

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1975

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The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the Chair.

PRESENT: Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman
Senator James I. Gibson, Vice-Chairman
Senator B. Mahlon Brown
Senator William J. Raggio
Senator Clifton Young
Senator Warren L. Monroe

ABSENT: Senator Lee E. Walker

OTHERS: Senator Richard Blakemore
Howard Barrett, Budget Director
Cy Ryan, UPI
Ron Sparks, Fiscal Analyst
Wm. J. Miller, Nevada Girls Training Center
Orville Wahrenbrock, Chief Assistant, Dept.
of Human Resources
Dave Nicholas, Comprehensive Health Planning
Frank Matthews, O.E.O.

NEVADA GIRLS TRAINING CENTER

Mr. Wm J. Miller said that the Center has had an increase of population so the releases have been stepped up, and the girls are more sophisticated and hostile.

Mr. Miller said that the Center has a work incentive program of paying \$1.00/ hour for cooking and meal planning.

Senator Lamb asked if the girls are released when they are really ready to go. Mr. Miller said that because of the lack of room, the most likely to succeed are released. Mr. Miller said that the following rates of return indicate the percentage of success:

- a) 1972-73 -- 14% return
- b) 1973-74 -- 28% return
- c) 1975 -- 11% return

Mr. Miller said that it has been said that the high population of the Center is due to returns, but he felt that the return rate was good, and the population is new commitments.

Senator Lamb asked about the need for the Business Manager. Mr. Miller said that this position was combined with another position by Mr. Alex Forbes.

Senator Brown asked about the Center's feelings toward the new philosophy of community rehabilitation. Mr. Miller said that he felt it was better to get the girls away from the home.

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NEVADA GIRLS TRAINING CENTER (Cont.)

Senator Brown asked if the Home of the Good Shepherd provided any relief for the Center. Mr. Miller said that the Center received about one girl per week from the Home, and the Center prefers to place a departing girl back into society.

Senator Brown asked if all the girls get to participate in the work incentive program. Mr. Miller said that twenty girls at a time can participate, and the priority is given to older girls, as well as, girls who are in vocational education, or working their way through college.

Senator Brown asked about the number of girls who graduate. Mr. Wahrenbrock said that twenty-nine girls graduated from high school last biennium.

Senator Brown asked why the work incentive program at the Center paid \$1.00, and the program for the boys was .25¢/hour. Mr. Miller said that HEW fought the program initially, but now feel that it is successful, and the only one in the country.

Senator Lamb asked if close touch was kept with the Las Vegas parole board. Mr. Miller said that Center representative attend court sessions, and that in general the Judge is complimentary to the Center. Mr. Miller said that the Judge does want the program to be in Las Vegas, and therefore disagrees with the expansion of the Center.

Senator Lamb asked about competition in scholastic and athletic areas. Mr. Miller said that the Center participates in Class A athletic programs, and scholastically competes in the Public Speaking contests.

Senator Lamb asked how the Center's program compares with Lincoln High School. Mr. Miller said that excellent teachers, and smaller classes made the Center more progressive and successful.

Senator Brown asked why the utilities were so low. Senators Blakemore and Gibson said that Lincoln County has the least expensive utility rates.

Senator Raggio asked if there is no overtime recommended, how it is budgeted. Mr. Howard Barrett said that if a vacancy occurs, and the position is filled from a lower level, this incurs "salary savings", and this amount is then budgeted for overtime. Mr. Miller said that the Center has about 275 hours of overtime per month.

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NEVADA GIRLS TRAINING CENTER (Cont.)

Senator Raggio asked what the "Training" was for that was not recommended. Mr. Miller said that this was for the staff, and he felt that it was very necessary, and felt sorry that it was not recommended.

Senator Raggio asked if the "Contractual Services" was not recommended because it is shown somewhere else. Mr. Barrett said that in this budget, the funding is shown specifically under Medical and Dental expenses.

Senator Raggio asked about "Special Reports". Mr. Wahrenbrock said this is intended for shop supplies, and small tools.

Senator Raggio asked if the reserve fund (P. 257, "The Executive Budget") was for two new cottages, and how many new positions would be needed for staff. Mr. Miller said the fund was for the cottages, and they would need seven staff members per cottage.

Senator Young asked what the average cost was per student.

Mr. Wahrenbrock said the following:

- a) Nevada Girls Training Center average cost = \$ 11, 816/student
- b) Idaho Institution = \$ 11,634
- c) Utah Institution = \$ 11,155
- d) New Mexico Institution = \$ 15,110
- e) Montana Institution = \$ 9,823
- f) Colorado Institution = \$ 14,284.

Senator Walker asked if there was a psychiatrist on duty. Mr. Wahrenbrock said that Dr. Hal Hall is a full-time psychologist and counselor with a Masters in counseling.

GIRLS TRAINING CENTER ESEA TITLE I

Mr. Miller said that the Department of Education favors the Center highly, and gives good federal funding.

Senator Walker asked if this was for counseling. Mr. Miller said that all Title I money is for teaching.

Senator Lamb asked if the Center was prepared for the discontinuation of the Title I funds. Mr. Miller said that they were prepared, and expected the State to only help with parole areas if Federal appropriations deplete.

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YOUTH PAROLE - GIRLS SCHOOL

Mr. Miller said that there are three parole officers in Las Vegas, and three officers in Reno. Mr. Miller said that they are only asking for one new position in the second year. Mr. Miller said that the Superintendent of Parole, who was not recommended, was greatly needed five percent increase.

Senator Gibson asked when do the girls complete parole. Mr. Miller said that release depends on the completion of the treatment plan by the individual girl, and the recommendation of the facility.

Senator Young asked how many return home. Mr. Miller said about 75% to 80%.

BOYS SCHOOL - GIRLS SCHOOL RESERVES

Mr. Wahrenbrock said that this reserve is for growth and outside care for girls. Mr. Wahrenbrock said that there is a problem with pregnant girls. The school tries to keep them for seven months, and then place them back in the home and involve welfare in the case. If this is not possible, Mr. Wahrenbrock said, we send them to a home in Phoenix, Arizona.

Mr. Wahrenbrock said that for the boys that are extreme cases, the reserve is used to send them to the California Youth Authority, (five boys are currently in the CYA).

Senator Lamb asked if the reserves will really need the \$414,496 appropriation for the second year of the biennium. Mr. Barrett said this includes a \$40,000 item for education, which the Distributive School fund is supposed to provide, but this was unsure, so it was budgeted. Mr. Barrett said that this may be more than we need.

GOOD SHEPHERD

Mr. Wahrenbrock said that there is a requested increase from \$300.00 per month, per girl, to \$375.00 per month, per girl.

Senator Raggio asked how can they operate at this rate, when the Training Center operates at \$11,816. Mr. Wahrenbrock said that there is a different staffing pattern.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PLANNING

Mr. Dave Nicholas said that the agency has two main functions:

- a) Five volume - State Plan
- b) Regulatory functions (Section 1122 and 439A)

Mr. Nicholas said their pending issues are as follows:

- a) \$27,000 State Power Grant

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COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PLANNING (Cont.)

Mr. Nicholas said that pending items are as follows:

- a) \$24,000 Man Power Grant - estimate man power needs to 1980
- b) Désignate health service areas- the study is given to the Governor so he can make recommendations to HEW for Nevada.

Senator Lamb asked Mr. Nicholas to name the accomplishments of the agency. Mr. Nicholas said the following:

- a) Publication of "Laboratory Problems and Services in Nevada"
- b) Nevada State Plan - Acute Long-Term Health Facilities
- c) 60% of State Plan
- d) Involved in Sunrise's request for beds.
- e) Emergency Medical Services Plan

Senator Gibson asked if the agency ever denied any requests for beds, especially since the occupancy rate for in-patients is so low. Mr. Nicholas said that Sunrise asked for 170 beds, and the staff recommended denial to the Advisory Council.

Senator Brown asked why the hospital requested more beds if the ones they had weren't occupied. Mr. Nicholas said that Sunrise felt that this would allow for extra services and put beds in at a lower rate. Mr. Nicholas said that Sunrise is taking business from other hospitals.

Senator Raggio said that the agency's control comes only if federal funding is used for capital improvement. Mr. Nicholas said that if the Council does not approve, the requesting agency could lose five percent of their federal funds.

Senator Walker asked if the agency was doing a study on medical malpractice. Mr. Nicholas said that he will ask his staff to coordinate their efforts with the legislature on this study.

Senator Young asked if the agency is preparing a plan on the Physical and Mental, and Environmental Health of Nevadans. Mr. Nicholas said that the plan should be completed by December 31, 1975.

Senator Lamb asked if the Council's decision really had any affect on the requests for beds, especially in regards to Sunrise Hospital. Mr. Nicholas said that it all depends on how important the loss of the five percent is to them. Mr. Frank Matthews said that so far if the Council recommends "denial", then the beds are not received. Senator Lamb said that Sunrise Hospital could be an exception to this.

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OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

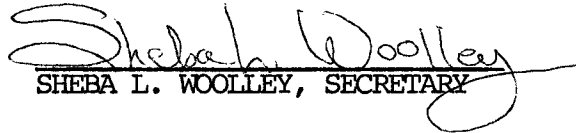
Mr. Frank Matthews said that the actual work program figure for 1974-75 is \$113,000. Mr. Matthews said that the agency request for \$34,406 is for the salary of the Deputy Director, and appropriations for matching funds.

Mr. Matthews submitted a summary of accomplishments to the Finance Committee which was placed in the member's budget books, (Supplemental Pages to 395-6).

Senator Lamb asked about the positions that weren't requested, but were recommended. Mr. Barrett said that at the time of the agency budget submission, the agency was not sure that federal funds would be forthcoming.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:


SHEBA L. WOOLLEY, SECRETARY

APPROVED:


FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN