

THE NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY

Meeting Minutes-October 24, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

The Nevada Council on Food Security held a public meeting on October 24, 2023, beginning at approximately 1:06 p.m. via video and teleconference.

Council Members Present

Chair Allison Genco, Office of Governor Joe Lombardo, Public Health Resource Officer

Cody Phinney, Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Dr. Pamela Juniel, Department of Education

Marcia Blake, Helping Hands of Vegas Valley

Dr. Kenneth Osgood, Southern Nevada Health District, Director of the Advisory Council of Health

Dr. Dorian Stonebarger, Chief Policy Advisor

Maurice Johnson, Three Square Food Bank

Jenny Yeager, Director of Programs and Community Engagement, Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN)

Kelli Kelly, Director, Fallon Food Hub

Maria Menjivar, Environmental Health Division Manager, Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS)

Dr. Sabina Malik, Assistant Professor Extension Specialist, University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)

Steve Schmitt, Chief Operations Officer of Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada as proxy for Deacon Tom Roberts

Council Members Not Present

Kelly Cantrelle, Division of Nevada Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS)

Jeffrey Duncan, Aging and Disability Services Division

Marie Baxter, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (CCNN)

Jesus Mendoza, Regional Administrator, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Western Regional Office (WRO)

Lisa Swearingen, Deputy Administrator, DWSS

Dr. Julian Goicoechea, Director of Agriculture

Others Present

Sarah Rogers, Nutrition Unit Deputy Chief, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)

Desiree Wenzel, Bureau Office Manager, DPBH

Emily Sanchez, Program Support Staff, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion CDPHP

Gabby Everett, Director of Advocacy & Research, Three Square Food Bank

Lori Taylor, Food Security and Wellness Manager, CDPHP

Kathrine Wright, Health Equity Evaluator, CDPHP

Lynsie Hood, Office Manager, CDPHP

Elyse Monroy-Marsal, Program Manager, Belz and Case

Autumn Blattman, Regional Coordinator, Aging and Disability Services Division,

Kelcy Meyer, Board of directors of the Community Food Pantry

MEETING NOTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Lynsie Hood took roll and determined quorum was met for the Council of Food Security (CFS) Advisory meeting per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 439.518.

2. Public Comment

Lori Taylor mentioned an undergraduate at the University of Utah is interested in interviewing the council. Ms. Taylor asked the council if a member would like to be appointed to speak in a 30–45-minute interview to discuss food based mutual aid groups throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and how policy may interact with the groups, in order to gain insight on how the council and the food security may interact with these types of groups. Ms. Taylor added that a representative from John Hopkins Center for a Livable

Future reached out asking to conduct a survey. If the council is interested in future surveys, the following [link](#) has further information. The Office of Food Security partnered with National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) to hire two Public Health AmeriCorps members to help facilitate the implementation of the Food Strategic Plan. Links for [Service Opportunity I](#) starting in March and [Service Opportunity II](#) starting in July.

Chair Allison Genco asked for additional public comment.

Dr. Pamela Juniel informed the council that approval was received to create an app called Finding Your Way In Nevada to assist the homeless. Dr. Juniel asked the council to compile food pantries, food banks, and any other organization that could assist in pinpointing food sources.

Dr. Kenneth Osgood stated that the council worked with the Nevada Cooperative Extension at University of Nevada Reno (UNR) and collected over 200 references. Dr. Osgood noted that UNR was working to upgrade an app created by the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTCSN) that has collected 50-60 food sources for seniors.

Dr. Juniel stated that the UNR link can be added to the statewide app.

Chair Allison Genco acknowledge Jeffery Duncan's Hand raised.

Jefferey Duncan indicated he would like to have an offline conversation about this and see if there's any synergy around partnering with 211 because that is already the statewide resource database and hey also have the Youth app not specific to homelessness.

Dr. Juniel welcomed the conversation.

Chair Allison Genco moved to Dr. Malik.

Dr. Sabina Malik stated that UNR extension did have the RTC Map, and she dropped the link in the chat. Southern Nevada Food Council is was working on updating the RTCSN map. Dr. Sabine reported that Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) provided information to

adequately update data, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) authorized retailers and food pantries. Additionally, this year they are adding different levels of Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), SNAP authorized retail locations, new farmers markets, and food pantries.

Dr. Juniel welcomed this information.

Chari Allison Genco moved to Jenny Yeager.

Jenny Yeager asked if there was a way to link existing food banks such as FBNN, to stay updated on current information. Ms. Yeager's fear is the challenge around the efforts to keep Nevada 211 updated. Ms. Yeager is wondering if the Food Banks in Nevada can be linked to the websites so the most up to date information is pulled and stays current. Ms. Yeager explained that pantry hours of operation and resources are fluid and youth need immediate data available. There needs to be a way to link existing resources. Specifically, the two food bank websites to pull in the most current information.

Dr. Juniel responded providers will have access to update the information and provide links to specific resources, with the goal being to link various resources such as Nevada 211 and FBNN to the website. Dr. Juniel is excited about this and brokered a multiyear maintenance contract that would help oversee not only the initial building, but then maintenance. Dr. Juniel reported paying in advance. Dr. Juniel was appreciative of the feedback and acknowledged the changes on the website are very fluid.

Chair Allison Genco opened the floor to additional public comments.

None heard.

3. For Action: Approval of July 18, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Chair Genco asked if any corrections were required for the July 18, 2023, meeting minutes.

Marcia Blake stated Deacon Tom Roberts was listed as 'others present' rather than a member of the council during the July 18, 2023, meeting.

Jenny Yeager stated the same case for Rebecca Stetson on the minutes as she thought she was still a board member.

Kelli Kelly stated that Rebecca Stetson is part of an organization called Farmily.

Chair Genco called for a motion to approve with corrections.

Ms. Kelly motioned to approve the minutes with the edits applied. Dr. Osgood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. For Action: Approval of Special Session August 18, 2023, Meeting

Minutes

Chair Genco asked if any corrections were needed for the Special Session for August 18, 2023, meeting minutes.

None heard.

Chair Genco called for a motion to approve the minutes as is.

Marcia Blake motioned to approve the minutes. Dorian Stonebarger seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. For Discussion and Possible Action: Vacancies

Chair Genco listed the following current vacancies on the council to be filled: A representative of farmers or ranchers engaging in food production, a representative of retailers of food, a representative of manufacturing that is not related to food, and a representative of the gaming industry, hospitality industry or restaurant industry. Chair Genco noted that Ms. Kelly just resigned this afternoon from her position that represents an

organization that sells and distributes food. Chair Genco thanked Ms. Kelly for her work on the Council.

Ms. Kelly recommended reaching out to the desert farming initiative, UNR, Kapner, and the agricultural experiment to see if Director Jill Moe or Anna Miller would be interested in becoming a representative.

Chair Genco referred to Dr. Juniel who thanks Ms. Kelly and wanted to ensure there was not a conflict of interest due to her daughter being a member of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR) at UNR.

Chair Genco asked for any other recommendations for the vacancies and repeated the vacancies list for Dr. Malik.

Ms. Stonebarger asked if a gardener of food qualifies under a representative of farmers or ranchers engaging in food production.

Chair Genco referred to Ms. Rogers who responded that a resume could be submitted to the board and the council could review and determine if a resume qualifies. Ms. Stonebarger said thank you and Chair Genco referred to Dr. Juniel whose hand was raised.

Dr. Juniel asked if there is a timeline due to the quick turnaround.

Chair Genco responded the goal is to fill seats by January 2024.

Dr. Malik recommended representatives from the Nevada Farm Bureau.

Chair Genco referred to Ms. Taylor to ensure no information has been missed on Agenda Item 5. Ms. Taylor stated no and reminded the council that each appointed member serves a two-year term. A member can be reappointed, but cannot serve more than three consecutive terms, or six consecutive years.

Chair Genco called for additional comments.

None heard.

6. For Discussion and Action: State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) Food Security Action Plan-Vote to Approve or Amend and Approve Final Document

Chair Genco confirmed with the Office of Food Security that all board members received the SHIP in their Board Member Packet. Chair Genco informed the board members all font in red needed addressed further by CFS. Chair Genco requested Ms. Taylor to further present on the SHIP document.

Ms. Taylor presented the document ([SHIP Action Plan](#)) and noted staff was encouraged to write out action plan steps to support the strategies and objectives in the SHIP.

Chair Genco opened the floor for discussion.

Dr. Osgood expressed concern regarding the recommendations on point 1.2 are too broad and not focused enough for the conferences. Dr. Osgood advised the council to focus on one group at a time. He provides an example then further requests the Council focus their attention on a specific age group, two age groups, or specific population to better identify the root causes.

Ms. Taylor explained the conferences were to bring together food ecosystem stakeholders for the purpose of collaboration and meet those objectives already identified in the 2023 Food Strategic Plan. Ms. Taylor further elaborated on the intent of identifying individuals and representatives versus assessing and evaluating the root cause.

Dr. Osgood reported his focus is a bit different and can get to solutions better when identifying populations, root causes, and needs versus having it so broad. Dr. Osgood suggested we could accomplish more if we focus on a population that is in need as opposed to what's being proposed. Dr. Osgood further explains that seniors were a focus initially when the Council was established and school-age children. As a root cause of food

insecurity, school aged children were so different from other populations. In the first year the Council solved many of the problems then focused on the seniors. Dr. Osgood explains there has not been an opportunity for the Council to focus on preschoolers and the general population. There were solutions identified to improve their access, but more work is needed for the school-age population.

Chair Genco acknowledged Dr. Osgood feedback and moved to Ms. Yeager.

Ms. Yeager stated “ditto” to what Dr. Osgood was communicating and believes there will be a challenge to complete a conference at a large scale in one year. Ms. Yeager suggested The Office of Food Security should look into existing support for programs such as conferences, activities and summits in order to not duplicate efforts. Ms. Yeager mentioned there is already a conference about WIC and SNAP. She wants to ensure the Council is not duplicating efforts, including staff and the Councils time. Ms. Yeager feels efforts should be focused on driving the strategic goals that have been set and focused on the larger framework of the 2023 Food Security Plan. She loves it’s been several years since a conference was held and loves the idea of bringing back together a summit or conference. She is worried about having two conferences and it being broad and so comprehensive that food insecurity conversation would be lacking when we’re looking at all these other components. Ms. Yeager further asked how it’s already being supported as far as general information or knowledge or awareness within the food ecosystem.

Ms. Taylor requested permission to continue through the remaining items that may address some of the feedback that jenny had provided and afterwards discuss the collective view, including the timelines.

Chair Genco agreed to proceed.

Ms. Taylor displayed the SHIP on the shared screen and explained that the 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan identifies hosting an annual food security summit and conference, but does not identify how, when, what, and what topics to include. Ms. Taylor presented and read through a portion of the SHIP document. She elaborated on leverage the conference to meet some of those goals and activities. Timelines were developed through 2027 and Ms.

Taylor wanted to ensure these timelines identified were feasible as Ms. Yeager mentioned and the capacity was realistic. It was confirmed the workgroup developed will determine those logistics around the conference in collaboration with CFS.

Chair Genco proceeded with questions.

Ms. Kelly asked if the intent is to have one conference per biennium and to intentionally vary the location of those conferences between the North and the South.

Ms. Taylor confirmed the intent is correct.

Ms. Kelly recognized the timeline as being achievable and there was more discussion on the timelines. Ms. Kelly recommended the legislators be invited to participate and stated conferences should not be scheduled during session and suggested the OFS present to the joint Interim Standing Committee once per biennium.

Jeff Duncan recommended not limiting the Council to one (1) presentation as the interim committee may require the presenter to come back for another presentation.

Chair Genco agreed with both Mr. Duncan and Ms. Kelly. She explained that looking at other regulatory bodies like city councils and county commissions would be ideal. Chair Genco asked Ms. Taylor to amend action 1.1.1 to specify the number of presentations per year.

Chair Genco asked how LCB is contacted.

Vickie Ives responded that DPBH staff could reach out on behalf of the council but cannot solicit directly. Vickie further explains the Division leadership provides guidance on the process of when and what to present to the Interim. Vickie suggested an annual presentation could be stated as once per interim session.

Ms. Blake stated that the wording could say 'a minimum of one time', so that the council is not limited.

Chair Genco asked the Council for approval with these changes.

Dr. Osgood asked if the council could delay approval of the SHIP Plan.

Steve Schmitt left the meeting.

Chair Genco referred to DPBH staff.

Ms. Taylor confirmed that the request was already delayed and stated that there is a collaboration with UNR and are looking to move forward with this plan as soon as possible.

Sarah Rogers confirmed Ms. Taylor statement and added that UNR is waiting for the SHIP document to publish, which was to be completed in October 2023.

Dr. Stonebarger stated there should not be a problem since the SHIP was aligned with the 2023 Food Strategic Plan and already approved. The Council is only adding clarification.

Dr. Osgood left the meeting.

Dr. Stonebarger believes we can continue with the discussion around the SHIP document.

Chair Genco asked Ms. Taylor for clarification on what more of the SHIP needs addressed by the Council. Ms. Kelly and Chair Genco both acknowledge their satisfaction with the current SHIP document.

Dr. Osgood returned to the meeting.

Ms. Taylor reported there was enough information to move forward from Objective 1.1. Ms. Taylor reminded the Council the timelines would appear on future CFS Agendas. Ms. Taylor has for Clarification on the next objective and action steps.

Chair Genco asked Ms. Taylor for clarification on how to provide this feedback.

Ms. Taylor affirms that the Council approving the language in the plan would be the most helpful. Making the plan less restrictive now allowing more time for the Council to make decisions later.

Chair Genco agreed and asked the Council for additional corrections.

Dr. Malik requested clarification on what the vendors role is in objective 1.1.2.

Ms. Taylor states the council can define the vendors.

Dr. Malik stated that it would be beneficial if the vendors went through the food ecosystem.

Chair Genco refers to Ms. Kelly.

Ms. Kelly agreed with Dr. Malik and identified further vendors such as production aggregation, distribution, storage, retailers, wholesalers and then manufacturers. Ms. Kelly discusses the new Southwest regional Food Business Center project that is funded through the USDA. Operations are to start in Arizona, California, Utah, and Nevada. Ms. Kelly briefly mentioned agriculture and natural resources, and her willingness to share information, including leadership contacts.

Elyse Monroy-Marsala joined the meeting.

Chair Genco agrees and refers to Ms. Stonebarger.

Ms. Stonebarger recommended objective 1.1.2 to state, “at least 8 stakeholder presentations from food service vendors across the spectrum of food service to include transportation services” or something similar.

Autumn Blattman joined the meeting.

Chair Genco agrees.

Dr. Malik acknowledges the SHIP document improvement from last meeting and thanks the Office of Food Security.

Chair Genco asked for any other corrections.

Ms. Taylor asked the council to affirm the timelines of both conferences identified in the SHIP.

Chair Genco states the Council agrees.

Ms. Taylor asked if the Council has any other additional resources to add to the SHIP.

Dr. Malik stated that the Southern Nevada Food Council, the Northern Nevada Food Council, and the Nevada Farm Bureau would be great resources.

Dr. Osgood recommended including those who are in the mental health and support services.

Chair Genco acknowledges the feedback and refers to Dr. Stonebarger.

Dr. Stonebarger agrees with Dr. Osgood and further elaborates on the subject of the number of partners in the fighter against hunger.

Chair Genco agrees and refers to Ms. Blake.

Ms. Blake recommended partnering with people who have lived experience.

Dr. Juniel also agrees with these recommendations and request schools be added as partner.

Maria Menjivar joined the meeting.

Chair Genco agreed and asked if Ms. Taylor has more to cover on the SHIP.

Ms. Taylor states no and ready to move on to objective 1.2.

Chair Genco opens the floor for feedback on Objective 1.2.

Ms. Taylor stated that the Council on Food Security (CFS) cannot add a bill draft, so the language will need to be modified to make some recommendations to the Agency Director most likely through the CFS Annual or other means.

Chair Genco supports Ms. Taylor's recommendation since the Council does not get a Bill Draft Request. Chair Genco request further recommendation from the Council.

Ms. Taylor recommends the Council reference language within the 2023 Food Strategic Plan.

Dr. Osgood asked about anyone on the Council being food insecure, which Dr. Juniel acknowledged she has been food insecure. Dr. Osgood and Dr. Juniel described their experiences of being food insecure. Dr. Osgood was surprised there were only two Board Members who experienced food insecurity and brought this up since it was discussed in 2.1 of the SHIP.

Chair Genco thanked both board members for sharing and referred to Vickie Ives.

Ms. Ives suggested that Objective 1.2.1 be re-worded to say, "provide recommendations to the director within the statutory scope of the council". Ms. Ives also stated that the Office of Food Security does not have the authority to provide draft legislative language and requested the council to alter wording.

Chair Genco stated the council agrees and asked for any objections. None heard and referred to Ms. Taylor for additional needs.

Ms. Taylor asked the Council to clarify timeframes within the SHIP, specifically if the Council would like to notify the Director of their recommendations for January 2024 or extend that timelines and allow the Council to have future discussions.

Chair Genco responded that further discussion was required and asked the Council for further comments.

Dr. Malik recommended that the Southern Nevada Food Council and the Northern Nevada Food Council be included in a discussion so that a statewide message can be made clear and provide context for bill drafts.

Chair Genco requested Dr. Malik's suggestion be added to objective 1.2.1.

Ms. Taylor moved to objective 1.2.2 and asked the council if one presentation to the council of Food Security and one brief for Nevada's federal delegation and legislation, interim Health and Human Services Committee to increase awareness is the correct output of meetings.

Chair Genco asked for clarification if there was one delegation and one legislation, which Ms. Taylor confirmed and Chair Genco agreed.

Ms. Taylor presented objective 1.3.1 and asked the council if the action steps were appropriate for the strategy.

Dr. Malik stated that UNR extension has a SNAP-ED award, working with Desert Farming Initiative, worked the last 4-5 years to get the farmers markets SNAP authorized, and can assist with writing out the action steps.

Maria Menjivar left the meeting.

Ms. Blake recommended working with the Nevada Grant Lab to increase the amount of federal funds that are coming to the State of Nevada.

Chair Genco agrees and further recommends working with the Office of Federal Assistance as a resource.

Ms. Yeager stated that the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) should be involved in collaborating with the action steps, specifically Kelly Cantrell.

Ms. Taylor confirms adding the collaboration with DWSS and asked for further clarification on the numerical number of applications identified.

Ms. Rogers clarified that SNAP and SNAP-Ed must be kept separate, OFS would not be applying for grants, and recommended the following wording, "OFS supports and sharing funding opportunities that may come about from the modernization grant".

Chair Genco confirms the Council agrees and Ms. Rogers confirms sharing the SHIP information with DWSS (Kelly Cantrell).

Dr. Malik clarified that the action step should be more for the workgroup and agrees with Ms. Rogers that SNAP and SNAP-ED especially when discussing accessibility for SNAP eligible populations and the rural areas. Dr. Malik explains the difficulty of signing up for the program from remote areas and the number of times needed to come back for paperwork. As a result of these challenges the modernization Grant is important.

Ms. Taylor asked if OFS will be supporting and sharing the funding opportunities and creating a presentation with established partners and further discussions were made for clarification on this action step.

Chair Genco confirms and agrees with what Ms. Rogers proposed and Ms. Rogers confirmed as well. Chair Genco asked for additional comments.

Ms. Yeager agreed and asked for the action step to be broader with the Council supporting existing agencies who are doing the work.

Dr. Malik agrees and explains the Council will be facilitating the workgroup.

Dr. Juniel also agrees.

Chair Genco ask Ms. Taylor for any further discussions.

Ms. Taylor moved on to 3.1/3.2 and asked the council to confirm the language stating 'a minimum of.'

Ms. Blake pointed out that the verbiage around 'transportation' service providers should be consistent.

Ms. Taylor comments that the 2023 Food Strategic plan specifically emphasized transportation service providers and agreed to make the clarification around this verbiage to be consistent.

Ms. Yeager and Chair Genco have a discussion to decrease the number to two transportation service providers and both agreed.

Dr. Juniel agrees and further suggested including verbiage for one to two where the population is less dense, which could include but not be limited to rural and remote areas and possible tribal. Chari Genco asked for further clarification, confirmed, and agreed with this recommendation.

Ms. Blake referenced the language in the 2023 Food Strategic plan regarding the vehicle fleet and asked for clarification on if the focus is bringing the food to the people or the people to the food.

Chair Genco and Ms. Taylor agree we are trying to accomplish both. This is followed with further discussion by Ms. Blake.

Dr Juniel elaborates that the funding source for both would be very different and making the action steps broad would be helpful.

Kelli Kelly recommended changing the word 'distribution' to 'access.'

Chair Genco defers to Ms. Taylor to assure the change aligns with the 2023 Food Strategic Plan. Ms. Taylor thinks the change can align.

Dr. Juniel feels the change will speak to the inclusion since it speaks to how people gain access to resources.

Chair Genco confirms the Council agrees.

Ms. Taylor asked for resources on this section and asked to clarify if we are keeping the same resources identified in the earlier discussions.

Ms. Blake asked for clarification on what type of resource is needed.

Ms. Taylor clarifies that the resource supports the overall objective and actions steps.

Ms. Blake reference funding opportunities including grant labs.

Dr. Malik confirms RTC and Southern Nevada Council on Food Security then refers to Ms. Yeager regarding the Food Banks.

Ms. Yeager agrees with the Food Banks depending on what action step is being discussed.

Ms. Yeager explains there are established home delivery programs and mobile programs.

Dr. Stonebarger ask for clarification if specific names as Catholic Charities, Meals on Wheels, Helping Hands, etc. be included.

Ms. Johnson asked for clarity in this section to ensure it is accurately addressed.

Ms. Taylor refers to the 2023 Food Strategic plan and confirms changing the language to bring the food to the people and the people to the food while keeping it broad.

Kelli Kelly commented that the language in the plan around transportation and housing sector specifically uses the term fleet. Kelli explains there is a significant difference in equity of these spaces between the rural and urban communities because of the delivery methods.

Ms. Rogers provided further clarification on this topic and explains the plan is about integrating these groups and having experts at the table for discussions.

Chair Genco agrees.

Dr. Malik reiterates resources as RTC, Southern Nevada Council on Food Security, and Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT).

Ms. Taylor agrees and ready to move to the next objective.

Chair Genco agrees with consideration to time.

Ms. Taylor continued presenting on objective 1.4.1 and opened the floor for discussion regarding the language.

Ms. Yeager reiterates the need to collaborate with existing partners like DWSS, Councils, outreach programs, etc.

Chair Genco agrees and ask for additional comments.

Dr. Malik noted SNAP-Ed has a [data dashboard](#) on SNAP eligible demographics.

Chair Genco asked for additional comments.

Ms. Taylor confirms she will align the action steps with supporting existing partnerships and include presentations to the Council. Ms. Taylor brings the Councils attention the identified of two school districts.

Chair Genco agrees to clarify and calls on Dr. Juniel with consideration to Clark County.

Dr. Juniel wanted to ensure equity and accessibility among the school districts and suggest the following working, “two or more districts form different regions in the state.” Dr. Juniel elaborated on food security differences among the state with different struggles.

Chair Genco agrees and Ms. Taylor confirms moving on to the next section.

Ms. Yeager recommends a strong relationship with the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) that supports the rural capacity building of both Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) to improve child food insecurity rates.

Chair Genco agrees.

Dr. Malik recommended the Nye Communities Coalition as a rural partner.

Chair Genco agrees.

Ms. Yeager discusses the existing partnership with NDA for the purpose of identifying gaps with the ideal of filling those gaps.

Jeffery Duncan joined the meeting.

Ms. Taylor asked the council for a timeframe for a collaboration with the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA).

Ms. Yeager asked for NDA to present to the Council in January 2024 so the partners can be identified by the CFS meeting in April 2024.

Maria Menjivar joined the meeting.

Ms. Taylor asked the council if specific information was being asked of NDA to present.

Ms. Yeager asked for the existing SFSP partners, where the partners are located, and what the goal of the NDA is to increase SFSP participation rates be presented by the NDA.

Ms. Taylor is ready to continue.

Chair Genco stated that Director Julian Goicoechea can assist with providing some information and ask if there are any further comments.

Ms. Rogers reiterates that Director Goicoechea and Kelly Cantrelle will be reached for further comment.

Chair Genco called for a motion to approve the SHIP Plan with the amendments listed.

Ms. Stonebarger motioned to approve with the amendments. Ms. Blake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

DRAFT

7. For Discussion Only: Food Bank of Northern Nevada SWOT Analysis: Strength, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats analysis to determine what gaps are missing.

Ms. Yeager presents the [Food Bank of Northern Nevada- Rural Food Access](#).

Left the Meeting: Autum Blattman, Kelcy Meyer, Maria Menjiva, and Gabby Everett

Chair Genco thanks Ms. Yeager and opens the floor for discussion.

Dr. Osgood asked if FBNN tried to determine how many people are served by each food bank and service providers.

Ms. Yeager responded yes, partners report to FBNN every month with the number of people served, the frequency individuals are served, and the demographics of the individuals. Ms. Yeager noted that FBNN procured five refrigerated vans for rural partners and have procured other vans not focused on the rural or frontier counties. Ms. Yeager did acknowledge gaps within SNAP outreach that FBNN continues to work on.

Dr. Osgood asked for information on how many people are being serviced and broken down by age if possible.

Ms. Yeager agreed to share with additional discussions between Dr. Osgood and Ms. Yeager on the topic.

Ms. Rogers asked for clarification on the number of refrigerators procured.

Ms. Yeager confirms procuring 5 for rural partners and clarification it is not focused on the rural or frontier counties but instead Washoe County.

Chair Genco moved to Agenda Item 8.

8. For Discussion and Possible Action: NRS 232.4969 Food for People Not Landfills Program (FFPNL) Subcommittee Members and Responsibilities-Vote to Approve or Amend and Approve-

Ms. Taylor presented the [FFPNL Subcommittee Members](#).

Ms. Blake recommended that a committee member from MGM Resorts or Smith's be added, a partner who has food that can be rescued.

Kelli Kelly asked for clarification on limiting the subcommittee to 5 individuals based on public meeting laws, which Ms. Rogers affirms.

Dr. Malik ask clarification on needing to fill the subcommittee now and expressed interest in being part of the subcommittee. Ms. Taylor affirms the item is on the agenda to fill the subcommittee today.

Chair Genco confirmed that it makes the most sense for the FFPNL to run as an agenda item and OFS would adapt any suggestions CFS may have around FFPNL. Chair Genco asked for clarification if it was the law for FFPNL to report to the Council.

Ms. Rogers replied no, the Department of Health and Human Services Director requested the Council be involved with FFPNL.

Chair Genco confirms that FFPNL to run as an agenda item makes the most sense and asked for clarification on how often the FFPNL Subcommittee would have to meet.

Ms. Taylor replies as "necessary to be able to meet those goals and agendas that are identified in the NRS."

Kelli Kelly read the NRS statue on the topic, annual report expectations, and provides discussion.

Ms. Rogers reiterates it is up to the DHHS director discretion and it doesn't need to be a subcommittee but that seems to be what was agreed upon.

Ms. Taylor confirms that OFS writes the FFPNL Report and submits the report as required by statute.

Dr. Stonebarger request clarification on how many people to keep the subcommittee under, which Chair Genco clarified 5.

Dr. Stonebarger recommended combining USDA and NDA since there are similar objectives with Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (CCNN) or switch someone from FBNN. Leave Three Square and consider UNR Cooperate Extension and referred to Dr. Malik.

Dr. Malik stated that UNR was rebranded to Extension.

Chair Genco noted combining the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) would be beneficial. Chair Genco requested Three Square, FBNN, UNR Extension, and a representative from gaming.

Ms. Yeager stated that gaming or groceries should be on the council and explains the difference emphasizing that gaming focuses on prepared food.

Ms. Stonebarger asked Ms. Yeager if representatives could come from the food service or retail since the gaming program is not running.

Maurice Johnson states that Recess and UH-3 are running and stated we got it back and trying to bolster the program. Ms. Jonson recommended including someone from grocery retail, noting that 14 million pounds of food was rescued this past fiscal year and from gaming since the representative from MGM Resorts has resigned.

Ms. Blake asked how many members from the council could be on the subcommittee for FFPNL.

Ms. Rogers stated that the council is limited to five members but can have additional subcommittee members as long as quorum is not met. She would not recommend the board member Marie from CCNN or board member Jenny from FBNN.

Ms. Kelly recommended a gleaner representative, possibly from Reno Gleaning Project.

Ms. Yeager requested someone from FBNN to be on the committee, it just won't be her.

Ms. Blake asked if the council could postpone action on this agenda item, so the council has time to ponder different partners.

Ms. Taylor stated that funding has not been identified, therefore the formation of the subcommittee is flexible. The OFS needs to understand when the committee will be established, when it will be on the agenda, and who is going to be chair of the committee.

Chair Genco called for a motion to postpone selecting subcommittee members until January 2024 and approve the FFPNL presenting to the council as a running agenda item.

Ms. Stonebarger motioned to approve. Dr. Malik seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. For Discussion: Outstanding Discussion of 2023 Goals

Chair Genco opens the floor for discussion on 2023 Goals outstanding to determine if the council would like to move the goals to 2024 or address the discussions in today's meeting.

Chair Genco believes the questions on the agenda were discussed in today's meeting. ,

Ms. Stonebarger and Ms. Taylor affirmed the questions asked were addressed within the strategic plan.

Dr. Osgood raised an issue regarding the Home Feeds Nevada Program. The Council was to receive an Annual Report on this Program, which the Council has not been received any report to date regarding this program. The Annual Report was to include "how much

expenditures the nutrition purchase account spent” as well as “how many people and households were served”.

Chair Genco deferred to staff for that information or suggested reaching out to the Department of Agriculture. Chair Genco added this topic can be added to the future agenda items to discuss.

Ms. Roger confirms the program lives with the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA).

Dr. Osgood agrees with Chari Genco in addition to Ms. Yeager. Ms. Yeager further discusses the staff transition within NDA and following up. Ms. Yeager also states that the program having state support is essential in getting healthy fresh locally grown product out to our food ecosystem partners.

Ms. Blake asked if future agenda discussion can include other state agency programs and data that includes hunger statistics, such as the number of pounds distributed and people serviced.

Chair Genco agrees.

Ms. Johnson provided an update regarding the Food Bank stating receiving “over 869,000 worth of food that was produced right here in Nevada. Huge portion of that 347,000 of produce and not to mention where you go to looking at about 436,000 of dairy and not to mention almost 32,000 pounds of protein meat...”. Ms. Johnson notes vendors are bringing those resources directly to the Food Bank, which helps.

Chari Genco thanks Ms. Johnson and agrees to the proposal to add other State Programs to the agenda and for future goals.

Dr. Malik wanted to ensure it’s noted that vendors have been ecstatic about the Home Feeds Nevada Program.

Kelli Kelly also states “the Home Nevada Feeds Program as well as the local food purchasing agreement (LFPA), a program that’s being run in concert, is that those programs prioritize

purchases from either Nevada producers or food manufacturers on the home feeds Nevada side. That's producers within a 400-mile radius of where the food is distributed. The program is effective on both sides for procurement and distribution, which is important for food insecure individuals, producers, and food manufacturers programs. Since NDA will likely already be present and presenting on other topics it would be ideal to have the Community Food Access Project discussed that's covered through ARPA, along food insecurity and food access programming that NDA is facilitating.

Chair Genco confirmed the Homes Feed Nevada Program is to submit the report Annually to the Council by September 30th and affirmed the 2023 goals/discussions have been met as of this meeting.

Ms. Rogers confirmed those discussions were made in this meeting except for "executive." Ms. Roger stated "Branch Audit Committee did do a transportation audit last year and a large focus of that audit ended up being food security and transportation for food. And, so that's something that DPH has been tasked to address and continue to provide updates to the executive branch on as far as transportation and addressing food security goes. Ms. Rogers would like more information from FBNN on the Southwest Regional Food System Project. Ms. Rogers explains the transportation audit meetings and NDOTs involvement.

Ms. Blake would like to have the Home Delivered Meals Program that drop shipped foods to seniors discussed on future agenda items as well. Ms. Blake brought awareness to the funding struggle that rural home delivered meal programs is having and sought funding opportunities from the council. There were over 475 seniors shipped meals and currently \$35,000 to \$40,000 a month in food. The program was stopped in all areas except Clark due to funding stopping at the State level with only County money being received. It is also important to note some seniors are too far out for Meals on Wheels due to NV landscape, homebound, or seniors are unwilling to travel into the congregate meals.

Kelcy Meyer joined the meeting.

Chair Genco opened the discussion on federal programming standards or policies to identify expanding opportunities to allow better access to resources in different ways.

Ms. Taylor suggested tabling this topic for further discussion in 2024 meetings since the meeting is time limited.

Chair Genco and Ms. Yeager agree. Ms. Yeager also discusses a future goal in surveying entities to and ask, “are there federal standards or policies in place that are creating barriers that are causing or increasing food and security?”

Chair Genco agrees and would like to know where the Council can advocate change related to these barriers.

Dr. Malik suggested a one stop shop for food security for people to locate information and a resource list be added to future agenda items.

10. For Discussion: Review for Updates and/or Edits- The Council on Food Security (CFS) 2023 Annual Report Draft.

Chair Genco opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Taylor referenced the Nevada Council on Food Security 2023 Annual Report ([CFS Annual Report](#)) and asked for feedback or corrections.

Dr. Osgood suggested in-person meetings and Chair Genco requested the discussion be tabled and In-Person meetings to be on the agenda for approval at the next meeting.

Dr. Stonebarger alerted the board of her current transition and appointment to the Council under the Governor’s Office of Economic Development.

Chari Genco to have a further discussion about her new role offline and opened the floor for further comment. Ms. Taylor asked for any edits or feedback on the report to be provided via

email. Chair Genco deferred OFS to Dr. Goicoechea (NDA) and/or the AG for additional feedback on the farm bill that was referenced in the Annual Report.

Ms. Blake suggested food insecurity in hard-to-reach areas and food deserts need to continue to be one of the goals and focuses throughout 2024. Chair Genco agrees and keeps the floor for further discussion.

Dorian E. StoneBarger left the meeting.

Ms. Yeager suggested the Council continue supporting the current State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) and 2023 Food Security Strategic Plan. Ensuring the Council has a method of tracking food security efforts and needs to aide future board meeting discussions.

Chair Genco agrees but is concerned about DPBH staff capacity to provide this level of administrative support.

Dr. Osgood suggested a solution through UNR Extension. UNR Extension was to support staff including IT to use a platform dedicated to food security information. Dr. Malik clarifies she is the new support staff for UNR Extension. Dr. Malik explained she wasn't sure of the platform mentioned, but clarified there is a Food Council website where the RTC map is hosted. Dr. Osgood and Dr. Malik would like to further discuss UNR Extensions program and staff transition offline.

Maurice Johnson left the meeting.

Ms. Taylor asked for clarification when the in-person meetings would start to take place and requested the In-Person to begin in April 2024. Chair Genco believes the April data is sufficient and the item will be placed on the January 2024 agenda for discussion. Ms. Taylor is to receive all edits for the Annual Report by November 6, 2023.

11. For Possible Action: Discussion and approval on future agenda items.

Chair Genco asked for a reiteration of future agenda items.

Ms. Rogers mentioned receiving updates on the Home Feeds Nevada Program.

Ms. Kelly mentioned addressing any gaps from the Department of Agriculture Food Security Program, Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Ms. Kelly added the subcommittee members for the Food for People Not Landfills Program (FFPNLP).

Ms. Blake mentioned the federal programming standards and discussion about reaching out to other entities to gather data about the programs, along with maintaining FFPNLP as a running agenda item for each meeting.

Ms. Taylor reported all SHIP timelines.

Ms. Kelly added the recommendation of a business development representative (BDR) to change the makeup of CFS to add the three seats of people with lived experience.

Dr. Malik mentioned the template to collect information about the food security programs and the creation of a resource list as suggested by Ms. Yeager.

Chair Genco asked for a motion to approve the future agenda items.

Ms. Yeager motioned to approve the future agenda items. Ms. Kelly seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (QUORUM NOT MET). Present was Ms. Yeager, Chair Genco, Ms. Juniel, Dr. Osgood, Dr. Malik, Ms. Blake, and Ms. Kelly.

12. Public Comment

Chair Genco called for public comment.

Elyse Monroy-Marsala introduced herself as the Board of Directors of the Community Food Pantry and gave recognition to their partnership with Food Bank of Northern Nevada. The Pantry is funded through Aging and Disability Services to provide mobile programs to seniors. Ms. Monroy-Marsala explained the Community Food Pantry runs a fixed distribution model and a mobile food program that saw a sharp increase in people using the pantry. FBNN provided a van to build mobile capacity to deliver food and the program is on track to provide for 70,000 this year and historically their highest number was 35, 000. Ms. Monroy-Marsala expressed the importance of access to healthy foods (mental health, nutrition, suicide prevention, etc.)

Ms. Rogers noted a Doodle poll would be sent out to board members to determine the next CFS meeting in early January to ensure the 2024 Annual Report can be received in time.

Chair Genco asked for further comment and Ms. Taylor referenced the earlier public comment in item 2 and asked for a response. There was further discussion among the board members on what is needed. Dr. Osgood was appointed to take the survey and Ms. Blake was appointed to interview with Kerrigan Bunker at the University of Uta to investigate food based mutual aid groups throughout the COVID pandemic.

13. Adjournment

Chair Genco mentioned quorum was no longer met and adjourned the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 P.M.