

MEETING MINUTES

COALITION BOARD

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

September 22, 2005

In attendance:

Trustee Susan Brager-Wellman, CHAIR, Clark County School District
Councilwoman Lawrence Weekly, City of Las Vegas
Councilman Steve Wolfson, Alternate, City of Las Vegas
Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas
Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City
Councilman Steve Kirk, VICE CHAIR, City of Henderson
Councilman Amanda Cyphers, City of Henderson

Sec. 1. OPENING ITEMS AND STAFF EVALUATIONS

Agenda Item 1. Call to order; notice of agenda conformance with the Open Meeting Law requirements.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Board was called to order by Trustee Susan Brager-Wellman, Chair, Clark County School District, at 3:43 p.m., on Thursday, September 22, 2005, in the City Council Chambers, City of Boulder City City Hall, 401 California Street, Boulder City, Nevada.

The agenda for the September 22, 2005, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Roll Call.

All members of the SNRPC Board, as listed above, were present except for Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas, Councilman Shari Buck, City of North Las Vegas, Commissioner Myrna Williams, Clark County, and Commissioner Lynette Boggs McDonald, Clark County. Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, arrived after Roll Call, although quorum was met without her.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the agenda for September 22, 2005.

A motion was made and seconded to move agenda item 12 (Day Laborers) after agenda item 7 (Performance Evaluations) and to approve the agenda for the September 22, 2005, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the minutes for the joint Homelessness Workshop on June 16, 2005.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the joint Homelessness Workshop on June 16, 2005. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 5. Approval of the minutes for July 28, 2005.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the July 28, 2005, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 6. Performance Evaluations - Continued.

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting at 3:45 p.m. and discuss, in a closed door session, the performance evaluation of Jennifer Olsen, Coalition Secretary. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, had not arrived yet.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

A motion was made and seconded to open the meeting at 4:05 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

Sec. 2. REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

Agenda Item 7. Performance Evaluations. Recommended action – Review the performance of the Coalition Secretary and provide that review to the employing entity (Clark County).

There was no discussion, and a motion was made and seconded to remove Jennifer Olsen, Coalition Secretary, from probation and place her in full-time status. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 12. Receive a report on Day Laborers in Clark County. Recommended action – Receive the Report, provide input and feedback and take any necessary action.

James Spinello, Clark County, gave a report on Day Laborers in Clark County; and he discussed meetings that had been had with staff from each entity and various stakeholders as well as five points for a Proposed Framework/Mitigation Plan on the Day Labor issue including developing cooperative strategies between jurisdictions and establishing one or more day labor centers in Southern Nevada.

Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City, asked whether at the end of 60 days there would be a strong recommendation on the proposed locations of the centers; and Mr. Spinello responded that each entity would have to be involved in determining locations so they were looking at how a given center would look, how should they be governed, perhaps some broader principles involving where one might be located, but the intention is not to give a specific location.

Mayor Ferraro asked if what was just outlined would take 60 days; and Mr. Spinello responded that the main delay was because it was “quite a group of stakeholders to try to get together for any meeting. We’ve found that to have more than one meeting generally has taken a bit of time to get everybody to the table.”

Trustee Susan Brager-Wellman, Clark County School District, asked whether enrollment in the day labor centers would be permanent or if there would be encouragement to seek employment; and Mr. Spinello responded that many of the existing centers, especially those in Southern California, are long-term facilities.

Trustee Brager-Wellman asked “...to get more active involvement in wanting to be different than a day laborer...instead of just having them be there for the next 10 or 20 years, what would be the idea of promoting jobs instead of...of getting people in and getting people out?” Mr. Spinello responded that there was the possibility of people cycling through, but the reality is that new people would always come into the market. Mayor Ferraro agreed that “we don’t have a static society.”

Councilman Steve Wolfson, City of Las Vegas, asked whether there had “been any discussion by any of the stakeholders about the creation of these day labor centers and us providing a place where either INS or other government agencies might have a greater ease at looking into the status of the workers and providing databases...of the effect of documenting people and then providing the ability for the federal authorities to act against their best interests.” Mr. Spinello responded that the recommendation of the stakeholders and the

observation of the site in Glendale (California) is quite the opposite, and there would be no eligibility requirements (i.e. residency status) as a factor of participation because the centers that operate on a neutral basis seem to be the most successful.

Councilman Wolfson asked whether other cities have had any government agency intervention “to see who’s documented and who’s not”; and Mr. Spinello responded that he thought there had been very little of that especially because INS was burdened just in maintaining the borders.

Councilman Lawrence Weekly, City of Las Vegas, asked Thom Reilly, Clark County, to the podium and stated that “I have a problem with this conversation...I think there is a level of not understanding how this day labor issue works...I know, about five and a half years ago,...in my district everyone turned their heads the other way and acted like this didn’t exist. Now it’s starting to affect these affluent areas of town, and now people want to put committees together. I have a problem with this 60 day stuff...I’m very much concerned about this stakeholder list because I have a huge day laborer situation in the Bonanza Corridor...and these folks have yet to be contacted...I need to get a better handle on how this is being dealt with... We brought in the State to talk about an existing site that they have on A Street in west Las Vegas, and the State was operating for several years spending \$250,000 that no one was utilizing...sounds to me like here we go again with these little band-aid type solutions that don’t solve any type of problem, and we’re not really getting to the root of the problem.”

Mr. Reilly responded that other people could be invited to the stakeholder meetings, and he thought the intent of the SNRPC would be to gather suggestions of “how it could be adopted, and then it would be up to each jurisdiction whether they wanted to go through with it or not.” He also stated that he could encourage them to expedite the meetings in order to come up with policy recommendations that would be flexible enough so each jurisdiction could decide, individually, whether to allocate money to a nonprofit and/or decide how it would work.

Councilman Weekly thanked Mr. Reilly but cautioned against “re-inventing the wheel”, and he mentioned a video on the day labor issue that had been filmed years ago in a small community in Farmerville, New York. He also spoke on the probability of escalation; and he referred to abusive situations like at a Starbucks off Rancho where day laborers get picked up, they complete the work, and then the employers call the police to run them off their property.

Mr. Reilly responded that he would try to get the right people together and shorten the turn-around to a 30-day period to come up with recommendations and suggestions.

There was a request by the Board to be updated on Day Laborers at the November, 2005, meeting; but no motion was required on this item at this time.

Agenda Item 8. Receive a Budget Modification eliminating the Regional Planner Position. Recommended action – Transfer the unobligated funds remaining in the Budget Item “Regional Planner” to the Budget Item “Work Plan Contingency”.

Rob Warhola, Legal Council (Clark County), stated that “this item proposes to modify the budget to reflect the elimination of the Planner position...just transferring money from one part to another.”

There was no discussion, and a motion was made and seconded to transfer the unobligated funds from the Budget Item “Regional Planner” to the Budget Item “Work Plan Contingency”. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 9. Receive a report on LUTAQ Contract Date Revision for policy alternatives. Recommended action – Approve the Report; authorize the Chair to sign the contract revision; and schedule a presentation at the November Board meeting.

Jon Wardlaw, Clark County, asked for a no-cost extension of the LUTAQ contract date to June, 2006, so the workgroup could prepare a better report that includes alternatives for consideration.

Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City, asked for clarification that this was at no additional cost; and Mr. Wardlaw confirmed that.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the LUTAQ contract date extension to June 2006. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 10. Receive a presentation on the SNRPC Regional Homeless Coordination. Recommended action – Receive the Presentation, approve the recommended providers for negotiation of contracts for the Transition from Homelessness and Winter Shelter Programs and adopt the recommended protocols for agencies responding to homeless encampments in Southern Nevada.

Thom Reilly, Clark County, gave a presentation on the SNRPC Regional Homeless Coordination and discussed the three items requiring direction (Transition from Homelessness-AB580 fund RFP provider contract approval; Winter Beds Shelter program, to supplement the hotel voucher program, RFP provider contract approval; and the multi-jurisdictional homeless encampment protocol approval).

Councilman Lawrence Weekly, City of Las Vegas, thanked Mr. Reilly for his leadership of the AB580 funding allocation, congratulated the collaboration efforts of the service providers and appreciated the proactive response the winter beds.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommended providers for negotiation of contracts for the Transition from Homelessness and Winter Shelter Programs and adopt the recommended protocols for agencies responding to homeless encampments in Southern Nevada. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 11. Receive a presentation on the Workforce Housing Subcommittee. Recommended action – Approve including Nevada Housing Division on the Workforce Housing Subcommittee Technical Committee.

Doug Bell, Clark County, asked for approval to include the Nevada Housing Division on the SNRPC Workforce Housing Subcommittee, and he stated the first subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 27, 2005, in the North Las Vegas City Council Chambers.

There was no discussion, and a motion was made and seconded to approve adding the Nevada Housing Division on the Workforce Housing Subcommittee. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 13. Receive a presentation on local Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Recommended action – Receive the Report and direct staff accordingly.

Thom Reilly, Clark County, gave a presentation on specific local Hurricane Katrina relief efforts and stated that, while the formal FEMA airlift of evacuees never happened, approximately 2500 individuals have been processed to date with more arriving every day. Additionally, Hurricane Rita evacuees are expected beginning today (September 22, 2005).

Trustee Susan Brager-Wellman, Clark County School District, commented that the local response by the

entities has been outstanding, especially the responses in the community (i.e. churches, etc.).

Mr. Reilly stated that Councilman Weekly (City of Las Vegas) saw the devastation firsthand and helped with the community response as a result.

Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City, complimented Mr. Reilly and everyone involved with the response, and he asked Mr. Reilly to make sure it was known how pleased and appreciated the efforts were.

There was no motion or action required on this item.

Agenda Item 14. The next date and location for the SNRPC Board is tentatively scheduled for November 17, 2005, 3:30 p.m., at the Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Trustee Susan Brager-Wellman, Chair, Clark County School District, stated that the next meeting was scheduled for November 17, 2005, at 3:30 p.m., in the North Las Vegas City Council Chambers instead of at the Clark County Government Center.

Agenda Item 15. Public Comment.

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 16. Adjournment.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.