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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



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THE NEVADA COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY (CFS)

October 14, 2025, 1p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Location: Microsoft Teams and Carson City

Type of meeting: Regular meeting

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members present:

Allison Herzik
Amber Torres
Dr. Dorian Stonebarger
Dr. Sabina Malik
Dr. Julian Goicoechea
Jill Moe
Kelly Cantrelle
Lori Lutu
Nishat Gould
Marcia Blake
Dr. Pamela Juniel
Roberto Carrillo
Tori Lawson-Boffelli
Sara Ramirez
Vickie Ives

Members absent:

Bethany Herzing
Lisa Swearingen
Dr. Muzafar Makhdoomi

Others Present:

Anais Infante, DPBH – Meeting Staff
Sarah Rogers, DPBH
Jeff Duncan, Chief of Staff, Three Square
Jen Thompson, Office of Analytics
Amber Hise, CDPHP
Tammera Brower, DPBH

Dillon Winkelman, CDPHP
Godwin Nwando, CDPHP
Troy Lovick, CDPHP
Sabrina Schnur, Cartwright NV Government Affairs
Jenny Yeager, Food Bank of Northern Nevada
Taylor Moseley, CDPHP

1. Call to Order:

The meeting time was called to order at 1:04PM
Name of the presiding officer: Allison Herzik

2. Public Comment:

No public comment was made. The public comment period was closed.

3. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Meeting Minutes from July 15, 2025

Chair Allison Herzik requested action on the July meeting minutes. No changes were suggested by the Council.

Motion: Chair Allison Herzik accepted a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Dr. Julian Goicoechea moved to approve; Tori Lawson-Boffelli seconded the motion to approve.

4. Information Only: Discussion on the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) Deliverables

Sarah Rogers discussed the potential reorganization of the Food Security Conference work group. The Council had established this work group to plan the Northern Nevada Food Security Conference. Recently, there has been consideration, in collaboration with UNR Extension, to possibly dismantle the current work group and incorporate food security topics into an existing conference that covers similar themes. This shift is being considered due to the loss of funding sources initially allocated for the conference.

Chair Allison Herzik indicated that a discussion about a work group would take place at a later date, and provided an update on various initiatives and progress on the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) included in the meeting packet.

5. For Possible Action: Review and Approval of member applications for the Food for People Not Landfills Subcommittee

Sarah Rogers explained that a Request for Information (RFI) was sent; however, no applications were received. Sarah Rogers confirmed that another RFI will be resent at another time. No action was taken.

6. Information Only: Nevada Division of Social Services Supplemental Nutrition Assistance

Program waivers

Kelly Cantrelle stated that they expect to submit two waivers. The first waiver addresses the limitation of sugar-sweetened beverages that several states have already put into practice. This initiative aims to redirect SNAP funds towards healthier beverage alternatives, enhance household nutrition security, and lower obesity rates along with type 2 diabetes prevalence. The targeted items include soda, sugar-sweetened beverages, energy drinks, and fruit beverages containing less than 50% juice. Kelly Cantrelle intends to share a strategy with the Retailer Association of Nevada to facilitate this process. The second waiver would permit the purchase of certain hot foods, including deli items such as rotisserie chicken and turkey, using SNAP benefits. Implementing this change would necessitate additional effort, as it might require modifications to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS). The advantages of this adjustment would simplify meal preparation for individuals who struggle with cooking or lack adequate space to prepare food.

The floor was open for any questions or comments. Tori Lawson-Boffelli inquired whether the waivers would be submitted collectively or individually. Kelly Cantrelle clarified that they will be submitted individually but concurrently. Tori Lawson-Boffelli also asked about the possibility of providing nutritional education along with alternatives to beverages that are typically chosen by Nevadans. Kelly Cantrelle confirmed that there are plans to reach out and offer beverage alternatives. Nishat Gould questioned if there are exceptions for drinks that contain added sugar but have positive health benefits (such as protein or yogurt drinks, and fresh fruit or vegetable juices) that low-income Nevadans depend on. Kelly Cantrelle responded that the waiver is being more clearly defined and is not intended to impact dairy-based products, coffees, teas, and similar items. Dr. Sabina Malik stressed the importance of consumer choice and advocated against penalizing consumers, while suggesting that corporations should be encouraged to reduce the sugar content in their products.

7. For Possible Actions: Discussion and possible action on the Creation of an Emergency Food Security Plan

Heather Lafferty, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Homeland Security's Chief Resilience Officer, emphasized the importance of meeting with the Council as they are subject matter experts and the Council's mission aligned with OEM plans. She stressed the necessity of collaboration and leveraging the capabilities of state agencies, partners, and councils to rise to the occasion. OEM is actively promoting the Ready 30-Day Campaign to assist families in preparing for emergencies. The Mass Care Annex is scheduled for an update in 2026 or 2027, as it undergoes revisions every five years. This annex concentrates on sheltering and feeding, including Community Care sites, temporary shelters, food distribution points, recovery efforts, and maintaining food security during

emergencies. The Council's expertise and involvement will be crucial when workshops commence, and there is a desire to utilize the Council's emergency plan to enhance and integrate efforts. OEM has proposed collaborating and organizing a webinar or educational event with the Council or individual teams to ensure everyone is adequately prepared.

Chair Allison Herzik opened the floor for discussion and inquired whether the Mass Care Annex includes any information related to food security or if there are any existing strategies. Heather responded that there is currently no emergency food security plan, but internal plans could be developed and then integrated with the MCA, or the MCA could take the lead and incorporate those items. Marcia Blake asked how information is shared and whom to contact. Heather clarified that it differs by level due to a multi-jurisdictional approach, with local and state entities having their own plans. Dr. Dorian Stonebarger indicated that Clark County Food Service for the school district is part of the emergency plan, which is determined by the size, scale, and security of the facility. Nishat Gould questioned Heather Lafferty about whether food retailers, manufacturers, and others are already included in the plan and what the current status is. Heather Lafferty confirmed that they collaborate with retailers, including Walmart. Jill Moe asked what actions the council could take in the meantime. Heather Lafferty requested that the council coordinate plans in case they are needed and that specific actions can be identified. Amber Torres revealed that the Food Bank of Northern Nevada has a disaster response plan that could be integrated into a larger state or regional plan. Jill Moe asked Amber if the Council could use it as a starting point or share it, Amber Torres explained that she would need to seek permission or would follow up with a response. Chair Allison Herzik noted the need to investigate other states that have adopted a similar model, while Vickie Ives suggested examining the structure for different age groups. Dr. Sabina Malik inquired about the methods for activating the plans and the associated processes. Heather Lafferty explained that it depends on the scale of the disaster, but communication and coordination efforts may serve as a reference guide.

8. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to approve or provide final edits to the 2025 Food for People Not Landfills Program (FFPNL) Annual Report and the 2025 Council on Food Security (CFS) Annual Report

Chair Allison Herzik opened the floor for discussion regarding the FFPNL Annual Report by inquiring with Sarah Rogers about the meetings and the frequency of meetings required for the subcommittee. Sarah Rogers responded that the July meeting achieved quorum, but the October meeting did not, and she was uncertain about the reasons for this. The Council was assured that a rescheduled meeting is being planned, with the date to be determined later. Due to the lack of quorum at the FFPNL meeting, one of the standing agenda items was the edits and approvals of the FFPNL Annual Report, no modifications were made. Chair Allison Herzik then commenced the

discussion on the CFS Annual Report, allowing Council members 5 minutes to review the document. Dr. Sabina Malik inquired about the CFS reporting timeline. Sarah Rogers clarified the dates being based on a calendar year, as there are quarterly meetings that facilitate timely submissions to the Legislative Council Bureau by January 31st. Chair Allison Herzik and Dr. Sabina Malik recommended rephrasing the policy section to include requirements and discussions on bills. Dr. Pamela Juniel expressed the need to ensure that the request for additional seats and the correction of her name in the report was included. Chair Allison Herzik noted that the request had been formally submitted to the Legislative Interim Health and Human Services Committee. Furthermore, the bill draft was requested through the Chair of Health and Human Services, Senator Doñate, but both requests were denied, which will also be documented. Sarah Rogers mentioned that the report reflected last year's request but emphasized the intention to bring it up again in the next legislative session. Marcia Blake highlighted that the SNAP program will transition from federal funding to state funding, which is expected to significantly affect the state. Vickie Ives stressed the importance of providing language on future focus regarding a second presentation to the Joint Interim Standing Committee. Marcia Blake wanted to ensure that the SNAP waivers being worked on by Kelly Cantrelle were addressed.

Motion: Chair Allison Herzik initiated the motion to approve the FFPNL annual report, amend the CFS Annual Report and fix Dr. Pamela Juniel's name, landscape of SNAP, changing language DHS presenting to join interim, and adding 3 seats to the council. Vickie Ives moved to approve, and Marcia Blake seconded.

9. For Information Only: SFY25 Fund for Healthy Nevada (FHN) Annual Report

Sarah Rogers informed the Council that the FHN will be shared in January as we are waiting for information from partners.

10. Public Comment:

Second Public Comment Period:

Second Public Comment Period was not opened as quorum was lost.

11. Adjournment:

Adjournment was made without motion as quorum was lost.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Special Session Meeting:

Date: November 14, 2025

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Microsoft Teams

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)*.