

MARCH 2, 2022

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2022 meeting as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley 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 no agenda items impose a burden on a business. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

CHANTAE LESSARD, COEUR ROCHESTER MINE: UPDATE ON COEUR ROCHESTER MINE AND SURROUNDING ACTIVITIES – Frankie Graham from Coeur Rochester was also present.

Ms. Lessard showed a presentation. POA 11 achieved 500 construction hours without a loss time incident. Ken Nelson is their new Regional General Manager. Tim Dimock was promoted to Assistant GM. In April/May there will be an influx of construction workers, approximately 350. Housing is limited, so they will be bussing from Reno and Winnemucca. They should receive the final permit for the Lincoln Hill exploration sometime this month. Ms. Lessard also spoke about their social commitments, workforce training, their water Agreement with Lovelock Meadows, and Scholarship opportunities.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:

ROAD DEPARTMENT / LANDFILL – Mr. Hill emailed Mr. Rackley to let him know he was unable to attend the meeting this morning. The crew is busy working throughout the County.

SENIOR CENTER – Mr. Rackley stated that Ms. Canales is unable to attend today.

Approval to advertise/hire vacant Cook I/II position: Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve advertising and hiring to fill the vacant Cook I/II position at the Senior Center. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mr. Rackley stated that they will be conducting interviews tomorrow. They are serving approximately 60 seniors per day in-house and about 20 homebound.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that the new water softener system has been installed at the jail. The Handicapped doors have been installed at the Admin Building, DMV and at the Community Center. The crew has been doing various projects at the Museum, have been filling in graves at the cemeteries and burning weeds at the Airport. Mrs. Hudson asked about the run-way lighting. Mr. Handka stated that the incandescent lighting is getting harder to find. Mr. Rackley stated that replacing all the lighting is about 2-3 years away in our 5 year construction plan.

Approval to change propane service to Menesini Petroleum, LLC: Mr. Handka stated that Menesini's is a lower cost. Mr. Rackley wants to stay with Granite Propane, as they are local, but

doesn't have a problem discontinuing service with Amerigas. Mr. Handka stated that their rates are still higher. Mrs. Shank felt we should change service in Imlay and Grass Valley. She also stated that we have been having service issue at the Airport.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to make the change for the outlying areas from Amerigas to Menesini Petroleum, LLC.

Mrs. Shank withdrew her motion so that more research can be done.

PERSHING CO. FIRE/AMBULANCE –

LOVELOCK FIRE: Chief Wilcox spoke via Zoom. He thanked Ms. Nolan and Rich Wagner for all their help while he is out of town. He also stated that he met with Mr. Shields and Mrs. Shank. Mrs. Shank stated that she has submitted the changes that were needed to the Medicare application. She thanked Debbie Mock for all her help.

AMBULANCE REPORT: Marti Nolan spoke via Zoom. She stated there have been 26 ambulance calls. She will get the Board her report as soon as she has it ready. Mrs. Childs spoke with Sharp Billing regarding reporting. She provided the report to the Board. Chief Wilcox would like the bid for a new ambulance put on the agenda. The report shows an outstanding debt of over \$400,000. With that amount outstanding, the Board has a hard time approving the purchase.

GRASS VALLEY FIRE: Chief Sean Burke was present.

Chief Burke stated that they lost one member to a paid Firefighter position in Washington. They currently have 13 members and are starting a recruiting campaign. They are also working on scheduling an Open House. All of their training is on track.

Awarding of bid for the Pershing County Brush Truck Bid: Bids were opened at the last meeting. Chief Burke stated their preferred vendor is US Fire Equipment, LLC.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve awarding the Pershing County Brush Truck bid to US Fire Equipment, LLC in the amount of \$158,958.01, being the lowest, most responsive bid. Motion seconded Mrs. Shank and passed.

COMMUNITY CENTER – Dianne Munden was present.

Discussion regarding rental fee structure: Ms. Munden spoke about the rental fee structure. She received several complaints regarding "special rates" so she started doing some research and did not find one contract that paid the appropriate fee. For example, there are four similar groups, three have received discounted rates and the fourth has paid full price.

Jeanne Munk with Friends of the Library spoke about the annual Christmas Fair and the logistics of the set-up. She just wanted clarification on what the cost would be for setting up the day before.

Mrs. Shank stated that some other issues need to be looked at further, like a cut-off time for events; however, the fee schedule needs to be followed. Ms. Munden will create a spreadsheet to bring to the Board monthly that shows which entities use the facility and what was paid, refunded, etc.

June Talcott of Country Quilters would like an agenda item for the next meeting. They have several concerns relating to their event, including the storage and the increase in fees. In 2019 they were charged \$550 and the cost for this year is \$1,205. Mrs. Talcott would like the Commission to reconsider the charge for this event.

Ms. Munden also reported that Community Center will be supporting a new business. They will be paying full price to use the commercial kitchen. They do have all their state and local permits and health certificates. They would like to use the kitchen to bake 16 hours a month.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT / IMLAY WATER/ PERSHING ELECTRICT: James Evans was present.

Mr. Evans presented the Board with his monthly report. He also gave them the Grass Valley Hydrographic Basin Analysis prepared by Farr West Engineering.

REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A 2-YEAR TIME EXTENSION FOR THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT ISSUED TO sPOWER (PERSHING SOLAR, LLC) ON PHASE 1, WHICH WAS APPROVED MARCH 4, 2020, TO ALLOW FOR SOLAR POWER DEVELOPMENT ON 2,154 ACRES OF PRIVATELY OWNED LAND APPROXIMATELY 4 MILES NORTH OF LOVELOCK ON NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD IN PERSHING COUNTY, NEVADA PURSUANT TO PERSHING CO. CODE 15.18.130 SPECIAL USE PERMIT MAINTENANCE – Linda Bullen, Matt Gordon, and Jordan Levin were present.

Ms. Levin gave a presentation showing their progress to this point. Mr. Shields spoke about concerns regarding the road agreement. Ms. Levin stated that they are completely in agreement in regard to the road agreement.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the two –year extension for the Special Use Permit issued to sPower on Phase 1. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

LETTER FROM JIM AND CINDY FIZGERALD REGARDING FOUR MONTHS OF FLUCTUATING WATER USAGE FOR A TOTAL OF 308,000 GALLONS AT 203 CALIFORNIA STREET, WHICH IS UNOCCUPIED, REQUESTING INVESTIGATION AND REMOVAL OF CHARGES – Mr. Evans gave some history of the water usage. When the water was turned on in 2017, there was a leak, which was fixed. In August of 2021 it went from 0 to 19,000, which indicated to Mr. Evans that there is a leak somewhere. Mr. Evans has checked the meter. The water has since been turned off. The bill is \$437.30.

Mrs. Shank doesn't see any reason to make an adjustment.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to take no action, leaving the bill as is. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

REVIEW OF REPORT RECEIVED FROM FARR WEST ENGINEERING REGARDING THE GRASS VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN ANALYSIS – Mr. Shields stated that the conclusion is that the Grass Valley Water Basin is over appropriated and over pumped. Suggestions for preserving water in the basin were given.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:

SAFETY / CHN/ CEMETERY – Cheryl Haas was present via Zoom.

Revisit and approval of the cost of cemetery signage for Unionville and Chinese cemeteries as recommended by the Cemetery Board: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the expense of \$5,493.58 to purchase signage for the Unionville and Chinese cemeteries as recommended by the Cemetery Board. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Steve Cochran was present.

Mr. Cochran gave the Board his monthly report. There was some discussion regarding the 48 hour first appearance rule. Mr. Cochran will be sitting down with Judge Stephens to work out some more details.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Fran Machado was present.

Mrs. Machado gave the Board her report. Community outreach is going well. With Spring coming, she anticipates she will receive more complaints. She is working on organizing some clean-up dates for Imlay and Grass Valley. Mrs. Hudson stated that at the Grass Valley meeting they asked for another bin.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott stated that since the last meeting he has been in communications with the State about a variety of projects, including the connection to the Child Support office. He has had several departments request changes to their County website pages. He would encourage all departments to review their pages and send updates to him if needed. Mrs. Donaldson stated that she asked Mr. Abbott for a refresher and has been making changes to her pages herself. Mrs. Donaldson stated that it is an easy process.

There is a matter of serious concern regarding geo-political tensions going on overseas and how that relates to cyber security. Mr. Abbott did send an email out to all employees instructing them to be cautious about emails, attachments, etc.

Mr. Abbott has several tickets open with Star 2 Star and AT&T regarding some of the phone issues. He is moving forward; however, in baby steps, on the internet projects. AT&T finished configuration at the Annex for fiber. They are in the planning and special construction phase for the other three buildings.

Update on selection and appointment of IT Technician: Mr. Abbott reported that interviews were held on February 23rd with two applicants. Amanda Burrows was the successful candidate and she has been given an offer of employment; however, she would like to see what the salary is.

Set salary for IT Technician: Mr. Abbott gave the Board some background on IT salaries. When he was hired, he was given \$40,000 plus benefits. The median for Nevada is \$63,000. Across the US that is closer to \$73,000. Entry level across the US is \$33,000-\$50,000.

Mr. Abbott stated that based on Mrs. Burrows' experience he would recommend \$40,000 plus benefits. Mrs. Shank asked what was approved for Mr. Abbott. Mrs. Wesner had recommended a \$60,000 salary for Mr. Abbott starting July 1, but no decision has been made. Mrs. Wesner also agrees with Mr. Abbott regarding the salary for the IT Technician.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to set the salary for the IT Technician at \$40,000. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – *NDOT Priority List for 2022-2023:* Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the NDOT Priority List for 2022-2023 as presented and to also send a letter re-emphasizing the importance of the G29 Bridge project. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:

LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK-TREASURER – Mrs. Donaldson reported that her office is gearing up for Candidate Filing, which starts next Monday, March 7th. She conducted training with the City of Lovelock yesterday, as they will have two open council seats as well. The office will also start preparing to send the 1 and 3 year delinquent letters at the end of the month. The office is getting ready for a very busy season!

Approval of corrections/changes to the Tax Roll: Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the Tax Roll corrections for APN #007-431-04 and #001-121-05 as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

DERBY FIELD: It was noted that the bid for materials has been released.

ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF KAMIN VANGUILDER, MD, AS PERSHING COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER; APPOINTMENT OF PERSHING COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER: It was noted that Dr. VanGuilder submitted her letter of resignation at the last Board of Health meeting, with an effective date of May 1st.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to accept the resignation of Kamin VanGuilder, MD, as the Pershing County Health Officer effective May 1, 2022. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mrs. Shank has reached out to Tyson McBride, Deputy Public Health Officer, to see if he would be interested. Mr. McBride is checking with his superiors.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES & WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD – A letter was received from Debbie King expressing her interest in serving on the Library Board. A letter was also received from Scott Hill expressing his interest in serving on the Wildlife Advisory Board.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to appoint Debbie King to the Library Board and Scott Hill to the Wildlife Board. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

UPDATE FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RELATING TO COVID-19; LIST OF PROPOSED PROJECTS, PRIORITIZING AND CHANGING/AMENDING THE PROJECTS FOR ALLOCATION OF THE COVID-19 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING FOR PERSHING COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,306,252.00: No update was given.

The meeting recessed at 11:11 a.m. for a Litigation meeting and reconvened at 11:22 a.m.

REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL: Mr. Shields did not have anything to report.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/HR REP: Mrs. Wesner didn't have anything to report.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: There were no additional items noted.

CORRESPONDENCE: A letter was received from the Department of Agriculture regarding a March 30th meeting about Mormon crickets and grasshoppers.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION; BOARD MEMBER REPORTS; BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: Mr. Rackley will be attending an Airport meeting in the next few weeks.

Mrs. Shank stated that she is on the Hospital CEO recruitment committee. The Pershing Healthcare Foundation did not meet this month. The Board of Equalization met on February 25th with two appeals. The Rural Health District discussion is progressing. They are meeting tomorrow with the State. We will have to make a decision soon if we want to be a part of the new Health District. Mrs. Shank asked Mr. Rackley how she gets T-shirts for the Volunteers, as she heard some had been ordered. Mrs. Shank will get the sizes for the Recycling Volunteers and give them to Mr. Rackley.

Mrs. Hudson attended water meetings. She also attended the Grass Valley Advisory Board meeting. She stated that when Sean Burke's term is up, he will not be asking to be reappointed.

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

INTERVIEW OF APPLICANT FOR PERSHING COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COORDINATOR POSITION: Marti Nolan was the only candidate interviewed.

The Board took turns asking Mrs. Nolan questions. Ms. Nolan was asked what she thought a fair salary would be and she stated \$60,000.

APPOINTMENT OF PERSHING COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COORDINATOR; SET SALARY FOR THE POSITION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL

SERVICES COORDINATOR: Mrs. Wesner had recommended \$37,500 back in January, with a review in 3-6 months. Mrs. Shank did some salary figures. Mrs. Wesner also looked at like counties to determine the proper amount.

It was noted that Marti Nolan was the only candidate.

Mrs. Shank feels Mrs. Nolan is qualified and would have no problem offering her the position. She thought \$40,000 would be a good starting point, with a review in 6 months.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to offer employment to Marti Nolan with a salary of \$40,000, with a review in 6 months. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

The meeting recessed at 12:05 p.m. to review vouchers and reconvened at 12:15 p.m.

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

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

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Approved 4/06/22: _____ /s/
Shayla Hudson, Chairwoman

Attest: _____ /s/
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk