

Senate

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of Meeting -- March 31, 1969

The thirty-third meeting of the Committee on Federal, State and Local Governments was held on March 31, 1969 at 3:30 P.M.

Committee members present:	James Gibson, Chairman
	Warren Monroe
	Vernon Bunker
	Marvin White
	Chic Hecht
	Carl F. Dodge
	F. W. Farr

Others present were:

Edward Pine	Engineer
Pat Head	Las Vegas Valley Water District
J. B. Cunningham	Reno, County Commissioner
Joe Coppa	Sparks, County Commissioner
Leo Sauer	Reno, County Commissioner
C. B. Kinnison	Washoe County Manager
Coe Swobe	Senator
Proctor Hug	Senator
Ty Hilbrecht	Assemblyman
Ernest Newton	Nevada Taxpayers Association
Assemblyman Smith	
Alvin Wartman	Judge, Las Vegas
Howard Babcock	Judge, Las Vegas
Shirley Bailey	Claendar Clerk, 8th Judicial District

Press representatives

Chairman Gibson called the meeting to order. Several bills were under consideration.

SB-467 Proposed by Sparks-Sun Valley-Roop, Storey-Washoe and Reno-North Tahoe-Verdi-Storey Districts' Delegation.
Creates a district called the Washoe County Water Authority; authorizes the district to operate and maintain water drainage, sanitary sewer and water supply facilities, to acquire, improve, equip, repair and dispose of properties pertaining thereto, to levy, collect and expend general taxes, service charges and special assessments therefor, and to issue bonds and other securities and otherwise to incur liabilities in connection therewith.

Senator Farr said that Mr. Nick Smith of Burrows & Smith had been asked to do a preliminary study on this particular bill and from that study his report

indicated that a move in this direction would be desirable. He then introduced Mr. Ed Pine, and asked him to speak on this subject.

Mr. Edward Pine, Engineer at the University of Nevada, then spoke in favor of this bill, stating that he has for many years worked in connection with the waters on the Carson Truckee rivers and the construction now of Stampede Dam. He said that one of their principal problems is the transporting of the water to the area where it is going to be used, and that there was a great advantage in doing this by closed conduits so that the water will not become contaminated. He pointed out that they are anticipating selling water at \$17.00 per acre foot, whereas Las Vegas Water District sells their water at 16 cents per thousand gallons or about \$52.00 per acre foot -- the present per capita per day use of water in this area is better than 200 gallons, and about 1,000 gallons goes to homes in the Reno area per day (twice that in the summer).

Mr. Pine further said that this bill sets up a procedure whereby an authority could be developed with the concurrence of the governing bodies -- it will be under their jurisdiction. He felt that this would benefit the taxpayers by keeping the rates as low as possible -- and that this is the most economical way to get the people of our community the best for their money. He pointed out that all the water districts with the exception of one in Sun Valley are privately owned, and by making all of these public entities it would be possible to take advantage of federal grants. In answer to a question from Chairman Gibson he said that this project would involve in the neighborhood of \$40,000,000.

Senator Farr then gave a further explanation of the various provisions in this bill, SB-467, and stressed that there was some urgency due to the costs increasing in water rates, and that increase could be offset somewhat. He said they were asking for a survey of, (1) the county-city cost to the utility company now for water; (2) the tax-exempt provisions being a municipally owned authority; and (3) the selling of bonds at a lesser rate than could the utility company sell should they want to purchase. He further said that there was a great deal of support for this bill.

Senator Swobe stated for the record that he was opposed to the passage of a bill of this magnitude without further study. Mr. Jack Cunningham, county commissioner from Reno, said that he felt the subject has not been explored enough to take action at this time -- that it has merits, and it has been done in other areas, but he felt there should be a feasibility study made prior to authorizing or setting up the bill. There was further discussion with regard to the possibility of a feasibility study, which Senator Farr said would be paid for by the three subdivisions.

After further discussion, it was concluded that this bill would be held at the present time, and Mr. McDonald of the Legislative Counsel Bureau would be called in to answer questions and clarify some of the provisions.

SB-361 Proposed by Clark County Delegation.
Provides for additional district judge in certain judicial districts for certain purposes.

Judge Wartman explained the purpose of this bill, and said that in some circles it has been called the "family court proposal". He stressed that he is speaking only as the bill may affect the judicial districts, and that they would like to urge three amendments to this bill: (1) To amend the jurisdiction section to include only contested divorce and separate maintenance matters where the issue of custody of children is present; (2) to add a chapter on the mentally ill; and (3) to make the bill optional, which shall be exercised by a majority vote of the judges of the district on or before the 1st of July, 1969 and every two years thereafter. He further pointed out that there are two factual bases for this bill. One arises out of the nature of the jurisdiction of the judge, and the other deals with numbers of cases now being handled in the 8th Judicial District, which they feel make the judge necessary. Judge Wartman then referred to the "Clark County Juvenile Court Services" Memorandum and gave the figures therein (see attached).

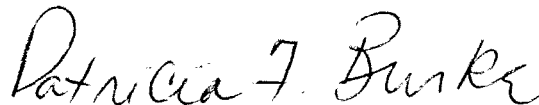
Judge Babcock then spoke in regard to this bill, stressing the need and going over the present case load and system that they now use. He referred to and read from "Part II, Number of Departments in the Eighth Judicial District Court (Clark County)" which is attached hereto, and further read the "Resolution" by the Board of County Commissioners of Clark County (see attached). There was further brief discussion concerning this bill.

SB-293 Proposed by Clark County Delegation.
Amends Las Vegas Valley Water District law authorizing district to construct, operate facilities required to collect, treat and redistribute all returns from various water uses.

Mr. Pat Head of the Las Vegas Valley Water District spoke in regard to this bill and the amendment on page 2. It was stressed that this is "enabling legislation" and would have to have the concurrence of the various entities. Chairman Gibson then referred to a letter from Mr. Roland Westergard stating that they were concerned about certain provisions of the bill as they may relate to the authority of the State Engineer. There was discussion in this regard and it was decided that Mr. Westergard would be called, and the bill held for further consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia F. Burke,
Committee Secretary

CLARK COUNTY POPULATION1960

and

1965 to 1968U.S. Official Census, 1960 127,016Statistics from the Chamber
of Commerce:Latest statistics from the
Clark County School District:

Population as of:

December 31, 1965	254,000		
" " 1966	262,500		
" " 1967	270,000	1967	303,000
" " 1968	285,000	1968	336,000

These statistics reveal that the population doubled in the first 5 years of this decade and continues to increase steadily.

Based on the standard of one Judge for each 30,000 population, and taking the lower figures furnished by the Chamber of Commerce, Clark County should have at least 9 departments of the District Court.

If the statistics furnished by the Clark County School District are correct, the Eighth Judicial District Court should have 10 or 11 departments.

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY

TOTAL FILINGS, 1962 through 1968

YEAR	DIVORCES	CIVIL	PROBATE	CRIMINAL	JUVENILE	INSANITY	URA	TOTAL
1962	4,945	2,343	565	485	235	143	---	8,716
1963	5,131	2,894	654	577	369	238	588	10,451
1964	5,482	3,470	738	794	440	316	791	12,031
1965	5,438	3,488	740	1,369	541	271	618	12,465
1966	5,449	3,688	781	1,515	514	322	585	12,854
1967	5,671	3,540	892	2,049	492	207	656	13,507
1968	5,888	3,823	470	2,331	887	203	717	14,319

These statistics show that the total number of filings in Clark County is increasing steadily. With continued and expected population gains, the reasonable expectation is that Court filings will continue to increase at least as much as they have in the 7 years indicated above.

Based on the generally accepted ratio of one Judge for each 1,200 filings, Clark County should have at least 10 or 11 departments of the District Court. The present rate of filings per Judge in Clark County is 2,386.

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
 WASHOE COUNTY

 TOTAL FILINGS, 1968

DIVORCES	CIVIL	PROBATE	CRIMINAL	JUVENILE	INSANITY	URA	TOTAL
4,164	2,713	360	608	273	193	481	8,792

RATE OF FILINGS PER JUDGE (5 Departments) 1,758

**CASES HEARD OR SETTLED OUT OF COURT
DISTRICT COURTS**

(Explanation of column headings: (1) Personal injury: motor vehicle. (2) Other personal injury. (3) Eminent domain. (4) Contested divorce. (5) Uncontested divorce. (6) Other civil actions. (7) Contests of wills. (8) Other contested matters relating to estates of decedents. (9) Uncontested matters relating to estates of decedents. (10) Adoptions, guardianships, trusts and missing persons. (11) Sanity hearings. (12) Appeals from justices' and municipal courts in civil matters. (13) Actions under Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act. (14) Juvenile cases. (15) Criminal actions. (16) Habeas corpus and other writs. (17) Appeals from justices' and municipal courts in criminal matters.)

Counties	KIND OF CASE																
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
Clark Co. (8th Jud. Dist.).....	(a)	(a)	(a)	203	4,637	1,773	(b)	(b)	220	408	168	(a)	275	864	(c) 98	(c)	846
Washoe Co. (2nd Jud. Dist.).....	(a)	(a)	(a)	(c) 116	3,506	(c) 160	(b)	(b)	807	236	234	(a)	(d) 491	115	(c) 36	(e)	(e)
Churchill Co.....	0	0	0	3	15	62	0	0	37	9	0	0	11	7	8	0	0
Douglas Co.....	0	0	2	1	149	68	0	0	20	14	3	0	40	13	47	3	0
Lyon Co.....	1	1	0	0	53	37	0	0	21	10	5	0	10	20	9	3	0
Ormsby Co.....	0	0	0	10	327	105	0	0	0	17	4	0	16	27	29	26	0
Storey Co.....	0	0	0	1	21	8	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	9	0	0	0
(1st Jud. Dist.).....	1	1	2	15	565	280	0	0	83	52	12	0	77	76	93	32	0
Eureka Co.....	0	0	0	0	15	20	0	0	2	3	0	0	1	3	6	3	1
Lander Co.....	0	0	0	0	9	6	0	0	11	2	0	0	3	8	1	0	0
(3rd Jud. Dist.).....	0	0	0	0	24	26	0	0	13	5	0	0	4	11	7	3	1
Elko Co. (4th Jud. Dist.).....	2	1	0	0	119	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emerald Co.....	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral Co.....	0	0	1	8	62	20	0	1	76	13	7	0	6	79	1	6	0
Nye Co.....	2	1	0	1	66	16	1	0	26	13	6	0	12	12	20	0	0
(5th Jud. Dist.).....	2	1	1	9	129	37	1	1	104	29	13	1	18	91	21	6	0
Humboldt Co.....	0	0	0	1	86	20	0	0	102	60	1	0	0	73	20	0	0
Pershing Co.....	0	0	6	2	20	15	0	1	16	6	0	0	8	6	6	0	0
(6th Jud. Dist.).....	0	0	6	3	106	35	0	1	118	66	1	0	8	79	26	0	0
Lincoln Co.....	0	0	1	1	18	14	0	0	6	5	2	0	4	5	0	0	2
White Pine Co.....	0	1	0	0	120	62	0	1	1	4	3	0	12	36	9	1	0
(7th Jud. Dist.).....	0	1	1	1	138	76	0	1	7	9	5	0	16	41	9	1	2

Notes: (a) Consolidated under Column 6. (b) Consolidated under Column 9. (c) Hearings only: Does not include settlements, dismissals or guilty pleas. (d) 1966 figure. (e) Probably consolidated under Column 15.

NEVADA'S COURT STRUCTURE
Appendix E

SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS OF CASES IN DISTRICT COURTS

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (CLARK COUNTY)		9,492	52.8%
SECOND DISTRICT (WASHOE COUNTY)	5,701		
FIRST DISTRICT (Five Counties)	1,289		
THIRD DISTRICT (Two Counties)	94		
FOURTH DISTRICT (ELKO COUNTY)	154		
FIFTH DISTRICT (Three Counties)	464		
SIXTH DISTRICT (Two Counties)	449		
SEVENTH DISTRICT (Two Counties)	<u>308</u>	<u>8,459</u>	47.2%
		17,951	100%

CLARK COUNTY JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Judge Wartman
FROM: Rowena
DATE: 28 March 1969
RE: Petitions

Petitions filed by Departments of the Juvenile Court number as follows:

	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>7/1/68- 3/27/69</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Probation Department	713	1,451	2,164
Welfare Department*	158	117	275
Traffic Department	6,466	4,328	10,794
TOTAL	7,332	5,896	<u>13,233</u>

* Does not include "abuse" cases prepared by Nevada State Welfare.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, Clark County, State of Nevada, having been requested by all of the Judges of the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, to consider endorsement of legislation to provide for additional courts in Clark County, Nevada and the adjustment of salaries for said Courts, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners appointed a Committee to make a study of the needs therefor, and

WHEREAS, said Committee has made a report to the County Commission, and

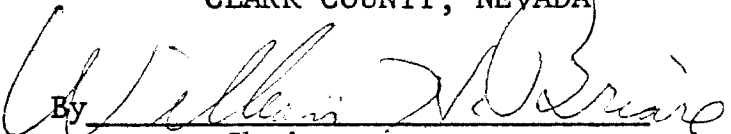
WHEREAS, based upon said report, the County Commission finds that there is need for the creation, in addition to the existing Judges of said District, a judgeship to act as a family and juvenile court.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CLARK COUNTY, STATE OF NEVADA, that it hereby endorses the creation of an additional Judgeship of the Eighth Judicial District Court for the purpose of acting upon juvenile and family matters and respectfully requests the Legislature of the State of Nevada to act favorably in creating such a Court.

Dated this 6th day of January, 1969.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

By


Chairman

Attest:


LORETTA BOWMAN, County Clerk

Certification of Copy

STATE OF NEVADA, }
COUNTY OF CLARK } ss.


I, LORETTA BOWMAN, the duly elected, qualified and acting Clerk of Clark County, in the State of Nevada, and Ex-Officio Clerk of the District Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and correct copy of the original:

.....
RESOLUTION-EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIP-
JUVENILE AND FAMILY MATTERS
.....

ADOPTED JANUARY 6, 1969
.....
.....
.....

now on file and of record in this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Court at my office, Las Vegas, Nevada, the 28th day of March, A.D. 1969.

LORETTA BOWMAN, Clerk

Deputy Clerk.