

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

JUNE 20, 2017

PRESENT:

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

Nancy Parent, County Clerk
John Slaughter, County Manager
Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 11:15 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:

17-0496 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Mr. Geoff Staffelbach felt the three Commissioners who approved the relocation of a medical marijuana dispensary to Spanish Springs should have voted no with Commissioner Hartung and instead formed a committee to find a more acceptable site. He expressed concern about the dispensary's close proximity to a grocery store and a fire station, the increased risk of impaired drivers, and the potential for the dispensary to eventually sell recreational marijuana.

11:18 a.m. Commissioner Hartung arrived.

Ms. Tammy Holt-Still provided a document which was distributed to the Commissioners and placed on file with the Clerk. Ms. Holt-Still compared Swan Lake to Washoe Lake, pointing out Swan Lake was half as big and was a closed basin. She stated there was more water going into the Stead Sewer Plant than Swan Lake could hold and indicated that was why homes in Lemmon Valley were underwater. She mentioned more houses could flood by wintertime especially if barriers failed. She thanked Social Services Director Amber Howell for helping residents find extended housing.

Mr. Sam Dehne spoke about Washoe County District Attorney Christopher Hicks, the *Reno Gazette Journal*, and the International Guard's acquisition of firefighting C130 planes.

Mr. Gene Gardella advocated for the establishment of a Verdi Citizen's

Advisory Board (CAB). He noted Reno City Councilwoman Neoma Jardon held a community meeting that involved the Washoe County School District, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Nevada Department of Transportation, and other agencies to discuss the interactions between the City of Reno and Verdi. He suggested forming a joint Verdi CAB and a Reno Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB) as a better way to get information.

Mr. Wesley Griffin was called but was not present to speak.

Ms. Lisa Nash asked whether the Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) was a separate entity from the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) and inquired who they reported to. She indicated the VFD wanted to improve the tumultuous relationship with the TMFPD. She praised Gerlach VFD Fire Chief Pat Irwin for being a great liaison and for bringing the community together. She requested clarification about reporting, training, and budgeting.

Ms. Elisabeth Gambrell spoke on behalf of the Gerlach CAB because the Chairwoman for the CAB could not attend. She felt though the CAB acted as a liaison between the Washoe County Commissioners and Gerlach's citizens, it was not informed of issues that could affect Gerlach until just before scheduled CAB meetings. She requested better and earlier interaction with Washoe County.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

17-0497 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Berkbigler requested staff add a future agenda item to clarify some of the questions presented about the Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department (VFD). Commissioner Hartung asked staff for a monthly update on the upgrades of Calle De La Plata and Pyramid Highway as well as the haul road for Martin Marietta Aggregates. He requested discharge numbers for the three South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (STMWRF) plants.

Commissioner Herman requested signs be put up at the Peavine Mountain shooting area for personal and fire safety. Chair Lucey stated the County valued its Community Advisory Boards (CABs) as a way to communicate issues from citizens to the Commissioners. He pointed out they were business meetings with boards and recorded minutes often used for development or issues that required citizen input. As a more informal alternative he said every Commissioner had the ability to host district forums to discuss issues such as fire, security, safety, or water. He urged citizens to reach out to their Commissioners to request a district forum. He also stressed the need to get signs up at the Peavine shooting area since the Resolution was approved the prior year.

17-0498 **AGENDA ITEM 5** Introduction of new Washoe County Employees.

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

Andrew Galloway, Regional Parks and Open Space
Susan Hopkins, Environmental Health Services
Laura Dickson, Sheriff's Office / Civilian

Chair Lucey thanked and welcomed the new employees.

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

17-0499 **AGENDA ITEM 6** 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

Annalise Lockhart, District Attorney
Laura Martinez, District Attorney
Kim Novotny, Recorder's Office
Lona Tette, Assessor's Office
Hector Vasquez, District Attorney

Essentials of Management Development

Alicia Christensen, District Attorney
Katy Sullivan, District Attorney
Nathan Vohland, District Attorney
Dale Kaduk, District Attorney

Essentials of SAP for Financial Staff

Ben Hutchins, Community Service Department

Essentials of High Performing Teams

Kim Novotny, Recorder's Office

Essentials of Personal Effectiveness

Kim Novotny, Recorder's Office
Lona Tette, Assessor's Office

Essentials of Support Staff

Kim Novotny, Recorder's Office

Essentials of SAP for HR Rep

Susy Valdespin, Manager's Office

County Manager John Slaughter stated not only did these trainings show commitment by employees but also by supervisors, managers, and department directors. Chair Lucey thanked District Attorney Christopher Hicks for allowing his staff the time to attend these trainings as seven employees from his department participated. He praised Ms. Novotny for receiving four certificates and thanked all departments that allowed their employees to participate.

PROCLAMATIONS

17-0500 **7A1** Proclaim June 2017 as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month and June 21, 2017 as The Longest Day.

Brooke Westlake-Kelley thanked the Board for recognizing June as Alzheimer's Awareness Month and reminded them June 21, 2017 was the longest day, which represented caretakers working all day long to care for family members with dementia. She promoted an annual walk on Saturday, September 23 to raise money for find a cure for Alzheimer's. She was her grandmother's primary caretaker and noted two other family members had Alzheimer's. William Palmer stated several of his family members had Alzheimer's and said it was the greatest threat to the health and wealth of the elderly. He thanked the Board for recognizing the disease.

Commissioner Hartung introduced Social Services' Director Amber Howell and Division Director of Social Services Kenneth Retterath. He stated the Commission had worked to increase the impact of the Daybreak program. He mentioned caring for a family member with Alzheimer's at home was extremely difficult and the Daybreak program intended to offer assistance in home modification. He stated great strides had been made in brain imaging, the quest for bio markers, and the role of genetics. He encouraged people to get DNA testing done to give them the information and potentially make changes in their lives.

Commissioner Hartung read and presented the Proclamation to Brooke Westlake-Kelley, William Palmer, Amber Howell, and Ken Retterath. He noted all the Commissioners were wearing pins and purple clothing to represent their support.

Ms. Howell echoed support and encouraged employees and the community to wear purple and send photos to Community Outreach Coordinator Chris Ciarlo. Mr. Retterath thanked Commissioner Hartung and the Board, and said almost everyone had been touched by the disease at some point.

17-0501 **7A2** Proclaim June 17, 2017 as Silver Dollar Court Day.

Commissioner Jung read and presented the Proclamation to Paco Lachoy in the stead of Emperor David Harrison White.

Mr. Lechoy thanked the Commission and stated they were working to seek national landmark status for the rodeo grounds which was the site of the original Gay Rodeo in 1976.

There was no public comment on the Proclamations listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Items 7A1 and 7A2 be adopted.

DONATIONS

17-0502 **8A1** Accept Monetary Donations to Washoe County Regional Animal Services [totaling \$9,041.89] for the period of January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017 to be used for the humane care and treatment of sick and/or injured, stray, abandoned, or at risk animals received; express appreciation for these thoughtful contributions; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Animal Services. (All Commission Districts.)

17-0503 **8A2** Accept[\$6,862] in donation for the District Attorney's Office Child Advocacy Center equipment, operational, and program needs from 36 individual donors and authorize Comptroller to make appropriate budget adjustments. District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)

17-0504 **8A3** Recommendation to accept various military surplus equipment [overall estimated value \$1,948,119.87, no charge to the County] donated to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office to be utilized to support Detention Response Team (DRT), K9 Units, RAVEN, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) unit and Search and Rescue of WCSO. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

17-0505 **8A4** Accept a one-time donation [total of \$23,226.00] from Lifestyle Homes to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office to be used for the Patrol Division to purchase rifles, optics and related equipment, and, if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make appropriate budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

17-0506 **8A5** Acknowledge a donation of equipment [valued at \$1,196.00] from Drunk Busters of America, LLC to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office to be used for community outreach. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Jung read Agenda Items 8A1 to 8A5. She noted the Child Advocacy Center was a place for children who had been abused to get examinations without having to repeat their stories to many agencies; she recommended touring the facility. Commissioner Hartung noted there was a slight change in the language of Agenda Item 8A4 and Commissioner Jung stated the donation was from The Lifestyle Homes Foundation.

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

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Items 8A1 to 8A5 be accepted.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM – 9A

17-0507 **9A** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioner’s regular meeting of May 23, 2017. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no public comment on the Consent Agenda Item listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Item 9A be approved.

Chair Lucey noted after the vote the VoteCast system annotated that Commissioner Herman made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Jung.

17-0508 **AGENDA ITEM 10** Public Comment.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matter of concern to herself.

Ms. Tammy Holt-Still stressed the water entering Swan Lake was going into a closed basin and had no way to exit. She admitted evaporation worked to an extent but Swan Lake received both runoff and effluent water. She indicated she had done research and there was a committee looking to work with the County to discuss solutions. She stated the committee met with an organization that was trying to arrange a pro-bono hydrologist to help. She asked the County to listen to residents’ ideas.

17-0509 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Hartung said he and County Manager John Slaughter represented the County at the Northern Nevada Law Enforcement Academy (NNLEA) on June 7, 2017. He stated there were 18 attendees from the Sheriff’s Office, 15 from the Reno Police Department, four from the Sparks Police Department, two from the Reno/Sparks Indian Colony, and two from the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. The academy featured Master Deputy Richard Pillon’s final class before retirement and

Commissioner Hartung wanted to honor him with a proclamation. He thanked everyone who endeavored to become a police officer.

Commissioner Berkbigler brought up a previous request to staff about someone serving on a Citizen Advisory Board when they were a member of a General Improvement District. She had received a report on the topic and requested it be brought back at a future meeting for discussion.

Chair Lucey promoted the Reno Rodeo and the Bob Feist International Team Roping Championship and thanked staff for their patience with the events and parking issues. He expressed pride at the events and the effect on the economy. He said the Sheriff's Association would be in town the following week and would conduct a meeting at the Commission Chambers. He noted more than 500 sheriffs would be in attendance.

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12:24 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

BOB LUCEY, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

Minutes Prepared by:
Derek Sonderfan, Deputy County Clerk