



## West Truckee Meadows/Verdi Citizens Advisory Board

Minutes of the West Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board meeting held at Verdi Community Library & Nature Center, 270 Bridge St. Verdi, NV 89439 on May 16, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was determined. The following CAB members were in attendance: Carly Borchard, Sarah Rively, Alice (Tina) House, Josh Bronitsky, Denise Kolton.

Absent: Anthony DoMoe,

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

3. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** –

Edwin, Candidate for County Commissioner, introduced himself. He said he was here to listen to your concerns.

Michael B., Mesa Park resident, said he wanted to discuss fires. He said he lives in a 41-acre parcel. He said there are a lot of parcels that are overgrown with weeds and dead or dying trees. He said he tried to complain to the County. He said he spoke with the property owner, who eventually weed-whacked his property. He said he needed to do something about the dead trees. Why can't the County come out and do something? It takes one spark to start a fire. Ms. Borchard suggested he call code enforcement. Michael said he said they don't deal with dead or dying trees.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF March 21, 2022 (For Possible Action)** – Josh Bronitsky moved to approve the minutes for March 21, 2022, which was seconded by Denise Kolton and passed unanimously in favor.

5. **WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE UPDATE** - General community update (Non-Action Item)

A sheriff representative was available via zoom. He updated the CAB on recent crime sprees, including vehicle burglaries, copper burglaries, and catalytic converters thefts. He said they are working at the legislative level to address the catalytic converters.

6. **TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT** – Information on multi-jurisdictional coordination on responses that require fire and rescue services. (Non-Action Item)

Battalion Chief provided Verdi with 41 responses, including car accidents and EMS. He spoke about target shooting, installing spark arresters, responsibly hiking, and being prepared. He spoke about the work around the powerlines to reduce the fire threat. He said the fire crew has been training in the river as the flows are up.

He spoke about a partnership with NV Energy for fuel reduction work. He said he would speak with the gentleman from public comment about his concerns with his neighbor's dead trees and weeds.

A public member spoke about target shooting in our neighborhood. She said there is a lot of shooting up there. Mr. Bronitsky asked about the rules of target shooting. The Fire District representative read the sheriff's webpage about targeting shootings and has a GIS map.

The Fire District representative spoke about mutual aid agreement with the local jurisdictions.

Ms. Borchard spoke about a house fire in Verdi. She said the neighbors claimed the fire trucks didn't have water. Verdi doesn't have a lot of hydrants. She said a group from Verdi attended the County Commission meeting to express our concerns. She asked if our area had a specific route plan and equipment. The Fire District representative spoke about the technology that provides information about hydrants, water wells, and distances from water sources. The other representative spoke about dispatch and redundancy. He said some adjustments had been made since that incident.

Ms. Borchard asked if the volunteer station is active in Verdi. The Fire District representative spoke about responding stations for Verdi.

A public member asked about off-road vehicles. The Fire District representative advised the use of spark

arresters.

A public member asked about the Sphere of Influence with the City of Reno. A CAB member noted that parts of Verdi are within the Sphere of Influence.

7. **RECREATIONAL SHOOTING PRESENTATION** – Bureau of Land Management (BLM) representative to provide a presentation and information on recreational shooting in the W. Truckee Meadows/Verdi area and surrounding parts. (Non-Action Item)

Logan Briscoe, Law Enforcement Ranger for Carson City District, introduced Kim, field office manager. Mr. Briscoe provided a presentation about target shooting Powerpoint slide show.

A public member spoke about fire prevention.

A public member asked how many fire ranges are there in Washoe Valley. Mr. Briscoe said there is only one in Palomino Valley. He said they are working on identifying another location.

A public member said it's hard to find a place to shoot without driving for over an hour. He said it's also a trash issue with shell casing and beer bottles. He said we need smaller, little areas designated for shooting.

Al Rogers gave kudos to the representatives. He spoke about funding sources and public lands.

A public member said building a shooting range next to Cabelas would be a great attraction.

Mr. Briscoe spoke about challenges and solutions.

Ms. Borchard asked if she could sign up and share the link to the survey. Kim said she would do her best to share the link to the survey. She invited everyone to sign up and take the survey.

A public member asked if there was information he could get to put on his refrigerator for his grandkids. Mr. Briscoe said there is a lot of fire prevention information and educational handouts they can turn into a magnet. He advised them to take water with them and try to shoot in a location that doesn't have a lot of vegetation. The public member asked them to provide a presentation to HOAs. Mr. Briscoe said he wants to get this presentation far and wide with different agency representatives and maps.

Ms. Wilson advised the public to sign in, and she would get them signed up for the newsletter.

8. **BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS** — This item is limited to announcements and/or requests for future agenda items by CAB members and/or Commissioners (Non-Action Item)

Ms. Borchard requested an item to announce the next CAB meeting. She said she spoke about fire adaptive communities in light of fire season. It's everyone's part. She said there needs to be more outreach. She said NV Energy has come out and cleared a lot of powerlines. TMWA has parcels of land. They have done a lot of fire prevention.

A public member spoke about how we are growing fast. We cannot ignore this.

A public member said they are installing a roundabout on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Commissioner Hill said North Park is not Washoe County. She said she would reach out to her counterpart about concerns heard tonight. It's a good idea to attend the Parks and Recreation committee. She provided an update. The budget will be on the agenda tomorrow night. She said we are looking at our county parks' resiliency, emergency response, and capital projects. If you know a non-profit doing work in our community, they can apply for grants.

9. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – Comments heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the agenda. The public is encouraged to submit a "Request

to Speak" form to the Board chair. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole.

Oscar Williams said he emailed Ms. Borchard about this. He spoke about ideal populations, redistricting, and proposed maps. We can demand a seat at the table.

A public member said he built his house 22 years ago. He said he was an engineer. He said at that time, we were going into the Sphere of Influence. They have been playing this game repeatedly, and no one takes responsibility.

Ms. Borchard said for four or five years; she has been trying to get the NAB and CAB joint meetings. We need to discuss what is going on. Half of Verdi is Sphere of Influence. We have three jurisdictions in a small area. It's off-putting to those who want to be involved.

10. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were no requests for public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.