

**Governor's Council on Food Security**  
**Draft Minutes**  
**May 17, 2017**

The Governor's Council on Food Security held a public meeting on May 17, 2017, beginning at 1:08 P.M., at the following locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
4150 Technology Way Room 303  
Carson City, NV 89706

Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
6161 W. Charleston, East Hall  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

**Board Members Present**

Christy McGill, Director, Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, Department of Education  
Steve Fisher, Administrator, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS)  
Jim Barbee, Director, Department of Agriculture  
Matthew Tuma, Governor's Office of Economic Development  
Cody Phinney, Administrator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)  
Jodi Tyson, Director of Government Affairs, Three Square  
Donnell Barton, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Division, Department of Agriculture  
Amy Hill, Government Relations, Walmart  
Kenneth Osgood, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), Board of Health  
Robert Herdzyk, CEO, Bitfocus Inc.  
Cherie Jamason, CEO, Food Bank of Northern Nevada

**Board Members Not Present**

Kathleen Sandoval, First Lady of Nevada  
Chuck Duarte, CEO, Community Health Alliance  
Aurora Buffington, Faculty Instructor, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension  
David Weaver, Food Service Industry Consultants

**Staff Present**

Beth Handler, Chief, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness (CFCW), DPBH  
David Ramirez-Silva, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Officer 1, CFCW, DPBH  
Jennifer Bonk, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (CDPHP) Section Manager, CFCW, DPBH  
Laura Urban, Food Security and Wellness Manager, CDPHP, CFCW, DPBH  
Karissa Loper, Deputy Bureau Chief, CFCW, DPBH  
Reena Gupta, Nutrition and Wellness Associate, CDPHP, CFCW, DPBH  
Melanie Flores, Accreditation Coordinator, Washoe County Health District (WCHD)  
Michelle Walker, WIC Section Manager, CFCW, DPBH  
Naomi Lewis, Deputy Administrator, DWSS  
Sarah Adler, Public  
Darlene Dougherty, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) Nutrition Specialist and SNAP Outreach Coordinator, DWSS  
Alexandra Anderson, Executive Director, SNHD  
Kirsten Coulombe, Deputy Administrator, DPBH

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Announcements**

Christy McGill, vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 1:08 P.M.

Roll was taken and it was determined a quorum of the Governor's Council on Food Security (GCFS) was present.

**2. ACTION ITEM: Approve Minutes of March 15, 2017 Council Meeting**

Ms. McGill asked if there were any corrections to the draft minutes from the March 15, 2017 meeting.

MS. MCGILL ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 15, 2017 MEETING. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY JIM BARBEE. CODY PHINNEY SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

**3. Appoint Vice Chair**

The item was tabled until the next meeting.

**4. Update and make recommendations regarding Senior Nutrition Programs Gap Analysis**

Ms. Urban referred the Council to the Senior Nutrition Programs Gap Analysis overview. The Office of Food Security (OFS) received \$41,095 in SNAP-Ed funds to conduct the analysis. Results and recommendations will be presented to the Council at the November 2017 meeting. There is a Stakeholder Study Group (SSG) to guide the study. This group is made up of state and local agencies and community leaders. The first of four SSG meetings will occur May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Kenneth Osgood asked how the study defined "seniors."

It was confirmed "seniors" were defined as those 60 years and older.

Dr. Osgood recommended including the definition in the analysis overview.

Steve Fisher asked about SSG agency representation.

Ms. Urban said representation includes: Nevada Senior Center Association, Las Vegas Catholic Charities, Nevada Statewide Coalition Partnership, Washoe County Senior Services, Three Square Food Bank, The Food Bank of Northern Nevada, Helping Hands of Las Vegas Valley, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), the Aging and Disability Services Division, SNAP-ED, DWSS, OFS, and the Nutrition Services Unit.

Jodi Tyson acknowledged the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for taking the lead on the analysis. She was happy funding was available and no legislative action was needed. She mentioned the importance of raising awareness among the Legislature on this issue. On May 19, there will be a State Assembly floor statement by Assemblyman Tyrell Thompson on the commencement of the analysis. Ms. Tyson invited Council members to join her and the Assemblyman for the statement.

Ms. McGill asked Ms. Urban if there is a representative for senior centers in the SSG.

Ms. Urban was not sure. She said she will follow-up with Ms. McGill.

Ms. McGill recommended a rural senior center to capture the unique needs of food distribution in the frontier areas.

Ms. Tyson said the analysis includes key informant interviews to capture the voices of stakeholders, including sponsors for various state programs.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS PROVIDED.

**5. Present Arnold Grant and Food Security Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) activities.**

Cherie Jamason and Melanie Flores provided an overview of the Truckee Meadows Healthy Communities Initiative. The presentation touched on the various levers of food security in Washoe County. They emphasized the importance of addressing other social determinants of health as a strategy for ending food insecurity, as well as looking outside federal nutrition programs for opportunities.

Ms. Flores presented on food security statistics in Washoe County.

Ms. Jamason discussed the importance of unifying community organizations towards a common goal for food security.

Ms. Flores provided an overview of Washoe County's CHIP.

Ms. Jamason recommended the Council look at other factors, such as employment, as strategy for addressing food insecurity.

Ms. Jamason and Ms. Flores discussed the aligning goals of Washoe County's CHIP and the Nevada Food Security Plan.

Dr. Osgood reminded the Council sleep is an important contributor to physiological health.

Alexandria Anderson presented on Southern Nevada Health District's (SNHD) CHIP and 911 referral program.

Ms. Anderson provided an overview of the SNHD CHIP. The 911 referral program has first responders provide referrals to CHIP staff, who go to the site with a nurse. Assessments are done in the home to determine if the environment is a leading factor in repeat calls.

Dr. Osgood recalled a time when there was an average of 1,000 calls per week. One call center received 500,000 calls.

Ms. McGill asked if every service call goes through 911, and if there is a different number for non-emergencies.

Dr. Osgood said there is a 211 number, but it is not as effective; most calls are filtered through 911.

Ms. Anderson echoed Dr. Osgood's response. They hope to remedy this by July 2017.

Ms. McGill asked if the 911 number was triaging the calls.

Ms. Anderson said they are not triaging the calls. They must send a unit regardless of the emergency. Starting in July 2017, there will be a nurse available to assess the urgency of calls.

Ms. McGill asked the presenters how the Council can support the WCHD and SNHD CHIPs.

Ms. Jamason requested the Council broaden their partnerships moving forward. She suggested focusing on educating Council members to ensure a consistent knowledge base to solve problems effectively.

Ms. Anderson agreed with Ms. Jamason.

Ms. Tyson said she appreciated the presentation and how Ms. Jamason and Ms. Flores connected the CHIP goals with the Food Security Plan goals.

Ms. Jamason said it's important for the Council to know how the goals align.

Ms. Jamason told the Council people living at 130% above the poverty level do not have access to as many resources, because they do not qualify for services. It's important to look at other tools to help this group.

**6. Make recommendations to fill vacant memberships**

AMY HILL MOTIONED TO RECOMMEND SARAH ADLER FOR THE VACANT MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTING COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES IN RURAL NEVADA. DR. OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

MS. MCGILL ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO RECOMMEND DANA SERRATA FOR THE VACANT MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTING THE AGING AND DISABLED POPULATION. DR. OSGOOD MOTIONED THE FILLING OF THE VACANCY. MR. BARBEE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

MR. BARBEE MOTIONED TO RECOMMEND ROB MEDEIROS FOR THE VACANT MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTING THE EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION IN THE GAMING AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES. MS. PHINNEY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

Dr. Osgood asked if there were two (2) openings or just one (1) for the membership representing community-based services in Southern Nevada.

Ms. McGill confirmed there is only one opening for this membership.

Ms. Jamason asked if the Council is willing to accept both candidates due to their geographical diversity.

Dr. Osgood seconded Ms. Jamason's recommendation.

Amy Hill asked about the nomination process.

Ms. Urban said the Council makes recommendations to the Director of DHHS. The Director will make the final decision.

Ms. McGill said the Council could recommend both candidates, leaving the final decision to the Director, or they could recommend one.

Dr. Osgood proposed recommending both candidates; one representing the urban areas of Las Vegas and the other representing the rural areas of Las Vegas.

Ms. McGill said the Council bylaws do not allow for an additional member.

Ms. Hill suggested the Council discuss changing the bylaws.

Ms. McGill said they need to choose one candidate. The Council can discuss changing the bylaws at another meeting.

Mr. Barbee referred to the GCFS Executive Order (EO). He pointed out there are three (3) positions for community-based services. Because geographical requirements are not defined in the EO all three candidates can be recommended to the Director.

Ms. Phinney said Mr. Barbee is correct, the EO does not specify the three (3) different geography requirements. Historically, the Council has used the three (3) positions to represent the three regions of Nevada. Chuck Duarte represents Northern Nevada, the Council voted to recommend Sarah Adler to represent Rural Nevada, and there are two (2) candidates up for consideration to represent Southern Nevada.

Ms. Hill said she is not comfortable recommending one candidate over the other. She recommended changing the bylaws in an upcoming meeting to add another membership.

Dr. Osgood agreed with Ms. Hill's comment.

Ms. McGill suggested putting this recommendation on the next agenda. Ms. McGill said the Council will recommend both candidates to the Director.

MS. MCGILL ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO RECOMMEND BOTH CANDIDATES TO THE DIRECTOR FOR THE MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTING COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES IN SOUTHERN NEVADA. DR. OSGOOD MADE A MOTION TO

RECOMMEND BOTH CANDIDATES. MR. BARBEE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Tyson asked if nominations for agenda item 6e will be discussed.

Ms. Jamason asked if Denise Peri resigned.

Ms. Urban confirmed Ms. Peri's resignation. Agenda item 6e is to identify potential nominees.

Ms. Tyson nominated Annmarie Fieler for the "membership representing a farmer or rancher engaged in food production."

DR. OSGOOD MOTIONED TO NOMINATE ANNMARIE FIELER FOR THE MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTING FARMER OR RANCHER ENGAGED IN FOOD PRODUCTION. MS. JAMASON SECONDED THE MOTION. PUBLIC COMMENT FOLLOWED.

Ms. Fieler introduced herself and provided an overview of Urban Seed, Inc.

Ms. McGill asked if there are any other nominees for this membership.

Ms. Urban said the Council can nominate Ms. Fieler, but cannot make a formal recommendation until the next meeting.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Tyson referred the Council to the legislative handout she provided to members. The handout outlined pending bills in the legislature on nutrition, access, and agriculture. Ms. Tyson provided the handout to the Council for informational purposes.

**7. Update and make recommendations regarding Debbie Smith commemoration.**

Ms. Urban provided an update on the progress of GCFS Debbie Smith commemoration activities. At the January 2017 meeting, the Council motioned to commemorate Ms. Smith's food security work through a bill, two (2) fruit trees, and two (2) benches in parks within her district. The OFS submitted food security language for Bill Draft Request (BDR) 1124, commemorating Ms. Smith, but the bill did not move forward in the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislature. Instead, Ms. Smith was inducted in the Senate Hall of Fame through Senate Resolution (SR) 5. The resolution did not include food security language. The OFS will identify the costs associated with the trees, benches, and the plaques for the benches. According to the GCFS bylaws, the Council can accept donations and gifts to support its work. The OFS recommended one of the represented non-governmental agencies gift or donate the benches, plaques, and trees.

Ms. Hill said Walmart can help fund the commemoration.

Ms. Jamason asked if steps have been taken to place the GCFS in statute. She said the window of opportunity for this legislative session is closing.

Ms. Urban said there is no end date for the Council outlined in the EO. It is too late to put anything forward this legislative session.

**8. Creation of subcommittee(s) to review accomplishments of the Nevada Food Security Plan for Action.**

Ms. McGill provided an overview of options for the structure of the subcommittee meetings.

It was established there will be two (2) subcommittees. One will focus on GROW/FEED activities and the other will focus on LEAD/REACH activities. Both subcommittees will be tasked with updating *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada's Plan for Action* and identifying new priorities to recommend to the Council.

Ms. McGill suggested a third meeting after the initial meetings. This meeting could bring the subcommittees together to review the plan.

Ms. Hill asked if members of the public can serve on the subcommittees.

Ms. Urban said yes, but they must be appointed by name. Another option would be to appoint representatives of organizations and agencies.

The Council decided to motion the creation of the subcommittees first, then discuss members.

MS. MCGILL ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO FORM TWO SUBCOMMITTEE GROUPS. MS. JAMASON MOTIONED. MS. HILL SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. McGill asked Council members to volunteer and/or recommend members or representatives for the two (2) subcommittees.

Ms. Barton nominated Diane Hogan for the GROW/FEED subcommittee, and Catrina Peters for the LEAD/REACH subcommittee.

Ms. Tyson volunteered for the LEAD/REACH subcommittee, and nominated Dorian Stonebarger for the GROW/FEED subcommittee.

Dr. Osgood nominated Ms. Feiler for the GROW/FEED subcommittee. He volunteered for the LEAD/REACH subcommittee.

Rob Herdzik volunteered for the LEAD/REACH subcommittee.

Ms. Phinney volunteered for the LEAD/REACH subcommittee.

Ms. Jamason volunteered for the LEAD/REACH subcommittee. She nominated Shane Piccinini for the GROW/FEED subcommittee.

Ms. McGill volunteered for the GROW/FEED subcommittee.

Ms. Adler volunteered for the LEAD/REACH subcommittee.

Ms. Urban said that Mrs. Sandoval will participate in both subcommittees.

#### **9. Public Comment**

Ms. Hill shared that Walmart raised 216 million meals for food banks, with the Nevada/Utah region in the top five percentile.

Dr. Osgood commented on behalf of several school teachers in Las Vegas. He informed the Council that although Breakfast After the Bell has increased breakfast participation, some schools are serving sweet rolls and other unhealthy foods.

Ms. Barton said Clark County does serve sweet rolls, but they meet the nutritional requirements of the program. The Department of Agriculture has been working with the school district to change the breakfast menu to include healthier options.

Ms. Fieler thanked the GCFS for supporting SB 429. The bill passed through the Government Affairs Committee unanimously.

Ms. Barton announced her retirement and resignation from the Council.

Mr. Barbee said Ms. Barton will be dearly missed.

Ms. McGill thanked Walmart for their support of rural communities.

#### **10. Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

No closing remarks were given.

Christy McGill adjourned the meeting at 1:49 P.M.