

CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Minutes of the Special May 18, 1992, Meeting
Page 1

A special meeting of the Carson City Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, May 18, 1992, at the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada, beginning at 6 p.m.

PRESENT:	Marv Teixeira	Mayor
	Tom Fettic	Supervisor, Ward 2
	Greg Smith	Supervisor, Ward 1
	Tom Tatro	Supervisor, Ward 3
	Kay Bennett	Supervisor, Ward 4
STAFF PRESENT:	John Berkich	City Manager
	Michael Fondi	District Court II Judge
	Kiyoshi Nishikawa	Clerk-Recorder
	Noel Waters	District Attorney
	Robey Willis	Justice of the Peace
	Mary Walker	Administrative Services Director
	Jack Fralinger	Health Director
	William Milligan	Chief Marshall
	Ted Berrum	Fire Division Chief
	Tim Homann	City Engineer
	Katherine McLaughlin	Recording Secretary
	(S.B.O.S. 5/18/92 Tape 1-0005)	

Mayor Teixeira called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Supervisor Fettic lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. The entire Board was present constituting a quorum.

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE FISCAL YEAR 1992-93 BUDGET - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING:

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CARSON CITY FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1992-93 (1-0023) - Judges Fondi and Willis briefly outlined the proposed alternative sentencing program which would sentence individuals found guilty of misdemeanor offenses to serve community service time rather than jail time. The need for bilingual personnel to supervise these individuals, a potential job description for that position, types of services which could be performed, potential joint funding between the City and the School District, and benefits of the program were discussed by the Board and staff. Mayor Teixeira placed \$18,000 on the wish list for this program, which is to be Carson City's share of the program. He thanked the Judges for their support. Mr. Milligan outlined the projected financial benefit which could be derived from the program.

1. CARSON-TAHOE HOSPITAL (1-0622) - Carson-Tahoe Hospital Administrator Steve Smith introduced Chief Financial Officer Bill Foster and Hospital Board of Trustee and Chairman of the Finance Committee Steve Panter. He then explained a concern which had materialized over the Open Meeting Law and action the Trustees had taken increasing the Hospital fees. The Trustees had approved a 15 percent rate increase at its last meeting, however, he

recommended the increase be reagendized by the Trustees for additional public comment. Following this discussion another motion be adopted and that the Supervisors consider the Hospital budget after that meeting but before June 1. Discussion ensued among the Board, the Hospital Representatives, and City staff on his recommendation, the publication requirements for a meeting(s), and the State Department of Taxation's deadline for filing the budget. Mr. Berkich recommended the Board ratify the Hospital's budget as presented. Ms. Walker requested the Minutes reflect her opinion that the budget is merely an estimate of the revenue and expenditures. Final documents implementing the funding would be considered later, e.g., the ambulance rate increase would require an ordinance modification. The Board's options were discussed at length. Mr. Waters supported Ms. Walker's position that the budget is a planning tool and that the Board could approve the budget subject to Hospital's review. Immediately after this meeting, the Supervisors could reconsider the budget if the rate is modified. Discussion ensued on these meeting dates. Mayor Teixeira directed the Supervisors be agendized for a noon Tuesday meeting. Mr. Smith and Mr. Foster then reviewed and responded to Board questions on the Hospital report, Medicare costs, the life stress center, and center's occupancy rate. Supervisor Bennett elaborated on the Hospital's budget process including the Trustees' careful deliberation and agony over the proposed rate increase. Supervisor Bennett then moved that the Board of Supervisors accept the Carson-Tahoe Hospital budget as presented with the provision that should there be any additions or changes to that budget that they return to this Board with those recommendations no later than noon on May 26th. Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

2. PUBLIC DEFENDER - James J. Jackson - (1-1359) Mr. Berkich distributed copies of this budget to the Board and Clerk. Mr. Jackson introduced Chief Deputy Public Defender Ed Urban and reviewed the report. They responded to Board questions concerning the caseload, attorneys assigned to Carson City cases, staffing commitments, and the City's desire to utilize the "RFP" process for the next biennial's services. Staff responded to Board questions comparing the City's share of Public Defender's caseload to the District Attorney's caseload.

7. REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (1-1667) - Mayor Teixeira then recessed the Board of Supervisors session and passed the gavel to Redevelopment Chairperson Tom Tatro. For Minutes of the Redevelopment Authority, see its folder. Following adjournment of the Redevelopment Authority, Chairperson Tatro passed the gavel to Mayor Teixeira who reconvened the Board of Supervisors. A quorum was present as noted.

8. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1992-93 (2-0392) - Supervisor Bennett moved that the Board approve the Redevelopment Authority Final Budget for fiscal year 92-93 as presented and approved by the Redevelopment Authority. Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

3. CAPITAL FACILITY FUND (2-0421) - Mr. Berkich distributed a copy of the budget to the Board and Clerk. Ms. Walker explained the delay in providing the information to the Board and reviewed the report. Discussion ensued among the Board and staff on the original estimated revenue from AB 104, the \$10 million tax payback for out-of-state sales, and justified the services and supplies category.

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION SETTING TAX RATE FOR COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION FOR FISCAL YEAR 1992-93 (2-0625) - Supervisor Fettic moved that the Board adopt Resolution No. 1992-R-28, A RESOLUTION SETTING THE TAX RATE FOR COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1992-93. Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON SIERRA FOREST FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1992-93 (2-0655) - Supervisor Smith moved that the Board approve the Sierra Forest Fire Protection District's budget as presented. Supervisor Fettic seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CARSON CITY FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1992-93 (2-0690) - Supervisor Tatro explained his reasons for placing \$40,000 on the "first cut list" for the Community Council on Youth. Supervisor Bennett distributed copies of a letter from Barbara Singer to the Board. (A copy was not given to the Clerk.) Supervisor Tatro continued with his explanation of Community Council on Youth activities and detailing his reasons for supporting it, its activities, as well as the need for community support. Discussion ensued among the Board and staff on the level of funding, Supervisor Tatro's justification for his recommended \$40,000 level, the proposed program, staffing, and its total concept. Throughout out his explanations, Supervisor Tatro emphasized his desire to set the funds aside until needed and then for the Board to authorize the expenditures. He did not feel that the City should fund the entire program.

Mayor Teixeira outlined his desire to be sure that the Board heard all of the requests, established the funding levels desired, modifying any of the items in the tentative budget, which would then establish the amount left for other items. Mayor Teixeira then reviewed the proposal to short-term finance the fire truck, 911 system, and parking lots. Discussion ensued concerning whether to add the \$25,000 for a school beacon crossing light. Ms. Walker felt that the gas tax could fund this item and requested time to evaluate this funding. Discussion ensued on the financing costs. **Mayor Teixeira** then passed the gavel to Mayor Pro-Tem Fettic and **moved that the Board add the \$25,000 beacon to the long-term financing elements if it cannot be funded with gas taxes.** **Supervisor Bennett seconded the motion.** Discussion indicated the motion assumed the other items were already approved for financing, however, the funding was only being provided for one light and that future lights would, hopefully, be funded from other sources. **The motion to place \$25,000 for a beacon in the long-term financing package if gas taxes cannot be used was voted by roll call with the following result:** Ayes - Smith, Bennett, Tatro, Teixeira, and Mayor Pro-Tem Fettic. Nayes - None.

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion ensued on criteria utilized in placing an item on the one shot or the on-going lists, funding for the on-going list, and the short-term (long-term) financing list. Supervisor Bennett moved that the Board approve short-term financing an amount of \$345,000 on a ten-year note for a not to exceed amount of \$190,000 for a fire truck, \$100,000 for parking lots, \$30,000 for an enhanced 911 system, and \$25,000 for a flashing beacon for a school crossing. Supervisor Fettic seconded the motion. Comments were solicited but none made. The motion was voted by roll call with the following result: Ayes - Tatro, Smith, Bennett, Fettic, and Mayor Teixeira. Nays - None. Motion carried 5-0.

(2-1936) Mr. Berkich then reviewed his justification for recommending that the Board not grant unclassified employees a COLA increase for the coming fiscal year which was based on a Carson City survey and a Douglas County survey of salary ranges. (The Board had a copy of this memo but the Clerk did not.) Supervisor Smith questioned the reasons the classified employees should receive a COLA and explained his feeling that the contracts should not guarantee this increase if economic conditions support a hold the line policy. He felt that salary increases should be given only if the level of services increased to support it. He requested the Board cut all City employee salaries across the board in either the merit or COLA areas. He felt that the employees and Department Heads would support this recommendation if the funding saved was used for additional staff. Mr. Berkich acknowledged that the City was a service oriented agency. He felt that staff's position was that merits and cost-of-living increases were supporting the service level. Therefore, the staff was the City's greatest asset. Mr. Waters felt that removal of a negotiated benefit would result in the pursuit of a legal remedy which could not be supported by the budget. The pros and cons of Supervisor Smith's proposal were debated at length. Supervisor Bennett felt that after July 1 the Board should begin the budget process again with a goals and objectives session. Clarification indicated that the City's salary ranges were higher than in the survey areas and that the recommendation was not based on the actual salary paid per individual. Mr. Waters used Mr. Berkich's survey to illustrate justification of a salary increase. His comments acknowledged the nation's cost-of-living increase over the last year which had been approximately three percent. His comments also stressed the feeling that the City was not experiencing a financial crisis. He also felt the proposal was unfair to the unclassified personnel. He then explained the 1990 Ralph Anderson study which had also performed a survey of salary ranges and noted that only one-third of its recommended salary ranges for unclassified employees had been approved. His comments also stressed his feeling that his employees warranted the increase and that the proposal restricted his ability to function as an elected Department Head. (3-0355) Mr. Berkich responded by explaining that the communities used in the survey had been the same ones that the Anderson study had used. He felt that if Jackpot was removed, as Mr. Waters had suggested, then Washoe County should also be removed. This again changed the ranges to favor his recommendation. He noted his agony in reaching his recommendation. (3-0412)

Sheriff McGrath expressed his opposition to the recommendation including a survey he had conducted which indicated his officials were eight to ten percent below the average and well within the grade ranges. His opposition to the Anderson Study was also voiced as it had not considered longevity.

(3-0485) May Ruth French supported Supervisor Smith's recommendation and felt that the cities used in Sheriff McGrath's survey were all larger than Carson City.

Supervisor Tatro pointed out the statistical problems created by surveys. He did not feel that the Board should attempt at this time to remove the classified employees' COLA. Supervisor Tatro suggested that the COLA's remain in the budget and that the City Manager evaluate each of the positions as his recommendation had suggested be done conducted annually. If there is adequate, additional funding available after the study is completed, the funding should be reconsidered at that time. Supervisor Bennett iterated her concern about the affect the Board's failure to accept Mr. Berkich's recommendation would have and the message it would send. She felt that this funding could support five clerical positions which were sorely needed. Discussion ensued on the General Fund personnel costs, the total percentage of the General Fund available for an annual raise, the average annual revenue increase, and the service needs of the City. Mayor Teixeira iterated the reasons for conducting the Anderson Study and his reasons for supporting Mr. Berkich's recommendation in order to maintain a proper level of control for future growth. He felt that future negotiations should hold the line with the classified employees also. He felt that bonuses should be given for a job well done. Government could no longer afford the employee increases. He acknowledged that the proposal was neither equitable nor fair across the board but was at least a start. He did not wish to see the funds used for additional personnel. He was also opposed to the Management Leave Program which would pay unclassified employees who do not take the leave. Until performance is truly being graded, there could be no statistical method of measuring it. **Mayor Teixeira** then passed the gavel to Mayor Pro-Tem Fettic and **moved that the Board support the City Manager's recommendation and freeze COLA increases to all unclassified for this fiscal year.** Supervisor Bennett **seconded the motion.** Clarification noted the Administrative Leave Program was not included in the motion. **The motion to freeze the unclassified COLA's for this year was voted by roll call with the following result: Tatro - No; Smith - Yes; Bennett - Yes; Teixeira - Yes; and Mayor Pro-Tem Fettic - No.** **Motion carried 3-2.** Mayor Pro-Tem Fettic returned the gavel to Mayor Teixeira. Mayor Teixeira explained that this action placed \$100,000 into the program for one-shot funding.

Supervisor Bennett then moved to adjourn. Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Mayor Teixeira adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. This tape is available for review and inspection during the normal

CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Minutes of the Special May 18, 1992, Meeting
Page 6

business hours.

The Minutes of the Special May 18, 1992, Carson City Board of Supervisors meeting

ARE SO APPROVED ON August 6,
1992.

/s/ _____ Marv Teixeira, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
Kiyoshi Nishikawa, Clerk-Recorder