

JULY 1, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Carol Shank, Chairwoman. Those present were Robert McDougal and Larry Rackley, Commissioners; Bryce Shields, District Attorney; Karen Wesner, Administrative Assistant; and Lacey Donaldson, Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. McDougal made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2020 and the May 20, 2020 regular meetings, noting that the May 6, 2020 minutes are over the 45 day requirement due to the Clerk being busy with the Primary Election. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

PUBLIC INPUT: There was no public comment at this time.

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. McDougal made a motion that no agenda items impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a business. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:

ROAD DEPARTMENT, LANDFILL & RECYCLING – A written report was submitted by Dan Hill. Mr. Hill reported that the Mag Chloride program is finished for the year and they also finished brooming the chip seal. The Grass Valley transfer site has been cleaned up again. Mr. Monroe and Mr. Casias bladed Van Diest. The new litter signs were put up in Grass Valley. They are making gravel at the Leach Hot Springs pit and the screening plant will be moved soon. The crew is patching Muddy, Herschell, and Grass Valley roads in preparation for the chip seal. Mr. Hill has been spraying weeds in Lovelock and Grass Valley.

Mr. Rackley also stated that at the Grass Valley Advisory Board meeting the residents mentioned that they have never seen the roads look better.

Mr. Hill also reported that three people were interviewed for the Landfill position and Steven McDaniel was hired.

Approval of “advanced step hire” for new employee pursuant to Chapter 5.7.3, Pershing County Personnel Policy: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve hiring Steven McDaniel at an advanced step, Range 24, Step 7, effective on the hire date of June 22, 2020. Motion seconded by Mr. McDougal and passed.

SENIOR CENTER – Debra Campbell was present.

Ms. Campbell reported that she is going to try to offer a drive-through meal delivery starting July 22nd.

Approval of FY21 second year funding non-competitive sub award for Homebound: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2021 second year funding, non-competitive sub award for Homebound. Motion seconded by Mr. McDougal and passed.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that they have been trying to figure out what is happening at the swimming pool. A leak detection company has been out twice. So far, everything looks pretty good.

Mr. Handka reported that the A/C was replaced in the squad room at the Sheriff's Office. Several trees blew down at Lone Mountain Cemetery due to high winds. There has been continued vandalism at the ball fields. The drip systems are being pulled out, as well as the t-post around the gate, and the tops of the valve boxes. Mr. Handka also reported that he has been building the shelving for the

Law Library. Once cut, they will move them to the shop to stain them so there aren't fumes in the Courthouse. The sneeze guards have been delivered and installed in various offices. Maintenance to the camera system is being done. Mr. Handka also spoke about the A/C at the Senior Center. A Lennox unit costs approximately \$4,500 less than the Mitsubishi unit. The crew is still working on controlling weeds. The summer lunch program is running out of the Community Center this year instead of the park.

Mrs. Shank asked if the A/C unit is the only option for the Senior Center. Mr. Handka stated that he can replace the swamp cooler, but he doesn't think it will make a difference. Mr. McDougal suggested looking into grant funding.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott reported that the request to set up Zoom meetings has slowed down. The application for the DotGov domain has been submitted and is awaiting review and approval. J4 Systems will be coming to do a walk-through of the County facilities on July 7th and 8th. Mr. Abbott has been busy with regular maintenance and support requests. Mrs. Shank asked that Mr. Abbott also get a quote from J4 for the Library as well. Mr. Abbott stated that he has already started that process.

COMMUNITY CENTER – Dixie McKay was present.

Mrs. McKay submitted her monthly report. She stated that events are starting to pick up and everyone seems to be ok with the mask requirement and social distancing. 4-H will be holding a small awards banquet to acknowledge the kids that participated in the virtual livestock show. All of the missing tables have been returned to the Community Center and it has been made clear that they are not for personal use.

Discussion regarding Community Center Staffing and Director Authority: Mr. McDougal spoke about removing the Community Center from under PCEDA (Pershing County Economic Development Authority). PCEDA has a meeting Monday afternoon and will make a recommendation to the Commission. This will be put back on the agenda after the details have been worked out.

BSL Electric Corporation electrical work proposals for a total of \$11,820.00: Mr. Rackley asked if this is in the budget. Mrs. Childs stated that it isn't in the Community Center budget, but may be on the Capital Projects list.

Carolyn Hultgren stated that the Pershing County Healthcare Foundation has the Center reserved for their annual dinner on August 8th. She asked if there was still a 50 person limit. It was noted that there is, as well as a mask requirement and social distancing. Mrs. Hultgren stated that the Foundation has a meeting coming up and they may decide to cancel the event for this year.

PERSHING COUNTY FIRE / AMBULANCE –

AMBULANCE REPORT: Chief Rodney Wilcox was present.

Chief Wilcox reported that all the annual licensing requirement have been completed. The number of calls is about average.

LOVELOCK FIRE: Chief Wilcox stated that they currently have 22 members. 90% of the membership has their F Endorsement. They have responded to 36 fire calls in the last 6 months. New tires have been put on the front of the tanker and the "sister" truck. All training is back on schedule, with an EMT class scheduled for the fall. The Firefighter I class will be starting at the end of July. As long as the wind cooperates, the 4th of July fireworks are scheduled for Saturday. The Department is selling raffle tickets for a raffle to be held on July 5th.

APPROVAL OF ORDERING THE TWO VEHICLES BUDGETED THROUGH THE OPTION TAX IN THE AMOUNT OF \$97,623.28 FOR THE LOVELOCK FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE GRASS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Wilcox stated that the trucks have been ordered and will be here next month. Mr. Rackley asked why this was being discussed again, as the purchase was approved in October. It was clarified that due to COVID-19, all Capital Expenditures (purchases over \$3,000) have been frozen and need approval by the Board.

Mr. McDougal made a motion to approve the purchase of the two vehicles budgeted through the Option Tax Fund in the amount of \$97,623.28, for the Lovelock and Grass Valley Fire Departments. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

GRASS VALLEY FIRE: Chief Sean Burke spoke over the phone.

Chief Burke also spoke about the new trucks that were approved. He is looking into an alternative source for the lights and radios and is waiting for a quote. The Burn Ban goes into effect today. Everything else is going well.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Sean Burke spoke by phone.

State Emergency Management presence has decreased significantly, even with cases increasing. They are also going to remove themselves as a source to obtain PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). They are recommending stockpiling PPE in preparation for another increase this fall.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Heidi Lusby-Angvick was present.

Mrs. Lusby-Angvick presented the Board with Western Nevada Development District's Monthly Report #8 for the Brownfield Grant, and asked that it be included in the minutes. She also stated that the Virtual Visioning Tour is almost complete and will be pushed out to the public soon. The Build Nevada Core Workforce Development Program will hold its first class in Lovelock August 3rd through the 13th. This class will provide OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) certification and basic construction knowledge. Tuition is \$550.00; however, there is tuition assistance available. If anyone is interested, they can contact Mrs. Lusby-Angvick. Shayla Hudson stated that her husband is interested in teaching an electrical module if needed. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick will pass the information along.

Annual Rental Agreement with the City of Lovelock for PCEDA office located at City Hall, for a cost of \$12.00 per year: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the rental agreement with the City of Lovelock for the PCEDA office located at City Hall for a cost of \$12 per year. Motion seconded by Mr. McDougal and passed.

Approval to apply for CIVIC Innovation Challenge Grant in partnership with UNR as a sub-awardee: Mrs. Lusby-Angvick stated that this is a planning grant arising from the pandemic. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick was approached regarding any needs that have arisen due to the pandemic. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick stated that communication resources are greatly needed. The amount of the grant is \$50,000 and there is no grant match.

Mr. McDougal made a motion to approve applying for the CIVIC Innovation Challenge Grant in partnership with UNR as a sub-awardee. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mrs. Lusby-Angvick also spoke about the CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) priority list. We need to move forward with dollar amounts and a commitment to do them. Mrs. Shank asked that the list be shared with the Board so they can get additional information.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Steve Cochran submitted a written report. Mr. Cochran reported that several new changes to Nevada Law go into effect today. He spent much of June studying the changes and preparing to implement them.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Fran Machado was present and submitted a written report.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:

LAUREEN BASSO-CERINI, ASSESSOR – Ms. Basso-Cerini submitted a written report, which was read by Mrs. Wesner. Ms. Basso-Cerini stated that Winnemucca DMV is currently closed due to some building damage and they are anticipating some overflow. The Pershing County DMV is open from 9am until 3pm and closed during the lunch hour. There was an employee resignation in the office, but she is not going to fill the vacancy at this time.

JERRY ALLEN, SHERIFF – Sheriff Allen reported there are 10 inmates in custody. Four people were waiting to get fingerprints done this morning.

Approval to purchase 2 patrol vehicles due to the damage caused during a Law Enforcement Incident: Mrs. Shank asked if the two vehicles were totaled during the incident. Mrs. Donaldson stated

that our insurance has not made that determination yet. Sheriff Allen stated that he received the repair estimates yesterday and both are close to what he feels the vehicles are worth.

Mr. McDougal stated that we need to wait for an answer from the insurance company.

Approval to thaw the hiring freeze to allow applications to fill vacancies created by retirements: Sheriff Allen stated that Undersheriff Bjerke is retiring as of next Saturday. He also has a Dispatcher retiring in November and a secretary retiring in December.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve removing the hiring freeze so that the Sheriff's office can accept applications to fill vacancies created by retirements. Motion seconded by Mr. McDougal and passed.

Mrs. Childs asked when the retirements would be occurring as they are not budgeted to pay for double staffing coverage. Sheriff Allen stated that there is funding available for the Dispatcher position as an on-call position is in the budget, but hasn't been filled. Sheriff Allen also stated that the Undersheriff position will be a promotion from within. Mrs. Shank asked that Sheriff Allen work with Mrs. Childs regarding the budget. Mrs. Childs also asked for clarification on the current vacancies (not upcoming). Sheriff Allen stated that he has a vacancy in the Jail and two employees out on medical.

DERBY FIELD AIRPORT: Mr. Rackley reported that he recently spoke with Armstrong Consultants. The contractor for the fence project is ready to go, but the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) hasn't released the funding yet.

MUSEUM BOARD: APPROVAL OF "OUTGOING LOAN AGREEMENT" WITH THE Nevada State Museum for BLM (BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT) AND NSM (NEVADA STATE MUSEUM) ARTIFACTS ON LOAN TO THE MARZEN HOUSE MUSEUM – It was noted that this agreement was previously signed by a Museum employee, but found it needs to come to the Commission for approval.

Mr. Shields spoke about insurance value. He recommends getting clarification from the BLM before a decision is made. This item will be put back on the next agenda.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EVALUATIONS AND APPROVAL OF YEARLY SALARY INCREASES FOR UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES FOR FY 2020-2021 – J. ABBOTT, T. BANKS, T. BJERKE, K. BRINKERHOFF, S. COCHRAN, J. EVANS, J. HANDKA, C. HAAS, D. HILL, H. LUSBY-ANGVICK, F. MACHADO, D. MCKAY, G. MONROE, K. WESNER – Mr. Rackley stated that John Handka is on probation until October 1st, therefore, he isn't eligible for an increase at this time.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to acknowledge the yearly evaluations for the Unclassified Employees and approved a 4% increase for Justin Abbott, Todd Banks, Thomas Bjerke, Kathie Brinkerhoff, Steve Cochran, James Evans, Cheryl Haas, Dan Hill, Heidi Lusby-Angvick, Fran Machado, Dixie McKay, Gerry Monroe, and Karen Wesner, effective July 1, 2020. Motion seconded by Mr. McDougal and passed.

UPDATE FROM EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND RE-EVALUATION OF RESOLUITION 20-0302, DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY RELATING TO THE COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS); DISCUSSION REGARDING ECONOMIC RECOVERY FOR PERSHING COUNTY; DISCUSSION REGARDING IMPACT TO THE PERSHING COUNTY BUDGET FOR FY 2020-2021; DISCUSSION REGARDING PROCESS AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE CARES ACT FUNDING: Mr. Burke gave an update. There is no action needed from the Board at this time. Pershing County has been allotted \$833,000.00 through the CARES Act, which must be spent by December 31st. Mrs. Shank is working with various entities and Mr. Burke on a plan to spend this funding. Mrs. Childs stated that on the second conference call with NACO it was reiterated that none of

this funding goes to the School District as they already received funding. Mrs. Shank stated that small business grants can also be given, but not for lost revenue. NACO is also working on the details.

The Board recessed at 9:47 a.m. for a Litigation meeting and reconvened at 9:56 a.m.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/HR REP: Mrs. Wesner stated that she is still working on updating the Personnel Policies.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: Mr. McDougal mentioned to Shayla Hudson that they would like to have a workshop to discuss advisory board appointments. He also spoke about the NACO conference.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no additional correspondence discussed.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION, BOARD MEMBER REPORTS, BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: Mr. McDougal stated that he has a Recreation Board meeting on Thursday. They will be discussing the Community Center at the Economic Development meeting on Monday.

Mr. Rackley spoke about Toulon Peak and the TV channels. Updates were done for Channel 4 and some maintenance was also completed. Mr. Rackley stated that everything looked good, but the next day he received complaints that Channel 2 wasn't working. Norm Powell will be going up to check things out. Mr. Rackley stated that cameras are still needed in the building.

Mrs. Shank didn't have anything to report.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT & IMLAY WATER: Mr. Evans submitted a written report.

PUBLIC INPUT: There was no public input.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. McDougal and passed.

The meeting recessed at 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

ESTER MCCULLOUGH, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT: UPDATE ON MATTERS RELATING TO PERSHING COUNTY SUCH AS UNIONVILLE CEMETERY, WILD HORSE/BURROS, WILDLAND FIRES AND EVENTS ON THE BLACK ROCK PLAYA – Donovan Walker, Fire Management Officer, and Becky Andres, Staff Law Enforcement Ranger, were also present.

Ms. Andres spoke about activity on the Playa. She stated that that there was some activity in April as the Playa was unseasonably dry; however, they have not seen a spike in use since. There is currently no threat that would cause them to issue a closure order. They will be watching the 4th of July event closely to see what the usage will be, as last year there was a decrease due to wet conditions. Mr. Rackley asked what the Playa looks like right now. Ms. Andres stated that it is dry for this time of year. Ms. Andres is working on a plan with Sgt. Carmichael and there will be resources on the Playa during the time period that Burning Man was supposed to take place.

Mr. McDougal asked about the water sources that the toxin was found in. Ms. Andres stated that the Frog Pond and Trego were both found to have toxins. They have released a press release with the

information. Mr. McDougal asked if signs have been posted. Ms. Andres stated that signs don't last long.

Ms. McCullough spoke about the Unionville Cemetery. Ms. McCullough stated that the County has received the Patent and the Reverter Clause. The Reverter Clause states that the property would revert back to the Federal Government if it wasn't used for its intended purpose. They are working on the Federal Register Notice to sell the Reverter Clause outright.

Regarding the wild horses and burros, there are 1,219 wild horses and 527 burros in the Herd Areas, which should have zero. In the Herd Management areas there are 6,593 horses and 1,317 burros. The max population for horses should be 1,100 and burros should be 90. Ms. McCullough stated that they did remove 188 burros from the Selenite Range Herd Area and 7 Troughs Herd Management area in June/July. Another gather is scheduled to begin August 3rd in the Shawave Mountains Herd Management Area. The goal is to gather 1,650 horses and up to 200 burros. They will be treating and releasing 50 mares, but the other 1,600 horses will be removed.

Ms. McCullough also spoke about the Humboldt River Field office. They are working on a land sale to C-Punch Ranch of approximately 2,000 acres. Regarding mining in Pershing County, Relief Canyon, Gold Acquisitions is working on a Plan of Operations Amendment to expand the mine. Coeur Rochester is working with NDEP (Nevada Division of Environmental Protection) on the reclamation costs for POA11. The Coloto Mine is also working on an amendment to their Plan of Operation. There will be a Geothermal Lease sale in October.

Mr. Walker spoke about fire season. To date, BLM has responded to 21 fires across the district with 144 acres burned. There have been 5 fires in Pershing County, accounting for 41.6 acres. There has been no cost share fires to date. Mr. Walker stated that July is usually the heaviest workload month. They are staffing 7 days a week, with 12 engines, 3 dozers, and 2 water tenders. Mr. Walker also spoke about their COVID-19 Plan. They are working with Humboldt General in regard to testing.

Mr. Walker gave an overview of their preventative measures. They are looking at installing some roadside green strips in the Jersey Valley area and developing some fuel breaks in the Poker Brown Springs area. They are working with NDF (Nevada Division of Forestry) on a fuel break in the Grass Valley area. He also spoke about NDOT's (Nevada Department of Transportation) current project on I-80. BLM would like to work with them on installing a fuel break and asked if the County could help coordinate that conversation. Mrs. Shank stated that she would reach out to NDOT.

PUBLIC INPUT: Mr. Shields spoke with Debra Campbell, Senior Center Director, regarding the contract with Vogue Linen. Ms. Campbell doesn't feel it is needed, so Mr. Shields has cancelled the contract. He also spoke with the State Museum about the insurance for the borrowed items at the Museum. It was never required before, but should have been. Mr. Shields will have more information for the next meeting.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Approved 8/19/20: _____/s/
Carol Shank, Chairwoman

Attest: _____/s/
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk