

These comments were endorsed by Ieuan Wyn Jones; Jenny Randerson and Ron Davies.

2.24pm

Approval of the Milk Development Council (Amendment) Regulations.

This Order is a Standing Order 22 Part 2 Order which is subject to Parliamentary Procedure

To propose that the Assembly, acting in accordance with Standing Order No 22.33 approves the draft of the Milk Development Council (Amendment) Order 2000, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on Wednesday 2 February

A vote was taken:

For 59

Abstain 0

Against 0

Total 59

The motion was carried.

2.32pm

Motion of No Confidence (tabled by Ieuan Wyn Jones; Nicholas Bourne; Michael German; Jocelyn Davies; William Graham; Jenny Randerson)

The National Assembly has no confidence in the First Secretary.

The First Secretary informed the Assembly that he was resigning as First Secretary before the vote was taken.

Since the motion had not been withdrawn a vote was taken:

For 31

Abstain 1

Against 27

Total 59

The motion was carried.

3.12pm

The Business Secretary rose to withdraw the motion on an Integrated Transport Policy for Wales and moved procedural motions under S06.10 to postpone debate on the Planning Guidance and under 6.16 to adjourn proceedings for 1 hour.

A vote was taken

For 55

Abstain 0

Against 0

Total 55

The motion was carried.

Proceedings were adjourned at 3.15pm

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The Assembly resumed proceedings at 4.19pm

The Presiding Officer confirmed to the Assembly that he had received a letter of resignation from the First Secretary (text below). He called on the Business Secretary to inform the Assembly of what decision the Cabinet had taken.

The Business Secretary (Andrew Davies) informed the Assembly that the Cabinet, acting in accordance with SO2.10, had unanimously elected Rhodri Morgan to chair its meetings and discharge the First Secretary's responsibilities until the Assembly elects a new First Secretary.

Rhodri Morgan asked the Presiding Officer to summon the Assembly for a special session at 9.30am the following morning in accordance with SO 6.2 to consider the implications of the resignation of the First Secretary. The Presiding Officer reminded Members that it was for the Presiding Officer to invite nominations for a new First Secretary.

The session concluded at 4.23pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

9.30am on Thursday, 10th February 2000

J W Lloyd

Clerk to the Assembly

This is the text of the letter of resignation sent by Alun Michael to Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas:

Dear Dafydd,

This letter is to inform you that I am resigning as First Secretary with immediate effect. I will be consulting with my party to come to a view as to whether the Labour Group will propose a new First Secretary when the Assembly meets to elect one, and if so, whether that should be myself or another Labour Assembly Member.

Yours sincerely

Alun