

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

SIXTY-FIRST SESSION
NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
March 13, 1981

The Senate Committee on Government Affairs was called to order by Chairman James I. Gibson, at 11:30 a.m., Friday, March 13, 1981, in Room 243 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. Exhibit A is the Meeting Agenda. Exhibit B is the Attendance Roster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator James I. Gibson, Chairman
Senator Jean Ford, Vice Chairman
Senator Keith Ashworth
Senator Gene Echols
Senator Virgil Getto
Senator James Kosinski
Senator Sue Wagner

GUEST LEGISLATORS:

Senator Norman Glaser

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Anne Lage, Committee Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 283

Restricts use of proceeds of sale of certain lands by University of Nevada.

Senator Glaser testified that he wanted to introduce former Senator Fred Settlemeyer and former Assemblyman Ray Knisley who would testify in support of this bill.

Mr. Knisley testified that land which was acquired by gift to be used for a specific purpose should be carefully guarded as trust matters and used only for the purposes of the school of Agriculture.

Mr. Fred Settlemeyer testified that he was involved in the purchase of the Main Station Farm. He gave the history of

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this purchase and stated that it was Mr. Max Fleischmann's intent that any funds received from the sale of the Ladino Dairy Farm, which he had donated to the Department of Agriculture, should be held in trust for the benefit of agriculture.

Mr. Arvin Boerlin, President of the Senior Advisory Board, testified in support of Senate Bill No. 283.

Mr. Louie A. Gardella, private citizen, also testified in support of this bill.

Mr. Robert Cashell, Chairman Board of Regents, testified that the Board of Regents was not definitely in opposition to this bill. He felt if it had been brought to the University Board of Regents first, any differences could have been worked out.

Mr. Cashell explained that the status of the Valley Road Farm would remain the same as when it was first developed. Any proceeds from sale or lease would be dedicated to the exclusive use of the Agriculture Experimental Station. He did however, propose an amendment to this bill. See Exhibit C.

In response to questions by Chairman Gibson, Mr. Cashell stated that this property (the Main Station Farm and the Jones Ranch) amounted to about 1200 acres and was valued at approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000 an acre.

Mr. Joseph Crowley, President University of Nevada, Reno, indicated that the University's main concern was that if this property was parlayed to a 50 to 100 million dollar value, there should be some flexibility for the Board to utilize some of those funds for other University purposes.

Senator Keith Ashworth questioned Mr. Cashell if it was their intent to keep the principal for the Department of Agriculture and use only the interest which might accrue. Mr. Cashell stated that this was what he had in mind.

Senator Kosinski questioned Mr. Cashell if there would be any objections to language which would provide for the creation of a trust fund, but permitted the Legislature in their biennial sessions to make allocations for other uses within the general University system. Mr. Cashell did not believe there would be objections to this suggestion.

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Mr. Ray Knisley suggested an amendment to section 5, subsection 2. See Exhibit D.

Senator Glaser stated that the Senior Advisory Board would consider the proposed amendments and make a recommendation to the committee within a few days.

SENATE BILL NO. 278

Amends certain provisions relating to planning and zoning.

Chairman Gibson stated that this bill was held over at the request of some people from southern Nevada, but their plane was grounded due to weather and they were unable to attend.

Senator Wagner pointed out that Assembly Bill No. 141 addressed the first part of the League of Cities request dealing with the permissive legislation on the boards of adjustment. The other request appeared in Senate Bill No. 278 which dealt with notification. Senator Wagner suggested combining these two bills by amending Assembly Bill No. 141.

Ms. Leann McElroy, City of Reno, testified that an amendment had been offered to Senator Wagner with regards to tentative maps. The committee agreed to include this in the amendment.

Senator Wagner moved "Amend and Do Pass" on Assembly Bill No. 141.

Senator Ford seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Gibson assigned Senator Wagner to obtain the amendments to Assembly Bill No. 141.

SENATE BILL NO. 352

Amends Henderson city charter to require changes in boundaries of wards based on decennial census.

Chairman Gibson explained the provisions of this bill to the committee.

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Senator Keith Ashworth moved "Do Pass" on Senate Bill No. 352.

Senator Getto seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

SENATE BILL NO. 341

Designates Lahontan cutthroat trout as official state fish.

Senator Wagner submitted information to the committee which gave the background for selection of the Lahontan cutthroat trout as the state fish. See Exhibit E.

Mr. Robert Sumner, Department of Wildlife, testified that the Nevada Organization for Wildlife had agreed 100 percent that this was the logical choice for the state fish.

Mr. Thomas Cates, Nevada Organization for Wildlife, testified that he was in support of this bill. He stated that this fish was found in all but three counties of Nevada and his organization felt it was the most symbolic for the state fish.

Mr. Gerry Brown, President of the Nevada Wildlife Federation, testified that they were in support of Senate Bill No. 341.

Mr. Harvey Rose, Nevada Organization for Wildlife, also was in support of this bill.

Mr. Ken Cavanaugh, Ormsby Sportsman Association, was in support of this bill.

Senator Getto moved "Do Pass" on Senate Bill No. 341.

Senator Echols seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Gibson assigned Senator Wagner to present this bill to the Senate floor.

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 48

Requires designs for new public buildings to provide, where reasonable, for use of renewable sources of energy.

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Senator Ford moved "Do Pass" on Assembly Bill No. 48.

Senator Keith Ashworth seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Gibson assigned Senator Ford to present this bill to the Senate Floor.

SENATE BILL NO. 274

Requires statement of effect of proposed administrative regulations.

Senator Kosinski read the amendments to this bill.

Senator Echols moved "Amend and Do Pass" on Senate Bill No. 274.

Senator Ford seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.-

Chairman Gibson assigned Senator Kosinski to present this bill to the Senate floor.

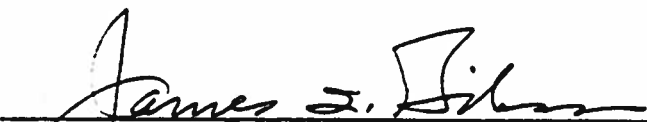
There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted by:



Anne L. Lage, Secretary

APPROVED BY:



Senator James I. Gibson, Chairman

DATE: March 24, 1981

SENATE AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee on Government Affairs, Room 243.
upon
Day Friday, Date March 13, Time adjournment.

S. B. No. 283--Restricts use of proceeds of sale of certain lands by University of Nevada.

Senator Glaser, Prime Sponsor
Robert Cashell, Board of Regents
Dr. Joseph Crowley, President, University of Nevada, Reno
Dale W. Bohmont, Dean of Agriculture

S. B. No. 278--Amends certain provisions relating to planning and zoning.

Senator Wagner, Prime Sponsor
G. P. Etcheverry, Nevada League of Cities
Bryce Wilson, Nevada Association of Counties
Donald Brodeen, Nevada Home Builders Association

A. B. No. 141--Eliminates statutory conflict concerning membership of zoning boards of adjustment.

Bryce Wilson, Nevada Association of Counties
G. P. Etcheverry, Nevada League of Cities
Julius Conigliaro, City of Las Vegas
Daniel Fitzpatrick, Clark County
David Henry, Washoe County

S. B. No. 352--Amends Henderson city charter to require changes in boundaries of wards based on decennial census.

S. B. No. 341--Designates Lahontan cutthroat trout as official state fish.

Senator Wagner, Prime Sponsor
Thomas Cates, Nevada Organization of Wildlife
Joseph Greenley, Department of Wildlife

A. B. No. 48--Requires designs for new public buildings to provide, where feasible, for use of renewable sources of energy.

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EXHIBIT B

PLEASE PRINT NAME	PLEASE PRINT ORGANIZATION & ADDRESS	PLEASE PRINT TELEPHONE
John G. Gardell	Citizen	322 0092
James J. [unclear]	Citizen, interested in agriculture	895-7715
William Stodiek	Citizen, interested in agriculture	882-2702
Arvin Bordin	Citizen interested in agriculture	882-3256
Jan Dodgins	Division of Environmental Protection	885-4678
Bill Newman	State Engineer	885-4380
LEANN J McEROY	CITY OF RENO	785-2350
St. Elizabeth	Health Division	885-4750
Ed Etchouerry	NEV LEAGUE OF CITIES	882-212
ROSS CULBERTSON	NEVADA HOMEBUILDERS	888-0900
Bob Caskey	Board of Regents	345-6000
Thomas G. Cates	NEVADA ORG. FOR WILDLIFE	826-7211
HARVEY ROSE	" " "	926-4436
Wendy D. Delagher	Board of Regents	738-5230
Robert Sumner	DEPT. OF WILDLIFE	784-6214
Kerry Brown	Nev. Wildlife Federation	747-4682
John Crowley	Univ. of Nevada, Reno	784-4805
Bob Sullivan	Carson River Basin COB	885-4680
SHARON CLEARY	NEV. ASSOC. OF REACTORS	329-6648

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SB 283

EXHIBIT C

2. It is the intent of the Legislature that the proceeds of any sale or lease of the whole or any portion of the Main Station Farm and the Jones Ranch be used as a first priority for the acquisition of real property or the construction of buildings for, and to assure the continued operating effectiveness of the Agricultural Experiment Station. After these requirements have been met, any funds remaining from the proceeds should be placed in an endowment for general university use and principally for capital improvement purpose.

EXHIBIT D

Sec. 5, subsection 2

The Nevada legislature hereby finds that the property described in subsection 1 was given to the University of Nevada for the specific use and betterment of the school of agriculture and that these gifts and the acceptance thereof constitute a trust created for the benefit of then existing, present and future generations of Nevadans; therefore

The Lahontan cutthroat trout is Nevada's most important and interesting native fish. It was originally found in all of the source waters that entered prehistoric Lake Lahontan. These included the Carson, Humboldt, Truckee and Walker Rivers and their many hundreds of miles of tributaries. Geographically speaking these waters extended into portions of all Nevada counties with the exception of Clark, Esmeralda and Lincoln:

Lahontan cutthroat were utilized by Indians who existed in northern and central Nevada. They were first recorded by Captain John Fremont in his explorations through Nevada. Early settlers proceeded to catch and eat the native trout. In some areas they also transplanted them into formerly barren streams.

The large cutthroat that existed in Pyramid Lake and Lake Tahoe were then harvested and sold to markets as far away as San Francisco. As civilization progressed, the original range and extent of the Lahontan cutthroat diminished. As a means to help protect and increase the cutthroat populations, their culture was undertaken by the State of Nevada. Brood stocks of various groups of fish were developed and spawn taken annually. The young fish produced each year were stocked into numerous waters throughout Nevada and elsewhere.

Sport fishing for Lahontan cutthroat was frequently described in early day newspapers. As the fame of the fisheries spread, anglers from afar came to catch the lunker fish from Lake Tahoe, Pyramid and Walker Lakes. The world record for all varieties of cutthroat was set in 1925 by John Skimmerhorn with the capture of a 41 pound fish at Pyramid Lake. Accounts describe in glowing terms the numerous large trout taken from the above waters and from such places as Reese River, Humboldt River, South Fork (Humboldt), Maggie Creek and Mary's River.

Today the Lahontan cutthroat is found in many of the same streams in which they originally occurred. This is particularly true of the Humboldt River system where they exist in approximately 60 streams. In addition, these fish are produced at both state and federal hatcheries and stocked into such waters as Lake Mohave, Walker Lake, Pyramid Lake, Blue Lakes, the Truckee River and several lakes in the Ruby Mountains. As they become available, additional waters will be stocked. Extending the distribution of wild populations of Lahontan cutthroat into some of the streams where they formerly existed is also occurring by transplanting. The overall goal of the Lahontan cutthroat trout program is to remove it from federal listing as threatened by using the above cited techniques. Thereafter, it will be managed as the important and unique species it deserves to be considered.

Aside from the large size this species is capable of achieving, unquestionably its ability to survive in the harsh rigors of the Great Basin is remarkable. Nevada's native trout is adapted to stream and lake environments that no other trout can withstand. These habitats range from high mountain creeks and alpine lakes to warm, intermittent lowland streams and large, alkaline lakes. This tenacity to not merely survive, but to even flourish in the wide variety of mountain and desert environments in which it is found, makes the Lahontan cutthroat trout very unique. Furthermore, this same ability makes Nevada's trout a very valuable manageable resource.

Various western states have already designated a specific fish as the "State Fish". In a survey of ten nearby states, six have already accomplished this and three others are currently anticipating doing so. Those already designated are as follows:

California	-	Golden Trout
Colorado	-	Rainbow Trout
Montana	-	Black Spotted Cutthroat Trout
New Mexico	-	Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout
Oregon	-	Chinook Salmon
Utah	-	Rainbow Trout

The Lahontan cutthroat trout should be designated as the Nevada "State Fish". For reasons given elsewhere in this report, it above all other fishes, richly deserves this title. Its historic, scientific, recreational and economic stature should not be denied.