

AUGUST 4, 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; Todd Banks, Deputy District Attorney; Karen Wesner, Administrative Assistant; Lacey Donaldson, Clerk; and Justin Abbott, IT.

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

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 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/LANDFILL/RECYCLING – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that he hired a secretary yesterday. He interviewed three good candidates. Mr. Hill also reported that the newest hire at the Landfill quit, so he hired another applicant that he interviewed previously.

Mr. Hill reported that he has been spraying weeds and they are screening dirt at the Community Pit. They finished up blading some of the roads and are fixing from the bridge to the pavement on Duncan's. They cleaned up the Grass Valley and Imlay transfer sites twice since the last meeting. A mobile home was torn apart in Imlay and put in the burn pile. Mr. Hill has been speaking to the Sheriff. The crew is patching Coal Canyon. A culvert was replaced on Willow Creek and the washout was fixed with the help of Enegix Mining. There were a few other washouts that they took care of as well.

Mrs. Shank stated that the recycling is going well. Mr. Hill also stated that he is helping out with staff at the Landfill as much as they can. All the windblown litter is cleaned up and it looks really good. Mr. McDaniel is doing a good job.

Discussion regarding replacing the transmission in the Envoy: Mr. Hill stated that his mechanic is recommending putting it in the auction. The cost of the transmission is more than the vehicle is worth.

SENIOR CENTER/VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR – The Director has resigned. Mr. Rackley reported that they are delivering 24 frozen Homebound meals. They have been interviewing for the two cook positions. Mrs. Shank stated that there hasn't been an ad in the newspaper. Mr. Rackley stated that it has been in the paper and is also on Facebook, and the County's website.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present

Mr. Handka reported that they replaced the Justice Court windows with bullet resistant laminate. They also replaced the two in Mrs. Wesner's office. They are getting ready for Frontier Days and have been spraying weeds. There is also a softball tournament at the ball fields this weekend.

Salary Resolution, J. Valtierra: This is the salary rate that Mr. Valtierra was at when he previously left employment with the County.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Javier Valtierra, with a starting classification of Maintenance Worker II, Range 24, Step 4, effective July 9, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

PERSHING COUNTY FIRE/AMBULANCE –

AMBULANCE/LOVELOCK FIRE: Chief Rodney Wilcox was present.

Chief Wilcox reported that the ambulance continues to be very busy. They met a Medflight at the Airport the other night that couldn't make it to Reno and transported their patient. Chief Wilcox stated that they are still having issues with volunteers responding. Ambulance #901 is down, with no power to the radio or lights. Chief Wilcox stated that a new ambulance needs to be ordered, as it takes approximately six months to be built. Mr. Rackley has spoken with the City and asked them to consider using their Recovery Funds to help with the purchase. Chief Wilcox also reported that there was a fire in the Indian Colony last night and they provided mutual aid to the BLM. A valve on one of the trucks failed, but they were able to replace it. The old firehouse is in the process of being painted.

REVIEW OF REPORT FROM THE EMERGENCY SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE AND APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR A SAFER GRANT – Mr. Rackley stated that they just received the report from the Emergency Services Subcommittee and haven't had a chance to review it. Mr. Rackley also spoke about the SAFER Grant. It can be used to pay for Fire Department personnel. Mrs. Shank asked if they would be able to review the grant application prior to its submittal. Mrs. Hudson stated that it is a tiered, 3 year grant. After 3 years, we would be 100% responsible for those costs. Chief Wilcox thought the grant application wasn't due for several months. Mrs. Shank felt they had time to have a workshop to discuss what to include in the application.

Mr. Banks felt it would be better if the Fire Department drafted what their expectations for the grant are prior to approval of the application. Mrs. Hudson requested the this be put back on the next agenda with the fire department presenting at that time.

COMMUNITY CENTER – Giselda Canales, Community Center Coordinator, submitted a written report.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott reported that the network security assessment with CISA (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency) has been completed. We should be receiving a draft report within the next couple of weeks. The preliminary review shows that a lot of training is needed. Mr. Abbott has also been working with Mrs. Lusby-Angvick on the broadband project. He continues to receive a lot of support tickets.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Heidi Lusby-Angvick was present.

Update: Mrs. Lusby-Angvick stated that State Treasurer Zach Conine will be here today to give a presentation, but he will also be here next Tuesday to seek public feedback under the "Every Nevada Recovery Framework".

Mrs. Lusby-Angvick also asked about the seats on the PCEDA Board. Mrs. Donaldson stated that when the Ordinance was amended, she aligned the current members with the corresponding seats.

Brownfields Grant project update and status: No report.

Current status of economic development projects being built in Pershing County: No report.

Approval of 95-80 Regional Development Authority Cooperative Interlocal Agreement: This will be put back on the next agenda.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – A written report was submitted.

Mr. Cochran also came in a bit later in the morning. He is working on familiarizing himself with all the changes to the law that recently went into effect or will soon.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Fran Machado was present.

Mr. Rackley asked what the status of the chiropractic office is. Mrs. Machado stated that the owner has received their final notice, but he is trying to sell the property. If the ownership changes, she will have to start over. Mr. Rackley would like to discuss clean-up and putting a lien on the property. Mr. Banks stated that if clean-up does not occur within the timeframe established by Code Enforcement, the DA's office will file criminal charges, which usually spurs a response.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:

LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK-TREASURER – Mrs. Donaldson reported that she went on vacation right after the last meeting. The office is busy with tax collection. A new employee will be starting next Monday.

RENE CHILDS, RECORDER-AUDITOR – Mrs. Childs gave the Board the month end reports. The auditors will be here a couple days this month and then again in September.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE – Mr. Banks agreed with the sentiments of Mr. Cochran regarding the new changes to the law. He also stated that the tapering off of the pandemic has caused an increase in new cases. They met with State Child Support earlier this week. They are working on implementing a new computer system.

SHERIFF’S OFFICE – *Salary Resolution, A. Gonzalez*: Mr. Gonzalez has graduated from POST (Peace Officers Standards Training). Mrs. Shank asked Mrs. Childs about the effective date as it says May 20th. Mrs. Childs stated that we cannot go back into old year for payroll.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Alfonso Gonzalez, moving him from a Deputy Sheriff I, Range 11, Step 1 to a Deputy Sheriff II, Range 12, Step 1, effective July 1, 2021. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

Sheriff Allen came in later in the morning. There are currently 10 inmates in the jail. They currently have three cadets at POST. There are still three open positions within the department. Sheriff Allen does have one applicant for the office and dispatch positions, but none for deputy. Sheriff Allen will be attending a meeting today at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the “none” Burning Man event happening over Labor Day. Chief Wilcox asked if the Fire/Ambulance Department are obligated to answer calls out there. Yes.

PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS: YEARS OF SERVICE CERTIFICATE/PIN FOR BILL SOARES (20 YEARS) AND NATHAN CARMICHAEL (20 YEARS) – Mr. Soares’ award will be given to his family. Deputy Carmichael was not present, and his award will be given to the Sheriff.

MEMORIAL FOR WILLIAM “BILL” SOARES TO BE PLACED EITHER AT THE COURTHOUSE PARK OR PLAYGROUND: Mr. Rackley stated that Mr. Soares was very dedicated to the upkeep of the park and playground. Mrs. Hudson suggested a metal art installation. Mrs. Shank suggested a bench.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve placing a bench in the Courthouse Park in memory of William “Bill” Soares. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: GRASS VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD – Letters were received from Paul Schlehr and Tori Apperson.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to reappoint Paul Schlehr to the Grass Valley Advisory Board. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

DERBY FIELD: Mr. Rackley reported that the newest grant is to repair the taxi-way. Surveyors are out there now.

DES CRAIG, ECONOMIC RECOVERY COORDINATOR, WESTERN NEVADA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (WNDD): WNDD PROPOSAL REGARDING A REGION-WIDE BROADBAND MAPPING PROJECT AND REQUEST FOR FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,850.00 – Mr. Craig gave a PowerPoint presentation. After the initial funding request, there will be an annual subscription to keep the map a living document. Their hope is to have the funding by mid-August and hire a consultant in September.

Mr. Abbott stated that there have been many Broadband mapping projects; however, WNDD's project will be more granular. For community connectivity, this is the right path and Mr. Abbott would encourage the Board to support this project.

Carl Clinger asked if this would address the lack of service in the outlying areas of the County. Mr. Craig stated that the mapping will be dependent on those taking the survey. Those who don't have connectivity will still have to go to the website and report that they don't have any service. Mrs. Shank asked Mrs. Lusby-Angvick if the funding we will be getting from the Governor's Office of Economic Development for the new Development Authority could be used to help cover the cost. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick stated it is possible, but she doesn't know. Mr. Craig stated that Pershing County is receiving Economic Recovery Funds, and this is an eligible expense under those guidelines. Mr. Craig also stated that there are lots of maps, but they are woefully inaccurate. Mrs. Childs stated that there is \$14,000 budgeted in Economic Development that could be used.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve supporting WNDD's proposal regarding a region-wide broadband mapping project in the amount of \$2,850.00. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

PLANNING AND BUILDING / IMLAY WATER: James Evans was present.

Mr. Evans gave the Board his monthly reports. There is not a Planning Commission meeting tonight, but there is one scheduled for September. Next month they will do their annual "bigger" water samples. Mr. Evans reported that LMWD (Lovelock Meadows Water District) put some pressure gages in various places in Imlay. Above the system's pressure gauges there was no fluctuation. They also checked the pump and there doesn't seem to be any problems there. Below the regulators it did fluctuate on Saturday and Sunday with big spikes in pressure. This is indicative of someone opening and closing a hydrant too quickly. Mr. Evans doesn't believe it is the Fire Department.

Mr. Evans also reported that he signed up for a Commercial Building Inspector course in September in Las Vegas. Mr. Evans is coordinating the ordering of a new vehicle for his department with the Road Department. Caselle will be out toward the end of the month to implement their software and provide training.

There was also discussion regarding contractors working on the Pershing County Electrical Utility. In the past, only one contractor was used, but if they are qualified to work on the system, it doesn't matter. Mr. Evans does have a list available in his office. Mrs. Hudson refrained from the discussion due to her personal business.

USDA, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS): REQUEST FOR PERSHING COUNTY TO BECOME A COOPERATING AGENCY IN THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOWER HUMBOLDT WATERSHED / PERSHING COUNTY IRRIGATION DISTRICT WATERSHED PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT; ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATION AND APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN INFORMAL AGREEMENT OR A FORMAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – Mrs. Hudson asked Carl Clinger about the USGS mapping. That is a separate issue. Mr. Clinger stated that NRCS is just in the planning stages. Mr. Rackley stated that at this point, they are just inviting us to be a Cooperating Agency.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the request by NRCS for Pershing County to become a Cooperating Agency in the Planning and Development of the Lower Humboldt Watershed / Pershing county Irrigation District Watershed Plan and Environmental Document. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

Mrs. Wesner stated that they are also asking that we approve either an informal agreement or a formal Memorandum of Understanding.

Mrs. Shank amended her motion to include entering into a formal MOU. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

The meeting recessed at 10:28 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

ZACH CONINE, NEVADA STATE TREASURER: PRESENTATION ON PROCESS FOR THE UTILIZATION OF THE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT – Treasurer Conine gave a presentation on the American Rescue Plan Act. The State has been given additional funding and they are asking local governments, etc. to submit use plans. Directions on how to submit proposals was given. Mr. Conine will also be in Lovelock in person on Tuesday to provide additional information and get input from the public.

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 349, RELATING TO LANDFILL ASSESSMENT, TO MAKE ITS EFFECTIVE DATE JULY 1, 2022 RATHER THAN JULY 1, 2021: This item will be moved to the next meeting.

CARES FUNDING: UPDATE/APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES; 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 – Mrs. Shank stated that the Agenda Item needs to be changed to ARP Funding, instead of CARES. We haven't received any funds as of yet.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF NEVADA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO ALLOCATE POTENTIAL SETTLEMENT FUNDS DERIVED FROM LITIGATION CONCERNING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN NEVADA AND THE UNLAWFUL MANUFACTURE, MARKETING, PROMOTION, DISTRIBUTION OR DISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS: This item will be put on the next agenda.

REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL: No report.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: No report.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: Mrs. Shank would like a workshop to go through the Emergency Response Committees recommendations. Mrs. Shank also stated that there was an item on the last agenda about painting the barrier walls on the overpass. No action was taken. Mr. Rackley doesn't feel a letter would do anything. Mrs. Shank would like it back on the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no additional correspondence discussed.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS; BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: Mrs. Hudson spoke about a few meetings she has upcoming. She would like another presentation from Rob Rule regarding the Navy Expansion. She spoke about Aquatec's water applications. Mrs. Shank asked that it be put on the next agenda so Pershing County can officially protest the applications.

Mrs. Shank stated that all her meetings are coming up.

Mrs. Hudson stated that she will be gone most of November.

Mr. Rackley stated there was a Library Board meeting last week. Senior Center Advisory Board will be meeting tomorrow. They are working on a date for an Airport Advisory Board meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2021 NEVADA STATE COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM POSSIBLE PROJECTS: No proposals were submitted.

PUBLIC INPUT: Carl Clinger, Chairman of the Big Meadow Conservation District spoke. He reported that the Big Meadow Conservation District finally has a full board. Members are Steve Foster, Mac Moezzi, Paul Schlehr, Elizabeth Uhart, Gloria Montero, Carl Clinger, and Melissa Jones. Melissa Jones is the new Ag science teacher and FFA advisor at the High School. They also ordered water table measuring equipment. They wanted to eliminate the stream flow gauge in Imlay, but it was protested, so it will stay. The District is looking into installing one at Rose Creek, but it costs approximately \$35,000. They submitted a grant application for pollinators. They just received notification that they were awarded \$25,000 from the National Association of Conservation District to do a Resource Needs Assessment for the entire county.

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

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Approved 9/15/21: _____/s/_____
Larry Rackley, Chairman

Attest: _____/s/_____
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk