

## MARCH 16, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Darin Bloyed, Chairman. Those present were Pat Irwin and Carol Shank, Commissioners; Bryce Shields, District Attorney; Karen Wesner, Administrative Assistant; and Lacey Donaldson, Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 3, 2016 with the inclusion on page 6 regarding his phone call with NACo and the joint City-County meeting minutes of February 16, 2016 as submitted. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** Steve Sappington, Acting BLM Field Manager for the Humboldt River Field Office and Terah Malsam, Winnemucca District Public Affairs Officer, were present. Mr. Sappington stated that Acting Winnemucca District Manager Ken Collum couldn't be here today, but he would like to set up a meeting to talk about the Unionville Cemetery and how to proceed with that. He also stated that there will be a tour of the Blue Wing Gather EA this weekend. Mr. Sappington also stated that they have been receiving several inquiries regarding the Pershing County Lands Bill. Since the BLM is not involved, he asked who they should direct the calls to. Mr. Irwin stated that they could direct the calls to him. Calls can also be directed to Senator Heller's and Senator Reid's offices.

Mr. Irwin asked if there was an update on the site in Imlay that was being cleaned up. Mr. Sappington did not know, but will get an update for the Board.

**REVIEW OF ALL AGENDA ITEMS TO DETERMINE IF ANY DO OR DO NOT IMPOSE A DIRECT AND SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC BURDEN ON A BUSINESS OR DIRECTLY RESTRICT THE FORMATION, OPERATION, OR EXPANSION OF A BUSINESS:** Mr. Irwin made a motion that Agenda Item #4 regarding the sale of the county building located in Grass Valley and Agenda Item #31 regarding the Wilderness Lands Bill fall under this category. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**REVIEW OF APPRAISAL AND PURCHASE OFFER ON PROPERTY OWNED BY PERSHING COUNTY LOCATED AT 450 DEER LANE, GRASS VALLEY, PERSHING COUNTY, NEVADA; POSSIBLE COUNTER OFFER AND/OR ACCEPTANCE OF PURCHASE OFFER:** It was noted that an appraisal was done and it came in at \$70,000. Mr. Bloyed asked for confirmation on whether or not they can accept an offer lower than the appraised value. Mr. Shields stated that they can and the Resolution lists the findings stating such. He also stated that the appraisal is based on the assumption that the County will obtain the title for the manufactured home. When the County purchased the property the transfer of title was never completed on the manufactured home. Mr. Shields stated that he would file a motion in District Court asking them to order the Manufactured Home Division to issue a title to Pershing County.

Mr. Irwin and Mrs. Shank both felt it would be a benefit to the community to accept the offer on the table.

Mr. Irwin made a motion to adopt Resolution #16-0302 approving the sale of the property located at 450 Deer Lane, Grass Valley, Pershing County, Nevada and accept the offer by Jose Covarrubias in the amount of \$50,000.00. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

### **UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:**

**ROAD DEPARTMENT** – Brian Greene was present.

Mr. Greene reported that they installed several French drains on Old Emigrant Road. The Imlay crew finished blading Keystone Canyon Road. Chris also bladed Hershell Road in Grass Valley and

they hauled some riff-raft to the culverts on Klondike Wash and Kyle Hot Springs. A few guys also spent a couple days helping clean up the Landfill and Transfer Sites in preparation for the inspection. The crew also hauled gravel out of the Twin Beach Pitt and laid it on various roads.

Mrs. Shank stated there were some questions asked at the Grass Valley Town Hall. One woman asked about a center line on Muddy Road. Mr. Greene stated that only two roads in the County are striped, Old Victory Highway and Grass Valley, as it is very expensive. Logan Road was also mentioned and it was noted that it is not a County maintained road. Mr. Shields stated that he spoke to an individual who would provide gravel. It was decided to put this issue on a future agenda so it can be discussed more thoroughly. Mrs. Shank also asked about the cattle guard on Grass Valley Road. Mr. Greene stated that he is waiting to hear back from NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation).

LANDFILL – Brian Greene was present.

Mr. Greene reported that the Landfill was inspected by NDEP (Nevada Division of Environmental Protection) yesterday. They did note the blown litter. It was all cleaned up Friday, but then there were high winds. Mr. Greene was also informed that they are working on scheduling a SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America) class April 5-8. Mr. Nielsen will get all the information in regards to cost and get signed up.

Mr. Greene also reported that Hoss Disposal has been sold to Team Silverado Enterprises. He met with the new owner on Monday. Mr. Shields stated that they have signed the renewal contract and an item will be on the next agenda for approval.

SENIOR CENTER/VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR – Jordan McKinney was present.

Mrs. McKinney stated that she would be hand delivering a grant application today.

*Approval to hire vacant Cook I position:* Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the hiring to fill the vacant Cook I position at the Senior Center. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka stated that they have been cleaning out the shop. They have also been prepping for the Easter Egg Hunt at McDougal Field by opening the bathrooms, etc. They have also been working at the cemeteries and checking various water lines in preparation to turn sprinklers on.

Mr. Handka stated that major changes have occurred at the Airport and he gave the Board pictures of the work that has been done. Mr. Handka thinks he has isolated all the wires running on the roof and should be able to start removing them. Mr. Irwin stated that once all the work is done he would like to have a fly-in and “Grand Opening”. He would also like to see a fundraiser to mount the historic airplane. Mr. Handka stated that when they have some time the Road Department will help them clean up the weeds out there as well.

Mr. Irwin stated that the puncture vine is coming in at the Unionville Park and asked that Mr. Handka work with Mr. Whittaker to get it sprayed.

*Lovelock Frontier Days, Request to use the Courthouse Park July 27-31, 2016:* A letter was received from the Lovelock Frontier Days Committee requesting to use the Courthouse Park July 27<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the request of the Lovelock Frontier Days Committee to use the Courthouse Park for their event July 27-31, 2016. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

*Pershing County Chamber of Commerce, Request to use Courthouse Park July 1-4, 2016:* An email was received from the Chamber of Commerce asking to use the Courthouse Park for the first annual Nevada Silver Days funded in part by Nevada Tourism.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the request of the Pershing County Chamber of Commerce to use the Courthouse Park July 1-4, 2016 with proof of insurance coverage and coordinating with Buildings and Grounds. Motion seconded by Mr. Irwin and passed.

COMMUNITY CENTER/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Heidi Lusby-Angvick was present.

Mrs. Lusby-Angvick stated that the Community Center Board did go over the insurance information. They have decided to require renters who are serving alcohol to obtain their own insurance. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick did find an online source if anyone needs it.

*Request for adoption/approval of the updated Fee Schedule and that a renter serving alcohol at an event will obtain insurance and provide proof of insurance a minimum of one week before their scheduled event:* Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the updated Fee Schedule for the Community Center including that renters serving alcohol at an event will obtain insurance and provide proof of insurance a minimum of one week before their scheduled event. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**BID OPENING AND AWARD: PERSHING COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER DESIGN AND BUILD PROJECT** – Heidi Lusby-Angvick was present along with Pat Rowe, Michael Springfield, and Ted Bendure of the Community Center Board.

A bid was received from Ferrel Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$132,954.00. The Community Center Board members left the meeting to review the bid.

Later in the morning the Board readdressed this item. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick stated that her committee went through the bid documents and there were a few things they would like to see addressed. They feel a grease interceptor is needed, they would like the lights upgraded to LED, and would like a drop down outlet over the island. These items weren't specifically included in the bid specs as it was put out as a design build. Because of the way the project was bid, additional items can be added. These items would add approximately \$7,000 to the total cost. It was noted that the deadline for completion is May 25<sup>th</sup>, subject to extensions due to permitting delays, etc. The contract does include a Liquidated Damage Clause.

Mr. Irwin made a motion to award the bid to Ferrel Construction, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$140,000, being the most responsive and responsible bid and extending the amount allocated in the Capital Improvement Fund for this project to \$140,000. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**PERSHING COUNTY FIRE/AMBULANCE:**

IMLAY FIRE DEPARTMENT – *Bid Review/Award for completion of Fire House interior:*

Bids were received as follows:

Monarch Construction	\$90,400
Aspen Creek Construction	\$43,961
George DeLong Construction	No Bid

The bids will be reviewed by District Attorney Shields before a decision is made by the Board. Later in the meeting Mr. Shields stated that he reviewed the bids and both are in compliance.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to award the bid to Aspen Creek Construction in the amount of \$43,961.00, being the most responsive and responsible bid. Motion seconded by Mr. Irwin and passed.

**GARY WINGROVE, UPDATE ON AMBULANCE/EMS EVALUATION:** Mr. Wingrove and Paul Anderson joined the meeting by phone.

A copy of the Assessment was given to the Board. Mr. Wingrove and Mr. Anderson gave a brief overview of the document. This assessment was funded by the Nevada State Office of Rural Health. They found the Lovelock Volunteer Fire Department (LVFD) positioned identically to EMS (Emergency Medical Services) agencies in other states. Ambulance call volume is increasing at a time when volunteerism is decreasing. At some point the City of Lovelock and Pershing County are going to have to fund the addition of full time staff. A significant number of small issues were found within the

Department and recommendations were made in the report to fix them. One issue that came up frequently was that there is a “fully-stocked bar” in the Firehouse. This practice should be stopped immediately due to liability issues, professional standard issues, community perception, and the health and well-being of the members.

Debbie Mock, member of the LVFD asked if the report would be made available to the Department. Mr. Irwin stated that it would.

**UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:**

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS MANAGER – *Approval of Emergency Management*

*Performance Grant:* Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the submittal of the Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$25,000 with 50% of that being County match. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:**

LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK-TREASURER – Mrs. Donaldson reported that Candidate Filing has been slow with only 6 people filing as of last night. Filing will close Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

*Approval of corrections/changes to the Tax Roll:* Mrs. Donaldson gave the Board four corrections as follows:

APN #001-221-14	Singh	Correction to personal property
APN #001-192-03	Royal Hotels, Inc.	Correction to personal property for FY14, FY15 & FY16.

Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the corrections to the Tax Roll as submitted. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

LAURI CERINI-JONES, ASSESSOR – It was noted that Ms. Cerini-Jones attended the Open House in Grass Valley. She also reported that she is working on an income analysis in preparation of going to the State Board of Equalization. She also gave the Board a draft list of the statutory reports she is required to file with the State and their due dates.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS:** There were no Proclamation or Awards considered.

**APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH FERGUSON CONSTRUCTION, FALLON, NEVADA FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PERSHING COUNTY ARCHIVAL BUILDING:**

Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the contract between Ferguson Construction and Pershing County for construction of the Pershing County Archival Building. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no additional correspondence considered.

**APPOINTMENT OF AUDITING FIRM EIDE-BAILLY TO PERFORM THE AUDIT FOR PERSHING COUNTY FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016, PURSUANT TO NRS**

**354.624:** Mr. Irwin made a motion to appoint the auditing firm of Eide-Bailly to perform the audit for Pershing County for the year ending June 30, 2016 for an amount not to exceed \$88,000. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**GRASS VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD:** There was no one present from the Grass Valley Advisory Board. Carl Clinger spoke. He attended the Interim Legislative Committee on water last week. A presentation was given by Joe Ratliff of Grass Valley regarding groundwater aquifers. He

spoke about the over allocation in Basin 071. Mr. Clinger stressed the importance of the County having a Water Management Plan.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE #321, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 13.40 ENTITLED PERSHING COUNTY CEMETERIES:** Mrs. Shank stated that Mr. Shields met with a representative of the Cemetery Board and they went over this in great detail.

Mr. Irwin stated that the Public Hearing Notice does not have the correct date.

There were some questions regarding internments. Mr. Bloyed also stated that there needs to be a provision allowing service dogs.

The meeting recessed at 9:50 a.m. and reconvened at 10:08 a.m.

As both Public Hearing Notices were advertised with the wrong date, the Public Hearings for Proposed Ordinances #321 and #322 will be re-advertised to take place at the next meeting.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT MATTERS:** James Evans was present.

Mr. Evans reported that there will be a Planning Commission meeting on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that the meeting was moved from the regular date of April 6<sup>th</sup> as Mr. Evans will be out of town.

Mr. Irwin stated that he went to Unionville and they were trying to install the new roof on top of the old roof, which had collapsed. He stopped the work. He and Mr. Evans will speak to the contractor.

**IMLAY WATER SYSTEM:** James Evans was present.

Mr. Evans spoke about the upcoming monthly testing. Mr. Irwin asked if Mr. Evans had received the report from James Eason. Mr. Evans stated that he has not.

Mr. Shields stated that he is researching the possible sale of the Imlay Water System. Due to the fact that a large part of the funding used to put in and maintain the system was grant funding, he is not sure if we have had the asset long enough to be able to dispose of it.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT MATTERS:** James Evans was present.

Mr. Evans stated that everything is going well.

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIOR HEALTH, RURAL COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST TO CO-LOCATE THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (BH) PROGRAM AND THE COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE (CHN) PROGRAM AT THE CURRENT CHN PROGRAM LOCATION AND OTHER POSSIBLE OFFICE SPACE AS PROPOSED:** Jon Kirwan and Donna Rippelmeyer were present.

Mr. Kirwan stated that he is here today to propose co-locating the Behavioral Health Program with the Community Health Nurse Program. Mrs. Shank has been working with Mr. Kirwan and showed them the available space at the Annex Building. It was noted that the Community Health Nurse is only here once a week. Mr. Kirwan stated that by combining the two services, the facility would be better utilized and would also bring more revenue to the County.

Mrs. Shank asked if they would have use for the spare office or if all the services would be done out of the Health Nurse's office. Mr. Kirwan stated that they would like the spare office for Ms. Rippelmeyer. Mrs. Shank also asked if they were proposing paying rent or reducing the monthly payment the County makes for these services. Mr. Kirwan stated that it could be handled either way.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the request of the Division of Public and Behavior Health, Rural Community Health Services to co-locate the Behavioral Health Program and the Community

Health Nurse Program at the current CHN Program location and other office space as proposed with Mrs. Shank working with Mr. Kirwan in regards to the rent. Motion seconded by Mr. Irwin and passed.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF INTERSTATE INTERLOCAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM AND PERSHING COUNTY:** Mrs. Shank noted that it appears this contract has been significantly reduced. She felt the rental agreement previously discussed should be a separate contract. Mr. Irwin agreed. Mr. Shields had some concerns regarding pandemics and asked if there could be a cap placed on the County's contribution if a pandemic did occur. He was also concerned with the clause regarding the replacement of clerical staff.

Mr. Shields would like the Board to hold off on approving this contract until his questions have been resolved. It was noted that there is a deadline of April 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kirwan stated that this is a state-wide contract and he would expect some resistance to any changes.

Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the Interstate Interlocal Contract between the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Community Health Service Program and Pershing County contingent on the District Attorney negotiating the items he has concerns with. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**JERRY ALLEN, SHERIFF:** Sheriff Allen gave the Board a copy of the Jail Inspection that was performed by the State. The list of items that need to be fixed have been given to Mr. Handka of Buildings and Grounds. A majority of the issues are plumbing related. One of the issues is the psych cell. Mr. Handka doesn't believe that his staff can make the repairs and asked that Sheriff Allen go forward with asking the Board to approve replacing the material in the whole cell. That cost is almost \$20,000. An item will be put on a future agenda so that it can be discussed in depth.

Sheriff Allen also has a meeting with Core Construction and SH Architecture tomorrow to discuss the new jail.

**BLACK ROCK CITY, LLC: UPDATE ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE 2015 BURNING MAN EVENT AND MATTERS RELATING TO THE 2016 BURNING MAN EVENT –** Marnee Benson and Roger Vind were present.

Ms. Benson spoke about the 2016 event. The theme this year is "Da Vinci's Workshop". Tickets are currently on sale. They are anticipating the same population as last year with the maximum peak population limit being 70,000 plus support staff. They are encouraging ride-sharing and will once again be selling up to 27,000 vehicle passes. Crowd RX will be returning with an additional certification as a Tactical Emergency Medical Services Provider. Ms. Benson also reported that they will be reviewing their Airport Operations to improve operational capacity and fuel services.

They will be meeting with Sheriff Allen, Mr. Shields and Mr. Irwin tomorrow to discuss the 2015 event close-out and address any outstanding items. They will also discuss any needs for 2016 and beyond. Ms. Benson stated that they met with BLM in February to discuss the 2015 event close-out and review the permit and costs. The 2016 Permit Application has been submitted.

It was also noted that the United States Court of Appeals ruled to uphold the Pershing County – Burning Man Settlement Agreement.

Mrs. Shank stated that the Hospital held a table top exercise yesterday and it was asked if Burning Man/Crowd RX has an Emergency Preparedness Plan for an epidemic. Ms. Benson stated that they have a number of contingency plans and she will see if that specific document can be shared.

**RON RADIL, WNDD: UPDATE ON WNDD ACTIVITIES, REVIEW/UPDATE AND AMEND THE PERSHING COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PLAN (CEDS); UPDATING PROJECTS/INITIATIVES; WNDD RLF UPDATE; NEVADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> (PROGRAM, PARTICIPATION, SUPPORT, SCHOLARSHIPS):** Mr. Radil gave an overview of Western Nevada Development District and their programs. He wanted to stress that WNDD is a voluntary association of local governments. Mr. Radil also stated that the Economic Development Conference will be held at UNR (University of Nevada, Reno) in September. Lastly, he spoke about the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). This document is reviewed and updated every five years and was last updated in 2014. Pershing County's CEDS should be reviewed to see if changes need to be made.

**VOUCHERS:** Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

The meeting recessed at 11:30 a.m. so that the Board could meet in a closed labor session pursuant to NRS 288.220 to meet with the County's labor representative regarding labor negotiations. The meeting reconvened at 11:48 a.m.

**ELECTED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:**

**KAREN STEPHENS, JUSTICE COURT – Approval to hire part-time, 19 hour employee:** Mr. Bloyed stated that the County does not have the money to hire another employee. He spoke with Mrs. Garretson about helping out and she is willing to do that when she has time.

Judge Stephens stated that she can have her staff put in over-time to get the citations entered and caught up, but that doesn't include sending additional notices or turning accounts over to collections.

It was noted that Judge Stephens currently has two full-time employees and one three-quarter employee. Mr. Bloyed asked if the ¾ employee is being utilized to the best of their abilities. Judge Stephens stated that employee is not currently working the full 60 hours and she doesn't think she is interested in working full-time.

Mrs. Shank thought the utilization of another department's ¾ employee (Mrs. Garretson) would be the best option. Mr. Irwin agreed and asked if this was something Judge Stephens felt would work. Judge Stephens stated that employee would have to be able to come in the office when they have an open computer. Mrs. Shank stated that if that is the case, they would need a new computer either way they went.

Mr. Irwin agreed that the funding isn't there and another solution needs to be found. Judge Stephens asked if her staff could continue to work over-time. Mr. Bloyed still felt Mrs. Garretson was the best option. Mrs. Shank suggested changing schedules to a staggered 4 ten schedule, until they get caught up. Mr. Irwin also suggested setting up a temporary station with an old computer. This way Mrs. Garretson could come over when it is slow in her office. Judge Stephens also stated that she would not be able to pay Mrs. Garretson the wage she makes in Planning and Building. Mr. Bloyed stated that it wouldn't be fair for her to take a pay cut to help out.

Mr. Irwin asked if they are currently over budget due to the over-time. Judge Stephens thought they probably were. Mr. Irwin felt it would be a better option to use the current staff and they will discuss this more when reviewing the budgets.

**REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL:** Mr. Shields had nothing to report.

**REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:** Mrs. Wesner stated that she is still working on the Imlay Sewer Community Development Block Grant. She did receive a letter granting another extension through June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are still being held up by the Railroad.

APPROVAL OF HIGHER HOTEL ROOM RATE FOR THE CNRWA MEETING IN EUREKA MARCH 18, 2016 FOR COMMISSIONER CAROL SHANK, ROGER MANCEBO, AND JAMES EVANS – Mrs. Shank stated that Mr. Mancebo will not be attending. Mr. Bloyed stated with the current status of the budgets, we need to cut back on the number of people the County is paying to attend these meetings. Mr. Irwin agreed. Mrs. Wesner stated that she put all three names on the agenda because she wasn't sure who would be attending.

Mr. Irwin made a motion to approve the higher hotel room rate for the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority meeting in Eureka March 18, 2016 with the intention that only one person will be attending the meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Bloyed. Mrs. Shank abstained. Motion carried.

**MATTERS OF THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION, BOARD MEMBER REPORTS, BOARD LIAISON REPORTS:** Mrs. Shank didn't have anything to report. She did state that she has been participating in the Pershing Health Care Foundation meetings and they have applied for their non-profit status with the State.

Mr. Irwin stated that all his meetings are coming up. He did attend the POOL/PACT Conference. The 911 Advisory Board has not met, but Mr. Irwin is also on a 911 subcommittee for the Nevada State Communications Safety Council. They are working on a presentation that will be sent to the Governor. They are looking for funding sources for rural 911 centers.

Mr. Bloyed did not have anything to report.

Mr. Irwin asked if there was a reason they are now opening and awarding bids at the same meeting. In the past, bids were opened outside of the meeting, so they could be reviewed and then awarded at the next Commission meeting. Mr. Shields thought they could avoid the perception of impropriety if the bids were opened in an actual meeting. Mr. Bloyed stated that the contractors are invited to attend the opening. Mr. Shields stated that we could go back to having the opening on a separate day prior to the meeting and Mrs. Donaldson could attest to the documents that were received from each bidder. Mrs. Donaldson stated that she could create an index for each packet.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** There was no public input at this time.

The meeting recessed at 12:08 p.m. and reconvened at 1:31 p.m.

**UPDATE ON THE WILDERNESS LANDS BILL (PERSHING COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION ACT):** Sara Moffat with Senator Reid's office and Ashely Jonkey with Senator Heller's office joined the meeting by phone.

Mr. Bloyed stated that with the amount of comments they have had they will be asking that the Public Comment period be extended.

Mr. Irwin asked Ms. Moffat to give some background information on the Bill. Ms. Moffat stated that a couple years ago, trying to stave off a listing of the sage grouse, they started looking at a possible Public Lands Bill that would protect industry and work on permanent conservation of sage grouse habitat. With the determination not to list the sage grouse last year, the bill was no longer needed; however, Pershing County asked to continue with certain pieces that they had been working on.

Mr. Irwin gave an overview regarding Pershing County's direction. One of Pershing County's top interests was having the ownership of the Unionville Cemetery transferred to the County. Pershing County was also denied permit renewals for some long-standing gravel pits because they were in Wilderness Study Areas. At that time the previous "Checkerboard Lands" Committee was brought back together to make recommendations.

Mr. Irwin asked Ms. Moffat if the Comment Period can be extended and what the process is. Ms. Moffat stated that she will speak to Jeremy Harrell, but she doesn't think there will be a problem.



She also wanted to stress that there are several chances throughout the process to give input. She also stated that some of the aspects of this Bill will be hard to push through without Senator Reid.

Kyle Davis, Consultant with the Wilderness Society, stated that he has been working on this project since it was a state-wide sage grouse initiative. Mr. Davis stated that they definitely want to work with people and hear their concerns so that nothing is left out or put in that doesn't work.

Carl Clinger has been working on this project since the Checkerboard Land Committee was established several years ago in regards to the railroad property. He gave a little history.

Mr. Bloyed entered into the record letters or emails from Robert Hager, Ron Hess, Michael Gottschalk, Jim Richards of Comstock Gold Prospectors, GPAA of Northern Nevada, and Rye Patch Gold.

Various members of the community as well as mining representatives, farmers and ranchers spoke regarding their concerns and the lack of public knowledge regarding this Bill. A list of those in attendance will be included with the minutes.

Mr. Irwin asked Ms. Moffat what would happen if Pershing County decided to no longer support this Bill moving forward. Ms. Moffat stated that they have several other Bills they are working on and they would not move forward without Pershing County's support.

The Commission will work on having the Public Comment period extended and this item will be placed on all subsequent Commission agendas until no longer needed. The Board will also coordinate some Town Halls.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP:** The meeting recessed at 3:06 p.m. so that the Board could go into Budget Workshops.

The meeting reconvened at 3:23 p.m.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** There was no additional public input.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Darin Bloyed, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk