

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 4, 1977

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 Eugene V. Echols
Senator Norman D. Glaser
Senator Norman Ty Hilbrecht
Senator Thomas R. C. Wilson
Senator C. Clifton Young

OTHERS: Ronald W. Sparks, Chief Deputy, Fiscal Analysis
Howard Barrett, Budget Director
Cy Ryan, UPI
Glen K. Griffith, Director, Fish and Game
Bill Hancock, Secretary-Manager, Public Works Board
Senator Carl Dodge

C.I.P. Project 77-13: Mr. Griffith spoke on the needs of this project. He said that the treatment systems consisting of vacuum cleaners, settling ponds, digesters and sludge beds are required on the Washoe Rearing Ponds, Spring Creek Hatchery and Gallagher Hatchery to comply with Environmental Protection Agency Standards. There are two functioning units now, one at Verdi and one at the Lake Mead installation.

He explained that it is very difficult to buy fish eggs and some species you can no longer get. They have been trying for two and one half years to get Kokanee and they are not available. Other types are difficult to buy in varying degrees. Other states do not have enough for their own needs so there is no surplus. As water decreases in both quantity and quality the problem increases.

He explained the processes used in the fisheries and the distribution of the small fish hatched. By the process of recirculation of the water, there is a great water saving.

C.I.P. Project 77-30: The desirability of enlarging Fish and Game's present facilities and giving better service to the public and also working in closer cooperation with Parks and Forestry was discussed in relation to this project. It was suggested that the new state park at Tule Springs might offer a better facility than the one presently planned. Mr. Hancock said that they had a figure of \$139,000 for a new Fish and Game building and \$142,500 for Forestry. If these two services were combined, as suggested in the present project, there would be a substantial savings. Various alternatives to this program were discussed.

C.I.P. 77-42: Mr. Griffith said this facility would establish a state-owned brood stock for fish so there would be a stable source of eggs. This would also enable them to get the fall spawners instead of the spring spawners so they could take advantage of the growth factors of hybridization. He detailed the advantages that would be generated with this new facility.

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He said supply and demand were determining availability at the present time, regardless of price. They foresaw prohibition of the interstate transfer of eggs, some of which has already occurred.

The Committee discussed the costs and needs of the program. Senator Lamb voiced his objection to the appropriation of \$1.2 million of general fund money to the Fish and Game interests. He felt the program should become self supporting. Ways of accomplishing this, by increased hunting and fishing fees or even if, in this day and time, this could be accomplished were discussed along with the general public's responsibility to support these interests.

Senator Lamb thanked him for appearing.

C.I.P. 77-39: Senator Glaser said this building would provide a far better working space and area for this function than in downtown Elko. They spend considerable time working on the fire trucks and they operate fire fighting programs and they need to be out of the congested areas. The cost of the office building if added to the project is \$114,000.

Senator Glaser moved that the project be approved by the addition of \$114,000 for an office building; Senator Gibson seconded and the motion carried with Senators Hilbrecht, Lamb and Young dissenting.

C.I.P. 77-42: Senator Glaser moved that the project be approved; Senator Wilson seconded and said he felt this was a good program and it had produced and followed the criteria the Committee was setting forth for the Fish and Game Commission. The motion carried with Senators Lamb and Hilbrecht dissenting.

C.I.P. 77-30: Senator Hilbrecht said he felt this might have had considerable merit when it was planned, but in view of the new state park at Tule Springs, he would like to postpone action until they had an opportunity to consider alternatives. Having employees drive from Las Vegas to Tule Springs daily versus having the public have to drive out there for their needs, licenses etc. was discussed. Senator Lamb asked Mr. Hancock to look into this and come back with a recommendation.

Senator Hilbrecht asked if they couldn't have a bill drafted that would increase fees for hunting and fishing licenses as well as licenses for boats. He felt this would be an equitable solution to some of the problems in the field of fish and game.

C.I.P. 77-13: Senator Gibson moved that this project be approved; Senator Glaser seconded and the motion carried with Senators Echols, Hilbrecht, and Lamb dissenting.

Mr. Barrett reported on the enrollment figures he had received for the Clark County Community College. In the second year their enrollment figure is reduced from 4250 to 3300. The budget office recommended that the budget for the second year cover 3000 enrollment and then give the Board of Examiners a reserve to equal the amount necessary for the other 300, to release to them, if they actually have the additional enrollment.

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UNS ADMINISTRATION BUDGET: Senator Young moved the Committee go with the Governor; Senator Gibson seconded and the motion carried.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO: Mr. Sparks explained the three attachments on this budget which he had given to the Committee. Discussion followed on how to handle the one shot appropriation of \$379,000 for equipment. Senator Gibson said if the money was not immediately available the Mackay School of Mines would not be accredited and he did not want to jeopardize this. Senator Lamb said that he felt the Mackay School of Mines problem should be resolved before the Legislature adjourns.

Senator Young moved that the University of Nevada be provided the \$379,000 for the equipment and one half of what is needed for various departments for personnel and do nothing on the ratio.

Senator Gibson moved that a bill be drawn authorizing the expenditure of \$379,810 for equipment for the Mackay School of Mines, with the equipment itemized in the bill, also an appropriation for \$202,034 for the first year of the biennium for the purpose of maintaining accreditation of the school, with the expenditure detailed in the bill. Senator Hilbrecht seconded the motion and it carried.

Senator Gibson moved that the budget be closed with the amendments necessary to cover expenditures in the bill; Senator Young seconded and the motion carried.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS - UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO: Senator Gibson moved the Committee go with the Governor's budget; Senator Young seconded and the motion carried.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS - UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO: Mr. Barrett explained that Grants-in-Aid in this budget had to be increased by \$30,000 for each year, as originally intended when the budget was built. Senator Echols moved that this amount be added and the budget approved; Senator Wilson seconded and the motion carried. A discussion followed on the advisability of holding this budget to be considered later. Senator Echols withdrew his motion.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE BUDGET: Mr. Sparks said that in the transition from the work program to the budget a full position was dropped unintentionally. To make the adjustment it will be necessary to add \$18,500 in the first year and \$19,000 to put the position back in the budget.

Senator Gibson moved that the money be restored to the budget; Senator Young seconded and the motion carried.

Senator Gibson moved the budget be approved as amended and Senator Young seconded. The motion carried.

AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENT STATION BUDGET: Senator Glaser moved the Committee go with the Governor's recommendation; Senator Wilson seconded and the motion carried.

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DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE BUDGET: Senator Glaser moved the budget be approved; Senator Hilbrecht seconded.

Mr. Sparks said that two centers were apparently dropped because of a name change. One of them, according to the Board of Regents minutes, has already been transferred to UNLV and there were no additional funds requested. The Humans System Center was dropped in the Governor's recommendation. If it was restored it would cost \$53,848 in the first year and \$57,617 the second year. Mr. Barrett said this budget was still not recommended as they could not get specifics on the activities of the division. The Committee voted the budget be approved as the Governor recommended.

SYSTEM COMPUTING CENTER BUDGET: Senator Young moved that the budget be approved; Senator Glaser seconded and the motion carried.

NATIONAL DIRECT STUDENT LOAN BUDGET: Senator Young moved the Committee go with the Governor; Senator Glaser seconded and the motion carried.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA LAS VEGAS BUDGET: Senator Gibson moved the Committee go with the Governor; Senator Young seconded and the motion passed.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS - UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA LAS VEGAS: Senator Hilbrecht moved the Committee go with the Governor; Senator Wilson seconded and the motion carried.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DIVISION ADMINISTRATIONS BUDGET: Senator Gibson moved that the separate Community College Administration be maintained; Senator Glaser seconded. No vote was called for on the motion. Senator Gibson said that he felt Community College would lose the identity of a Community College as a separate and distinct system of the University System itself without its own administration. He felt they needed to keep it separate to safeguard the purposes of the school.

Mr. Sparks explained suggested changes in this budget. In order to restore the Community College administration it would take \$357,220 the first year, above what the Governor recommended, and \$368,117 the second year. This action reduces Clark County Community College by \$106,000 the first and \$111,000 the second year. The enrollment reductions would reduce Clark County College by \$323,700 and \$581,000.

The Community College budgets were generally discussed. Senator Lamb asked Mr. Barrett to get him the enrollment figures on Western and Northern Nevada Community Colleges.

The ratio for classes in the rural areas was discussed along with the difficulty in getting classes established at levels that made it economically feasible.

Senator Lamb said he would like to ask Senator Dodge in to speak before the Committee concerning the Fallon Community College. Senator Gibson said that he had a problem with the whole direction of the Regents' thinking in Clark County. He said he would like to have consideration given to locating the next campus in Clark County at or adjacent to the Vo-Tech School, in order for them to work in conjunction with each other.

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He said this was future planning as he felt no justification to build a new campus in Southern Nevada was evident at this time. He suggested that the Committee authorize the Public Works Board to make an initial feasibility study of developing a campus adjacent to the Vo-Tech School. He thought this would take care of Henderson, Boulder City and Paradise Valley.

It was agreed that in the letter to the Public Works Board it should be emphasized that this is not a mandate and there is no urgency in getting the program underway. It is just a request for information that will serve as a guide.

Senator Dodge presented general information on the needs of a Community College in Fallon. They presently have a full time equivalent which is equivalent to the full time in Elko when the original capital improvement money was granted up there. The total student accommodation there is between 550 and 700 and the average age is 30 years. They lack the classrooms to accommodate full time students who are on college transfer courses. There is a strong need for shop facilities and half of the requested money in the budget is for shop. He stressed that in the community there are a number of people who have unfulfilled postsecondary needs: in the community there is an unmet need.

He answered questions from the Committee relative to land availability and the priorities of the program.

Senator Lamb told him the Committee would give his request every consideration and thanked him for coming.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



MURIEL P. MOONEY, SECRETARY

APPROVED:


FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN