

Assembly

MINUTES OF MEETING - WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE - NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE

55th SESSION - FEBRUARY 14, 1969

The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Young at 3:40 P.M. in the Ways and Means Committee Room.

Present: R. Young, Howard, Bowler, Webb, Jacobsen, Close,
F. Young

Absent: Ashworth

Mr. Berg, Mr. Dressler, and Dr. O'hara were present representing the State Department of Agriculture to discuss the Cholera problem in Clark County. Over the weekend over 4,000 hog had contacted or were presumed to have Cholera. It is the recommendation by the veterinarians to destroy them as soon as possible. Time is of the essence.

Mr. Berg wondered if they needed authority from the Legislature to proceed with the killing of these animals and the resulting cost which will have to be paid by the State.

Mr. Close asked if hog Cholera is dangerous to humans. Dr. O'hara stated that it was not.

Mr. Close also read NRS 571.190 which states the total amount of livestock so destroyed, including compensation paid by the department, any county or municipality or any company and the salvage received from the sale of hides or carcasses or any other source, combined shall not exceed 75% of the actual appraisal value of the destroyed livestock.

Senator Lamb stated that until this fund is depleted it should be used for this. The fund should support it.

Mr. Close asked what would Dr. O'hara have done if the Legislature was not in Session. Dr. O'hara stated that they would have to go to the State Board of Finance.

Mr. Frank Young noted that some clarification is needed on the money they are to spend.

Mr. Webb thought that it is not a General Fund obligation, it is their obligation.

Mr. Russ McDonald was called in to discuss the legal side of the problem.

Mr. McDonald asked Dr. O'hara what the cost to the State would be.

Dr. O'hara stated it would be about \$25,000.

Mr. McDonal said that they have the power to destroy the animals as stated in Chapter 571, and we don't have to give them any authorization to do so. They are to use their Emergency Fund.

Chairman Young told them to do whatever they can with the money the have in their Fund.

Mr. John Gamble, Chairman of Education and Communication Commission, Mr. Hugh Smith, Director of Education and Communication Commission, and Mr. Allen Brinkerhauf, member of the Ed. and Communication Commission were present to discuss their Budget.

The Commission is asking for a Supplementary Funding of \$30,000 to form a basis of operation which allows a unit to receive funds from grants to carry on the activities of the Commission.

Mr. Smith stated that they now have a close circuit television at the Fritch School in Carson City. Elko is looking at this and one of their principals has developed a four year plan, using community cable. Another plan is a Nevada Western Regional television for the Washoe and Ormsby area in which we hope to tie in all the hospitals, schools, Universities, all doctor's and dentist's offices on a cost sharing basis.

He also noted that they have worked with the State Hospital and they have purchased a close circuit television. The Highway Department has been able to test millions of dollars worth of trucking equipment and only recently we have become associated with the National Guard and their weekend training program. It is used in the prison and their educational program. We serve not only formal education but the citizens of Nevada at large. There is a tremendous need for some kind of a central agency such as the State Personnel Department. Employment security has indicated a need for our assistance. We are also designated by the Governor as the agency which will coordinate under educational television facilities, such as Channel 10 in Las Vegas.

Mr. Bowler noted that the majority of the fund is combined from the Federal Government. The law provides that they will pick up 75% of the capital cost.

Mr. Smith said that it isn't a contingent program, they will give you the equipment to do it.

Mr. Frank Young asked what counties now have any television. Mr. Smith stated that all but four of the counties.

Mr. Frank Young wondered how many of those 13 have all the equipment in all their schools? Mr. Smith said that only Clark County does.

Mr. Jacobsen asked what counties do not have any television.
Mr. Smith stated that Eureka, Esmeralda, Nye, and Storey Counties.

Mr. Frank Young wondered what kind of relative effectiveness for a dollar spent in television for a dollar spent for teaching personnel.

Mr. Smith stated that one of the greatest values is in training teachers to be more effective in the classroom. He also said it is one of the best investments you can make.

Mr. Gamble commented that he thought education must do this and this is one of the means of doing it. We have to have means of having the good effective teacher provide the learning of more pupils.

Mr. F. Young: Are you saying you can teach more children for the dollar by television?

Mr. Smith said in some instances you can and in some you can't. In the long run and proper training you can reach more children with a single effective teacher. If television can be used to present the factual information it lets the teacher be more of a person to each student.

Mr. Brinkerhauf noted that he is the representative of the 15 small counties. The number of teachers they get they utilize more than other scholls. With this type of communication or education through television we might be able to utilize a teacher from Washoe or Clark Counties. There might be only one Latin teacher in the area, but she can be used in other areas. Our curriculum is very small and this gives us a chance to offer our children some of the basic course that Washoe and Clark Counties offer.

Mr. Bowler wondered if there had been any noticable improvement since television has been used.

Mr. Gamble stated that they have been able to develop some program which has been benificial to schools. Channel 10 does not broadcast directly to schools.

Mr. Phelps commented that it was the Governor's recommendation that enough funds be provided to keep their group operating. There are no Federal funds available. They feel they will become available.

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Mr. Bowler announced that out of the Legislative fund we'll appropriate \$12,500 for an audit of the site down in North Las Vega. It is very critical. What they want to do is to have an audit in there and make some recommendations. What is means to us here in the Legislature and any community is that if this isn't handled right it will effect our bonding site in the whole State and it is imparitive we give them the money and authorize it. They will have to have it done in two weeks.

Mr. Webb said that they had the same problem in Sparks about three years ago. They got a citizens group together and straightened out the problem.

Mr. Howard commented that about two years ago he put in A.B. 206 just to stop such activities as this. It was killed in the Senate. Yes, it can effect bonding in the whole state. We are sitting here looking at the same thing that could explde at Incline Village. He also noted that all the members should take a good look at this.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.