

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 1, 1975

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The meeting was called to order at 8:00 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 Clifton Young
Senator William J. Raggio
Senator Warren L. Monroe
Senator Lee E. Walker

OTHERS: Carrol Nevin, Communications Board
Ron Stroup, Crime Commission
Chief James Lambert, Highway Patrol
Howard Hill, DMV
Leonard Wilkleman, DMV
Grant Bastian, Highway Department
Hale Bennett, DMV
Max Milam, UNR
Neil Humphrey, University of Nevada System
Mike Riordan, UNR
Red Baldinni, SB 332
George Holden, SB 332
Myron Goldworthy, SB 332
Ira Rackley, SB 332
Roland Westergard, State Engineer
Howard Barrett, Budget Director
Cy Ryan, UPI
Ron Sparks, Fiscal Analyst

SB 140

Mr. Carrol Nevin said that last week the Board received four bids for completion on the microwave system. The lowest bid Mr. Nevin said was \$1,044,161, and that was way in excess. Mr. Nevin said that an alternative is to obtain the equipment and build the remaining projects ourselves. Mr. Nevin said that this would be done with the \$119,249 from the requested appropriation, \$82,500 from Civil Defense matching funds, and \$548,680 from LEEA monies. Mr. Nevin said that eight county seat drops and sixteen mountain top towers will have to be completed. Senator Lamb asked how long is the LEEA money going to be available. Mr. Ron Stroup said until June, 1976, and this is included for two years into the total monies of \$750,429. Mr. Stroup said the four towers left to build will cost \$15,000 each, and site improvement will be \$10,000. Mr. Stroup said that it will cost \$46,000 for two drops, and per diem and travel involved in getting to the sites will be \$10,000.

SB 187

Chief James Lambert said if the Highway Patrol is to maintain a 151 man force, they will have to have this legislation.

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SB 187 (Cont.)

Senator Lamb stated that the Senators have advocated a no-tax session, and this is a tax. Senator Raggio asked if there were other alternatives. Chief Lambert said that they could keep reducing the force. Senator Lamb asked how many men were on the force in 1970, 1972, and 1973. Chief Lambert said 78, 83, and 121 respectively, and they have 141 now. Chief Lambert said that since 1972 there has been an annual growth factor of 10%, and the budget was based on that, but at this date, the growth is not 10%.

Senator Lamb asked what the round dollar estimation would be. Chief Lambert said \$540,000 per year, with \$209,000 supporting the regular fund.

Senator Raggio asked if this authorization would help in attaining the 10% growth. Chief Lambert said that this would only be possible if the agency does not lose any more officers.

Senator Raggio asked if there are any studies on the number of officers there should be per registrations. Chief Lambert said the average is one per 1500 registrations, and Nevada is rated way below that average.

Senator Raggio asked if there would be any savings to the agency if they used the motor pool instead of buying their cars. Chief Lambert said that they would save ten cars per year, but lose 87 man hours per year, because it would be up to the individual officers to maintain and service their cars. Senator Lamb said don't you contract with service stations for certain rates. Chief Lambert said they go wherever they can get the best price, but no one will give them a special fee. Senator Young asked if Chief Lambert could provide a breakdown of the in-state and out-of-state travelers serviced. Chief Lambert said there are 22 million tourist miles in the State, which would be about 30% to 40% , and he had no figures on in-state travelers.

Mr. Howard Hill stated that even with this increase in fee, Nevada's base fee will still be below the base fee of 47 states.

SB 217

Howard Hill said that DMV approves this \$15,000 appropriation as a starter cost that will be reimbursed to the general fund. Mr. Hill said that he would like to amend the bill so that sub-sections 2 and 3 are reversed, so that there will be a \$1.00 increase for motorcycle registration as well.

Senator Brown asked how much money would be initially involved with this increase. Mr. Winkleman said \$227,250 in receipts for the first six months are projected (originals, renewables, duplicates).

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SB 217 (Cont.)

Senator Raggio said that normally one-fourth of the licenses come up every year, and the Senator wanted to know how much income this usually brought. Mr. Winkleman said approximately \$50,000, (originals, renewables, duplicates).

Senator Raggio asked what are the total licensed in the State. Mr. Winkleman said for 1974, it was 398,337.

Senator Raggio asked if DMV expected 100,000 renewals every year. Mr. Hill said that renewals are not spread out evenly over the years.

Mr. Winkleman said that the \$15,000 proposal was made on the basis of the thirteen senior clerk typists that are needed for the first six month, with over-time included. Mr. Winkleman said that other costs will be for the computer terminal, the vending cost for the photo license, and travel/training expenses.

Senator Lamb asked Mr. Bastian how many people he has had to lay off in the Highway Department. Mr. Grant Bastian said 225. Mr. Hill said that he does not feel that DMV has an excess of staff, as there are certain services that they must provide:

Senator Young could not see the real necessity of colored photos. Mr. Hill said that this will be a law enforcement aid, and is helpful in ready identification. Senator Young questioned if this was going to result in more arrests.

Senator Raggio mentioned that the testimony for this bill in the Transportation Committee provided some good input as to the process of using this type of license.

Mr. Winkleman said that the new position request for thirteen employees was based on the influx seen in other states when this type of license was introduced, however, if this increase in revenue does not occur, then there will not be any funding available for the thirteen employees.

Senator Raggio said that the Budget Office does not feel you need the \$15,000 in this appropriation, and this 'starter' money should come from the Driver's license operating budget. Mr. Winkleman said that the starter fund is needed one month ahead of time for the terminal rental. Mr. Barrett said that he cannot see establishing two budgets, and charging \$15,000 to one, and the remaining costs to another.

Mr. Grant Bastian gave the following statistics on DMV to show the escalating amounts of expenditures:

1972 -- \$440,000 Revenue
988,000 Expenditures

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1973 -- \$ 464,000 Revenue
1,012,000 Expenditures

1974 -- \$1,071,000 Revenue
1,213,000 Expenditures

Mr. Bastian said that if the revenue continues to diminish, it will become a problem for the Highway Department to fund DMV in the future. Mr. Bastian said that the cost of the new Driver's license will cost approximately \$.5 million per year. Senator Gibson noted that the \$.5 million is not listed in the budget. Mr. Bastian said that this figure came from the budget submitted by DMV to the Highway Department.

SB 349

Mr. Hale Bennett said that the estimated revenue from the Employment Security Department for the computer facility has not been fully realized and consequently the costs for the computer services to DMV has been substantially increased. Mr. Barrett said that originally the request was for \$63,037, but the additional was for the 15% salary increase that be compensated for by billing the user.

SB 292

Dr. Max Milam said that this bill will amend the statute so that the University will be authorized to move the Health Services out of the Jot Travis Union Building. Dr. Milam said that to do so without an amendment would violate the original State appropriation.

Senator Raggio asked where the Health Services will be moved to. Dr. Milam said that we are looking at several locations, and have about \$200,000 from a bequest for construction.

Senator Raggio asked how the University arrived at their requested amount. Dr. Milam said the request was based on the depreciated value of the present location of Health Services in the Jot Travis Building. Dr. Milam said that they are planning on having 4,000 to 5,000 square feet in the new building, and currently have 3,800 square feet.

SB 302

Mr. Neil Humphrey said that \$150.00 is the request for the maximum amount designated for travel. Mr. Humphrey said that this will allow the University to send every faculty member to conferences in their academic disciplines. Mr. Humphrey said that the per diem expenses for travel in certain states will be charged against In-State travel, rather than Out-of-State.

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SB 380

Mr. Humphrey said that this is not University legislation, but the University will fund it, if they can see that social services are being benefited. Mr. Humphrey said that the estimated cost for this is \$629,813 per year.

Mr. Michael Riordan said that the Veterans Office on campus was not consulted on this bill. Mr. Riordan said that as it now stands, the Veterans Administration will pay books and tuition if the student is 30% disabled; and a veteran who qualifies can receive \$270.00 per month if he is single, and \$366.00 per month if married with one child.

AB 348

Mr. Humphrey said that EPA wants to expand on the UNLV campus, and the bond issue will be paid by the lease.

SB 332

Mr. Red Baldinni said that the Rock Creek area would be a beautiful recreation area for Battle Mountain, especially since it is 100 miles to Rye Patch from Battle Mountain, and only 25 miles to Rock Creek.

Senator Lamb and the other committee members questioned if their was protest from the users of this water. Mr. George Holden said that the permit issued for this only permits use of surplus waters, and the rights of the users would not be hampered. Mr. Myron Goldworthy submitted and read a letter from Mr. Delbert A. Reese manager of the T Lazy S Ranch in Battle Mountain that is a down stream user. Mr. Goldworthy said that there is a great concern about water in this area, and no agreement will be made unless there is a meeting between the water districts and the public users.

Mr. Ira Rackley, District engineer, said that Rock Creek will support a resevoir, and although it will fluctuate, that is common for resevoirs in that area. Mr. Rackley said that the resevoir can go down to 10,000 foot level and still maintain an adequate fish rate. Senator Young asked what the surface area will be. Mr. Rackley said 3,300 to 4,300 acres, and there will be less water loss if stored in the higher elevations.

Senator Raggio questioned if their was justification for the counties becoming involved in parks. Mr. Holden said that there is as this will be the only park in Northeastern Nevada.

Senator Monroe asked why Pershing and Lyon county representatives did not protest the meeting where the permit was given. Mr. Goldworthy said that the meeting was not advertised. Mr. Holden said that it was advertised in all the papers.

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SB 332 (Cont.)

Senator Lamb asked what the cost of the dam will be. Mr. Rackley said a concrete arch dam will cost from \$4 million to \$4 1/2 million, and an earth-filled dam will cost \$1 1/2 million. Senator Lamb asked what would be the low depth of the dam. Mr. Rackley said 25 feet.

Senator Young asked if federal money was available for this type of project. Mr. Holden said yes, but the district did not want a federal corps of engineers involved.

~~Senator Young asked if water loss by evaporation would be greater at the lower levels. Mr. Goldworthy said that the difference between the Rock Creek area and Rye Patch for evaporation was negligible. Senator Monroe said that evaporation is related to surface area, and that there probably would be less evaporation if stored in an area of higher elevation and with less surface space.~~

Mr. Roland Westergard said that the maximum storage for this site would be 20,000 acres per year. Senator Monroe asked if Mr. Westergard felt that adequate notice was given on the permit meeting. Mr. Westergard said that notice was given as required by statute provisions.

Senator Monroe, with the concurrence of the rest of the Committee, said that a meeting should be arranged between the districts and the users in order to work out an agreement on the proposal and its affect on down stream users.

The Senators held a discussion on this bill, and most felt that it was not advisable for the county to be involved in parks, and that this ought to be a State function. Senator Monroe, however, felt that the recreational areas in northern Nevada need to be dispersed, and if the State does not do this, then maybe the counties should.

SB 311 (See attached bill)

Senator Lamb asked Senator Brown if the rebate was 10% for \$10,000. Senator Brown said yes.

Senator Brown - Do Pass
Senator Raggio - 2nd
Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:


FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:


SHEBA L. WOOLLEY, SECRETARY

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