

Joe Lombardo

*Governor*

Richard Whitley,  
MS

*Director*



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC  
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



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## THE NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY SPECIAL SESSION

Date: March 11, 2025

(Draft) Meeting Minutes

Location: Microsoft Teams meeting

Type of meeting: Special Session

### Attendance:

#### Members present:

- Allison Herzik
- Amber Torres
- Dr. Dorian Stonebarger
- Dr. Julian Goicoechea
- Dr. Pamela Juniel
- Dr. Sabina Malik
- Jeff Duncan
- Kelly Cantrelle
- Marcia Blake
- Vickie Ives

#### Members absent:

- Jill Moe
- Lisa Swearingen
- Tori Lawson-Boffeli

**Others present:**

- Alexis Hogan DPBH
- Allison Gonzalez, DPBH
- Amber Hise, DPBH
- Anais Infante, DPBH
- Bjorn Blomquist, DPBH
- Bryan Davis, DPBH
- Cori Stauffer DPBH
- Darlene Douthitt, DPBH
- Debbie Hernandez, DPBH
- Dillon Winkelman DPBH
- Jeff Duncan, ADSD
- Johnathon Welch DBPH
- Laina Joy Aquino, RN-BSN student, University of Nevada, Reno
- Lori Lutu, ADSD
- Lori Taylor, DPBH
- Maria Menjivar, CNHD
- Michelle Harden, DPBH, CDPHP
- Oscar Fernandez, DPBH
- Rory Fuller, DPBH
- Roxana Cambara-Glowski, DPBH
- Saida Munroe, DPBH
- Sarah Rogers, DPBH
- Taylor Moseley, DBPH
- Theresa Reyome, DPBH
- Troy Lovick, DPBH
- Tyler Saunders, DPBH
- Yami Melendez, DPBH

**1. Call to Order:**

Time the meeting was called to order: 1:02PM

Name of the presiding officer: Allison Herzik

## 2. Public Comment:

No public comment was made. Period for public comment was closed

## 3. Discussion and possible action for 2025 State Legislative Session

Chair Herzik started agenda item three indicating that bills regarding food security will be discussed as needed. Chair Herzik wanted to ensure the first two discussions are about Senate Bill (SB) 233 and SB282.

- **SB233** – Chair Herzik indicated the Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) discussed doing a study to permanently house or fund.” The proposed study would examine the following: the feasibility of creating a task force to address agricultural labor issues (including foreign labor) and permanent funding for Home Feeds Nevada, with the first biennium funding focused on initial implementation. An \$800,000 appropriation was included in the bill. Staff capacity and realistic funding requirement concerns were raised by the board. Pending meetings with bill sponsor and Senator Doñate to continue and it remains unseen who will oversee the funding. The Council will continue to monitor this bill as it moves along through the legislation process.

Chair Herzik moves to SB282 to discuss \$10 million for grocery initiative.

- **SB282** -Revises provisions relating to food security. Chair Herzik states the budget is not confirmed and the board members discussed the allocation of this funding with several programs mentioned (such as Home Feeds Nevada and Local Food for School Funding (LFPA)). Government leadership has been exploring the expansion of CFS responsibilities and introduce regulatory oversight and a reporting requirement. The board members discussed the Councils potential responsibilities if this bill was passed and the possible need for a subcommittee. There were concerns on the significant scope of work anticipated along with the coordination of funds and designing regulations.

Vickie Ives clarification that the “reporting element would be that of the Council as well as some significant roles in the administration of the funds as well as what was just previously highlighted.” The Office of Food Security will continue in the standard capacity of administrative support.

Dr. Malik requested the word “food desert” to be revised to “food insecure” or “food secure,” reflecting current usage.

Dr. Long and others offered definitions of food insecurity (e.g., using 200% of the federal poverty guideline, 5-mile urban/1-mile rural grocery store access as benchmarks).

- Currently, there are regional maps that are in progress to assist in identifying food insecure areas—this includes tools being developed using U.S. Census American Community Survey data that covers both urban and rural Nevada.
- It was discussed FBNN does have a map regarding food insecurity rates.

There was a consensus among board members to follow SB282 as it appears needs further work to refine the language and clarify responsibilities.

- **SB352** (Cottage Food Bill) –Council is hoping this bill gains a lot of support as this bill proposes ways to expand for cottage food sales in Nevada and currently maintains stricter regulations of the entire country.
- **AB345** – Food Security for College Students: initiatives regarding food security on campus; it has components that may warrant council monitoring.

Chair Herzik closed Item 3 as no further bills were proposed for discussion.

#### 4. Public Comment:

##### *Second Public Comment Period:*

Public comment was opened by Chair Herzik.

Jenny Yaeger wanted to show appreciation and recognition to Amber Torres as she is a new member of the council. FBNN has provided excellent work in developing a map to highlight the service area of 13 Northern Nevada counties along with overlaying food security/insecure data.

#### 5. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Jeff Duncan, seconded by Dr. Stonebarger.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 PM.

Next Meeting:

**Special Session Meeting:**

Date: April 15, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Microsoft Teams / Telephonically

Attachments:

Meeting agenda and packet (posted online and at physical locations in accordance with Open Meeting Law).

\*Minutes prepared by **Anais Infante** using the following reference:

Robert, H. (2020). *Robert's rules of order: Newly revised (12th ed.)*. Da Capo Press.

Nevada Revised Statutes. *Open Meeting Law (NRS 241)*.