

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

MONDAY

10:00 A.M.

MAY 19, 2008

PRESENT:

Bob Larkin, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairman*
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
David Humke, Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Commissioner

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Singlaub, County Manager
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel

The Board met in special 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, stated 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.

08-466 AGENDA ITEM 2

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.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

08-466A PUBLIC HEARINGS

10:06 a.m. The Board convened as the Sierra Fire Protection District (SFPD) Board of Directors.

10:16 a.m. The Board adjourned as the SFPD Board of Directors and convened as the South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District (STMGID) Board of Trustees.

10:30 a.m. The Board adjourned as the STMGID Board of Trustees and convened as the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Board of Fire Commissioners.

10:53 a.m. The Board adjourned as the TMFPD Board of Fire Commissioners and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners.

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Commissioner Weber participated in the following discussion via telephone.

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Chairman Larkin opened the public hearing.

Melanie Purcell, Budget Manager, conducted a PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk, highlighting the fiscal year 2008/09 recommended General Fund Budget Revenues by Source, Taxable Sales by Sector through February 2008, Consolidated Tax Monthly Detail, Proposed Fiscal Year 2008/09 Property Tax Rates, General Fund Budget Revenues, Employees Per Capita Fiscal Year 2000/01 to Fiscal Year 2008/09 recommended, General Fund Expenditures Per Capita, Fiscal Year 2008/09 Budget by Function, Fiscal Year 2008/09 Sources and Uses, Fiscal Year 2008/09 Action Plan, Fiscal Year 2008/09 Budget Highlights, Position Changes, Capital Improvements Program and pending issues.

Chairman Larkin said the presentation showed the department operating reductions of \$17 million, but the original total was \$23 million; however, the amount was now \$28 million. He asked if that reflected the difference between the 3.5 percent and the 7.6 percent reduction. Ms. Purcell explained it was the reduction in the current year to 7.6 percent and the reduction for next year to 6.8 percent. She noted it was a compounding affect.

Commissioner Jung requested the comparison between other municipalities for their employees per capita. She asked if the 7.54 employees per capita included the vacancy freezes. Ms. Purcell clarified it was authorized positions being vacant. Commissioner Jung remarked it was encouraging that some Capital Improvement Projects came in under budget. She explained the City of Reno was placing \$25,000 towards the Veterans Services Officer position and requested the County work with the City and consider the possibility of matching those funds. She hoped the lobbyists were looking at a Bill Draft Request for the research and history of the depreciation of real estate in the State.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, confirmed it was with the intent for the Veterans Services Officer position to occur. She explained the County had petitioned the Legislative Council Bureau (LCB) to bring forward any legislation regarding the depreciation of real estate; however, was told by the LCB that proposals regarding depreciation would not meet the constitutional test unless a constitutional amendment was put on the ballot.

Commissioner Humke asked what the transfer for the Risk Management Fund did to the integrity of that Fund. She noted it did not jeopardize the fund, but formalized the range. Commissioner Humke asked how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE's) reductions would there be in Child Protective Services. Ms. Purcell replied it was six positions, but explained it was a switch between the temporary positions originally established to get the program started and the permanent positions. She noted layoffs would not occur. Commissioner Humke inquired if the Sheriff's Office RAVEN Helicopter repairs pre-existed the recent incident. Ms. Purcell stated this expenditure was to repair the recent incident. She explained the funds being used for the repairs came from prior projects that were completed under budget from the Public Works Construction Fund.

Commissioner Galloway commented on the licensing fees and hoped that would be reviewed to see whether there were certain licenses that required more County resources and to monitor and review the licensing policy.

In response to the call for public comment, Martha Gould commended the Library Board and Interim Library Director Arnie Maurins for an excellent job in reducing their budget by \$1.9 million. She remarked the Library System used 80 volunteers, but when the Library was opened to the public there must be trained staff on the reference desk. She reminded the Board that due to the fingerprinting and background checks conducted volunteers were costly. Gary Schmidt spoke on the current budget situation.

Chairman Larkin closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Galloway requested a review of the licensing fees.

Chairman Larkin said Governor Jim Gibbons had instituted an amnesty period for delinquent businesses or businesses that had not registered to do business in the State of Nevada and asked if Washoe County had ever instituted such a program. Ms. Singlaub replied she did not recall that the County had an official amnesty period, but would check with staff. She commented the "Charting Our Course" committee reviewed strategies to recoup all resources and revenues that were due to the County.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that the 2008/09 final budget for Washoe County be adopted and forwarded to the State.

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11:32 a.m. There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that the meeting be adjourned.

ROBERT LARKIN, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by:
Stacy Gonzales, Deputy County Clerk*