

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 18, 2018

STATE OF NEVADA)
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COUNTY OF EUREKA)

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on October 18, 2018. 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 as posted; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea called for public comments. Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley, announced that early voting begins Saturday, October 20th. Ballots for the mailing precincts have been distributed. She stated that any voter residing in the mailing precincts should contact the Clerk's office if they don't receive their paper ballot in the next few days.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 5, 2018: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve minutes of the October 5, 2018, meeting; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

COUNTY COMPTROLLER

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Comptroller, Maureen Garner. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$332,831.53 for accounts payable, \$355,018.17 for payroll related expenses, and \$79.95 for Yucca Mountain expenses, for a grand total of \$687,929.65. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Fund Balance Report: The Board reviewed the Fund Balance Report and the Pooled Cash Report provided by the Comptroller's office.

COMMISSIONERS

Second Meeting in January: County Code states Board meetings shall be held the 6th and 20th of each month. If the date falls on a nonjudicial day, the meeting will be held on the closest judicial day. For January 2019, the second meeting could be set for either January 18th or January 22nd. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Sharkozy motioned that the second meeting in January 2019 will be held on Tuesday, January 22nd; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program: Chairman Goicoechea reported that the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council meeting on October 11th was productive and they continue to make progress on amendments to the 2014 Nevada Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan. They have asked the Governor to consider an Executive Order for compensatory mitigation, utilizing the Conservation Credit System (CCS), on State lands. The SEC plans to use their statutory authority and work to get regulations concerning CCS into statute. Although the BLM has an Instructional

Memorandum to the contrary, they have indicated that if the State takes these steps, they may be open to considering compensatory mitigation on federal lands as well.

A highlight of the SEC meeting was an update from Kris Stewart of the 96 Ranch in Humboldt County. A large portion of the 96 Ranch was lost in the recent Martin Fire. After visiting Washington, DC, Ms. Stewart received a personal phone call from President Trump. The President assured her he was committed that another fire season like this past one never occur again, even if he has to take executive action to start things moving in the right direction.

AMBULANCE & EMS

Report on Activities: EMS Director, Kenny Sanders, reported on recent activities. There were a total of 20 ambulance runs in September. Eureka received 10 calls for service, Crescent Valley received seven calls for service, and there were three assists to Lander County.

Out-of-State Travel: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve out-of-state travel for EMS Director, Kenny Sanders, to attend the EMS Associates Annual Conference in Provo, Utah, November 8th-10th; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Update: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, reported on Public Works projects and activities.

Utilities: All utility systems are in good working order. Utility crews are conducting their last read of water meters and are insulating the units for winter.

US EPA: The Environmental Protection Agency plans to continue cleanup efforts in Eureka through November 3rd. They have closed the repository and are reclaiming the area, but a section has been built for future use. Stockpiles of rock and other material will also be left for future use. The past two weeks EPA crews completed work around the Administrative Facility (Annex Building), which is site of the former Richmond Smelter. Crews are now working on the area behind the Eureka Elementary School.

Opera House Elevator: Silver State Elevator Company has returned to the Opera House and is currently removing the hydraulic jack cylinder in preparation for the elevator repair.

Free Dump Days: Free Dump Days have always been a success and continue to be so. They are offered every Saturday in October in both Eureka and Crescent Valley.

Road Crew: The 10-hour days will be extended for the road crews, for at least a month, to allow some much needed maintenance on the JD Ranch Road and other roads in that area.

NDOT: Nevada Department of Transportation will soon begin their tour of the counties for the consultation workshops and are scheduled to be in Eureka on December 13th.

NDF Conservation Crews: Honor crews from the NDF Conservation Camp were in Crescent Valley the previous week and did a lot of clearing litter and weeds from County rights-of-way and around the buildings and grounds. Commissioner Sharkozy commented that it made a noticeable difference.

RTC Fund: On October 5th, the Regional Transportation Commission authorized the use of up to \$100,000.00 from the RTC Fund to for road stabilization products, gravel trucks, and support equipment to be used on County roads that require continuous maintenance due to increased traffic, mainly due to mining and exploration activities.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to affirm the use of up to \$100,000.00 from the RTC Fund to support additional maintenance on certain County roads due to increased traffic; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CLERK & TREASURER

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for September was submitted by Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley, showing an ending General Fund balance of \$25,262,024.57. Ms. Conley noted that, at this time, a Treasurer's Report that matches actual cash fund balances

cannot be generated on the new Tyler Technologies system. For this reason, her office will continue to produce the monthly financial reports both in the new system and in the traditional format.

SHERIFF

Schedule of Fees: Sergeant, Kenny Sanders, presented an updated Schedule of Fees explaining that minor adjustments are needed to comply with changes, effective January 1st, in the FBI’s portion of the State of Nevada Records Bureau Fingerprint Fees.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adopt the updated Eureka County Sheriff’s Office Schedule of Fees, effective January 1, 2019; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

HEALTH INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sponsored Plan: At the last meeting, the Health Insurance Advisory Committee presented the selected insurance plans for employees and retirees for Calendar Year 2019. These included three medical plans and dental, vision, and life plans. HIAC Chair, Jayme Halpin, explained that the Committee recommended the \$1,500.00 deductible POS (Point of Service) Core 5 plan as the sponsored medical plan. Employees may select from the three medical plans offered, but premiums paid by the County are calculated on the sponsored plan.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize the Chairman to sign the insurance contracts and to select the \$1,500.00 POS Core 5 as the sponsored medical plan for Calendar Year 2019; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Dependent Subsidies: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to reaffirm dependent coverage subsidy rates for benefited employees as follows: a 70/30 split for employees hired prior to July 1, 2009, a 60/40 split for those hired after July 1, 2009, and a 50/50 split for employees hired after July 1, 2015. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Goicoechea reminded everyone that the HIAC’s efforts resulted in better coverage and reduced premiums for 2019.

Insurance Premiums 01/01/2019 thru 12/31/2019 (70/30 Split)**								
Classification	\$1000 POS Core 10	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 70/30**	
Employee	842.43	42.23	7.48	14.34	906.48	906.48	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1541.59	88.47	16.40	15.90	1662.36	1507.01	155.35	
Empl+Child(ren)	1491.05	106.67	14.68	15.90	1628.30	1481.29	147.01	
Empl+Family	2030.22	152.87	23.60	15.90	2222.59	1917.50	305.09	
Classification	\$1500 POS Core 5	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 70/30**	
Employee	887.59	42.23	7.48	14.34	951.64	951.64	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1624.25	88.47	16.40	15.90	1745.02	1507.01	238.01	
Empl+Child(ren)	1571.03	106.67	14.68	15.90	1708.28	1481.29	226.99	
Empl+Family	2139.07	152.87	23.60	15.90	2331.44	1917.50	413.94	
Classification	\$3000 HSA HD Core 3	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 70/30**	\$500/year Match
Employee	688.31	42.23	7.48	14.34	752.36	752.36	0.00	794.03
Empl+Spouse	1259.58	88.47	16.40	15.90	1380.35	1380.35	0.00	1422.02
Empl+Child(ren)	1218.29	106.67	14.68	15.90	1355.54	1355.54	0.00	1397.21
Empl+Family	1658.82	152.87	23.60	15.90	1851.19	1851.19	0.00	1892.86
* The HSA HD Core 3 includes a match of up to \$500 per fiscal year contingent upon minimum required monthly contributions by the employee. ** Employees hired before July 1, 2009, are eligible for a 70/30 split on dependent premiums; employees hired after July 1, 2009, are eligible for a 60/40 split on dependent premiums; employees hired after July 1, 2015, are eligible for a 50/50 split for dependent insurance premiums (see appropriate chart).								

Insurance Premiums 01/01/2019 thru 12/31/2019 (60/40 Split)**

Classification	\$1000 POS Core 10	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 60/40**	
Employee	842.43	42.23	7.48	14.34	906.48	906.48	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1541.59	88.47	16.40	15.90	1662.36	1427.67	234.69	
Empl+Child(ren)	1491.05	106.67	14.68	15.90	1628.30	1405.62	222.68	
Empl+Family	2030.22	152.87	23.60	15.90	2222.59	1779.52	443.07	
Classification	\$1500 POS Core 5	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 60/40**	
Employee	887.59	42.23	7.48	14.34	951.64	951.64	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1624.25	88.47	16.40	15.90	1745.02	1427.67	317.35	
Empl+Child(ren)	1571.03	106.67	14.68	15.90	1708.28	1405.62	302.66	
Empl+Family	2139.07	152.87	23.60	15.90	2331.44	1779.52	551.92	
Classification	\$3000 HSA HD Core 3	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 60/40**	\$500/year Match
Employee	688.31	42.23	7.48	14.34	752.36	752.36	0.00	794.03
Empl+Spouse	1259.58	88.47	16.40	15.90	1380.35	1380.35	0.00	1422.02
Empl+Child(ren)	1218.29	106.67	14.68	15.90	1355.54	1355.54	0.00	1397.21
Empl+Family	1658.82	152.87	23.60	15.90	1851.19	1779.52	71.67	1821.19

* The HSA HD Core 3 includes a match of up to \$500 per fiscal year contingent upon minimum required monthly contributions by the employee.

** Employees hired before July 1, 2009, are eligible for a 70/30 split on dependent premiums; employees hired after July 1, 2009, are eligible for a 60/40 split on dependent premiums; employees hired after July 1, 2015, are eligible for a 50/50 split for dependent insurance premiums (see appropriate chart).

Insurance Premiums 01/01/2019 thru 12/31/2019 (50/50 Split)**

Classification	\$1000 POS Core 10	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 50/50**	
Employee	842.43	42.23	7.48	14.34	906.48	906.48	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1541.59	88.47	16.40	15.90	1662.36	1348.33	314.03	
Empl+Child(ren)	1491.05	106.67	14.68	15.90	1628.30	1329.96	298.34	
Empl+Family	2030.22	152.87	23.60	15.90	2222.59	1641.54	581.05	
Classification	\$1500 POS Core 5	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 50/50**	
Employee	887.59	42.23	7.48	14.34	951.64	951.64	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1624.25	88.47	16.40	15.90	1745.02	1348.33	396.69	
Empl+Child(ren)	1571.03	106.67	14.68	15.90	1708.28	1329.96	378.32	
Empl+Family	2139.07	152.87	23.60	15.90	2331.44	1641.54	689.90	
Classification	\$3000 HSA HD Core 3	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 50/50**	\$500/year Match
Employee	688.31	42.23	7.48	14.34	752.36	752.36	0.00	794.03
Empl+Spouse	1259.58	88.47	16.40	15.90	1380.35	1348.33	32.02	1390.00
Empl+Child(ren)	1218.29	106.67	14.68	15.90	1355.54	1329.96	25.58	1371.63
Empl+Family	1658.82	152.87	23.60	15.90	1851.19	1641.54	209.65	1683.21

* The HSA HD Core 3 includes a match of up to \$500 per fiscal year contingent upon minimum required monthly contributions by the employee.

** Employees hired before July 1, 2009, are eligible for a 70/30 split on dependent premiums; employees hired after July 1, 2009, are eligible for a 60/40 split on dependent premiums; employees hired after July 1, 2015, are eligible for a 50/50 split for dependent insurance premiums (see appropriate chart).

Retiree Insurance Rates 01/01/2019 thru 12/31/2019

Employees & < 65 Retiree	\$1000 POS Core 10	\$1500 POS Core 5	\$3000 HSA HD Core 3	Dental	Vision	Life
Employee	842.43	887.59	688.31	42.23	7.48	14.34
Empl+Spouse	1619.75	1624.25	1323.43	88.47	16.40	15.90
Empl+Child(ren)	1566.65	1571.03	1280.05	106.67	14.68	15.90
Empl+Family	2133.15	2139.07	1742.91	152.87	23.60	15.90
Retiree with Medicare A&B	\$1000 POS Core 10	\$1500 POS Core 5	\$3000 HSA HD Core 3	Dental	Vision	Life
Retiree	659.94	692.58	N/A	42.23	7.48	14.34
Retiree+Spouse (one with)	1350.09	1419.56	N/A	88.47	16.40	15.90
Retiree+Spouse (both with)	1168.70	1225.70	N/A	88.47	16.40	15.90
Retiree+Child(ren)	1160.53	1217.75	N/A	106.67	14.68	15.90
Retiree+Family (one with)	1757.31	1847.41	N/A	152.87	23.60	15.90
Retiree+Family (both with)	1507.05	1579.92	N/A	152.87	23.60	15.90

Retiree Insurance Subsidy Rates: The Board reviewed the subsidy rates offered to retirees who stay enrolled in the County’s group insurance. This benefit is only available to employees hired before July 1, 2009. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the Calendar Year 2019 health insurance premium subsidy rates for retirees hired prior to July 1, 2009. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

EUREKA COUNTY RETIREE - County Health Insurance Premium Plan Subsidy Effective January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019		
Retired on/after July 1, 2004	(\$469.58 BASE RATE)	
Years of Service		
5	\$117.40	25.00%
6	\$152.61	32.50%
7	\$187.83	40.00%
8	\$223.05	47.50%
9	\$258.27	55.00%
10	\$293.49	62.50%
11	\$328.71	70.00%
12	\$363.92	77.50%
13	\$399.14	85.00%
14	\$434.36	92.50%
15	\$469.58	100.00%
16	\$504.80	107.50%
17	\$540.02	115.00%
18	\$575.24	122.50%
19	\$610.45	130.00%
20	\$645.67	137.50%

The 2019 current premium for the County plan is more than the current premium for the PEBP plan. The proposed formula will be as follows: The County will contribute for the retiree's enrolled in the County plan as follows: 100% of the amount that was established by the State of Nevada for Non-State Retirees participating in PEBP. The minimum subsidy base of \$150 per month applies to retirees who retired from Eureka County on or before July 1, 2004. Any employee who retires after July 1, 2004, and enrolls in the County plan will receive a health care subsidy listed in the above chart up to the health care premium. If the premium is less than the health insurance premium subsidy, there will be no cash payments for the difference. Only Eureka County service credit will be used to calculate this subsidy for County plan participants. When there is a rate change, the County will consider a modification of the base rate and percentage, but will not reduce the subsidy on this chart unless, because of financial circumstances, the County eliminates a subsidy for County plan participants. Only direct Eureka County retirees hired before July 1, 2009, are eligible for this subsidy.

Open Enrollment: Mr. Halpin announced that open enrollment meetings will be held in Crescent Valley on October 22nd at 2:30 p.m. at the Town Center, and in Eureka on October 23rd at 2:30 p.m. and October 24th at 8:30 a.m. at the Opera House.

CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD

Christmas Decorations: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board’s request to use \$150.00 from the North End Activities Fund to purchase tree decoration kits; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. Local children will craft the decorations to be hung on the Community Christmas Tree in December.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Justice Court: The Justice Court quarterly report showed receipt of \$78,711.50 in court and other fees (including \$2,230.00 in bail holding, subject to refund) for July, August, and September. These are combined totals from Eureka and Crescent Valley.

Clerk: Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley, submitted a statistical report showing Clerk and court revenues. Fees collected for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 18-19 totaled \$8,663.68.

Sheriff: Sheriff Keith Logan submitted a report on jail and patrol statistics. Patrol statistics showed a total of 3,700 incidents for the quarter, including 14 arrests. The Detention Facility housed a total of 29 inmates and had 301 inmate days for the quarter.

Ambulance: EMS Director, Kenny Sanders, presented a report showing that federally mandated write-offs of Medicaid and Medicare balances totaled \$460.00 for the quarter.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Rossi Mine Expansion Project: Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts, explained that comments are due on the Rossi Mine Expansion Project Draft EIS by October 29th and he is still working through them. The Rossi Mine is a barite mine (not currently in production) just north of the Eureka County line in Elko County. The main access road is the Boulder Valley Road, which is a County road.

Comments will be very similar to those submitted on other recent mining projects and will address impacts to water, loss of AUMs with no grazing mitigation proposed, impacts to sage grouse with no reference to the State Plan or the Conservation Credit System, etc. The main impact to Eureka County is use of the Boulder Valley Road. Mr. Tibbitts will ask that the road be properly recognized as a County road and will seek mitigation, which may result in some form of maintenance agreement between the County and all mining parties utilizing the road.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize the Natural Resources Manager to finalize comments to the BLM on the Rossi Mine Expansion Project Draft EIS and authorized the Chairman to sign the comment letter outside of the meeting. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

BLM Wildfire Rehabilitation & Grazing Closures: Mr. Tibbitts prepared a comment letter related to wildfire rehabilitation and grazing closures resulting from the Dry Creek, Francis, Crum, and Power Fires. Eureka County received two separate letters from the BLM on October 9th for the Francis Fire and the Dry Creek Fire (other fire decision letters are expected soon). The letters stated that comments were due within 15 days of the date posted on the letters, which was October 2nd (the deadline was extended by one day to allow action by the Board).

Mr. Tibbitts gave an overview of the comment letter, which points out inconsistencies and inaccuracies with much of the analysis, the unrealistic expectations surrounding rehabilitation objectives, and subjectiveness of the objectives. It points out additional methods that would need to be implemented to meet many of the objectives. The letter notes, *"The fire rehab appears to be an effort to remove livestock grazing from the area until the area is "restored" to some arbitrary condition rather than "rehabilitated" to pre-fire conditions."* The letter asks that the BLM make consistent decisions with language and objectives that are reasonable and based on current rangeland science. Lastly, the letter states that the County would welcome sitting down with the BLM and the ranchers to discuss the decisions and any changes.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to send comment to the BLM on recent public consultation letters for wildfire rehabilitation and grazing closures including, but not limited to, the Dry Creek, Francis, Crum, and Power Fires. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Support Nomination to BLM Northeastern Great Basin RAC: At the last Natural Resources Advisory Commission meeting, Mr. Tibbitts provided copy of a BLM notice seeking nominations to fill vacancies on the BLM Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council. Gary McCuin, a member of NRAC, noted his interest in the seat representing a local agency. Interested parties may be nominated by entities or may be self-nominated and supply letters of support. Mr. McCuin has made application for the vacancy and has obtained a letter of support from his supervisor, Dr. Ivory Lyles, Director of University of Nevada Cooperative Extension.

Chairman Goicoechea noted his personal support and encouraged Mr. McCuin to seek nomination from an appropriate organization. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to support the nomination of Gary McCuin to the BLM Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council and authorized the Chairman to sign a letter of support outside of the meeting. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: Chace Green; Public Works; Natural Resources, Jake Tibbitts; County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife; Television District; Eureka Dental Care; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board; Crescent Valley Volunteer Fire Dept.; Nevada Assoc. of Counties; Central Nevada Regional Water Authority; Governor Brian Sandoval; Rehab Services of Nevada; Allison MacKenzie Ltd.; Nevada Dept. of Public Safety; Nevada Div. of Child & Family Services (Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission) (2); Nevada Div. of Environmental Protection; Nevada Dept. of Transportation; and Nevada Dept. of Business & Industry.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Approved by vote of the Board this 8th day of November, 2018.

/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 October 18th, 2018, 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