

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 15, 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 10:22 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:

15-1066 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Dee Williams expressed her concerns regarding the destruction of child abuse evidence.

Danielle Henderson, Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) Natural Resource Manager, provided handouts which were placed on file with the Clerk. She noted the TRFMA was a consortium of the City of Sparks, the City of Reno and the County. The agency's mission was to plan, design and build infrastructure to protect the Truckee Meadows' community from devastating flood impacts. The TRFMA worked with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to implement a flood project authorized last year by the United States Congress. She said the TRFMA was working to secure federal funding and to raise local funds for the project construction. The TRFMA was currently using funds from sales tax, specifically dedicated by the County for flood protection, and funds from leveraging numerous public and private partnerships and grants to: 1) Purchase flood prone properties along the Truckee River. 2) Relocate businesses out of the flood plain. 3) Demolish at-risk structures located within the flood plain. 4) Build levies and flood walls to protect businesses. 5) Initiate their residential home elevation program. 5) Help restore habitat for native species along the lower Truckee River. She stated in coordination with the United States Geological Survey and the Emergency Managers, the TRFMA operated and maintained a network of stream gauges which monitored river stages as part of the regional flood warning system. She mentioned Jay Aldean, TRFMA Director, would present an update on the flood project at the Board's next concurrent meeting in February. She stated most of the

devastating floods in the County occurred during the winter months. She spoke about the 1997 New Year's flood and the costs associated with the damage. She noted experts estimated another similar flood could cause \$2 billion in damages. The TRFMA was part of an interagency campaign to raise public awareness of flooding in Nevada, and to help businesses and residents better prepare for flood emergencies.

Katherine Snedigar expressed her concerns relating to the transition of agricultural properties to suburban properties by the County. She stated she could not find one place in the Planning and Development sections of the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Codes that allowed that to happen. She noted the statute stated residential properties were five acres or less.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

15-1067 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Introduction of new Washoe County Employees.

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

Keith Glidewell, Social Services
David Moser, Social Services
Hannah Sugui, Community Services Department
Lona Tette, Assessor's Office
Leslie Mondragon, Library
Emily Ladouceur, Assessor's Office
Stephanie Charter, District Attorney's Office

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

15-1068 **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 Ana Gonzalez, Health District, and Kelly Rowe, Juvenile Services, for successful completion of the Excellence in Public Service Certificate Programs administered by the Human Resources Department.

15-1069 **AGENDA ITEM 6** Approve minutes for the Board of County Commissioners' regular meeting of November 17, 2015.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved.

PROCLAMATIONS

15-1070 **7A** Proclamation -- January 2016 National Radon Action Month.

Commissioner Lucey read and presented the Proclamation to Susan Howe, Nevada Radon Education Program Director.

Ms. Howe stated the proclamation and the Board's support of the Nevada Radon Education Program's service to the area was important because radon was the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers. She said testing was the only way to find out if a home had a radon problem. Since January was National Radon Action Month, the Nevada Radon Education Program was offering free test kits until the end of February. She provided statistics on radon levels in various zip codes within the County. She displayed a map which was placed on file with the Clerk. She mentioned there would be radon presentations at the North Valleys Library, Sierra View Library, South Valleys Library and the Northwest Reno Library where residents could obtain a free test kit. The Environmental Protection Agency recommended radon testing every two years.

15-1071 **7B** Proclamation -- Reno Rodeo Foundation Denim Drive.

Commissioner Herman read and presented the Proclamation to Clara Andriola, Reno Rodeo Foundation Executive Director.

Ms. Andriola provided a denim pocket with information about the Reno Rodeo Denim Drive to each Commissioner. The denim pocket with its contents was placed on file with the Clerk. She mentioned the Reno Rodeo Foundation was bringing back the Rhythm and Rawhide event. She recognized the Reno Rodeo Foundation volunteers. She also acknowledged County employees Victoria Bowers and Kristy Baker for their work and assistance.

There was no public comment on the Proclamations listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Items 7A to 7B be adopted.

DONATIONS

15-1072 **8A** Accept cash donations in the amount of [\$11,009.03] for the period of October 1, 2015 – November 30, 2015 and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget adjustments. Senior Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Jung stated the donation was to help sustain the County's senior services program.

On the call for public comment, Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

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

15-1073 **AGENDA ITEM 9** Public Hearing and possible action: To consider an application by NV Energy, doing business as Sierra Pacific Power Company for a franchise agreement to provide electric service to portions of Washoe County, including any objections on the matter; If determined to be in the best interests of the residents of Washoe County, to approve a Franchise Agreement between NV Energy, doing business as Sierra Pacific Power Company and the County of Washoe, retroactive to September 7, 2015, effective for a period of twenty (20) years from the effective date of the agreement, with upon review by the County an extension of the term of the franchise for five (5) years, fixing the terms and prescribing the conditions pursuant to which the franchise is to be granted, the character or kinds of service to be rendered, the maximum rates to be charged for the service, and such other matters as may be properly connected therewith; If the Franchise Agreement is approved, to adopt a Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Issuance of a Franchise to NV Energy, doing business as Sierra Pacific Power Company to supply electric service to Portions of Washoe County, Nevada; and If the Franchise Agreement is approved, to approve an associated Agreement to Pay Annually to Washoe County 2% of the franchisee's Net Profits under the franchise for the Benefit of the County School District Fund of Washoe County, State of Nevada; and If the Franchise Agreement is approved, the Board has the option approve an associated franchise fee to be determined by the Board of up to 5% of gross profits. (All Commission Districts.) **This item continued from the December 8, 2015 County Commission meeting.**

John Slaughter, County Manager, stated the online posting of the staff reports for Agenda Items 9 and 10 were reversed.

On the call for public comment, Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved and adopted. The Resolution is attached hereto and made a part of the record thereof.

15-1074 **AGENDA ITEM 10** Public Hearing and possible action: To consider an application by NV Energy, doing business as Sierra Pacific Power Company for a franchise agreement to provide natural and other gas service to portions of Washoe County, including any objections on the

matter; If determined to be in the best interests of the residents of Washoe County, to approve a Franchise Agreement between NV Energy, doing business as Sierra Pacific Power Company and the County of Washoe, retroactive to April 24, 2015, effective for a period of twenty (20) years from the effective date of the agreement, with upon review by the County an extension of the term of the franchise for five (5) years, fixing the terms and prescribing the conditions pursuant to which the franchise is to be granted, the character or kinds of service to be rendered, the maximum rates to be charged for the service, and such other matters as may be properly connected therewith; If the Franchise Agreement is approved, to adopt a Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Issuance of a Franchise to NV Energy, doing business as Sierra Pacific Power Company to Supply Natural Gas to Portions of Washoe County, Nevada; and If the Franchise Agreement is approved, to approve an associated Agreement to Pay Annually to Washoe County 2% of the franchisee's Net Profits under the franchise for the Benefit of the County School District Fund of Washoe County, State of Nevada; and approve an associated franchise fee to be determined by the Board of gross profits up to 5 %. (All Commission Districts.) **This item continued from the December 8, 2015 County Commission meeting.**

Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, advised the Board if they wanted to adopt a two percent franchise fee within the gas agreement, they would need to continue the Agenda Item in order to work out any legal issues. He stated a franchise fee for gas was not specified in the Code.

Chair Berkbigler said there was no desire by the Board to do that.

There was no public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved and adopted. The Resolution is attached hereto and made a part of the record thereof.

15-1075 **AGENDA ITEM 11** 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.

15-1076 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Public Comment.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

15-1077 **AGENDA ITEM 13** Announcements/Reports.

John Slaughter, County Manger, stated there was a problem with the Chamber’s heating unit.

Commissioner Jung requested an update from staff regarding the community’s lack of doctors. She mentioned new data which indicated the price of a gallbladder surgery could be nine times higher in a community where there was a healthcare monopoly. She asked for a cost comparison analysis of the costs associated with a caesarean section procedure performed here and in other areas. She said she met with the Community Assistance Center Transitional Governing Board (CACTGB) regarding how homelessness was being handled within the region. Information from the CACTGB would be brought to the Board at a concurrent meeting. She also mentioned the County hosted a Western Nevada Development District (WNDD) event at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport. This was the first time the County hosted the WNDD.

Each Commissioner stated their appreciation for Mr. Slaughter and County staff.

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COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

The following communications and reports were received, duly noted, and ordered placed on file with the Clerk:

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

- 15-1078** Verdi Television Maintenance District Financial Statement for the year ended June 30, 2015.
- 15-1079** Western Regional Water Commission Financial Statements, dated June 30, 2015.
- 15-1080** North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Financial Statements, dated June 30, 2015.
- 15-1081** Washoe County School District’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- 15-1082** Washoe County School District’s Financial Report for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015-16, ending September 30, 2015.

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11:27 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

MARSHA BERKBIGLER, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by:
Michael Siva, Deputy County Clerk*