

**Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Governor's Council on Food Security**

**GROW Subcommittee Meeting May 27, 2014
DRAFT Minutes**

Meeting Locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way Room 303, Carson City
Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, 3330 E Flamingo Road, Las Vegas
Aging and Disability Services Division, 1020 Ruby Vista Drive #102, Elko

Members Present:

Jim Barbee, Director, Nevada Department of Agriculture
Mary Liveratti, President, Nevada AARP
Heidi Kratsch, Area Horticulture Specialist, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (*sitting in for Mark Walker, Dean, UNCE*)

Members Absent:

Wendy Baroli, Owner, Girl Farms (*absent due to teleconference connection issues*)
Mike McMahon, Administrator, Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Steve Hill, Director, Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development

Staff Present:

Angela Owings, Food Security Coordinator, Nevada Office of Food Security
Laurie Olson, Chief, Grants Management Unit, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Gloria Sulhoff, Administrative Assistant, Grants Management Unit, DHHS

Members of the Public Present:

Paula Berkley, Food Bank of Northern Nevada
Jenna Hall and Yvette Myers, Community Services Agency (CSA)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Laurie Olson, presiding on behalf of Council Chair Kathleen Sandoval, called the meeting to order at 1:15 PM. Following roll call, it was determined that a quorum was not obtained; therefore, all action items would be tabled.

II. Public Comment

None

III. Election of Subcommittee Chair

Action was not taken due to lack of a quorum.

IV. Review of Food Security Survey Results

Angela Owings, Food Security Coordinator, reported that the Governor's Council on Food Security (GCFS) adopted the priorities outlined in the State's Food Security Strategic Plan during their inaugural meeting on March 27. Subsequently, Council members participated in a survey to prioritize the goals set forth in the Strategic Plan and identify those which could be attained in a relatively short period of time. For the record, Ms. Owings read the first sentence in the introduction of the "GCFS Subcommittee Goals

and Membership” document that was compiled as a result of the survey findings: “One in six Nevadans of all ages are food insecure and do not have access to enough food to maintain an active, healthy life.” The document included goals for all four subcommittees, LEAD, FEED, GROW, and REACH. Ms. Owings reviewed the GROW Subcommittee goals as listed in the document. The “priority goals” in the left-hand column listed goals as identified by the survey results. The middle column listed those goals which have already been met. The right-hand column included “other goals” from the State’s Strategic Plan. She noted that what was shown as a top priority for the GROW Subcommittee was not necessarily the number one priority identified through the survey. Many goals ranked higher, and several were in the LEAD and FEED Subcommittees’ focus areas.

V. Member Orientation

Ms. Owings deferred the first topic under this agenda item, Federal Assistance Programs, to the full Council meeting scheduled for June 25.

Food Security Goals: GROW – Discussion Highlights

In discussion related to the GROW priority focusing on education and marketing, Jim Barbee provided an update on Department of Agriculture (DOA) outreach and awareness efforts. He agreed to present a report at the full Council meeting on June 25th.

- A marketing plan is in place at the DOA.
- “Buy Nevada,” a program to promote businesses that sell Nevada food and agriculture, purchased four pages of advertising in Edible Magazine.
- The Future Farmers of America (FFA) license plate has been redesigned. Half the proceeds will go to the DOA and half to the FFA.
- Public Service Announcements featuring First Lady Kathleen Sandoval are in the works to promote “Buy Nevada,” the new meal pattern for Children’s Nutrition Services and the Governor’s Council on Food Security.
- A fall agricultural conference will focus on producer start-up and funding.

In discussion related to the GROW priority focusing on aggregation, processing and distribution, Mr. Barbee noted that Nevada currently has no aggregation or processing centers. However, there is positive movement toward drawing food processors into the state.

Action Item:

The agenda called for subcommittee action to recommend priorities to the full Council. However, due to lack of a quorum, no motion was made and no vote was taken. Because a subcommittee chair had not been elected, Mr. Barbee agreed to speak on behalf of the subcommittee at the Council meeting on June 25.

VI. Public Comment

- Paula Berkley of the Food Bank of Northern Nevada offered public comment concerning asset mapping, which is a goal in the strategic plan but is not considered an immediate priority. She noted that the significance of an asset map reaches beyond hunger and into areas such as farming and jobs, and shared observations about how an asset map might help maximize resources. For example, trucks that deliver food products to rural communities can be used to bring back fresh produce from the farmers in those communities.

In response, Mr. Barbee stated that asset mapping is actually about 90% complete. Ms. Owings

added that asset mapping (to include agricultural resources) is a goal of the Economic Development Blueprint for Western Nevada developed by the Stronger Economies Together (SET) group.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Ms. Olson stated that the subcommittee would be meeting in July and every other month thereafter, with the full Council meeting in alternate months. The subcommittee members will be polled to determine a standing meeting day that works best for all. The Council meeting on June 25 will be held at the Governor's Mansion in Carson City. Members based in Southern Nevada will travel north, and Mark Winne will be there to facilitate.

The meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.

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