

## **Warm Springs Citizen Advisory Board**

Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are approved by the CAB. Minutes of the regular meeting of the Warm Springs Rural Citizen Advisory Board held on January 11, 2023, at Regional Shooting Facility, 21555 Pyramid Highway, Palomino Valley

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** [Non-Action Item] – Kevin Cook, Hugh Ezell, Marshall Todd, and Pam Roberts (alternate), Larry Chesney (alternate). Absent: Karenne Smith, Susan Ambrose,

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge was recited.

### **3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Mark Neumann provided an update on information available to seniors, encouraging residents to take advantage of the many options available to them and their neighbors, including the friendly neighbor call

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF [NOVEMBER 9, 2022](#)** – The recording began during this item. Kevin Cook moved to approve the minutes of November 9, 2022. Hugh Ezell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**5. WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE** – General Community Update.

### **6. TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT** – General Community Update. [Non-Action Item]

Battalion Chief, Christopher Black, provided an update of services to the Palomino Valley area between Winnemucca Ranch Road and the area north of township 22, not to include Rancho Haven. District 46 and 450 responded to 16 incidents – 1 fire, 8 EMS, six good intent, and one false alarm. He provided helpful tips regarding the increase in house fires due to candles, slips and falls in the winter, clearing ice dams from the gas meter, not running a gas generator inside, and waiting for the generator to cool before refueling. Open burning is open in December and March, weather permitting. Greenwaste will be in the Spring. Go to the website for details. There is a new curbside chipping program – they may be able to chip your green waste on your property – be patient as this is a new program rollout. Be cautious of Cheatgrass in Spring and summer and wildfire danger. He spoke about working with partners and increasing crews for flood mitigation. Mr. Cook asked if they service Moonrocks. Chief Black said they do cover Moonrocks for any 911 call and work with other agencies to respond, including BLM resources. He said a large influx of calls comes from Moonrocks on major holidays. Mr. Cook asked why is there a big gap between open burning in December and March. Chief Black said we've changed the date over the past years to find the best time for Air Quality, residents, and the Fire District. In response to Mr. Ezell's question, Chief Black said Air Quality is the driving factor in open burning. Mr. Ezell asked how Reno's metropolitan red light for open burning affects us in Palomino Valley. Chief Black said it was a good question and would get more information. He said the burn restriction is for the whole county. Jennifer Martin said she looked it up online and was only for a specific zip code.

Pam Roberts asked for the nearest location for sandbags. Chief Black said he would look it up for her. Ms. Roberts requested regarding curbside chipping priority goes to vulnerable populations and seniors. She thanked him for attending these meetings.

Mark Neumann said he understands the curbside chipping is for low-income and disabled individuals. He said that is what he was informed.

### **7. RURAL BROADBAND EXPANSION PROGRAM & CELLULAR SERVICE** – Behzad Zamanian, Chief Information Officer, Washoe County.

Mr. Zamanian provided a presentation. In response Mr. Ezell's question, Mr. Zamanian spoke about the access and coverage map in the area. He spoke about fiber interconnect and ariel fiber connections for homes. In response to Mr. Ezell, Mr. Zamanian explained cellular line-of-sight of transmitting data and the possibility AT&T may have for the mountain areas. Mr. Ezell showed him the dead zones. Mr. Zamanian said he provided dead zones to the service provider but invited Mr. Ezell to email him the GPS coordinates of the dead zone to see what we can do. Mr. Cook asked about Starlink partnership. Mr. Zamanian spoke about potential partnership and potential funding sources to address the initial costs.

Washoe County Manager, Eric Brown, asked how many households in Warm Springs. Mr. Todd said about 900. Mr. Brown said if we wanted to go with Starlink and want to make sure all 1,000 homes are connected to broadband. He said you would think the county would get a better price than if you called for service. There is enough broadband money in the state to get the attention of Starlink. Starlink is new; they aren't set up organizationally yet. We are trying to partner with them. He said we are in communication with the State Office of Science, Information and Technology, Brian Mitchell, Broadband representative. They did an RFP that closed recently for all the counties. For each county, they mapped where the state, county, and cities have facilities and invited companies to bid. Once that comes back, we get to take a look to see if there are opportunities better than the county has, residential areas have. What you will see, you will see other vendors emerge that we don't know about. It's exciting. We are looking at broadband for the rural areas solutions that make sense.

Mr. Cook asked about the leasing of the land.

Mr. Neumann said he owns land in Fernley. He asked about the partnership with Brian Mitchell. Fiber connection would go to county facilities, libraries, then residents such as seniors, disabled, or low-income individuals. He asked about the timeline of that. Mr. Brown spoke about the broadband set up Gerlach at the library and school in partnership with the Tribe. It's going to take a while. We are talking to vendors to see about getting fiber to residences. Mr. Zamanian said we issued the RFP and hoped to get there before the state gets done.

**8. NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING HUB** – Candee Ramos, Washoe County Community Outreach Coordinator, to share the latest community information on the Neighborhood Meeting HUB featuring development community meetings. [Non-Action Item]

Manager Brown introduced the item. He said during his last visit in October, he heard people wanted more timely information on the development. That was the consensus during his visit to all the CABs. We are trying to address that. He said this tool allows you to review the status and process, provide input, express concerns, and ask questions. He said you would see more dedicated resources to keep you informed.

Manager Brown said on January 25, 10 a.m., the Washoe County Board will hold its annual strategic plan workshop. The agenda for the workshop will be posted with a zoom link. He said they are taken out of the chamber, the staff holds priority conversations, and Commissioners will discuss the priorities for the budget for next year. Last year, they wanted to see the ARPA money for parks, open spaces, and facilities. We have done that, and they will get an update on the 25<sup>th</sup>. He invited you to dial in to view the workshop.

Mr. Neumann spoke about previously approved development but not yet built.

Candee Ramos provided a tutorial overview of the HUB site. She spoke about the noticing requirement. In response to Ms. Roberts' inquiry, Ms. Ramos showed the location of the proposed projects on the map. Mr. Chesney spoke about a regional project with TMWA. Mr. Brown said the TMWA project probably hadn't been finalized yet. It's too early. Mr. Todd said Susan Ambrose would provide us with an update about the TMWA project; the involved property owners haven't been worked out yet. It's a feasibility study, not a project yet. We will be heavily involved. Mr. Chesney said the study is on the TMWA website, and they are the lead on this project.

Ms. Ramos noted all the email lists for a variety of boards you can sign up to receive.

Mr. Todd said we could make this a standing item to get updates.

Jennifer Martin asked about the Master Plan for Warm Springs Area Plan. She said she thought they would come to the CAB to discuss it. Mr. Chesney said it's not completed yet. The master plan and area plans are being rewritten, and the county will come back for input. Mr. Neumann said at the last Planning Commission meeting shot it down because it was too vague.

**9. CAB MEMBER/COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS** —

Chair Todd called for topics. Mr. Neumann said Sun Valley CAB has been looking at the other CAB speakers as topics on the agenda. Ms. Roberts requested that Mr. Young provide a Master Plan/Area Plan update. Mr. Cook said BLM was doing projects at Moonrocks. Ms. Roberts asked who is responsible for concerns about abandoned cars that are collecting trash.

Mr. Ezell said Jeanne Herman has a contact to get that car hauled out. Mr. Chesney said our roads are private. The sheriff's department cannot respond to anything on our private roads. He said it takes a while to get a response. Ms. Ramos advised them to call 311 for resources.

**10. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Mark Neumann asked to please share the information that I have provided with your contacts that may need it.

Battalion Chief Christopher Black said Highland Ranch Parkway is the closest sandbag location. Curbside chipping is the first year, grant-funded. When they open the process, they will review and prioritize the applications for those demographics who cannot haul their own green waste. It's a one-year program. Open burning last year, we opened it for the first week of each month, December through March, which was determined by air quality and the weather. We had more days at the end of the year that it was closed than it was open. This year, we open the whole month of December and March in the hope of getting more days overall. It's determined by two standards Air Quality and weather. It's hour-by-hour wind. Open burning will be closed if the wind is more than 10 mph before 10 a.m. If it's less, it will be an open-burned day, depending on the weather. We have one district, and one decision for the entire county. Be sure to get a permit.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.