



## West Truckee Meadows Citizens 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 West Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board meeting held at Roy Gomm Elementary School, 4000 Mayberry Drive, Reno, NV on June 9, 2014, 6:30pm.

### 1. \*CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**2. \*ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM** - Sean McCoy, John (Jay) Spalding, George Georgeson, Linda Heiss (arrived at 6:37), Leslie Skinner. A quorum was determined. Absent: Alternates, David Pappas and Randy Lyn Reed

### 3. \*PUBLIC COMMENT –

**Josh Wilson, County Assessor** said he would appreciate your support during this November election. Josh spoke about the innovation he has brought to the County. He spoke about analysis of the Real Estate marking and having predictability moving forward. He said he is an advocator for the tax payers. He said we need a level of predictability with database updates and table driven land values.

**Al Rogers**, County Director of Management Services, introduced himself. He said Constituent Services is a priority and they are here to support you in the future. He said Sarah Tone does a tremendous job and is a resource. He thanked the board for their time and effort.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2014** - Leslie made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting of September 8, 2014; George seconded the motion to approve the agenda.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 9, 2014** - Leslie made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting minutes of June 9, 2014; Sean seconded the motion to approve the agenda.

**6. \*UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE** – No updates or correspondence.

### 7. \*PUBLIC OFFICIAL REPORTS

**A. Washoe County Commissioner Update** – Commissioner Marsha Berkbigler will provide updated information on discussions and actions by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). Commissioner Berkbigler may be reached at 775-328-2005 or [mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us).

#### Commissioner Berkbigler gave an update:

**Animal Services Ordinance** – Commissioner Berkbigler spoke about these items under review with the change of animal ordinance: Puppy mills, breeders and dangerous dogs. An upcoming workshop will be Monday, Sept 29, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 5:00pm, TBD location. It might be on the agenda for the BCC September 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Medical Marijuana** – Commissioner Berkbigler gave an update on the Medicinal Marijuana Dispensary process for Washoe County:

- She said there are currently 43 requests for dispensaries.
- Those are chosen by the State. 5 are slated to be located in unincorporated, 3 for Reno, 2 for Sparks. The State will send the top 5 applicants to Washoe County, the County conducts a required business check, and has the option to reject it.
- This is medical marijuana state, not general use.
- State handles first steps of the application process for dispensary.
- There are many requirements for their locations.
- The dispensaries owner has to be a NV state resident with local business connection.

- The supply will be grown here. It cannot be taken across state lines. Medical Marijuana must be grown in a warehouse. Warehouse has requirement on location as well. 10 to 1 ratio to pharmacies.
- Douglas County, Lyon, Storey County banned it. People will be coming into Washoe County to purchase medical Marijuana. You must have a medical marijuana card issued by a Medical Doctor.
- The federal government Marijuana doesn't allow it. Some businesses can have no tolerance for employees. It's up to business and testing. If there is an accident with the County, we test. Businesses have the same protection.
- Please send an email or call if you have any questions.

#### Questions and Concerns:

- Sean McCoy asked about the card issued by another state and purchasing. The Commissioner said you can buy across different states. There is reciprocity across the states. Health department is overseeing this. They spoke about THC levels in the blood.
- Commissioner Berkbigler said you can get a card for almost anything. It's not a prescription; it depends what the doctor says on the form. This will bring in a great deal of money.
- Sean McCoy asked about smoking in public. Commissioner Berkbigler said it falls under the clean air act which doesn't allow you to smoke outside of your personal space, and you can't drive with it.

## 8. \*PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY REPORTS/UPDATES

**A. Washoe County Sheriff Office (WCSO)** – Report on public safety issues and concerns. Information about WCSO is available online at [www.washoesheriff.com](http://www.washoesheriff.com) or 775-328-3001.

- Sheriff Stacy Hill reported this area has been very calm. He said as we transition fall and winter habits, keep property locked and valuables out of sight; don't create the opportunity for criminal activity. Good habits for property protection.
- Audience member asked about their service coverage. Sheriff Hill said their service area covers to from California border up to Idaho border.

Leslie closed item 8.

**9. \*UPDATE FROM NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE ON WILDLIFE CONCERNS** - Chris Healy, a representative from Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) will provide a presentation regarding bear/trash issues and provide some education on general wildlife concerns. Chris Healy will be available to address questions and concerns. Chris may be reached at [chealy@ndow.org](mailto:chealy@ndow.org), or (775) 688-1554.

Leslie said there has been some bear activity and would like some guidelines for handling them.

- Chris passed out two hand outs: Bear and Coyote information and discussed some issues:
- Fruit trees in this area attract the bears. The bears are seeking more calories to consume. The bears will increase their search for food. They can smell 20 miles away. During the full moon, the bears will eat 15-20 hours a day.
- We have increased bear habitat.
- Chris said this area is sometime better for bears than up at the lake.
- Chris said when someone calls with a bear complaint; they ask certain questions about safety. They ask the person to remove the attractant, such as remove the fruit off the ground. Install an electric fence to keep them out.
- The garbage ordinance in Washoe County can be applied to you, and it's not just for Incline Village. We remind people to put out your trash the morning of trash day, not the night before. This is a great area for bears and wildlife. Remove the attractant and think like a bear or other wildlife. Don't put out bird feeders, dog food, beehives. You have to do your part not to attract them.

- An audience member asked about feeding them at the Lake so they don't come down. Chris said supplemental feeding doesn't take care of wildlife needs and it's unethical.
- Linda Heiss asked about horse hay. Chris said it's not a major attractant, but the other things that go along with hay are attractant, i.e. water.
- Chris said they handled 20 bears in July; In August, they handled only 11 due to the rains. The bears appetites are increasing during this time.
- An audience member asked about rental properties. Chris suggested they call the HOA.
- Chris spoke about coyotes. He said they are non-game species. If you kill the wrong coyote, it creates a problem with increase population. The USDA wildlife services do what they can to control it. The coyotes are smart and adapted to human behavior. If dogs are out running free, they are bait for coyotes. It's up to the humans to be aware.
- Sean McCoy said the perception is that animal control or NDOW will handle it, when actually it's our responsibility as home owners. Chris said if it's a safety issue, we can respond. However, if it's a nuisance issue, it will be your responsibility to remove attractants.
- George Georgeson asked about population increase. Chris said western Nevada is bear habitat. The bears have become more adapted to humans, increase the amount of trash in the Tahoe Basin, and increased wildlife management; instead of them killing them, they are being managed as well as an increase animal migration over 3-4 decades. Chris said we can count them better by tagging them and we are more confident in our science. Jay asked about marmots. Chris said they are a non-game animal. We don't deal with them. You can't move raccoons and skunks due to disease.
- Sean McCoy asked about waste management and bear proof trash cans. Chris said we have no control over that, it's the municipalities. Chris said they have had good luck with HOAs who want to work to solve issues with trash. The current franchise agreement doesn't require bear proof trash cans, and it makes contracts difficult with the ramification of bear issues and trash and implementing a solution.
- Chris gave out the Washoe County Health Department number and you can call for complaints with trash issues (775) 328-2434.
- Sarah Tone said Coughlin Ranch is working with City of Reno to get trash management and an agreement with a bear proof container. Sean McCoy said he is in the Lake ridge area and wondered about using a bear proof trash can. Sarah said there is an additional fee currently.
- Chris said they had to euthanize a bear who displayed dangerous behavior. We follow the bears with satellite collars and tags.
- Linda asked about deer. There use to be a lot, and now there are none. Chris said drought, young dear don't do well in drought, mountain lions, and there might not be the same attributes of food and water. Bears don't have impact on mule deer. Coyotes can have an impact on deer. Chris said we have fragmented their habitat with highways and homes.

## **10. \*CAB MEMBER DISCUSSION REGARDING INCREASING INVOLVEMENT IN CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS –**

Leslie said we need to bring in topics that people are interested want to hear about.

Sarah Tone gave some suggestions:

- Topics with community interest; hot topics.
- Host a well run meeting
- The public feel they are being heard
- Taking the message back to your community, HOA, neighborhood through newsletters, etc.
- Area specific issues: Equestrian trails. Create a working group or workshop.
- Door to door campaign: Go around the neighborhood to get participation and interest. Sarah said the County has the tools for you. Next door.com – online tools
- Animal ordinance changes. Sarah said Kevin S. couldn't come and speak to this topic, but she has information on working groups on this topic.

- An audience member said if you restrict it to the County, you limit participation. The CAB meeting use to be in the paper. One item should be publicized in the paper to get interested community member.
- Sean McCoy said asked about city issues. Sarah said the County can't make decisions for city issues. It can create confusion to create meetings that parallel the City. These aren't issues we can address and handle.
- Sarah Tone said you can sign up for email list; Cmail for County information. She said they have advertised and created campaigns, but there needs to be a personal connection. She suggested the CAB get with Al Rogers to see what we can do for the CABs. What tools we can provide for you to get out into the community.
- An audience member asked about website. Sarah gave the web address [www.washoecounty.us/CAB](http://www.washoecounty.us/CAB) and said the Agenda is publicized after it has been finalized.
- An audience member suggested this CAB attend the RTC and other board meetings. Give HOAs the meeting agenda and make sure people get the agenda.

**11.\*CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS** – This item is limited to announcements by CAB members of topics/issues posed for future workshops/agendas.

Linda wants to address who manages the ditches and what are the color ribbons along the properties? She said she would like to find out who manages these and if a representative can inform us of responsibility and maintenance of these ditches.

**12.\*PUBLIC COMMENT** – No public comment.

**13. ADJOURNMENT** - Chairperson, Leslie Skinner, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. George Georgeson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

**Number of CAB members present: 5**  
**Number of staff present: 3**

**Number of Public Present: 5**

**Presence of Elected Officials: 1**

**Submitted By: Misty Moga**