

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

MAY 19, 2015

PRESENT:

**Marsha Berkbigler, Chair**  
**Kitty Jung, Vice Chair**  
**Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner**  
**Jeanne Herman, Commissioner**  
**Bob Lucey, Commissioner**

**Nancy Parent, County Clerk**  
**John Slaughter, County Manager**  
**David Watts-Vial, Legal Counsel**

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:25 a.m. 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:

**15-0405      AGENDA ITEM 3 – PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Agenda Subject:** “Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to three 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 three minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Commission as a whole.”

The following individuals spoke in opposition regarding the placement of a medical marijuana establishment (MME) on the Mt. Rose Highway: Pam Campanaro, Denice Rasmussen, Susan Morrison, Kimberly Gomez, Lorie Ann McDermott, Ken Campitelli, Thomas Wright, Kathy Dougherty, Laura Ebert, Marc Charland, Kelly Werner, Sharon Williams, Debbie Dowty, Heather Ciesla, Janet Billings, Amy Kreitlein, Brooke Wilde, Vincent Keenan, Shelly Watson, Kari Galgon, Brian Foote, Derrick Glum, Amber Welton, Patty Campitelli, Len McWilliams, and Sid Zeller.

The above individuals’ concerns included: The public not being consulted on the sites, the required impact analysis not being made available to the public, the site should be subject to the Special Use Permit process, public involvement should be required, there were many schools and churches in the neighborhood of the proposed site, children having to pass by the proposed MME on their way to school, MMEs do not belong in any neighborhood and placement should be considered, the increased traffic level on the Mt. Rose Highway, it was only a matter of time until the site became a recreational marijuana location, it would be an all cash business, there was no

commercial infrastructure on the Mt. Rose Highway to support the dispensary, the impacts of allowing marijuana sales in Colorado on its economy, people hanging around outside the MME to try and make a buy, the impact of people buying marijuana at the MME and driving on Mt. Rose Highway, it might make people rethink about relocating to the area, issues with how the ordinance was written, the impact to the traffic on the already dangerous Mt. Rose Highway, having a school bus stop located on the same corner as the dispensary, increased crime and general bad behavior in the area, the dispensary being more appropriate near hospitals, a negative impact on property values, ingress and egress to the property, medical marijuana should be regulated and obtained from a pharmacy, high school athletes regularly run in the neighborhood, being sold in candy and cookie form, high school kids loitering outside the establishment during their lunch break, who decided Mt Rose Highway was an appropriate location for a MME, no protection in the laws already in place and changes would be needed to protect the community, the process was done behind closed doors with no public comment, other businesses could serve the community better, the need to protect children from outside influences, not needing to add to the dangers on the Mt. Rose Highway in the winter, and the moral standard this set when trying to grow a community.

Lisa Krasner noted the dispensary was announcing their new location on Mt. Rose Highway via the Internet. A copy of the webpage was placed on file with the Clerk. Tim Amundsen said he hoped the Board's position would be made public. He believed if the citizens and the Board acted in unison to oppose this, the legalized pothouse being located in a neighborhood could be stopped. Brian Landaburn asked what the comments made today meant to the process, because he felt they were a kind of placebo. He hoped that was not the case because the concerns were very real.

Sam Dehne spoke about the City of Reno hiring a new Police Chief and the locating of the MMEs.

Tim Stoffel said the series of animal bills being proposed would be detrimental to animal owners, and the Commission should consider that owners had rights. He said the dangerous dog ordinance had a provision that required an owner to put a sign, which must be readable by children, on their property indicating they had a dangerous dog. He stated that could be an attractive nuisance rather than a deterrent, and it was not needed. He said also not needed was a requirement that an owner's animals must be seized if they did not pay for exorbitant insurance if they had a dangerous dog. He stated immediate seizure was for emergencies and not for the failure to pay for the insurance. He said another thing to consider was if the facts and figures the ordinance was based on were really true and was there really a problem or had the animal rights people distorted them, which they loved to do. He said one of the excessive regulations required a cage made of 90-gage chain link for a 10 pound dog. He requested the Board call for workshops to be held regarding the laws, so they could be made fair and equitable and represent the minimum amount of regulation required to carry out regulation's legitimate purpose.

**Agenda Subject:** “Commissioners’/Manager’s announcements, reports/updates from County Commission members concerning various boards/commissions they may be a member of or liaison to. Requests for information, topics for future agendas and any ideas and suggestions for greater efficiency, cost effectiveness and innovation in County government. (No discussion among Commissioners will take place on this item.)”

John Slaughter, County Manager, said Agenda Item 5, Adoption of the Budget, was not needed due to the Final Budget being adopted yesterday. He read an e-mail from Jesse Hawe, HAWCO Properties, regarding his positive interactions with Dwayne Smith, Engineering and Capital Projects Division Director.

Commissioner Lucey thanked the citizens for voicing their opinions during public comment, and he wanted them to know their comments were heard and this was absolutely the forum in which to share their thoughts with the Board. He stated the medical marijuana establishments (MMEs) had been the topic of heated discussions in the community, and there would be a town hall meeting on June 10th at the South Valleys Library to discuss them. He said the County would help moderate the meeting, which would include people from the facility, the State, and all of the entities involved with this issue going forward. He stated the Board only had governance over the unincorporated areas of the County in regards to the MME issue, but were trying to make sure everyone understood the process. He said if anyone had further questions, they could e-mail or call him.

Commissioner Jung announced she held her “Meet Your Commissioner” meeting last week, which was part of a series of meetings the Commissioners were participating in at the Senior Center. She stated she attended the Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID) meeting last week to help SVGID’s Trustees see the importance of the partnership with SVGID, the County and the Board of Health in funding extra dumpster days every quarter to help the people without the money to clean up their cluttered yards. She said she attended the Community Assistance Center’s Transitional Governing Board meeting yesterday. She stated it was found that chronic homelessness decreased by half, which was believed to be due to some of the innovative programs Social Services had instituted, such as Crossroads, which was a partnership between Social Services and the Volunteers of America. She said everyone was looking at finding transitional housing for people who had been considered ineligible for shelter under previous models. She stated the Stronger Economies Together Conference started today and continued until Thursday at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). She said she would be attending the Honor Flight pancake breakfast at Victorian Square in Sparks on Memorial Day and would be a speaker at the North Hills Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Commissioner Herman said she was happy Commissioner Lucey was holding a meeting on the location of the MME.

Commissioner Hartung said he attended the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) School of Medicine's graduation ceremony on May 15th, which had 70 physicians graduating. He said the Medical School was doing a phenomenal job, and it had such a great outreach program and clinic that provided free health care. He encouraged everyone to support the Medical School because it was such a great asset to this community. He stated his "Meet and Greet" for the seniors would be held at the Sparks Senior Center on Friday, and he planned to attend the Honor Flight pancake breakfast on Memorial Day.

Commissioner Jung requested an agenda item about what law enforcement was doing because of the shootout between the rival motorcycle gangs in Waco, Texas. She felt there should be a presentation and open discussion about what occurred, because some people in the community were concerned. She said another issue people were bringing up was people on Craig's List made a lot of money on human trafficking when the big events were in town.

**15-0407      AGENDA ITEM 6**

**Agenda Subject: "Presentation of Excellence in Public Service Certificates honoring the following Washoe County employees who have completed essential employee development courses."**

John Slaughter, County Manager, recognized the following employees for successful completion of the Excellence in Public Service Certificate Programs administered by the Human Resources Department:

**Promote Yourself! Mini Certificate Program**

Laura Bayer, Truckee River Flood Management Authority

**PROCLAMATIONS 7A(1) THROUGH 7A(7)**

**15-0408      AGENDA ITEM 7A(1)**

**Agenda Subject: "Proclamation--May 31, 2015 as "Spanish Springs Library Day"."**

Commissioner Hartung said he was involved in the Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) during the process of building the Spanish Springs Library and the Lazy Five Regional Park, which had been a blessing to the whole community. Commissioner Hartung read and presented the Proclamation to Julie Machado, Spanish Springs Library Managing Librarian.

Ms. Machado said the Spanish Springs Library was located on Pyramid Highway in the Lazy Five Park. She invited everyone to the celebration on May 31st where this Proclamation would be read to the public by John Slaughter, County Manager. She said there would also be music, games, contests, and cake.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A(1) be adopted.

**15-0409      AGENDA ITEM 7A(2)**

**Agenda Subject: “Proclamation--May 2015 as Lake Tahoe Wildfire Awareness Month.”**

Commissioner Herman read and presented the Proclamation to Chief Mike Brown, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; Elwood Miller, University of Nevada, Reno Cooperative Extension; Brian Summer and Mark Reagan, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; and Patrick Mooneyhan, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.

Chief Brown thanked the Board for the Proclamation on behalf of all of the fire agencies in Nevada and California. He said wildfires and any type of fire should be recognized as a threat. He said the fire agencies appreciated that the County and all of the agencies involved recognized they were doing everything they could with their prevention programs. He stated this recognition would help to get the word out to the constituents and visitors to the area.

Chair Berkbigler stated she was very impressed with the superb job the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District did, and she thanked them for being present today.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A(2) be adopted.

**15-0410      AGENDA ITEM 7A(3)**

**Agenda Subject: “Proclamation--May 17-23, 2015 as Emergency Medical Services Week “EMS STRONG”.”**

Commissioner Jung read and presented the Proclamation to Brittany Dayton, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program Coordinator, Jim Gubbels, Kevin Ramiro, and Reese Jacobson, Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA); Chief Mike Brown, Brian Summer, and Mark Reagan; North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; and Patrick Mooneyhan, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.

Mr. Gubbels thanked the Commission on behalf of REMSA and Care Flight for this recognition. He said REMSA’s ceremony would be held on Thursday to recognize the individuals who had gone above and beyond in their service to the community during the last year. Chief Brown thanked all of the first responders

throughout the area and the Commission for this recognition. Mr. Ramiro invited everyone to REMSA's ceremony.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A(3) be adopted.

**15-0411      AGENDA ITEM 7A(4)**

**Agenda Subject: "Proclamation--May 19th, 2015 National Service Recognition Day."**

Commissioner Jung read and presented the Proclamation to Hillery Gladden, Corporation for National and Community Service State Director.

Ms. Gladden said besides the AmeriCorps members and the VISTA members, who worked to eradicate poverty, the Senior Companions worked with the frail elderly to help keep them living independently in their homes for as long as possible. She stated the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteers were doing many community services, and the Foster Grandparent Program had grandparents working in the area's classrooms to help children struggling with reading and math. She stated they were wonderful programs, and she was very appreciative the Board was recognizing the volunteers serving the community.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A(4) be adopted.

**15-0412      AGENDA ITEM 7A(5)**

**Agenda Subject: "Proclamation--May 17-23, 2015 is National Public Works Week "Community Begins Here"."**

Commissioner Lucey said the Community Services Department (CSD) was comprised of five essential services: Building and Safety, Public Works, Water Resources, Community Development, and Parks and Open Space. He stated they all had an effect on every citizen in the County and were the foundation of economic development and everyday life within the community. He said he was proud to read and present the Proclamation to Dave Solaro, CSD Director, and the Department's staff.

Mr. Solaro said the Operations Group was out in the field, but they met last week and the operations staff present provided well over thirteen-hundred years of service, which was pretty impressive and a testament to what Washoe County did for public works on a daily basis.

Dwayne Smith, Engineering and Capital Projects Division Director, thanked the Board for the Proclamation. He said only a small cross-section of the CSD's 266 employees were present. He stated they were the people who looked out for the community and brought a higher quality of life to the area.

The following CSD employees introduced themselves: Bill Wardell, Capital Projects Project Coordinator; Gordon Northan, Capital Projects; Scott Martin, Operations Project Manager; Mike Gump, Engineering; Kimble Corbridge, Engineering; Dawn Aragon, Engineering; Joaquin Tabbada, Engineering; Clara Lawson, Engineering; Greg Belancio, Engineering; and Harold Stone, Engineering.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A(5) be adopted.

**15-0413      AGENDA ITEM 7A(6)**

**Agenda Subject: "Proclamation--May 15, 2015, is Peace Officers Memorial Day and May 10 - May 16, 2015 is Police Week."**

Commissioner Hartung said people often stated how brave the first responders were, and he had a special place in his heart for law enforcement because they were so willing to put themselves between us and harm's way every day. He said the things police officers did all over the nation were amazing. He read and presented the Proclamation to Undersheriff John Spenser, Chief Deputy Sherman Boxx, and Chief Deputy Russ Peterson.

Undersheriff Spenser thanked the Board on behalf of Sheriff Chuck Allen and the over seven hundred men and women in the Washoe County Sheriff's Office for the Proclamation. He said it was truly a team with the people behind the scenes, the dispatchers, the criminalists, and the clerical support in records helping to make the Sheriff's Office a success. He assured Commissioner Jung the Sheriff's Office was on top of what had been going on in Texas.

Chief Deputy Peterson said there were so many people in the background who he wanted to recognize, including the District Attorney's Office, Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA), the teams from the Community Services Department (CSD) and Technology Services Department who created an environment where the Sheriff's Office could do its job effectively.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A(6) be adopted.

**15-0414      AGENDA ITEM 7A(7)**

**Agenda Subject: “Proclamation--June 2015 is recognized as Nevada Amateur Radio Month.”**

Commissioner Lucey felt amateur radio operators should be acknowledged as being a part of the emergency services group, who worked to keep the County’s citizens safe every day, and put in countless hours helping to support the County during a disaster. He read and presented the Proclamation to Aaron Kenneston, Emergency Manager; Mike Katz, Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society President; George McCully; Ron Hood; and Gordon Milgram.

Mr. Katz said the Society’s over 266 local members made it one of the largest and more active radio clubs in the State. He stated the Society appreciated the Board’s recognition. He stated the people in the Amateur Radio Emergency Services organization provided hours and hours of background and assistance. He said when all other type of communications failed, there was always the amateur radio operators available to help.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A(7) be adopted.

**12:23 p.m.** The Board recessed to take pictures with the recipients of the Proclamations.

**12:34 p.m.** The Board reconvened with all members present.

**DONATIONS – BLOCK VOTE 8, 9, AND 10**

**15-0415      AGENDA ITEM 8 – ANIMAL SERVICES**

**Agenda Subject: “Accept monetary donations to Washoe County Regional Animal Services in the amount of [\$7,633.50] for the period of January 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015 to be used for the humane care and treatment of sick and/or injured, stray or abandoned animals received; express appreciation for these thoughtful contributions; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the appropriate budget adjustments. Animal Services. (All Commission Districts)”**

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Jung thanked the donors for their monetary donations to Washoe County Regional Animal Services for the humane care and treatment of sick and/or injured, stray or abandoned animals.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be accepted, expressed, and directed.

**15-0416      AGENDA ITEM 9 – ANIMAL SERVICES**

**Agenda Subject: “Accept one (1) oil painting [estimated value \$600 at no charge to the County] donated to Washoe County Regional Animal Services by Ms. Maria Flynn to be displayed in the Animal Services lobby. Animal Services. (All Commission Districts)”**

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Jung thanked Ms. Maria Flynn for the donation of one oil painting to be displayed in the lobby of Regional Animal Services.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be accepted.

**15-0417      AGENDA ITEM 10 – COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**Agenda Subject: “Accept cash donations [\$22,268] from various businesses, organizations and individuals and acknowledge in-kind donations for Regional Parks and Open Space programs and facilities; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the appropriate budget adjustments. Community Services. (All Commission Districts)”**

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Jung thanked the various businesses, organizations and individuals for their cash and in-kind donations to the Regional Parks and Open Space programs and facilities.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be accepted and directed.

**15-0418      AGENDA ITEM 12 – PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Agenda Subject: “Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to three 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 three minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Commission as a whole.”**

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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**12:38 p.m.** There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried, the meeting was adjourned.

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**MARSHA BERKBIGLER**, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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**NANCY PARENT**, County Clerk and  
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

*Minutes Prepared by:  
Jan Frazzetta, Deputy County Clerk*