

The Nevada Council on Food Security
[DRAFT] Minutes
January 12, 2021

The Nevada Council on Food Security held a public meeting on January 12, 2021 beginning at approximately 1:03 P.M. via video and teleconference. This meeting was held in accordance with Governor Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 1; The requirement contained in NRS 241.023 (1) (b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended.

Board Members Present

Jennifer Ott, Director of Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA)
Candice McDaniel, Health Bureau Chief, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness (CFCW), Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), DHHS
Deacon Tom Roberts, President and Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (CCSN)
Rique Robb, Deputy Administrator of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), Child Services
Dr. Kenneth Osgood, Southern Nevada Health District Board of Health
Homa Annoshepoor, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Division, NDA
Jesus Mendoza, Regional Administrator, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Western Regional Office (WRO)
Joe Garcia for Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS)
Kelli Kelly, Director, Fallon Food Hub
Marcia Blake, Executive Director, Helping Hands of Vegas Valley (HHOVV)
Jodi Tyson, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Three Square Food Bank
Michael Brown, Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development
Marie Baxter, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (CCNN)
Rebekah Stetson, Chief Executive Officer of Family
Brittany Price, Director of Sustainable Operations, MGM Resorts International
Jenny Yeager, Director of Programs and Community Engagement, Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN)

Board Members Not Present

Beth Handler, Deputy Director, Programs, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Jhone Ebert Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nevada Department of Education (NDE)

Staff Present:

Sarah Metcalf, MPH, NDTR, CLC, Nutrition Unit Deputy Chief, Nutrition Unit, CFCW, DPBH, DHHS
Laura Urban, Food Security and Wellness Manager, Office of Food Security (OFS), Nutrition Unit,
CFCW, DPBH, DHHS

Cathy Wright, Administrative Assistant III, Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC), CFCW,
DPBH

1. Roll Call

Chair Jennifer Ott called the meeting to order at 1:03 P.M.

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Nevada Council on Food Security (CFS) was present, per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 439.519 § 2.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Ott called for public comment and there was none.

3. ACTION ITEM: Approve minutes from the October 6, 2020 meeting

CHAIR OTT ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 6, 2020 MEETING MINUTES. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY DEACON TOM ROBERTS. DR. KENNETH OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

4. ACTION ITEM: Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the Council on Food Security (CFS) 2020 Annual Report

Laura Urban presented the CFS 2020 Annual Report. The report can be found [here](#). Ms. Urban stated per Senate Bill 178, on or before January 31st of each year an annual report concerning the accomplishments and recommendations of the CFS shall be prepared and submitted the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

CHAIR OTT ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY DR. OSGOOD. MARIE BAXTER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

5. Present 2020 Annual Food for People, Not Landfills (FFPNL) Annual Report

Ms. Urban presented the CFS 2020 FFPNL Annual Report. The report can be found [here](#). Ms. Urban stated per Senate Bill 178, on or before January 31st of each year an annual report concerning the accomplishments of the FFPNL program shall be prepared and submitted the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

Jodi Tyson stated the FFPNL is an initiative meant to enlist the support of other organizations and programs to enhance statewide collaboration around food donation/food waste deduction. Ms. Tyson thanked Brittany Price, FFPNL Subcommittee member, for her involvement and connecting the FFPNL Subcommittee with the Nevada Resorts Association. Ms. Tyson praised the FFPNL Subcommittee members and thanked them for their involvement in this effort.

Deacon Roberts stated Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (CCSN) made significant progress with resort operators in Southern Nevada, including MGM Resorts International, to implement a pilot food rescue program prior to the pandemic. While the pandemic has delayed these efforts, he reassured CFS members CCSN is still very interested in continuing food rescue efforts and collaborations.

Ms. Price stated the Nevada Resorts Association is continuing to prioritize initiatives related to food rescue efforts, despite barriers due to COVID-19.

Chair Ott asked Ms. Price if there were any lessons learned due to COVID-19.

Ms. Price stated the lessons learned will be more evident once hospitality capacity limitations are lifted. She stated the hospitality industry share common barriers and will continue to work together to overcome future hurdles as they arise.

6. Present and discuss updates regarding the stimulus package and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding

Chair Ott welcomed CFS members to share updates regarding the stimulus package and/or CARES funding. Chair Ott asked Homa Annoshepoor to share a update on behalf of the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA).

Ms. Anoshepoor summarized the funding NDA received through CARES and the Families First Coronavirus Act. Ms. Anoshepoor stated funding was distributed via the two (2) food banks and other food security partners for initiatives and/or capacity building to enhance local food security. Ms. Anoshepoor stated NDA recently received additional funding through the stimulus package for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).

Dr. Osgood requested the service data be shared with the CFS.

Ms. Anoshepoor stated she will share the service data with Ms. Urban to distribute to CFS members.

Director Ott stated the CARES deadline has been extended. There may be additional unspent CARES dollars, though how much is remaining or how funds will be allocated is still unknown.

Rique Robb stated the Nevada Division of Aging and Disability Services has awarded over six (6) million dollars to food security partners statewide.

7. Present and discuss legislative priority updates

Deacon Tom Roberts stated there are very few Bill Draft Requests (BDRs) filed at this time. Deacon Roberts expressed the importance of maintaining existing food security funds to meet the growing need statewide.

Ms. Tyson stated there are two (2) bills CFS members can track currently, both of which were supported by the CFS: 1) BDR 824, regarding the creation of a state food purchasing program and 2) 38-656, which removes requirements restricting individuals committed of a drug felony within the

past 20 years from receiving the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Rebekah Stetson stated a California bill created an incentive program for local businesses, schools, and other entities to purchase locally grown produce. She asked CFS members if there would be interest in implementing a similar bill to support Nevada growers.

Director Ott stated the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm to School Grant is an option. The Farm to School Grant incentivizes schools to buy and feature locally grown and produced foods in their nutrition program menus.

Ms. Stetson stated she was familiar with the program and that this initiative would extend beyond school districts, including restaurants, enhancing and diversifying the market for local producers and growers.

8. ACTION ITEM: Discussion and possible approval of future agenda items

Dr. Osgood stated there is a need to conduct research to determine the gaps in nutrition services. He suggested the CFS discuss potential priority populations at the April meeting.

Marcia Blake stated the need to review current data projections from Feeding America. She suggested a conversation around the innovative solutions implemented throughout the pandemic and a discussion around how the CFS can address the growing need with limited resources.

Both Aurora Buffington and Ms. Stetson requested presentations around what local producers need to expand production, and draw in additional producers, including land availability.

Ms. Tyson requested a presentation on the Woman, Infants and Children Home Delivered Grocery Program.

9. Public Comment

Chair Ott called for public comment.

Ms. Tyson announced her resignation from the CFS. She shared Three Square Food Bank will be begin recruiting for her replacement.

10. Adjournment

Director Ott adjourned the meeting at 2:20 P.M.