

A meeting of the Federal Reserve Board was held in Washington on Thursday, November 15, 1934, at 12:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. Thomas, Vice Governor
Mr. Hamlin
Mr. Miller
Mr. James
Mr. Szymczak

Mr. Morrill, Secretary
Mr. Carpenter, Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Miller stated that in accordance with the authority granted to him at the meeting of the Board on October 25, 1934, he had negotiated with Everett V. Meeks with regard to his retention by the Board as consulting architect to handle the details of the proposed competition in connection with the selection of the architect for the Board's new building, and that Mr. Meeks had come to Washington today for a consultation and had advised that he would be willing to act as consulting architect for the purpose stated for a fee of \$2,500 plus traveling expenses incurred by him in connection with his services to the Board, the fee to be paid when the award to the successful architect is made. Mr. Miller recommended that the Board retain Mr. Meeks as consulting architect on the basis suggested by him.

Mr. Hamlin moved that Mr. Miller's recommendation be approved.

Mr. James stated that the suggested fee appeared rather large and that, before deciding favorably upon the matter, he would like to have additional information as to the amount of similar fees paid in connection with some of the new Government buildings in Washington. Mr. Miller stated that it was his understanding that the architects on most of the new Government buildings were engaged directly through the

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Supervising Architect's office without competition, although in some cases such as the new Commerce Department Building, there had been competition. He also stated that he had been informed that architects' fees for the type of services which Mr. Meeks would render are based partly on the cost of the building to be erected, and that the fee suggested by Mr. Meeks took into consideration a probable cost of the Board's building in excess of \$1,000,000.

Mr. Hamlin's motion was put to a vote and was carried, Mr. James voting "no".

Mr. Miller stated that Mr. Meeks was in consultation at the present time with Mr. E. F. Abell, who had been retained to make an organization survey of the space in the Board's new building, and he stated that he thought it would be desirable for the individual members to meet both gentlemen. Accordingly, Messrs. Meeks and Abell were invited into the meeting, and, upon inquiry as to whether Mr. Meeks would want to confer with the Board from time to time on various problems which would arise in connection with the program of competition, Mr. Meeks stated that it would be necessary for him to consult with the Board more or less frequently and that it was his intention to prepare a skeleton program based on the data now available, which undoubtedly would develop a number of questions which he would like to present to the Board, and that, if agreeable, he would suggest that a meeting be arranged in about ten days when he would be prepared to present to the Board for its consideration any problems suggested by the skeleton program.

After discussion, it was decided that Messrs. Meeks and Abell would confer and decide upon a date during the week of November 26, which they indicated would probably be

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November 27, when they will be prepared to confer with the Board, and advise the Board as soon as possible as to the date agreed upon.

Thereupon the meeting adjourned.

Chester Morrie
Secretary.

Approved:

J. J. Thomas
Vice Governor.