

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

AUGUST 18, 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 10:00 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:

15-0717 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

Garth Elliott talked about big cats, little cats and Community Advisory Boards (CABs). He said northern Nevada was host to one of the largest cat sanctuaries in the United States. He stated the Safe Haven Rescue Zoo in Imlay, Nevada, would be hosting a golf tournament at Wildcreek Golf Course and he encouraged everyone to join the fun and golf. He said feral cats were a big issue in Washoe County and he urged people to participate in the trap and release program because he thought it was working. He indicated how fortunate it was that the CABs were back. Sun Valley had their first CAB summit, although it was not very well attended, and he thought it would take effort to rebuild it so it would be the force it was years ago.

15-0718 AGENDA ITEM 4 Introduction of new Washoe County Employees.

John Slaughter, County Manager, asked the following employees to introduce themselves to the Board:

Jennifer Beckman Salas, Sheriff's Office
Colin Briggs, Library
Steven Boxx, Sheriff's Office
Christina Cravens, Community Services Department

Susan Easterbrook, Human Resources
Doni Gassaway, Clerk's Office
Jessica Gutierrez, Human Resources
Cynda Horning, Justice Court
Laura Knight, Medical Examiner's Office
Roxanne Morandi, Wadsworth Justice Court
Kate O'Driscoll, Sheriff's Office
Kris Riley, Public Defender
Michael Siva, Clerk's Office
Sue Vaughn, Senior Services.

There was no public comment or action taken on this item.

15-0719 **AGENDA ITEM 5** Presentation of Excellence in Public Service Certificates honoring the following Washoe County employees who have completed essential employee development courses. Human Resources.

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:

Essentials of High Performing Teams

James Leslie, Public Defender's Office

Promote Yourself! Mini Certificate Program

Deborah Wachtrup, Sheriff's Office

There was no public comment or action taken on this item.

PROCLAMATIONS

15-0720 **6A** "Buy Nevada" Program
Jim Barbee, Director of Nevada Department of Agriculture
Jeff Sutich, International Marketing Coordinator, Nevada Department of Agriculture

Commissioner Jung read and presented the Proclamation to Jim Barbee and Jeff Sutich of the Buy Nevada Program.

Mr. Barbee said the Buy Nevada Program was an important effort in the State of Nevada and, on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, he wanted to thank the Board for supporting the program.

Mr. Sutich showed a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Buy Nevada Program, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He said in 2013, Governor Brian Sandoval created a marketing initiative which focused on food and agriculture products

in Nevada and in 2014 the Buy Nevada Program was created. He stated the mission of the Buy Nevada Program was to spread awareness and inform consumers about food and agriculture businesses in Nevada. He indicated the focus was on the sub-industries, which consisted of the producers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers, restaurants, agriculture services and sponsors, who were all responsible for making the program successful. He commented Bronze-Level members could promote their businesses on the Buy Nevada website and use the Buy Nevada logo free of charge; however the higher memberships included premium benefits. He said there were a total of 144 Buy Nevada members, of which 59 were from Washoe County. He noted Kimmie Candy, Model Dairy and Nature's Bakery were Platinum-Level members. He mentioned that international exports for 2014 declined, but agriculture exports for the same time period rose and exceeded \$250 million for the first time. He explained the falling price of gold was responsible for the decrease in total exports for Nevada. He stated the goal for the Buy Nevada Program was not only to promote local businesses, but to prepare them to expand to national and international export levels.

Commissioner Herman thanked Mr. Barbee and Mr. Sutich for being present as agriculture was very important to Nevada.

Commissioner Jung reminded the audience that Washoe County was the first municipality to endorse the Buy Local Campaign that Dave Asher started in 2008. She stated the County advocated for the Buy Local Campaign for many years.

On the call for public comment, Garth Elliott spoke of buying local and encouraged shoppers to buy the Hearts of Gold cantaloupes from Fallon and the Chinese food in Sun Valley. He believed supporting local communities was important and everyone could participate.

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

DONATIONS

15-0721 **7A** Accept monetary donations to Washoe County Regional Animal Services in the amount of [\$7,139.50] for the period of April 1, 2015 through June 30, 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 appropriate budget adjustments. Animal Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

Garth Elliott commented that giving to animal services was a "win-win" for the community. He mentioned the Nevada Humane Society and the Society for the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) never looked better and were cleaner than in past years. He said the shelters were adopting out more animals and taking in fewer animals. He thought Washoe County should get an A plus for taking care of animals.

15-0722 **7B** Accept cash donations [\$13,494.39] from various businesses, organizations and individuals for Regional Parks and Open Space programs and facilities; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make appropriate budget adjustments. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

15-0723 **7C** Accept cash donations [\$567,478.31] from the Wilbur May Foundation; [\$200,000] restricted for Fiscal Year 2015-16 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May Center, excluding all County overhead expense items; [\$100,000] restricted to support Fiscal Year 2015-16 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum; [\$1,660.31] restricted for employee training; and [\$265,818] restricted toward renovation of the May Museum Garden Court. Community Services. (Commission District 3.)

15-0724 **7D** Accept donation [\$1,800] from Nevada Bighorns Unlimited Reno to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office for the Sheriff's Office Deputy Reserve Program, including funds to be used for food purchases and travel, and, if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make appropriate budget adjustments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

Nevada Bighorn Unlimited Board Members, Dennis Wilson and Steve Field were in attendance for the donation presentation. Mr. Wilson spoke about the Nevada Bighorns Unlimited and said currently there were 3,500 members, including sportsmen, sportswomen and sporting youth. He indicated the organization was 100 percent volunteer-based, so any funding that was raised would go directly to Nevada's wildlife and habitat. He said the relationship with the Sheriff's Office Reserve Deputies was a true benefit to the organization. He was delighted to have some of the Reserve Deputies attend the annual fundraising banquet this year, where they assisted with crowd control and security. He expressed his thankfulness for the program and said he and the organization were happy to contribute to the Sheriff's Office Deputy Reserve Program.

15-0725 **7E** Accept donation [\$8,639.15] from the Sun Valley General Improvement District to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office for the Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau Graffiti Abatement efforts in the Sun Valley area and, if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make appropriate budget adjustments. Sheriff. (Commission Districts 3.)

John Slaughter, County Manager, advised the Board of a correction and said Agenda Item 7E should have stated it would impact both Commission Districts 3 and 5.

Commissioner Jung read the donations and thanked the donors.

Garth Elliott represented the Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID) and stated what a great pleasure it was to be able to increase the donation that SVGID was giving to the graffiti abatement efforts. He noted that Sun Valley took graffiti abatement very seriously. He wanted to remind Sun Valley residents that not a penny of the money came from water or sewer bills, as the money came from impact fees from the agreement with Waste Management. He said he had seen a rise in graffiti and it was important to get a grip on the growing problem.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Items 7A to 7E, with the noted correction to Item 7E, be accepted.

15-0726 **AGENDA ITEM 8** Approve minutes for the regular Board of County Commission meeting of July 28, 2015.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be approved.

15-0727 **AGENDA ITEM 9** Possible Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations with Washoe County, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and/or Sierra Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220.

There was no closed session

15-0728 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Public Comment.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

15-0729 **AGENDA ITEM 12** 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.)

Commissioner Hartung asked County Manager John Slaughter for a short update on when the single stream recycling program would start in Washoe County. He thanked the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) customers for the amount of water that had been saved this year. He asked Mr. Slaughter for an update on home owner's rights to install drought tolerant landscaping in Home Owner Associations

(HOAs) where the HOA guidelines prohibit it. He also inquired about the status of his request to revisit redevelopment agreements, including commercial, industrial and residential agreements. And last, he announced the Wild West Motorsports Park would have a short course race on August 22nd and 23rd and he encouraged the community to participate in the fun.

John Slaughter stated members of the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) Commission were in town the past week, at the request of Washoe County, and conducted an assessment for accreditation of the County's program based on nationally recognized standards. He said the process consisted of an independent peer review where 64 different areas within Washoe County's Emergency Management Program were examined. He noted the EMAP Commissioners spent five days examining documents and interviewing staff, as well as first responders and a number of individuals in the region. Mr. Slaughter indicated the EMAP Commissioners found the Washoe County Emergency Management Program to be 100 percent compliant with national best practice standards. He emphasized that the longest serving member of the EMAP Commission said the number of programs that had met that outcome could be counted on one hand. He stated when the accreditation was granted, he would bring the hard working Emergency Management Program staff before the Board for recognition.

Mr. Slaughter also mentioned the employee picnic was successful with nearly 600 employees in attendance. He thanked the staff of the North Valley's Splash Park, the Employee Recognition Committee, and Kelly Moen, Chair of the Employee Recognition Committee, for their hard work. He also thanked the Board for approving to fund the picnic.

Commissioner Lucey said he attended the picnic and it was amazing how well it was received by the employees. He stated it was very lively and was an excellent use of the park. He commented the picnic was a great experience and recommended the Board attend the next employee recognition event.

John Slaughter stated the next employee recognition event would be a breakfast in the fall, but no date had been set yet.

Commissioner Herman was concerned about recent emergencies in Lemmon Valley and wanted to know if there was a way to reserve funds for situations similar to the flooding issues there. She asked staff to research whether a financial aid fund could be established for situations where damage was not extensive enough to receive State or Federal assistance.

There was no public comment or action taken on this item.

* * * * *

10:57 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.

MARSHA BERKBIGLER, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by:
Doni Gassaway, Deputy County Clerk*