

MINUTES

Assembly

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE - 57th SESSION

February 15, 1973

Meeting called to order by Chairman Mello at 8:00 AM in the Ways and Means Committee Room.

Present: Chairman Mello, Vice-Chairman Schofield, Messrs. Dreyer, Robinson, Howard, Smith, Hafen, Prince and Capurro.

Also Present: John Dolan, Randy Webb, Ron Sparks and Jean Ross.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the meeting of February 13, 1973, was made by Mr. Smith. Second by Mr. Dreyer. Motion passed.

Mr. Harry Gallaway presented the budget for the Plant Industry Fund, pages 482, 483 and 484. Budget covers basic support for seventeen programs. Addition of an Agricultural Inspector to cover potatoe industry in Humboldt County. Capital Outlay for trucks is for 42 vehicles operated. The increase is due to removal of the operation of these trucks from the in-state travel fund to operating expense.

One-Shot Appropriation on page A20 for the acquisition of two trucks to be used in the weights and measures program; one for Las Vegas and one for Reno.

Capital Improvements, Project 73-15, page 566 would be for a small warehouse in Las Vegas for storage and laboratory testing.

Agricultural Registration & Enforcement Fund, page 485. A total non-reverting fund for registration and enforcement regarding pesticides, fertilizers, etc.

Insect Abatement, page 487 was funded by the Interim Finance Committee to meet the problem of grasshopper control. After discussion by the Committee of keeping this fund intact, it was generally agreed that instead of waiting for an emergency type situation to arise it was best to have the funds available at all times.

Apiary Inspection Fund, page 488 a non-reverting fund from taxes and bee registration. The current assessment is \$.25 per stand of bees. Expenditures are made for inspection. A stand of bees is a "box of bees".

Livestock Inspection Fund, pages 489, 490 and 491. Explanation presented by Tom Balleu and Fred Warren. Generally this provides for all aspects regarding livestock, disease, brand inspection, recording, etc. This budget requires no general fund appropriation. State Board has authority to increase or decrease fees for brand inspection.

Veterinary Medical Services, pages 492 and 493. This is a supporting fund relative to disease in livestock (control, investigation).

Fish & Game, page 473-476, presented by Frank Groves and Fred Wright. General Fund appropriation needed for the implementation of the Non-Game Management Program. All other funds are received from licenses and fees, federal aid, gifts, grants and income from management areas. Income received and not disbursed is carried over to the next year. There were approximately 41,000 resident deer tags and 4,000 non-resident deer tags issued during the last year. It was noted that approximately 69% of all personnel in the Fish & Game Department have college degrees in Wildlife Management.

Non-Game Program would be involved in the gathering of information for the protection and preservation of non-game wildlife, in particular endangered species.

Break taken at 8:45 for 15 minutes.

Fish & Game Nevada Boat Act, page 477 and 478. Of the boat tax 70% goes to parks and 30% to Fish & Game. All positions are assigned to the Fish & Game budget. Salaries are paid to Fish & Game out the requested salary appropriation. The U.S. Coast Guard moneys are being used to repair and replace boats. Presently have 11 boats.

Upland Game Birds, page 479: Basic program is to introduce and establish game birds not currently found in Nevada.

Capital Improvements are basically for additional storage and office space and a residence for the Fish & Game Agents for the Lower Colorado River area.

Predatory Animal & Rodent Control, pages 494 and 495. Program to control and manage predatory animals and rodents. Deals primarily with wild animals not covered by Fish & Game. Receives approximately \$162,000 in Federal funds. Addition of new personnel felt necessary to handle the increase of work since the outlaw of chemical toxicants. Explanation by Joe Miner.

Sheep Inspection Fund, page 496. Funding received entirely from the sheep inspection tax. Main purpose to protect sheep from disease. Explanation by John Humphrey.

Wool Growers Predatory Animal Control Committee, page 497. Funding derived from a head tax on sheep of \$.20. Doyle Robison, Committee representative.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20.