

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 24, 2017

PRESENT:

Bob Lucey, Chair  
Marsha Berkgigler, 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 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:

Chair Lucey announced the Board would move Agenda Item 10 to earlier in the day to accommodate public comment speakers.

**17-0068** AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Claudia Watkins, Reno resident, speculated about the new Waste Management contract and how it would affect people in the County. She used to pay for seven 96-gallon totes, one for home waste and six for horse manure. Waste Management (WM) asked her to buy her own totes, which cost her more than \$300. She alleged WM indicated they would only accept one tote and would not accept her purchased totes, which she called criminal. She protested the requirement to place stickers on the loose garbage bags and spoke out against the fee to dump her trailer. She claimed to have seen people illegally dumping in the hills. She implored the Board to not sign the contract.

John Slaughter, County Manager, announced there were technical difficulties with the outside audio feed but technicians were actively working on the problem.

Ray Lake, Chairman of North Valleys Citizen's Advisory Board, mentioned he had requested an update on the WM contract in August but did not receive one. He recalled when recycling began he was told it would save him money but instead his rates increased. He expressed frustration at the rate increase and urged the Board to take another look at the contract. He noted the old contract extended into 2020. He was disappointed there had been no competitive bids.

Tammy Still spoke of the flooding in Lemmon Valley. She distributed to the Commissioners a packet of information including photos and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) information, which was placed on file with the Clerk. She requested the Board members sign a document to acknowledge receipt of the same. She cited flooding issues at Tupelo Street and Waterash Street in Lemmon Valley, claiming an insufficient pipe caused the flooding of two houses. She decried having only one water outlet for over 100 residential acres. She further pointed out the lake had not been dredged to alleviate the overflow issues as promised. She offered solutions including changing the outflow pipe size and implementing proper grading of the ditches.

Will Brown of Spanish Springs purchased a 40-acre parcel of land one half mile north of La Posada in 1977. In 1978 the County stated there was not enough water to justify the zoning assigned to the property. He said originally it was zoned for one dwelling unit per acre but it had been downzoned to one dwelling per 10 acres. The area near Delores Drive was rezoned to one dwelling per 1/3 acre. He had seen thousands of acres developed in Spanish Springs on lots ranging from 1/3 acre to 2 acres but nothing had been done about reinstating the previous zoning on his property. He alleged the County said they would review the water situation and restore the zoning but it still had not happened.

Elise Weatherly from Sun Valley inquired who decided Marvin Neal would not be allowed to volunteer at the Jan Evans Juvenile Justice Center. She accused the decision makers of breaking the law and requested changes so children in juvenile centers could learn right from wrong.

Sam Dehne voiced his displeasure at the new chairs in Chambers and the cost to install them. He also implied there could have been vote rigging.

Garth Elliott requested the installment of handicapped parking spaces in front of the County complex. He alleged the Sign Ordinance was an example of turning the scales of justice upside down.

Danny Cleous, a Lemmon Valley resident, claimed there had been drainage issues on his property since the County redesigned the drainage system in 1980. He noted his parents brought a signed petition to the County in the 1980s but nothing had been done since then. He warned Lemmon Drive would flood again if there was another storm and suggested the County build another levy along the trailer park.

Donna Robinson reminded the Board she showed them photos of devastated homes at a previous meeting. She displayed additional pictures of flooding in Lemmon Valley which were placed on file with the Clerk. Her neighbor's house sank and the septic tank had collapsed due to flooding. She requested the maintenance schedule for ditch repairs. She noted Community Services Director David Solaro's staff unplugged one of the blocked culverts but she asked the Board for more help.

Jeff Church, owner of a website called renotaxrevolt.com, spoke about Washoe County Question 1 (WC-1). He alleged the enactment was illegal and he provided an update on the pending litigation of the matter. He raised concerns about where some of the approved budget was going, such as for salaries and new vehicles. He claimed approval of Agenda Item 16 would violate Nevada Revised Statute 387 and the public was promised the money would not be used for administrators. He submitted a handout, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Vicky Maltman spoke about the Waste Management contract. She expressed displeasure at having received a single-stream recycling container despite having elected to opt out. Among her concerns were confusion as to what to recycle, wasting water to wash out containers, and having to separate recycling from trash. She felt the Board chose to put politics before people.

**17-0069**      **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

Mr. Slaughter announced the Board would take a one hour lunch break at 12:30 p.m.

Commissioner Jung insisted there was a balance to consider in terms of Waste Management (WM) rates that would not result in illegal dumping. She requested they emulate the policy of the Mills Lane Justice Center by installing a portrait of President Barack Obama since he was no longer a sitting president. In reference to Lemmon Valley's flooding, she requested the District Attorney's Office contact the developer to determine what sign-off mechanism was used when the development's drainage system was approved. She requested a method to assess who was liable for drainage issues, the Developer or the County, and how long they held that liability.

Commissioner Berkbigler opted to wait to address the WM issue until Agenda Item 10 came up. She agreed with Commissioner Jung's concerns regarding the Lemmon Valley issue, saying it needed to be addressed.

Commissioner Herman indicated she wanted to hear the opinions of the public.

Commissioner Hartung implied that allowing competition could fix the WM problem. He requested to see a schedule of the maintenance of the ditches in the region and to see how the cleanup effort was being prioritized. He invited a discussion of what a regional storm water utility program would look like.

Chair Lucey expressed disappointment with the WM agreement and WM's understanding of it. He requested a presentation from the Regional Transportation Commission regarding the southeast connector in Hidden Valley and the mercury deposits reported there. He thanked David Solaro, Dwayne Smith and the Community Services Department (CSD) staff for their time and energy in response to the recent weather events. He called for a presentation from the CSD regarding how plowing was

prioritized. He echoed Commissioner Jung's concerns over development issues with regard to flooding, not only in the North Valleys but in areas like Toll Road and Geiger Grade as well. He specifically asked for an update on the problems surrounding Toll Road.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 5A THROUGH 5D**

- 17-0070**      **5A** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioner's regular meeting of December 13, 2016 and special meeting of January 3, 2017.
- 17-0071**      **5B** Approve the Forensic Support Services Agreement between Washoe County on behalf of Washoe County Sheriff's Office and Mono County on behalf Mono County District Attorney's Office for a fee of [\$250 per hour, not to exceed \$15,000.00 total income] for the retroactive term of January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 17-0072**      **5C** Approve roll change requests, pursuant to NRS 361.765 and/or NRS 361.768, for errors discovered for the 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 secured and unsecured tax rolls and authorize Chair to execute the changes described in Exhibits A and B and direct the Washoe County Treasurer to correct the error(s). [cumulative amount of decrease to all taxing entities \$22,127.85]. Assessor. (Parcels are in Commission Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5.)
- 17-0073**      **5D** Authorize the Tax Collector to strike names and amounts identified on delinquency/uncollectible Personal Property Tax list for fiscal years 2008-09 to 2015-16, [totaling \$73,629.75]. Comptroller. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Jeff Church spoke on Agenda Item 5B. He reflected on the importance of a crime lab but pointed out the City of Reno paid nothing for crime lab services while Mono County was required to pay for them. He beseeched the Board look into that inequality. He alleged the Board was supposed to address the issue in December of 2015 but had not yet done so.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5D be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5D are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

**BLOCK VOTE – 6,7,8 AND 11**

- 17-0074 **AGENDA ITEM 6** Award Bid No. 3007-17, to purchase three replacement 66,000 GVWR Truck Cab/Chassis for [\$357,411], and Bid No. 3008-17, to purchase two replacement 60,000 GVWR Truck Cab/Chassis for [\$226,350], from the lowest responsive responsible bidder [staff recommends Sierra Freightliner Sterling Western Star Inc.] for the Community Services Department Operations Division. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no public comment on this item.

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

- 17-0075 **AGENDA ITEM 7** Approve an Easement, Deed Grant of Easement between Washoe County and Maria Hogencamp Tanghe for a permanent non-exclusive easement and right-of-way for ingress, egress, public and private utilities totaling 26,400 square feet on APN 066-070-05. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

On call for public comment, Elise Weatherly asked for help getting the easement built for the Sierra Nevada Teen Ranch.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Jung absent during the vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be approved.

- 17-0076 **AGENDA ITEM 8** Approve a Participating Agreement Interpretive Services between the Great Basin Institute, Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest for continued cooperative visitor services and programming at the Galena Creek Visitor Center and Recreation Area, and authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to sign the Agreement on behalf of Washoe County; and further authorize the Operations Division Director of the Community Services Department to annually approve the Annual Operating Plan on behalf of Washoe County. Community Services. (Commission District 1.)

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be approved and authorized.

**17-0077**      **AGENDA ITEM 11** Discussion and possible action to accept the resignation and approve the separation agreement with Washoe County Building Official Don Jeppson effective January 24, 2017. [\$185,000.00]. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

On call for public comment, Elise Weatherly said she did not like separation agreements because of their vague language. She expressed shock at the amount of the separation agreement.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved.

**10:48 a.m.**      **After seconding the motion, Commissioner Jung left the meeting.**

**10:51 a.m.**      **Commissioner Jung returned to the meeting.**

**17-0078**      **AGENDA ITEM 10** Update and possible direction to staff on the Waste Management franchise agreement and possible related matters. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, reported on the Waste Management (WM) franchise agreement and single-stream recycling. He drew attention to copies of the staff reports that had been made available to the public. He explained the single-stream component was comprised of three pieces: 1) The communication and notification of the program to the customers. The County met with WM and discovered written notification had been sent out after the holidays, though WM acknowledged there may have been delays in sending the notifications. 2) Flexibility within the single-stream program. WM had approved 64-gallon and 96-gallon bins for garbage and recycling but had not approved a 32-gallon option. WM agreed they could add an option for a smaller bin size. He stated 7,000 customers across unincorporated Washoe County did not have designated bins. WM provided those customers with 64-gallon bins and notified customers they could change their base service level after February 1, 2017. 3) The largest issue was the accuracy of information provided to customers. The issue had been addressed with Greg Martinelli, WM Area Manager, and the County had worked with the Phoenix call center, resulting in a reduction of customer complaints. He noted the implementation of the single-stream program along with the recent bad weather had created nonstop complaints. He highlighted the old agreement's seven bag limit was not enforced by WM and he compared that to the new agreement where customers were provided with 25 stickers. In addition there were two months a year when the stickers were not required. He stated there was a communication issue regarding the rate structure between Reno and WM's call center based in Phoenix. He acknowledged the senior discount expired years ago but many individuals were grandfathered into the agreement and would likely stay well below the standard rate. He suggested the County use a piece of the franchise fee to subsidize the senior rates. He revealed customers could opt out of

the single-stream program though they could not opt out of their garbage service. He reported his department received many complaints related to trash service during the inclement weather. Some customers had gone three weeks without trash service. He met with Mr. Solaro to discuss scheduling plows. He recounted complaints of recycling trucks picking up their bins but not the trash trucks. WM explained it was due to the weight of the garbage trucks. He reminded the Board an ombudsman was assigned to address disputes regarding the scope of the contract reviewed on December 29, 2016. The Manager's Office was in daily talks with WM to address both the complaints and how they could better educate customers. He urged WM and the County to discuss the pick-up process and routes, the notification of cancelled service to customers, and how to manage the expectations of customers in high-impact weather areas. He noted there were complaints of trash not being picked up even though roads were clear. He emphasized the key complaint about WM was communication. He commended his staff for doing what they could to address customers' concerns.

Chair Lucey expressed disappointment with WM's rollout of the program. He pointed out the majority of Washoe County was comprised of rural residences. He passed along the complaint that the County Manager's Office had spent much of their time acting as customer service department for WM. He asked Mr. Schiller for an estimate of the time he had spent fielding calls to which Mr. Schiller responded the task comprised about half of his office's time over the previous several weeks. Chair Lucey called that unacceptable and pointed out WM had promised ombudsmen and service in the contract that had been drawn up. He invited Robert Sack, Division Director of Environmental Health for the Health District, to the podium. Mr. Sack confirmed garbage was required to be picked up once a week with no exceptions for temperature; however, he acknowledged that historically service had lapsed for more than seven days because of inclement weather. When asked if there were repercussions for WM's inability to provide service, Mr. Sack expressed concern and mentioned action could be taken against them, though the Health District had historically been flexible during times of bad weather.

Commissioner Berkgigler echoed Chair Lucey's remarks stating it was not the County's job to take care of WM's customer service issues. She had heard more than twenty complaints from customers who were promised pickups that did not occur, pickups that were not rescheduled in a timely fashion, or WM failing to take all the garbage that was left out. Those complaints came from both City and County customers. She reiterated constituents' complaints about single-stream recycling such as receiving containers after opting out, having inadequate recycling containers, and experiencing service delays of three weeks or more. She explained when the new franchise agreement was first being discussed they emphasized the differences between rural and city areas. She pointed out larger parcels produced more waste and would require more receptacles. She asked Mr. Schiller consider how the County could help constituents with larger yards or horses before an agreement was signed as that was a common complaint. She added though some people were unhappy with single-stream recycling, many were happy with it.

Mr. Schiller indicated WM had pledged flexibility for larger parcel sizes, such as providing the availability of additional service levels for purchase and the ability to use stickers on self-purchased cans. Commissioner Berkbigler provided the example of Dr. Linkus, surgeon, who had four cans that WM used to pick up, but since the rates went up WM would only pick up two cans, which had to be special cans purchased from WM. She stressed the situation needed to be addressed.

Commissioner Herman reminded the Board she was not happy with the proposed contract and had voted against it. She indicated she had to walk a mile to drop off her cans and that she had tried to opt out of the single-stream recycling program but missed the deadline. She pointed out the inequity that District 5, which had quite a bit of industrial zoning, had to pay more than Sparks did. She hoped these issues would be worked out.

Commissioner Hartung expressed frustration at having to play customer service representative at all times of the day. He told of one citizen who was on hold with the Phoenix call center for over 30 minutes before being hung up on. He praised Independent Sanitation whose customer service had been local and available. He relayed the story of a woman whose garbage did not get picked up for three weeks. When WM finally came they only took one can. The woman requested a credit on her account which was denied. He alleged there was a disconnect between the route drivers' actions and the managers' instructions and remarked the disconnect should not be the County's problem. He stated most complaints he received in his district were from the rural areas of Spanish Springs. The larger parcel owners with horses stressed to him the inadequacy of the current contract. He suggested creating an equestrian package with proper disposal measures for manure and also proposed additional transfer stations in the south and in Spanish Springs. He cited a lack of competition as a source of tension. He acknowledged the difficulty with the bad weather, but appealed to WM to propose solutions to those problems. He mentioned the issue of everyone paying the same regardless of parcel size and wanted equity for those customers who didn't need as many services.

Chair Lucey asked if there was a current limit on totes for garbage. Mr. Schiller replied customers could upgrade their service level for a larger pickup or they could utilize the stickers. Chair Lucey asked if there was any WM staff present with the capability of making decisions. Mr. Schiller introduced Sam Ottosen, District Manager for Reno Disposal, and Kendra Kostecky, Communications Specialist for WM. Mr. Ottosen clarified residents were allowed to order as many totes as they wanted and additional totes were \$5-\$6 as opposed to \$21 for the initial toter. Another option he presented was to put a sticker on an additional can. He said WM trucks were not gentle with cans, which was why they recommended using WM cans.

Commissioner Hartung asked if Mr. Martinelli had originally stated customers could use their own cans, to which Mr. Ottosen replied customers were to use WM cans only.

Commissioner Jung pointed out when the rental containers were put into use, labor costs went down. She asked why rates had not gone down since customers were taking on some of WM's responsibilities and helped to prevent workman's compensation accidents. Mr. Ottosen replied safety was the first concern and the trade-off was the increased cost of the trucks. WM ordered 50 new trucks over the course of three or four years. Commissioner Jung requested the data analytics to verify that information. Sam declared Mr. Martinelli expressed his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting and thanked the County for acting as customer service representatives.

Chair Lucey inquired about changes to pick-up locations for those citizens with long driveways and what the communication plan was for those customers. Mr. Ottosen cited an increase in private property damage complaints because of the increased weight of the new trucks as the reason for the policy change. Chair Lucey observed communication regarding those changes had not yet happened. Mr. Ottosen said he directed his managers to continue pick-ups at prior locations until they notified the specific customers of any changes. When asked about the contingency plan for removing garbage when they could not pick up at the normal time, Mr. Ottosen responded the normal procedure was to return the next day, or the day after, depending on the cause of the delay. In unusual circumstances like bad weather they would return on the next service day.

Chair Lucey contended WM was a very large corporation that should have a contingency fund to contract other haulers to help with weather-related overflow. He conceded nobody could control the weather but chided WM for its poor service and communication. He said the lack of service was unacceptable by the Health District and by the County. He alleged it should be unacceptable to WM. He requested solutions to rectify the issues.

Commissioner Hartung spoke of customers in Spanish Springs who were encouraged by WM to put their trash in bags, but then animals got into the bags and garbage was strewn everywhere. Though not WM's fault, the incident was caused by WM's suggestion and nobody from WM would clean up the mess.

On call for public comment, the following individuals voiced their concerns about the proposed Waste Management agreement: Gary Derks, Claudia Watkins, Tom Broome, Donna Robinson, and Pete Todoroff.

The above individuals' concerns included: inadequate communication from WM; an insufficient number of stickers for additional trash; the reduced number of cans WM would pick up; the inability to properly dispose of horse manure; WM's poor service not being related to the poor weather; and the lack of competition in the area.

Nikki Berry, Lemmon Valley resident, spoke of the drainage issues caused by WM's failures. She requested the Board create a Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) in Lemmon Valley.

Ray Lake, Chair of the North Valley's CAB, invited Ms. Berry to attend the North Valley's CAB meeting on February 13 at the North Valleys Community Center. He spoke of rumors that the single-stream recycling program was implemented to avoid filling up the Lockwood landfill in Storey County, saying he felt their goals were unattainable. He also brought up a rumor that the recyclables were being diverted back into the trash stream for disposal.

Roger Edwards agreed with many of the same complaints and implored the Commissioners seek out a task force to bring forward citizens' concerns. He volunteered to be a part of that group.

Wes Cameron discussed the waste management company of Las Vegas, Republic Services. He claimed they picked up trash twice a week, offered free dumping for customers who paid their bills on time, removed large appliances, and had cheaper rates than WM in Reno. He called signing a contract without considering other companies ridiculous.

Chair Lucey stated the objective of the Commission was to create safe, secure, and healthy communities. He charged the current system promoted illegal dumping and implied the communication effort of WM was a failure. He thought it discourteous of WM to not send any decision makers to the meeting. He entreated staff to bring back a different agreement or alternatives to the Board.

Commissioner Herman commended Mr. Edwards' idea of creating a task force and opined there could be a better agreement. She suggested there should be no deadline for the opt-out option of single-stream recycling and also that people should be able to find an alternative to the entire garbage service program.

Commissioner Hartung dismissed the comment about Storey County's landfill as it was not pertinent to Washoe County. He posed the question of how to structure competition since WM owned the local landfill and concluded there had to be a better way to do business.

Chair Lucey pointed out there were no repercussions for WM's failures but there were repercussions for citizens. He declared he wanted to look at the possibility of open market options.

Mr. Schiller confirmed he received enough direction and anticipated the need for a future agenda item.

Commissioner Hartung directed Mr. Schiller to look into Republic Service's business model in Las Vegas.

**12:08 p.m. The Board recessed.**

**1:30 p.m. The Board reconvened with all members present.**

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

17-0079

**AGENDA ITEM 12** Master Plan Amendment Case No. MPA16-001 and Regulatory Zone Amendment Case No. RZA16-002 (USA Parkway Industrial) - Public hearing, discussion and possible action to affirm the findings of the Planning Commission and: (1) To adopt an amendment to the Washoe County Master Plan, Truckee Canyon Area Plan to change the Master Plan Category on one ±60.22-acre parcel from Rural to a mix of Industrial and Open Space; (2) Subject to final approval of the associated Master Plan change, to adopt an amendment to the Truckee Canyon Area Plan Regulatory Zone Map, changing the Regulatory Zone from General Rural (maximum density: 1 dwelling unit per 40 acres) to a mix of Industrial (no allowable residential density) and Open Space (no allowable residential density); and, if approved, (3) To authorize the Chair to sign the two resolutions to adopt the amendments to the Truckee Canyon Master Plan Map and Regulatory Zone Map, after a determination of conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan by the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission. Stan Lucas is the applicant and property owner. The subject parcel (APN 084-120-26) is ±60.22 acres in size and located at 22560 Interstate 80 East, approximately ½ mile west of USA Parkway. It is situated within the Truckee Canyon Area Plan and East Truckee Canyon Citizen Advisory Board boundaries and within portions of Section 27 and Section 34, T20N, R22E, MDM. Community Services. (Commission District 4)

The Chair opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak on this item.

Commissioner Hartung invited Bill Whitney, Division Director of Planning and Development, to the podium. In response to a question by Commissioner Hartung, Mr. Whitney stated a request had been made for additional industrial land use in Spanish Springs and there were still some unused acres. Mr. Hartung indicated he thought some of the land was available in Lemmon Valley, but Mr. Whitney clarified the land involved did not fall within the Truckee Meadows Service Area (TMSA) and therefore did not follow Policy 1.3.3. When asked about the leftover acreage, Mr. Whitney confirmed the remaining acreage would be sufficient.

On the call for public comment Lucas Ingvaldstad, Director of Public Affairs for Crowley & Ferrato, spoke in representation of EP Minerals. He stated one of EP's primary manufacturing plants was located at the intersection of USA Parkway and I-80. He expressed pleasure at seeing the economic development in the area but was concerned about traffic. He encouraged the Board to insure proper infrastructure to accommodate existing and future growth.

Commissioner Hartung moved to affirm the findings of the Planning Commission for MPA16-001 and RZA16-002, and (1) Adopt an amendment to the

Washoe County Master Plan, Truckee Canyon Area Plan to change the Master Plan Category on one ±60.22-acre parcel from Rural to a mix of Industrial and Open Space; (2) Subject to final approval of the associated Master Plan change, to adopt an amendment to the Truckee Canyon Area Plan Regulatory Zone Map, changing the Regulatory Zone from General Rural to a mix of Industrial and Open Space; and (3) Authorize the Chair to sign the two resolutions to adopt the amendments to the Truckee Canyon Master Plan Map and Regulatory Zone Map, after a determination of conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan by the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5-0. The resolutions for same are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

**17-0080**      **AGENDA ITEM 13** Appeal hearing and possible action to affirm, modify, or reverse the Board of Adjustment's denial of Administrative Permit Case Number AP16-008, an application by the Sun Valley General Improvement District for an Administrative Permit for an Electronic Message Display sign. The overall height of the proposed sign was six feet. The overall width of the proposed sign was eight feet. The electronic message display area was approximately seven-and-a-half feet in width and two feet in height (15 square feet). The property is located at 115 W. 6th Avenue, at the Sun Valley Regional Park and within Section 18, Township 20 North, Range 20 East, MDM. The Assessor's Parcel Number is 085-211-03. The parcel is ± 26.1 acres in size. The Master Plan Category is Suburban Residential and the zoning is Parks and Recreation (PR). Community Services, (Commission District 3.)

Mr. Lipparelli, Legal Counsel, instructed the Board since Agenda Item 13 was an appeal hearing, the proper order needed to be followed: the Chair could ask for a brief staff report, then the appellant needed to be given the chance to make their case, followed by questions and discussion.

Darren Price, General Manager for the Sun Valley General Improvement District, thanked Commissioners Herman and Jung for partnering with him in this endeavor. He explained the County had raised the funds for the electronic sign but the special use permit was denied. He conducted a PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He showed the current sign, installed in 1996, and called it antiquated since changing text required someone to physically slide letters in and out. He pointed out the County had many entities in the Neighborhood Center including Senior Services, the Sheriff's Department, and others. He stated there was a need for a way to convey messages other than online methods. He compared the current sign with the proposed sign, stressing the practicality of displaying emergency notifications on the new sign such as amber alerts and weather alerts. He showed a photo of a detention basin which would be where the proposed sign would need to be to be in compliance with the Sign Code. He showed several photos of the easement area and explained the concerns with each possible location, including the existence of sidewalks and trees, as well as visibility issues caused by the sloping ground. He claimed they met every aspect of the

Sign Code except for the requirement to be outside the 200 foot radius instituted by the Code. He said Garth Elliott had collected three affected owners' signatures supporting the sign and pointed out there would only be four or five residences within the 200 foot radius of the new sign. He showed photos of a large pedestrian crosswalk that flashed 24 hours a day in that same radius and alleged the brightness of the proposed sign would be nothing new to residents. He informed the Commissioners his board already discussed ways to mitigate some concerns, including changing dwell times, changing transition times, or turning off the sign at certain times. He highlighted the benefit of changing messages remotely and the new sign's ability to display more than one message simultaneously. He pleaded with the Commissioners to reconsider the decision of the Board of Adjustment (BOA) because the opportunity to improve their medium to low income community should not be passed by.

On the call for public comment, Garth Elliott called the BOA's decision a case of community development gone awry. He commented the 25,000 people in Sun Valley were never consulted about the sign and alleged the Sign Code did not meet the needs of the community. He chided the Code's language for having no recourse to appeal other than through the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). He stressed the need to be able to communicate emergency notifications and asked the Board to fix the problem.

Vicky Maltman, member of the Sun Valley Citizen Advisory Board, called Sun Valley the stepchild of the County and stressed how important the sign would be for the community. She conceded while the community could connect to social media, the majority of older Sun Valley residents did not use computers and did not access the internet. She mentioned the General Improvement District's (GID's) messages would not be seen by half the residents. She wished the sign was being considered for placement further down to El Rancho but insisted it would be the best thing for the community. She implored the Commissioners to allow the sign which would provide information about seniors' lunch programs and missing child alerts. She claimed the residents supported the sign.

Commissioner Herman referred the Board to an email from Susan Severt, which was placed on file with the Clerk. Commissioner Herman lamented she had been trying to get the sign approved for a while. She commented the BOA was limited in its authority but the BCC was not. She entreated the Commissioners to find a way to make the sign happen.

Mr. Lipparelli offered an explanation of the legal standard set by the Sign Code which restricted the location of the sign to further than 200 feet from residential zoning. He explained the Sign Code as written would not permit the sign unless the issuance of the permit was required by state or federal mandate. He warned future applicants would think an exception would give the impression one government entity was doing a favor for another. He listed the following options: to overturn the BOA decision knowing it would create an exception to the Sign Code, or to amend the Sign Code to either lessen the distance standard, or to exempt signs operated by other government entities. He reminded the Board the Sign Code revision was a long process

and cautioned of possible legal ramifications. The Board's decision would not just be based on measuring the value of the sign, but on following the Sign Code.

Commissioner Jung asked Mr. Lipparelli if she could exempt other government agencies from adherence to the Sign Code to promote the safety of the public at the meeting or if she would have to bring the item back on a future agenda. Based on Mr. Lipparelli's legal advice, Commission Jung moved to overturn the BOA's decision and to direct the issuance of a permit. She further directed staff to produce an amendment to the Sign Code that would articulate the basis for the exception.

Commissioner Hartung agreed with Commissioner Jung's assessment that the sign was a unique opportunity; he suggested the sign could convey messages in Spanish. It would provide the community with news they might not be able to access otherwise.

Mr. Lipparelli asked for clarification of Ms. Jung's motion.

Commissioner Jung retracted her initial motion and moved to reverse the decision of the BOA and approve Administrative Permit Case Number AP16-008 for the Sun Valley General Improvement District, having made all five findings in accordance with Washoe County Development Code Section 110.808.25: 1) Consistency – the use is consistent with the action programs, policies, standards and maps of the Master Plan and the Sun Valley Area Plan; 2) Improvements – That adequate utilities, roadway improvements, sanitation, water supply, drainage, and other necessary facilities have been provided, the proposed improvements are properly related to existing and proposed roadways, and an adequate public facilities determination has been made in accordance with Division Seven; 3) Site Suitability – That the site is physically suitable for type of development, i.e. an EMD, and for the intensity of such a development; 4) Issuance Not Detrimental – That issuance of the permit will not be significantly detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare; injurious to the property or improvements of adjacent properties; or detrimental to the character of the surrounding area; and 5) Effect on Military Installation – Issuance of the permit will not have a detrimental effect on the location, purpose or mission of a military installation. Commissioner Herman seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5 to 0.

Upon Chair Lucey's direction, Commissioner Jung directed staff to attend the next meeting with language amending the Sign Code with the intent to exempt other governmental agencies that meet the conditioning requirements. Chair Lucey announced he briefly opened up Agenda Item 18 to have the preceding discussion.

**17-0081**      **AGENDA ITEM 14** Appeal hearing and possible action to affirm, modify, or reverse the Board of Adjustment's denial of Special Use Permit Case Number SB16-010 (Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Station Number 14) which requested approval of a special use permit for the construction and operation of a new fire station. The property is located at the southeast corner of Foothill Road and Broken Hill Road and

within Section 8, Township 18 North, Range 20 East, MDM. The Assessor's Parcel Number is 044-300-19. The parcel is ± 3 acres in size. The Master Plan Category is Suburban Residential and the zoning is Medium Density Suburban (MDS). Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

Angela Fuss with CFA Inc. representing the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) initiated the presentation, saying they began the process to relocate Station 14 two years prior. It was initially a volunteer station but since its inception it had first been a City of Reno station then a TMFPD station. She claimed the current location had response time issues. She drew attention to the presentation slide showing the large area Station 14 serviced. They had been searching for a central location with easy access to Route 395 and Virginia Street to allow better service to the entire area. She stated the proposed location at Foothill Road and Broken Hill Road was ideal because it was central, could provide backup protection for the Hidden Valley area, and was close to Marvin Picollo School. The new location would put the station 30 seconds away from the school's special needs students instead of 4½ minutes. Additionally the parcel of land was bigger than needed at five acres and the station could be accessed from two different roads which would save time. She showed a rendering of the proposed station and compared the station's proximity to residential areas to those of the Hidden Valley fire station, the Arrowcreek station, the Joy Lake station, and the Sun Valley fire station. She highlighted some of the issues brought up by the public and announced the proposed plans to amend the site accordingly. The two access roads would eliminate trucks having to back into a service area. The station would have the capability of accommodating two fire crews rather than having to build a second fire station. To allay parking concerns, the design allowed for 15 parking spots when only five were required by Code. The project would install sidewalks to both Foothill Road and Broken Hill Road. They had amended the lighting plan to avoid light pollution and the site had been modified to include an eight foot tall block wall to refocus and reduce generator noise from 70 decibels to 50 decibels. They worked with the School District to add a school bus pad making it safer for students. She announced the proposal was in agreement with the amended conditions of approval: widening Foothill Drive, adding sidewalks, amending site lighting, and relocating the training tower to an alternate location. She addressed concerns of traffic backup during the schools' drop-off and pick-up times, reporting a survey conducted at more than a dozen different times over two months showed no traffic where the station would be located. A traffic engineer verified Foothill Drive produced Level C traffic, an acceptable amount. Despite having no requirements to widen the road, pursuant the County Engineer's request they would widen the road within the limits of the fire station parcel. She announced to prevent fire trucks getting stuck at the Virginia Street traffic light they would put in a traffic signal pre-emption system that could speed up the light. She noted there would also be emergency vehicle crossing signage and striping.

Charles Moore, TMFPD Chief, relayed a National Fire Protection Association statistic that 96 percent of fire deaths occurred at home. He stated all TMFPD stations except Station 14 were already in residential areas. He repeated how

advantageous it would be to be closer to a school for disabled children which made an average of nine serious Emergency Medical Services (EMS) calls per year. He estimated the station responded to an average of three calls a day, one of which was to support other districts. He deduced the likely addition of another engine in the next budget cycle could mean the proposed station would expect to respond to two calls per day over the course of a year. He declared regardless of where a fire station was located they would need to go into neighborhoods with lights and sirens on. He alleged the location would move the station closer to the calls they were servicing. He noted the proposal went before the Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB) three times and was heard before the Board of Fire Commissioners at least twelve times, but he had not heard any pushback until the community meeting. He stated in his professional judgment the station needed to be at the proposed location.

On the call for public comment, the following individuals voiced their opposition to overturning the Board of Appeals decision: Ken McBride, Chris Russ, Kathy Russ, Joe Theaman, Kay Theaman, Geordan Goebel, Deborah Goebel, and Michael Imus.

The individuals' concerns included: the property was purchased years before they were given approval for the station; the excessive traffic the fire station would cause; the timing of the traffic study that was performed; the safety of cyclists and pedestrians on Foothill Drive; the inability to pull over to allow fire trucks passage; the volume of generator and sirens' sounds; and the minimal notice about the proposal the residents received.

Kathy Russ and Deborah Goebel showed photographs of the area, which were placed on file with the Clerk.

Commissioner Hartung acknowledged the decision was difficult. He spoke of the fire station in his neighborhood that extinguished a fire at his house in 1988 and said he never heard a fire station mentioned as a negative thing by any residents he spoke to. He intimated fire stations belonged in residential areas because that was where they were needed. He empathized with the concerns over traffic as he experienced that in Spanish Springs but added those issues were cleared up over time. He claimed emergency vehicles were less of a problem than parents picking up their children from school. He concluded he had trouble understanding the concern over a fire station. Commissioner Herman referenced a terrible fire in Verdi, saying the residents would have loved to have a fire station in their community.

Mr. Lipparelli pointed out within the staff report were recommendations from staff as well as a recitation of standards and findings that needed to be made for the issuance of a special use permit. He recommended if they were to sustain or overturn the decision, the explanation should be within the scope of the findings for special use permits.

Commissioner Jung moved to reverse the decision of the BOA and approve, with the conditions of approval included at Attachment D to this report, Special Use Permit Case Number SB16-010 for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, having made the five findings required in accordance with Washoe County Code Section 110.810.30 and one finding in accordance with the Southwest Truckee Meadows Area Plan, including: 1) Consistency – That the proposed use is consistent with the action programs, policies, standards and maps of the Master Plan and the Southwest Truckee Meadows; 2) Improvements – That adequate utilities, roadway improvements, sanitation, water supply, drainage, and other necessary facilities have been provided, the proposed improvements are properly related to existing and proposed roadways, and an adequate public facilities determination has been made in accordance with Division Seven; 3) Site Suitability – That the site is physically suitable for a fire station (safety services civic use type), and for the intensity of such a development; 4) Issuance Not Detrimental – That issuance of the permit will not be significantly detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare; injurious to the property or improvements of adjacent properties; or detrimental to the character of the surrounding area; 5) Effect on a Military Installation – Issuance of the permit will not have a detrimental effect on the location, purpose or mission of any military installation, and 6) Southwest Truckee Meadows Area Plan Required Finding – Community character as described in the character statement can be adequately conserved through mitigation of any identified potential negative impacts. Commissioner Berkbigler seconded the motion. The motion duly carried on a vote of 5-0.

**17-0082**      **AGENDA ITEM 15** Hearing and possible action to affirm, modify, or reverse the Board of Adjustment's denial of Variance Case Number VA16-005 (Thomas Lypka), which sought approval of variances: 1) reducing the rear yard setback from 20 feet to 14 feet, 6 inches; and 2) increasing the allowed overhang of the front eaves of the existing dwelling from 2 feet to 4 feet, 6 inches, into the front yard setback. The variances were requested to facilitate the expansion of the existing dwelling. The property is located at 755 Judith Court at the southeast corner of its intersection with Harper Court in Incline Village and within Section 9, Township 16 North, Range 18 East, MDM. The Assessor's Parcel Number is 125-231-19. The parcel is 6,460 square feet in size. The Master Plan Category is Suburban Residential and the zoning is High Density Suburban (HDS). Community Services. (Commission District 1.)

Robert Angres, Esq., attorney for Thomas Lypka the appellant, made reference to his legal brief, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He noted Mr. Lypka's request for a minor variance was solely for safety to prevent a buildup of black ice in the entryway and large icicles on the eaves. Pictures were presented which were also placed on file with the Clerk. He stated at the time of the enactment of Nevada Revised Statute 278.300 there was a zero foot setback. He said Mr. Lypka was only asking for a variance of 5 feet, 4 inches. He alluded to support by neighbors and unanimous support by the Community Advisory Board (CAB).

Wayne Ford, of Wayne Ford Residential Design, representative for Mr. Lypka, stated the request for a variance was because of safety but the findings could be made because of the funnel shape and modest size of Mr. Lypka's lot. He claimed the front yard was misrepresented in the staff report by saying it required a hold harmless agreement, but he clarified the appellant would not need one because there would be no building of structures closer to the street. He maintained the BOA's denial was due to the assumption the property was rectangular in shape and not trapezoidal. The measurement was made in the middle of the property, giving an inaccurate assessment of the size and shape of the property. He stated the purpose of the variance was to allow an extension of the overhanging deck, and to prevent numerous safety issues like black ice, dangerous icicles, and snow buildup. The neighbor most affected had signed a letter in support of the project. Mr. Ford showed a PowerPoint presentation with pictures that supported Mr. Lypka's appeal and read aloud the presentation. The PowerPoint presentation was placed on file with the Clerk.

On the call for public comment, Pete Todoroff, Chairman of the Incline Village/Crystal Bay CAB, repeated the CAB's unanimous approval of the project. He expressed doubt that the person who issued the BOA's denial actually visited the property.

**3:01 p.m. Commissioner Hartung left the meeting.**

Commissioner Berkbigler moved to reverse the decision of the BOA and approve the Variance Case Number VA 16-005 (Thomas Lypka) which sought approval of variances: 1) reducing the rear yard setback from 20 feet to 14 feet 6 inches; 2) increasing the allowed overhang on the front eaves of the existing dwelling from 2 feet to 4 feet 6 inches, into the front yard setback, subject to the Conditions of Approval included at Attachment D to the staff report. The variances facilitate the expansion of the existing dwelling. The approval is based upon the following findings required Washoe County Code (WCC) Section 110.804.25, Variances: 1) Special Circumstances – Because of the special circumstances related to the size and the shape of the property, the exceptional narrowness and shallowness of the property; the exceptional topographic conditions; extraordinary and exceptional situation or condition of the property, and/or location of surroundings; the strict application of the regulation results in exceptional and undue hardships upon the owner of the property; 2) No Detriment – The relief will not create a substantial detriment to the public good, substantially impair affected natural resources or impair the intent and purpose of the Development Code or applicable policies under which the variance is granted; 3) No Special Privileges – The granting of the variance will not constitute a grant of special privileges inconsistent with the limitations upon other properties in the vicinity and the identical regulatory zone in which the property is situated; 4) Use Authorized – The variance will not authorize a use or activity which is not otherwise expressly authorized by the regulation governing the parcel of property; 5) Effect on a Military Installation – The variance will not have a detrimental effect on the location, purpose and mission of a military installation. Chair Lucey seconded the motion.

Upon request by Mr. Angres, Commissioner Berkgigler amended her motion to remove the requirement of attachment D to the staff report. Chair Lucey agreed to the amendment.

Upon further request by Mr. Lipparelli and Mr. Ford, Commissioner Berkgigler amended her motion to include attachment D but removed the requirement for a hold harmless clause.

The motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote with Commissioner Hartung absent.

**17-0083** **AGENDA ITEM 16** Second reading and possible adoption of an ordinance imposing additional sales and use taxes as required by the passage of S.B. 411 of the 78th Nevada Legislature and Washoe County Question 1 (2016) by amending chapter 21 of the Washoe County Code (Miscellaneous And Additional Taxes) by adding section 21.212 (Imposition and rate of additional sales tax) to impose an additional 0.54 % sales tax, and by adding section 21.382 (Imposition and rate of additional use tax) to impose an additional 0.54 % use tax, and providing for other matters properly relating thereto. District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)

The Chair opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said Ordinance.

Jan Galassini, Chief Deputy County Clerk, read the title for Ordinance No. 1590, Bill No. 1774.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Hartung absent, Chair Lucey ordered that Ordinance No. 1590, Bill No. 1774, be adopted, approved and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

**17-0084** **AGENDA ITEM 9** Review and approve the 2017 Washoe County Legislative Principles including an update and discussion regarding the 79<sup>th</sup> (2017) Session of the Nevada State Legislature with possible direction to staff. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

Al Rogers, Management Services Director, conducted a PowerPoint presentation with slides entitled: Washoe County Legislative Team; Nevada State Senate; Nevada State Assembly; Washoe County Delegation – Senate Members; Washoe County Delegation – Assembly Members; Washoe County Internal Efforts; 2017 Legislative Principles; 2017 Legislative Principles – Respect for Governmental Roles; 2017 Legislative Roles – Respect for Governmental Roles (Continued); 2017 Legislative Roles – Recover Our Economic Strength; 2017 Legislative Principles – Regional Solutions to

Service Provisions; 2017 Legislative Principles – Commitment; 2017 Legislative Principles – Legislative Communication Policy; two untitled slides; In Conclusion; and Questions? He highlighted the hiring of Jamie Rodriguez for the position of Management Analyst for Government Affairs. He distributed a document with information on the members of the legislature, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

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

**17-0085**      **AGENDA ITEM 17** Public Comment.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

**17-0086**      **AGENDA ITEM 18** Announcements/Reports.

Chair Lucey briefly opened Agenda Item 18 during Agenda Item 13, at which point Commissioner Jung directed staff to attend the next meeting with language amending the Sign Code with the intent to exempt other governmental agencies that meet the conditioning requirements.

Commissioner Herman restated the public comment request for a Lemmon Valley Citizen’s Advisory Board. She addressed Rick Snow’s concerns about not seeing an agenda item for the burned home in Lemmon Valley. She requested a report about the feasibility of collecting private-sector bids on a massive ditch cleanup to prevent flooding.

Mr. Slaughter, County Manager, announced Commissioner Herman had a scheduling conflict with the next Flood Board meeting date and they would discuss getting an alternate to fill in for her.

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Pending Board Approval

**3:30 p.m.** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

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**BOB LUCEY**, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by:*  
*Doni Gassaway and Derek Sonderfan, Deputy County Clerks*

Pending Board Approval

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 31, 2017

PRESENT:

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

**Jan Galassini, Chief Deputy County Clerk**  
**John Slaughter, County Manager**  
**Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel**

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:03 a.m. in special session at the Reno Town Mall, 4001 S. Virginia Street, Reno Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority Administrative Offices/Board Room, 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:

**17-0089** **AGENDA ITEM 3** Public Comment.

Tammy Still said she sent emails to all of the Commissioners but only received a response from Commissioners Herman and Berkbigler. She spoke regarding flooding in Lemmon Valley and thought the Lemmon Valley residents had been deceived and were being ignored. She quoted the Strategic Master Plan Mission Statement about a safe, secure, and healthy community and thought this was being ignored in Lemmon Valley. She provided a handout that included emails she sent to the Commissioners, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

**17-0090** **AGENDA ITEM 4** Strategic Planning Discussion: The purpose of the Strategic Planning Workshop is to discuss and possibly give direction regarding strategic objectives, current Fiscal Year 2017 goals and possible Fiscal Year 2018 goals of the Washoe County Commission, which may include, but not be limited to review, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding: Washoe County's Strategic Planning Process; Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Outlook for Washoe County; 2017 Washoe County Department's accomplishments and FY18 Focus; Washoe County's Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 Goals.

John Slaughter, County Manager, stated the meeting would be run as a workshop format.

Chair Lucey stated this was an informal session that was held once a year to give insight and direction for the County. He noted the Department Heads were present to review their department's achievements and future goals. He expressed the eagerness of the Board to hear the presentations because without leadership and direction it would be difficult to provide policy and procedures.

Erica Olsen, Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder of OnStrategy thanked everyone for attending. She stated this meeting was the annual review of the strategic plan. She indicated this meeting would be for guidance and direction only and there would be no action taken. She reviewed slides entitled Retreat Outcomes and Agenda from a PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk. The PowerPoint presentation included strategic plan information and department presentations.

Al Rogers, Director of Management Services, reviewed the presentation slides entitled: Citizen Survey Highlights and 2016 Citizen Survey. He noted there was a meeting scheduled at the end of the week to incorporate all the direction received from the Commissioners. He stated the 2016 Citizen Survey was a data-driven survey geared towards Washoe County specifically. He commented he would bring the information back to the Board in early March but said from a high-level review at this time the survey findings were favorable.

Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager, presented information regarding the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget process. She reviewed slides entitled: Budget Timeline; Preliminary Budget Trends; Historical General Fund Revenues & Expenses; and General Fund Preliminary Projection – Washoe County Must Maintain Financial Sustainability. She explained the trend had been steady since 2014.

Mark Mathers, Budget Manager, reviewed slides entitled: General Fund Budget Trends; FY17 & FY18 Revenue Trends; Property Tax Formula; New Development; C-Tax Revenues are Normalizing; Known Cost Increases; Legislative Issues and Unknowns; Capital Needs; and Historical General Fund Available Balances. Ms. Vuletich concluded the financial and budget review with slides entitled: Summary and Recommendations.

Commissioner Hartung was concerned about sales tax related to online purchases. He thought online sales were increasing and that could affect the sales tax revenue. Mr. Mathers stated that was a Federal issue. He commented the State had reached an agreement with Amazon and other online retailers to collect sales tax on taxable goods. He noted that services were non-taxable and he said there was not an option to change that. He concurred with Commissioner Hartung that sales tax was a reduction in revenue. Commissioner Hartung agreed that non-tangible items should not be taxed. He noted retail sales from large brick and mortar businesses were down and online sales were up. He stated there was a pushback from EBay regarding sales tax.

Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, stated the Board was interested in the top priorities from each department to lessen the workload for the budget process. Commissioner Berkbigler stated there had been a large number of fiscal requests from the Legislature and asked how many would impact the County. Mr. Rogers replied they've received 42 requests, the majority of which would not dramatically affect Washoe County; most were focused around voters and elections. Mr. Slaughter noted the numbers were preliminary and they could go up or down. He noted decisions had been made that needed to be funded, such as COLAs.

Chair Lucey noted under Commissioner Jung's direction the County was experiencing growth but that it could take a while to get where they wanted to be. He commented they were not seeing the growth they expected but the County accomplished many things last year which resulted in many individual departments seeing growth. He said progress was moving in the right direction but expressed concern over the possible costs of legislative issues. He suggested prioritizing one or two issues at a time to address properly.

Commissioner Berkbigler voiced her concern about recreational marijuana and its impact on local governments. She disagreed with the presentation given to students that stated a big chunk of the tax money went to the County, for it was her understanding that none of it went to the County. She expressed worry about the social use of marijuana and questioned if it could be smoked openly in casinos. Commissioner Herman asked how they were going to maintain their current balance if they had to service new development areas.

Al Rogers suggested skipping the section on fees and that they should discuss it at a later Board meeting. Mr. Slaughter added that many County fees and schedules had not been examined for many years and, given that fiscal responsibility was a priority of the meeting, he urged it be discussed soon. Commissioner Jung directed staff be available to the District Health Officer to create fair fees.

Commissioner Hartung agreed, adding the County was not working for profit; he expected a net zero. He cautioned against taking enterprise funds from the specific departments where they were generated.

Tammi Davis, Washoe County Treasurer, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She stated the Treasurer's mission was to provide excellent customer service as they collected, invested, and distributed the revenues that funded vital government services. She explained their priority for customer service first had to be driven by technology without bypassing the human element. They had implemented a new payment processing system which enabled them to touch payments once as paper and then complete the transaction electronically. Due to some transactions not living up to their standards, they implemented an additional Quality Assurance Queue (QAQ). She said since the cuts in staffing happened, their workflow looked different. To accommodate this, they optimized technology, allowing them to better track trends, and moved to Voice over IP (VOIP) telephone system for

recording purposes. They completed an exhaustive audit of duties and positions so that, when they came to the Commissioners with a request, they'd have salient data to back up their request.

Jeremy Bosler, Public Defender, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He further discussed the launch of the Pretrial Risk Assessment Tool (PRAT), which allowed people who were not at risk to be removed from jail. To do this they created a Category A type, under which would fall those people whose sentences were potentially life terms. He lauded the intern and volunteer hours accumulated in his department. He expressed concerns about recreational marijuana, law enforcement, therapeutic courts, and immigration. He announced his department was being considered as a pilot site for a Teach for America style organization, for which they would be given two full-time employees for two years.

Commissioner Jung informed Mr. Bosler the Commissioners would help out however possible to win the pilot site. Commissioner Hartung asked Ms. Davis if there was a cost-effective way to keep local the fees the County typically sent out of state. She said finding a Nevada-based firm to handle many of those fees was difficult; for example there were no lockbox service companies operating in Nevada. Commissioner Hartung clarified that he'd like to see the fees all kept internally by having County staff perform the work and Ms. Davis said they already do that with lockbox services. Commissioner Hartung said he'd like to work with the Sheriff's Office regarding the alarm fee.

Joseph Ingraham, Department of Alternative Sentencing, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He also touted the success of the Sober 24 pilot program, which was modeled after the 24/7 program in South Dakota. They performed testing in conjunction with Child Protective Services which resulted in many parents being reunited with their children. He stressed the importance of risk need assessment tools and reported his team supervised 2,554 cases, an increase of 68% over the prior two years. He stated he wanted to collaborate with the District Courts to lessen the department's pre-trial case workload.

Kevin Dick, District Health Officer, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He spoke of working with Commissioner Jung to create and implement a strategic plan and also to make and implement a health improvement plan that addressed education, access to healthcare and social services, behavioral health, and food and security. He announced they hired Sharon Zadra as Director of the Truckee Meadows Health Communities Initiative. He thanked Chair Lucey for his support of their family health festivals and stated they were planning future affordable housing forums. He mentioned they were looking for a position in their chronic disease program. Because of fee increases, the department was able to give back \$280,000 to the County, but Mr. Dick noted because of COLAs and benefits they could have a hole in their budget in future years. He indicated they would be asking for additional funding for environmental services personnel.

David Hardy, District Court Judge, presented seven slides regarding the courthouse project. The project started in 1996 when the BCC funded a repair and rehabilitation study, which led to the County purchasing the Pioneer Casino for \$13.2 million. He provided historical information about the courthouse and pointed out that the County's growth had made the current building inadequate. The County's population over the previous 17 years had grown 29.6% and it was expected to grow another 121% by 2055. Since 2000, the County spent approximately \$8 million just to keep the Court in its building. He revealed a study recommended a phased approach: to accommodate the known needs now and defer more uncertain future needs to a later phase. He said following modern trends architecturally would result in sharing space, so that not every judge would be attached to a certain courtroom. The recommended phase one tower was 100,000 square feet, which could potentially include hearing rooms and dispute resolution space. The written request for cost was \$37 million, but Judge Hardy quoted a more realistic cost of \$45-55 million. He listed several potential methods to raise some of the money needed and pledged to work with the Court and the County to enjoy the financial benefits of a more contemporary space. He asked the County to authorize a general and non-binding statement of conceptual support and invited the Commissioners to join him at the courthouse to become familiar with the needs.

Commissioner Hartung stated the Commissioners were not properly agendized to make a commitment, though he did say he had no issue with such an authorization. He asked staff to consider if the proposed location was ideal, or if the funds could be better used to form a partnership, giving them more funds to build a facility. Judge Hardy replied the project belonged to the County that the Court would pursue all options to determine what made the most sense. Commissioner Jung questioned if Judge Hardy had been working with the Community Foundation of Western Nevada and its donors. Judge Hardy would not disclose specific partners but stated they were examining options both locally and nationally. When asked by Commissioner Jung what role he was playing, Judge Hardy said he stepped away from the operational work of the Court and had become the primary driver of the project. Commissioner Jung asked if there was a person heading the development of the project as she had someone to recommend off the record. Judge Hardy indicated they had at least three entities in mind but he was willing to discuss other options. Commissioner Jung suggested they considered enacting the government services tax which would raise about \$16 million a year in extra revenue, portions of which could go to seed funding for the courthouse, replacing voting machines, building a new library, and improving the jail.

Paul Lipparelli, Deputy District Attorney's, spoke on behalf of Christopher Hicks and reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. The accomplishments included the Child Advocacy Center, the Family Support Early Intervention Program, and the Criminal Division. The priorities included hiring a new Program Director of the Victim Services' Division, improving the counseling services and enhancing the medical team of the Child Advocacy Center, and addressing changes of court processes within the scope of their criminal division.

David Solaro, Director of Community Services, reviewed the achievements of the 2016-2017 fiscal year, starting with staffing the Incline Road Substation, which benefitted Incline Village as well as the rest of Truckee Meadows. They developed and implemented a strategic plan and completed interviews with external stakeholders, both of which helped them remain the leader in building and planning. Looking forward, he intended to implement the insight received to create a more streamlined process for entitlement of properties and buildings. Another priority was to participate in the regional plan update to set the direction of the Board.

Frank Cervantes, Director of Juvenile Services, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He highlighted the new Standardized Training Program which would allow each officer in his department to be trained by full-time field training officer. He noted the Sheriff's Office invited his officers to participate in the Category 1 Police Academy, which would be a step up in their training. He stated they were able to enhance their Detention Center education program through an increased number of teachers, the University of Nevada providing paid interns, and having the biggest summer school budget within the district.

Dexter Thomas, Justice Court Administrator, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He stated he collaborated with District Court, Department of Alternative Sentencing, Court Services, Probation Department, and the District Attorney on the PRAT. He noted all Justice Courts in Washoe County would be on the same case management system. He emphasized the collaboration his department had with the other branches of government in order to better serve the citizens, which was their top priority for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. They also sought to increase their collaborative efforts with criminal justice partners, as well as to purchase and adapt new technologies.

Jeffrey Scott, Library Director, reviewed two slides, one showing statistics of the library system and the other listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He also announced a new "Literacy is the Cure" initiative that many Northern Nevada libraries and other non-profits and businesses were participating in.

Michael Clark, County Assessor, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He defined the Assessor's Office as the County's appraisal service, servicing all real estate, all personal property involved in a business, and all personal aircraft, among other things. In 2016, the Assessor's Office lost 11 employees to retirement including every division head – accounting for 232 years of institutional knowledge – as well as losing three employees to promotion. Despite this, all state mandated deadlines were met. They reappraised 174,989 parcels of real estate worth over \$14.2 billion and also \$714 million in personal property. He reported they added 68,000 new photos of properties available for inspection, converted 19,000 drawings to digital format, and added 2,447 buildings to assessment roll with new construction value of roughly \$37 million.

Dr. Laura Knight, Chief Medical Examiner, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She thanked the Board for their support in the transition to the new Medical Examiner's Office and noted they rebranded as a regional facility since they serve 19 counties. She noted they handled a record-breaking number of cases in the 2016-2017 fiscal year and said they hoped to get accredited nationally before it would be federally mandated, especially since most Medical Examiner's offices nationwide were already accredited. She stated their case load had more than doubled since 2007 and anticipated upstaffing so as not to affect the DA's office, other coroners, or Washoe County citizens.

Cathy Hill, County Comptroller, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. Additionally she mentioned each Comptroller employee observed other departments to better understand their environment and work.

Donald Cavallo, Public Administrator, reviewed two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He asserted anything digital that had a password was considered a digital asset, including online banking, stocks, Facebook, and electronic wills. He praised Computrust, the new database, and stated Washoe County was the first in the U.S. to upgrade to internet capability. He showed pictures of a home where they evicted the residents and discovered hazardous waste and dead animals inside, and another picture where they had extracted pipe bombs from a home.

Shyanne Schull, Director of Regional Animal Services, reviewed two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She explained they developed programs to keep pets with seniors and spoke of partnering with the Nevada Humane Society on a program to provide give twelve pallets of pet food to seniors. They also developed a home visit program to provide basic veterinary care to 67 pets of low-income housebound owners. Another program saw more than 250 pets of seniors get vaccines and microchips, part of the 3,400 animals in the region to receive microchips. She explained 10 years ago 44% of cats and 88% of dogs had live releases and how both numbers had increased to 96% in 2016. In the following year they planned to focus on spay/neuter programs and block walk programs to help the community's pets.

Craig Betts, Chief Information Officer of Technology Services, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He added they had worked together with the Cities of Reno and Sparks, the Health District, and the County to launch Accela. His department also worked with the department heads to roll out the Payment Card Industry Assessment to insure credit card security. He claimed cybersecurity was the number one priority moving forward and stated they were cooperating with the Nevada Department of Transportation to replace their radio system. He announced one third of Technology Services employees were eligible to retire within three years so they were working on documentation and cross-training to be prepared.

Chuck Allen, County Sheriff, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He explained the department was broken down into the three bureaus: the Administrations Bureau, the Operations Bureau, and the Detention Bureau. He disclosed \$345,536 in grant funding would be used for backlogged DNA testing cases, metal analyzer cameras, and a true narcotics analyzer for controlled substance testing. He stated they were collaborating with Nevada Division of Public and Behavior Health and others to reduce the wait list length for patients at Lakes Crossing. Before the wait list saw an average of 23 inmates waiting up to 8 months, but those numbers were down to four inmates waiting roughly two weeks, resulting in a savings of about \$20k per inmate. He said 32 Very Important Protocol Persons (VIP) – dignitaries and presidential candidates – visited the area, which equated to over 2,600 personnel hours and \$130,000 in unfunded salary. He highlighted the importance of staffing and noted he would be requesting additional employees. He also listed training new recruits, particularly in the new Crime Lab, and maintaining equipment as priorities. He addressed the inequity of Washoe County sharing their resources and how that has produced sizeable budget requirements for the department. He cited a 2003 fiscal equity study that mandated all jail functions related to transport fall under the Sheriff's office, which added to the cost.

**12:21 p.m. The Board recessed.**

**12:30 p.m. The Board reconvened with all members present.**

Kevin Schiller spoke on behalf of Susan Deboer, Public Guardian, and he reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. In reference to Guardianship Training, he cited a commission report in September 2016 that delineated issues tied to providing better protection in the guardianship process. He commended how much the department was able to do with such a small staff and that they strived to provide better service with the least fiscal impact.

Lawrence Burtness, County Recorder, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He defined the Recorder's primary job as recording documents such as maps, mining documents, and marriage documents, but said the bulk of their documents were property records. Other lesser-known responsibilities of the department included protecting, preserving, and providing access to over 150 years of documents. He announced they remodeled their credit card process to have the customer absorb the fees.

Jennifer Lunt, Alternate Public Defender, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She hoped to avoid asking for additional funds for staffing, but conceded if changes in the District Court happened as expected, she would not be able to proceed as staffed.

Luanne Cutler, Registrar of Voters, reviewed the two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She additionally stated the hope was to have the new voting system implemented prior to the next election

cycle. Her department had been working with four legislators to get a bill in front of the legislation to help with the expense of the new voting equipment. She stated Clark County had already moved to the system Washoe was hoping to move to and stressed it was critical for them to do so. They determined a lease option would be the best way to go.

Amber Howell, Social Services Director, reviewed the two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She announced Washoe County Social Services received a \$1.7 million Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant, the highest of any agency in the state. She praised the Kids Kottage for having only six children not placed, down from 60 or 70 from before, and stated the Teen Kottage was set to open.

John Listinsky, Director of Human Resources, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He stated when he began with the County four years ago the retiree population was around 920; it had grown to 1,600 and it was projected another 450-470 employees would be eligible to retire within two years. He speculated employees who stay hired for more than five years tended to stay for 20 or 30 years and that this growth of retirees could become a financial burden. When restructuring the compensation program, they would no longer use only California as a model but would compare numbers with Idaho, Utah, and New Mexico as well.

John Slaughter, County Manager, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He explained every year for the previous three years they had the same priorities and stressed succession management planning would need to be a priority for the County moving forward.

Ms. Olsen noted the overall goals for the county were the same six goals that had been in place the previous few years. Mr. Solaro continued by reviewing the slides concerning Goal #1: Economic Growth. He asked the Commission what they wanted Washoe County to be as it continued to grow. He stated the further you get away from infrastructure, the more infrastructure and services cost.

Commissioner Herman remarked the number one priority was taking care of the taxpayers. Commissioner Hartung mentioned one stumbling block for the County was waste water; the infrastructure to handle it was old and the facilities were not in the best locations. He noted transportation was an issue and suggested possibly building a subway system. He proposed following in the City of Sparks' footsteps by performing a study to see if the tax base would support the level of development and services, which would affect where to place commercial and industrial areas. He listed the permit process and the coordination of departments as issues, citing the Fire Marshall and the Health Department as examples. He suggested looking inward to streamline processes and help developers create jobs and added moving from a single map to a double map system might work.

Commission Berkbigler praised Commissioner Hartung's map suggestion to show the cost of building a development in outlying areas. She questioned Mr. Solaro if considering impact fees was the proper approach to take and asked him how to provide for the growth and the need for infrastructure now. She expressed concern about how growth was going to affect all departments. Mr. Solaro replied they already consider the increase of revenue versus the impact of new services in both the near term and in the long-term picture. Commissioner Berkbigler pointed out some of the people who come to Washoe County might not be good people, which could put a strain on the jails and Social Services department.

Commissioner Jung advised new residential areas should not be put where infrastructure would need to be developed; it should be where growth was already happening. She also proposed incentivizing commercial growth rather than residential. She addressed Mr. Hartung's water concern by saying that should be headed up by Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA). Commissioner Hartung suggested incentivizing developers to make houses more self-sufficient by incorporating solar panels and battery walls. He echoed Ms. Berkbigler's comment about how fees are not always used in the proper places and cited RTC's misappropriation of Regional Road Impact Fees as an example.

Chair Lucey requested innovative solutions to fix problems such as the transportation issues. Mr. Solaro responded that development needed to pay for itself not only today but also in the future. Chair Lucey declared they needed to deal with the annexation issues of the County in a way that would be functional and sustainable to prevent the chaos that had resulted. He spoke of the need to develop a cohesive regional development vision and the County's crucial role in this, and noted Washoe County was changing and they had to change with it.

Mr. Rogers and Dwayne Smith, Director of Engineering and Capital Projects, presented the slides about Goal #3: Infrastructure. Mr. Rogers asked to hear from the Commissioners what success in infrastructure would look like both locally and regionally. Mr. Smith listed areas they were specifically interested in: parks, fire stations, sewer infrastructure, storm water infrastructure, roadways, and courts. He acknowledged their initiatives of maintaining a five year capital program and bringing the County's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) into compliance with its budget. He sought direction from the Board so they could turn ideas into policy.

Commission Berkbigler asked if the storm water district Mr. Smith brought up was intended to be region-wide. Mr. Smith clarified that was the direction he was looking to get from the Board. She stressed dislike of using taxpayers' dollars twice from two different departments and noted the current focus was on flooding in downtown Reno and the Sparks industrial district. She inquired if it was feasible to go to the Legislature to redirect some of the flood-control money toward storm water issues. Commissioner Hartung replied the Truckee Meadows Flood Management Authority gets 1/16<sup>th</sup> of a cent by law and stressed the need for a regional flood water utility. He stated they didn't have enough funding to even complete the river flooding project so they

would have to go back to the Legislature for additional funds. He questioned how to ask people to pay for a regional floodwater project that only related to river flood prevention when other areas were also flooding. He stated Washoe County was in a perfect place to drive the conversation but they would have to work with the Flood Management Authority in terms of a regional program.

Mr. Smith acknowledged flooding was a regional issue that required input from regional partners and that much of the existing storm water infrastructure was old. Commissioner Berkbigler brought up they would need to address how to pay for the Lake Tahoe cleanup. Commissioner Hartung claimed as much as 90% of flooding in the County was not river related and called the need for a regional flood water system imperative. Commissioner Herman posed the idea that developers should pay the costs for flood control. Mr. Smith responded all new development projects go through a review process including that they adhere to County Code Chapter 416 regarding storm water infrastructure. He mentioned because of changes in code, research needed to be done about both the need for and ways to fund proposals to work with developers. Mr. Rogers thanked the Board for its direction and said they would think about planning more regionally.

Ms. Howell presented slides about Goal #2: the Senior Population. She stated for all three vulnerable populations – children, adults, and seniors – they needed to be safe, secure, and healthy, preferably in their own homes. The department's first priority was nutrition, mainly in the form of meals for seniors. She explained 15.8% of seniors were at risk of hunger and her department only provided 11% of the nutritional needs of the seniors. Ms. Olsen added the Board directed them in November to expand the goal to vulnerable populations.

Commissioner Hartung asked if cost assistance was available if the senior was a veteran. Leslie Williams, Division Director of Finance of Social Services, answered there was no direct way to recover costs with veterans but they did coordinate with Veterans Resources to help. Commissioner Berkbigler asked if they had a plan to expand beyond the 11% current baseline, to which Ms. Howell said their plan in the next budget cycle was to increase meals by 100,000. This would cost \$475,000 to renovate the kitchens and to account for the increase in contract and staffing costs.

Ms. Howell said to keep seniors at home, which would be very beneficial, their base request would include additional funding for services such as caregiver support, in-home services, and respite services. She repeated the importance of the \$1.9 million VOCA grant they received two years in a row which helped offset costs and allowed them to begin pilot programs, but indicated there was not enough money in their current budget to allow for expansion.

Chair Lucey emphasized Human Services were critical the County and mentioned the need for innovative solutions that could also save money. He urged all departments to keep an open mind to new pilot programs and initiatives, citing the Crossroads program that won national awards. Commissioner Berkbigler stressed the

County would always need to care for the vulnerable populations. She suggested having Commissioners congratulate graduates of the Crossroads program like the City of Reno was doing with their Reno Works project. Ms. Howell announced they hired a new Community Outreach Coordinator to act as a public relations person. Ms. Olson confirmed the direction of the Commission that they expand their concentration beyond just seniors to include other vulnerable populations.

Mr. Schiller noted that anyone in the room could become a part of a vulnerable population at any moment. By expanding the goal to include all vulnerable populations, it would create a healthier community. Chair Lucey claimed the department needed to be rebranded as it was no longer just about social services, it was about human services. It would become important to educate the public to cast off the negative reputation of those services.

Mr. Schiller presented slides about Goal #4: Medical Marijuana. Mr. Schiller said he would not discuss the medical aspects but would focus on the passage of adult and recreational usage. He reminded the Board the bill passed in November at about a 54% passage rate and he wanted to look at the ramifications on a regional level, since Washoe County represented local government but also encompassed the Cities of Reno and Sparks. He addressed the proposed 10% tax on recreational marijuana and said the availability or non-availability of that money at the local level would be an important component for discussion. He asked for direction from Board as to where to go as the bill was already passed.

Commissioner Berkbigler suggested renaming the goal *legalized marijuana* as it was no longer dealing solely with medical marijuana. She posed the question of how recreational marijuana would affect the County as a whole. Ms. Olsen asked if it was the will of the Board to keep the marijuana initiative as a goal, to which Commissioner Jung stated that the County needed to be prepared to act once the State issued regulations. She agreed with the Governor's wish to have edibles not be confusing to adults or children. Commissioner Berkbigler asked if they should look to the regulations set up in Las Vegas as a model for fundraising. Commissioner Jung noted the County was raising significant money in property and sales tax alone but said they would have to go to the Legislature for further direction. She warned overtaxing could make the black market look more attractive, which would not be desirable.

Chair Lucey encouraged Ms. Jung to stay with the topic and its impact on County departments as well as what the revenue streams would look like. He noted it could be a very fluid topic from both policy and funding standpoints since there were many unknowns. Mr. Schiller described the industry as a \$6 billion industry within the regional area and said the County and the State were in positions to be proactive with the acclimation process. He gave the example of addiction needs that could occur with the bill's passage and that the County needed to make sure it could provide the proper services.

Nancy Leuenhagen, Communications Director, presented a slide about Goal #5: Professional, Unified Team. She said it was time to sharpen their message from the County and requested input regarding what success looked like. She suggested modifying their goal, which was working as a professional unified team, to working together on a unified message. Like Ms. Howell's hiring of a Community Outreach Coordinator to better inform citizens, her department had the same need, but she stated with the pooling of resources they could achieve it.

Commissioner Berkbigler remarked the exposure the County received had increased exponentially over the previous four years and the feedback she heard was positive. Commissioner Jung attributed the positive reputation the County had was due in part to the communications team and their outreach programs. Chair Lucey commended all department heads and their departments as jointly being the leader of business in northern Nevada. He urged everyone have a continuous drive to be better and stated Washoe County was as important as Clark County. He wished to have the County's mission statement not just be a piece of paper on the wall but a message to live by.

Mr. Slaughter presented the slides about Goal #6: Valued, Engaged Workforce. He praised the Washoe Leadership Program and Gabrielle Enfield in his department for the rollout of the program and stated the major goal of the program was to facilitate a customer service culture. He asked the Board that the goal statement continue to which Ms. Berkbigler and Mr. Lucey gave their absolute support.

**2:15 p.m. Commissioner Jung left the meeting.**

Ms. Olsen reiterated the Board heard each department's priorities and that the County was committed to those goals. Mr. Slaughter confirmed the direction he'd received regarding the Courthouse project was to continue working with Judge Hardy.

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

**17-0091** **AGENDA ITEM 5** Discussion and possible direction on 2017 Draft Board of County Commissioners Rules of Procedures.

Mr. Slaughter stated the goal of reviewing the updated Policies and Procedures that had been compiled into one document, which was distributed to the Commissioners at the meeting and a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He highlighted some changes, including: Parliamentary Authority, the preparation and proper order of business of Commission Meetings, changes to the voting system with regard to the remodel of the Chambers, and Commissioner communication. He asked the Board to review the document, particularly the communications section, and offered to discuss the information individually.

Chair Lucey asked if there was any type of verbiage that the Commissioners could review regarding Board-to-media communication. Mr. Rogers replied there was some draft language already but he was reviewing other jurisdictions'

manuals for other best practices to incorporate. Chair Lucey directed the Commissioners read through the manual to bring back at a future meeting, and once the additional media discussion was included, to ratify it. John Slaughter reminded the Board that draft ordinances needed to be posted on the website for review by the Commissioners and the public 21 days prior to being placed on an agenda for a first reading.

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

**17-0092**      **AGENDA ITEM 6** Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

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**2:22 p.m.**      There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

ATTEST:

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**BOB LUCEY**, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

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

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