

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 20, 2017

STATE OF NEVADA)
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COUNTY OF EUREKA)

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on March 20, 2017. Present were Chairman J.J. Goicoechea; Vice Chairman Michael Sharkozy; Commissioner Fred Etchegaray; District Attorney, Ted Beutel; and Commissioner Clerk, 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; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 21, 2017: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve the February 21, 2017, Commission minutes; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

March 6, 2017: Minutes for the March 6th meeting were tabled until the next meeting.

COUNTY COMPTROLLER

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Comptroller, Tina Hubbard. The Comptroller noted that there were two invoices received after the six month deadline. Both were from Nevada Health Centers for services provided to inmates in the Eureka County Detention Facility. In accordance with State law, Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to deny payment of two invoices from Nevada Health Centers, one dated August 24, 2016, in the amount of \$102.00, and one dated September 13, 2016, in the amount of \$102.00 for a total of \$204.00. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$338,022.89 for accounts payable, \$263,269.04 for payroll, \$17,340.53 for a pass-through tax allocation to the School District, and \$96.95 in Yucca Mountain expenses, for a grand total of \$618,729.41. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Fund Balances Report: The Board reviewed a print-out of current fund balances.

Proposal to Change Payroll to Bi-Weekly: County payroll is currently paid semi-monthly and the Comptroller's office proposed changing this to a bi-weekly payroll schedule. Paychecks would be issued every other Friday. Nevada POOL/PACT, who provides Human Resources services to the County, has recommended this change. Also, with migration from AS400 to a different payroll software program, the new programs calculate payroll on a bi-weekly schedule. Most, if not all, of the other counties in the State are on a bi-weekly pay schedule.

This will require a change to the Personnel Policy, so draft language will be prepared for consideration with the other policy changes.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize moving from a semi-monthly to a bi-weekly pay schedule, effective July 1, 2017; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Personnel Policy Amendments: The District Attorney’s office worked with contract Human Resources to update Eureka County’s Personnel Policy manual. The draft was distributed to the Board earlier in the year.

POOL/PACT HR General Manager, Jeanne Greene, is planning to retire and the contract with Eureka County will end June 30th. Ms. Greene is willing to work with Eureka County to hold employee meetings to review the policy changes.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to direct the Comptroller’s office to work with POOL/PACT Human Resources to schedule employee meetings beginning in mid-May to begin the process of reviewing the Personnel Policy amendments; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET - REVENUES

Revenue Projections: Final revenue projections were received from the State, including ad valorem revenues, consolidated tax, motor vehicle fuel tax, net proceeds of minerals, etc. The State’s final pro forma report on secured and unsecured property tax (ad valorem), along with applied abatements, will be issued in about a week.

Overall, the revenue estimate had a slight increase over preliminary numbers, but Ms. Todd recommended that no changes be made to the Tentative Budget.

Allocation of Tax Rate: During the March 6th meeting, the Board worked to allocate the tax rate among specific funds. In answer to a question regarding the \$0.01 allocation to Agricultural Extension, Ms. Todd informed the Board that NRS 549.020 requires assignment of a minimum of \$0.01 to this fund.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to propose the following tax allocation changes for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0:

	FY16-17	FY17-18
General Fund	\$0.5775	\$0.6075
Future Reserve Fund	\$0.0100	\$0.0000
Road Fund	\$0.1000	\$0.0500
RTC Fund	\$0.0750	\$0.0750
Ag District #15	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Building Maintenance & Reserve Fund	\$0.0100	\$0.0000
Landfill Fund	\$0.0250	\$0.0250
Water Planning Fund	\$0.0350	\$0.0250
Natural Resource Multiple Use Fund	\$0.0250	\$0.0250
Capital Improvement Fund	\$0.0500	\$0.1000
Agricultural Extension Fund	\$0.0100	\$0.0100
Accident Indigent Fund	\$0.0150	\$0.0150
County Indigent Fund	\$0.0033	\$0.0033
Hospital Indigent Fund	\$0.0100	\$0.0100
<i>Total General County</i>	<i>\$0.9458</i>	<i>\$0.9458</i>
Television District	\$0.0085	\$0.0085
Crescent Valley Town	\$0.2153	\$0.2153
Eureka Town	\$0.2153	\$0.2153
Diamond Valley Weed District	\$0.0781	\$0.0781
Diamond Valley Rodent District	\$0.0400	\$0.0400

FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET – PERSONNEL

Proposed Resolution: Regulations in the Affordable Care Act are causing the County to consider changes to their health insurance plans rather than facing massive tax penalties. The changes are expected to go into effect in 2018, with penalties payable in 2019.

Following a lengthy conversation at the last meeting, a motion was made to draft a resolution that would protect employees from escalating insurance costs (with the County absorbing the difference), and in turn, wage and salary increases would be frozen.

The draft resolution was prepared for the Board's review. Chairman Goicoechea stated he has done a lot of research on this issue since it was brought to the Board's attention about two weeks earlier. In retrospect, he felt the resolution was only a temporary solution to a complicated problem and, therefore, would like to consider a different approach.

With help from the Comptroller's office, multiple scenarios were calculated. The Chairman felt if merit raises and longevity were in place for the upcoming fiscal year, it would provide income to employees to offset the rising insurance-related costs. Since appointed employees and elected officials are not eligible for merit increases, there was talk about allowing a 3% increase for these classes of employees. Total cost to the County for merits, longevity, and 3% increases, would be \$91,000.00.

The Board decided to discuss this further at the next meeting after they have a chance to review the numbers in more detail. They asked that the Comptroller's office provide a separate worksheet showing each of the wage and salary increases.

FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET – DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS

Further Direction on Funds & Departmental Budgets: Chairman Goicoechea voiced concerns over the \$1.4 million tentatively budgeted in the Capital Projects Fund. The bulk of this, \$750,000.00, was for the migration from the AS400 system, which is beyond the County's control and could be a major hit in the upcoming fiscal year.

The Board discussed what might be removed from this fund. The internet fiber upgrades could possibly be postponed. They decided to leave \$260,000.00 for the fiber project in place, but cautioned that it will only be used in event of a catastrophic failure. \$50,000.00 was removed for the County car pool. Another \$50,000.00 was removed for a backup generator.

This brought the fund down to \$1.3 million, but the Board agreed this will be discussed further, probably between filing of the Tentative and the Final Budgets.

COMMISSIONERS

Update Reports: Chairman Goicoechea met with the Elko District BLM on March 13th concerning the Targeted Grazing EA and on March 16th regarding coordination issues. He also attended the Natural Resources Advisory Commission meeting the evening of March 15th.

Commissioner Etchegaray attended the Diamond Natural Resources Protection & Conservation Association meeting earlier in the month and participated in the Recreation Board meeting on March 16th.

Commissioner Sharkozy participated, via telephone, in a Board of Trustees meeting for the Fund for Hospital Care to Indigent Persons on March 9th; participated in a Search & Rescue meeting in Crescent Valley on March 13th; attended the Crescent Valley Volunteer Fire Department meeting on March 14th, and attended the Medical Clinics Advisory Committee meeting in Eureka on March 16th.

Contract with Department of Health & Human Services: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve renewal of an Intrastate Interlocal Contract with the Department of Health & Human Services, Aging & Disability Services Division, for provision of services for children with intellectual disabilities; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Plain Talk Newsletter: Abby Johnson, *Plain Talk* Editor, discussed the spring issue of the *Plain Talk* newsletter. Ms. Johnson and the Board discussed a multitude of topics of interest to Eureka County citizens for inclusion in the newsletter.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN

Update on Yucca Mountain: Abby Johnson, Nuclear Waste Advisor, reported on recent Yucca Mountain activities. The President's 2018 budget provides \$120 million to restart licensing activities for the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository and to initiate a robust interim storage program. It is still unclear when the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will restart

the licensing process. Eureka County is an interested governmental participant in the licensing process, so won't have any contentions, but can support contentions from others.

Funding allotted for AULGs (affected units of local government) remains unknown until the full budget is revealed. In relation to rail transport of nuclear waste, the Carlin Route may be reconsidered because the Caliente Route is now hindered by the Basin & Range Monument.

On the State level, there is a renewed vow to oppose the project. Assembly Joint Resolution 10 has been drafted opposing Yucca Mountain and has support of the Governor and the Attorney General.

Subcontract for Transportation Services: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize Abigail Johnson, Nuclear Waste Advisor, to subcontract with Richard Moore, PE, to provide Yucca Mountain related transportation advisor services, not to exceed \$10,000.00. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Ms. Johnson's contract and all subcontracts are funded by the US Department of Energy direct payment grant to Eureka County as an Affected Unit of Local Government.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Update: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, reported there are no issues with the utility systems or County facilities. The service upgrade to the two wells in Crescent Valley was completed the previous week.

Red Card Refresher Training: Annual Red Card Wildland Fire Refresher training is scheduled March 21st in Eureka for volunteer firemen and March 22nd at the Opera House for other cardholders. Training will be conducted on the evening of March 22nd in Crescent Valley for the Crescent Valley and Beowawe volunteers. Training for the Pine Valley and Dunphy volunteers will be scheduled at a later date.

Airport Fuel: The Airport fueling system should be completely changed over to the County by March 21st. The transfer ended up being a little more complicated than initially anticipated.

2017 Street Maintenance Project: Road Equipment Operator III, Jayme Halpin, has been doing a lot of preparatory work for the Street Maintenance Project, including coordinating with the School District. The School District will present a formal request to joiner onto this contract.

May Clean Up Days: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, requested authorization for May Clean Up Days and Free Dump Days. He noted that the Clean Up Days can be quite expensive and takes operators away from road maintenance during a busy season. The Board may consider modifying the Clean Up Days in the future.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to declare May 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th as Clean Up Days in the townsites of Eureka, Crescent Valley, and Beowawe for the following items: yard waste, furniture, white goods, tires, and car bodies (excluding hazardous materials, household garbage, and dead animals). Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

All items to be removed must be located at the property line adjacent to the street and must be separated according to each waste classification.

Free Dump Days: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to declare May 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th as Free Dump Days at the Eureka Landfill (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and at the Crescent Valley Laydown Yard (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon) for the following items: yard waste, furniture, white goods, tires, and car bodies (excluding hazardous materials, household garbage, and dead animals). Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

All items must be separated and disposed of according to each waste classification or they will not be accepted.

Utility Pickup: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize purchase of a new utility pickup, not to exceed \$46,000.00, utilizing Devil's Gate Water available capital outlay funds, to be purchased under the State of Nevada Fleet Vehicle Purchasing Agreement #8475. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Department Pickup: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize purchase of a new Road Department pickup, not to exceed \$42,000.00, utilizing Public Works available capital outlay funds, to be purchase under the State of Nevada Fleet Vehicle Purchasing Agreement #8475. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Used Semi-Tractor: Mr. Damele explained they are seeking a semi-tractor with a similar configuration to what they have now. The best way to accomplish this is through an auction as allowed per NRS 332.146. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize purchase of a used semi-tractor, not to exceed \$75,000.00, utilizing Road Department available capital outlay funds. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NCOT Rural Marketing Grant: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to proceed with an application for a Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Rural Marketing Grant in the amount of \$9,600.00 from Nevada Commission on Tourism; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

This is a matching funds grant and the match will consist of in-kind services valued at \$4,800.00. This grant will provide maintenance for the *visiteurekanevada.com* website.

Water Service Applications: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve a ¾-inch water service and a 1-inch water service for Albert Snowden at APN 007-396-01 in the Devil's Gate General Improvement District #2. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

AMBULANCE & EMS

Report on Activities: Mr. Sullivan, reported on activities since his last report on February 21st. Eureka had 10 calls for service (20 year-to-date) and Crescent Valley had four calls for service (nine year-to-date).

Continuing education classes are scheduled in Eureka on March 27th and in Crescent Valley on April 3rd. Pine Valley Volunteer Fire Department has requested training on CPR and first-aid and these classes will be conducted on March 25th and 28th.

Mr. Sullivan traveled to Reno to attend the Traffic Incident Management Train the Trainer annual course on February 22nd-23rd. On February 24th, he met with Bureau Chief of the State Emergency Medical System Program in Carson City. He also met with representatives of Nevada Public Health Preparedness Program regarding the MCI (mass casualty incident) bus display planned for the Rural Preparedness Conference in Fallon on June 6th. The Program has committed to paying travel costs for the bus to be at the conference. On March 14th, Mr. Sullivan was contacted by a representative of REMSA (Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority) as they are collaborating with Renown Health and Nevada Health Centers to submit a response to the Request for Information issued by the Medical Clinics Advisory Committee. On March 16th, Mr. Sullivan participated in the Eureka County High School Career Fair. On March 18th, he attended the Compressed MERRTT (Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training) class in Crescent Valley. The morning of March 20th, he attended a meeting with Nevada Division of Emergency Management in preparation for a HazMat needs assessment. Chris Baird, REACH Air Medical Services Elko Base Manager, flew down on March 9th in their fixed wing aircraft to brief Mr. Sullivan on several technical improvements, mostly advances in flight safety.

The risk management grant for the Power Cot system for a Crescent Valley ambulance was submitted. The approval meeting is scheduled for March 21st.

CLERK & TREASURER

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for February was submitted by Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley, showing an ending General Fund balance of \$17,209,823.07. Overall ending balance, including encumbered funds, was \$65,569,010.90.

VOTEC Proposal: Ms. Conley explained that an agreement needs to be signed with VOTEC authorizing them to work with Advanced Data Systems to determine what is needed to complete the voter system conversion from the AS400.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize the Clerk to sign a proposal/contract with VOTEC agreeing to pursue purchase of Election Management Software, not to exceed \$12,000.00 for the initial year, to be paid out of the current fiscal year. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NEVADA DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Special Assessments for Fiscal Year 2017-2018: Daniel Randalls, Water Resource Specialist, was in attendance representing the Nevada Division of Water Resources. In response to a question about adjudications, Mr. Randalls explained that the Division approached the State Legislature a couple of years earlier asking for additional employees to focus on adjudications. They now have five employees doing this work (previously two employees were assigned to adjudications). The primary focus now is on surface waters.

Regarding the special assessments, most are approximately \$0.50 per acre foot and the Division is trying to keep it at that level, but there will likely be a \$0.10 increase in the next couple of years. The fee is based on amount of the water right and not on usage. The Chairman noted for the record that Senate Bill 51 is attempting to allow up to \$1.00 assessment per acre foot for surface waters of the Humboldt River. The current Humboldt River assessment is \$0.30.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the Division of Water Resources budget for special assessments for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 to be collected by Eureka County on behalf of the Division for necessary expenses related to supervision over the following waters in Eureka County: Diamond Valley Groundwater Basin, Crescent Valley Groundwater Basin, Maggie Creek Groundwater Basin, Lower Reese River Valley Groundwater Basin, Boulder Flat Groundwater Basin, Humboldt River Distribution, Whirlwind Valley Groundwater Basin, Pine Valley Groundwater Basin, and Kobeh Valley Groundwater Basin. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Report on Activities: Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts, reported on recent activities, including the Natural Resources Advisory Commission meeting on March 15th.

Upcoming Meetings: Upcoming meetings include a Groundwater Management Plan Advisory Board meeting later in the day (March 20th); a County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting also later in the day; a water legislation 'stakeholder' meeting hosted by Southern Nevada Water Authority on March 23rd; the Network of Fire Adapted Communities Conference in Reno on March 27th; the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority meeting in Carson City on March 31st; an Irrigator Workshop on April 7th at the Opera House sponsored by the Eureka Conservation District, Cooperative Extension, and Mt. Wheeler Power; and a workshop on noxious weeds on April 14th, also sponsored by Eureka Conservation District and Cooperative Extension.

State Engineer Proposed Orders: The State Engineer issued two proposed orders for Pine Valley and Grass Valley related to rapid infiltration basins. This would take water from the Crescent Valley Basin to Pine Valley and Grass Valley as an approach to balance water. A hearing is scheduled at the Eureka Opera House at 11:00 a.m. on March 29th. During the hearing, Mr. Tibbitts plans on requesting an extension of the public comment period.

Department of the Interior: Ryan Zinke was confirmed as Secretary of the Interior.

BLM's Planning 2.0: Planning 2.0, the BLM's update of planning regulations related to FLPMA (Federal Land Policy Management Act), has been repealed by both the House of Representatives and the Senate and is awaiting signature by President Trump.

Hage Family Update: Mr. Tibbitts provided an update on the decades-long litigation between the Hage family and the federal government. The family was recently ordered to pay

\$587,000.00 and to permanently remove all livestock from public lands within 30 days. This followed the US Supreme Court's denial of a Petition for Writ of Certiorari, filed by the estate of E. Wayne Hage, thus refusing to consider an appeal of the Ninth Circuit ruling that the family was trespassing on federal lands by grazing cattle without a permit.

Federal Actions: President Trump provided a directive to the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US Army Corps of Engineers to rewrite the Waters of the US rule.

The Administration also repealed the BLM Fracking Rule, which covered much more than hydraulic fracturing – it involved regulations surrounding oil and gas development on BLM lands. There was no order to rewrite this, so the rule simply does not exist anymore.

There has been movement by the EPA to impose additional rules under CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act – commonly referred to as Superfund). The public comment period was just extended on the final proposed rule. Hopefully this will give time for the Administration to weigh in on this as well.

Sage Grouse Issues: Efforts continue on the national level to allow states that have written sage grouse plans to have a chance to implement and prove them. Current legislation is HR527 and S273.

BLM Grazing Decisions: A letter was received from the Battle Mountain District BLM in response to written comments and meetings regarding the Carico Fire Rehabilitation & Grazing Closure Plan. The meetings and comments were beneficial and resulted in a more positive outcome in the BLM's final plan.

Comments were submitted and meetings were subsequently held on the Targeted Grazing Fuels Break EA. The Elko District agreed to many positive changes, although they won't budge on the stubble height requirement for cheat grass.

The BLM is proposing fencing the area around the Pinto Fire that occurred last year. Rather than just fencing the burned area, they are proposing fencing along the road, which would essentially exclude livestock from expansive areas where the fire didn't even burn. This fire involved two jurisdictions - the Battle Mountain District and the Ely District. Ely is trying to work with permittees on a solution that works for everyone.

Roadside Fuel Breaks Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project EA: Mr. Tibbitts, Chairman Goicoechea, and Ron Damele met with the BLM the previous week regarding the Roadside Fuel Breaks Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project. This is a programmatic EA, meaning it is not identifying specific projects, but most (if not all) of the roads affected by this EA are County roads. Mr. Tibbitts is preparing comments, which are due April 3rd. The letter will stress close coordination with the County, request that impacts to ranchers and public travel be minimized, and will ask for clarification on long term maintenance issues. Mr. Tibbitts will present the final letter for ratification at the next meeting.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize submitting a letter to the Battle Mountain District BLM concerning the Roadside Fuel Breaks Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project EA, and authorized the Chairman to sign the letter outside of the meeting. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

McEwen Gold Bar Draft EIS: The deadline for the comment period on the McEwen Gold Bar Draft EIS is April 17th, so Mr. Tibbitts is preparing a letter of support and will present it at the next meeting. Mr. Tibbitts commented that this is probably the best EIS he has seen, meaning that most of the County's issues were considered. He credited the proponent and thanked McEwen Mining for working so hard to keep the County involved and ensuring that any concerns were addressed.

Although there are no major outstanding issues, Mr. Tibbitts did note that the EIS did not recognize some of the inter-basin connections proven in the US Geological Survey studies. Other than that, the overall water analysis is fine. Some of the socioeconomic impacts could have been better analyzed. Also, there are several differences between this EIS and the one completed for the Mt. Hope Project, which is unusual for two projects in such close proximity.

The BLM's Open House for the McEwen Gold Bar Draft EIS is March 22nd from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Eureka Opera House.

Legislative Issues: Mr. Tibbitts explained that work sessions and hearings have been held on much of the proposed legislation, including the State Engineer's water bills. A lot of the amended and improved language has been a direct result from input by Eureka County.

There are four new pieces of water legislation. SB269 through SB272. **SB269** deals with tools for groundwater management planning. Much of the language came from the Groundwater Management Planning Advisory Board and the Diamond Natural Resources Protection & Conservation Association.

SB270 deals with filing claims for vested rights and would create a ten-year timeframe for owners to file those claims with the Division of Water Resources. **SB271** deals with regulating and limiting domestic well usage in Critical Management Areas and over-pumped basins. **SB272** will limit new wells in CMAs and over-pumped areas to 1/2 acre foot after July 1, 2017 (as opposed to the current 2 acre feet).

Another bill of interest to the County is **AB16**. This is NACO's bill and would allow counties to bypass the required \$0.01 tax allocation to Cooperative Extension if an adequate fund balance exists.

AB298, Southern Nevada Water Authority's proposed legislation, is very problematic and would undermine current Nevada water law as well as certain Supreme Court decisions. Mr. Tibbitts will continue to represent the County's interests on meetings regarding this bill.

MEDICAL CLINICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Rehab Services of Nevada: The Medical Clinics Advisory Committee recently met with Dr. Greg Barker, Director of Rehab Services of Nevada, and asked him to consider some minor changes to his contract in order to reduce costs. Dr. Barker promised to consider the requests. In the meantime, the Committee recommended that the Commissioners incorporate some of the suggested changes and renew the contract.

A letter was since received from Dr. Barker, which stated that his costs were justified and he could not consider any changes to the contract.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board considered a renewal offer with only one change – patient subsidies would be paid for one day per week, rather than two. It would be at Dr. Barker's discretion whether it is necessary to travel to Eureka two days in any given week.

The new contract would provide the following: a one-year renewal; mileage reimbursement at the County's rate; payment of professional fees for travel at the current rate for up to two days per week; a subsidy for any number of patients below the target number of eight patients for the first clinic day per week; no subsidy will be paid for the second day.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to send a letter to Dr. Greg Barker, Rehab Services of Nevada, extending the offer of a one-year renewed contract as outlined and authorized the Chairman to sign the letter outside of the meeting; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Update on RFI for Clinical Services: The MCAC issued a Request for Information earlier in the year, with a deadline of March 15th. The purpose of the RFI was to see what medical services could be provided in Eureka and what other companies might be able and willing to provide those services. Duckwater Shoshone Tribe is interested in partnering with Eureka County for health care. This information was also provided in the RFIs.

MCAC Chair, Garney Damele, explained that three responses were received. One response, from William Bee Ririe Hospital & Rural Health Clinic in Ely, stated they could provide one mid-level provider at the Eureka Clinic, but could not serve Crescent Valley or Duckwater.

The other responses were basically a collaboration of services, with Nevada Health Centers providing mid-level caregivers supplemented by services from Renown Health, such as telemedicine, a nurse health line, air ambulance, and possibly other amenities like paramedicine.

The Committee will utilize the information received in the RFI responses to create a more detailed and more formal Request for Proposals.

Direction for RFP: A lengthy discussion ensued in order to provide direction to the Committee regarding content for the Request for Proposals. The Board wanted the Committee to ask for basic services and then provide options of add-on services. Advanced practice professionals (mid-level providers) will be sought in lieu of physicians. It was determined that the RFP will request the following:

- One provider in Eureka for five days per week (or two, with add-on option)
- One provider in Crescent Valley for two days per week
- Separate RFPs/contracts for Eureka and Crescent Valley
- Support staff of one Medical Assistant per provider and one front desk person
- Company must accept Medicare, Medicaid, and County insurance
- 24-hour helpline (nurse helpline or tel-a-doc, etc.), in lieu of on-call care
- One year contract

Companies will also have the option of including add-on services. The main add-on considered was a second provider for Eureka, which could be shared with Duckwater. Jerry Millett and Lisa George were in attendance representing Duckwater Shoshone Tribe and they shared what the Tribe might offer in a collaboration for health care, including financial support, pharmaceutical services, a vehicle for provider travel, etc.

The Board had concerns about telemedicine at this time. They felt prescription capabilities were limited and there were concerns whether advanced technology infrastructure was in place to support it adequately. This option can be considered in future years.

The Committee will present a draft RFP at a future meeting.

RECESS FOR LUNCH

The Board recessed for lunch from 12:37 p.m. to 1:28 p.m.

EUREKA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Request to Joinder on Contract: Eureka County School District Superintendent, Dan Wold, addressed the School District's interest in partnering on the 2017 Street Maintenance Project, in order to pave and seal some of their parking lots.

They would join by adding a bid schedule to the County's advertised bid. This would give the School the option of denying their portion of the bid while allowing the County to move forward with the overall project. Inspection and testing costs will be shared proportionately. Each entity will use its own engineering firm, but the two firms have agreed to work together.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to allow the School District to partner with Eureka County on the 2017 Street Maintenance Project as described; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. Bids for this project will be opened and awarded on April 20th.

JUVENILE PROBATION

Out-of-State Travel: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve out-of-state travel for Irma Davila, Juvenile Probation Senior Department Assistant, to attend the One Circle Foundation Girls Circle in San Pablo, California, May 11th-12th. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The registration fee and hotel will be covered by a grant through the PACE (Partners Allied for Community Excellence) Coalition.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve out-of-state travel for Steve Zimmerman, Juvenile Probation Officer, and Irma Davila, Senior Department Assistant, to attend the 40th National Child Welfare, Juvenile, & Family Law Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, August 9th-13th. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The registration fees and travel costs will be paid for by a block grant received through the 7th Judicial District.

Grad Nite Celebration: Juvenile Probation requested a contribution for the 2017 Grad Nite event. This annual event provides a substance-free celebration with activities, prizes, and refreshments for students and has proven to be a successful and safe alternative to alcohol and drug related parties. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to donate \$500.00 to the 2017 Grad Nite celebration scheduled for June 9th at the Eureka Opera House; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

EUREKA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Annual Scholarship Drive: Eureka County High School Guidance Counselor, Winnona Eversgerd, sent a letter requesting a donation for the annual scholarship drive. Monies donated by the County go into the general scholarship fund and the County or its employees do not participate in the selection/award process. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to contribute \$1,500.00 to Eureka County High School for the annual scholarship drive for the Class of 2017; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

REQUEST TO USE COUNTY FACILITY

Alcoholics Anonymous & Narcotics Anonymous Meetings: Tyler Fawson and Cathy Wolf, Crescent Valley residents, relayed the interest in their community to begin having Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings, because there are some individuals who do not have the ability to travel to Elko. Mr. Fawson has agreed to lead the meetings, which will be scheduled twice per month.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize use of the Crescent Valley Community Center for regular Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings and to waive the facility fees; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD

Easter Event: CVTAB member, Jessica Evertsen, requested monies from the North End Activities Fund to sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt in Crescent Valley. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize \$700.00 from the North End Activities Fund to support an Easter event in Crescent Valley; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BOARD

NCOT Marketing/Advertising Grant: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize the Economic Development Program Board to make application to Nevada Commission on Tourism for an advertising/marketing grant of up to \$5,000.00; Chairman Goicoechea seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0, with Commissioner Etchegaray abstaining.

This grant, previously administered by Eureka Activities, paid for ads in True West and Nevada Magazines. ECEDP Board members have offered to make application and work on the ads. Matching funds have been budgeted, but in-kind hours will be utilized if applicable.

HEALTH INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

David Hicks Resignation: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to accept the resignation of David Hicks from the Health Insurance Advisory Committee; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Appointment to HIAC: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to appoint Marcial Evertsen to the Health Insurance Advisory Committee, representing the Sheriff's Office, for the remainder of a two-year term through December 31, 2018. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: Sandie Halpin; Marcial Evertsen; District Attorney Ted Beutel (5); Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley (2); Natural Resources, Jake Tibbitts; Comptroller, Tina

Hubbard (2); Asst. Comptroller, Kim Todd; Natural Resources Advisory Commission; Eureka County Recreation Board; Medical Clinics Advisory Committee; Eureka County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (2); Eureka County Television District; Juvenile Probation; Eureka County High School; Eureka Business Network (2); 2017 Annual Eureka Car Show flyer; Eureka Owl Club (3); Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board; Abigail Johnson; Richard Moore, PE; Barrick Gold; Nevada Assoc. of Counties (5); Rehab Services of Nevada, Dr. Greg Barker; William Bee Ririe Hospital & Rural Health Clinic; Nevada Health Centers; Renown Health (2); Allison, MacKenzie, Ltd.; Nevada Supreme Court (4); Nevada Public Employees Retirement System; Nevada Aging & Disability Services Div.; Nevada Department of Taxation; Nevada Div. of Water Resources; Nevada Dept. of Administration, Public Works Division (NHP lease); Nevada Div. of Environmental Protection (2); Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners; Nevada Dept. of Transportation; Nevada Dept. of Agriculture; Nevada State Controller; US Dept. of the Interior- BLM (3); Public Lands Council; and USDA Forest Service.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Goicoechea opened the floor for public comments. Mike Caldwell, Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board member, stated that a volunteer has come forward to produce the Crescent Valley Car Show, tentatively planned for September 17th. Once everything is confirmed, he will place an item on a future agenda.

Sheriff Keith Logan noted he will be gone for a week in April and Sergeant Kenny Sanders is authorized to sign vouchers and time sheets in his stead.

The Sheriff will attend a Homeland Security Working Group meeting on April 20th, where they will discuss complaints the Governor has received on how their funding is distributed.

Sheriff Logan stated that House Resolution 622, the Local Enforcement for Local Lands Act, proposes terminating use of Forest Service and BLM employees in conducting law enforcement and instead would grant monies to local states to perform these functions. Any state or local government receiving the grant or sub-grant would enter into an agreement with the US Department of the Interior or US Department of Agriculture. The federal agencies would indemnify and waive all civil claims against the local government, holding it harmless from claims by third parties for property damage or personal injury.

Budget Meeting Set: The Board determined that an extra budget meeting would be required to sign the top sheets and send the final Tentative Budget to the Nevada Department of Taxation. The meeting was set for 1:00 p.m. on April 11th.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Approved by vote of the Board this 6th day of April, 2017.

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea

J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

I, Jackie Berg, Commissioner Clerk, attest that these are a true, correct, and duly approved minutes of the March 20, 2017, meeting of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.

/s/ Jackie Berg

Jackie Berg, Commissioner Clerk

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 Commissioner Clerk.

/s/ Beverly Conley

Beverly Conley, Clerk & Treasurer