

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. Senator Neal was in the Chair.

PRESENT: Senator Neal, Chairman
Senator Glaser, Vice Chairman
Senator Faiss
Senator Jacobsen
Senator Lamb
Senator Sloan

OTHERS

PRESENT: Don Paff, Las Vegas Valley Water District
M. Douglas Miller

Senator Neal called for a motion for committee introduction of BDR 26-294, which clarifies provisions concerning the resolution of inconsistencies between the land use plans of local government entities.

Senator Faiss moved for committee introduction of BDR #26-294. (SB 175)

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Motion carried.

S.B. 13 - Provides for an extension of time within which underground water appropriated for a subdivision must be put to a beneficial use under certain circumstances.

Senator Neal announced that although no more testimony was to be given on this bill, Mr. Don Paff of the Las Vegas Valley Water District would be asked to testify as to their position on the bill since testimony was given previously that they supported the bill, when actually they did not.

Mr. Paff stated that the district was identified as supporting this legislation, and that is only partially true to the degree that they felt the bill was a duplication of the existing law. They would not endorse it from a standpoint of the Las Vegas Valley Water District and the management necessary of the designated ground water basin in Las Vegas. The implications of this bill, as they interpret it, could not be conducive to proper ground water management in that rather than leaving all water permits discretionary for time extensions, it singles out subdivisions and allows them to have time extensions set by law rather than by the state engineer.

He stated that all the permits being issued in Las Vegas are temporary because it is a designated basin. If this bill addresses temporary rights, it would create a problem because it might extend the life of the temporary permit so that the water rights would not be brought back into proper management.

Senator Lamb asked Mr. Paff if he was aware of any hardships created by the present law. Mr. Paff replied that, speaking only for the Las Vegas basin, he did not know of any.

Senator Neal then asked for final action on the amendment and bill.

Senator Jacobsen was hesitant to act on the bill until it was reprinted with the amendment included.

Senator Glaser commented that there might be due cause, especially in light of the testimony given by the small lot owners, for an amendment which would allow consumers to go to their bank with assurances in the law that their water rights would be protected and not just extended at the whim of the state engineer. However, he felt that all permits should be extended for the same amount of time without regard to the size of the subdivision.

Senator Lamb moved to deny the amendment.

Seconded by Senator Jacobsen.

Senators Glaser and Sloan voted "No" on the motion.

Motion carried.

Senator Neal then asked for final action on the bill.

Senator Sloan moved to indefinitely postpone S.B. 13.

Seconded by Senator Faiss.

Senators Glaser and Jacobsen voted "No" on the motion.

Motion carried.

Mr. M. Douglas Miller asked to make a statement to the effect that most of the testimony given was in favor of the bill, and he felt the committee bypassed the will of the people.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned
at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Wynkoop

Eileen Wynkoop, Secretary

APPROVED:

Joe Near

Joe Near, Chairman