

## SEPTEMBER 15, 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; Sarah Renfroe, Deputy Clerk; and Justin Abbott, IT.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from July 21, 2021, noting that they are past the 45 day deadline; August 4, 2021, and September 1, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** There was no public input 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:** Mrs. Shank made a motion that nothing on the agenda would impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and passed.

**RALPH RUNGE, PROJECT MANAGER, WEST COAST SALMON NEVADA: UPDATE ON PROJECT IN PERSHING COUNTY; REQUEST FOR A LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM PERSHING COUNTY** – Mr. Runge thanked the Board for their continued support and interest in the project. Mr. Runge reported that they have completed their preliminary design phase. They have their capitol number and financial plan approved. They are now prepared to go out onto the financial market to raise finances. Mr. Runge stated the permitting is the most unease for investors. To help with the investors, Mr. Runge asked for a letter from the Board stating that there is a process in place for permitting.

Mr. Runge reported that the key part of their strategy is taking excess and purge water and recharge it to the aquifer, by using rapid infiltration or ribs. The soil for this process is within range, but not ideal. They are going to build a test rib in October. The rib will be a test run for permitting.

Mr. Runge expects to be closed with financing round by fourth quarter, and will be in a position to break ground early next year. Mrs. Shank asked Mr. Runge if he has spoken to the Grass Valley residents. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick replied that Grass Valley is on Mr. Runge's schedule. Mr. Rackley asked about clarification on who would write the letter for the investors. Mr. Runge replied that he is working with Mrs. Lusby-Angvick to draft the letter for the Board to approve and sign.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to provide a letter of support for the project and authorize the Chair to sign it. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

### **UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:**

**ROAD DEPARTMENT** – Mr. Hill submitted a written report.

They are working on fixing Grass Valley Road to the Vesco Ranch. They have cleaned up the transfer stations twice since the last meeting. They are waiting on the Grass Valley Fire Department to burn the burn pit this week, weather permitting. They cleaned a cattle guard at Amargosa and replaced a cattle guard at Rose Creek with a used one they had on hand. They finished most of the hand patching on Limerick, but will need a couple more days to be completely done. Lastly, Mr. Hill has received complaints about roads in Grass Valley that are not County roads. The crew will fix them as necessary to allow emergency services to pass them.

LANDFILL – Mr. Hill submitted a report.

Mr. Hill reported that Mr. McDaniel and Mr. Kite are doing a great job and the place looks good. Mr. Nielsen sent the numbers for the semi-annual waste reporting and that was completed. They finished blading the road to the landfill on Monday.

*Salary Resolution for Robert Parish:* Mrs. Wesner stated that the Resolution was approved in the budget going from Road Maintenance Worker I to Road Maintenance Worker II.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Mr. Parish moving him from a Road Maintenance Worker I, Range 27, Step 9 to a Road Maintenance Worker II, Range 30, Step 5. Mrs. Shank seconded the motion and it passed.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that they have been busy taking care of the weeds. They have been working at the Senior Center and the cemetery. Mr. Handka reported that someone is turning on water at both cemeteries.

Mrs. Hudson asked about the fire door for the Community Center. Mr. Handka replied that he has the fire rated door on order, which costs \$1,600. Mrs. Shank asked for clarification on how the fire inspection list is going. Mr. Handka replied that he is having trouble reading Mr. Heidemann's report and doesn't have a number to contact him. Mr. Shank stated she has his number.

*Upgrade camera license not to exceed \$6,000.00:* Mr. Handka explained that upgrading will allow us to expand the memory and include a new feature. The feature would allow the inside of the office to see who is outside the door for security proposes.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the camera upgrade in the amount of \$6,000.00, with the funds coming out of Mr. Handka's security fund. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

*Installation of handicapped door opening/closing assists for the front entrance of the Administration Building and the DMV door in the amount of \$7,000.00, not including electrical:* Mr. Handka reminded the Board that the DMV and the Administration Building do not have power assist doors. Mrs. Shank stated that she asked Cheryl Haas about paying for the doors with grants from Pool/Pact. Mrs. Shank wanted to move forward with purchasing the doors. Mrs. Hudson and Mr. Rackley would like to wait for an answer from Pool/Pact.

COMMUNITY CENTER – *Approval to advertise/hire Community Center Coordinator position:*

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the advertising and hiring of a Community Center Coordinator position. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and passed.

Members from the Community Quilters were present. With there no coordinator currently at the Community Center, they wanted to know who to talk to about the NNIS internet service for their event next week. Mr. Handka replied that he will work with them. They also had an issue with their September 22-25, 2022 event being overbooked. They said their 2023 event is good. Mrs. Hudson replied that she will look into it.

SENIOR CENTER: Mr. Rackley reported that the Senior Center will have a tentative opening date of October 4<sup>th</sup>. They are planning on doing Friday Breakfast once a month. Mr. Rackley reported that the new Senior Center Director is in supervisor training today. Mrs. Shank asked for clarification on the cooks and the volunteer cooking. Mr. Rackley replied that the volunteer is needed because the cooks are new.

*Salary Resolution for Kelli Brown:* Mr. Rackley stated that Mrs. Brown has five years' experience cooking at the Senior Center. Mrs. Shank disagreed with raising Mrs. Brown's salary due to the fact that she is new, and it might cause an issue between cooks. Mrs. Shank was under the impression that there was not going to be a head cook. Mr. Rackley replied that there is not a contention between cooks and the Salary Resolution is valid.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Kelly Brown, initial employment at a higher step, starting her as a Cook I, Range 17, Step 7. Mr. Rackley seconded the motion. Mrs. Shank voted no. Motion carried.

**GRASS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT** – Sean Burke was present via Zoom.

Mr. Burke reported that they are planning on burning at the transfer site Thursday, weather permitting. The call volume is high, with 65 calls. Mr. Burke stated that the high call volume is COVID related. He also reported that there is a significant rise in COVID cases in Grass Valley and Humboldt County, with one death.

**PERSHING COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS MANAGER / LEPC** – Mr. Burke was present via Zoom.

Mr. Burke reported that they have had some movement on all of the State grants. The EMPG (Emergency Management Planning Grant) Grant and the EMPG Supplemental Grant are both on track to be paid. The COVID Vaccination grant is moving forward as well and they will be asking to re-appropriate some money to give additional resources to the County Health Nurse. Mr. Burke will be submitting that paperwork within the next few days. In regard to LEPC, the only task that has to be completed by the end of the year is to either conduct a Hazmat exercise or do an After Action Report on a real event. The Lovelock Department did respond to a pretty significant Hazmat event earlier in the year, so Mr. Burke will obtain that information.

**SAFETY/CHN/CEMETERY** – Mrs. Shank had an email update from Cheryl Haas.

Mrs. Shank reported that they are continuing to give first and second doses of the vaccine. The booster shot with the Pfizer vaccine will be offered to the general population who have had their second dose at least eight months ago, if and when the State gives the go ahead. The yearly flu pod will be a drive through event held at the Community Center, September 30<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

They started conducting building assessments through POOL/PACT in July, but were not able to finish. They will be starting assessments again on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Haas also spoke with Chief Wilcox about fire inspections. He will forward her the completed inspections, so she has them on record.

Ms. Haas reported that she is continuing to enter information into the new cemetery software system. It is tedious work, but will be worth it once completed. The Lone Mountain and the Big Meadow cemeteries are looking great, thanks to the Buildings and Grounds crew and the Juvenile road crew. Ms. Haas plans on visiting the Unionville Cemetery this weekend.

**IT DEPARTMENT**- Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott reported that he has been very busy. He stated that he has been working with Elizabeth Blondheim on a federal data security audit. Mr. Abbott reported that they are working on the security updates and security refreshes. He stated that they are almost ready for the department heads to review the programming for the new phone system.

### **ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:**

**LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK TREASURER**- Mrs. Renfroe was present.

*Approval of corrections/changes to the Tax Roll:* Mrs. Renfroe presented the Board with assessed value changes to the Tax roll. Mr. Rackley presented adjustments, which were four value change corrections and 12 corrections to the Pershing County Water Conservation District Assessments.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the changes to the Tax Roll as presented. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and motion passed.

*Approval of higher hotel room rate for Rene Childs, Lacey Donaldson, and Barrie Medeiros to attend CFOA in Virginia City, NV, rate of \$110.00:* Mrs. Childs stated that she is no longer attending and will not need a room.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the higher room rate in the amount of \$110.00 for Mrs. Donaldson and Mrs. Medeiros to attend the CFOA Conference in Virginia City. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

*Approval of credit cards for Katrena Martin, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court Administrator, \$2,500.00; and Giselda Canales, Senior Center Director, \$2,000.00:* Mrs. Shank made a motion to

approve the credit cards for Ms. Martin and Ms. Canales as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

RENE CHILDS, RECORDER- Mrs. Childs was present.

Mrs. Childs presented the Board with the month end fund balances. She reported that the auditors will be here next Monday through Wednesday. They have been busy scanning documents for the auditors when they come.

BRYCE SHIELDS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY- Mr. Shields was present.

Mr. Rackley stated that the burned building on Upper Valley road is being worked on. Mr. Rackley would like the Code Enforcement Officer to look into it.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT -

*Salary resolution for E. Wolicki* - Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Esmeralda Wolicki, moving her from a Dispatcher I, Range 26, Step 1 to a Dispatcher II, Range 27, Step 1, effective September 14, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Shank and the motion passed. *Request to advertise/hire for vacancy due to employee retirement:* Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the advertising and hiring to fill the vacancy at the Sheriff's office. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

**11<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT:** *Request for the removal of inventory items: 5-7 tier rotary file arc metal file cabinets; 1 Kodak camera-microfilm machine:* Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the removal of the items as requested. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and it passed.

**DERBY FIELD AIRPORT:** *Discussion and approval of higher room rate for Commissioner Rackley to attend NVAA Conference in Tonopah, NV, September 27-29, 2021:* Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the higher room rate at \$119.00 for Mr. Rackley to attend the NVAA Conference in Tonopah. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and the motion passed. Mr. Rackley reported that Far West is starting on their design for the water improvement project. Mr. Shields asked Mr. Rackley how much the water project is going to cost. Mr. Rackley replied that the proposal is \$37,500, but he believes that it will be in the \$400,000 range because of the pipe costs. Mr. Rackley updated that he was with the fence people while they installed a new mechanism for the gate to open and close. The gate is now working properly.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS: RECREATION BOARD** – A letter was received from Wendy Nelson asking to be appointed to the Recreation Board, as a local business owner.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to appoint Wendy Nelson to the Recreation Board. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hudson and the motion passed.

**ELECTED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:**

LAUREEN BASSO-CERINI, ASSESSOR- Mrs. Basso-Cerini was present.

Mrs. Basso-Cerini gave an explanation of the tax roll adjustments that that were approved prior in the meeting.

*Contract with Farr West Engineering for Fiscal Year 2022 GIS Services:* Ms. Basso-Cerini apologized for being late bringing this to the Board. The contract is the same as the previous years.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the contract with Farr West for GIS Services as presented. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and it passed.

*Contract for Professional Services with Mark Stafford, Real Estate Appraiser for appraisal of projects such as geothermal, solar, and data centers:* Ms. Basso-Cerini explained to the Board the need to go into contract with Mark Stafford for his professional services. Ms. Basso-Cerini stated that she doesn't have the knowledge of assessing solar and geo-thermal areas and the taxable items there. Mrs.

Shank asked Mrs. Childs were the money to pay for this contract would come from. Mrs. Childs replied that the General Fund could pay for it.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the contract with Mark Stafford for his professional services. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

**UPDATE FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RELATING TO COVID 19:** Mrs. Shank reported that there is a mandate from the Governor that indicates that if you have 100 employees or more the work force needs to be fully vaccinated or have weekly COVID testing done. Pershing County is under the 100 employees, as we have 82.

**REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNCIL:** Bryce Shields was present.

Mr. Shields reported that he has talked to Seven Troughs Distillery. They are planning on meeting this week to sign the lease agreement for the Windmill property and then start moving in. Seven Troughs Distillery would like a letter of support from Pershing County; it would be beneficial for them in securing their financing. Mr. Shields stated that he will contact Mrs. Lusby-Angvick to work with her on the letter.

Mr. Shields reported that the Engine Rocket Company would like to renew their lease at the Derby Field Airport. Mr. Shields stated that he will work on the contract and get it on the next agenda.

**REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/HR REP.:** Mrs. Wesner was present.

Mrs. Wesner reported to the Board that she finally received the notice to proceed from CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) for the Senior Center HVAC grant. She will be working with Mr. Handka to get the specs and then will send two letters out requesting quotes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mrs. Wesner reported that a letter was received from Donald and Vernalee Deter from Grass Valley regarding maintenance of the roads. Mr. Rackley already forwarded the letter to Mr. Hill. Mr. Hill is finishing up a project and then going to work on the couple's complaint.

**FRONTIER COMMUNITY COALITION:** *Placement of two-full time or a combination thereof positions within the County through the Healthy Community Coalition to provide direct client services through May 2023 at no cost to Pershing County* – Wendy Nelson was present.

Mrs. Nelson stated that she has an opportunity to provide the County with two-full time or a combination thereof, with an hourly pay rate of \$18.79 per hour. Mrs. Nelson stated that if the Board approves this it will save the County money and it would help with public service. Mrs. Nelson would be taking care of the payroll through a company in Las Vegas. She has already spoken with District Attorney Shields about taking a part-time position to work with the elderly through the Public Guardianship program. Mrs. Nelson reported she also talked to Penny Higby about the Food Bank taking two part-time positions. Mr. Rackley stated that he could use a half-time position at the Senior Center to help the seniors with paperwork and things like that. Mrs. Shank also suggested contacting the Hospital. Mr. Shields suggested a person to help at the Jail. Mr. Shields is going to talk with Sheriff Allen to see if this is something that would work for him.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the program with The Frontier Community Coalition. The positions that will be provided through the Healthy Community Coalition will be one full-time position for the District Attorney's office; two part-time positions for the Food Bank; two part-time positions for the Senior Center; and possibly positions for the Jail or the Hospital. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**ROBERT RULE, NAVAL AIR STATION FALLON:** *Discussion regarding Pole Line Road-* Robert Rue and Scott Beyer were present.

Mr. Rule reported to the Board that the Naval Air Station is looking into options of realigning Pole Line Road. Pole Line Road goes through Churchill and Pershing counties. Mr. Beyer presented they Board with three options that they are looking into. All of the options will preserve the bombing ranges while making the road accessible. The new road will be graded with drainage features. Mr. Beyer relayed that each of the proposals for the new route has its pros and cons. Each alternative route will use some of the existing road and will make sure that there is only a 20% grade using switchbacks. Mr. Rule reported that they will go into further detail at the Commissioner meeting on September 1<sup>st</sup> in Fallon. Mrs. Shank replied that she would like to attend.

Mrs. Hudson replied that she doesn't see a problem with an alternative route, but suggested that with the one or two cars using the existing Pole Line Road in a months' time to do something like keep it open only on the weekends, or have a number to call to check if the road is safe to travel on. Mr. Clinger stated that there is essential farm equipment traveling on Pole Line if they had to call to see if the road was safe an answer would need to come back in a timely manner. Mr. Rackley stated that a new route could cause a problem with landowners having the new road go through their property. Mr. Rule replied that the Navy could buy the land from the owners. Mr. Rule was asked who would maintain the road. He answered that they will maintain the part of the road that the Navy uses, but cannot commit to the parts that they do not use. He stated that this road study is just a proposal at this time, and more information will be available at the Commissioner meeting in Fallon.

**DAYNA GIAMBASTIANI, G2 ARCHAEOLOGY:** *Request to create a link on the Pershing County website linking a virtual tour to the Marzen House Museum page. The tour will provide an opportunity to virtually "walk through" the Rochester Mining District with funding for the project to come from Coeur Mining, Inc. –* Ms. Giambastiani stated that her company, G2 Archaeology, was contracted by Coeur Mining to do cultural preservation for their mine expansion. G2 Archaeology has also been working with the Museum Board for the past few years. Ms. Giambastiani reported that part of the contract with Coeur Mining is for her company to do a virtual tour that will be displayed at the Marzen House, in the Rochester Exhibit. The virtual tour should be completed in November. She stated that G2 is still in the field doing excavations and taking pictures that will be added to the virtual tour. Ms. Giambastiani asked the Board if the virtual tour link could be added to the Marzen House page through the Pershing County website. Mr. Abbott asked how the link will work, stating that he would like to be in touch with their IT person. He believes that the tour will work with the County website. Ms. Giambastiani stated that she believes that the tour would be beneficial to the Museum, by giving it more exposure.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve adding the virtual tour to the Marzen House Museum page on the Pershing County website, while working with Mr. Abbott. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mrs. Shank asked Ms. Giambastiani about the artifacts taken back from the blacksmith shop at the Marzen House. Ms. Giambastiani replied that when the blacksmith shop was donated to the museum the artifacts were not included in the paperwork. Mrs. Shank asked how the museum will be able to get the artifacts back. She is concerned about them not being housed properly, and someone could take them. Ms. Giambastiani said she has spoken with the Nevada State Museum and they suggested amending the paperwork to include the artifacts, and submit it back to the BLM. She stated that's what she did, but the BLM said no. Ms. Giambastiani said that she will continue working with BLM to get the artifacts back to the Marzen House. Mrs. Shank offered to call the BLM field office in Winnemucca to help.

**MATTERS OF THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION; BOARD MEMBER REPORTS; BOARD LIAISON REPORTS:** Mrs. Hudson reported that there was a Humboldt River Water Meeting regarding the Humboldt River cloud seeding project. Mr. Clinger stated that there a few issues with the cloud seeding. There was a difference in the proposed cost and there is a controversy due to water imagery in Nevada. The Humboldt River Water Board are going to continue to discuss it at the next meeting. Lastly, Mrs. Hudson stated that the Community Center is still looking for a coordinator.

Mrs. Shank reported that there was a Hospital Board meeting about the State mandate of all employees being vaccinated for COVID-19. Mrs. Shank stated if the mandate is enforced that the Hospital will be hurting. Mrs. Shank also reported that there was a Pershing County Healthcare meeting last night. She stated that the fundraiser dinner made \$9,000 in contributions that will be going to scholarships. The scholarships are for students in Pershing County going into the healthcare field. Lastly, she wished Mrs. Childs a happy Birthday.

**ELECTED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:**

**JERRY ALLEN, SHERIFF-** Jerry Allen was present.

Mr. Rackley stated that there were two motions that were approved earlier in the meeting. Sheriff Allen said he was in a meeting at the School District. Sheriff Allen reported that he has interviews Friday for Administrative staff and a Dispatcher Supervisor. They are also doing testing on Friday for deputies. Mrs. Shank told Sheriff Allen about the Frontier Community Coalition program that was approved earlier in the meeting. Mr. Shields will be talking to Sheriff Allen about a person helping out in the Jail.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** Carl Clinger asked the Board if it would be a good idea to do a presentation in Grass Valley about farm dusting. Mr. Clinger would like to get the presentation together with maps to inform the residents about farming. Mr. Clinger wants to get the correct information about water usage and lights being on. Mrs. Shank and Mrs. Hudson would like him to do it at the Grass Valley Community meeting.

Wendy Nelson reported that a gazebo will be disassembled and erected at the Marzen House on Friday. The gazebo is worth around \$10,000. Mr. Rackley said that it will be a nice addition. Mrs. Childs reminded Mrs. Nelson about the volunteer program. Mrs. Childs stated that if you they are not in the County Volunteer Program, then they are not covered under the Counties Workman's Compensation insurance.

**VOUCHERS:** Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted. Mrs. Shank seconded the motion. The motion passed.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Approved 10/20/21: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/  
Larry Rackley, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/  
Sarah Renfroe, Deputy Clerk