

**WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSION
RENO CITY COUNCIL**

JOINT MEETING

TUESDAY

9:00 A.M.

JANUARY 15, 2002

Present:

Pete Sferrazza, Washoe County Commission, Chairman
Joanne Bond, Washoe County Commission, Vice Chairman
Jim Galloway, Washoe County Commission
Jim Shaw, Washoe County Commission

Jeff Griffin, City of Reno, Mayor
Dave Aiazzi, Reno City Councilmember
Toni Harsh, Reno City Councilmember
Pierre Hascheff, Reno City Councilmember

Absent:

Ted Short, Washoe County Commission
Sherrie Doyle, Reno City Councilmember
Dave Rigdon, Reno City Councilmember
Jessica Sferrazza-Hogan, Reno City Councilmember

The Washoe County Commission and the Reno City Council met in joint session in the Council Chambers of Reno City Hall, 490 South Center Street, Reno, Nevada. Also present were Washoe County Manager Katy Singlaub, Assistant District Attorney Madelyn Shipman, County Clerk Amy Harvey, Reno City Manager Charles McNeely, Reno City Deputy Attorney Randall Edwards, and Reno City Clerk Don Cook. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerks called the rolls for their respective entities, and the Board and Council conducted the following business:

AGENDA

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Councilmember Aiazzi, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the agenda for the January 15, 2002, joint meeting be approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sam Dehne, area resident, expressed his concern about various issues within the community.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING ACQUISITION AND
CONSTRUCTION OF A SENIOR MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY**

Sam Dehne, area resident, objected to moving the senior center and said the current building is a perfectly good building.

Councilmember Aiazzi said he has met with staff members from Reno and the County on this issue and would like to work together to reach a conclusion on this matter.

Councilmember Hascheff said that he and Commissioner Bond serve on the Senior Advisory Board and they had heard the center might be moved. He and Commissioner Bond felt that issue should be brought to the political level and suggested that the City partner with the County to provide senior services.

Commissioner Bond stated that the Commissioners have not seen or heard any proposals to relocate the senior center. She said the City needs to move forward with the action they need to take regarding the issuance of bonds, but at this point the Board is not considering any proposals concerning the relocation of the senior center.

Commissioner Galloway said he will be serving on the Senior Advisory Board for the County, and at this time there is nothing planned to remove services from the current facility.

Chairman Sferrazza said the current facility is near senior housing, which makes it more accessible to seniors, and if staff is considering a new facility he would want to see it remain near senior housing.

On motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Bond, which motion duly carried, Chairman Sferrazza ordered that this item be continued to a future agenda.

**02-44 PROPOSAL TO CREATE COMMITTEES TO REVIEW AND
PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO POTENTIAL
FISCAL EQUITY SOLUTIONS**

Sam Dehne, area resident, expressed concern about the wording of this item on the agenda. He said he agrees that consolidation of governments is a good idea, noting that fiscal equity is a very tough issue.

Chairman Sferrazza submitted and reviewed the document entitled "Discussion Proposal for Regional Government," listing issues regarding regionalization of government and potential solutions, which he drafted with input from Councilmembers Aiazzi and Hascheff. He stated that the Boards need to start somewhere and this document can be a starting point for discussion.

Councilmember Hascheff said the document is for discussion purposes only and to start dialogue on whether or not the Boards would like to see these things accomplished. He advised that he is a proponent for regional government.

Councilmember Aiazzi said he agrees with consolidating services if the City of Reno and Washoe County could agree on the cost and levels of service and maybe down the road phase in government.

Commissioner Shaw said he agrees wholeheartedly with regionalizing government. He asked if anyone had discussed the concept with the City of Sparks, noting that he is aware Sparks is not interested in joining in consolidation at this time. He commented that the proposal submitted by Chairman Sferrazza is a good starting point for the Boards.

Councilmember Harsh said she is very happy to see this proposal and also views it as a starting point for discussion. She stated that she is also a proponent for regionalizing government.

Commissioner Galloway said he believes the document really is just a starting point for discussion, noting that it would be hard to track the consequences of some of the proposals. He said he agrees with phased in regionalization. Once consolidation occurred and the Board was in place maybe they could consider transportation issues for the area as well. He asked who would be in control of the budget issues. Councilmember Aiazzi said prior to entering into consolidation, an agreement would already be in place concerning levels of service, costs, etc., that would include the City of Sparks as well.

Mayor Griffin agreed the proposal is a good starting point for discussion and advised he would be more comfortable with a committee making recommendations to the Boards on specific issues for consideration at joint meetings.

Chairman Sferrazza said he would like to see an advisory question on the 2002 ballot to determine the citizen's thoughts about consolidated services and governments. He noted that, if the regional plan was not finalized by that time, there would probably be no buy in by the entities or the public. Mayor Griffin said the regional plan is not scheduled to come back to the Boards until March and believes there could be some type of resolution to the plan. Commissioner Galloway said this is an important issue and both entities have to reach an agreement in order for the legislature to support consolidation and regionalization of services and government.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, advised that they would need to have the language drafted by the third Monday in July in order to have this on the ballot. Madelyn Shipman, Legal Counsel, reminded the Board that they need to have a pro/con argument as well, and that everything should be drafted and to the Board for approval by the end of June.

Councilmember Aiazzi said that the committees appointed could meet weekly and submit their recommendations to the Boards at joint meetings. Mrs. Singlaub reminded the Boards that committees appointed by them will have to follow the open meeting law, i.e. noticing requirements, minutes, etc.

On motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Bond, which motion duly carried, Chairman Sferrazza ordered the following:

- a) Establish committee rules for the 3 advisory committees by the next joint meeting;
- b) Determine the number of members from each entity to be appointed to the committees;
- c) Determine when and where the committees will meet; and
- d) Recommendations shall be made by the committees to the Board and Councils for consideration at joint meetings.

**02-45 REVIEW OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL SERVICES PROVIDED
BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN WASHOE COUNTY**

Sam Dehne, area resident, said that public comment should be made at the end of each item so that the public has a chance to comment on staff's presentation.

Councilmember Aiazzi said the document entitled "services provided by Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County" should be reviewed by the committee and recommendations made to the Boards on which services should be regional and/or municipal.

Commissioner Shaw said he is concerned that the Sparks City Council is not present for this discussion. Leann McElroy, Chief of Staff, City of Reno, said that staff from Sparks is aware of this document and will be provided a copy of all of the documents submitted today.

On motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Bond, which motion duly carried, Chairman Sferrazza ordered that the review of regional and local services provided by local governments in Washoe County be reviewed by the yet to be appointed "Finance Committee," for recommendations to the Boards.

**02-46 CURRENT FORMULA FOR DISTRIBUTION OF
CONSOLIDATED TAXES**

Darin Conforti, Washoe County Finance Department, reviewed the January 8, 2002, staff report on Consolidated Tax Distribution, prepared by John Sherman, Terri Thomas and John Hester.

Councilmember Hascheff asked if they could pool their revenues for regional services and apply the balance to municipal services without going to the legislature. Mr. Conforti stated that the jurisdiction would be for a new township and for distribution of taxes for that township. Commissioner Galloway said a new law would have to be passed for consolidated services.

Councilmember Aiazzi said if regional services are established, staff could then look at the distribution formula.

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Commissioner Shaw announced the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Regional Public Safety Training Center on Thursday, January 17, 2002, at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Griffin introduced Washoe County's new Assistant County Manager, Michelle Poche'.

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There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

PETER J. SFERRAZZA, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST: AMY HARVEY, County Clerk

*Minutes Prepared by
Jeraldine Magee
Deputy County Clerk*