



Warm Springs Rural Citizen Advisory Board

DRAFT: 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 JULY 19, 2017 at the Palomino Auxiliary Fire Station 6015 Ironwood, Warm Springs, NV.

1. *CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Members Present: Thomas Prentice, Robert (Bob) Gunn, James Bradbery, Gregory Gilbert. A quorum was determined.

Absent (excused): Dennis Buck

2. *PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Tom Prentice led the pledge.

3. *PUBLIC COMMENT –

Katherine Snedigar said the ditches along the road are dangerous and full of weeds. It would be good for the GID to use their grader (33 feet from road to property line). She said if we had 66 feet with no vegetation, it would be helpful with all the fires out here. She said it would be helpful to be able to pull out and get out of the way emergency services vehicles on the road. It should be cleared for multiple safety reasons.

Renia Smith asked if anyone was from NDOT. She spoke about the weeds on the highway that need to be cleared out.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 19, 2017 – Tom Prentice moved to approved the agenda for the regular meeting of JULY 19, 2017. Gregory Gilbert seconded the approval agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 17, 2017 – Tom Prentice moved to approve the minutes for the meeting of MAY 17, 2017. Gregory Gilbert moved to second the approval of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *COMMUNITY UPDATES

A. *Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) – Fire Chief Charles Moore or another representative from the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District will provide a summary of the District's activities including recent calls for service, emergency operations, volunteer firefighter program, cooperative aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions, and an update to fire services in the area. For more information contact (775) 326-6000 or via the webpage at www.tmfpd.us (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB.)

Al Hyde, TMFPD representative, gave an update; he handed out a map/packet:

- It's been a busy month for TMFPD
- They had 3 fires in one day.
- Aspen Fire: He said he ordered the evacuations. He said the way the fire was burning to south/southwest, he didn't want to get into the rolling valleys. He didn't have enough apparatuses to bulldozer and clear. He wanted to give residents time to get their stuff. He said the fire crews were able to use aircrafts and get water from Pyramid Lake. It greatly added to fire suppression.
- Long Valley fire: One of the longest fire. Sage brush fires don't burn that long. He said he hadn't seen one burn one like that this since 1999. He said it burned around the headquarters and trapped them up there. He said they lost an abandoned shop up by the headquarters. Fire was 90,000 acres.
- He gave praise to the Palomino fire volunteers. He said they brought the water and tender. He said it was a joy to have them with us. Kudos to them.

- Gregory asked about the Winnemucca Ranch fire. Al said they lost nothing on the main ranch. He said they created a line to secure the ranch. There was a Big Horns and NDOW camp there this weekend.
- He said the cheatgrass is heavy this year.
- Bob asked about the lost home on Amy. Al said the fire behavior was intense, and made it difficult. Bob asked about the Federal Government assistance with management. Al said they brought the emergency management team; all the logistical, GIS, and apparatus with a single point ordering system. All the orders went through Great Basin coordinating center.
- Public member asked about fire breaks. Al said we ask for a 30 foot break. If you are on a flat ground, get lines around the property to protect it. If the property is on a slope, you might want to remove more in a fire break. He said the fire break is helpful closer to the house.
- Bob Gunn asked about who makes the decision on starting the back fires. Al said operationally, the captain or the lead on the fire. It's a well planned operation. It takes a lot of planning involved.
- Renia Smith said thank you for your hard work for protecting homes.
- Al said we collaborate with Reno, Sparks, NLTFPD, Department of Emergency, Central/Norther Lyon County fire agencies. We have cooperatives.
- Maureen (with TMFPD) said kudos to all those involved and the appreciation from the community. Channel 8 has a platform to thank the fire crews. It's a great station out here. We have had successful volunteer recruitment with more volunteers to come.
- Bob Gunn said his church is taking donations. If you want, you can get a check to Palomino Valley Fellowship for that family who lost their house.

B. *Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) – A representative of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office may be available (unless on a call for service) to address public safety questions and concerns including speeding and reckless use of recreational vehicles. For more information call (775) 328-3001 or online at www.washoesherriff.com (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB.)

- He said they have been supporting the fire department. Activated search and rescue to do voluntary evacuations on the July 4th. Busy with fires throughout the area, including the Long Valley fire. We have exhausted our units.
- We are doing the best to keep the looky-loos from the area. Keep the people away from the homes.
- Raven helicopter is fire certify, but we only have one pilot; we don't have the man power to operate it 24/7.
- He cautioned everyone of Burning Man kicking off soon. He said people's cars break down, and they get lost in the desert. We are a support roll. He said they will be increasing K9 and motor units on the highway. It's in Persing County's jurisdiction.
- Renia Smith asked for additional monitoring of littering and potential fires. Sheriff said hwy 445 and 395 is monitored by NHP, but sheriff assist.
- Katherine Snedigar said there needs to be a public service announcement to remind people to pull completely off the road when emergency units pass.
- Larry Johnson asked about the renters scam and illegal squatting. The sheriff said he wasn't familiar with the story. Larry said it was on Ohara. Sheriff said a law passed called 'house breaking' which allows the sheriff to physically remove someone from trespassing from the home after a foreclosure. He said it happens when homes are vacant and someone goes in and takes over. He said he is educating his deputies about the law with squatters. He invited the public to call him if they see this.
- He said we have units on pyramid hwy 24/7.

D. *Palomino Valley General Improvement District (PVGID) Update - PVGID Board Chair Larry Johnson or a representative from the GID will provide an update on local roads. For more information about PVGID, visit: www.pvgid.com. (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB.)

Larry Johnson gave an update:

- Completed the summer CIP
- Cape seal on remaining on pavement on Axe Handle that have not been treated in 40 years. Treated section of Whiskey Springs, from Amy to Right Hand Canyon. Treated Ironwood of 1.3 miles.

- Budget for CIP was \$250K; he said they spent every dime. The work is completed as of last Friday.
- He said they are behind on road grading, and behind on restoration on V ditches following last fall's ditches.
- The other problem in dry weather, the roads that are in sand, washboard corrugate during summertime. They deteriorate fast.
- Working on asphalt 16-18 miles on collector roads: Whiskey, Ironwood, Wilcox, Axe Handle, Range Land, and Right Hand Canyon. Segments of micro slurry are working well.
- Old pavement is cracked and worn out. In the 1990s, the GID had Washoe County engineering give the board advice on what to do with deteriorated pavements. Engineers told them to tear it up. GID sought 2nd opinion from a private contractor who agreed to tear it up to dirt.
- He said the use of magnum-chlorite was a major complaint.
- He said the goal is to put an asphalt surface on 16-18 miles of arterials and collector streets.
- Every 3 years, the roads need a new coat.
- He said they receive comments regularly about their techniques. It's about money.
- Asphalt with an aggregate base is \$250K a mile.
- The existing approach is the best for this community.
- He has been asked to do a special assessment district to raise the money, and it was addressed at the GID, but it requires a special ballot vote.
- It would be \$30,000+ for each property to conduct the asphalt.
- He said he gets great reviews and naysayer comments. He is proud of our accomplishments. He said there are numerous things that we do well and some things we can improve.
- We hold back 3 months of CIP money in case of emergency.
- He said they will try to do as much as possible. Their grading efforts have been major and collector roads and move the effort to secondary roads.
- He spoke about speed limits and comments from the community. He said he wishes they can come together as a community.
- Jim Bradbury asked about roads and WM. Is there anything for the GID to do to allow the WM small trucks to go down the roads. Larry said that's not our jurisdiction.
- A public member asked about a specific section of pavement. Larry said they couldn't do it because of flooding. Patching has to be done before winter.
- Public member asked about the roads for fire fighting efforts. Larry said the fire trucks were able to make it up difficult roads. Larry said he was surprised with the little damage for such a heavy winter. We got our money's worth.
- A public member asked about ruts in the road. He ran his backhoe to level it. He said a blade came out and repaired it quickly. He thanked the GID.

E. *Washoe County Assessor – Washoe County Assessor Michael Clark will provide information related to the property value assessment process specifically in the Warm Springs area. Mr. Clark will address questions and concerns from the audience and CAB. For more information please contact (775) 328-2200. (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB.)

- Michael said it's the appraiser office for the County. We value property based on what it's worth. It's an opinion. We aren't always right. We are in this together. The last two years, 100 people appealed their tax assessment, and we resolved 85 cases to tax payers satisfaction. We want to continue that trend.
- He passed out FAQs, phone numbers, addresses for the Assessor's office.
- Taxes are the end result of what we do – true value of land, improvements of new and what they will be valued in the future with depreciation.

8. *PUBLIC OFFICIAL REPORTS

A.*Washoe County Commissioner – Jeanne Herman may be available to provide updated information on discussions and actions by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). Commissioner Herman can be reached at (775) 501-0002 or via email at jherman@washoecounty.us (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB.)

Commissioner Herman gave an update:

Thank you fire fighters, volunteers, board members

Trash: in the future plan, getting into an agreement. She said she spoke with Mr. Martinelli about getting stuck in the winter out in Rancho Haven, and they had to pull out the trash truck. They broke a bridge. Sparks and Reno pays \$5 a week for their trash (\$54 dollars quarterly). We pay over \$70. Single stream was a good idea for Reno and Sparks, but every community in District 5, the people want to be out of the franchise. They aren't getting the service they got before. Paying more for less service. She said folks on Quaking Aspen have to haul their trash because of the road. There are people who don't want the service. Raise your hand if you want to go back to the old way, and there wouldn't be a lien on your house if you don't pay. Katherine Snedigar said she opted out, but it is mandatory for Washoe County. A public member said he like single stream.

Commissioner Herman said the commission voted for the new system. Commissioner said we are trying to negotiate it. The trash company doesn't want to come out here either. The biggest issue is people use to put out different size can and pick up all your garbage. She said we can renegotiate if there is a company that can service during the winter. A public member asked if the other company can service recycling. You have to come to the County meeting to let them know. Hugh asked if they can't service your property, they will take it off your bill. Renia asked about the 3 other companies. Do they have service recycling. Commissioner wasn't sure. Chuck Lieman asked when will this be discussed at County, and can we get a compilation of what services are available for the other companies so we can make an informed decision. Hugh asked if the other companies can service us in the winter. Do they know what this area is like. Commissioner said yes, they are aware of our area. Hugh said he has hasn't had major issues with pick-up. Bob said there are a lot of unhappy people.

Larry said he doesn't want the trash to be dumped out in the desert if people opt out of trash.

A public member asked about a private fire station out here. He said he knows the County Manager's name was involved and he doesn't know anything about it. Commissioner Herman doesn't know about it.

B. *County Update – A representative from the Office of the County Manager will provide an update on County services. Staff will be available to answer questions and concerns. Please feel free to contact cab@washoecounty.us or (775) 328- 2000. To sign up to receive email updates from the County visit www.washoecounty.us/cmail. (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB).

- Al Rogers thanked everyone for coming: Maureen and TMFPD, Assessor Clark, Larry GID, Lt. Bloom.
- He spoke about the managers' roll with emergency management and how this team comes together during a fire. Evacuations – all evacuations are advisory, unless declaration of emergency, we can't do mandatory evacuation.
- When you received a code red message that is from the managers' office. Code red is a powerful tool. He encourages people to sign up. The technology and response. Search and rescue group, emergency management, animal services, fire department, sheriff, communication.
- He said he can have Aaron Kenneston can come to the next CAB to give an update.
- Washoe 311 is a vital component. We use it as a non-emergency number to call.
- Gregory asked about Code Red. Al said it's available now. He encouraged those with cell phones to update the code red software.

9.*CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS –

- Jim requested an update from WM for winter service. Tom said to look at options for other suppliers.

10.*PUBLIC COMMENT –

Kathern Snedigar said the 3 local companies are smaller. Wast Mangement is national. She said she rather deal with local company. If there is a problem, there will be better dealing with it.

James said what if we choose to opt out do we have to go with the other company.

Jeanne Herman said we can look into other companies. It's a competitive decision. It's not like we will be stuck with it for 16 years. She said we have great CAB board members; we need to have alternates for when we don't have a quorum. Please send her the application as well.

Huge E. asked about the area plan deadline. He encouraged Waste Management to come out with an agreement for winter service. Put dumpsters out for the community. There are alternatives. He said he agreed with James. We need to look closely before we jump to another company. He wants the board to go to code enforcement to enforce nuisance ordinances not to get into dumpsters abuse.

Patricia Johnson she said there were dumpsters at the bottom of Quaking Aspen to Wilcox. It was slimy in winter.

11. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Misty Moga, Administrative Recorder Services

Number of CAB members present: 4

Number of Public Present: 15

Presence of Elected Officials: 1

Number of staff present: 1