

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 20, 2015

STATE OF NEVADA)
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COUNTY OF EUREKA)

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on April 20, 2015. Present were Chairman J.J. Goicoechea; Vice Chairman Michael Sharkozy; Commissioner Fred Etchegaray; District Attorney, Ted Beutel; and Clerk, Beverly Conley. 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

The March 20th minutes were removed from the agenda. With that change, 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. Keith Logan reported that the prior week was Public Safety Telecommunicator Week and he recognized the Eureka County Sheriff's Office dispatch unit for all of their hard work and involvement in the Firewise Program, the 911 Education Program at the elementary school, and for all of the good work they do each day.

FINANCE

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Deputy Recorder Auditor/Human Resources Representative II, Tina Hubbard. Vouchers were reviewed by the Board and Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$309,851.74 for accounts payable, \$287,847.73 for payroll, and \$143,386.48 for a pass-through tax allocation to the School District, for a grand total of \$741,085.95; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. There were no Yucca Mountain expenditures for this period.

Auditor's Report: The Board reviewed the Auditor's Report showing current fund balances and account activity over the past month.

COMMISSIONERS

Update Reports: Commissioner Etchegaray reported that he had attended the April 13th budget meeting. Commissioner Sharkozy did not have any commissioner activities to report at this meeting. Chairman Goicoechea, along with Jake Tibbitts attended the Argenta Allotment meetings on April 7th & 8th; attended the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council meeting on April 9th where the Barrick Mitigation Agreement which is entirely within Eureka County was discussed; represented Eureka County on April 10th at the Elko BLM District Fire Liaison meeting; attended the April 13th budget meeting; met with Ted Beutel, Bev Conley, and County staff on April 14th; attended the Natural Resources Advisory Commission meeting on April 15th; and participated in a conference call with Argenta permittees, appellants, and legal counsel on April 16th.

Rehab Services of Nevada: The contract with Rehab Services of Nevada had been discussed at a prior meeting and appeared on this agenda for possible approval. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve a two year contract, effective July 1, 2015, with

Rehab Services of Nevada to provide physical therapy services at the Eureka Medical Clinic. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Nevada Department of Health & Human Services: District Attorney, Ted Beutel, summarized the minor changes in the contract amendment before the Board, which included a contract extension of one year to expire on June 30, 2016, and an addition of \$1,099.00 to fund the cost of the extension. The total contract rate is not to exceed \$3,297.00 per State Fiscal Year. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve signing Amendment #1 to the contract between Eureka County and the Nevada Department of Health & Human Services for Community Health Nursing Services. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Proposed Resolution to Modify Eureka County Personnel Policy Manual, Section 3.A.500: This item was placed on the agenda to clarify time for the public hearing discussed at a prior meeting. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve setting the public hearing for May 18th at 1:15 p.m. to consider the proposed resolution to modify the EUREKA COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL, SECTION 3.A.500 EMPLOYEE COSTS FOR HEALTH INSURANCE FOR DEPENDENTS. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Seniors Program Site Director: Senior Center Director, Millie Oram, presented a brief overview of her proposal to provide services for both senior centers in Eureka County. According to Ms. Oram's proposal, the Site Director position for the Fannie Komp Senior Center in Crescent Valley would remain vacant. Internal recruitment for a full time staff position at the Fannie Komp Senior Center would be necessary to cover the vacancy of a Site Director. The new position would primarily serve as cook, but would also provide supervisory duties and complete any necessary paperwork. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to accept the Senior Center staff organizational proposal submitted by Ms. Oram. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Recorder/Auditor Leave of Absence: The Board reviewed a letter submitted by Sara Simmons, elected Eureka County Recorder/Auditor, requesting a leave of absence pursuant to NRS 245.200. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve the request by Sara Simmons, Eureka County Recorder/Auditor, to be granted leave for a period not to exceed six months, effective as of April 10, 2015, and expiring on October 10, 2015. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Goicoechea stated that the letter from Sara Simmons requesting leave had specified that Tina Hubbard, Deputy Recorder Auditor/ Human Resources Representative II, serve in her stead during the period of her absence. Chairman Goicoechea asked Ms. Hubbard if she would be willing to accept the appointment and Ms. Hubbard responded affirmatively. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve the appointment of Tina Hubbard to serve as County Recorder/Auditor during Sara Simmons' leave of absence. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion followed regarding the shared position between the Recorder/Auditor's office and the Assessor's office. Chairman Goicoechea requested that casual hours be included in the budgets for both the Recorder/Auditor's office and the Assessor's office and asked that an agenda item be placed on the next Board agenda to address staffing in both offices. Chairman Goicoechea emphasized that cross-training is needed in all offices to prevent lapses in services during the unplanned absences of employees and elected officials.

The Emergency Medical Services billing, currently being completed by the Recorder/Auditor's office, is in the process of being moved to the EMS Department and training will be provided to the EMS staff by current Recorder/Auditor staff.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program and Nevada Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan: Chairman Goicoechea reported that there is a lot of activity with the Department of Interior in their negotiation with western states on this issue. Idaho and Utah have changed the language

in their state plan to line up with the language in the Nevada plan. Identified areas of concern are stubble height and set asides.

In other sage grouse news, a major announcement concerning the listing of the Bi-State Sage-Grouse should be forthcoming tomorrow when US Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, visits Reno.

Nevada Legislative Session: Chairman Goicoechea gave an update on the movement of bills in the State Legislature and observed that now we are waiting to see which bills will progress. SB 157 Chairman Goicoechea commended Jake Tibbitts for his work on Senate Bill 157, the county coordination bill.

CRESCENT VALLEY ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Letter of Resignation from Karen Bowser: Ms. Bowser submitted a letter of resignation as Crescent Valley Activities Coordinator, dated March 30, 2015, notifying the Board that her final event would be the Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to accept Ms. Bowser's letter of resignation as Crescent Valley Activities Coordinator; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION FUND

Jake Tibbitts presented a redline version of the Resolution Establishing the Natural Resources Protection Fund proposing various changes to the original language in the resolution. Chairman Goicoechea pointed out the change in the title of the resolution to the "Resolution of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners to Establish the Natural Resources Multiple Use Protection Fund Pursuant to N.R.S. 354.612". Other proposed changes in the redline version were suggested by the Eureka County Natural Resources Advisory Commission and included the listing of the multiple uses of our natural resources and adding "under advisement of the Eureka County Natural Resources Advisory Commission" for fund utilization. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed changes. Timing considerations for fund utilization necessitated a change from "under advisement of the Eureka County Natural Resources Advisory Commission" to "with consideration by the Eureka County Natural Resources Advisory Commission". Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the revised Resolution of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners to Establish the Natural Resources Multiple Use Protection Fund Pursuant to N.R.S. 354.612 and requested that the final resolution be brought before the Board at the next meeting for ratification and official signatures. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Goicoechea commented that he would like to see the Water Planning Fund retained and not absorbed by this new fund.

AMBULANCE & EMS

Activity Report: EMS Coordinator, Mike Sullivan, reported on emergency services since his last update on March 20th. Eureka had 11 calls for service and Crescent Valley had six calls for service. This brings the total calls for Eureka County for 2015 to 62.

Continuing education was conducted in Eureka on March 30th and April 6th and in Crescent Valley on March 27th and April 9th. The next continuing education training is scheduled for Eureka on April 27th and Crescent Valley on April 30th. This month's training is focused on the annual mandatory blood borne pathogens refresher. Mr. Sullivan reported that the Crescent Valley Volunteer Ambulance Service has been busy and volunteer response has been good; however, that service is critically understaffed. Mr. Sullivan reported on a March 25th meeting with Danny Donnelly, Barrick Exploration Safety & Health Manager, to plan service interfacing and continued coordination for response and training.

Mr. Sullivan testified in support of our application for Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPRs) at the March 26th SERC grant approval meeting. On April 9th, the full SERC Committee approved the grant award and funds will be available July 1st.

A meeting with representatives from Care Flight, a Reno based helicopter ambulance service, was attended by Mr. Sullivan on March 31st. Care Flight is based in Fallon during daylight hours and has a 10 minute standard to take off after notification. Eureka EMS will be using this service for calls requiring air medical transport from the scene west of Eureka. Mr. Sullivan reported that this service may respond to back country emergencies and would be willing to perform search and rescue services. Mr. Sullivan thanked volunteer EMT Jim LaChew for his work on the Multi Patient Transport Vehicle (MPTV). The only work remaining on the vehicle is installation of a platform on the rear of the vehicle for the generator and relocation of the exhaust pipe.

HEALTH INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Large Group Renewal Election Form with Prominence Health: Health Insurance Committee Chair, Kim Todd, brought forward the proposed health insurance contracts for review and possible approval by the Board. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to accept signing the Large Group Renewal Election Form with Prominence Health with the contract to begin July 1, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sharkozy. Motion carried 3-0.

Plan Design Summary with Guardian: Ms. Todd pointed out that there are two Plan Design Summaries with Guardian to be signed. One is for dental insurance and the other is for life insurance. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve signing the Plan Design Summary with Guardian to include both the dental insurance and the life insurance with the effective date of July 1, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sharkozy. Motion carried 3-0.

Acceptance Letter for Group Vision Plan with VSP: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve signing the acceptance letter for the group vision plan with VSP to begin July 1, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Etchegaray. Motion carried 3-0.

Termination letter to Standard: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve signing a termination letter to Standard, for termination of life insurance coverage effective June 30, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sharkozy. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Projects & Activities: Fire District: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, reported on recent projects and activities: Red Card Training will occur in Pine Valley on April 23rd and in Dunphy on May 7th; SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) fit testing is scheduled in Eureka on May 5th; a meeting with all rural Chiefs, Nevada Division of Forestry, and BLM will take place May 6th; the operating plan with the BLM has been updated and will be considered during the next Board meeting. Swimming Pool: Clint Tognotti, Swimming Pool Supervisor, is being sent to water safety instructor class for two weeks in May. SLAG Working Group: The EE/CA (Engineering Evaluation & Cost Analysis) is out and being reviewed by members of the SLAG Working Group with a meeting scheduled for April 27th.

Crescent Valley Residential Water Service Application for Kenneth Cummins: Mr. Damele reported that there is the capacity in the water system to serve this request. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the application for a ¾-inch residential water service for Kenneth Cummins, located at 336 Third Street in Crescent Valley. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Parcel Map submitted by Eureka County School District: Public Works Director, Ron Damele presented the completed parcel map submitted by the Eureka County School District. Mr. Damele indicated that this parcel map was a collaborative effort between Eureka County, the Eureka County School District, and a private property owner to clear up errors in current deeds, provide for lot line adjustments, provide needed access, and dedicate areas for a snow removal site and a detention basin. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve the parcel map submitted by the Eureka County School District, for a merger and re-subdivision of existing Eureka County High School parcel, Eureka County pool parcel, and Russell residence parcel to coincide with existing fence lines and other agreed upon boundaries; including signing of a Quitclaim Deed for Eureka County to quitclaim real property described as Parcel 1 and Parcel 3 of this parcel map. This map simultaneously removes parcel boundaries for APN 001-021-04 and APN 001-052-04 and adjusts parcel boundaries for APN 001-021-01, APN 001-051-04, and APN 001-052-01. No new parcels are being created. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sharkozy. Motion carried 3-0.

CLERK & TREASURER

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for March was submitted by Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley. Ending General Fund balance for the month was \$10,470,909.11.

COUNTY FACILITIES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Update Report: Cultural, Tourism, & Economic Development Director, Andrea Rossman, reported on activities for the Opera House, Sentinel Museum, and Economic Development. Ms. Rossman and Patty Peek, Facilities Director Assistant Manager, attended the Rural Roundup 2015 in Minden the prior week, where Ms. Rossman was elected chairperson for the Pony Express Territory. The railroad car on Main Street in Eureka has been vacated with movement of the casual position to the Courthouse. (Effective April 1st, the Department Assistant position was changed to the Eureka Activities Coordinator and is now supervised by the Budget Director). The railroad car will continue to be maintained by Opera House staff and will remain open during Opera House hours, but will now be used as a kiosk for visitors, tourists, and locals to pick up needed information.

Ms. Rossman reported that the *Steel Magnolias* performance scheduled for April 25th at the Opera House has been cancelled due to an unexpected cast member emergency. The next scheduled event is a performance by Trinity Seeley, cowgirl musician, on June 12th.

Museum Director, Ree Taylor, submitted a written report for the museum detailing various museum activities, including ongoing activities with the Nevada Women's Legacy Project.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Report on Activities: Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts, reported on recent activities. Mr. Tibbitts attended the Argenta Allotment meetings with Chairman Goicoechea on April 7th & 8th; on April 9th probes were installed on biochar plots at Barrick Gold's Ruby Hill Mine; attended the State Land Use Planning Advisory Council meeting in Elko April 10th; attended both the Eureka Conservation District meeting and the Natural Resources Advisory Commission meetings April 15th; participated in a meeting on April 17th with new acting State BLM Director, John Ruhs, who is on a four month detail.

Upcoming Meetings: Upcoming meetings include an irrigation workshop on April 21st; a Firewise Committee meeting on April 22nd; a Groundwater Management Plan workshop on April 23rd; a Nevada Weed Management Association meeting on April 24th; a presentation on biochar and biomass by Mr. Tibbitts at the Economic Development Program Board meeting on April

25th; and the Firewise Community Day events on May 1st in Eureka and May 2nd in Crescent Valley.

On April 27th & 28th, Mr. Tibbitts will travel to Carson City to accept the \$250,000.00 Wood Utilization Grant which will be used to continue the Pinion Juniper Partnership statewide and for demonstration projects which include biochar, biochar amended compost, and wood chip compost. Backhauls from Fallon are being explored, where truckers could haul hay to Fallon and backhaul manure to Diamond Valley to be mixed with wood chips for compost.

The Secure Rural Schools Act was reauthorized for two years and provides funding for both roads and schools and in addition the Firewise events are funded from a portion of the money received.

Sally Jewell, US Department of the Interior Secretary, will be in Nevada on April 21st for a potential announcement that the Bi-State Sage Grouse does not warrant a listing under the Endangered Species Act at this time.

The Mt. Hope 3M Technical Advisory Committee forwarded recommendations to the Mt. Hope 3M Water Advisory Committee to make several changes to the plan, including the portion related to adoption of the biological monitoring component.

Amaron Energy will be here the week of May 25th to process all the biochar material possible in a two week period. The product will go to the various grant projects in progress.

BLM Fish Creek Herd Management Area: Mr. Tibbitts gave an update on the status of the appeal of the BLM Fish Creek Herd Management Area wild horse gather and fertility control treatment. A draft Statement of Reasons, related to the Notice of Appeal filed with the US Department of Interior, Administrative Appeals, will be available for review later in the day.

Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment Final EIS: Mr. Tibbitts reported that a response on the Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment Final EIS is still awaited.

BLM Grazing Decisions: Mr. Tibbitts commented about voluntary grazing adjustments for permittees, including the fact that some permittees are of the opinion that these grazing adjustments are more forced than voluntary. Mr. Tibbitts suggested that a letter to the Bureau of Land Management on Eureka County letterhead signed by permittees, as well as county officials, stating that these voluntary grazing adjustments are actually compulsory in nature, would be beneficial.

Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve signing a resolution for support and promotion of May 2015 as Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month with the theme, "Improve Your Odds – Prepare for Wildfire". Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

**EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION
BEFORE THE EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
IN SUPPORT OF NEVADA WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH – MAY 2015**

WHEREAS, wildfire significantly impacts Nevada’s environmental, economic and social well-being; and

WHEREAS, residents of Nevada’s fire-prone communities need to accept responsibility for living in high fire-hazard areas; and

WHEREAS, residents must be encouraged to move from the expectation of being protected from wildfire to the understanding that they must be prepared to survive wildfire; and

WHEREAS, to do so, they will need to acquire the knowledge and skills to prepare their homes to survive wildfire and take to action before the wildfire occurs; and

WHEREAS, residents that implement appropriate pre-fire activities improve the survivability of their homes during wildfire;

THEREFORE be it resolved, that the Eureka County Board of Commissioners supports the month of May, 2015 as Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month and this year's theme "Improve Your Odds – Prepare for Wildfire" as a means for education and a call for residents of Eureka County to take action to reduce the wildfire threat to their homes and help their community move toward becoming a Fire Adapted Community.

We further resolve that the Eureka County Board of Commissioners supports Firewise Days, to promote community fire safe practices, wildfire awareness and wildfire readiness in Eureka County, to be held during Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month in Eureka on May 1, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Eureka Fire House and in Crescent Valley on May 2, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Crescent Valley Fairgrounds.

Passed, Approved and Adopted this 20th day of April, 2015.

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: /s/ J.J. Goicoechea
J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

By: /s/ Michael Sharkozy
Michael Sharkozy, Vice Chairman

By: /s/ Fred Etchegaray
Fred Etchegaray, Member

Attest: /s/ Beverly Conley
Beverly Conley, Eureka County Clerk

HIGH SCHOOL RODEO CLUB

Eureka High School Rodeo Club members, Shara Green, Tiana Green, and Chace Green appeared before the Board to present information on the 2015 Eureka High School Rodeo and to request a waiver of the Fairground facility fees and use of supplies and equipment to put on the event. It was clarified that this will be a Sunday and Monday event because of the Junior High Rodeo in Winnemucca the same weekend. Approximately 130 contestants are expected at the Eureka High School Rodeo. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the request from the High School Rodeo Club for use of the Eureka Fairgrounds for the annual High School Rodeo on May 24th-25th, to include the following donations: waiver of facility fees, paper and printing for program and day sheets, use of drag equipment, and rental of porta potties and wash stations at a cost of \$1,080.00. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

WESTERN HERITAGE DAYS

Brandi Anderson appeared before the Board to request a waiver of Fairground facility fees for the Western Heritage Days. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve the request to waive the Eureka Fairgrounds facility fees for Western Heritage Days scheduled for June 11th-14th, 2015; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: District Attorney, Ted Beutel (3); County Assessor & Budget Director, Michael Mears (2); Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley; Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts (3); EMS Coordinator, Michael Sullivan; Natural Resources Advisory Commission; Eureka County Planning Commission (2); Eureka County Economic Development Program; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board; Central Nevada Regional Water Authority; White Pine County Commission; Nevada Department of Taxation (2); Allison, MacKenzie, Ltd.; and U.S. Senator Dean Heller

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea called for public comments; there were none.

EUREKA COUNTY SHERIFF

Annual Walk Through of Justice Facility & Detention Center: Immediately upon adjournment of the meeting, the annual walk through and inspection of the Justice Facility and Detention Center in Eureka was scheduled. *Note: The inspection was conducted by the Commissioners and no issues were noted.*

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Approved by vote of the Board this 18th day of May, 2015.

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea

J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

/s/ Beverly Conley

Beverly Conley, Clerk & Treasurer