

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
APRIL 22, 1975

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

Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the Chair.

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

OTHERS: John Gamble, Asst. Supt. Public Institutions,  
Department of Education  
Lincoln Liston, Assc. Supt. Public Institutions,  
Department of Education  
Eric Cronkhite, State Parks Administration  
Attorney George Holden, Lander County Fair and  
Recreation Board  
Fred Baldini, Battle Mountain  
Senator R. Blakemore  
Dr. Lloyd Smith, acting President, Desert Research Institute  
Professor Joseph Warburton, Research Scientist, DRI  
Howard Barrett, Budget Director  
Ron Sparks, Fiscal Analyst  
Cy Ryan, UPI

SB 15

John Gamble said that the minimum tuition per pupil is \$225. Senator Brown asked if it would be a savings if Nye and Esmeralda Counties would go together. Mr. Gamble replied, "I don't know."

Senator Raggio said we have reached a point where we can no longer stand independent districts; we are going to need consolidation of school districts. Mr. Gamble said the Governor's study two years ago gives you a plan. Senator Lamb asked what he wanted to do as far as Esmeralda County was concerned; "can't we give them some help?" Mr. Gamble said that the problem is we are trying to maintain two special education programs now. Senator Young asked how many units they get? Gamble replied, two.

Senator Lamb asked "if we kill SB 15, is there a way you can help Esmeralda County?" Senator Gibson asked if we write into the law a special provision to give Esmeralda County some help because of their unusual circumstances. This would not include every county.

Mr. Lincoln Liston said that SB 15 would be of assistance to Esmeralda County when the rates are calculated; but, when enrollments go down its more serious. The County has only 107 enrollees compared to 116 in September. If they continue to decline by 76-77 that would be more of a financial strain. In 75-76 in Paragraph E of the School Formula that will cover the first year of declining enrollment, but not the second.

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Senator Gibson stated that their enrollment increased 40 percent. Mr. Liston said their average daily attendance for 71-72 was 66; 73-74 was 95, and 74-75 was 116 were enrolled. Senator Gibson further stated that we calculate distribution figures every two years. Mr. Liston said yes, the only three counties affected by this fluctuation are Esmeralda, Storey and Eureka.

Senator Lamb stating that we don't want to spend money in county's that don't need it, asked Mr. Liston to figure out and recalculate ratio's of enrollment and return to the Committee. Mr. Liston said that the application of data to what we have now can never get more than two years old. However, I will comply with Senator Lamb's request.

SENATE PARK LAND ACQUISITION:

Mr. Eric Cronkhite distributed information to the committee members. Senator Lamb asked why it is critical? Mr. Cronkhite said that the acreages (handout) in the budget - we're asking to purchase only what is in the budget; Silver Springs Beach Area - 1,480 acres and Churchill County Beach. Senator Lamb asked if there had been testings on price? Mr. Cronkhite said the prices range; and in response to Senator Brown's question of what is the estimate on the 1,480 acres, he replied maybe \$2,000 an acre; we have had no appraisals. Senator Young questioned why they would need 300 or 400 acres for an access. Mr. Cronkhite replied for a major recreation area we have proposed purchasing acres to maintain the integrity of the land. Senator Brown said that this would be \$2,800,000. Mr. Cronkhite said we know we have more land than dollar value. We just cannot purchase it all. The major purchases are the development sites.

Senator Raggio asked Mr. Cronkhite if he was planning to relocate the access road on Parcel 31? (see handout)\* Mr. Cronkhite said that there was a county road going into it now; but to fully plan the area for the development we feel we must do this. Senator Raggio stated that he didn't think they needed all of this land for access. Mr. Cronkhite said we are going to have to pick out the key ones. Senator Lamb said he thought Mr. Cronkhite should buy what acreage he needed to protect himself. Senator Brown asked if he needed \$1,200,000 state money and \$1,200,000 federal money for the nine proposed priorities? Senator Raggio asked how much was planned to be spent at Lahontan.

Senator Lamb asked Mr. Cronkhite to put together proposals of what he can buy and how much. Senator Brown, speaking of public land, asked if there was a chance it could be taken over by somebody else. Mr. Cronkhite replied, we have made application now, and we never know for sure what will happen in the future. Senator Lamb said, he doesn't know how much he'll be getting on a matching basis. Senator Raggio said that the committee was aware of the master plan and asked Mr. Cronkhite if he could get the needed information and come back to the Interim Finance Committee. Senator Young asked which of the nine had priorities. Mr. Cronkhite said Red Rock, Lahontan, Fort Schellbourne and Carson River.

Senator Brown - Motion for a further study and present to the Interim Finance Committee.  
Senator Young - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

\* Not included in minutes.

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WALKER RIVER PROJECT - CLOUD SEEDING PROGRAM:

Senator R. Blakemore said in addition to the amount in the budget the amount of \$350,000 would be needed as: \$175,000 for fiscal year '76 and \$175,000 for fiscal year '77. (Please refer to handout). Mr. Warburton explained the latest Western United States National Study on the Seeding Plan. Senator Young asked what is the affect of moisture being dropped inland and what happens to long distances. Mr. Warburton said the moisture in the atmosphere is reused every 100 or 200 miles. He further stated that it is important to continue the \$65,000 program in the Truckee Basin. Senator Lamb said "are you saying it is possible they (California) could dry us up"? Mr. Warburton said "YES".

DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE:

Mr. Howard Barrett said last December it was built into the budget - they indicated they could continue the Truckee River Seeding Project without any more money - they now need an additional \$65,000. Senator Gibson said "Nevada is on a crisis in water and we need to improve." Senator Raggio asked "what else you would need". Senator Gibson asked if \$100,000 each year for two years would be feasible. Senator Raggio asking why this project needed so much money, asked for it to be held for one more day for research.

Senator Monroe - Motion to hold for a one day study.

Senator Gibson - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

SB 332

Attorney George Holden, Lander County Fair and Recreation Board, said it would be amended to show an item "that the hydrological impact on the down stream user would be the first on the survey. He stated that the Lander and Pershing County's had a joint and mutual agreement." Senator Brown requested that the agreement be put into writing, stating that everyone is in accord showing the signatures of all concerned. Mr. Holden said in respect to the TS they are not going to say anything until the downstream survey is completed. A motion was made by the Committee to hold until a joint letter from the Lander and Pershing Committee - No action will be taken pending the arrival of the letter.

BOND INTEREST AND REDEMPTION FUND:

Senator Monroe - Approve Governor's recommendation  
Senator Young - 2nd  
Motion Carried

PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL BOARDS:

Senator Walker - Approve Governor's recommendation.  
Senator Raggio - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

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MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAM:

Mr. Barrett said the Motor Vehicle Department did not get a great deal of cooperation from the Federal Government. Senator Monroe stated that when the Feds appeared before the Transportation Committee they showed a brake and tire checking program and then the Department of Motor Vehicles puts in a bill to check everything on the car. The committee agreed to hold until the bill is processed in the Senate Transportation Committee.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE FUND:

Senator Brown - Motion to approve budget except salaries.  
Senator Walker - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

SUPREME COURT:

Senator Walker - Approve Governor's recommendation.  
Senator Raggio - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

SB 547

Senator Young - Do Pass  
Senator Walker - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Hold for Howard Barrett to return with update on enrollment projection.

WESTERN NEVADA COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Senator Young - Approve Governor's recommendation  
Senator Walker - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

NORTHERN NEVADA COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Senator Young - Approve Governor's recommendation  
Senator Walker - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

AB 647

Senator Raggio said the Legislative Commission has been involved in this plan for one or two years. Senator Gibson said "every Legislator needs their own office." Senator Raggio said that for a Legislator to function properly this was necessary.

Senator Raggio - DO PASS  
Senator Walker - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

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SENIOR CITIZENS PROPERTY TAX:

Senator Gibson - Take appropriation out of the budget - In SB 311  
Senator Brown - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT HIGHWAY PATROL:

Senator Gibson - Approve subject to SB 187 to be  
considered by the Assembly.  
Senator Walker - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

Senator Lamb said the 151 minimum number of officers remains and the two new  
additions be Special positions.

Senator Walker - Motion to add two new positions.  
Senator Gibson - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY PATROL SPECIAL FUND:

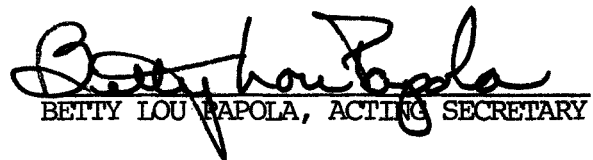
Senator Gibson - Approve Governor's recommendation subject  
to SB 187 passage by the Assembly.  
Senator Brown - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

DRIVERS' LICENSE DIVISION:

Senator Brown - Approve Governor's recommendation  
Senator Gibson - 2nd  
Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

  
BETTY LOU RAPOLA, ACTING SECRETARY

APPROVED BY:

  
FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN