

FEBRUARY 17, 2021

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: There were no minutes submitted for approval.

PUBLIC INPUT: Cindy Plummer, along with other community members, is trying to create a “December to Remember”. The event would incorporate other community events that take place in December, with additions of new events as well. Once they have things tied down a bit more, they will come back before the Board with more information.

Amanda Burrows asked about the Resolution passed at the last Commission meeting regarding the Governor’s Emergency Powers. Mrs. Burrows would like to see the Board amend the Resolution, as the one adopted was really watered down. She is worried about our small businesses and would like our Resolution to mirror the one adopted by White Pine County Commissioners.

Becky Anders from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) expressed her appreciation for Pershing County, the Commission and particularly the Sheriff’s Office. Ms. Anders is moving to Idaho next Friday to accept a promotion to Idaho State Chief Ranger for the BLM. Her supervisor, Logan Bristow, will be taking over her duties until a replacement can be found. She thanked everyone for all their support and stated that she has enjoyed working here.

Mr. Shields addressed Mrs. Burrows’ comments. Mr. Shields stated that an item can be placed on the next agenda for the Board’s consideration.

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: Mrs. Shank 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 Mrs. Hudson and passed.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:

ROAD DEPARTMENT – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill stated that there is a bridge on Union Road that is crumbling. He will be putting a weight limit on it. Mr. Shields would like an item placed on the next agenda for the Board to approve the weight limit. Mr. Hill also stated that he spoke with someone at Q&D Construction who is working on the other bridge project. When he has some time, he will look at this bridge and give Mr. Hill his thoughts on repairing it.

Mr. Hill also reported that he hauled some more sand to Coeur. He and Jeff Elerick went to Idaho and looked at a 10-wheeler, but it didn’t work out. It was pretty rusted out. The crew also put signs up at the Airport and patched some holes up by Coeur. They cleared weeds at the cemeteries. The speed limit signs were put up on Relief Canyon Road. There are blades out working in various areas of the county. A rancher brought it to Mr. Hill’s attention that a culvert needed to be replaced, so they switched it out. Robert Parish finished blading Grass Valley Road and plowed snow when necessary. Gerry Monroe finished up to Hycroft and toward Imlay Summit and is now working on the backside of Rye Patch. Kevin Machado and Bill Blondheim have been working out at Dago Pass/Pleasant Valley.

Galen Reese has been working at Bluewing and will be heading over to Porter Springs. Mr. Reese also went with Jason Barrick to pick up the City's repaired garbage truck.

Permission to go to bid for Mag Chloride: Mrs. Shank asked if this would be for next year. Mr. Hill stated it is for this Spring and it is in the Regional Streets budget.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve Mr. Hill going to bid for Mag Chloride. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

LANDFILL & RECYCLING – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that the dozer needs new tracks, which will cost approximately \$20,000.

Discussion regarding raising the Landfill fee: Mr. Hill stated that he didn't see this item on the agenda, so he didn't prepare any information. Mrs. Shank stated that it is currently \$120.00 per parcel. Mr. Hill thinks it would have to be increased to at least \$180 to hire another full-time employee.

Mrs. Hudson asked if the company that was supposed to clean up the burn pile on Main Street has spoken to Mr. Nielsen yet. Mr. Hill stated that he doesn't think they have. Mrs. Shank stated that if they haul the debris to our Landfill, we could charge them.

Mrs. Shank spoke about Recycling. They had a meeting last Thursday and it had good attendance. Joe Crim has agreed to start bailing to get it caught up. There will be two members resigning from the Board. Mrs. Shank also met with the City and they might be willing to take over coordination of the volunteers.

Mr. Hill stated that the fuel dispensing system in Imlay isn't printing properly. It was replaced last year. The quote to modernize the unit is \$13,000. He is working on getting a quote from another company, but they indicated it would be closer to \$20,000. Mr. Handka stated that he would get Mr. Hill the vendor information for the company used at the Airport.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that he met with the swimming pool people and they did some core samples, but we don't have any results yet. The guys have been helping at the Community Center a lot to keep up with the cleaning and event set-up as some of the custodial staff are out. They have also been helping at the Senior Center. The old stove has been removed from the Community Center kitchen, but the new one hasn't been installed yet. They have been replacing lights around the Courthouse and the front door has been painted. The trees in the Park are being pruned now.

Mrs. Shank asked if he got a quote for the tree removal on the two lots by Sheriff's Office. Mr. Handka stated it will cost \$5,000.00.

Mrs. Shank asked about the signs at the Airport stating who to call for the gate code. Mr. Rackley stated that it says to call the DA's office or Dispatch. Mrs. Shank asked why Buildings & Grounds isn't listed. Mr. Rackley stated that Mr. Handka has the codes, but he thought them calling dispatch after hours was a better option. Mrs. Hudson asked if they were still having problems with the gate. Mr. Handka stated that he will get with Mr. Rackley so he can learn how to reset it.

Proposal from BSL Electric for electrical wiring at the Community Center for back-up hospital beds to be paid by CARES Funding in the amount of \$12,875.00: Mrs. Hudson stated that she would be abstaining from discussion on this item as this is her family's business.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the proposal from BSL Electric for electrical wiring at the Community Center for back-up hospital beds to be paid for with CARES Funding in the amount of \$12,875.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley. Mrs. Hudson abstained. Motion carried.

PERSHING COUNTY FIRE/AMBULANCE –

Grass Valley Fire: Mr. Rackley read an update from Sean Burke. The Department is receiving a medical call about every other day. Their FY22 Budget has been submitted.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Mr. Burke’s written report also noted that 2ND doses of the COVID vaccines for the Senior Center and Prison Staff are being given today. 2nd doses will also be available at the Health Nurse’s office on February 24th. We are still receiving 2nd doses, but will not receive any more first doses for two weeks. The State has \$52,000 earmarked for Pershing County to assist with vaccinations. The State is working on a plan to release additional vaccines for mine employees. Mr. Burke has spoken with Coeur Rochester and is waiting on the State to finalize the plan.

Grass Valley Advisory Board: The Grass Valley Advisory Board meetings are still on hold.

SAFETY / CHN / CEMETERY – Cheryl Haas submitted a report, which was read by Mrs. Shank. The Health Department is busy keeping up with COVID vaccinations. Ms. Haas has started working on scheduling the yearly safety classes for all the departments. She hopes to change out the County’s AEDs (Automated External Defibrillator) as they will be obsolete over the next year. She will also be scheduling Safety meetings and building inspections. Ms. Haas also reported that she met with Bruce Cheney from Spacial Generations. The mapping of the cemeteries is almost ready. All the cemeteries are looking good and she has no issues at this time.

LIBRARY – Kathie Brinkerhoff was present.

Ms. Brinkerhoff stated that they are checking out books and meeting people at the door. New books have been put on carts in the lobby and people can come in and look at them. They are answering phone calls every day. Appointments can be made to use the two available computers, which have been spaced apart for social distancing.

Discussion regarding re-opening the Library: Ms. Brinkerhoff stated that they are discussing re-opening, but it will depend on the update from Dr. VanGuilder at the next Health Board meeting. Ms. Brinkerhoff stated that she needs to protect her staff. Returned books are quarantined for a week before they are put back in circulation.

Mrs. Shank asked Ms. Brinkerhoff to see what other libraries are open, and what procedures they have put in place. Ms. Brinkerhoff stated that until about 3 weeks ago, all were still closed. A few have re-opened, but most are still doing curbside pick-up.

Mr. Rackley stated that libraries are on the Governor’s newest list for openings.

Mrs. Hudson stated that the libraries are open at the schools. The Library is a valuable asset that needs to be open. Mr. Rackley stated that there are preventative measures they can follow. All three board members feel it is time to re-open.

Mr. Shields stated that as of February 15th, they can allow 50% capacity. Masks and social distancing are required, and Ms. Brinkerhoff can ask them to leave if they refuse.

It was noted that the target date for opening the Senior Center is March 8th. Mrs. Shank would like to see the Library opened by March 1st.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott reported that he is providing a lot of support to departments wanting to order new equipment and then setting it up. He is waiting for the cabling in the Courthouse to be completed for the network upgrade project and then he will deploy the firewalls. Then he will move into the pre-planning for the evaluation and purchase of a new phone system.

COMMUNITY CENTER – *Approval of cost of supplies to refurbish 22 round tables:* The cost for supplies to refurbish the tables is \$335.47. Mrs. McKay was on the Zoom call. She provided the Board with a written report and spoke about the building usage. She asked if the Community Center could be opened-up a bit more, to include usage of the stove. Mr. Shields stated that the current directive allows for 250 occupants. Mrs. McKay would like the stove installed prior to the 24th, as she has a group that would like to use it. Mrs. Hudson will follow up with Mr. Handka.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the purchase of supplies in the amount of \$335.47 to refurbish the round tables at the Community Center. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Heidi Lusby-Angvick was present via Zoom.

Mrs. Lusby-Angvick reported that she and the Project Manager from West Coast Salmon Nevada met with each of the Commissioners last week regarding their progress. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick also reported that the second Build Nevada class is currently being scheduled. She needs to verify that the space is still available at the school and find a new instructor. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick also reported that she listened in on the NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation) State Rail Plan meeting. Lovelock was mentioned as a potential Amtrak stop for the future. She will reach out to see what other opportunities might be there. She is also meeting with Lee Boner from NDOT monthly and continues to remind him about the G29 Bridge. Lastly, she continues working on the Brownfield project. Another property has potentially been identified for Phase II assessment.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:

LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK-TREASURER – Mrs. Donaldson reported that one of her employees has submitted their letter of resignation effective March 1st. Another employee has applied for an open position within another department. On top of possible staff changes, Mrs. Donaldson has scheduled a tax sale for the last week in May, so they are in the middle of the research and notice process for that.

Approval of corrections/changes to the Tax Roll: Mrs. Donaldson reported that she is scheduled for training on the corrections module tomorrow and should have corrections for the Board to review at the next meeting.

Approval to advertise for vacant Administrative Clerk I/II position: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the advertisement and hiring to fill the vacant Administrative Clerk I/II position in the Clerk-Treasurer's office. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

RENE CHILDS, RECORDER-AUDITOR – Mrs. Childs reported that Tyler Technologies has uploaded all the scanned images from US Imaging. Stephiene Yenni is now in the process of verifying and indexing over 140,000 documents.

Mrs. Childs is working on budget prep. Chris Snodgrass has been trying to put together the salary figures for budgets, but they have some questions regarding PERS calculations, so they are waiting for a response from them. There were a handful of departments that did not submit their budgets prior to the deadline that Mrs. Childs had to nudge along; and another that Mrs. Childs had to prepare herself as she did not get a response from them.

Tax Rate Increase discussion with Department of taxation; Review of County Tax rates; special tax assessment fees, and fees charged to public for various services: Mrs. Childs stated that she and Mrs. Donaldson had a conference call with the County's representative at Taxation. She gave the Board the current tax rates. The City's rate is currently 3.6592 and the cap is 3.66. That only leaves 0.0008 of an allowable increase. Mrs. Shank asked if just the County rate could be increased. Mrs. Donaldson stated that any increase to the County rate effects the City rate. Mrs. Childs stated that they also met with Mr. Shields and discussed creating a fire district. Mr. Shields stated that a fire district could be created, which would exclude the City; however, the revenue generated would not be able to sustain a department.

Mrs. Shank also gave the Board rate information for other counties and the Pershing County fee schedule for items in the various departments. She noted that most of the fees are set by statute. Mrs. Shank asked what kind of assessments the Board can impose. Mr. Shields did not think we could add a

fire protection assessment, but would have to do more research. He also stated that a General Improvement District could be created, which would have its own taxing authority.

LAUREEN BASSO-CERINI, ASSESSOR – Ms. Basso-Cerini reported that 9 applications were received for the vacant positions in her office and 7 were given interviews. Mrs. Donaldson and Mr. Evans sat on the interview committee with Ms. Basso-Cerini and she has narrowed it down to three. There are three positions available, but Ms. Basso-Cerini has not made a decision on how to fill them. Pershing County's starting salary for an Appraiser is \$15.55, which is a bit low. Ms. Basso-Cerini would like to prepare an offer letter with the starting salary of at least a Step 5. She has spoken to Mrs. Childs and the funding is available in her budget. Mrs. Wesner stated that a Salary Resolution will need to be put on the agenda to start someone at an advanced step. Ms. Basso-Cerini will get Mrs. Wesner the paperwork.

Ms. Basso-Cerini also reported that she is still utilizing the two contract employees from Storey County for appraisal help. In regard to maps, Ms. Basso-Cerini has reached out to Mr. Armstrong for guidance. She stated it is not her place to ask for minimum requirements, but out of five pending maps, three of them are missing pertinent details. She would like to see the County set some requirements. Lastly, Board of Equalization is scheduled for next Tuesday, February 23rd. Two appeals were filed, and both have reached stipulated agreements.

JERRY ALLEN, SHERIFF – Sheriff Allen reported that he currently has 17 inmates in the jail. They have a full day in District Court today. The new dispatch trainee should start tomorrow morning.

Salary Resolution, R. Wilkie: Sheriff Allen stated that he is moving one of his dispatchers to the Admin office, but she will be a backup dispatcher as well.

Mrs. Hudson moved to approve the Salary Resolution for Ramona Wilkie, moving her from Dispatcher, Range 27, Step 5 to Administrative Clerk II, Range 26, Step 7, effective February 2, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF SITE LOCATION, DESIGN, FUDNING, AMENITIES AND CONSTRUCTION OF FUTURE LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER: Mr. Rackley reported that LCA has closed their Elko office and are operating out of their Boise, Idaho office. He has spoken to them and they will still come down when necessary to discuss any changes, etc. Since Mrs. Hudson is new to the Board, Mrs. Shank stated that they need to review the plans again.

APPROVAL TO PURSUE FINANCIAL AND FUNDING INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES WITH REGARDS TO THE NEW LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER AND COUNTY FINANCES FROM USDA, SHERMAN & HOWARD, BANKS AND OTHER OUTSIDE SOURCES INCLUDING CONSULTANTS – Mrs. Shank stated that she asked for this item as she doesn't feel confident enough about what the next steps are or what we should be doing.

Mrs. Donaldson stated that she spoke with Jonathan Baker at Nevada State Bank last week about some financing options. He suggested that the County look into securing a Municipal Financial Planner.

APPROVAL FOR DESERT MOUNTAIN SURVEY TO SURVEY PARCELS #001-131-07 AND 001-131-02 (WINDMILL PROPERTY) – Mr. Rackley has spoken with John Milton. It will cost approximately \$1,700. Mr. Milton will speak with the City of Lovelock's Legal Counsel regarding the process. Mr. Shields stated that an application needs to be made to the Planning Commission.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to move forward with having Desert Mountain Survey complete a survey of the Windmill Property parcels, APN #001-131-07 and 001-132-02. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

APPROVAL FOR ROAD DEPARTMENT TO CUT DOWN TREES AT 825 CORNELL AVENUE (001-124-04) AND 845 CORNELL AVENUE (001-124-03) AND FILL IN HOLE AT WEST SIDE OF WINDMILL BUILDING – Mrs. Shank asked if they would be charging the County and if it would be more than the \$5,000 estimate John Handka obtained. Mr. Rackley stated that they didn't talk about that, but he did not think the time would be charged back.

Mrs. Childs asked if we have taken possession of this property as she hasn't seen anything. Mr. Shields stated that we are waiting on the Title Insurance, but we do have a purchase agreement.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the Road Department cutting down trees and filling in the hole as presented. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

APPROVAL TO REQUEST NV ENERGY TO REMOVE THE ELECTRIC SERVICE DROPS FOR 825 AND 845 CORNELL AVENUE – Mrs. Shank made a motion to request NV Energy to remove the electrical service drops for 825 and 845 Cornell Avenue. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS: There were no Proclamations or Awards considered.

TOULON PEAK: APPROVAL OF LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH NNIS FOR PLACEMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES ON TOWER AT TOULON PEAK – Mr. Shields stated that he hasn't had the opportunity to speak with Jesse Katsaris. Mr. Rackley did speak with him. Mr. Katsaris was upset that we wanted him to provide cameras for the County and pay to be up there. Mrs. Hudson stated that the County already has cameras and doesn't need Mr. Katsaris's. If he is going to have something on the tower, he should pay for it. Mrs. Shank stated that if we allow him to do it for free, we would have to allow others the same.

Amanda Burrows stated that she will be a competitor and can give the Board information regarding the going rate for leasing space.

Mrs. Hudson asked for clarification on the maintenance, as Jeff Campbell used to do it. Mr. Rackley stated that he and Norm Powell do the maintenance.

DERBY FIELD AIRPORT: Mr. Rackley stated that we had previously been awarded a \$20,000.00 CARES Act Grant to perform maintenance at the Airport. Mr. Rackley stated that approximately \$3,000 of that has been spent for the fuel island. It was noted that it has not been charged towards the grant yet. Mr. Rackley stated that he just received notice of another round of funding, in the amount of \$9,000. Mrs. Shank asked what the money can be used for. Mr. Rackley stated that the old beacon building will be torn down. There will also need to be dirt work done afterward. We also need to do some improvements to the runway lighting, so Mr. Rackley will look into that.

Mrs. Shank asked that Derby Field and Toulon Peak be placed under Buildings and Grounds on the agenda so that Mr. Handka can be present for any discussion.

Mrs. Donaldson spoke about the grant reimbursement process. She has never been given any invoices or backup documentation to submit to Armstrong/FAA for reimbursement. Mr. Rackley added that we have four years to expend these funds.

Mrs. Hudson asked what other projects the Airport Board might want to do. Mr. Rackley stated that they only thing they discussed was the old beacon building.

PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT: APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE/HIRE PLANNING TECHNICIAN POSITION DUE TO RESIGNATION– Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the advertisement and hiring to fill the vacant Planning Technician position in the Planning and Building Department. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

CARES FUNDING, UPDATE/APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES: APPROVAL TO INCREASE DR. VANGUILDER’S STIPEND FROM \$500.00 TO \$750.00 AND TYSON MCBRIDE’S STIPEND FROM \$200.00 TO \$300.00 FROM JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021 – Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the increase for Dr. VanGuilder from \$500.00 to \$750.00 per month and Tyson McBride from \$200.00 to \$300.00 through June 30, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

APPROVAL TO FUND THE IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000.00 (RELATED TO COVID, BY SETTING UP AN EMERGENCY DISPATCH AREA; TOTAL REQUESTED \$7,300.00) – It was noted that this item was previously approved, but not where it would be funded from.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve funding, not to exceed \$1,000.00, for improvements needed at the Community Center for the Emergency Operations Center. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

PROPOSAL FROM BSL ELECTRIC FOR COMMUNITY CENTER ELECTRICAL WIRING FOR BACK-UP HOSPITAL BEDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,875.00 – Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the proposal from BSL Electric for the Community Center electrical wiring for back-up hospital beds in the amount of \$12,875.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley. Mrs. Hudson abstained. Motion carried.

FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108 OF THE PERSHING COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CODE TO ALLOW FOR SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION FACILITIES WITHIN THE AG PRESERVATION OVERLAY DISTRICT: Bill #346 was introduced by Commissioner Shank and read by Title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108 OF THE PERSHING COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CODE BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF 17.108.25, TO AUTHORIZE SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION OVERLAY DISTRICT WITH A SPECIAL USE PERMIT AND OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATING THERETO.

REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL: Mr. Shields stated that Carmen Turrillas is claiming she is a tenant of the Windmill Building. She had planned to move into the motel that burned down over the weekend. She has asked for an extension till April 15th. Mr. Shields stated that we have ownership of the property, but not possession. If we could get them to give us possession, then we could move forward with getting the property surveyed and do the work to the lot that is needed. All of this could be done without extending to them any of the rights provided to tenants. We could go through the legal process to get all the orders that are needed, but maybe not act on them in order to give them time to secure housing elsewhere. Mr. Shields also mentioned that he has asked them to remove the signs hanging from the building.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT / HR: Mrs. Wesner stated that she has been working on the required fiscal notes for Bill Draft Requests.

APPROVAL OF FEE INCREASE FOR JORDAN WALSH, HOLLAND & HART (LABOR NEGOTIATIONS) EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2021, HOURLY RATE \$305.00 AND MILEAGE \$140.00 PER HOUR FOR TRAVEL OUTSIDE RENO/SPARKS AREA – Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the fee increase for Jordan Walsh, Holland & Hart, as presented effective March 1, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: Mrs. Shank asked about the hanger agreements. Mr. Shields stated that he is waiting on an Airport Board meeting so they can make a recommendation. The agreement is ready to go.

Mrs. Shank also asked about the increase to Business License fees; which was sent to Taxation. Mr. Shields hasn't heard back from Taxation and will follow-up.

Mrs. Shank asked if the Board wanted to readdress the Resolution brought up by Amanda Burrows. There was no response.

Mrs. Shank also spoke about the G29 bridge, asking if it should be put back on the agenda to send the State another letter. Mr. Rackley agreed. Mrs. Hudson thought we should send correspondence to the State weekly.

Mrs. Shank spoke about the Joint City-County meeting. She would like further discussion about the Recycling Center. Mr. Shields also stated that we could talk to them about a General Improvement District for fire services to see what their feelings are. Mrs. Hudson also stated that it was brought to her attention that the City has been side-stepping the Planning Commission, so she would like to ask them about that. The Board would also like confirmation regarding the abandonment of 9th Street.

Mrs. Hudson asked if the agenda item regarding NNIS needed to be put back on the agenda. It will be put back on if more information is provided.

UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS THAT COULD IMPACT COUNTIES: Mrs. Shank spoke briefly about Innovation Zones. There are other bills that NACO (Nevada Association of County Officials) is watching very closely. Mrs. Shank will send the list to Mrs. Wesner to distribute to the other Board members. Mrs. Shank participates in a Legislative update every Friday and will keep the Board informed.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR CDBG-COVID (ROUND 2) FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,774.00: No proposed projects were submitted; however, Mrs. Shank stated that the impact to small businesses was brought up during Public Input. This could include OSHA fines. She is not sure if this would fit into the requirements for funding. Mrs. Shank will call and get more information about the grant requirements. Another hearing is scheduled for the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no additional correspondence discussed.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION; BOARD MEMBER REPORTS; BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: Mrs. Shank reported that the Museum Board met and are working on getting the blacksmith shop moved to the Museum. Mr. Rackley stated that the Clampers would like to place another plaque and will contact the Museum Board for suggestions. Mrs. Shank also reported that the Library Board didn't have a quorum for their last meeting. The National Association of County Officials (NACo) Annual Conference will be virtual this year. Mrs. Shank also asked about scheduling a Jail Inspection for the second meeting in March.

Mrs. Hudson attended the Central Nevada Water Authority meeting by Zoom last week. There is a Humboldt River Water Basin Authority meeting in Lovelock on February 23rd. Mrs. Hudson spoke with Jeff Fontaine and he asked about the Sunrise Mine. Their water permit was contested, but will be approved. Mrs. Hudson also spoke about the fire that happened over the weekend. She wondered about building permits and who is investigating the fire. Mr. Shields did contact Chief Wilcox and left a message. Mrs. Hudson is concerned that inspections are not being done. She also stated that the County needs to contract with a commercial building inspector with all these large projects coming in.

Mr. Rackley spoke about Channel 8 being out. They installed a spare translator, but it has now gone out as well. Mr. Rackley will get up there as soon as the weather permits, as the road is not passable at this time. Mr. Rackley also reported that the Senior Center is shooting to re-open on March 8th. Dr. VanGuilder is waiting for the Seniors to receive their second vaccinations. Ms. Brinkerhoff stated that it is her understanding that the second shot can make you sick and asked if there something in place to check on those seniors afterwards. Mr. Rackley didn't think there would be an issue.

PUBLIC INPUT: Kathie Brinkerhoff spoke about a natural painting or something that she saw when being care-flighted out of the county. She asked if anyone knew anything about it.

VOUCHERS: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the vouchers with the exception of a voucher for Vendor #521, BSL Electric. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the voucher for Vendor #521, BSL Electric. Mr. Rackley seconded the motion. Mrs. Hudson abstained. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 11:39 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AMBULANCE TO DISCUSS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE ALTERNATIVES: Lovelock Fire Chief Rodney Wilcox, Patty Bianchi, and Marti Nolan, EMS Coordinator, were present.

Chief Wilcox gave the Board a proposal, which included hiring six full-time personnel. Chief Wilcox also wanted to recognize the hard work and dedication of the Lovelock Fire Department volunteers. As good of a job as they do, it is becoming harder and harder to cover the ambulance. Commissioner Rackley stated that he is in favor of the proposal; but doesn't know where the funding would come from.

Mrs. Shank stated that the annual joint City-County meeting is coming up. She would like to discuss the possibility of creating a General Improvement District for fire and ambulance service. Mrs. Shank was hopeful that the County could raise taxes to help bring in more revenue, but they learned this morning that there isn't room within our tax rate for an increase. Ms. Bianchi asked about Fire Districts. Mrs. Donaldson stated that the tax rate would still have to fall within the tax cap. Mrs. Shank stated that the County is currently contributing \$310,233.00 between the four fire departments and \$124,137 for the Ambulance Department. In order to generate that amount of revenue, the tax rate would have to be increased \$0.23.

The Ambulance Fund does currently have an ending fund balance of \$311,309.00, but this fund is supposed to support the purchase of a new ambulance as well. It was noted that the Option Tax can be used to offset any shortfalls when purchasing an ambulance.

Mrs. Shank stated that we continue to have revenue shortfalls due to the billing.

Mrs. Shank also stated that each department has money budgeted for PERS. Would they be willing to give that up? Chief Wilcox stated that they would not.

There was discussion about bringing in one full-time employee to stay on top of the reporting and the medical billing. A full-time employee would cost approximately \$72,100.00.

Mrs. Shank asked if the State Fire Marshall was called for the fire over the weekend. Chief Wilcox said they were not as there were no suspicious circumstances.

There will be further discussion at the Joint City-County meeting and during budget workshops.

The meeting recessed at 1:54 p.m. and reconvened at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL TO GO INTO A CLOSED PERSONNEL SESSION PURSUANT TO NRS 241.030(1) AND NRS 241.020(4): Mrs. Shank made a motion to enter into a closed personnel session. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

The Regular Session reconvened at 3:34 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADMINISISTRATIVE ACTION, UP TO AND INCLUDING TERMINATION OF DIXIE MCKAY, PERSHING COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER DIRECTOR: Mrs. Shank made a motion directing the Commission Liaison to meet with the Community Center Director, the Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, the custodial employee and the District Attorney to discuss any outstanding issues and problems and work out the supervision concerns; and that both department heads attend supervisor training through POOL/PACT; and that the Liaison continues to follow-up as necessary. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

Mrs. Hudson instructed Mrs. McKay to meet with Mrs. Wesner, HR Rep, to set up the training. Mrs. Hudson will also me scheduling monthly meetings.

Mrs. Shank explained that the wording on the agenda is a statutory requirement. The Board as a whole, can not meet with Department Heads outside a public meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT: Bruce Meideros stated that he was just here to say that Mrs. McKay is very professional. Janice Rutherford agreed. Someone else stated that Mrs. McKay is one of the most helpful people she knows and that the carpet needs to be shampooed.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Approved 4/07/21: _____/s/
Larry Rackley, Chairman

Attest: _____/s/
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk