

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 21, 2014

STATE OF NEVADA)
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COUNTY OF EUREKA)

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on January 21, 2014. Present were Chairman J.J. Goicoechea; Vice Chairman Jim Ithurrealde; Commissioner Michael Sharkozy; District Attorney, Ted Beutel; and Executive Assistant, Jackie Berg. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The interactive video conferencing system was connected and utilized between Crescent Valley and Eureka for the entire meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the agenda as posted; Commissioner Ithurrealde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea opened the floor for public comments. Undersheriff Keith Logan presented an award to the Commission from the National Association of Town Watch for the National Night Out Against Crime event. There were over 16,000 communities that hosted this event in 2013 and Eureka was selected to be honored for their outstanding participation. Undersheriff Logan thanked all the community partners that contributed towards the success of this program: Nevada Highway Patrol, the Vine Program, General Moly, Barrick Gold, Justice Court, Search & Rescue, and the Board of County Commissioners.

County Recorder & Auditor, Mike Rebaleati read the following letter into the record:



OFFICE OF
Eureka County Recorder/Auditor

EUREKA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
10 SOUTH MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 556 - EUREKA, NEVADA 89316
PHONE: (775) 237-5263 • FAX: (775) 237-5614

MICHAEL REBALEATI
COUNTY RECORDER/AUDITOR
E-MAIL: mr@eureka.nv.org

Jan 21, 2014

Eureka County Commissioners
PO Box 677
Eureka, NV 89316

Dear Commissioners:

I want to take this moment to inform the citizens of Eureka County that I will not be running for the Eureka County Recorder/Auditor position this year. I also want to thank the current Commissioners and the voters of Eureka County that gave me the opportunity to serve the public for 8 terms of office. By the end of this calendar year, I will have served for 32 years. These 32 years have gone by very fast but we have accomplished many projects and achieved many goals that will positively affect Eureka County for the next 50 years.

I have given this change of life many years of thought. I sincerely encourage the current Board of County Commissioners to pass the agenda item today that addresses one of my many County duties. In the next 11 months we need to make several decisions concerning the reassignment of duties that I either volunteer or get paid to do. The passage of the agenda item dealing with the separation of the elected Recorder position and the appointed County

Auditor/Comptroller position is a vital step in the assurance of maintaining proper professional oversight of our financial operations.

I also want to take this moment to inform the citizens of Eureka County that I will be entering the race for County Commission this year. If elected, I believe I can help the County continue a conservative financial approach in providing the public the vital services to our citizens.

Warm Regards,



Michael Rebaleati
Eureka County Recorder/Auditor

FINANCE

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Recorder & Auditor, Mike Rebaleati. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$360,030.84 for accounts payable and \$333,961.77 for payroll, for a grand total of \$693,992.61; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve Yucca Mountain expenditures in the amount of \$1,215.00; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Auditor's Report: Mr. Rebaleati presented the Auditor's Report showing current fund balances. He noted that balances reflect posting of 3rd quarter ad valorem revenues as well as several large contract payments made over the past six weeks.

Computer Replacement: Mr. Rebaleati explained that several computers throughout County offices are currently running on an outdated operating system and are scheduled to be replaced as part of an ongoing upgrade. The budget supports this purchase and Mr. Rebaleati is also working with Michael Mears to fund a portion from the Assessor's Technology Fund. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve a capital outlay purchase, not to exceed \$15,000.00, for 13 computers as outlined by the Recorder/Auditor; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Internal Safety Team: Due to inactivity, along with recommendations from staff, the Safety Committee was sunsetted at the last meeting. Mr. Rebaleati felt an internal working group would be more effective in addressing the County's internal safety issues, and suggested this group be made up of five employees from different departments within the County. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to assign them County Recorder/Auditor to take the lead on formation of an internal safety team; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS

Update Reports: Commissioner Sharkozy attended the quarterly meeting in Crescent Valley on January 15th, and attended the Economic Development Program Board meeting on January 16th via interactive video from Crescent Valley.

Commissioner Ithurralde attended Midway Gold's groundbreaking ceremony for the Pan Mine Project on January 14th in White Pine County; attended the quarterly meeting in Crescent Valley on January 15th; and met with various staff regarding items on the current agenda.

Chairman Goicoechea attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Midway Gold's Pan Project on January 14th; attended the Northeastern Nevada Stewardship Group meeting in Elko related to sage grouse on the evening of January 14th; attended the quarterly meeting in Crescent Valley on January 15th; attended a meeting of elected officials in Winnemucca on the afternoon of January 15th to discuss sage grouse; met with Mr. Rebaleati and various Department Heads on January 16th regarding the upcoming budget process; attended a Town

Hall meeting hosted by Nevada Cattlemen's Association the evening of January 17th; met with Congressman Mark Amodei the evening of January 17th to discuss State and federal legislation; and attended the Lincoln Day Dinner in Ely on January 18th.

Draft Resolution – Health Insurance Committee: It was recently brought to the Board's attention that two active committees had never been formally created by resolution, one being the Health Insurance Committee. The Board reviewed a draft resolution along with Committee Chair, Kim Todd. This is a seven member committee, with two-year staggered terms, made up of employees representing various departments or groups of employees. Ms. Todd provided input related to meeting schedule and how the membership interacts with the County's health insurance broker. Based on this dialog, several changes were made to the draft resolution which will be presented in final form at the February 6th meeting.

Draft Resolution – Medical Clinic Advisory Committee: The second committee requiring a resolution is the Medical Clinic Advisory Committee. Originally formed as a temporary committee to perform specific tasks, including review of the clinical services contract with Nevada Health Centers, Inc., the Committee has become more permanent in nature with assignment of additional tasks.

In an effort to conserve County resources, the Commissioners have downsized or sunsetted committees where practical. With this in mind, input was requested regarding possible reorganization of the MCAC. Ms. Damele asked that the Commissioners leave the existing Committee in place through June 30th, the end of the fiscal year. She will obtain feedback from the members at their next meeting and return to the Commissioners' February 6th meeting with recommendations related to the resolution and reorganization.

Ms. Damele recapped the Committee's first year which included an intense and time-consuming review of the contract with Nevada Health Centers, writing and advertising of RFPs (requests for proposals) and RFQs (requests for qualifications), quarterly reviews of medical providers, and establishment of regular communication with NVHC. Through this process, the current membership is very familiar with the medical providers and contracts. Ms. Damele hopes that any members who wish to continue will be given that opportunity.

MCAC member, Bob Stephenson Sr., commended Ms. Damele for her work on the Committee and reiterated the importance of continued communication with NVHC.

Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to table the resolution memorializing formation of the Medical Clinic Advisory Committee to a future meeting; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Lobbyist Contract: The two-year contract for lobbyist services has a provision that funding must be approved on an annual basis. Steve Walker, Walker & Associates, briefed the Board on current issues and impending legislation, noting that the interim committee hearings have begun. He requested funding authorization for the 2014 calendar year. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve the \$24,000.00 annual commitment for the current calendar year under the existing two-year lobbyist contract (through December 2014) with Walker & Associates. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Recommendation for County Comptroller: Mr. Rebaleati recommended that the County begin the process to appoint a County Comptroller as outlined in NRS 251.010. He urged the Board to make a decision prior to onset of the 2014 General Election candidate filing which begins on March 3rd. Due to his announcement earlier in the meeting that he will not be running for County Recorder (a position he has held for 32 years), he felt the duties of the office should be clearly defined for prospective candidates. This office has been comprised of the duties of Recorder (elected) and Auditor (appointed). Pursuant to NRS, a Comptroller would absorb the duties of Auditor.

Mr. Rebaleati spoke of the changes that have evolved over the past 30 years and how the accounting and financial duties of the Auditor have expanded. He felt the professional

qualifications and skill set required of a Comptroller/Auditor warranted consideration of splitting these duties from the elected office and appointing this position. He noted that Eureka County is one of the last counties to make this transition.

Chairman Goicoechea voiced concerns that this would not only create another position, but would be an additional County office with another budget and potential to expand due to eventual need for support staff. The Board felt this didn't align with the current attrition policy and felt further study was needed by the Commissioners. Mr. Rebaleati assured the Board that this could be accomplished in a conservative fashion without increasing the total number of employees.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to table any decisions related to a County Comptroller to the February 6th meeting, or later if needed. Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC WORKS

Robins Street Project - CMAR Panel: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, reported that pursuant to NRS, the public body must appoint a panel consisting of at least three but not more than seven persons to review proposals for the Construction Manager at Risk for the Robins Street Improvements & Utility Upgrades Project. A majority of the individuals must possess experience in the construction industry. Mr. Damele brought forth the names of several qualified people. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to appoint a five-member panel to conduct duties related to selection of a CMAR for the Robins Street Project, to be comprised of the following individuals: Robert Stephenson Sr., Michael Mears, Raymond Hodson, Lester Porter, and Ron Damele. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Update on Eureka Airport Avgas: Mr. Damele reported that the avgas system at the Eureka Airport is currently not operating. The dispensing unit has failed and parts are no longer available for that model. A new unit has been purchased and should be installed by the end of the week.

COUNTY ENGINEER

Robins Street Project – CMAR Selection: Tom Young, Lumos & Associates, reported that the request for qualifications/proposals for the Construction Manager at Risk was advertised beginning January 7th with a response deadline of January 28th. The panel will review submittals, rank the candidates, and interview the top-ranked candidates on February 12th, followed by a recommendation to the County Commissioners at their February 20th meeting.

AMBULANCE & EMS

Update Report: EMS Coordinator, Mike Sullivan, reported on emergency services since his last update in December. Eureka had 10 calls for service and Crescent Valley had eight calls for service. Year-to-date for 2014, Eureka had five calls for service and Crescent Valley had five calls for service. For calendar year 2013, Eureka had a total of 233 calls and Crescent Valley had a total of 63 calls for service.

Continuing education training was held on December 30th and January 6th in Eureka, and on December 26th and January 9th in Crescent Valley. The next classes are scheduled for January 27th in Eureka and January 30th in Crescent Valley.

Mr. Sullivan participated in the Nevada Project Heartbeat Board of Directors meeting in Reno on January 13th; attended Passenger Train Emergency Response training conducted by AMTRAK, along with Cathy Wolf, in Reno on January 14th; and represented Eureka County at the January 15th funeral of Christian Echevarria, a young full-time EMT with Humboldt General Hospital, who was tragically killed in a motor vehicle accident.

CLERK & TREASURER

Treasurer's Report: Clerk & Treasurer, Bev Conley, presented the Treasurer's Report for December. Ending balance for the month was \$51,670,674.67.

2014 Election – Candidate Filing Dates: Ms. Conley reported that non-judicial candidate filing dates for the 2014 Election are March 3rd through March 14th.

COUNTY FACILITIES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Update Report: Cultural, Tourism, & Economic Development Director, Andrea Rossman, gave an update on the Opera House, Sentinel Museum, and Economic Development. The next event scheduled at the Opera House is a Murder Mystery Dinner on Valentine's Day. At the last meeting of the Economic Development Program Board, Sandy Green was elected as Chair for 2014. At that meeting, Mike Baughman of Intertech Services Corporation presented Tables 1 through 24 of the draft Eureka County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The next meeting of the Great Basin Regional Development Authority will take place in Ely, date pending. Topics will include how the member counties wish to spend the grant funds from the Governor's Office of Economic Development. Eureka County recently received the second installment of this \$15,000.00 grant.

ECEDP Resignation: Longtime board member, Sheriff Ken Jones, submitted a letter of resignation from the Economic Development Program Board. Sheriff Jones was in attendance and noted that he will continue to work actively with ECEDP on the car show and racing events. Commissioner Ithurrealde motioned to accept the resignation of Ken Jones from the Economic Development Program Board and thanked him for his many years of service. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Local Phone Directory: Economic Development Department Assistant, Cindy Beutel, stated that a previous Commission recommended that addresses be omitted from the local Eureka phone book that is compiled by Economic Development, although official action was not taken. Unaware of this previous recommendation, she mailed cards to residents in order to update their listing. Approximately 300 residents responded with authorization to publish their information, including addresses. Based on this, Ms. Beutel requested approval to include addresses in the phone directory. The Commissioners responded that no action could be taken since this was not on the agenda, but none objected to addresses being included. They felt this was the decision of the Director.

Military Banners: In the recent past, Eureka County has displayed military banners on Main Street in Eureka, honoring service men and women. This was facilitated by the Recreation Board, but the practice was discontinued because it 'got out of hand'. Ms. Beutel would like to resume the practice with new criteria to alleviate this problem. This was not an agenda item, so the Commissioners did not provide direction. They did mention that it could be discussed with the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars).

SHERIFF

Multiple Vehicle Purchase: Sheriff Ken Jones and Undersheriff Keith Logan presented a request to purchase three vehicles for the Sheriff's Office. Quotes were obtained through State purchasing for the vehicles and all up-fitting (lights, radios, striping). Two vehicles were budgeted for the current year and the third will replace a patrol vehicle involved in an accident. The insurance settlement will cover a portion of this vehicle, but approximately \$17,000.00 will have to be allocated from another line item within the Sheriff's budget. Commissioner Ithurrealde authorized the Sheriff's Office to purchase one 2014 Chevrolet Tahoe and two 2014 Dodge Chargers through State purchasing, not to exceed \$116,000.00 including all up-fitting. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Report on Activities: Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts, reported on recent activities and meetings. Mr. Tibbitts met with Rex Massey of Research & Consulting Services Inc. on January 7th regarding his work with Lander County as a Cooperating Agency on the Greater Sage-Grouse EIS; attended the Nevada Pinyon-Juniper Partnership Executive Committee meeting on January 7th; attended the Diamond Natural Resources Protection & Conservation Association meeting on the evening of January 7th; attended the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council meeting via video connection on January 8th; attended the Crescent Valley Firewise Committee meeting via interactive video on the afternoon of January 8th; attended the Natural Resources Advisory Commission meeting the evening of January 8th; participated in a conference call on January 10th along with the Chairman and livestock grazing industry folks to strategize on grazing components of the Greater Sage-Grouse EIS; traveled to Austin on January 13th to meet with a subcommittee of the N6 Grazing Board; attended the Midway Gold's groundbreaking ceremony for the Pan Mine Project on January 14th; attended the Northeastern Nevada Stewardship Group meeting in Elko related to sage grouse on the evening of January 14th; attended the Commissioners' quarterly meeting in Crescent Valley on January 15th; attended a meeting of elected officials and other interested parties in Winnemucca on the afternoon of January 15th to discuss sage grouse; met with Mike Baughman of Intertech Services Corporation on January 16th to discuss natural resource components of the Eureka County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy; participated in a scoping call on January 16th with Diamond Valley irrigators, Cooperative Extension, and Catherine Hansford of Hansford Economic Consulting regarding water resource set-aside plans for Diamond Valley; traveled to Austin on the afternoon of January 16th for a Four Counties Coalition meeting on the BLM Battle Mountain District Resource Management Plan (RMP); attended the Town Hall meeting hosted by Nevada Cattlemen's Association on January 17th via video connection; and joined the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority meeting by teleconference on January 17th.

Upcoming Meetings: Upcoming meetings include a Cooperating Agency meeting with the BLM regarding the Battle Mountain District RMP on January 22nd; a meeting with Barrick Gold representatives in Pine Valley and Horse Canyon on January 22nd (Consulting Hydrogeologist, Dale Bugenig, will also attend); a conference call with representatives of Barrick Gold Ruby Hill Mine on the afternoon of January 22nd regarding the Ruby Hill Reclamation Biochar Project; a meeting of the County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife on the evening of January 22nd; a NACO Public Lands & Natural Resources Subcommittee meeting followed by the NACO Board of Directors meeting on January 24th; a Nevada Land Management Task Force meeting the afternoon of January 24th; a Boulder Valley/Maggie Creek Monitoring Plan meeting in Carson City on January 28th; and the Eureka Firewise Committee meeting on January 31st.

Time Extension on RMP: Mr. Tibbitts informed the Board that notice was received from Karen Weiss, Associate District Manager of the Battle Mountain District BLM, that the deadline for receiving comments on Chapters 1-3 of the RMP will be extended by two weeks.

Certification of Expenditure of SRS: Mr. Tibbitts briefly explained that the County receives funds through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. This payment replaces lost revenues from forest lands due to regulations on the timber industry. The County receives Title III funds and is required to file an annual Certification of Expenditure showing the funds were utilized properly. For calendar year 2013, a total of \$13,635.56 was spent. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve the Certification of Expenditure of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act Title III funds for calendar year 2013. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Yearly Coordination Notices: Eureka County Code, Title 9, Chapter 40, Section .030, and Eureka County Master Plan Element 6, Natural Resources and Federal & State Land-Use Element, direct that Eureka County will send yearly coordination notices to federal land

management agencies performing management duties within Eureka County. Mr. Tibbitts presented the notices for signature. They will be sent to three BLM offices – Battle Mountain District, Ely District, and Elko District, as well as the US Forest Service Austin Ranger District, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service via State Supervisor, Ted Cook. The notices repeat the request (for the third year) for each of the agencies to enter into a formal Memorandum of Understanding with Eureka County.

Commissioner Ithurrealde motioned to send the yearly coordination notices to the federal land management agencies outlined by the Natural Resources Manager, in accordance with County Code and policies. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

National Association of Conservation Districts: Mr. Tibbitts requested authorization to attend the National Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting in Anaheim, California. No costs will be incurred by Eureka County for travel, hotel, or per diem, as these will be covered by the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts. Commissioner Ithurrealde authorized Mr. Tibbitts to attend the National Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting in Anaheim, California, February 1st-5th. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Central Nevada Regional Water Authority Appeal: Mr. Tibbitts, District Attorney Beutel, and the Board discussed recent action taken by Central Nevada Regional Water Authority to join the appeal of the BLM right-of-way grant to the Southern Nevada Water Authority for the purpose of construction and operation of the SNWA Groundwater Development Project. The Authority is asking each member county to authorize joining this appeal (the appellant will be CNRWA and not each individual county). Other parties to this appeal, which is written but has not yet been filed, include Great Basin Water Network, White Pine County, and others may join as well.

The Board discussed possible financial obligation. Mr. Tibbitts and Mr. Beutel explained that the attorney for Great Basin Water Network and White Pine County, Simeon Herskovits, informed that preparation costs have already been paid and costs moving forward should be minimal, even in the event that judgment by the court splits legal fees between the parties. These costs would be assessed to the appellants, such as CNRWA, and not the counties. CNRWA may in turn request funding from the member counties, but this should be a one-time minimal amount.

The SNWA pipeline is a concern and will likely affect the waters in southern Eureka County. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned that as a member county, Eureka County supports Central Nevada Regional Water Authority joining the appeal of the Bureau of Land Management right-of-way grant to the Southern Nevada Water Authority for the purpose of contraction and operation of the SNWA Groundwater Development Project. Chairman Goicoechea seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: District Attorney, Ted Beutel; County Recorder/Auditor, Mike Rebaleati; Eureka County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff Ken Jones; Eureka Business Network; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board; Barrick Goldstrike (2); Nevada Div. of Environmental Protection; Nevada Dept. of Transportation/PSA Planning; Nevada Dept. of Business & Industry; Western Counties Alliance; and US Dept. of the Interior-BLM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea called for public comments. Lisa Wolf requested copies of certain meeting materials and they will be provided to her by email.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Approved by vote of the Board this 20th day of February, 2014.

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea

J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

I, Jackie Berg, Executive Assistant to the Board of Eureka County Commissioners, attest that these are a true, correct, and duly approved minutes of the January 21, 2014, meeting of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.

/s/ Jackie Berg

Jackie Berg, Executive Assistant

I, Beverly Conley, Clerk & Treasurer of Eureka County, acknowledge and accept the attached minutes as approved by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and attested to by the Executive Assistant of the Board.

/s/ Beverly Conley

Beverly Conley, Clerk & Treasurer