

**EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**September 7, 2021**

STATE OF NEVADA        )  
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COUNTY OF EUREKA     )

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on September 7, 2021. Present were Chairman J.J. Goicoechea, Vice Chair Michael Sharkozy, Commissioner Rich McKay, District Attorney Ted Beutel, and Admin. 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**

Two items on the agenda were tabled to the next meeting – approval of minutes for the August 20<sup>th</sup> meeting and the proposed contract with Genesis Home Health Services. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the agenda with those changes; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Goicoechea opened the floor for public comments.

Patricia Akon identified herself as a writer for *Range Magazine*, stating she was following up on public comment that she gave during the last meeting. After doing some research, she felt the Sheriff was accurate when he said the “Constitutional County” item was removed from the Board’s agenda for political reasons. She suggested that the political reason was to further the recall petition that had been filed against Sheriff Watts. She concluded by saying it was time to take politics out of the equation in order to preserve the people’s heritage, culture, and way of life.

Commissioner McKay responded concerning the recall petition, clarifying that the Board has absolutely no connection to the petition, and it is a completely separate issue.

Chairman Goicoechea invited further public comment.

Maggie Whitehead introduced herself, stating that she and her husband are owners of Troy Whitehead LLC, a company that does mobile home installations. They are partnering with an investment group called Creative Solutions. Creative Solutions forwarded a PowerPoint presentation to Eureka County outlining a proposal in which the County would waive certain requirements in the Eureka Canyon Subdivision Development Agreement, and allow liens to be placed on lots, on behalf of the applicant/purchaser. The liens would allow the Whiteheads to seek financing to develop the lots and create housing opportunities in Eureka County. Ms. Whitehead requested that this be placed on the next agenda for discussion and consideration.

There were no further public comments.

**COMPTROLLER**

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Administrative Assistant Jessica Santoyo.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$257,713.79 for accounts payable, \$361,170.67 for payroll and benefit related expenses (including employer paid deductions), a pass-through tax allocation of \$5,069.77 to the Nevada State Controller, a pass-through tax payment of \$1,426,034.89 to the Nevada State Controller for monies allocated to the School District (*see note below\**), a pass-through tax allocation of \$98,510.00 to the Nevada Division of Minerals, a pass-through of \$690.26 to the Nevada Department of Taxation, and a pass-through of \$264.00 to the Washoe County Crime Lab, for a grand total of \$2,149,453.38. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

*\*Note on School District allocation: AB543, a controversial bill passed in the 2021 Nevada Legislative Session, channels local school funding into a State-wide fund, which utilizes a new formula to determine how much of the allocation will actually be distributed back to the local schools.*

Fund Balance Report: The Board reviewed a report showing current fund balances.

Hiring Freeze Waiver Justification: The Board reviewed the Hiring Freeze Waiver Justification form requesting authorization to fill a vacancy in the Comptroller's office.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to waive the hiring freeze and authorize the Comptroller to fill the position of Comptroller Administrative Assistant I, II, or III. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Inmate Housing Agreement: Undersheriff Tyler Thomas was present and provided a copy of the Mutual Assistance Agreement for housing, holding, or detaining Eureka County inmates, signed by White Pine County. The one-year (July 2021 through June 2022) renewable agreement is for an annual not-to-exceed amount of \$25,000.00. Eureka County will remain responsible for medical, dental, or mental health care costs for the inmates.

Sheriff Jesse Watts joined the meeting by telephone to explain that he has been working with White Pine County concerning housing of local inmates. He explained that inmates will be processed locally before being transported, and the local jail will continue to detain inmates who are being held for a limited duration. Sheriff Watts said this will allow him to transfer detention staff to patrol, once the necessary trainings and certifications are obtained. He said one or more officers will be sent to POST (Peace Officer Standards & Training) for Category 1 training in January, and one or more officers will be sent next July. He clarified that officers moved to patrol will continue to rotate in and out of detentions as necessary.

District Attorney Ted Beutel explained that statute (NRS 211.010) requires that agreements with other counties for housing of inmates must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners in concurrence with the Sheriff.

In reviewing the agreement provided by the Undersheriff against the "final" draft distributed to the Board that morning, it was determined that the agreements had some minor differences. The Commissioners agreed to sign the "final" version containing the latest edits, which the District Attorney confirmed was the proper document.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve and sign the Agreement to Provide Mutual Assistance with White Pine County for housing, holding, or detaining Eureka County Jail inmates, for an initial term of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, with automatic annual renewals and an annual not-to-exceed amount of \$25,000.00, unless written notice of termination is provided by either party. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## **IT DEPARTMENT**

IT Update: IT Director Misty Rowley reported on IT projects and activities. Ms. Rowley continues working on the internet response plan, as well as a plan to transition off SkyFiber and onto AT&T in Crescent Valley. She is working with Public Works on the tower lease for Eureka County, and will meet with Above All Communications dba Express Internet on September 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss future plans.

AT&T Agreements: Ms. Rowley explained that the agreement between the Library System and AT&T was signed a couple of weeks earlier, after the E-rate funding was confirmed. This has allowed the County to move forward with agreements with AT&T for installation of fiber optic internet at the Crescent Valley Town Center.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize the IT Director to sign the AT&T Master Agreement and AT&T Dedicated Internet Pricing Schedule Contract for a two-year agreement for installation and operation of a 100M dedicated internet fiber circuit at the Crescent Valley Town Center, for a monthly contract amount of \$821.70 (\$604.00 for internet access and an 86%-reduced port fee of \$217.00), to be paid with monies budgeted for circuit/broadband (010-018-

53010-224) in the Technology Support budget. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## **JUVENILE PROBATION**

Educational Services Contract: Juvenile Probation Officer Steve Zimmerman requested authorization to move forward with a contract with J. Chad Professional Training for \$5,000.00, with costs shared between Eureka County, the School District, and PACE Coalition. This will engage Officer David Gomez, a school resource officer, to provide drug and alcohol prevention training to students on October 18<sup>th</sup> as part of Red Ribbon Week. Contribution amounts from each sponsor have not yet been determined, but will likely be supplemented with funds from the Community Corrections Partnership Block Grant from the State.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve a contract with J. Chad Professional Training for education services related to drug and alcohol prevention, in the amount of \$5,000.00 with costs shared between Eureka County, Eureka County School District, and PACE Coalition, and authorized Juvenile Probation to sign the contract outside of the meeting. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Copy Machine Purchase: The current copy machine in the Juvenile Probation office is about 13 years old and in need of replacement. A quote was obtained from OPI (Office Products Inc.) for a new Konica Minolta copier.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve purchase of a new Konica Minolta Bizhub C360i Color Digital Copy/Print/Scan machine from OPI, for an amount not to exceed \$7,377.00, to be paid with monies budgeted for capital outlay (233-276-55010-000) in the Juvenile Court AA Fund. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## **SHERIFF**

Residency Requirements: Sheriff Watts inquired about residency requirements for Deputy Sheriffs. He found nothing in the Personnel Policy requiring employees to reside within the County, but thought there were restrictions about using a patrol vehicle when commuting from a residence outside the County. Sheriff Watts pointed out that a Deputy living in Carlin would have a time advantage when responding to calls or incidents in Pine Valley.

The Board discussed potential consequences of a Deputy living outside the County. If one Deputy is allowed to live in and respond from Carlin, there will likely be others who prefer to live in Elko, Ely, or Winnemucca. Commissioner McKay said he liked the Deputies living in the County and becoming part of the local communities. Commissioner Sharkozy felt it would impact the Crescent Valley community if residents knew a responding officer could take 45 minutes or longer, especially in inclement weather, to respond to an incident. This could also leave an on-duty officer vulnerable if backup is needed, but not readily available.

Although concerns were voiced, the Commissioners said they were open to considering this option if reasonable parameters were set in policy. The Chairman asked the Sheriff and Undersheriff to research what other jurisdictions do in similar instances, and to work on proposed policy language and bring it back to the Board when there is something more concrete to consider.

Out-of-State Travel: Sheriff Watts requested authorization for out-of-state travel to Washington DC from October 11<sup>th</sup> through October 18<sup>th</sup>, to attend the National Law Enforcement Memorial events honoring Sergeant Ben Jenkins.

Chairman Goicoechea asked the Sheriff to be cognizant of his travel and training budget, since Washington DC can be quite expensive. Since the Sheriff requested travel for an entire week, the Chairman asked which day or days were scheduled for Sgt. Jenkins ceremony.

Sheriff Watts replied that the major events are on the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, family events are scheduled on the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, the closing ceremony is on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and return travel is scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner McKay motioned to approve out-of-state travel for the Sheriff to attend National Law Enforcement Memorial events honoring Sgt. Ben Jenkins in Washington DC, October 11-18, 2021. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### **CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD**

Vice Chair Sharkozy presided over the meeting momentarily while the Chairman responded to an urgent phone call.

Dog Licensing Fees: The annual Crescent Valley Rabies Clinic is scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup>. The Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board requested a \$500.00 donation to help offset licensing fees (\$5.00 for spayed/neutered dogs, and \$10.00 for unspayed/unneutered dogs) to encourage residents to license dogs during the clinic. CVTAB Chair, Mikayla Kersey said nearly 80 dogs were seen at last year's clinic, and this is a good opportunity to encourage residents to get the required license.

During the clinic, dogs will be licensed on a first-com first-served basis. An accounting of the number of licenses issued will be kept, and a voucher will be generated after the clinic to pay the licensing fees to the Sheriff's Office from the North End Activity Fund.

Commissioner McKay motioned to authorize a donation from the North End Activity Fund, not to exceed \$500.00, to pay dog licensing fees for Eureka County residents during the annual Crescent Valley Rabies Clinic on October 16, 2021. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Performance Evaluations for Appointed Staff: HR Director Heidi Whimple said that Commissioner Sharkozy reached out to her with some questions over the current procedure for conducting performance evaluations. He felt the current three-point scale made it difficult to rank an employee's improvement when the highest rating is a 3. This led to a discussion on the three-point scale, which is an industry standard, and offers a minimal amount of ambiguity in categorizing an employee's performance as either below standard, meeting standard, or exceeding standard.

The other concern was related to Commissioners independently conducting performance evaluations on every appointed employee each year, with results compiled into a final evaluation. After some discussion, the Board agreed this was cumbersome and decided to return to the previous method, where performance evaluations of appointed staff are divided equally and assigned to one of the three Commissioners.

### **ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Report on Activities: Assistant Public Works Director Raymond Hodson reported on Road Department projects and activities. In southern Eureka County, four operators are blading and have been very busy. Most roads in Diamond Valley are complete, with some mowing done also. The blade in Diamond Valley is currently working on County Road 101 towards Venturacci's. Crews have bladed the Willows Road, the Todd Road, the JD Ranch Road and Grass Valley area. The screening plant has been in the Collingwood Pit and will run for another month before moving to Crescent Valley. Gravel was hauled to repair sections of road in Spring Valley and Union Pass.

In northern Eureka County, a blade and water truck finished work on the Geothermal Road and have moved on to Rose Ranch Road. Another blade assisted in the work on Union Pass, finished a section of Sadler Road, and is now working on Telegraph Road.

Along with representatives of White Pine and Nye Counties, Mr. Hodson attended a meeting in Duckwater concerning paving Duckwater Road. The Tribe is seeking federal funding opportunities to support paving. All involved counties are supportive, although Mr. Hodson did caution them that a lot of base work and drainage work will be needed before any paving is done.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

**Public Works Update:** Public Works Director Jeb Rowley reported on Public Works projects and activities.

**Crescent Valley Town Park:** Mr. Rowley provided a summary sheet showing itemized costs for the upgrades to the Crescent Valley Town Park, a project that spanned two budget years. He noted that it was tight, but overall the project was completed under budget, which was accredited to doing the work in-house rather than engaging a contractor.

**COVID Vaccines:** Mr. Rowley has been working to schedule an MVU (mobile vaccination unit) for the area to administer Pfizer vaccines, with a focus on students aged 12 and older, now that Pfizer has emergency use authorization for that age group. There have been some requests for booster shots, but estimated availability dates for the third booster are continually changing.

**Air Quality:** Nevada Division of Environmental Protection has reached out to Eureka County and other areas experiencing smoke exposure due to the wildland fires. NDEP will work with Eureka County and will loan several PurpleAir monitoring sensors to be installed in the area.

**Water Applications:** Mr. Rowley noted that Public Works has been receiving numerous applications for water service. He wanted the Board to be aware that water lines, meters, and other parts are becoming more and more scarce and difficult to order. It hasn't caused an issue yet, since Public Works has some inventory, but could cause delays in future water connections.

**ISO Review:** The five-year ISO inspection was conducted on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Seven fire trucks are scheduled for pump testing and the results, among other things, will be used in establishing the ISO rating. Areas beyond the current Fire Protection District are being analyzed for inclusion in the district. This will require addition of certain equipment on the trucks, but will benefit those residents in the form of insurance savings based on the ISO rating. Final results and the updated ISO rating are expected in about two weeks.

**Ditch/Drain Cleanup:** An industrial vacuum truck will be in Eureka on September 13<sup>th</sup> and will spend three days on various cleanup work – storm drains, plugged cattle guards, and work in the Spring Street Ditch.

**Radio Update:** Reports on radio coverage and transmission have been positive since conversion to LTE at Mount Tenabo and Mary's Mountain repeater sites. Signals can now be received at the Crescent Valley base station and then broadcast to Eureka dispatch.

**Eureka Landfill:** Lumos & Associates will be in the area in two weeks to conduct the volumetric study at the landfill. Public Works is working to renew the Air Quality Operating Permit at the landfill and, in keeping with the trend of rising costs, the permit fee increased from \$500.00 to \$2000.00.

**Eureka Airport:** Lumos & Associates continues working on design plans for installation of the new windsocks at the Eureka Airport.

**Road Maintenance:** At the request of Public Works, Lumos & Associates is investigating boundaries and preparing exhibits so that rights-of-way dedications, abandonments, easements, and other boundary issues are incorporated into the scope of work for future street maintenance.

**Eureka Town Siren:** The Eureka town siren has been down and Public Works is investigating the cause in order to make repairs. The new siren (outdoor mass community notification system) is expected to arrive shortly.

**Water Service:** Application for a residential water service in Crescent Valley was received, and Mr. Rowley recommended approval. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the application for a 3/4-inch residential water service in Crescent Valley for APN 002-012-08; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

**2022 Chevrolet Silverado:** Mr. Rowley requested authorization to purchase a new pickup as budgeted. He explained that, with manufacturing shut-downs and delays, approval will allow him to secure one of the production slots.

Commissioner McKay motioned to approve purchase of one new 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 cab and chassis pickup from Champion Chevrolet, utilizing State of Nevada Fleet Vehicle Purchasing Agreement #99SWC-S1495, for a not to exceed amount of \$30,930.25, to be paid

with funds budgeted for capital outlay (020-106-55010-000) in the Road Department budget. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Flatbeds: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve purchase of four flatbeds from Semi Service in Salt Lake City, Utah, to be installed on cab and chassis pickups for the Road Department, for an amount not to exceed \$14,659.36, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (020-106-55010-000) in the Road Department budget. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Fuel Transfer Tanks: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve purchase of four fuel transfer tanks from Northern Equipment to be installed on cab and chassis pickups for the Road Department, for an amount not to exceed \$2,765.74, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (020-106-55010-000) in the Road Department budget. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## **INDIGENT DEFENSE PLAN**

Indigent Defense Accounts: Per recommendation of the Nevada Department of Indigent Defense, Comptroller Kim Todd requested authority to create new line items within the District Court and Justice Court budgets. This will allow for accurate tracking of expenses and revenues (reimbursements) for indigent defense, which the Board is mandated to report quarterly and annually to the Department of Indigent Defense.

The current year's budget has already been filed, so these accounts will be created in the two court budgets. For subsequent years, the Department recommends tracking the accounts in a non-judicial budget – either a stand-alone budget or the Commissioners' budget. Ms. Todd recommended transfer of \$100,000.00 from the public defender line item in the District Court budget, and \$10,000.00 from the court expenses line item in the Justice Court budget, into the respective indigent defense accounts.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize the Comptroller to create new accounts within the District Court and Justice Court budgets in order to track indigent defense expenses and revenues (reimbursements), and authorized transfer of \$100,000.00 within the District Court budget and \$10,000.00 within the Justice Court budget. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Indigent Defense Fiscal Reports: New regulations mandate that the Board of County Commissioners submit quarterly indigent defense financial reports, in addition to the annual report, to the Department of Indigent Defense. Staff requested direction from the Board on which office should prepare the reports. The annual reports have been prepared by the Board's Administrative Assistant Jackie Berg. After a brief discussion, the Board directed District Court and Justice Court to submit indigent defense costs each quarter to be compiled into the quarterly report for Board approval and submission to the State.

County Plan for Provision of Indigent Defense Services (County Plan): Kelly Brown, Esq., Eureka County's contract public defender, was in attendance to review changes made to the County Plan since the draft was first presented on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

Primary changes include: addition of a Justice Court contact; changes in processing a defendant's Financial Declaration form; authorization for the public defender to represent all defendants at initial detention hearings even if conflict counsel will be appointed; budgetary changes; and several changes related to conflict counsel.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adopt the Eureka County Plan for Provision of Indigent Defense Services for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 as presented by the public defender. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Report on Activities: Natural Resources Manager Jake Tibbitts reported on recent activities and upcoming meetings.

Gibellini Project: Mr. Tibbitts received the Preliminary Draft EIS for the Gibellini Project, and is working on comments which are due from Cooperating Agencies by September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ruby Hill Mining Company: Mr. Tibbitts referenced a press release regarding I-80 Gold Corp's acquisition of Ruby Hill Mining Company. He received a phone call early that morning from Joseph Martini, Elko Mining Group, informing that the transition will take approximately 30 days. Mr. Martini encouraged the Commissioners to reach out if they have any questions regarding the transfer. I-80 Gold Corp has been told that Eureka County likes a lot of involvement, so they will likely reach out at some point to attend a meeting and introduce themselves to the Board.

Waters of the US: At the last meeting, Mr. Tibbitts reported on efforts by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers to replace the Navigable Waters Protection Rule (WOTUS Rule) and to define the term, "Waters of the United States." Eureka County responded with a letter stating it does not support the proposed rule change, and repeal of the existing rule is not needed.

Since then, an Arizona court has ruled that the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, instated during the Trump administration, was illegal and remanded it back to the EPA and Corps of Engineers. This reinstated the pre-2015 rule and now, rather than going through the two-step process, the agencies can move forward under the court order to develop a completely new rule.

NDWR Proposed Regulations: The Nevada Division of Water Resources has workshops scheduled through September and early October to address two proposed sets of regulations related to: (1) administrative hearings before the State Engineer, and (2) applications for extensions of time on proofs of construction of works and proofs of beneficial use. Mr. Tibbitts and water attorney, Karen Peterson, are engaged in this process and he will keep the Board updated.

Diamond Valley Adjudication: The BLM has filed a motion in District Court asking for summary judgement on the Public Water Reserves in the Diamond Valley Adjudication case. This move is essentially an effort to block Eureka County's protest of these claims. Mr. Tibbitts is working with Ms. Peterson to submit a response, which is due to the court by September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming Meetings: Upcoming meetings include the Natural Resources Advisory Commission on September 8<sup>th</sup>, the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority on September 10<sup>th</sup>, Firewise Community Days on September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Eureka Fairgrounds and September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Crescent Valley Town Park.

Wild Horse Issues: An Environmental Assessment is being prepared for the proposed wild horse holding facility in Paradise Valley, Humboldt County. In the EA, the BLM claims there are no significant or socioeconomic impacts. The Chairman voiced concerns that these facilities are meant to be short-term holding facilities, but often that is not the case. These facilities disrupt the local economy by placing a huge demand on the feed supply, thus creating shortages and increased prices for all. Agricultural communities feel these impacts more intensely because the agricultural industry is competing for the same products.

Goldrush Mine Project EIS: The NEPA process for Nevada Gold Mine's Goldrush Project is now in the public phase with a deadline of September 9<sup>th</sup> for the BLM to receive scoping comments. Mr. Tibbitts acknowledged that the mine involved Eureka County early in the EIS review process.

Mr. Tibbitts drafted a comment letter to the BLM highlighting the County's remaining concerns and asking the BLM to address the outstanding issues as it moves forward with the Final EIS. Mr. Tibbitts asked for approval of the letter, including any additions, corrections, or deletions made by the Natural Resources Advisory Commission at its September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned the following: to send the comment letter to the BLM regarding Nevada Gold Mine's Goldrush Project, to allow further input by NRAC during its September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, to authorize Chairman Goicoechea to sign the letter outside of the meeting, and to place the amended letter on the next agenda for ratification by the Board. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Governor's Executive Order 2021-18: Mr. Tibbitts voiced concerns over Governor Sisolak's Executive Order 2021-18 Creating the Nevada Habitat Conservation Framework. There was a

tremendous lack of consultation and coordination with agencies and jurisdictions across the State when preparing this Order. Many statements in the Order are vague and open to interpretation, important and pertinent information is omitted, and it contains concerning language – such as 50% loss of sage grouse habitat. The Order sets a framework to establish various programs regarding wildlife, conservation, etc., but there are concerns that the proper entities will not be involved as these programs are created.

The Governor's Order is included on the Natural Resources Advisory Commission's agenda for September 8<sup>th</sup>. The Board concurred that NRAC should provide comments and input concerning the Order, to be incorporated into a letter outlining Eureka County's concerns, with the letter presented to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received from: Comptroller Kim Todd; Natural Resources Advisory Commission; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board; Humboldt River Basin Water Authority; US Senator Jacky Rosen; US Dept. of the Interior-BLM; National Assoc. of Counties (multiple); Governing E-news (multiple); and America First Policy Institute (multiple).

Commissioner Reports: Chairman Goicoechea stated he will give a formal COVID update at the next meeting, but wanted to comment on the elevated status of COVID cases in the County and across the State. He cautioned people to do the right thing and continue practicing preventative measures, such as washing hands and staying home when a person or a family member is sick. The Chairman clarified that the Eureka County Local COVID-19 Transition Plan (effective May 1, 2021) stated that Eureka County does not have a work-from-home policy for County employees. If County employees are not at work due to illness or due to quarantine, they must utilize sick leave for the time off.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Goicoechea called for public comments; there were none.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

*Approved by vote of the Board this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.*

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea

J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

*I, Jackie Berg, Commissioner Administrative Assistant, attest that these are a true, correct, and duly approved minutes of the September 7, 2021, meeting of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.*

/s/ Jackie Berg

Jackie Berg, Commissioner Administrative Asst.

*I, Lisa Hoehne, Clerk Recorder of Eureka County, acknowledge and accept the attached minutes as approved by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and attested to by the Commissioner Administrative Assistant.*

/s/ Lisa Hoehne

Lisa Hoehne, Clerk