

CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Minutes of the May 19, 1997, Budget Hearing
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A budget hearing of the Carson City Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, May 19, 1997, at the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada, beginning at 6 p.m.

PRESENT:	Ray Masayko	Mayor
	Tom Tatro	Supervisor, Ward 3
	Greg Smith	Supervisor, Ward 1
	Jon Plank	Supervisor, Ward 2
	Kay Bennett	Supervisor, Ward 4
STAFF PRESENT:	John Berkich	City Manager
	Alan Glover	Clerk-Recorder
	Noel Waters	District Attorney
	Mary Walker	Finance Director
	Mike Conklin	Animal Control Director
	Walt Sullivan	Community Development Director
	Sally Edwards	Librarian
	Barney Dehl	Undersheriff
	Daren Winkelman	Health Officer
	Colleen Glover	Chief Deputy Dist. Court Clerk
	Liz Hernandez	Admin. Asst. to City Mgr.
	Katherine McLaughlin	Recording Secretary
	(S.B.O.S. 5/19/97 Tape 1-0001.5)	

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, each item was introduced by staff's reading/outlining/clarifying the Board Action Request and/or supporting documentation. Staff members present for each Department are listed under that Department's heading. Any other individuals who spoke are listed immediately following the item heading. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. This tape is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

The Shade Tree Council was agendized for a possible quorum during the Board meeting. A quorum was not present.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mayor Masayko convened the session at 6 p.m. Roll call was taken. The entire Board was present constituting a quorum. Mayor Masayko lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (1-0018.5) - None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING THE FISCAL YEAR 1997-98 BUDGET DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING: **A. ANIMAL SERVICES (1-0020.5)** - Director Mike Conklin pointed out the donations volunteers had obtained to help his Department and explained his need to increase the current part-time officer's position to full-time. Supervisor Smith noted Mr. Conklin efforts to make things happen without seeking additional funding and placed the increase in the officer's hours on the wish list. Discussion explained the impact surrounding Counties have on his Department. Additional revenue could be generated if the pet cemetery is actively promoted. Discussion indicated the revenue from the cemetery is used to offset Animal Services expenditures.

B. CARSON-TAHOE HOSPITAL (1-0154.5) - Board Chairperson Jo Saulisberry, Administrator Steve Smith, and Chief Financial Officer Ron Telles - Hospital Board of Trustees Chairperson Saulisberry introduced the other Trustees and indicated for the record that a quorum of her Board was present. (Trustees Livermore, Elorreaga, Saucedo, and Bennett were present. Trustee Hawes was absent. Other hospital staff members present included: Legal Counsellor Mike Pavlakis, Associate Administrator Margaret Libbey, Linda Rusk, and Nora Sorensen.) The

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Hospital Board was agendized for a presentation to the Board, however, it was not officially convened.
(No formal action was to be taken.)

(1-0180.5) Hospital Administrator Smith introduced Mr. Telles and Ms. Libbey. He indicated the hospital has the lowest rates in Northern Nevada and explained the presentations which would be made. He asked that the Supervisors and Trustees discuss the Hospital's level of participation in other outside community efforts.

(1-0208.5) Mr. Telles explained, through the use of an overhead projector to show slides, the Hospital's financial condition. (Copies are included in the packet.) The Hospital has an "A" bond rating. The rates were compared with surrounding hospitals. The reasons the Hospital had generated \$10 million more in revenue than originally projected was explained as being the gross revenue figure. Five million of this amount must be written off due to bad debts and contractual allowances. An additional \$3 million had been spent to create the \$5 million. This left a balance of \$2 million which is committed toward expanding the facilities in Carson City and Douglas County and for debt service. The budget contained a built-in five percent rate increase, however, only 1.9 percent of this rate will be recovered. Reasons for this decrease were explained.

(1-0401.5) Ms. Libbey read a prepared statement concerning the Hospital's outreach program. These statements were also projected on a screen through the use of the overhead projector. (A copy is included in the file.)

Supervisor Smith thanked them for the presentation and then explained how the context of his comments should be taken by the Trustees and Hospital staff. They were not being made in a derogatory vein but rather in an effort to understand why the Hospital felt it should not provide additional support for service organizations including RSVP and the Detox Center. This support should not be used to justify additional rate increases. Reasons he felt that the Hospital should support these agencies were provided. Somewhere in its budget he was certain that the Hospital could find some funds even though it currently provides \$42,000 a day for other services. Fifteen to \$20,000 a year to those organizations would be well worth the cost.

Supervisor Tatro likewise thanked them for the presentation. He questioned some of the support given to other service agencies, such as Bobby Sox. The services provided to the Hospital by RSVP and the Detox Center were explained to support his reasons for feeling that the Hospital should provide a small amount of funding in return. The Board of Supervisors' reasons for providing these agencies with funding were noted.

(1-0701.5) Supervisor Bennett responded by indicating other community service agencies which provide services to the Hospital. Justification for funding the Bobby Sox program was provided. The Trustees' resolution establishing criteria for community support programs was described. Her attempt to modify the criteria is still being discussed. Her support for the current Hospital Board and staff was explained.

Supervisor Plank agreed that it is a good hospital and that they are doing a good job. He then indicated that the Hospital Auxiliary is concerned about the funding it raises for items for the Hospital and now "the Hospital is giving his/her money away to other folks". This view also needed to be considered.

Chairperson Saulisberry indicated her Board's appreciation for this support. She agreed that the Board also needed to be careful about this issue.

Mayor Masayko thanked the Hospital for its presentation. He agreed that the issue is a policy decision. He explained his criteria for supporting the community services and the community's future. His analysis included the potential impact on the taxpayer if the service is picked up by the bureaucracy. He encouraged the Hospital to continue to educate the community in addition to the Board on its community support programs.

Ms. Walker then explained the ten cent indigent care ad valorem assessment and its purpose. These funds are used for indigent care and convalescent homes. Discussion also noted the 1.5 cent State indigent care tax and the additional General Fund support for indigents.

Supervisor Tatro then asked if the Hospital supported the Detox Center. Mr. Smith responded by indicating that the Hospital had always provided assistance as requested by the Board. He had not received a request for either the Center or RSVP. He indicated that their requests for funding this year had been denied. Reasons for this decision were provided. Supervisor Tatro asked the Hospital Board to match the Supervisors' \$15,000 Detox cash funding. Mr. Smith indicated that he would make a presentation to his Board. Action could not be taken this evening. He then explained that the Hospital currently provides a \$750 physical for each individual enrolled at the Center. They bill the patient, however, only three percent ever pay for it.

Supervisor Bennett reminded the Board that the criteria for funding by the Hospital had not been revised. She felt certain that the requests would be considered as deemed appropriate. She then introduced the Hospital Chief of Staff Dr. Yakimoto and commended him on his role in providing a positive, growing relationship with the physicians.

Supervisor Tatro commended the Hospital Board and administration on its endeavors to keep the Hospital in the "black" year after year against the trend elsewhere. He expressed his feeling that the request was only for a small portion of funding when the entire operation is considered. He emphasized his feeling that the Hospital should only fund items which have a direct correlation to the bottom line costs of the operation. This would be in keeping with opportunities which promote wellness and organizations which provide services which help the Hospital to reduce its costs. When it is appropriate, investments should be made. Supervisor Plank encouraged the Trustees to weigh the investments particularly for the Detox Center as it could help reduce the bottom line costs.

Trustee Livermore explained through an example the funding decisions which the Trustees must make. Such funding requests are difficult to make, however, must be analyzed carefully to maintain a solid facility and plant.

Supervisor Smith expressed his feeling that the meeting had been productive and educational. It supported the need for both entities to work together for the good of the community. Mayor Masayko also commended the Trustees on the presentation. He emphasized that the Board was merely making suggestions and not dictating how the Hospital should be run. Chairperson Saulisberry thanked the Board for its support. She felt that during her tenure in Carson City the Hospital had always given 100 percent to the community. There being no other issues for consideration/discussion with the Hospital Board of Trustees, the Trustees adjourned by mutual consent at 7:03 p.m. No formal action was taken by the Trustees.

(1-1040.5) Board of Supervisors discussion indicated that the Board did not need to take formal action on a resolution at this time. Supervisor Bennett moved that the Board of Supervisors include the final statement of the Hospital as presented to the Board of Supervisors this evening including an augmentation which had also been adopted. Supervisor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

C. SIERRA FOREST FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (1-1055.5) - Western Region Forester Robert Ashworth; **D. CAPITAL FACILITIES FUND; E. STRATEGIC PLANNING** - Ms. Walker and Mr. Berkich - Discussion explained the decision to use Motor Vehicle taxes to acquire additional equipment for the Sierra Forest Fire Protection District; the resolution which will be considered on May 29; and the supplemental request for \$6,000 for court recording equipment. (1-1114.5) Ms. Walker commended Mr. Ashworth on his willingness to work with her on the funding and equipment acquisition.

(1-1152.5) Supervisor Smith moved that the Board of Supervisors direct the expenditure of a not to exceed amount of \$6,000 for the recording equipment for the District Court to be taken from the Capital Facilities Fund Account 330-0000. Supervisor Plank seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

(1-1170.5) Discussion indicated that the strategic planning sessions would begin in November.

BREAK: A ten minute recess was declared at 7:15 p.m. The entire Board was present when the meeting was reconvened at 7:25 p.m., constituting a quorum.

F. CARSON CITY FISCAL YEAR 97-98 FINAL BUDGET (1-1210.5) - Mr. Berkich and Ms. Walker reviewed the funding availability and recommended changes. Question 18 could support the parks planner, Camp Carson Park plan, the feasibility study on the pedestrian bridge over Carson River; Redevelopment funding of \$15,000 for the downtown maintenance if the Ormsby House remains economically viable; and Regional Transportation funding of a half-time traffic/transportation technician. Discussion followed on the procedure to be used for establishing items which were to be funded from the wish lists. Supervisor Tatro pointed out that the Board had heard the reasons justifying each of the items on the lists. Only if the tax rate is raised adequately would all of the items ever be funded automatically. Although the selection process may appear to be a "game show", it was not. There are funds available for approximately one-half of all the items listed. The importance of the items which had not made the lists was noted. The selection process is a matter of prioritization. Comments indicated that if a one shot item is placed on the final list, the related on-going costs are included and that this process is considered as only one vote.

Mayor Masayko suggested that some CIP acquisitions be deferred to provide additional one-shot funding. A discussion on this recommendation is to occurred later in the meeting. Supervisor Plank indicated a desire to discuss \$77,000 in Capital Improvements which he felt could be deferred and a willingness to discuss it when deemed appropriate. This process could realign the priorities. Discussion indicated these recommendations should be analyzed at this time. Mayor Masayko suggested deferral of the " design and ground work for the proposed Public Works/Community Development facility at the Corporate Yard" as well as consideration of the "communications center" and its need for a \$55,000 allocation for early next year as the project had not yet been defined. The need to fund these projects was emphasized as being "pay me now or pay me later". Ms. Walker indicated the CIP only included \$150,000 for the design work. The site work had been removed. Mr. Berkich indicated a willingness to work within the parameters established by the Board on this item. Discussion ensued on whether to proceed without establishing the total funding availability first. Ms. Walker reiterated the funding for the facility at the Corporate Yard was \$150,000.

Supervisor Plank recommended reconsideration of the Parks Department vehicle replacement plan, specifically, the 1985 GMC, 1985 Ford, the 1992 Ford and the Fire Department's four-door sedan. These items total approximately \$77,500. Supervisor Bennett supported Mayor Masayko's recommendation to delay elimination of these items until after the priorities are established. The Board could then direct the City Manager to find funding for any overage. Supervisor Plank had made a recommendation, however, Supervisor Bennett felt that her plan of action would acknowledge the tremendous amount of work staff had already dedicated toward the budget. Supervisor Plank explained his need for funding for the Wylie Circle Park playground equipment. Mayor Masayko indicated that this is a policy decision which the Board should make. Supervisor Plank indicated his feeling that the Board should fund items for the public/community and not for staff or the Board as individuals. Mr. Berkich recommended the Board analyze its operational needs first and not pare the equipment or communication funding. He agreed that the Corporate Yard could wait. Ms. Walker pointed out that the decision to not fund the facility would commit additional funding for lease payments. The City would eventually pay for this decision. Public Works is currently paying \$66,000 a year for its facility. Community Development will raise this cost to over \$100,000 a year. Mayor Masayko noted that the City would be paying principal and interest payments on the bonds when sold. The issue of rental costs versus equity costs was noted. Ms. Walker urged the Board to not delay the project. Supervisor Smith expressed his reluctance to force staff to find the funding. He felt that it was a policy question with which the Board should deal. The policy to replace the vehicles was also an issue which the Board should address. If the vehicles are not replaced this year, they would be back for consideration next year along with several others. The budget next year would be similar to this year's and at some point the need must be addressed. Mayor Masayko agreed that it is a philosophical difference created by having new members on the Board. If the Board elects to defer action on the vehicles, this message would be started today.

The rules of the selection process were announced as being that each Board Member had three votes per round. When three Supervisors vote for the same item, it is to be placed on the acquisition list. Mayor Masayko also indicated that the Board could move on-going to one shot funding. Using this process the following items were

selected for funding: three Deputy Sheriff positions; Deputy District Attorney for the Civil Division; Justice Court Intake Officer; ADA Title 2 handicapped programs for \$10,000; Juvenile Detention part-time cook; Public Health Nurse; District Attorney legal secretary for the civil division; \$2,000 grant to Youth Sports Association; Community Counseling Center - \$10,000 in on-going funding; youth programs scholarship - \$5,000; Shade Tree Council grant; Parks Planner; facility maintenance outsourcing of \$19,065; downtown parks maintenance of \$10,000; Cemetery walking tour brochure - \$990; Fire Department physical fitness program; Urban Forester; and one-shot funding for youth programs at the Boys and Girls Club.

(1-1965.5) During the selection process Supervisor Tatro stated his feeling that the Board did not need to provide the additional \$15,000 for the Detox Center as the Hospital would provide the funding. Supervisor Bennett suggested moving the unfunded community service requests to one-shot from on-going. Mayor Masayko indicated that this issue would be addressed later. Ms. Hernandez indicated that the Women's Resource Center and the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District were community service organizations the only ones not receiving on-going funding. (1-2698.5) Discussion ensued on the library book replacement funding, the Highway 28 corridor management program and its need for funding, and the need for additional funding for the youth program.

BREAK: A five minute recess was declared at 8:45 p.m. The entire Board was present when Mayor Masayko reconvened the meeting at 8:50 p.m., constituting a quorum.

(1-2843.5) Ms. Walker indicated that the on-going funding had been overspent by \$18,000, which she felt could be found elsewhere. She also recommended using the remaining \$23,000 in one-shot funding for the Library youth services. Discussion ensued on whether to reduce the funding level for the Community Development/Public Works facility at the Corporate Yard. As this would create an additional \$70,000 in one-shot funding, each Board member submitted one priority. Discussion included the funding needed for the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District; the Highway 28 corridor management plan; the Community Development compliance officer position which had been funded as a part-time position; the need to update Titles 17 and 19; RSVP and Advocates to Prevent Domestic Violence; League of Cities; (1-3042.5) the Juvenile substance abuse program; neighborhood street lighting; Justice Court clerk position; and Community Development, Planning Commission, and HARC training. Discussion indicated that only the following priorities were to be considered for funding: Nevada Tahoe Conservation District, Highway 28 corridor management plan, revisions to Titles 17 and 18, Advocates to Prevent Domestic Violence, Juvenile Probation's substance abuse program, the Risk Management and Personnel secretary, Fire Department's Hazmat program, and the Planning Commission and HARC training program. These items totaled \$97,000. Clarification indicated that the Personnel/Risk Management position could be funded as an hourly position.

(1-3020.5) Mayor Masayko indicated that he would not be attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors and that this funding could be used for the Nevada League of Cities. Clarification of the associate member's dues indicated that the Board was still substantially short of being able to fund the League dues.

(1-3364.5) Discussion ensued on the revised priority plan and whether to accept it without having three members support an expenditure. Mayor Masayko clarified that his plan would determine if there are three votes for each of the items. Only then would the item(s) be funded. No other items were to be considered. Supervisor Bennett indicated a willingness to reduce the funding levels by \$5,000 for both the corridor management plan and the NTCD. This would save \$5,000 for other purposes. Ms. Walker had previously indicated that funding could be found for these items if the Board so directed. Discussion indicated that the \$70,000 under discussion would be taken from the proposed Community Development/Public Works building. It was one-shot funds. If the Personnel/Risk Management secretary is a hourly position and with Supervisor Bennett's modification, the priorities were still over the available funding by \$16,000. Supervisor Tatro then explained the need for the Justice Court Intake/Traffic Clerk. He volunteered to personally raise the \$2,000 on his own and replaced the Advocates with the clerk position. He reduced the funding request for the clerk to \$10,000 of one-shot funds making it an hourly position. Discussion ensued on the supplemental request to increase the Hazmat program by providing training for six more firefighters. This would increase the number of trained personnel to 21. Supervisor Plank expressed a willingness to reduce the number to three. Fire Chief Buckley agreed. Mayor Masayko urged the

Board to not "horse trade the numbers down". Ms. Walker had previously indicated that the funding was available. If consensus supported it, it should be allowed to remain as requested. (2-0011.5) Supervisor Smith requested formal action be taken to reduce the Community Development/Public Works facility before the funds are allocated. Mayor Masayko indicated that he would not vote for all of the items on the list nor would he support a motion to totally eliminate all of the facility funding.

(2-0029.5) Supervisor Smith moved that the Board of Supervisors use the line item of \$150,000 that was previously allocated in the tentative budget for the Corporate Yard Master Plan as the source to fund any programs that will be funded in the next few items of the list of ten, up to a maximum not to exceed of \$70,000. Supervisor Tatro seconded the motion. Motion was voted and carried 5-0.

Mayor Masayko then read each of the items on the list and polled the Board to determine support/nonsupport for the items. The following items received at least three votes: Nevada Tahoe Conservation District - \$5,000; update to Titles 17 and 18 - \$15,000; part-time hourly Justice Court Traffic Clerk - \$10,000; Juvenile Probation Substance Abuse Program - \$12,000; Personnel/Risk Management hourly secretary - \$15,000; HARC training - \$1,500 and Planning Commission training - \$4,500. Supervisor Bennett suggested using any leftover funding for the Highway 28 corridor plan. Comments supported a feeling that this program should be funded by the private sector. (No formal action was taken on the list of items.) Mayor Masayko commended staff on its assistance. He also noted that it is a good feeling for the City to be in a position where half a million in new money could be allocated for new projects in a growing community.

G. REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FISCAL YEAR 97-98 BUDGET (1-0158.5); H. TRI-COUNTY RAILWAY FISCAL YEAR 97-98 FINAL BUDGET (2-0319.5); POSSIBLE ACTION ON BUDGET MATTERS PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED AT PUBLIC HEARINGS - Ms. Walker's explanation of the Redevelopment budget included improvement plans for Caroline and Curry, which was illustrated by an artist's rendering, and the Golden Spike. Other Redevelopment activities were described. Discussion noted the business concerns which had been expressed about the downtown special events' restriction of participants to those located in the Redevelopment area. Reasons for this restriction were provided. Ms. Walker expressed a willingness to bring the issue back for direction. Supervisor Smith reminded the Board and public that none of the City's general fund monies are used to support the Tri-County Railway. It receives room tax monies and Storey County tax support.

There being no other matters for consideration, Mayor Masayko passed the gavel to Mayor Pro-Tem Tatro and moved to adjourn. Mayor Pro-Tem Tatro seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pro-Tem Tatro adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

The Minutes of the May 19, 1997, Carson City Board of Supervisors special meeting

1997. ARE SO APPROVED ON__August_21__,

/s/
Ray Masayko, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/
Alan Glover, Clerk-Recorder