

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 6, 2017

STATE OF NEVADA)
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COUNTY OF EUREKA)

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on November 6, 2017. Present were Chairman J.J. Goicoechea; Vice Chairman Michael Sharkozy; Commissioner Fred Etchegaray; District Attorney, Ted Beutel; and Commissioner Clerk, Jackie Berg. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to an internet outage in Crescent Valley, the interactive video conferencing system could not be utilized for the 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 opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

Future Agenda Items: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to begin budget discussions related to Natural Resources, Emergency Medical Services, and fire during the November 20th meeting; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 20, 2017: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve minutes of the October 20, 2017, 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 \$302,485.80 for accounts payable, \$228,717.14 for payroll, \$5,471.29 for a pass through to the School District, \$11,125.29 for a pass through to the State Controller, \$29,030.00 for a pass through to the Nevada Division of Minerals, \$70.26 for a pass through to the Nevada Department of Taxation, and \$7,201.52 in Yucca Mountain expenditures, for a grand total of \$584,101.30. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Claim in Bankruptcy Proceeding: Ms. Garner explained that the County has a \$4,998.14 credit with Network Services Solutions, LLC. Since the County no longer utilizes their services, she sent a letter in April requesting a refund. Later, the County received notification that the company had filed a claim in US Bankruptcy Court, District of Nevada. The original filing was Chapter 11 (reorganization), but was later changed to Chapter 7 (liquidation).

The Comptroller's office sought advice from the external auditor and the District Attorney. Both agreed that the unlikely chance of recovering any funds did not warrant legal action. District Attorney Beutel explained that companies of this nature, which provide a service, have very little in tangible assets. He recommended completing the claim form and submitting it to the Court on the slim chance that the County may recover a portion of the credit.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to file a claim in the Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceeding of Network Services Solutions, LLC, for the credit that Eureka County had accrued with that company. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS

Update Reports: Commissioner Sharkozy attended the Crescent Valley Volunteer Fire Department meeting on October 24th, attended the Eureka Conservation District annual dinner in Eureka on November 2nd, and attended the Meet and Greet in Eureka on November 3rd for Nevada Attorney General, Adam Laxalt.

Chairman Goicoechea announced that during the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority meeting on November 3rd, the group decided to enter into contract negotiations with Jeff Fontaine to serve as HRBWA's Executive Director.

Cancel Meeting & Schedule Special Meeting: Due to a scheduling conflict with the Board, Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to cancel the December 6th Commission meeting and to schedule a special meeting of the Board on December 7th; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 71090: District Attorney Beutel advised that an opportunity to consider dismissal or other change in Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 71090 may present itself and require timely action, so he suggested granting decision authority to the Chairman.

It is related to another case, Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 70157, which was filed by the State Engineer and Kobeh Valley Ranch (KVR) appealing the Seventh Judicial District Court's dismissal of water applications filed by KVR.

Case No. 71090 is the writ proceeding initiated by Eureka County in order to prohibit the Nevada State Engineer from considering KVR's duplicate water applications while the appeal was pending, but it has since been resolved.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to grant authority to Chairman Goicoechea to negotiate or make decisions in the best interest of Eureka County related to Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 71090. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program and Nevada Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan: The Sagebrush Ecosystem Council will meet on November 9th. Prior to the meeting, a ceremony will take place for the first transfer of credits under the State-managed Conservation Credit System. The credits will be transferred from Kinross Gold through their privately owned Tumbling JR Ranch.

CLERK & TREASURER

Interlocal Agreement with Secretary of State: Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley, explained that this agreement will transfer title of old election equipment to Eureka County that was purchased with HAVA (Help America Vote Act) funds. This will facilitate disposal of old equipment and may provide a credit applied by Dominion towards the purchase of replacement equipment.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize Ms. Conley to sign an Interlocal Agreement between the Secretary of State and Eureka County to transfer title of old election equipment; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Review 2015 Order: The Board reviewed the 2015 Order of the Board of Commissioners directing the County Treasurer to offer all tax delinquent properties for sale pursuant to NRS 361.595.

Tax Delinquent Properties: Ms. Conley provided the Board with a list of 19 tax delinquent parcels held in trust by the Treasurer. The County can acquire properties pursuant to NRS 361.603. She consulted Public Works Director, Ron Damele, and they didn't feel there were any that would be beneficial to the County.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the list of tax delinquent properties and directed the Treasurer to proceed to sale with all parcels; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Court Policies & Procedures: The Policies & Procedures for Eureka County 7th Judicial District Court were updated after a 2015 audit in order to reflect changes within the Court and to comply with the Supreme Court of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts' Minimum Accounting Standards Version 3.0.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to adopt the updated Policies & Procedures for Eureka County 7th Judicial District Court in compliance with the Supreme Court of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts' Minimum Accounting Standards. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Report on Activities: Raymond Hodson, Assistant Public Works Director, reported on Road Department projects and activities. Crews have been working in the Roberts Creek area blading, hauling gravel, and installing several culverts. They will continue work in that area throughout the winter as weather permits. Other blading included Maggie Creek Road, JD Ranch Road, Palisade Road, Barth Road, and Railroad Pass.

Staff traveled to Fallon for a load of salt to mix sand-salt for the winter. Maintenance has been done on all snow plows in preparation for winter weather.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Update: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, reported on Public Works projects and activities. All utility systems are in good working order. Parts and equipment for the Devil's Gate GID water system upgrades have been ordered, with a four to six week lead time.

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Waste Management, has accepted the Eureka Landfill Capacity Report and it shows projected closure for the Landfill as 2141. Material removal that has been allowed at the Landfill has increased the projected life.

A Nurse Practitioner has been retained by William Bee Ririe for the Eureka Clinic and will be moving into one of the provider residences around the first of the year. Flooring is being replaced and the interior will be painted.

A couple of challenges have been encountered in obtaining Federal Aviation Administration grant reimbursement for the recent project at the Eureka Airport, but Mr. Damele is confident that everything will be worked out.

MOU for Road Maintenance: Mr. Damele presented a Memorandum of Understanding for road maintenance and snow removal between Eureka County, McEwen Mining Nevada Inc. and Tonkin Springs LLC (collectively "McEwen Mining"). The MOU is for a term of one year, but may be extended or terminated. McEwen Mining will provide up to \$74,000.00 per year to fund a full-time employee to be hired by Eureka County for the term of the MOU. The work will be performed on Eureka County Roads M-107, M-108, G-215, and M-113.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Eureka County and McEwen Mining Nevada Inc. and Tonkin Springs LLC for road maintenance and snow removal, not to exceed \$74,000.00 per year, and authorized Mr. Damele to sign the MOU and any subsequent extensions or terminations. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Opera House Audio Equipment: Mr. Damele obtained a quote to replace speakers and amplifiers at the Eureka Opera House. Funding for this purchase will be from the former Friends of the Opera House account, which was recently transferred to the County for enhancements to the Sentinel Museum and Opera House.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve purchasing audio equipment for the Opera House from Innovative Communications Systems, Inc., not to exceed \$15,034.36; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Replacement Copy Machine: Mr. Damele provided quotes for a copy machine, which will replace two existing machines. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to purchase a Xerox multifunction copier/printer from Alliance Document Technologies for an amount not to exceed \$14,151.00 utilizing Yucca Mountain funds; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Resolution to Streamline Utility Services: Mr. Damele explained that the District Attorney drafted a resolution outlining steps necessary to begin the process of combining all utility systems (Eureka, Crescent Valley, and Devil's Gate) under one ordinance and one rate structure. The first step will be the process of conveying all water rights into the name of Eureka County.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adopt the Resolution of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners to Streamline the Provision of Utility Services to the Residents of Eureka County, and authorized the Chairman to sign the related deeds and documents outside of the meeting; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Eureka, Nevada

November 6, 2017

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS TO STREAMLINE THE PROVISION OF UTILITY
SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF EUREKA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Eureka County Commissioners (the Board) also serves as the Board of the Devil's Gate General Improvement District; and

WHEREAS, the Board is therefore responsible for carrying out the authority and obligations that come with properly running and maintaining several utility systems which serve the two unincorporated towns of Eureka and Crescent Valley (with the assistance of the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board), and the area served by the Devil's Gate General Improvement District; and

WHEREAS, the Board utilizes three separate Titles in the Eureka County Code to carry out that authority and those obligations, with different rules and regulations contained in Titles 12 (Eureka), Title 13 (Crescent Valley), and Title 14 (Devil's Gate) applicable to each system; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the financial benefit of consolidating these utility systems to avoid confusion and to save time and money in a unified administration of the systems, and applying identical rules, regulations, practices and procedures; and

WHEREAS, in order to realize this simplicity of administration and financial benefit, several steps are necessary and appropriate; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board shall carry out the following steps to streamline the provision of utility services to the residents of Eureka County:

1. Sitting as the Devil's Gate General Improvement District (GID) Board, consider and pass a resolution offering all property and liability, including all debt held by the GID, to the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.
2. Sitting as the Board, consider and pass a consent to the conveyance offered by the GID, but without exception (conveyance must be all or nothing).
3. Prepare a certificate of conveyance to be approved and signed by the GID, the Board, and signed by the Clerk of the unincorporated Town of Eureka (i.e. the County Clerk).
4. Cause the fully executed certificate of conveyance to be filed with both the Secretary of State and the County Clerk's Office.
5. Discuss and approve an ordinance to consolidate Titles 12, 13, and 14 of the Eureka County Code regarding utility systems, to be effective upon GID dissolution, and to apply to all utility systems in Eureka County.
6. Discuss and approve as part of the consolidated ordinance a consolidated and simplified fee schedule and areas of service applicable to all utility systems.
7. File paperwork necessary to identify all property and assets of the once separate utility systems in the name of Eureka County, a political subdivision of the State of Nevada.

8. Place action items on subsequent agendas to carry out these steps.

RESOLVED this 6th day of November 2017.

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea
Chairman of the Board
Eureka County Commissioners

ATTEST: /s/ Jackie Berg
Commissioner Clerk

ASSESSOR / IT NETWORK

Progress of AS400 Conversion: Assessor and IT/Network Supervisor, Michael Mears, provided an update on progress of the conversion from the AS400 system (Advanced Data Systems). Mr. Mears gave a brief explanation of how the servers are being configured to meet the needs of all departments and their selected vendors. An additional server was approved at the last meeting and he does not believe any more will be required.

He relayed status of conversion for the various departments. The Recorder selected Helion Software, Inc., and the system is in operation, with the exception of some specialized document search features that are yet to be installed. There were some document migration issues, but they are working to resolve those.

The Comptroller's office selected Tyler Technologies and they are three weeks ahead of schedule on initiating the program. A Tyler representative will spend a week here in January to observe and work on integration of the accounts payable and payroll processes. Data conversion will begin in February.

The Clerk's voting program will be through VOTEC Corporation. This decision was made in conjunction with other counties and the Secretary of State, since voting systems must be compatible State-wide. It should be installed by the end of December.

A decision has not yet been made on a court case management program. The 7th Judicial District Court encompasses three counties and the District Judges will be involved in this decision. Mr. Mears expects existing hardware and equipment to support whatever program is selected.

Jury management will be done utilizing the OnBase program from Precision Document Imaging. The cost will be minimal since OnBase programs are already in place in several departments, including the Clerk's office. This may be a temporary solution, as Mr. Mears and IT Manager, Misty Rowley, are working on building an in-house jury management program.

The Assessor and Treasurer chose DEVNET, Inc., for the tax program. A handful of Assessors and Treasurers were appointed to a design committee to work on behalf of the 12 counties who selected DEVNET. Mr. Mears serves on this design committee. After multiple development and design sessions to customize the program for Nevada, Mr. Mears believes they are about 90% complete. They expect to have the program installed by January or February.

Above All Communications, LLC: The contract with Above All Communications, LLC (AAC), dba Express Internet will expire on January 7, 2018. This is a mutually beneficial contract where AAC provides internet service to several County buildings and facilities in exchange for utilizing County infrastructure for their private business as an Internet Service Provider to the residents of Eureka County.

In 2016, Kyle Moore and Don Meldrum (owners of AAC) offered to sell their business to Eureka County, including all equipment that serves both County government and private residents. The County declined and instead extended the contract with AAC.

Mr. Mears and Ms. Rowley have been researching equipment needs and costs to replace the AAC infrastructure that is the sole internet provider to certain County facilities. Should this be the direction the Board chooses to go in the future, it would need to be considered in the budget, so it's unlikely anything could be done before next July.

In the meantime, Mr. Mears sought direction in regards to a possible contract extension. Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to have Mr. Mears approach Above All Communications, LLC, to seek a six-month contract extension and, additionally, to invite them to visit with the Commissioners when budget talks begin to discuss future plans of both Eureka County and AAC. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Temporary Radio Dish for McEwen Mining: Mr. Mears explained that McEwen Mining is going to lease the building on Main Street in Eureka that was formerly occupied by General Moly. Sky Fiber Internet is working with AT&T to install aerial fiber along Buel Street from the AT&T building to the McEwen Mining office.

In the meantime they have requested permission to install a radio dish on the tower on the roof of the County Courthouse. They originally intended to install a 12-inch dish, but now plan to utilize a radio dish closer to 1½-inches in size. The dish installation is a temporary solution, as they expect to have the aerial fiber installed in about 30 days (after originally estimating 90 days).

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to allow Sky Fiber Internet to install a small radio dish on the roof of the County Courthouse to transmit a signal to the McEwen Mining office for a period not to exceed 90 days; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

SENIOR CENTERS

Update Report: Senior Centers Program Director, Millie Oram, reported (via telephone from Crescent Valley) on activities at the Eureka Senior Center and Fannie Komp Senior Center. In October, Eureka served 584 meals and Crescent Valley served 559 meals. A total of \$7,053.00 was deposited for the month.

HEALTH INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Resignation of Toni Wright: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to accept Toni Wright's resignation from the Health Insurance Advisory Committee, effective immediately, and directed the Committee to begin advertising for the two existing vacancies, one representing Courthouse employees and one representing retirees. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Insurance Negotiations: HIAC representatives, Jayme Halpin, Vice Chair, and Joyce Jeppesen, Secretary, were in attendance to provide the Committee's recommendations related to insurance plans and premiums for benefited employees and retirees for Calendar Year 2018.

Insurance broker, John Carlson of Benefit Intelligence, sought interested providers for medical, dental, vision, and life insurance for Calendar Year 2018. Nearly half of all insurance carriers who responded to the initial contact declined to provide a quote. In fact, out of the five medical carriers who responded, only one company agreed to submit a quote. The reasons cited were the high average age of current employees (53), the high number of retirees on the plans (28%), and the rural location.

In negotiating plans, the Committee considered the Cadillac tax scheduled to take effect in 2020. This is the Affordable Care Act's (Obamacare) high-cost plan tax (HCPT), which will assess a penalty tax on employers with plans exceeding certain premium thresholds. Due to this, the Committee negotiated plans with higher deductibles and lower premiums. If the tax is not repealed, this is the direction the Committee will continue to move in subsequent years.

Calendar Year 2018 Recommendations: The Committee negotiated three medical plans with Prominence Health. Deductibles were increased, but the overall premiums were reduced by 8.9% - a premium savings to the County and any employees paying dependent premiums. Deductibles were increased by \$500.00 on the two POS Plans and by \$1,000.00 on the HD Plan, but it was noted that the HD Plan still does not require patient co-pays, thanks to persistence on the part of the Committee. (Note: The POS Plans are Point-of-Service Plans and the HD Plan is a Health Savings Account High Deductible Plan).

Dental, vision, and life insurance plans were negotiated with Standard Insurance Company. The Committee opted to move away from Guardian Dental due to billing problems.

Selected Plans: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to accept the insurance proposals for Calendar Year 2018 and to select Prominence Health Plan for medical plans (POS Core 5, POS Core 11, & HD Core 4) and Standard Insurance Company for dental, vision, and life plans, and authorized the Chairman to sign any agreements or contracts outside of the meeting. Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Sponsored Medical Plan: Employees may select from the three health plans offered, but premiums paid by the County are calculated on the sponsored plan.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to designate Prominence POS Core 5 (\$1,500.00 deductible plan) as the sponsored plan for Calendar Year 2018, and to reaffirm that dependent coverage subsidy rates for benefited employees are 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 Etchegaray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The dependent subsidy rate for elected officials and salaried employees remains at 100%.

Insurance Premiums 01/01/2018 thru 12/31/2018 (70/30 Split)**								
Classification	\$1500 POS Core 5	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 70/30**	
Employee	932.58	42.34	7.48	14.58	996.98	996.98	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1706.58	89.28	16.40	16.97	1829.23	1579.56	249.68	
Empl+Child(ren)	1650.65	107.78	14.68	16.97	1790.08	1552.15	237.93	
Empl+Family	2247.50	154.72	23.60	16.97	2442.79	2009.05	433.74	
Classification	\$2000 POS Core 11	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 70/30**	
Employee	885.14	42.34	7.48	14.58	949.54	949.54	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1619.75	89.28	16.40	16.97	1742.40	1579.56	162.85	
Empl+Child(ren)	1566.65	107.78	14.68	16.97	1706.08	1552.15	153.93	
Empl+Family	2133.15	154.72	23.60	16.97	2328.44	2009.05	319.39	
Classification	\$4000 HSA HD Core 4	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 70/30**	HSA HD Core 4*
Employee	723.20	42.34	7.48	14.58	787.60	787.60	0.00	829.27
Empl+Spouse	1323.43	89.28	16.40	16.97	1446.08	1446.08	0.00	1487.75
Empl+Child(ren)	1280.05	107.78	14.68	16.97	1419.48	1419.48	0.00	1461.15
Empl+Family	1742.91	154.72	23.60	16.97	1938.20	1938.20	0.00	1906.14
* The HSA HD Core 4 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 01/01/2018 thru 12/31/2018 (60/40 Split)**

Classification	\$1500 POS Core 5	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 60/40**	
Employee	932.58	42.34	7.48	14.58	996.98	996.98	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1706.58	89.28	16.40	16.97	1829.23	1496.33	332.90	
Empl+Child(ren)	1650.65	107.78	14.68	16.97	1790.08	1472.84	317.24	
Empl+Family	2247.50	154.72	23.60	16.97	2442.79	1864.47	578.32	
Classification	\$2000 POS Core 11	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 60/40**	
Employee	885.14	42.34	7.48	14.58	949.54	949.54	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1619.75	89.28	16.40	16.97	1742.40	1496.33	246.07	
Empl+Child(ren)	1566.65	107.78	14.68	16.97	1706.08	1472.84	233.24	
Empl+Family	2133.15	154.72	23.60	16.97	2328.44	1864.47	463.97	
Classification	\$4000 HSA HD Core 4	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 60/40**	HSA HD Core 4*
Employee	723.20	42.34	7.48	14.58	787.60	787.60	0.00	829.27
Empl+Spouse	1323.43	89.28	16.40	16.97	1446.08	1446.08	0.00	1487.75
Empl+Child(ren)	1280.05	107.78	14.68	16.97	1419.48	1419.48	0.00	1461.15
Empl+Family	1742.91	154.72	23.60	16.97	1938.20	1864.47	73.73	1906.14

* The HSA HD Core 4 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 01/01/2018 thru 12/31/2018 (50/50 Split)**

Classification	\$1500 POS Core 5	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 50/50**	
Employee	932.58	42.34	7.48	14.58	996.98	996.98	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1706.58	89.28	16.40	16.97	1829.23	1413.11	416.13	
Empl+Child(ren)	1650.65	107.78	14.68	16.97	1790.08	1393.53	396.55	
Empl+Family	2247.50	154.72	23.60	16.97	2442.79	1719.89	722.91	
Classification	\$2000 POS Core 11	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 50/50**	
Employee	885.14	42.34	7.48	14.58	949.54	949.54	0.00	
Empl+Spouse	1619.75	89.28	16.40	16.97	1742.40	1413.11	329.30	
Empl+Child(ren)	1566.65	107.78	14.68	16.97	1706.08	1393.53	312.55	
Empl+Family	2133.15	154.72	23.60	16.97	2328.44	1719.89	608.56	
Classification	\$4000 HSA HD Core 4	Dental	Vision	Life	Total Premium	County	Employee 50/50**	HSA HD Core 4*
Employee	723.20	42.34	7.48	14.58	787.60	787.60	0.00	829.27
Empl+Spouse	1323.43	89.28	16.40	16.97	1446.08	1413.11	32.98	1454.78
Empl+Child(ren)	1280.05	107.78	14.68	16.97	1419.48	1393.53	25.95	1435.20
Empl+Family	1742.91	154.72	23.60	16.97	1938.20	1719.89	218.32	1761.56

* The HSA HD Core 4 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 01/01/2018 thru 12/31/2018

Employees & < 65 Retiree	\$1500 POS Core 5	\$2000 POS Core 11	\$4000 HSA HD Core 4	Dental	Vision	Life
Employee	932.58	885.14	723.20	42.34	7.48	14.58
Empl+Spouse	1706.58	1619.75	1323.43	89.28	16.40	16.97
Empl+Child(ren)	1650.65	1566.65	1280.05	107.78	14.68	16.97
Empl+Family	2247.50	2133.15	1742.91	154.72	23.60	16.97
Retiree with Medicare A&B	\$1500 POS Core 5	\$2000 POS Core 11	\$4000 HSA HD Core 4	Dental	Vision	Life
Retiree	727.68	693.26	N/A	42.34	7.48	14.58
Retiree+Spouse (one with)	1491.51	1418.38	N/A	89.28	16.40	16.97
Retiree+Spouse (both with)	1287.83	1227.66	N/A	89.28	16.40	16.97
Retiree+Child(ren)	1279.47	1219.11	N/A	107.78	14.68	16.97
Retiree+Family (one with)	1941.05	1846.19	N/A	154.72	23.60	16.97
Retiree+Family (both with)	1660.00	1583.04	N/A	154.72	23.60	16.97

Retiree Insurance Subsidy Rates: The Board continued review of the County’s subsidy rates offered to retirees who stay enrolled in the County’s group insurance. Based on years of service with the County, retirees receive anywhere from \$117.40 to \$645.67 monthly. These rates are higher than what the State of Nevada provides through the Public Employee Benefits Program (PEBP).

Several years ago, the County decided to sunset this benefit and employees hired after July 1, 2009, are no longer eligible. The County has a fund in place to cover this expense, but an additional \$11 million is needed to sustain the program as it exists today. This is based on a recent actuarial report that looked at current retirees, eligible employees not yet retired, and estimated life spans. This has compelled the Commissioners to look into possible changes to this post-employment benefit.

Medicare-Eligible Retirees & Other Options: The Board briefly discussed options that may be deliberated. The Chairman would like to look into requiring retirees to enroll in Medicare upon eligibility and be removed from the subsidy program at that point. A potential effective date would have to be discussed to allow employees time to plan for retirement. He was not in favor of changing the benefit for current retirees, feeling they depended on the benefit when making their retirement decisions.

Commissioner Etchegaray suggested phasing the program out by decreasing the rates a small percentage each year and felt this should apply to everyone, including current and future retirees. The Chairman agreed that the Board should consider some cost saving measures and potential effective dates, but still had reluctance towards making changes that would affect existing retirees.

The Commissioners agreed that this warrants serious discussion during upcoming budget planning, but felt they weren’t ready to take immediate action on any changes. With no action taken, the following rates remain effective for Calendar Year 2018.

EUREKA COUNTY RETIREE - County Health Insurance Premium Plan Subsidy Effective January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018		
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 2018 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.

Additional Cost Considerations: The District Attorney understood the Board's need to control the post-employment benefit costs, but cautioned that major changes to the subsidy could cause a number of employees to take advantage of the opt-out provision outlined in the Personnel Policy. This allows the employee to opt-out of receiving the retiree health insurance subsidy in exchange for the County matching a purchase of retirement credit through PERS (Public Employees Retirement System). This could result in a substantial expense to the County. A cost comparison should be prepared before any major decisions are made.

Chairman Goicoechea asked the Health Insurance Advisory Committee to work with the Comptroller's office to determine employees eligible for the health insurance subsidy and what the cost could potentially be if they chose the opt-out provision versus the cost of receiving the subsidy. He asked that they try to provide this information by the December 7th meeting.

SHERIFF

ARC Health & Wellness: Sheriff Keith Logan explained that the County had an agreement written into the previous contracts with Nevada Health Centers for law enforcement physicals to be performed for a fee of \$550.00. This same condition was not included in the contract with William Bee Ririe Hospital. The first law enforcement physical completed at the local clinic by WBR cost a little over \$1,900.00 (negotiated down from about \$2,700.00). Since physicals were budgeted at \$550.00, the Sheriff's budget simply will not sustain these costs.

The State of Nevada has an agreement with ARC Health & Wellness that includes law enforcement physicals (pre-hire under 40; pre-hire over 40; general heart/lung under 40; and general heart/lung over 40) with prices ranging from around \$320.00 to \$505.00.

ARC has offices in Sparks and Las Vegas. They have a mobile van that travels around the State and can visit Eureka. Mobile stops include Battle Mountain and Ely, so these locations could be utilized as well. Pre-hires are sent to Carson City for psychological evaluations, so pre-hire physicals at the Sparks location would be incorporated into the same trip.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize the Eureka County Sheriff's Office to joiner onto ARC's Master Service Agreement #3148 with the State of Nevada for provision of law enforcement physicals, effective November 1, 2017, through June 30, 2019, and authorized the Sheriff to sign the agreement. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Hiring Freeze Waiver Justification – Dispatcher: Sheriff Logan submitted the required documentation requesting authorization to fill a Dispatcher position that just became vacant due to a transfer within his department. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize the Sheriff to hire a replacement Communications/Dispatcher; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

HEALTHY PAWS OF EUREKA

Grant Request: Healthy Paws of Eureka is a State-licensed organization that helps control over-population of cats and dogs through wellness programs, a \$30.00 spay or neuter incentive, and other related services utilizing volunteers and local veterinarians.

Currently the biggest problem is the feral cat issue. The most recent incident involved over 40 cats. Homes were found for the few healthy cats, but most tested positive for Feline Leukemia or Feline AIDS. The test for these diseases is \$30.00; if humane euthanasia is required, it costs an additional \$60.00. Healthy Paws has received report of a similar problem in Crescent Valley involving numerous cats, as well as multiple individual requests for assistance.

Donations have been received from Friends of Healthy Paws, Kinross Gold, and local businesses, but Healthy Paws of Eureka is currently in debt and must suspend services, so Ms. Beutel was hoping the County could help.

As State Veterinarian, Chairman Goicoechea is all too familiar with the problem, and stated it is something every community throughout the State deals with. It was even a topic in the most recent session of the State Legislature.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to grant \$5,000.00 to Healthy Paws of Eureka to be funded from the Commissioner Grants budget line item; Chairman Goicoechea seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

FAIR BOARD

Resignation of Crystal Hubbard: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to accept the resignation of Crystal Hubbard from the Fair Board, effective December 1st; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Report on Activities: Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts, reported on recent activities. Mr. Tibbitts attended a portion of the Nevada Weed Management Association Annual Conference in Reno on October 25th regarding invasive weeds and grasses. On October 26th, he attended the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority Executive Committee meeting in Winnemucca via telephone, along with Commissioner Etchegaray who serves as an alternate.

The County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife met on the evening of October 26th. Two topics of discussion were commercial antler gatherers, who are becoming a problem in the State, and the increasing use of trail cameras by hunters. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners is working on regulations to address these issues.

Mr. Tibbitts and Chairman Goicoechea attended a coordination meeting in Reno on November 1st with sage grouse counties and legal counsel. The Eureka Conservation District annual dinner was held on November 2nd at the Eureka Opera House with over 100 attendees.

Upcoming Meetings: Upcoming meetings include the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts Annual Meeting in Minden November 7th & 8th. The Natural Resources Conservation Service's Nevada State Technical Advisory Committee is meeting in Reno on November 9th. Mr. Tibbitts will attend because the Eureka Conservation District has worked for NRCS to provide better funding options for irrigation practices in Diamond Valley. The Natural Resources Advisory Commission will meet on November 14th. The next Groundwater Management Plan full group meeting is on November 15th. The Diamond Valley Rodent Control District Board is meeting the afternoon of November 15th. The Nevada Section, Society for Range Management is holding their winter meeting in Winnemucca on November 16th.

Newmont Mill 1 Project: Mr. Tibbitts prepared a letter supporting the Newmont Gold draft Water Pollution Control Permit for closure of their Mill 1 Project. The letter supports the State's plans intended to assess and protect degradation of water resources related to this project.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to send the letter to Nevada Division of Environmental Protection supporting the Water Pollution Control Permit for closure of Newmont Gold's Mill 1 Project; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Draft EA – North American Eagle Land Speed Record Challenger Proposal: Mr. Tibbitts prepared a comment letter on the Draft EA for the North American Eagle Land Speed Record Challenger Proposal. North American Eagle plans to attempt setting a land speed record on the playa in Diamond Valley utilizing 18 miles of the existing access road that runs along the playa. They have plans for a staging area, monitoring stations before and during the event, radio control, etc. No specific date has been identified other than it will take place when the playa is dry and the conditions are right.

The letter supports the proposed action but asks for close coordination with the Eureka County Sheriff prior and during the event and also asks for coordination with the permittee regarding any livestock that may be grazing in the area.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to send the letter to the BLM, Mount Lewis Field Office, supporting the North American Eagle Land Speed Record Challenger Proposal with the conditions stated; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Sage Grouse Plan Amendments: The County received an invitation from the BLM to be a Cooperating Agency in the amendment process related to the Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendments within Nevada. This amendment process is in response to Department of the Interior Secretarial Order 3353 (Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation & Cooperation with Western States). Three public scoping meetings are scheduled November 7th in Reno, November 8th in Elko, and November 9th in Ely. Mr. Tibbitts will attend the meeting in Ely.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to accept Cooperating Agency status in the BLM's preparation of a Land Use Plan Amendment within Nevada Regarding Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation and to return the response form naming Mr. Tibbitts as the point of contact. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Sage Grouse Issues: Mr. Tibbitts continues preparing scoping comments for the Supplemental EIS on the BLM and US Forest Service Greater Sage Grouse Land Use Plan Amendments. The Supplemental EIS is a direct result of the Judge's Order issued earlier this year in US District Court in Reno that partially remanded the Record of Decision back to the BLM. Comments on the Supplemental EIS are due November 27th.

As mentioned earlier, Mr. Tibbitts and the Chairman attended a meeting of sage grouse counties on November 1st. The focus of the meeting was for counties to make a concerted and coordinated effort in addressing the Supplemental EIS. Five top issues were identified during the meeting as focus for the scoping comments and everyone felt that any additional issues would directly fall under one of the five identified topics. All counties plan to have an association in place with Laura Granier, Esq., who is now with Holland & Hart, LLP.

Counties also need to address interim management issues because of the portions of the federal Land Use Plan Amendments that are in force right now.

Mr. Tibbitts recommended authorizing \$5,000.00 to be used for the Supplemental EIS and \$5,000.00 for the interim management. The money may not all be used, but this will make it available.

Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to authorize \$5,000.00 to be used towards costs to prepare comments on the Supplemental EIS for the federal Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendments, including engaging Laura Granier, Esq., and authorized an additional \$5,000.00 to be used towards interim management related to the federal Land Use Plan Amendments already in force, with this \$10,000.00 funded from the Natural Resources Multiple Use Protection Fund. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Resignation of Jim Wise: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to accept the resignation of Jim Wise from the Natural Resources Advisory Commission; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD

Crescent Valley Community Christmas Event: The Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board submitted a letter with several requests for their upcoming Christmas festivities.

Waive Facility Fee: Commissioner Etchegaray motioned to waive the facility fee for the Crescent Valley Community Center for the Community Christmas Event scheduled for December 22nd; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Community Christmas Event Supplies: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned authorize up to \$1,200.00 from the North End Activities Fund for the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board to purchase supplies and treats for the Community Christmas Event; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Christmas Home Decorating Contest: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to authorize the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board to use up to \$450.00 from the North End Activities Fund to purchase Visa gift cards as prizes for the Christmas Home Decorating Contest; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CRESCENT VALLEY PARADE OF LIGHTS

Parade of Lights Prizes: A letter was received from Eldon Brown requesting funds to provide prizes for the Parade of Lights to be held on December 22nd. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve up to \$500.00 from the North End Activities Fund for the purchase of Visa gift cards to be used as prizes for the 2017 Parade of Lights; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: Crystal Hubbard; Toni Wright; Jim Wise; Eldon Brown; Tina Hubbard; Healthy Paws of Eureka; Sheriff Keith Logan; Clerk & Treasurer, Beverly Conley (3); Public Works, Ron Damele; Public Works, Leah Smith; EMS Coordinator, Mike Sullivan; Health Insurance Advisory Committee; Medical Clinics Advisory Committee; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board (2); Express Internet, Kyle Moore; Nevada Assoc. of Counties (5); Great Basin College; Sky Fiber Internet; Legal Shield/ID Shield enrollment flyer; Nevada Div. of Environmental Protection (2); Nevada Dept. of Taxation; Nevada Div. of Water Resources; US Dept. of the Interior, BLM, Nevada State Office; US Bankruptcy Court; National Assoc. of Counties; US House Committee on Natural Resources; US Navy (2); and White House Convention & Tour invite.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Goicoechea called for public comments; there were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m.; Commissioner Etchegaray seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Approved by vote of the Board this 20th day of November, 2017.

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

I, Jackie Berg, Commissioner Clerk, attest that these are a true, correct, and duly approved minutes of the November 6th, 2017, meeting of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.

/s/ Jackie Berg
Jackie Berg, Commissioner Clerk

I, Beverly Conley, Clerk & Treasurer of Eureka County, acknowledge and accept the attached minutes as approved by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and attested to by the Commissioner Clerk.

/s/ Beverly Conley
Beverly Conley, Clerk & Treasurer