

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 20, 2016

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 20, 2016. Present were: Chairman J.J. Goicoechea; Commissioner Fred Etchegaray; Commissioner Michael Sharkozy; District Attorney, Ted Beutel and Deputy Clerk, Amanda Pearce. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am 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 made a motion to amend the agenda to include an emergency item under the Commissioners portion of the agenda; namely: Discuss, approve, or deny continued staffing of the office of Recorder due to the resignation of Recorder, Sara Simmons, and all matters properly relating thereto. (For Possible Action) Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea opened the floor for public comment.

Arts in the Park: Assessor, Michael Mears, extended his gratitude to Eureka Activities Coordinator, Cindy Beutel, for her hard work on the successful "Arts in the Park" that took place on September 16th and 17th, 2016. Mr. Mears noted the participation of several bands, the originality of a converted garbage truck state-of-the-art soundstage, and a lively and enjoyable two days filled with art and music.

Economic Development: Lisa Wolf informed the Board that the Eureka County Economic Development Program Board voted to accept Nancy Collins to fill the vacant seat for the remainder of the term. Chairman Goicoechea requested a letter of Ms. Collin's appointment be mailed to the commissioners and indicated that the item would be included on the next agenda after receipt of said correspondence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 6, 2016: Chairman Goicoechea noted that the dates on page 2 of the minutes from September 6, 2016, for the Deputy Recorder's intended vacation were incorrect and requested they be changed from August 6th through 9th to September 6th through 9th. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve the minutes with the aforementioned changes; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS

Emergency Item: The Board was notified of the resignation of the Eureka County Recorder, Sara Simmons, on September 19, 2016; a discussion ensued regarding Board appointment of a Recorder to serve the remainder of the term, citing 245.170(1)(b) of the Nevada Revised Statues. Chair Goicoechea noted that the Deputy Recorder, Lisa Hoehne, indicated a willingness to serve in an acting capacity for 2 weeks. Chair Goicoechea stated that the Board would address appointing a full time Recorder on October 6, 2016. District Attorney, Ted Beutel, noted that Ms. Hoehne will remain at her current salary and benefits schedule for the two weeks, however should she choose to apply for the position of Recorder and is appointed by the Board, further discussion

regarding salary will be required. Chair Goicoechea requested that the Comptroller office and Webmaster, Michael Mears, advertise for the position immediately. Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion to appoint Ms. Hoehne to the position of Acting Recorder, effective immediately until October 6, 2016, with the directive for her to appoint an interim Deputy Recorder; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Update Reports: Commissioner Goicoechea: attended several meetings with Eureka County staff and District Attorney, Ted Beutel, to discuss the ongoing situation with the Recorder, prior to her resignation; attended Attorney General Laxalt's "AG for a day" tour in the Eureka County Courthouse on September 6th; attended the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board meeting in Elko on September 8th and 9th; attended a Groundwater Management Plan meeting in Eureka on September 19th; and the Eureka County Liquor Board meeting on September 20th. Commissioner Etchegaray: attended Attorney General Laxalt's "AG for a day" tour in Eureka on September 6th; and the Eureka County Liquor Board meeting on the morning of September 20th. Commissioner Sharkozy also attended the Liquor Board meeting.

Recorder's Office: Chair Goicoechea noted that due to Sara Simmons' absence, she forfeited the opportunity to be heard with regard to the letter from District Attorney, Ted Beutel, dated September 8, 2016, describing the deduction of salary calculations pursuant to NRS 245.040(5)(c). Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to confirm the reduction in salary; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Recorder's Office: No action was required for proceeding with a suit listing Eureka County as a party, which petitions the district court to declare the office of Recorder vacant pursuant to NRS 283.040, and in the alternative complains for the Recorder's removal pursuant to NRS 283.440, as the Recorder resigned September 19, 2016. District Attorney, Ted Beutel recommended that the Board retain the petition for reference and any future issues with Ms. Simmons.

Liquor Board: Chair Goicoechea indicated that no action was necessary to amend the Eureka County Code as no fee increase was recommended by the Liquor Board.

Future Meeting Dates: The Board discussed upcoming scheduling conflicts. Commissioner Sharkozy made a motion to cancel the October 20, 2016 Commissioner meeting and reschedule the meeting for October 21, 2016; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded; motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion to cancel the November 21, 2016 Commissioner meeting and reschedule to meet on November 17, 2016; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program & Nevada Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan: Chair Goicoechea provided an update on the plan.

Contract Extension-Dale C. Bugenig, Consulting Hydrogeologist, LLC: Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion to extend the contract with Mr. Bugenig for one year, in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

COUNTY COMPTROLLER

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by County Comptroller, Tina Hubbard. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$514,405.46 for accounts payable and \$79.95 for Yucca Mountain expenses, for a grand total of \$514,485.41; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Actuarial Services: Payroll Specialist, Kim Todd, reported that no proposals for actuarial services pursuant to GASB Statement No. 45 have been received to date.

Precision Document Imaging: There was a discussion with the Board, Clerk and Treasurer, Beverly Conley, Assessor, Michael Mears, and Comptroller, Tina Hubbard, regarding the benefits of utilizing the new company for archiving documents generated in county offices, as well as for a new program that streamlines agenda functions. Commissioner Sharkozy made a motion to

approve a capital outlay purchase for the new online document management system with Precision Document Imaging, not to exceed \$49,210.80; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Senior Center Senior Site Supervisor: Payroll Specialist, Kim Todd, reported that the employee in the position of Senior Center Senior Site Supervisor was placed in the incorrect salary range. Commissioner Sharkozy made a motion to reallocate the existing class for the position from a Range 105 to a Range 110; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

AMBULANCE & EMS

Report on Activities: EMS Coordinator, Michael Sullivan, reported that there were eight calls for service in Eureka for a total of ninety-seven calls for the year to date; and seven calls for service in Crescent Valley for a total of forty-two calls for the year to date.

Continuing Education Training: Mr. Sullivan reported that training is scheduled in Eureka on September 26, 2016, and in Crescent Valley on September 29, 2016.

Imagine Trend Software: Mr. Sullivan reported that the electronic patient care report software was implemented on September 1st; he commended Shaelene French for working diligently on the project.

Reach: Mr. Sullivan reported a meeting on September 16, 2016, with Chris Baird, Reach Elko base manager where they discussed the most suitable landing zone (LZ) in Crescent Valley and determined it to be the site adjacent to the Road Shop; Mr. Sullivan notified principal personnel of the change.

EMT/AEMT Refresher: Eureka EMS will hold a refresher on November 4th, 5th and 6th, 2016, in Eureka.

IT/NETWORK

County Phone System Update: IT/Network Supervisor, Michael Mears, reported that the current phone system being utilized by the county is running on backup. Mr. Mears informed the Board that because of the scope of work required, the original quote from the Sacramento based company, Quest, of \$60,000.000 was increased to \$75,867.00.

Replacement of County Phone System: Mr. Mears informed the Board that funds for the project are supplied entirely by the Assessor Technology Fund. The Board discussed the benefits of the new system with Network Analyst, Misty Rowley. Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion to approve replacement of the phone system for County offices and facilities; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

EUREKA COUNTY FAIR BOARD

2016 Fair Update: Chair, Lynn Conley, provided expense and revenue reports for the 2016 Eureka County Fair.

Contract Services: The Board discussed the fair with Ms. Conley, as well as Fair Board Senior Department Assistant, Crystal Hubbard and Anne Kniefel. Mrs. Kniefel asked the Board to provide some direction on how to proceed with fair planning considering the restrictions of casual workers to 19 hours a week without exception that was passed on September 6, 2016. Mrs. Kniefel suggested seeking contracted services. Chair Goicoechea agreed and requested that the Fair Board seek proposals and present to the Board at the October 21, 2016 meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS

Projects & Activities: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, provided an update on Public Works projects and activities.

Utility Systems: All utility systems are up and running with no issues.

US Environmental Protection Agency: The EPA is completing lead removal in Eureka for the season and will present to the Board in October or November with an update on progress and a report on work expectations for the summer of 2017.

HOSS Disposal: On September 13, 2016, the contract with Hoss Disposal was renewed for one year.

Alpine Lock: Maintenance on locks is being performed at the townhomes in Eureka Canyon.

Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority: A video crew documented parts of the meeting, haying operations in Diamond Valley and conducted interviews for use in an economic development video highlighting Eureka County.

Hiring Freeze Waiver: Mr. Damele reported an urgent need to fill the position of Public Works Administrative Assistant I, due to a resignation. Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion to accept the Hiring Freeze Waiver and authorized replacement of the position; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CLERK & TREASURER

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for August was submitted by Clerk and Treasurer, Beverly Conley. Ending General Fund balance for the month was \$14,143,727.98.

EUREKA COUNTY SHERIFF

Hiring Freeze Waiver: Sheriff Keith Logan explained to Board that with Maureen Torres' transfer to the Comptroller office, the Sheriff's office needed to fill a vacancy. Sheriff Logan laid out his plan to accomplish this, utilizing existing personnel to fill the vacant position and the necessity for a Dispatcher. Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion authorizing Mr. Logan to hire a Dispatcher. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

HEALTH INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Flu and Pneumonia Shot Clinic: Commissioner Sharkozy made a motion to approve the Flu and Pneumonia Shot Clinic on October 25, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Eureka County Opera House; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Resignation: Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion to accept the resignation of Maureen Torres, Vice-Chair of the Health Insurance Committee as of October 4, 2016. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Appointment: Commissioner Sharkozy made a motion to appoint the vacant seat to David Hicks, who requested to represent the Sheriff's office on the Health Insurance Committee; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CRESCENT VALLEY AIRPORT

Improvements to Airport: Crescent Valley resident, Barbara Dugan, requested that the Board consider improvements to the Crescent Valley Airport site that is provided to Eureka County under a Recreational & Public Purposes Lease from the Bureau of Land Management. Chair Goicoechea indicated that although the Board would not take action at this time, Public Works Director, Ron Damele, will survey the situation and begin the process for either seeking improvements or getting the site conveyed.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Report on Activities: Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts gave an update on recent activities and natural resource issues affecting Eureka County.

Gold Rock Project: After a conference call on September 7, 2016, Mr. Tibbitts is confident that the Gold Rock Project's EIS addressed Eureka County's comments with regard to the Greater

Sage Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment and the final EIS draft is expected to be completed soon.

Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Meeting: Mr. Tibbitts attended a meeting on September 8, 2016, and will report on Wild Horse Issues.

Government Affairs Director for the Wildlife Society of Washington, D.C.: Mr. Tibbitts and Gary McCuin hosted Wildlife Society Director, Keith Norris, and Callie Hendrickson, a former member on the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board and currently involved with Conservation Districts in Colorado, on a tour to view areas that have been impacted by wild horses.

Groundwater Management Plan Advisory Board: The Groundwater Management Plan Advisory Board met on September 12th. On September 13, members of the Diamond Valley Groundwater Management Planning committee met to work on the Groundwater Management Plan. The Board also met on September 19th to discuss vested water rights.

Eureka Conservation District: The Conservation District met on September 13, 2016, and approved a five thousand dollar contribution toward the Renewable Energy Feasibility Study that Fred Steinman, Assistant Research Professor for University Center for Economic Development proposed to the Board on August 18, 2016.

Central Nevada Regional Water Meeting: On September 16th, Mr. Tibbitts presented a report via teleconference providing information about curtailment in Diamond Valley.

Upcoming Meetings: Mr. Tibbitts reported on the following upcoming meetings: NRAC on September 28th; NDF meeting on September 29th; and Fallon Naval Air Station Scoping Meeting at the Eureka Elementary School on October 6th. Mr. Tibbitts noted that the Fallon Naval Air Station Scoping Plan contains potential impacts to the airspace in Eureka County; BLM hosting a Targeted grazing Workshop on October 6th.

Horse Canyon/Cortez Unified Exploration Project Plan of Operations: The BLM issued a Decision Record and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment completed for the Amendment to the Plan of Operations titled Amendment to the Horse Canyon/Cortez Unified Exploration Project Plan of Operations (NVN-066621 [16-1A]) and Reclamation Permit No. 0159 – Twin Declines for Underground Exploration. Kim Wolf, from Barrick Gold Corporation was present at the meeting.

Sage Grouse Issues: Mr. Tibbitts discussed a Washington Post article that misled readers on some of the sage grouse study findings and reported that the Nevada Department of Wildlife indicated that 2016 was another positive year for sage grouse in Nevada.

Wild Horse Issues: Mr. Tibbitts reported on The Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board meeting on September 8, 2016. The Board discussed the ongoing issues with the Bureau of Land Management, and voted on a recommendation that the BLM sell or humanely euthanize unadoptable wild horses. Although the BLM rejected the recommendation, Mr. Tibbitts requested to submit a letter to the members of the Board who voted in support of these recommendations. Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion for Mr. Tibbitts to send the letter to members that supported the recommendations; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: Seventh Judicial District Court (3); Barrick Gold Corporation (2); Assessor, Michael Mears; Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts; Eureka Activities; Eureka Television District (2); Eureka Business Network; Eureka Owl Club (2); Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board; Nevada Association of Counties (2); Central Nevada Regional Water Authority; White Pine County Commission (2); Nevada Supreme Court; Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (2); Nevada Department of Transportation; The Advocate; Nevada State Clearinghouse (2); Public Utilities Commission of Nevada; University of Reno (3); Nevada Supreme Court; Nevada State Clearinghouse (3); GCC Global Crowdfunding Convention; US

Environmental Protection Agency; Wild Horse and Burro Programs (2); US Forest Service; and American Lands Council (2).

PUBLIC HEARING

Eureka County Water Resources Master Plan: After a discussion with accolades to Dale Bugenig, Consulting Hydrogeologist, for the comprehensive plan submitted, Commissioner Etchegaray made a motion to adopt the Eureka County Water Resources Master Plan with signatures to follow outside of the meeting following submission to the Nevada State Engineer for review; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION

Commissioner Goicoechea opened the floor for public comment. No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Approved by vote of the Board this 6th day of October, 2016

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea
J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

I, Amanda Pearce, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, attest that these are a true, correct, and duly approved minutes of the September 20, 2016 meeting of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.

/s/ Amanda Pearce
Amanda Pearce, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

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 Deputy Clerk/Treasurer.

/s/ Beverly Conley
Beverly Conley, Clerk & Treasurer