

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

MARCH 25, 2008

PRESENT:

Bob Larkin, Chairman
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
David Humke, Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Commissioner

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Dave Childs, Assistant County Manager
Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel

ABSENT:

Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairman

The Board met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, read the following statement, "The Chairman and Board of County Commissioners intend that their proceedings should demonstrate the highest levels of decorum, civic responsibility, efficiency and mutual respect between citizens and their government. The Board respects the right of citizens to present differing opinions and views, even criticism, but our democracy cannot function effectively in an environment of personal attacks, slander, threats of violence and willful disruption. To that end, the Nevada Open Meeting Law provides the authority for the Chair of a public body to maintain the decorum and to declare a recess if needed to remove any person who is disrupting the meeting, and notice is hereby provided of the intent of this body to preserve the decorum and remove anyone who disrupts the proceedings."

08-261 AGENDA ITEM 3 – PROCLAMATION

Agenda Subject: "Proclamation - April 2008 as Fair Housing Month."

Commissioner Jung read and presented the Proclamation in honor of Fair Housing Month to Sherry Manning on behalf of the Commission.

Ms. Manning stated she was the President of the Board of Trustees for the Silver State Fair Housing Council. She thanked the Board for this honor on behalf of the

Board of Trustees. She said as the 40th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act was celebrated, everyone needed to be mindful of the fact that housing discrimination still happened throughout the Country. She advised the County's support was needed and appreciated to help promote the goal of equal housing opportunities for all members of the community.

Ms. Manning acknowledged the Board's support of the Silver State Fair Housing Council's 12th annual poster contest, which had over 400 entries this year from Washoe County school children. She explained the theme was "Open Hearts and Open Neighborhoods," which envisioned a community where people related as neighbors instead of stereotypes. She said some of the posters were displayed in County buildings, and she invited the Commissioners to the awards presentation for the posters on April 5, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the Wilbur D. Mays Museum.

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne said the Fair Housing Act was one of the 25 greatest acts relative to the civilian community in the history of America because it evened the playing field.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 3 be adopted and executed.

08-262 AGENDA ITEM 4 – RESOLUTION

Agenda Subject: "Resolution of Recognition and Appreciation to the Washoe County Regional Water Planning Commission - Water Resources."

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, read and presented the Resolution of Recognition and Appreciation to Michael DeMartini, Regional Water Planning Commission Voting Member, and Jim Smitherman, Water Resources Program Manager.

Mr. Smitherman thanked the Commission. Mr. DeMartini thanked the Commission and the County's staff.

Commissioner Galloway thanked the Regional Water Planning Commission for the great job done on the comprehensive Water Management Plan. He said the plan was a very valuable tool because it was the first time a citizen could pick up one document to see where the County stood.

Chairman Larkin invited the members of the Regional Water Planning Commission to have a photo taken with the Board of County Commissioners.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, read the names of the members of the Regional Water Planning Commission and who they represented. She said their dedicated public service was sincerely appreciated.

Commissioner Galloway acknowledged the past members of the Regional Water Planning Commission. He thanked everyone, then and now, for their efforts.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 4 be adopted and executed.

08-263 AGENDA ITEM 5 – PUBLIC COMMENT

Agenda Subject: “Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to two minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Commission agenda. The Commission will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to two minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Commission as a whole.”

Jeff Church advised that the Washoe County web site was woefully out-of-date because there was no draft available of the Mt. Rose Scenic Corridor Plan, which the web site indicated would be available mid-February. He stated there was also no Forest Area Plan available for people to review. He indicated the Planning Commission would be meeting with the Galena Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) on April 10, 2008 to accept citizen input, but he wondered how citizen input could be provided if the Plan was not available for review. He said other Community Development and Commission web sites were updated this morning because of his complaints about them being out-of-date. He reminded the Board that the Nevada Open Meeting law required timely notification of these meetings, and he provided the time and location of the Forest Area Plan’s review.

Sam Dehne discussed his speech of two weeks ago so he could put it in context.

Gary Schmidt remarked the cause of the current County budget crisis was the improper assessment and application of fees based on the impact of growth. He placed a copy of his remarks on file with the Clerk.

08-264 AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda Subject: “Commissioners’/Manager’s Announcements, Requests for Information, Topics for Future Agendas and Statements Relating to Items Not on the Agenda. (No discussion among Commissioners will take place on this item.)”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, announced there was an addendum to the agenda that contained a revision of Agenda Item 7F(3), the authorization to bid Crystal Bay Utilities Undergrounding Project.

Chairman Larkin said he attended the opening of “Safe PlaceSM” off of Sullivan Lane in Sparks. He noted he received, on behalf of the County, a Certificate of Appreciation from Jim Kline, The Children’s Cabinet Chair, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He requested a presentation be scheduled to describe what “Safe PlaceSM” was all about.

Commissioner Galloway discussed the e-mail he received and forwarded to the other Commissioners that described the problems with government sponsored WI-FI. He said the e-mail reinforced his position that it was better to rely on others to supply WI-FI service. He felt rather than trying to run a government program, he suggested fostering competition and helping school children pay the subscription fee if they could not afford it.

Commissioner Jung requested a Mt. Rose Scenic Plan update and an update on the web site maintenance being done for all departments. She assumed there was a point person in each department that uploaded the information, and she wanted to make sure the web master was not getting undeserved ill will from the community. She felt it was important to keep the web site as up to date as possible as more and more people move to the digital age.

Commissioner Jung noted because a proclamation did not get on the agenda, she would present a proclamation herself on March 31st for Cesar Chavez’s birthday because she felt it was important to celebrate his work for laborers’ rights. She noted she would provide the details by the end of the meeting. She advised the public that her first town hall meeting was tomorrow, March 26th, from 6-8:00 p.m. at Regional Animal Services on Longley Lane.

CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS 7A THROUGH 7F(6)

Commissioner Galloway requested Item 7F(3), authorization for the Public Works Department to bid Crystal Bay Utilities Undergrounding Project, be pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion.

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne approved the Consent Agenda because it consisted mostly of housekeeping items.

08-265 AGENDA ITEM 7A – SHERIFF

Agenda Subject: “Accept grants (\$60,000 - no County match) and donations (\$228,963.47) from various businesses and individuals to be used by the Sheriff’s Crime Laboratory for processing and quality assurance review of the current backlog of DNA samples; pipettes and tips from the Hamilton Company (valued at \$2,200) to be used by the Crime Laboratory; and if accepted, direct Finance to make necessary budget adjustments - Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)”

Commissioner Galloway advised there was a tremendous community response to help with the DNA backlog in the wake of the Brianna Denison murder. The Commissioners took turns reading the names and dollar amounts of the individual and business donors. He said the donations totaled \$228,963.47, the grants totaled \$60,000 and an in-kind donation totaled \$2,200 for a grand total of \$291,163.47. The list of donors and grants were attached to the staff report dated March 25, 2008.

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne commented on the donations.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A be accepted and directed.

08-266 AGENDA ITEM 7B – RISK MANAGMENT

Agenda Subject: “Approve settlement of bodily injury claim of Victor Thorne [total \$50,000] - Risk Management.”

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7B be approved.

08-267 AGENDA ITEM 7C – MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Agenda Subject: “Adopt Washoe County Evacuation Plan and authorize County Emergency Manager to update the plan as necessary; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute Resolution necessary for same - Management Services. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7C be adopted, authorized, and executed.

08-268 AGENDA ITEM 7D(1) – DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Agenda Subject: “Approve payments [\$19,484.72] to vendors for assistance of 44 victims of sexual assault and authorize Comptroller to process same. NRS 217.310 requires payment by the County of total initial medical care of victims and of follow-up treatment costs of up to \$1,000 for victims, victim’s spouses and other eligible persons.”

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7D(1) be approved.

08-269 AGENDA ITEM 7D(2) – DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Agenda Subject: “Accept donation from the Law Office of Tammy M. Riggs [\$1,000] to cover additional facility construction costs on the C.A.R.E.S./S.A.R.T. Facility; and if accepted, direct Finance to make necessary budget adjustments.”

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Galloway thanked the Law Office of Tammy M. Riggs for the donation of \$1,000.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7D(2) be accepted and directed.

08-270 AGENDA ITEM 7E – TRUCKEE RIVER FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Agenda Subject: “Acknowledge receipt of Truckee River Flood Management Project Status Report for February 2008 - Truckee River Flood Management Project. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7E be acknowledged.

08-271 AGENDA ITEM 7F(1) – PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda Subject: “Accept monetary donations to Washoe County Regional Animal Services [\$2,622] to be used for the care and treatment of animals; that the County Commission express their appreciation for these thoughtful contributions; and if accepted, direct Finance to make appropriate budget adjustments - Animal Services. (All Commission Districts.)”

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Galloway thanked the donors for their monetary donations to the Washoe County Regional Animal Services. The list of donors was attached to the staff report dated March 25, 2008.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7F(1) be accepted, approved, and directed.

08-272 AGENDA ITEM 7F(2) – PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda Subject: “Authorize Public Works Department to bid the District Court-Family Court Additional Courtrooms Project at 1 South Sierra Street. (All Commissioner Districts.)”

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne commented about the bid.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7F(2) be authorized.

08-273 AGENDA ITEM 7F(4) – PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda Subject: “Approve and execute First Amendment to Lease Agreement between Washoe County and North Valley Babe Ruth League to implement charges for utilization of Parks property and in compliance with NRS 426.630 - 426.720; and further, extending the term of occupancy as allowed within the existing Lease Agreement [estimated revenue \$100 will be deposited into Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Cost Center 140100-460733]. (Commission District 5.)”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said Agenda Items 7F(4), 7F(5), and 7F(6) were lease agreements with various Little League entities. She indicated the staff report noted there was a contribution of 1 percent to the Nevada Bureau of Services for the Blind. She said the Attorney General’s Office advised staff that the contribution was not required because the entities were all not-for-profit enterprises that were staffed by volunteers.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7F(4) be approved and executed.

08-274 AGENDA ITEM 7F(5) – PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda Subject: “Approve and execute First Amendment to Lease Agreement between Washoe County and Silver State Cal Ripken to implement charges for utilization of Parks property and in compliance with NRS 426.630 - 426.720; and

further, extending the term of occupancy as allowed within the existing Lease Agreement [estimated revenue \$1,000 will be deposited into Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Cost Center 140100-460733]. (Commission District 5.)”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said Agenda Items 7F(4), 7F(5), and 7F(6) were lease agreements with various Little League entities. She indicated the staff report noted there was a contribution of 1 percent to the Nevada Bureau of Services for the Blind. She said the Attorney General’s Office advised staff that the contribution was not required because the entities were all not-for-profit enterprises that were staffed by volunteers.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7F(5) be approved and executed.

08-275 AGENDA ITEM 7F(6) – PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda Subject: “Approve and execute First Amendment to Lease Agreement between Washoe County and Sun Valley Cal Ripken to implement charges for utilization of Parks property in compliance with NRS 426.630 - 426.720; and further, extending the term of occupancy as allowed within the existing Lease Agreement [estimated revenue \$850 will be deposited into Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Cost Center 140100-460733]. (Commission District 5.)”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said Agenda Items 7F(4), 7F(5), and 7F(6) were lease agreements with various Little League entities. She indicated the staff report noted there was a contribution of 1 percent to the Nevada Bureau of Services for the Blind. She said the Attorney General’s Office advised staff that the contribution was not required because the entities were all not-for-profit enterprises that were staffed by volunteers.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7F(6) be approved and executed.

08-276 AGENDA ITEM 7F(3) – PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda Subject: “Authorize Public Works Department to bid Crystal Bay Utilities Undergrounding Project; and if authorized, approve the acceptance of outside contributions toward the cost of the project and authorize the Chairman to execute Agreement(s) memorializing same - Public Works. (Commission District 1.)”

In response to the call for public comment, Scott Tieche said he and his business partner gave a letter of intent to contribute towards this undergrounding project. He said he was told a number of his big-player neighbors were not contributing towards it, and he wondered why it should be important to him if it was not important to them. He commented the money he had agreed to contribute was a lot of money to him.

Commissioner Galloway noted that Dan St. John, Public Works Director, spoke to Mr. Tieche and that a number of people had made smaller contributions for which there were letters of intent. He indicated staff had been pursuing two larger contributions from the Cal Neva and from Boulder Bay, LLC, the redeveloper of the Biltmore. He said the agreement signed by the Biltmore was for \$600,000 plus some interest on a \$1.8-\$1.9 million project. He stated the Cal Neva agreement should be received soon and staff was hopeful that other offered contributions would be in hand before the contract was awarded. He stated he was also pursuing other possibilities because the County always wanted to leverage its money.

Commissioner Galloway advised the utility undergrounding fund was set up some years ago and was funded by a percentage of the franchise fee that most governments put into their General Fund. He said after the completion of this project, guidelines might be set up for some neighborhood projects for which people could apply.

Chairman Larkin noted Commissioner Galloway was successful in getting Boulder Bay, LLC to commit to \$600,000 that would be paid in two \$300,000 installments, but was still seeking money from NAMCAL, LLC. Commissioner Galloway replied that was correct.

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Mr. St. John stated staff was comfortable in going out to bid. He advised staff had been working with the various utility companies involved in the lowering of lines and was still working with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and Placer County. Mr. St. John indicated the building season in Lake Tahoe was very short, so staff tries to bid the projects as early in the year as possible to obtain good contractors and bid prices.

Commissioner Galloway commented this was not a neighborhood project, but a project at the entrance to Lake Tahoe. He stated the first impression of hundreds of thousands of people was a sign surrounded by utility wires. He felt the undergrounding tied into other redevelopment projects, one of which was being done by Boulder Bay, LLC.

Chairman Larkin asked if Commissioner Galloway intended to move forward with other private funding. Commissioner Galloway confirmed he was; and, if one failed, he would pursue others.

Chairman Larkin noted the name in the agreement, NAMCAL, LLC did not match the name in the staff report. Commissioner Galloway indicated the name in the

agreement could be NAM West by the time the Board received it because the companies were all commonly owned.

On motion Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7F(3) be authorized.

BLOCK VOTE AGENDA ITEMS 8, 9, 10, AND 11

In response to the call for public comment for Agenda Items 9 and 10, Sam Dehne wondered if all the flooded counties in the mid-west had lobbyists going back east to obtain money.

08-277 AGENDA ITEM 8 – PUBLIC WORKS/ANIMAL SERVICES

Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to consider applications from interested persons willing to serve on the Washoe County Animal Control Board as the member representative from County Commission District 5 (Commissioner Weber); and upon further discussion, appoint a member representative to serve a four-year term through December 31, 2011 - Public Works/Animal Services. (Commission District 5.)”

Chairman Larkin said Commissioner Weber had forwarded the name of Anne Robertson Forbes for consideration.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Anne Robertson Forbes be appointed as a member representative to serve a four-year term through December 31, 2011.

08-278 AGENDA ITEM 9 – TRUCKEE RIVER FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to approve Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and Marcus G. Faust, P.C. for Congressional and Federal Lobbying Services for a 12-month contract period (retroactive February 1, 2008 - January 31, 2009) [\$51,527.40 plus related travel expenses]; authorize use of the 1/8 cent sales tax dedicated to the Truckee River Flood Project to fund such agreement; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute Agreement - Truckee River Flood Management Project. (All Commission Districts.)”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, noted Marcus Faust primarily did Congressional lobbying on behalf of the Truckee River Flood Management Project.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved, authorized, and executed.

08-279 AGENDA ITEM 10 – TRUCKEE RIVER FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to approve an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and The Carmen Group, Inc. for Federal Lobbying Services for a 12-month contract period retroactive March 8, 2008 - March 7, 2009) [not to exceed \$180,000 plus related expenses]; authorize use of the 1/8 cent sales tax dedicated to the Truckee River Flood Project to fund such agreement; and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute Agreement - Truckee River Flood Management Project. (All Commission Districts.)”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, noted The Carmen Group, Inc. primarily did lobbying with the Army Corp of Engineers on behalf of the Truckee River Flood Management Project.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved, authorized, and executed.

08-280 AGENDA ITEM 11 – DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to approve Settlement Agreement between the County of Washoe, City of Reno and Clark & Sullivan Constructors, Inc., for claims of the constructor for Mills B. Lane Justice Center Project [\$1,560,000 - Washoe County share 60%] - District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne discussed the proposed settlement and asked if it was 60 percent of the \$1.5 million or was the \$1.5 million 60 percent of a bigger amount.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, stated the \$1.5 million was the total amount and the County’s portion was 60 percent of that total.

Commissioner Galloway commented it was unfortunate that sometimes construction issues had to be settled, but that was the nature of the beast.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved, authorized, and executed.

3:08 p.m. The Board temporarily recessed.

4:23 p.m. The Board convened as the Fire Commissioners for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District with Chairman Larkin temporarily absent, with Commissioner Galloway assuming the gavel, and Commissioner Weber absent from the meeting. Chairman Larkin returned during discussion of Agenda Item 5 and assumed the gavel. The Board then convened as the Board of Directors of the Sierra Fire Protection District and the Board of Trustees for the South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District.

5:54 p.m. The Board reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners with Commissioner Weber absent from the meeting.

08-281 AGENDA ITEM 15 – PUBLIC WORKS

5:30 p.m.

Agenda Subject: “Public Hearing to allow for any objections regarding declaration of Assessor Parcel Number 032-131-03 as surplus and to be transferred to the City of Sparks for a public purpose and other matters properly related thereto; disposition of objections; and possibly authorize Chairman to execute the Quitclaim Deed to facilitate this transfer of property as allowed under NRS 277.053 - Public Works. (Commission District 4.)”

Chairman Larkin opened the public hearing. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

Dave Childs, Assistant County Manager, displayed a map showing the location of parcel number 032-131-03. The map was placed on file with the Clerk.

Chairman Larkin stated this transfer to the City of Sparks fulfilled the terms of the Regional Plan Settlement Agreement that the Board entered into in 2006 and that was updated into the Regional Plan in July 2007.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Chairman Larkin, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be authorized and executed.

08-282 AGENDA ITEM 16

5:30 p.m.

Agenda Subject: “Second reading and adoption of an Ordinance amending the Washoe County Code by making changes to the structure and operation of the Washoe County Department of Social Services Citizens Advisory Board. (Bill No. 1544)”

The Chairman opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said Ordinance. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Ordinance No. 1362, Bill No. 1544, entitled, "**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WASHOE COUNTY CODE BY MAKING CHANGES TO THE STRUCTURE AND OPERATION OF THE WASHOE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD,**" be approved, adopted and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

08-283 AGENDA ITEM 17

5:30 p.m.

Agenda Subject: "Second reading and adoption of Ordinance amending Chapter 100 of the Washoe County Code by adding thereto a provision by increasing fees for building, grading permits, modifying building valuation data, and providing other matters properly related thereto. (Bill No. 1545)"

The Chairman opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said Ordinance. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Don Jeppson, County Building Official, confirmed this Ordinance did not establish any new positions nor fill any vacant positions. He said during the last budget cycle, he asked for authority for 24 positions and 20 of those positions were filled. He explained the additional positions would be filled only if the market picked up and there was an increased demand for the Building and Safety Department's services. He said if the market stayed flat, the positions probably would not be filled during the coming year; or they might be filled as part time or seasonal positions to keep costs down.

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Mr. Jeppson said the Building Department was formed as an Enterprise Fund in early 2000, which meant the fees the Department collected went to support the Department's functions. He explained the fees stayed within the Department except for those monies forwarded to the County for basic overhead and rental space for the use of County facilities.

Mr. Jeppson stated the Department reduced its fees in October 2004 to meet a new statutory requirement to reduce the Department's cash reserve from \$4 million to \$2 million. He explained the Department's reserves had to be reduced because the Department's revenue started to go down due to the construction slowdown. He said the first reduction in October 2004 was approximately 25 percent, there was a second reduction in July of 2005, and the reserves finally reduced to an acceptable level in February 2006.

Mr. Jeppson explained one strategy to make sure the Department could continue to pay its operational costs was to bring the fees back to the 2004 level. He stated the advisory board felt the fees should be increased in two steps to match the two-step decrease. He said the Department was able to delay the first increase until July 2007 and was asking the Board for the second increase to happen in June 2008, which would put the Department close to where it was in October 2004.

Mr. Jeppson explained a second strategy was to reduce the Department's operating costs by reducing staff from 31 to 19 positions. He said another strategy was to streamline operations to be more efficient. He noted counting the number of furnaces, electrical outlets, and such in a house for sub-fees was very labor intensive, which was why sub-fees were now included in the base fee. He said it also eliminated occasional undercharges to customers for missing items, which were found during an audit several years ago.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Ordinance No. 1363, Bill No. 1545, entitled, "**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 100 OF THE WASHOE COUNTY CODE BY ADDING THERETO A PROVISION BY INCREASING FEES FOR BUILDING, GRADING PERMITS, MODIFYING BUILDING VALUATION DATA, AND PROVIDING OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO,**" be approved, adopted and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

08-284 AGENDA ITEM 18

5:30 p.m.

Agenda Subject: "Second reading and adoption of an Ordinance amending the Washoe County Development Code, Chapter 110, by amending article 606 and adding provisions to article 602 to establish an application process and agricultural basis for exemption from certain land use and division maps and surveys, and providing other matters properly related thereto. (Bill No. 1546)"

The Chairman opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said Ordinance. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Ordinance No. 1364, Bill No. 1546, entitled, "**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WASHOE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CODE, CHAPTER 110, BY AMENDING ARTICLE 606 AND ADDING PROVISIONS TO ARTICLE 602 TO ESTABLISH AN APPLICATION PROCESS AND AGRICULTURAL BASIS FOR EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN LAND USE AND DIVISION MAPS AND**

SURVEYS, AND PROVIDING OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO," be approved, adopted and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

08-285 AGENDA ITEM 19

Agenda Subject: “Reports/updates from County Commission members concerning various boards/commissions they may be a member of or liaison to (these may include, but not be limited to, Regional Transportation Commission, Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority, Debt Management Commission, District Board of Health, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Organizational Effectiveness Committee, Investment Management Committee, Citizen Advisory Boards).”

Commissioner Humke noted the Regional Transportation Commission’s (RTC’s) Regional Road Impact Fee Technical Advisory Committee (RRIF TAC) and the Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) were continuing to operate. He said there would be meetings of the Board of Health and the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) on Thursday, March 27, 2008.

Chairman Larkin commented the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) brought up some alleged improprieties by the Panther Valley Water Association during its meeting on March 19th. He said during the investigation, it had become apparent that the County’s Emergency Operations Center was a member of the Panther Valley Water Association by virtue of being a customer. He stated the next Association meeting would be on April 14th, and he requested the District Attorney send a representative, as well as a having a representative from the Emergency Operations Center, attend. He said there appeared to be some overbilling related to the Center, as well as some audit conditions that needed correcting. Chairman Larkin indicated he wanted the Board to be aware of his request and direction, and that TMWA was seeking compensation from the Panther Valley Water Association for \$268,000 of unbilled water. He stated he would not go into details, but he believed the Attorney General’s Office was involved in the investigation along with the District Attorney’s Office. He explained TMWA made the decision not to turn the water off in Panther Valley.

Chairman Larkin noted the RRIF TAC meeting was about the RTC’s road-improvement tax money and its relationship to builders.

Chairman Larkin advised the kickoff for the next session of the Washoe County’s Leadership Academy would be April 3, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. and the Commission’s next quarterly retreat would be Monday, April 7, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Spanish Springs Library.

Commissioner Galloway said the Human Services Consortium Triumvirate met last week to consider any appeals and the recommended distribution of the limited available funds. Regretfully, he stated the appeals were not granted by a 2-1 vote and noted the allocations were made according to the recommendations. He felt that was the best that could be done under the circumstances.

Commissioner Galloway said starting tomorrow, there were two days of Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) meetings to try and solve the pier problem. He said it appeared sufficient common ground had been reached with two California groups, basically Lahontan, and John Garamendi, California Lieutenant Governor, to cut a proposed deal.

Commissioner Galloway asked whether Agenda Item 7F(3), the bid for the Crystal Bay Utilities Undergrounding Project, should be reopened. He asked if there could be advance approval to accept private contributions without requiring a lengthy written agreement, or the alternative would be to have another agenda item to deal with possible additional contributions. Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel, indicated she would be more comfortable having an agenda item for April 8, 2008 that would provide staff with the authorization to accept any future donations. She said the language in today's staff report was clearly aimed at the specific situation that was dealt with. Commissioner Galloway requested it be put on April 8th and that the agenda item be broad enough to satisfy everyone.

Commissioner Jung advised her constituents that the Central Citizen Advisory Board's meeting would be held every other month, instead of quarterly, at its new location at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park.

Commissioner Jung said she attended a Housing Task Force meeting where their findings and recommendations were presented to the County Manager and to the managers of the Cities of Reno and Sparks. She stated those findings and recommendations would be presented to the Board and City Councils at the next joint meeting for feedback.

Commissioner Jung stated she would be going to the Washoe County School District revitalization meeting next Wednesday, where concrete suggestions for ballot initiatives were being developed. She indicated she would also be attending the Washoe County's Leadership Academy.

Commissioner Jung clarified that on Monday, March 31, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Mandalay Ballroom at the Circus Circus Hotel and Casino there would be a birthday celebration in honor of Cesar Chavez. She noted Mr. Chavez was successful in securing better wages and working conditions for migrant farm workers and the celebration was sponsored by Circus Circus, Local Culinary Union 226, and Labor's Union Local 169.

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6:17 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that the meeting be adjourned.

ROBERT M. LARKIN, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

AMY HARVEY, County Clerk
and Clerk of the Board of
County Commissioners

*Minutes Prepared by
Jan Frazzetta, Deputy County Clerk*