

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**Eightieth Session  
February 12, 2019**

The Committee on Government Affairs was called to order by Chair Edgar Flores at 9:05 a.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, in Room 4100 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4406 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda ([Exhibit A](#)), the Attendance Roster ([Exhibit B](#)), and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at [www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019).

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assemblyman Edgar Flores, Chair  
Assemblyman William McCurdy II, Vice Chair  
Assemblyman Alex Assefa  
Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod  
Assemblyman Richard Carrillo  
Assemblywoman Bea Duran  
Assemblyman John Ellison  
Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow  
Assemblyman Gregory T. Hafen II  
Assemblywoman Melissa Hardy  
Assemblyman Glen Leavitt  
Assemblywoman Susie Martinez  
Assemblywoman Connie Munk

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jered McDonald, Committee Policy Analyst  
Asher Killian, Committee Counsel



Connie Jo Smith, Committee Secretary  
Trinity Thom, Committee Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Dagny Stapleton, Executive Director, Nevada Association of Counties  
Patsy A. Waits, County Commissioner, Lander County  
John Fudenberg, Coroner, Government Affairs, Office of the Coroner/Medical  
Examiner, Clark County  
Yolanda T. King, County Manager, Clark County  
Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, Clark County  
Jeff Page, County Manager, Lyon County

**Chair Flores:**

[Roll was called. Rules and protocol were explained.] We have three items on the agenda today that we will take in order. The first presentation is by the Nevada Association of Counties.

**Patsy A. Waits, County Commissioner, Lander County:**

I am one of the county commissioners from Lander County and the current president of the Nevada Association of Counties. We appreciate the opportunity to share with you some of the information about what our Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) does and about the things that the different counties do. We have so much in common, and we are on the same track for all of the things that the counties do.

Our Board of Directors is made up of at least one commissioner from each of Nevada's 17 counties. The state association for county government officials is statewide. We are a nonpartisan organization. Nevada Association of Counties was formed in 1924, and we are getting ready to celebrate our one hundredth anniversary. We are proud of working with all of the counties together, including the representation at the Legislature. We are allowed to do this pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 244.120.

I became president the first of January, and I am honored to follow our past president, who is Lawrence Weekly from Clark County. Our president-elect is Commissioner Jim French from Humboldt County. Our vice president is Commissioner Marilyn Kirkpatrick of Clark County and a former state legislator. Our member at large is Commissioner Bob Lucey of Washoe County.

The NACO board also includes affiliate members representing the other county elected officials, so we have representatives from the clerks, assessors, recorders, treasurers, district attorneys, and sheriffs. The NACO board is a diverse board but we really work well together, something we are proud of. I think the reason is because, big or small, all counties have the same service responsibility. We will be giving you more information on the important services in our communities that the counties provide.

I would like to introduce the NACO staff who are here: our office manager, Amanda Evans; deputy director, Vinson Guthreau; and our executive director, Dagny Stapleton. We hope to meet all of you and work with you this session. I will turn the presentation over to her to walk through some of the NACO work, what counties do, and our priorities for this session.

**Dagny Stapleton, Executive Director, Nevada Association of Counties:**

The Nevada Association of Counties' mission [page 4, ([Exhibit C](#))] is to support counties, to maximize efficiency, and to foster trust in the county government. We also serve as a forum for cooperation and coordination among Nevada counties.

Our board meets once a month and functions as a place where members can exchange information and work together on common issues. As our president mentioned, our board includes at least one representative from all 17 of Nevada's counties. The Nevada Association of Counties also provides education and resources for our members. We hold an annual conference where we provide workshops and panels on a number of issues important to counties. We also provide workshops throughout the year for our members. Our website is also a good resource for anyone interested in Nevada's counties. We have links to each of the county websites along with publications relating to counties and information about events and our conference.

Nevada Association of Counties provides advocacy on behalf of counties during the legislative session and the interim. There are many state laws and policies that affect counties. In the 2017 Session we tracked about half the bills that were introduced because they affected us in one way or another, so that is why you will see us here a lot in the Government Affairs Committee, as well as in the halls in the building on a regular basis working together with the other county representatives in Carson City.

Nevada Association of Counties also works on federal issues that affect counties through our federal delegation as well as the National Association of Counties. Every county in Nevada is also a member of the National Association of Counties, which works hard on Capitol Hill on issues that affect counties.

Nevada Association of Counties engages on a number of statutory and statewide committees [page 5] with county or NACO representation, so we do a lot of this work in the interim. An important one is the Fund for Hospital Care to Indigent Persons, which NACO administers. Part of the counties' responsibility is to help fund health care expenses for those in our communities defined as indigent or those who do not have the resources to pay for their own care. This board oversees county and other funds to assist with that. To give you some idea of other statewide boards that we engage on: the Department of Health and Human Services Grants Management Advisory Committee, the Committee on Local Government Finance in the Department of Taxation, the Commission on Nuclear Projects in the Office of the Governor, the Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles in the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Land Use Planning Advisory Council, the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, and the Supreme Court Committee to Study

Evidence-Based Pretrial Release. The list goes on. It gives you an idea of the many issues that we work on, on behalf of counties.

Counties in Nevada range in population from more than two million in Clark County to just over one thousand people in Esmeralda County, our state's smallest county [page 6, ([Exhibit C](#))]. Nevada is one of the most urban states in the United States, and that is defined by percentage of the population that lives in urban areas. In contrast, Nevada also has 6 of the 25 largest counties in the continental United States, including some rural counties and some of the most remote communities in the continental United States. Thirteen of Nevada's seventeen counties contain more than 75 percent public lands, lands that are not in private ownership but are managed mostly by the federal government. Nevada has the most federal land of any state in the United States. This also has an impact on Nevada's counties in terms of county services, revenues, and economic development.

Some of the key industries in Nevada's counties across the state include hospitality and food service, mining, government, retail, health care, agriculture, warehousing, and transportation. As you can see from the map on this page [page 7, ([Exhibit C](#))], all of Nevada is divided into 17 counties, so the regional services the counties provide are for every one of Nevada's residents. Counties serve each of your constituents. Counties collectively provide a number of frontline regional services to every Nevada resident, including senior and human services, libraries in many counties, parks, important infrastructure, district and justice courts, and elections.

Municipal services, such as planning and development, business licensing, streets, and public infrastructure like sewer systems are also provided by counties and in areas that are outside of cities, areas we refer to as unincorporated county. Geographically, most of Nevada consists of unincorporated counties and is served by counties for regional and municipal services. There are also urban areas that are served by counties that are unincorporated, and counties provide the municipal services there. Some of those areas include the Las Vegas Strip, some parts of Washoe County, the Town of Pahrump, and much of Carson Valley in Douglas County. Carson City is our state's only consolidated city and county, meaning Carson City is a county that provides all those local government services.

According to Nevada state laws, Nevada's counties are responsible for the indigent, those below a certain poverty level. Because of this, Nevada's counties provide a lot of what we refer to as a "social safety net." Two key components of this are that counties are an important partner in our state's Medicaid program. Counties pay about 20 percent of our state's nonfederal share of that program. Also, each county has a human services director who is responsible for a number of county-funded programs, including senior services, indigent burials and medical costs, child protective services, and child development services. They also assist in coordinating with other support programs to those most in need, including meals and other assistance.

The county human services directors put together a resource which we also provided to you today. Each of you should have one ([Exhibit D](#)). This resource outlines by county the human services that each county provides.

Here is a complete list of some of the most important county functions [page 8, ([Exhibit C](#))]. Counties own, maintain, and pave 65 percent of all Nevada's roads. Some counties own airports, water, and wastewater systems. Counties and county treasurers and assessors are responsible for property tax collection and distribution. County recorders record and manage all real property deeds and marriage records in every county, along with other important documents. Counties are responsible for planning, development, local business licensing and regulations, and regulation in unincorporated county areas, as well as the enforcement of many of the local ordinances that protect the health, safety, and welfare of Nevada's residents.

Counties actually conduct our federal, state, local, and some municipal elections and help the Secretary of State manage voter registration. It is counties that own and maintain our voting machines and run polling places during elections. Counties administer all district and justice courts. Those are the courts that handle all gross misdemeanors and felony cases, as well as some misdemeanors and civil actions. Counties also fund and manage our district attorneys, and public defenders, as well as county jails and detention centers.

Finally, and this is highlighted on page 8, I believe for all counties, public safety is their highest expenditure, including county sheriff departments, county fire and ambulance response, and 9-1-1 systems.

The map on page 9 lists some of the services just mentioned. We recently put this together so you can get a better sense of who does what in Nevada between the state and the counties for all of these critical services that I mentioned. We provided you with a separate copy of this because the text is small on the page ([Exhibit E](#)). It is a good key to understanding who does what between the state and the counties.

In blue, you can see that the services are provided by the state in counties and partnerships. The state services are in orange, and in yellow are the services provided or funded entirely by counties. The services on the list with an asterisk are those services that counties are mandated to provide.

There are two examples I want to point out on this map. The first is child protective services under the Welfare box. These are services that Clark and Washoe Counties provide 100 percent, including funding. However, in the rural counties, the state provides those services but charges the counties for the cost of those services, so counties are assessed that cost. That is where the partnership is for that service.

Indigent defense is another example, and those are public defenders: the attorneys who represent folks who might be charged with a crime and who do not have the means to hire an attorney on their own. If you look under the Judicial box on the map [page 9, ([Exhibit C](#))],

Nevada is one of the few states where counties have taken on almost 100 percent of this function. In Clark and Washoe, as well as 13 of the 15 rural counties, counties provide 100 percent of that service. However, in two of Nevada's rural counties, however, Carson City and Storey County, the state assists with about 20 percent of that service. That is also listed as a partnership with the state.

How are counties able to provide all of these services? This page shows the main revenue sources upon which counties depend [page 10]. The two most important funding streams for counties are property tax and consolidated taxes (CTX). The CTX includes a portion of the sales tax that goes to counties, along with other revenues that are distributed through the state to counties. Additional funding for counties includes local fees for services and licenses, et cetera. Another important source of county revenues, especially for Nevada's rural counties, are payments in lieu of taxes, otherwise known as PILT. Because of the high concentration of federal land in almost all our counties, all counties are required to provide services on the public lands, including emergency response, roads, and services to those who use or spend time on our public lands. However, unlike private property, upon which taxes are assessed to fund local services, federal agencies do not pay taxes to local governments. In lieu of that, there is the PILT program, which provides some federal dollars to each county to pay for those services. It is often not enough to cover what counties provide, but it is an important source of revenue.

Page 11 ([Exhibit C](#)), County Revenues, provides additional information on each of these revenue sources, including who sets the authority and limitations on those taxes. Nevada's counties, for the most part, do not have what we call home rule. Nevada is a Dillon's Rule state, meaning that counties only perform those actions specifically allowed by you, the Legislature. The Legislature says how much we can impose and collect in property taxes. Currently counties are authorized to collect up to \$3.64 for every \$100 of assessed valuation on real property. Property tax bills cannot increase on residential property over 3 percent each year. Many of Nevada's counties are at the current \$3.64 cap.

We included the next page to provide a sense of how counties are doing in terms of a balance of all those services they provide and the things they do [page 12, ([Exhibit C](#))]. This is measured by county employees. Many counties laid off a significant number of employees during the recession due to decreased revenues. This chart shows over the last decade, 2009 to 2019, the increase in the number of county employees by county. On the left, you can see it is the percentage increase of employees, and below along the bottom, is each of Nevada's 17 counties. On average over the last ten years, the number of employees is lower, and for some counties, significantly lower than it was during the recession and before. This is despite an overall population increase of about 8 percent statewide.

You will see that Nevada's largest counties have fewer employees than they did ten years ago, so property tax revenue, one portion of this, is not recovering at the pace of the general economic recovery. However, county general funds are beginning to see some recovery. The amount of mandates and assessments from the state has also increased, which has in part offset county opportunities to hire staff. Of the handful of counties on this chart that have

gained employees, Storey and Lander Counties have gained more employees due to disproportionate economic growth in those counties from the industries in those counties, which is great news. Elko and Pershing Counties' increases are the result of a mandate for additional employees. Elko was required to take over a significant part of fire service from the seat in their county. Pershing County was required to expand the number of court employees to serve the new Eleventh Judicial District. In Elko County, this will be the first year in over five years that employees may see a salary increase.

Among our priorities this legislative session [page 13, ([Exhibit C](#))], and part of what I mentioned on the last page because of past increases on mandates to counties that have affected county budgets, is requesting that the Legislature be sensitive when passing legislation that may take additional local dollars to implement, unless new funding sources are also included. What we call an "unfunded mandate" is a mandate to provide a new expanded service without any new associated revenue to pay for those services or without the ability to raise more revenue. We always make the same request regarding tax abatements. There are many tax abatements that have been created in state law that abate local sales and use and property taxes, which could impact county budgets. We always make a request for the Legislature to please be mindful of those things—in the mandates and the tax abatements.

A lot of this presentation has been about highlighting what counties do and the importance of county governments and services. It is also important for counties to maintain their ability to carry out those services and mandates, and they are given that authority through state law.

The Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) has five bills that we request each legislative session [page 14]. I think we have met with many of you individually, and if not, we hope to meet with you soon to go over our bills. We will not go into too much detail on these, but I want to mention Assembly Bill 21, as that is the one bill that will begin in this Committee. In rural counties that are small, elected county boards cannot fill seats due to very low population levels and the availability of people to serve. However, these boards manage important local infrastructure such as water systems. In instances where these small boards have empty seats, those boards would be allowed to request that the county commission pass an ordinance to make them an appointed board so those seats could be filled.

Senate Bill 12 makes a small change allowing counties to use the 9-1-1 fees collected on our telephone bills to do an audit. These audits would be of all the telephone lines in a county to ensure that counties are collecting all of that revenue.

In times of emergency, Senate Bill 13 would allow counties to establish 501(c)(3)s to assist victims.

Senate Bill 48 would allow Nevada's rural counties to raise a diesel tax of 5 cents a gallon to provide direly needed funds for road maintenance in those rural counties.

Finally, Assembly Bill 82 makes changes to Nevada's primary election system.



Other legislative issues before concluding [page 15]:

- NACO has been working with a group of stakeholders on reforms to the indigent defense system in Nevada. If you are on the Judiciary Committee, we may see you there.
- The Senate Government Affairs Committee will have a bill addressing public administrators in the rural counties.
- Nevada's counties play a key role in the oversight of the newly established marijuana industry. Local licensing and regulations address important public safety elements as well as locations of those establishments. Counties will continue to engage in this issue and provide a local perspective as those state laws are further developed this session.
- Counties always engage with the budget process here at the Legislature to watch budgeted assessments to counties from the state and other areas of interest, including health and human services, public safety, and Nevada's cooperative extension program.

This page shows a picture of our offices at Fourth and Minnesota Streets in Carson City [page 16, ([Exhibit C](#))]. Please stop by anytime you might find yourself in the neighborhood. We are housed in a prestatehood building, and although it is not in pristine condition, we always like showing it off. The Nevada Association of Counties motto is "For All Seventeen," because we work on behalf of all 17 counties in Nevada to support them in providing important services they furnish to all Nevadans.

The last page includes our contact information [page 17]. We are on Twitter as well at @NVNACO. Please reach out to us anytime if you have questions or information we can help you with on county governments. Vinson Guthreau, NACO's deputy director, and I are here in the building most days. I am happy to take any questions you may have or to provide any additional information.

**Chair Flores:**

I want to remind the Committee about the five bills mentioned. We will have time to vet those issues at a later time. Please do not ask any questions pertaining to that. Other than that, any other question is fair game.

**Assemblyman Ellison:**

The Nevada Association of Counties is one of the best organizations in the state. Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) has done so much for this state and all across the nation. Look what PILT has done. Everybody benefited from this; very few were left out. They were still included, but Nevada and Alaska and a couple of other states jumped in and helped to get these laws passed. It was important that NACO did this. I know the bills you have; they are good bills. There are a couple where I would like to see some amendments added, but NACO takes the heart of the people, and it is not a question but more of a statement of the job you do. I was past president, was involved with it, and loved every minute of it.



**Assemblyman Leavitt:**

When you place representatives on your board, is that determined by size of the county? How do you determine how many get on your board from each individual county?

**Dagny Stapleton:**

Every county has one representative on our board. All 17 have a county commissioner on our board. There are counties that are allowed to have a second representative, and that is if they are on our executive committee. If they are an officer of the organization, or in the case of Washoe and Clark Counties, if they do not have a member on our executive committee, then they are allowed by our board and the board takes a vote to have a second member on the board for that representation. The National Association of Counties has two representatives from Nevada on that board. Those counties that have representatives are also allowed to have a second member on our board. Currently, that is Clark County and Lincoln County.

**Assemblyman Leavitt:**

You briefly discussed how you gained county positions over the last couple of years since the recession. As those positions were lost and you gained positions, were those positions equivalent, or did you create new positions in an effort to be more efficient? Were they positions you lost, or did you regain a few of them in the same positions and you backfilled positions that were lost during the recession?

**Dagny Stapleton:**

What that chart shows [page 12, ([Exhibit C](#))] is for most counties, they have not filled and regained all the positions they lost during the recession because there were more expenses elsewhere they had to fill. Despite an increase for demand in services and population, for a lot of our counties they have not come back to those prerecession staffing levels.

**Assemblyman Leavitt:**

What percentage of your budget is dedicated towards workforce when you are talking about your county budget? How much is dedicated towards workforce versus other budget items?

**Dagny Stapleton:**

I do not have that information individually for each of our counties. That is a great question probably for both Lyon and Clark Counties that are going to present in terms of what percentage of their budget goes to employee salaries and benefits. Do you know the answer to that question for Lander County, Madam President?

**Patsy Waits:**

I do not know the answer to that.

**Assemblywoman Bilbray-Axelrod:**

You mentioned the fiscal health of counties. Does that correlate with the counties that have exercised the \$3-plus max in their counties?

**Dagny Stapleton:**

The majority of Nevada's counties are at that cap on property taxes. Their taxing authority is limited. In addition, expenses have gone up, including some services that the state has transferred to the counties as well as costs that the counties were assessed for that they were not assessed prior to the recession. Counties have additional expenses as well, along with no increase in the ability to raise revenues.

**Assemblywoman Bilbray-Axelrod:**

You mentioned indigent legal defense. I know in Clark County the indigent health care system is with our University Medical Center of Southern Nevada (UMC), and it is very difficult. I am wondering what you saw statewide with all the other counties and with the Medicaid expansion that the Governor allowed, if that helped out.

**Dagny Stapleton:**

Counties contribute in different ways to the Medicaid budget, about 20 percent. There are a handful of assessments that counties pay for those populations. We have seen a significant increase in those assessments and the number of cases for counties that we are responsible for since Medicaid expansion. I cannot speak to the on-the-ground effect on those populations. That is more of a specific question, but I can say that counties are paying a greater share and for significant increase in caseload.

**Assemblyman McCurdy:**

On page 15, I would like to briefly touch on some of the other legislative issues. The third bullet point, recreational marijuana, is listed. What specifically about marijuana would be the issue coming up?

**Dagny Stapleton:**

What that bullet point was about was last session counties engaged substantially in the conversations that led to the legislation that was passed. Counties have an important role in the regulation of marijuana at the local level, so counties engaged on our authority to do licensing at the local level and regulations that are necessary at the local level. That was an important conversation for us. The point was that as those same issues continue to be discussed this session, and as that continued to be tweaked, we will continue to engage in that discussion to represent local government interests because we have been substantially engaged in the past. There is no specific issue or policy that we are seeking to change or address this session.

**Assemblyman McCurdy:**

If possible, would you be willing to provide a list of individuals who had applied to get some of those licenses to participate in the industry?

**Dagny Stapleton:**

That is a question, I believe, specific to each of those county governments. We could reach out to our members to see if that is information they could provide. Did you want that specific to Clark County?

**Assemblyman McCurdy:**

Statewide, with a focus on Clark County.

**Dagny Stapleton:**

You mean local licenses, not the state licenses?

**Assemblyman McCurdy:**

Yes, the local licenses.

**Chair Flores:**

When we had this presentation last session, one of the things I asked about was what are we doing to be sure that we capture more federal dollars. I think everybody in this room is now familiar with the argument that Nevada is not doing enough, or when it comes to matching, we are not doing enough, or that we get the federal dollars but then we have a very difficult time maintaining them. I wanted to have a follow-up to that conversation. Where are we now? When we meet as a group, how often is that a priority in the conversations we are having? How much information are we sharing? County A is doing this; County B, are you considering that? County C, how much information are we sharing? If you could, give me some insight as to that. If you could, give a little more insight as well as to the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG). I do not know that everybody knows a lot about that.

**Dagny Stapleton:**

In terms of what our organization does, our office manager keeps a list of federal dollar grants that are available to counties. She updates that weekly or monthly, and it is included in our weekly newsletter. That is information that we try to provide to our counties. Information about federal dollars, for a variety of areas, we discuss and share that among members at NACO board meetings. In terms of securing grants including matching funds, it is a challenge. Counties have a number of frontline services they are responsible for, as you heard. Sometimes having the staff that has the time to go after and fill out grants is a challenge, especially in the smaller counties. We also hear from our members that matching funds, when federal grants require matching dollars, can really be a hardship and a barrier to counties in getting the award for those grants.

In terms specifically of the CDBG, it is a really important program to counties. It is specifically for community development in certain census tract income areas, if I have that correct. In urban areas, those federal funds come directly to Clark and Washoe Counties to be used on infrastructure projects and other needs in those census tracts. In our rural counties, the way the Nevada law is organized is that those dollars come through the rural economic development authorities. They do not come directly to counties in the rurals. Counties do, I believe, sit on the local regional economic development authority boards. That is the way counties engage with that on the local level. At the state level, those funds were prioritized in the rurals for economic development, so it is a bit different in the rurals in that those counties have less of a direct role in the distribution of those funds.

**Patsy Waits:**

We work very closely with our national association on this matter, as do all our folks in Nevada and in Congress. We do a legislative meeting the first of the year, which is very well attended in Washington, D.C., to meet individually with each of our legislators. With that connection, we work closely with their staff. With our Congressional delegation, many Nevada folks who work on some of these grants call us with information and for information, so we are on top of some of the different things that are in the legislatures.

On the CDBG grants, we have such small communities. My county of 6,300 does not even make up one of your big hotels in Clark County. We have areas that definitely need CDBG grants, but because some of those folks are working in mines, they have a higher income level. Places like Kingston, for instance, need the grants desperately, but their income is too high for them to qualify, even though we have a lot of retirees and disabled folks who live there. There is such a small amount when you are talking about 285 people and they are trying to get a new test well, or the system is broken and we need repairs that will cost several hundred thousand dollars. It is a tough thing to look at. It does not match everywhere. So where we might be eligible, we are not. Some of the counties are caught in those situations, not just my county.

**Chair Flores:**

Are there additional questions? [There were none.] We will close the presentation. Committee members, reach out to them as questions arise. Our next presentation is from Clark County.

**John Fudenberg, Coroner, Government Affairs, Office of the Coroner/Medical**

I am the Coroner of Clark County, but I am also here full-time as a member of the Government Affairs team along with Alex Ortiz and Lesley Schell. I would like to introduce Yolanda King, who is our county manager, and Kevin Schiller, our assistant county manager.

**Yolanda T. King, County Manager, Clark County:**

I have a brief presentation on what we do in Clark County. I want to give a special thank you to NACO for giving a thorough overview regarding what Clark County does. There may be a few things in this presentation that are duplicated.

In Clark County, we have a commissioner form of government, with seven county commissioners who are elected from geographic districts on a partisan basis. We have six elected county officials. Those include the County Assessor, the County Recorder, the County Clerk, the County District Attorney, the County Public Administrator, and the County Treasurer, as well as 11 constables and 1 elected sheriff. We operate under *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) Chapter 244 and county code. You will also note in the presentation that we have board members [page 2, ([Exhibit F](#))]. Our chairwoman, Marilyn Kirkpatrick, who represents District B, is a former Assembly Speaker.

Our vice chair is Lawrence Weekly representing District D. Our newest member, Michael Naft, represents District A; Commissioner Larry Brown, District C; Tick Segerblom, District E; Justin Jones, District F; and Jim Gibson, District G. Those are the commissioners who represent Clark County, which includes the unincorporated areas as well as those that have been incorporated as part of a city.

Our Clark County commissioners also serve as a governing body for several of the boards and districts that are listed in the Clark County Overview [page 3]. Our Board of County Commissioners acts as the board of trustees for the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada and for the Las Vegas Valley Water District; the Clark County Water Reclamation District, which is our wastewater board that is represented by all of our county commissioners; and others listed on the boards and districts that the county commissioners represent, or they are the board members for the boards listed.

Page 4 covers "What Clark County is "Not." Oftentimes, we are confused with other local agencies in terms of whether we are or are not Clark County. I understand that sometimes if the business name includes Clark County, we all may tend to assume that it is Clark County. Listed for your reference are the agencies or local governments that we are not. Please note that we have county commissioners who serve as members of some of these boards listed on the page. We may have one or two members who are on the Clark County Regional Flood Control District or the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada. We do not have members on the Clark County School District or the library district, but for the most part, we have members on the Southern Nevada Health District, the Southern Nevada Water Authority, and the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority. So there are representatives of our Clark County Commission who provide members for these other boards.

To give you a brief overview of Clark County [page 5] in terms of our land mass and population, we cover a land mass of 8,012 square miles. In terms of magnitude and what that looks like, it is probably about the size of the state of New Jersey. We have 14 unincorporated towns: 7 urban and 7 rural areas. Included as part of Clark County, we have five incorporated cities, and our assessed valuation for 2019 was \$84.4 billion, which is up approximately 7 percent from the previous year.

Clark County has a population of close to 2.3 million people. In unincorporated Clark County, we have about a million and twenty-six thousand residents who live in that area. We are the most populous of Nevada's 17 counties, and we are the thirteenth-largest county by population in the United States. I have provided a map for you of the southern Nevada area and Clark County. If you look at the bottom far left of the map on page 5, all the white areas are Clark County. So you have a reference in terms of the rural areas that make up the unincorporated parts of Clark County and the urban areas as well. There is a great deal of unincorporated area that we provide services for that is within Clark County.

Page 6 ([Exhibit F](#)) is a map of the urban area of Clark County. The yellow area shows the unincorporated piece of Clark County. Again, you can understand the magnitude and the services that are provided for the incorporated areas of Clark County.

Page 7 is an overview of what Clark County's population looks like for unincorporated Clark County as well as for the cities located in Clark County. The first row, the unincorporated piece of urban and rural Clark County, is over 1,026,000, which makes up close to 45 percent of the total Clark County population. The remaining cities make up the rest of the total population of 2.3 million. By percentage, 75.3 percent of Nevada's population is located in Clark County. If we look at the unincorporated area of Clark County, if it were a city, it would be the largest populated city in the state of Nevada. It would be the eleventh-largest city in the nation. That gives you the magnitude of just how large we are in terms of an urban city.

The next section [page 8] gives you some information about the local economy within Clark County. Our key economic drivers include tourism, gaming, and conventions. Clark County is one of the top resort and convention destinations in the world. We attracted 42.1 million tourists in 2018. Unincorporated Clark County is home to the world-famous Las Vegas Strip. Clark County's room inventory is just over 160,000 rooms in total. The Las Vegas Strip is the site of 11 of the 20 largest hotels in the world. We are also the site of 17 of the 20 largest hotels in the United States. We have been the No. 1 trade show destination in North America for 24 consecutive years.

Next is an overview of some of the development that is occurring in unincorporated Clark County [page 9]. Resorts World, due to finish in 2020, is a \$4 billion project adding 3,300 rooms. The Wynn Resorts expansion is scheduled to be completed in 2021 at \$1.6 billion and adding 1,000 rooms. As many of you know, the Las Vegas Stadium is soon to be home for the Raiders professional football team and is scheduled to be completed in July 2020 at a cost of \$1.8 billion. It will include a 65,000-seat stadium.

The Las Vegas Convention Center phase 2 expansion is due to be completed in December 2020. That project will add 600,000 square feet of exhibit space and 150,000 square feet of meeting space.

The Drew Las Vegas is also scheduled to be completed in 2020. The Drew Las Vegas is a \$3 billion project anticipated to add 4,000 rooms.

One of the exciting projects is the MSG Sphere Arena scheduled to be completed in 2020, and that is going to be an 18,500-seat arena with just over 600,000 square feet.

Lastly, we have the baseball stadium which is scheduled for completion in March 2019 at a cost of \$150 million. Some of you who live in Clark County will recall that this is the "51s" baseball team recently renamed, I believe, as the Las Vegas Aviators. This will be a Triple-A 10,000-seat baseball stadium in the Summerlin area.

Those are some of the development highlights occurring in unincorporated Clark County and they should add a little more than 8,000 rooms by the end of 2020.

The Clark County organization chart [page 10] shows how the government is structured. The county commissioners are listed, together with me as the county manager. As part of my senior management team, I have three assistant county managers, one of whom you have met today, Kevin Schiller. Also listed are Randy Tarr and Jeff Wells. I also have a chief administrative officer, Les Lee Shell, who is also here as a full-time lobbyist working on behalf of Clark County. Finally, we have Jessica Colvin, our chief financial officer. In all the boxes noted below, each of the names are the departments that report directly to the senior management team.

Clark County Services [page 11, ([Exhibit F](#))]: Dagny Stapleton covered a great deal of this, but I want to reiterate that in the state of Nevada, which is no different from Clark County with regard to the types of services we provide, the services provided and the counties located in Nevada are unique in nature simply because of the regional types of services provided, as well as either your town or your municipal type of services. Generally, counties across the nation are responsible for providing regional services, but for Clark County and other counties within the state of Nevada, because we have those unincorporated areas, we are responsible for providing those city-like services to those residents who live in the unincorporated areas. Since we are the largest and most complex government agency, we provide both those regional and town services.

When you think about regional services and for whom those services are provided, we have a total population of 2.3 million in Clark County, which includes all the cities as well as the unincorporated areas. The regional services that we furnish are provided to all of the 2.3 million people in Clark County. When you look at the town or the municipal services we provide, in the unincorporated areas of Clark County, because they are not an incorporated city someone has to supply those city-like services to those unincorporated residents. Clark County is the agency responsible for providing those municipal services to the unincorporated residents. As noted earlier, there are about one million residents for whom we provide those city-like services to the unincorporated area.

Page 12 is an overview of which of our 38 departments within Clark County provide regional services. You will hear me call them town, municipal, or city-like services; it is all the same municipal services that are provided. In the chart to your left, we have all of the departments, Air Quality, Assessor; we own the airport. We provide Child Protective Services, the Clerk, Coroner, Detention, District Attorney, District Court, Elections, Family Court, Family Services, Juvenile Justice, Public Administrator, Public Defender, Public Guardian, Recorder, Social Service, Treasurer, and we also have the University Medical Center. Those are the regional services that are provided to all residents in Clark County.

On the right are the services provided to the residents living within unincorporated Clark County. Many of the services noted under the Town Services are the types of services that are provided within the cities, which are listed for your reference. Please note that you have



quite a few of our services or departments in the blue text. Those are many of the departments funded out of our general fund. I will get into that later.

I thought it might be interesting for the Committee to understand the regional and our town-like services and the numbers in terms of the magnitude of what types of services and the volume that we as Clark County deal with on a day-to-day basis. I have added some quick performance measures that show the Air Quality Department, the number of permits issued, and the number of inspections conducted [page 13]. We talked about McCarran International Airport, which is a county department under the Clark County local jurisdiction. Currently, the airport is the eighth-busiest airport in the nation. In 2018, we enplaned and deplaned 49.7 million passengers. That is a little bit above the prerecession numbers. The Department of Aviation is the largest department in Clark County. There are about 1,500 full-time equivalent employees who work at the airport.

The Assessor's Office shows you the number of parcels that our Assessor's Office is evaluating or assessing on an annual basis, in addition to the number of office visits and the number of telephone calls received. We also have information on our Coroner's Office in terms of deaths reported and autopsies conducted.

The Sheriff's Office operates the Clark County Detention Center, but Clark County funds 100 percent of the detention center. Listed are the number of bookings, the average daily population, and the average cost to house an inmate per day. The arrows simply show the increase or decrease in terms of those numbers compared to calendar year 2017.

The next page gives you some additional regional services that are provided [page 14]. Most important by reference, Family Services is the county's second-largest department. We house more than 900 full-time equivalents. Again, that gives you the magnitude of how large that department is and the caseload we are dealing with on a day-to-day basis. This is the department where many people are providing information on child abuse and neglect: there are the number of hotline calls that come in from the emergency line or the community line; there are 18,000-plus new children who are on the Child Protective Services (CPS) caseload; the 12,000-plus CPS investigations; and how many are on the permanency caseload. There are 1,680 foster care homes that we are responsible for in Clark County. Lastly, there is number of children adopted.

Keep in mind that these are regional services we provide; the cities do not provide these in any way. This is a county responsibility and as Ms. Stapleton noted, in some cases, if it is with our University Medical Center, Social Service, or Family Services, that is where we become the safety net for our community. We have many different challenges that the cities in Clark County and the state of Nevada are not tasked with. I would say that going forward with Family Services, this has always been and will continue to be one of the major challenges that we have simply because of the nature of the situations we are dealing with. With Family Services, as well as Social Service and University Medical Center (UMC), there is a great deal of partnership that Clark County has with the State of Nevada. Some of our funding with Family Services comes from the state. Dagny Stapleton mentioned earlier that

the county provides a great deal of the Medicaid budget or matching for this state. For Clark County, I would say that on an annual basis we provide \$160 million in what we refer to as intergovernmental transfers that goes to the state, and then comes back through UMC or even in the state budget. There is a great deal of the county budget where there is a partnership that is formed between us and some of the health and human services agencies within the state.

As we are looking at our Family Services Department and the challenges we are facing, we realize there are homeless issues. What we are finding is that sometimes there is a connection between the homeless and our families, and some of those children who are in our Family Services or Child Protective Services are not being reunited with their families because the families themselves are homeless. Obviously we are not going to reunite the child with the family if the family does not have a home for those children to go to. We have been working internally to try to figure out how we eliminate that homeless population within our Child Protective Services. There has been much discussion on that as well. We are also seeing that on the juvenile justice side.

**Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, Clark County:**

One of the key pieces we are trying to look at is the nexus in our human services when you look at child welfare or social services in relation to those vulnerable populations. Whether that is kids who are in custody or whether that is a juvenile offender, one of the commonalities is housing. Housing in program is one of the key tenets that we are facing.

At a regional level there is a direct crossover between 85 percent of our cases in child welfare and neglect. With that neglect comes substance abuse and mental health as two of the most common denominators. The housing component in many cases can be the single barrier that we face in terms of reunification. When we look at the population and how we place, we need to create that nexus. Between Social Services and the Family Services Department, that is one thing we are diligently working on to utilize county funds and our federal funds to support that housing. It is a short, medium, and long-term mix. We have to be managing the immediate crisis. To give you a number, we spend almost \$40 million out of county funds related to bridge housing, outreach, nursing home care match, those types of pieces. I highlight that for you because those dollars are dollars that we can create flexibility with for programming. We also have federal dollars that we bring down which have lots of requirements, and we need to create those nexus. We recently had a resolution that came forward, and we are bringing forward dollars to support those juvenile justice children and the child welfare side, specific to that housing and that program structure. Again, it is that short-term, medium-term, and long-term that we have to look to for the housing and making the public dollar go farther.

The last piece I want to add is that for child welfare we have a block grant, and we also have a county general fund. One of the key pieces in that block grant is that it has been capped for multiple sessions, so as the mental health and the substance issues compound, there are more requirements that we have to make on a federal side related to those treatment services. We are trying to assist where we can to meet Medicaid gaps because all of you will be exposed to

the budget and the many pieces we face. We are always trying to figure out how we leverage that. Clark County is making a sincere effort to create as much efficiency as we can between our Social Service and our Department of Family Services. When we hear the word homeless, the reason I highlight those areas is that it is not complex, but it is. The one word is housing. I think that housing with program is where we need to be, so we are diligently looking at where we can infuse that.

**Yolanda King:**

Remaining on page 14 ([Exhibit F](#)) is the Social Service Department. You can see the numbers we are providing relate to financial assistance and the number of calls received. Kevin mentioned that one of the challenges is the homeless population as well as affordable housing. Sometimes those two can go hand in hand. It may not necessarily be a person who is out, but it may be the affordable housing that has caused them to be homeless. There is a mixture of the population on the homeless side and what that looks like and the complexities of trying to address the issues that we are having in Clark County.

The county is a part of University Medical Center of Southern Nevada (UMC). I am proud to say that it is home to the only Level 1 trauma center. It is the designated pediatric trauma center, the only burn center in Clark County, and the only center for transplantation in Clark County.

Next we have a few of our departments which provide some of those town services [page 15]: Animal Control, Business License, the County Clerk, and the Fire Department, which is the third-largest department in Clark County. That includes about 700 full-time equivalents. These are all the different measures and the volume of which each of those areas deals with on an annual basis.

The Parks and Recreation Department includes about 1,400 of our part-time employees who are responsible for our Safekey activities or our aquatics or pool facilities. It is where most of those part-time employees work. We have over 788,000 in Safekey attendance, so quite a large volume of folks whom we provide services to on a day-to-day basis.

Page 16 lists fast facts for the Public Works and public response [Code Enforcement] departments.

The Clark County Financial Overview, page 17, shows that the total fiscal year county budget for 2019 is \$6.9 billion, and that includes many of the agencies noted earlier and the airport. Water reclamation: We file on behalf of the flood control district, the Southern Nevada Health District, and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, as well as UMC. When we look at the county budget, the main operating fund of the county is our general fund, and that is \$1.6 billion in 2019. That is about 23 percent of the total budget. It is the general operating fund of Clark County. For the most part, the cost of providing regional and municipal services are accounted for in the general fund. We have close to 10,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees within Clark County. If you look at that on an FTE per

thousand residents basis within the general fund, we have 1.8 FTEs per 1,000 residents. Overall, it is probably close to 3.5 per 1,000 residents if you include all of the funds.

For fiscal year (FY) 2019 [page 18], this chart reflects our general fund revenue expected to be received in Clark County for FY 2019 is \$1.3 billion. Our No. 1 revenue source is what we call under the intergovernmental section of the revenues that are collected. These are primarily the consolidated tax, which you may have heard about, and that is Clark County's No. 1 source of revenue and it makes up 42 percent of the revenues received.

The second-largest revenues received in Clark County are property taxes, and that is close to 32 percent. There was a question earlier about the property taxes for Clark County, and the property taxes that are collected outside do not include the cities. It is for unincorporated Clark County. It is at \$2.93 per \$100 of assessed value. In Clark County, we are not close to the \$3.64 allowed by statute.

The last page is a breakout of how our general fund expenditures are budgeted based on the functional areas [page 19]. What is important to note is that we have roughly a little more than 50 percent that is dedicated to public safety. On this chart, looking at public safety you would have to include the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department as well as detention, which are part of public safety. Clark County provides 100 percent of the detention budget, a little more than \$200 million annually. We also provide about 60 percent, which we share with the City of Las Vegas, of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's budget. The two together, in terms of funding that comes out of the county general fund for the police services as well as detention, are close to \$500 million. The remaining \$234 million goes to public safety within Clark County. That is one of the largest expenditures we have. Also, the UMC portion comes out of that. For UMC, Clark County provides some additional subsidy funding. At this point, the funding we provide for UMC is not necessarily for operations that we have provided in the past. It is mainly for the capital expenditures that are needed to keep up with the infrastructure needs at the hospital. That is around \$30 million in subsidy that we provide. The remaining piece is the intergovernmental transfers that we provide to the state that come out of the general fund. There are other parts of the county budget where we provide intergovernmental transfers.

In summary, I wanted to highlight for you the biggest part of our budget in terms of expenditure, and also note that there are other agencies within the Clark County general fund budget that we are providing funding for. It is part of our \$1.6 billion general fund budget.

There was a question noted earlier about the salaries and benefits that are included in this budget. Expenditure totals for salaries and benefits of the total budget are about 65 percent.

That concludes my presentation. I would be happy to answer any questions.

**Assemblywoman Gorelow:**

Regarding the county roads, how do you prioritize your projects, and how do the fuel tax revenue dollars help with those projects?

**Yolanda King:**

There are a number of funding sources for the roads. We have our Public Works Department that mainly takes care of the unincorporated roads. That department has a scoring system where they look at the condition of the road and they prioritize it on the condition of the road. They do that internally. I do not have specifics regarding what the scoring looks like, but there is a mechanism for them to evaluate and determine some other roads and the need to be paved for the areas that are mainly in the neighborhood areas of Clark County.

There is the fuel revenue indexing. My understanding is, that goes through the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, and there is a prioritization process that is determined by that commission based upon the needs that are submitted by Clark County, as well as the cities. That is my understanding of how those funds are distributed and what the prioritization looks like.

**Assemblyman Leavitt:**

Regarding FY 2019, it looks like in your projected revenues versus your projected expenditures, there is a \$39 million deficit. How do you anticipate filling that gap? The City of Las Vegas projected a deficit, and they were going to reduce their workforce in an attempt to close that gap. What is Clark County's plan on filling that gap?

**Yolanda King:**

What the numbers are showing on this page do not include our ending or beginning fund balances. Our total budget is \$1.6 billion, which is different from these numbers. That \$1.6 billion includes fund balances. Although the numbers look different here on the revenue side and the expenditure side, the county has a balanced budget. We have had that for a number of years, given the recession. We had structural deficits and unfortunately we had to do a lot of cutbacks to bring the revenues and expenditures in line, but we are not having an issue with having a structural imbalance between revenues and expenses. Generally, we cannot submit a budget that is structurally imbalanced. As county manager and former chief financial officer of the county, we will have a balanced budget. That is the difference between the numbers; it is not showing the fund balance.

**Assemblyman Leavitt:**

What is the county's philosophy on incorporation? There are a lot of unincorporated Clark County lands and different townships throughout the county. What is the county's philosophy on townships that perhaps want to incorporate? Are you helpful in that endeavor? Are you prohibitory towards that effort? What is the county's philosophy?

**Yolanda King:**

We have had a few instances where we have had towns that have opted or at least wanted to incorporate. Our stance is that most of the time it is not financially feasible for a town to pull off and become an incorporated area. The town of Laughlin had requested to be incorporated. In east Las Vegas, I believe it was Sunrise and the Winchester areas that were questioning or wanting to look at incorporation. We provide the information to them but what generally ends up happening is a lot of the town services we provide are subsidized.

If a town were to become incorporated, we would not pay for the services that are required or needed for an incorporated area. Specifically, when you look at either police or fire services, the amount of revenue typically does not cover what it would cost to provide those services. Many times it ends up not going anywhere, but our stance has generally been that we provide that information to those residents to give them a clear picture so that if they decide to incorporate, this is what it looks like in terms of services. In most cases, they will see a decline in the level of service those residents are currently receiving. We put the information out there so they are informed as to the types and level of service that will either increase or decrease. In most cases the level of service ends up decreasing because the revenues do not support providing those services.

**Assemblyman Carrillo:**

My question is state roads versus county road maintenance. I know there was a bill either last session or a previous session about exchange where the county would take over certain roads; for instance, Tropicana Boulevard. That is basically a state highway or considered a state route. I know if there is debris on the road, they maintain that. Is it just the road or does that include the sidewalks if it is a state road? Who takes care of that? Is that county? Where does your border start on the road itself? You have the ones for individuals with disabilities to go on the curbs, and in my district, that is happening a lot right now where they are going into the community, but specifically the state roads versus the county roads and the exchange. I cannot remember the details regarding if a road is in a certain condition, it has to be brought up before it can do an exchange, and how many miles have been exchanged. I know there was a number at one point.

**Yolanda King:**

Over the past year, the county and the state have done some exchanges with regard to some of the roads that you mentioned, Sahara Boulevard, Flamingo Boulevard, or Tropicana Boulevard. We can get that information to you with regard to what roads have been transferred from the county to the state and vice versa. Many of you may or may not know that the Clark County Highway 215 initially was built by the county and owned by the county, and there is an intent at some point for all of that system to be transferred to the state. Some portions of it have transferred, mostly in the Henderson area. More recently, we transferred, I believe, the southern part of the beltway from the county to the state, and then there were some county roads that transferred from the state to the counties. It was mainly the beltway going to the state, and then there were some state roads, mainly the Tropicanas or the Saharas that were transferred to the county, so there was an exchange there. We can definitely provide that information to you on what has been transferred over the past year, but there is quite a bit more we have done in terms of transfer than we have probably done since the last five to eight years. We will get you that information.

In terms of the maintenance, if the sidewalk is a part of the public right-of-way, then we would be responsible for providing or maintaining those areas that are in the public right-of-way. If it is a private area, then we are not responsible, but generally that is the easiest way to understand who is responsible for the maintenance. If it is in the public

right-of-way, the streets, the sidewalks, then we or the state or whoever owns that area is responsible for the maintenance piece of it.

**Assemblywoman Bilbray-Axelrod:**

In my district, we are in unincorporated Clark County as well as the City of Las Vegas, and I very much enjoy the open areas, the green areas, the parks, et cetera. The numbers I am looking at on page 14 about Family Services, to say that they are heartbreaking is an understatement. I am wondering if the county addresses, and if you can talk about attempts to mitigate these numbers or increase the funding, because I am happy to see that adoption numbers are going up, but the numbers are staggering.

**Kevin Schiller:**

Two things: As you look at those numbers and the totals of the calls and the caseloads, one thing I would highlight is, we are averaging about 3,100 kids in our substitute care system. Why I indicate that number to you is overall that number has remained fairly consistent. The complexity in the caseload, which is why I spoke about housing a bit, and the diversion is where we are seeing increases in terms of need. In speaking of the numbers, we have consistently, at least on the county side, continued to increase staffing, so that is one component of that tied to the caseload and caseload ratio. That is not enough, at the end of the day. As I reference the way we are structured in child welfare and have been for many years, we have a state-driven block grant in conjunction with the county fund. One of the key pieces is the responsibility on the child welfare caseload side, separated out or not, has increased.

From a federal participation rate, we participate in Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. We draw down dollars which indicate about, on average, a 40 percent cost rate in terms of that. That is an ever-changing market, so the other issue that we are struggling with is the new federal legislation, the Family First Prevention Services Act, which is going to focus more on the diversion end which we have been doing consistently. That is great news, but at the same time, we are delayed in federal guidance related to how we claim those dollars, and there are requirements tied to that. As you look at the staggering numbers and why I highlight the diversion and why I focused on the housing, it is really housing and program because by the time we intercede with the family, we are reacting.

Where we are trying to get is, How do we get to a point where we are creating some of that diversion in a voluntary mechanism? Easier said than done, given the challenges that Clark County presents. But what I will say in terms of the Social Services/Family Services nexus, I think that is something you will see over the next biennium that I believe will be significant. What we are trying to do is figure out how we widen that scope and hopefully have an impact in terms of both the substitute care numbers I referenced, and also as you look at that community outreach and you look at those calls, those are not all placements in foster care. The other piece I think is really significant is we have a very high rate of relative placement and next-of-kin placement.



At a national level, we have done very well with that. By the same token, in that diversion side as the calls are coming in, what we are seeing is the majority of our cases are reunification. Does that mean it is always perfect and it is a perfect system? No. But that is one of the reasons we have a lot of checks and balances in terms of our outside review. The Legislative Counsel Bureau reviews us and those types of pieces in terms of how we maximize. When it comes down to the bottom-line dollar, we are trying to figure out, How do we maximize our federal reimbursement? How do we use our social service dollars? How do we use our county general fund to apply to both a caseload that is in the system and more important, how are we preventing it? That is why the housing piece is so significant.

**Yolanda King:**

The movement, not only in Clark County but on a national basis, is to unify families. There are many statistics to show that is the best placement for the child. If you think about the situations the children are in, that is what they are familiar with. They are familiar with their families, their moms, aunts or uncles, or grandparents. When you pull a child out of a home they are familiar with, it can be devastating for that child, which may cause additional concerns or issues on a behavioral level. Not only is it in Clark County where we try to have that reunification, and if we cannot reunify with the moms or the dads, then we look at what Kevin Schiller mentioned: other relatives in trying to place those children with people whom they are familiar with. I think we have been very successful at doing that.

As the numbers are growing, we will continue to add to our resources in Clark County to be able to address that caseload. About one-third of our funding comes from the state with regard to a block grant. That has not increased, but the caseload numbers have increased, and that is one of the struggles we deal with, together with not necessarily knowing what federal dollars may or may not be available, and that is an everyday struggle.

**Assemblyman Assefa:**

You briefly highlighted earlier how homelessness and affordable housing could be interrelated. I want to know what action plans the county has or policies you have in place to address that issue at the county level.

**Yolanda King:**

Recently what we have looked at is we realized that in Clark County in general, there are federal dollars, obviously not enough to be able to assist or help out on what the population looks like. But there are federal dollars that are received by the county and as a community, it is determined how those dollars will be dispersed and what the priority will be for those dollars. Some of the concerns that we have with federal dollars are that it is generally tied to how you spend it and whom you spend it on. While our homeless population may have many different aspects of what we have to provide to those individuals, with the federal dollars it is restrictive in terms of how you use those dollars. We are trying to look at what are some discretionary dollars within our county budget where we can utilize those dollars to be able to address the population where federal dollars are not addressing the population.

One initiative our Board of County Commissioners recently approved is that we receive money through our business license for marijuana fees. The board approved a resolution and the priority of dedicating those dollars to our homeless efforts. Where that helps us is those dollars are not as restrictive as the federal dollars. As we identify programs that would help with the population or even where we have programs that are helpful but we are restricted in the amount of dollars we are receiving, the thought is to add to those programs or to be able to address the population that is not currently being addressed through the federal dollars. One example would be through our families. These are more recent conversations that we are having in the county. Right now we are going through the process of how we are going to prioritize those marijuana dollars and how they are spent on the homeless population. We hope to have something within the next month or so on the priority and how we spend those dollars.

Our Social Service Department is dealing with our indigent population on a day-to-day basis if they are providing medical or financial assistance on a temporary basis. They have always dealt with the indigent population and some of that may include the homeless population. We are taking a look at that, and most important, we have the federal dollars but then we have discretionary dollars within our general fund where we want to take a look at how we address issues where we do not have dollars.

**Kevin Schiller:**

I would just add one key component when we talk about housing and we talk about program, those nonfederal dollars are critical. The other key point we are actively working on is how we create the partnership between the provider, the managed care organizations, and the county. With the advent of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, we only have three primary managed care organizations in the state, which is a good thing, but we are trying to figure out how we leverage that Medicaid dollar to its maximum capacity. There are some bills that will be moving through the session tied to housing where we are able to draw more of that Medicaid component.

Medicaid does not answer the question at 100 percent in terms of how you develop the program, so we want our county dollars to focus on and be a part of that partnership. Where Medicaid stops, where is the gap? How do we build housing tied to that? The continuum of care is where the federal dollars sit. I will change the phrase to continuity of care, so if somebody walks in the front door related to substance abuse and mental health, we do not want to have a system that is in isolation. We want that connected to transitional housing, connected to program, and then down the road when you get into affordable or attainable housing, we are trying to isolate lands. We are trying to look at vacant parcels and how we can incentivize the building on the far end, but on the front end, how we can get a master lease with a provider and provide case management to support that. Medicaid pays for some of that. How do we home in on our county dollar to ensure we are maximizing it, and that is in conjunction with the state.

**Assemblyman Assefa:**

I hear you saying that the federal dollars are restrictive. They are giving you money for the homeless, but they are restricting you from using it for homeless people. Obviously, we have no control over that. How much of your nonfederal dollars are you directing to address the root cause of the issue instead of handling homeless people on the streets and trying to redirect them to available services? Are we looking at or studying issues that are causing homelessness, such as substance abuse and mental health issues, and preventing them before they happen?

**Yolanda King:**

Part of what we have been looking at and what we need to look at is what you mentioned; it is the diversion piece of it. What we are addressing is a person who is already homeless and for many different reasons it depends on varying circumstances of why a person is homeless. But part of what we have to do is the prevention piece of it, and that is where Kevin Schiller has talked about the continuity of care and what that looks like. We will need to include part of a prevention program and identifying what that looks like, as opposed to waiting until they get into the system of needing, where they are homeless or they need services. There is housing involved in that as well.

**Kevin Schiller:**

I would probably highlight a couple of components to follow up the prevention side of that. We are expending close to \$40 million on the county side, which is anywhere from outreach on the street all the way through to nursing homes. When we talk about the vulnerable populations, the face of homelessness is what people see. They see somebody on the corner, they see those components. To your point, how do you start preventing that? When someone comes in for financial assistance, we do an assessment on them related to what their demonstrated needs are, but on the second side of that, you also have senior issues. If I look at that and the population in our housing crisis, you have people on fixed incomes, and we are seeing a significant increase in the senior population entering our homeless corridor. When we get into that action planning, that is why I demonstrated that continuity of care versus a continuum. They sound the same, but that federal dollar is missing thousands of people because of how they define, for example, chronic homelessness. It does not speak to the prevention that you are highlighting.

On the prevention side, it is, How do we interface with that to get them into services and engaged? That is the other piece. There are veterans dollars, senior components—all those vulnerable populations—but on the prevention side that is why I highlighted mental health and substance abuse. The substance abuse funding that we have at a state level and have drawn down on the federal level is deficient at best. So the issue in terms of how we address that is we have to engage them and try to come up with that program. I think that is where we are going to see more of our focus—how we drive those dollars to the gap. And to your point, how do we not just react on the far end in terms of it being too late, but how do we get in there at the various stages. Some of it may be a senior on a fixed income. Other components may be related to somebody who is experiencing a trauma in his life. It is those components.

The one good thing I will highlight on the federal side is, with those federal dollars that are significant, we participate in a health management information system, which is data. Data drives everything, and we are also engaging in more of a local effort in smart communities on how we gather that data, to look at how we target that population you are talking about.

**Yolanda King:**

The data is important for us to understand what that population looks like, and we do have a great deal of that data where we have touched folks, not just with Clark County but the nonprofit agencies as well as agencies across Clark County. They will document what that looks like, so in the database, although we do not have everyone who is in need of housing, we have an idea. It is broken out between the families and those who do not have children, so we understand and have some idea of what the housing requests are based on the data. That is why we are going out and trying to identify if we can have master leases in places. There are thousands of people who are in that database whom we have recognized are in need of housing. On the flip side, Clark County has recently set aside some of our Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land which, I believe, is over 100 acres that would be dedicated. This is the affordable housing piece of that. We have dedicated land for that purpose out in the southwest area where we have BLM land available.

**Chair Flores:**

Now we will move on to Lyon County.

**Jeff Page, County Manager, Lyon County:**

For those of you who may not know, Lyon County is directly over the hill off U.S. Highway 50, not very far from here. I have been with Lyon County for 34 years. I started with the Sheriff's office as a reserve deputy. In those days the population of Lyon County was about 13,000 people. The majority of the population was in the south end of the county in the city of Yerington [page 2, ([Exhibit G](#))].

Dayton High School was being built, and Fernley High School was a Double-A school. Today, the majority of the population is north of the Carson River and the Highway 50 corridor and the city of Fernley, with a population of 55,000-plus. We are now the third-largest county population-wise in the state of Nevada. I never thought I would say that out loud.

We have an area of about 2,013 square miles. We are spread out from the California border of Mono County to the Washoe County border and Interstate 80, from Carson City to Churchill County, from Douglas County to Mineral County. We have over 33,000 parcels; 75 percent of our county is owned by the federal government [page 2]. Within our county we have two cities: Yerington, which is the county seat, and Fernley, which is in the northernmost portion of our county.

Within our county we have eight distinctly different communities that want things done eight different ways. They are Dayton, Fernley, Mason Valley, Mound House, Silver City, Silver Springs, Stagecoach, and Yerington. Lyon County is unique. We do not own a fire

department. All four of our fire departments are *Nevada Revised Statutes* Chapter 474 fire protection districts with their own governing bodies and their own tax rates. We have one hospital that has been in existence since the late 1940s to early 1950s in south Lyon County. It used to be the Lyon Health Center. It was at one time a county hospital. It is now a special district which covers Mason Valley, Smith Valley, and the City of Yerington.

We have two pool districts within the county: Fernley and Mason Valley. We have five general improvement districts (GIDs) that do vector control, water services, and sewer services that my board oversees. We have a couple of other GIDs that are elected boards. Within Lyon County, we are the third-largest school district in the state of Nevada with 18 schools.

Our economy in Lyon County has changed over the years [page 4, [Exhibit G](#)]. When I was a kid growing up in Yerington, we were known as the Cattle Kingdom of Copper Hills. We still have copper; we still have cows; and we also have onions. We are the single-largest producer of onions in the 11 western states for the rest of the nation and the world. We have mining, both in the south end of the county where Nevada Copper is taking off and starting to move forward, as well as west central Lyon County, the Comstock mine in Silver City. We share that operation with Storey County. We have light industrial manufacturing occurring in Dayton, Fernley, and Mound House. Soon we will have light industrial going on in Silver Springs with a new development called Northern Nevada Industrial Center, which borders the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center (TRIC).

Lyon County is also home to solar and geothermal power production. All those currently are in south Lyon County, although we are in the process of working with a developer and doing some solar in the northern part of the county.

Lyon County, not unlike Clark and other counties, has its share of challenges [page 5]: 10.8 percent of the population is at poverty level and another 13.7 percent is below poverty level. We are ranked 13th out of 17 for health outcomes and 14th out of 17 for health factors. We went up a point for the next year. I will explain a little later why I bring those numbers to your attention.

Currently, our biggest threat, as population grows and Washoe County and Carson City housing prices rise in those jurisdictions, is people moving east. That has caused us some problems in the Dayton area where we have reached our sewer capacity [page 6]. We have been permitted to open an old plant to take some of the flows to help us meet that need with a long-term goal of expanding our current operation, but that is a three- to five-year project. You will hear from everyone that water is an issue. For those of you from southern Nevada, Silver Springs is similar to Pahrump in that we are about 63 percent overallocated in water rights. So before any development can occur in Silver Springs, the developer has to prove his water rights and show that he has the water to go with the paper.

Poverty is a huge issue in Lyon County, as we have already discussed. Our unemployment rate is about 5.4 percent, but as we have discovered, we have a number of people who are

underemployed working two or three part-time jobs at a little bit above minimum wage to make ends meet. We are trying to fix that.

We have a lack of local higher education services in our county [page 6]. In the past, higher education would tell us, Well, you are only 20 minutes from Carson City or 20 minutes from Fallon or a half-hour from the University of Nevada. When you are a resident making minimum wage and working three part-time jobs to make ends meet, you are not going to drive to Reno, Carson City, or Fallon to get that higher education because you cannot afford the gas to get there.

Our largest issue that we have been dealing with since 2017 is storm drainage. Over the last 30 to 40 years, we have had 17 federal declarations of emergency in Lyon County. Sixteen of those have been for flooding, and most of that flooding is alluvial flood plain, so we are in the process of working through that now.

Unlike my children, not only do we bring the problems to you, but we have solutions to our problems [page 7, ([Exhibit G](#))]. Since the 1980s, my board has been primarily Republican conservatives. They passed a resolution three weeks ago to develop a poverty task force ([Exhibit H](#)) to start addressing the issues of poverty in Lyon County. Some of the questions that were asked of Clark County are about the homeless and what you are doing. This task force will include those people as stakeholders so we can find out from them what exactly it is, how they got to where they are, and what exactly it is that they need versus sitting in government offices trying to dictate to them what they need. We are working through that process and hope to have it off the ground by July 1 and moving forward.

We are working with Carson City, Douglas, Storey, and Lyon Counties, known as the quad counties. You will hear a lot about the quad counties throughout the session. It is a coalition of the four counties to address public transportation issues that we have in Lyon County. We are also including Churchill County in that discussion and how we get people moved from Lyon County to Carson to Reno to Fallon for jobs. It does a couple of things: Those who are working at low wages, they are not paying as much for fuel, and the wear and tear on the state highways and county roads to get those folks to work will be less.

The Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center, unlike what many people think, has been a blessing for Lyon County. Yes, we get a lot of their population and TRIC also supplies the jobs. We are working with Storey County and the private partners on how we develop a transportation system to get those folks to work every day, every shift, and reduce the amount of traffic on Highway 50 as well as the new USA Parkway.

Behavioral health issues and substance abuse issues are not unlike Washoe or Clark. They are huge issues for us as well in the quad counties [page 7]. We have begun discussions, and within the next three to eight years, what would it look like for us to take over what the state currently provides and for us to provide those services as a quad county operation, possibly including Churchill if they decide they want to participate. Something that has not been successfully discussed in the past and we are now recognizing is, there are almost 200,000

people in those five counties. Not unlike Washoe to our north, we have the same issues they have, and they do well with their health districts. We are looking at perhaps in the next couple of sessions coming back and providing you with a plan as to how we are going to deal with that issue and take over that service ourselves. We are not unhappy with the State of Nevada. They do a very good job for us. The challenge the State of Nevada has is that they have to do things with a cookie-cutter approach because of the limited people, so they go strictly by what the law says. My issues in Dayton are not the same issues I have in Yerington. Yerington has a much older population, and they need different levels of care and types of care from community health than the younger population needs in Dayton. Fernley is completely different from Dayton. We are looking at a way to meet the needs of our communities without doing a cookie-cutter approach.

We are coordinating with the private development companies to deal with the State Engineer on water issues, and the Division of Environmental Protection in the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on environmental issues dealing with sewers and water. It is a big issue for us, and that partnership has worked out well. We have had a number of meetings with the development community where the state officials have been sitting in the room with us, to come up with solutions on how to fix some of these problems so that we can build the housing that is necessary. We, too, have an affordable housing problem in Lyon County, whether it be those who are homeless or those who are making \$25,000 to \$35,000 a year who cannot afford to buy a home, with rents increasing, those kinds of things. So we have the same issues that our urban partners have. We are working with the development community in the state to see if we can resolve a lot of those issues, including going back to our Board of Commissioners. We have had some hard discussions about whether we need to implement regulations to address those issues.

We are currently partnering with our school district, Western Nevada College (WNC), the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE), and a number of not-for-profits to provide higher education in Lyon County. We are not looking for a campus; we are not looking for a four-year degree or a two-year degree. We are looking for access to the state systems, whether it be utilizing videoconferencing or the Internet to get people the skills they need to go the next step to a better-paying job. We do not have visions of being the next Fallon or Carson City with a huge college campus in our county. But we want to partner with those folks to see about getting more services into the county than we had prior to the recession that have slowly but surely been coming back.

Our school district is very proud of its career and technical education program, and they are more than willing to work with WNC and NSHE to offer those services to provide our constituents the education that is necessary so they can get people out of the minimum-wage jobs to something that pays a livable wage with some benefits so we can get people into a better quality of life.

Roads are a huge issue for us, as everybody has talked about. We are looking at two things. One, we have a number of roads that were paved in the 1940s and 1950s. The way it was done in rural Nevada is you reached out to your local legislator. He came to the state, and



money was appropriated to the county to have a road paved. We have a number of roads with three or four houses that are paved and are miles long. There are also roads in Silver Springs, Stagecoach, and Dayton where there are 50 to 60 homes and the roads are gravel. So we are looking at the possibility of taking some of those paved roads that are falling apart and turning them back to gravel and putting funding in to take care of those roads with a higher population. We are also looking at changing our land use and development code for five-acre parcel subdivisions or greater and not requiring paving for those roads so that we can maintain what we have. Our roads are completely funded by gas taxes. There are no general fund dollars that go to the roads.

The final issue we are dealing with now is engineering storm drainage systems and developing a funding source to maintain those. In 1985, it was not that big a deal because, for example, not many people lived in Dayton where the water went. Today we have houses there. In 1986, we had a significant storm that went through Dayton. It was my first-ever flash flood in the Sheriff's office. It flooded a couple of homes and that was it. That same area was hit in 2017, which was a whole different perspective. Those homes were hit hard. We had mud and debris everywhere. We are working through that process now, and we will be going to the Board of County Commissioners at the end of this calendar year with a solution, including a funding mechanism to pay for that.

We are not unlike any other county. We have a number of general government services that we provide [page 9, ([Exhibit G](#))]: the Assessor's office; community development, which is our Building, Planning, and Code Enforcement folks; the Comptroller's office, which is finance and risk management; County Manager/Board of Commissioners office; Clerk/Treasurer; Recorder's office; Facilities—buildings and grounds, parks, cemeteries, open space, and buildings. Our Facilities staff is spread out over 21 square miles with eight different communities that have eight different wants and desires. We have approximately 300-plus buildings that we maintain, but not all those are huge government buildings. Some of them are small storage sheds out in the middle of nowhere; and some of them are well houses, those kinds of things; and vehicle maintenance, Human Resources, and information technology.

Public safety [page 10] consists of the Sheriff's office where I spent over two decades. We have four substations. We are not centralized like Carson City or Douglas County. We have to work out of four different locations. We provide detective services, a narcotics unit, special investigations unit, SWAT, and volunteers in policing and administration. Our 9-1-1 dispatch center is an all-hazard dispatch center. They dispatch for the Sheriff's office, the local police department in Yerington, the tribal police department, the Division of State Parks in the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for Lahontan State Recreation Area, the new Walker River State Recreation Area, Fort Churchill and Dayton State Parks, juvenile probation, animal services, and four fire protection districts. That is full-time. We also provide dispatch services to the Nevada Highway Patrol and to the Division of Parole and Probation of the Department of Corrections when they are in the area and need our assistance.

The Sheriff is mandated to provide search and rescue. Animal Services is included under Public Safety; also, services for the jail dealing with custody issues, medical transport, and courts. You will see that we have to transport to three different justice courts, two of which are 45 minutes to one hour away, one way. We have a robust Office of Emergency Management in place as well.

Under the judicial category [page 11], we have one district court in Yerington with two departments and two judges. They operate a drug court where a senior judge comes in to provide drug court. The Canal Justice Court is in Fernley, and it is 45 minutes travel time one way from the jail in Yerington to the justice court in Fernley. It covers Dayton, Mound House, overseeing Stagecoach, and it is one hour away. The Walker River Justice Court is in the same building as the jail. It provides services to Yerington, Mason Valley, Smith Valley, and Silver Springs.

Our court services program is pretrial only at this time. We would like to move forward and do postconviction misdemeanors and ensure they are doing what they are doing, but we are not there yet. Our District Attorney's Office provides for prosecution, civil support, and child support. I am glad to say that we have reached the point where the District Attorney has hired personnel to take care of the civil side, thus reducing our contract costs with private attorneys on a number of fronts. That has been a positive thing. We have a Juvenile Probation Department and a public defender's office. Our public defender process in Lyon County is a contract system with three different law firms that provide public defender services throughout the county. We also have a Public Guardian and a Public Administrator. Interestingly, regarding the Public Administrator, we have not had anybody file for office for a number of years. The last few who have filed for office have been indicted or we have been sued. We have a contract with Churchill County for our current Public Administrator to provide that service because we have no one in the county who wants to take that job.

Page 12 lists a number of health and welfare services provided by the state that we pay for: community health nurse contracted with the state; consumer health, which are things like food safety inspections and restaurants, those types of things contracted with the state; child protective services, also contracted with the state; and cemetery operations. We currently own and operate six cemeteries within the county.

Under Culture and Recreation [page 13, ([Exhibit G](#))], we have five libraries. We have a partnership with the school district in Smith Valley, which is our smallest library. It is a public library after 2 o'clock in the afternoon; before 2 o'clock it is a school library. We have nine parks. Those are all in the central Lyon County corridor. The City of Yerington and the City of Fernley take care of the parks in their respective jurisdictions. In the days of old, the county had all the parks, but when we divided the City of Yerington, we gave them the parks plus \$40,000 per year to take over the parks in the city. When Fernley became a city, they kept the parks.

We have one area known as Rolling A, an open space in Dayton of about 400 acres. It borders the Carson River with a Frisbee golf course [Dayton Disc Golf Course], and a number of hiking trails. The community is very proud of that area.

We have two event centers: the fairgrounds in Yerington and the Dayton Valley Event Center in Dayton. The fairgrounds in Yerington are famous because we host the Night in the Country every summer where we bring about 15,000 people to little Lyon County for a three-day weekend. It has been referred to as the "Redneck Burning Man." It is a well-run operation, and the funding generated from that benefits the Boys and Girls Clubs of Mason Valley, which provides services to all of Lyon County with the exception of Fernley. That is taken care of by the Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows.

We have four translator sites. Yes, we still have translators for television for those folks who are not paying for cable. They get the three or four basic channels, and we still maintain those sites for them.

All those things are taken care of, for the most part, by the general fund. Our roads are funded by fuel taxes. They are not generally funded. We have a number of water and sewer operations in the Dayton community. It is an enterprise fund where we do both water and sewer. In Silver Springs we provide sewer only. It is a GID. The water is provided by a cooperative water company in Silver Springs. Other than the Sheriff's office, my second-largest department is Human Services, which provides services for adults, children, seniors, transportation, and community health support. That is where the bulk of our time is spent: dealing with the issues regarding poverty and substance abuse. For the last four years we have partnered with law enforcement, fire service, and the courts, and have developed a number of multidisciplinary teams to address the people who are frequent-fliers and try to deal with their issues and move them forward. We provide funding to the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. They do a number of things for us including 4-H for youth.

We currently have behavioral health and substance abuse programs [page 14, ([Exhibit G](#))]. Two programs we are very proud of are our MOST (Mobile Outreach Safety Team) and the Forensic Assessment Services Triage Team (FASTT). The FASTT program is in the jail to identify those folks if they meet certain criteria to get them in for a behavior health analysis or a substance abuse analysis. In the facility, Human Services takes over and follows them through the court process to help them deal with their issues. After they are done with the court process, they continue helping them follow through. In the past we had programs in the jail. When they were discharged, that was it. We now have a system in place. Mobile Outreach Safety Team is a mobile outreach system where our 9-1-1 dispatch center screens calls and if the calls meet certain criteria, they go to a deputy sheriff and a licensed clinical social worker and they pay a visit to the citizen. In both programs, we tie in with professional mental health folks through telehealth off an iPad in a neighbor's front yard to have a conversation with the person and their psychologist to determine the best step, whether they need to be institutionalized temporarily, or other ways to address the issue. We have had great success with that and have been able to reduce the number of behavioral health problems that create criminal problems. The program is still relatively new so it is

still formulating data, but we anticipate at least 5 to 8 percent of those people are not going to jail now. For a comparison, three years ago that person would have been cuffed and put in a squad car and driven to Yerington.

Lyon County is a bit unique in that when I took over as county manager in 2010, we eliminated about 30 percent of our workforce, and that eliminated all after-school programs. We reached out to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Mason Valley, which was in Yerington at the time, and asked them if they would take over those programs for us in the central Lyon County corridor. They did. Today they provide two sites in Yerington, one in Silver Springs, and three in Dayton. The Fernley club is supported by the Truckee Meadows club. The Boys and Girls Clubs of Mason Valley has also reached out and is providing services to Mineral County as well. It has been a good partnership for us and got us out of the after-school program. From a fiscal aspect, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Mason Valley's return on investment is much greater than what we were able to do. We are very supportive and helpful with them. That is why we provide them with assistance for Night in the Country in utilizing our facilities without any charge so they can keep moving forward.

The last two pages show where we are funding-wise [pages 15 and 16]. Just as in Clark County, it is true in the rest of the state: Public Safety is always the highest dollar amount. They have risen significantly over the years. A couple of years ago at budget time, we decided to go back from the day I was hired to where we were at that time. Consistently, even during recessions, everything was cut except Public Safety, which always rose. It is a huge issue for us in Lyon County. It gives you an idea of where we are fiscally. Our general fund budgets are \$32 million to \$33 million and we are starting to see some improvement there.

Not unlike Clark County, the Intergovernmental Fund is our key fund revenue source. That is all CTX. We get about \$2 million annually from the federal government in payment in lieu of taxes (PILT). We do not put it in the general fund as operations; we put it into capital improvements because over the last couple of years, Congress has fully funded PILT. But they do not always fully fund it. Since the implementation of PILT, Lyon County has always used that funding to go into capital improvements for one-time expenditures so we do not get used to it being an operational revenue, then when it goes away, we are trying to figure out where we can come up with that money. Property taxes are our No. 2 revenue source, and licenses and permits are No. 3.

I like to tell people that Lyon County is one of the original nine counties. We are over 150 years old. We have just kind of passed puberty and are starting to grow into adulthood. With population growth comes challenges and opportunities. We are trying to hit those head-on. We have a very conservative board, but progressive as in, Let's stop kicking the can down the road on some issues we have been doing for the last 50 years and get them addressed. We have done most of that without having to come to the state for changes to the law or looking for funding opportunities. We are very proud that we are able to do that, but we are always able to do it because three other counties swallowed their pride in 2008, 2009, and 2010 and said, We can no longer do this on our own.

I want to tout the efforts of Carson City, Douglas, Storey, and Lyon Counties in developing a quad county approach to providing services, everything from a hazardous materials response team to what we do with mental health today. It has been a very enjoyable experience to see four county governments able to work together to address the issues. This does not mean that we always get along, but we get things taken care of.

**Chair Flores:**

I know there are a lot of questions the Committee wanted to ask. In the interest of time and ensuring we can get everybody to the floor, I ask that we reserve questions now. If any member of the Committee sends you a question, and I encourage all of you to do that via email, if you could do us a favor and respond with the question and send your response to the entire Committee. That way we all have an opportunity to see that. I know we will be sending you some questions; if you could just respond to all.

With that I will close the presentation. Thank you for being here. Is there any public comment? [There was none.] The meeting is adjourned [at 11:11 a.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Connie Jo Smith  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Assemblyman Edgar Flores, Chair

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXHIBITS**

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

[Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster.

[Exhibit C](#) is a copy of a PowerPoint presentation titled "Presentation to the Assembly Government Affairs Committee," dated February 12, 2019, presented by Dagny Stapleton, Executive Director, Nevada Association of Counties.

[Exhibit D](#) is a bound copy of a PowerPoint presentation titled "Nevada Association of County Human Services Administrators," presented by Dagny Stapleton, Executive Director, Nevada Association of Counties.

[Exhibit E](#) is a document titled "State and County Service Providers," detailing Nevada's government agencies, their divisions, and services, presented by Dagny Stapleton, Executive Director, Nevada Association of Counties, and prepared by the Nevada Association of Counties.

[Exhibit F](#) is a copy of a PowerPoint presentation titled "Presentation to Assembly Committee on Government Affairs," dated February 12, 2019, presented by Yolanda T. King, County Manager, Clark County.

[Exhibit G](#) is a copy of a PowerPoint presentation titled "Lyon County, NV Presented to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs," presented by Jeff Page, County Manager, Lyon County.

[Exhibit H](#) is a document titled "Resolution No.: 19-02" regarding goals for 2019 in Lyon County by the Board of Lyon County Commissioners, presented by Jeff Page, County Manager, Lyon County.