

JANUARY 19, 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 December 15, 2021 meeting as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

PUBLIC INPUT: Larry Rackley spoke about a letter to the editor in last week's paper regarding the County's lack of maintenance on Highway 400. Mr. Rackley clarified that Highway 400 is a State Highway and not maintained by the County.

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 directly impact a business. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:

ROAD DEPARTMENT – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that there's a blade running towards Limbo. They finished Trinity Pass Road for C-Punch Ranch. Mr. Reese has been hauling sand to Coeur. Mr. Hill stated that they have used about half of their salt stockpile this winter, so they hauled some more to the yard. Mr. Hill also has employees taking their CDL (Commercial Driver's License) testing on Monday. On the east side of the County, they've had blades running as well. Last Tuesday the blades were vandalized. The batteries, lights, and horns were stolen. A report has been filed with the Sheriff's office. Now they are storing them overnight at a ranch to keep them more secure. A blade is running in Grass Valley as well. Mr. Hill also worked with Mr. Shields regarding the disposal contract and the Nevada Cement contract. Mr. Hill has also been working on his budget.

Approval for payment to repair Road Department garage door in the amount of \$2,747.80 from the Building Fund: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the payment for the repairs to the Road Department garage door in the amount of \$2,747.80 from the Building Fund.

Mrs. Shank asked Mrs. Childs if the money was available in the Building Fund. Mrs. Childs stated that it is.

Mrs. Shank seconded the motion, and it carried.

Approval to go to bid for Mag Chloride: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve going to bid for Mag Chloride. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

Approval of three-year agreement (November 2021 – November 2024) with Nevada Cement, LLC for reimbursement of road repair expenses for Coal Canyon Road in the amount of \$12,000.00 each year of the agreement: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the three-year agreement with Nevada Cement, LLC for reimbursement of road repair expenses for Coal Canyon Road in the amount of \$12,000.00 each year of the agreement. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

LANDFILL & RECYCLING – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that he has been working with Haas Disposal to extend their current contract. They did ask for a pretty significant increase in cost. Mrs. Hudson asked about the transfer sites and the number of bins that are being brought in. Mr. Hill stated that Haas does store bins and brings them in when they can. Mrs. Shank asked if it would be more cost effective to haul our own garbage. Mr. Hill doesn't think it would pencil out. He will do some more research.

Approval to advertise/hire vacant Landfill Operator position: Ken Kite has submitted his resignation.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve advertising and hiring to fill the vacant Landfill Operator position. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that they have been spending quite a bit of time at the Jail. He had someone come in and do some maintenance on the automatic gate. The porta-potties have been ordered for McDougal Field in preparation for youth softball. Mr. Handka will open the concession building when weather permits.

Approval of bid for Water Softener Unit for Pershing County Jail: The Board was given a bid from D&D Plumbing, Inc. in the amount of \$4,360.00. Mr. Handka stated that it would come out of his maintenance funds.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the purchase of a new water softener unit for the Pershing County Jail in the amount of \$4,360.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and approved.

Mrs. Hudson stated that she had spoken to Mr. Handka about the propane bill for the Imlay Community Center. Mrs. Shank spoke with the person in Imlay and they didn't know why it would have increased so much. Mrs. Shank will also ask them to send Mr. Handka a monthly usage calendar.

Mr. Handka stated that he has been checking the Lovelock Senior Center in the morning. He did notice that the shelf where Mr. McKinney used to store his supplies has been taken over by the kitchen staff. Mrs. Hudson asked him to work with Mrs. Cannales regarding the storage space.

SENIOR CENTER – *Salary Resolution, M. Jimenez:* It was noted that this increase will make her salary the same as the other cook. Mrs. Shank asked about the effective date.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Maria Jimenez moving her from a Cook I, Range 17, Step 3 to a Range 17, Step 7, effective January 11, 2022. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Discussion of policy requiring unvaccinated employees and volunteers who work with vulnerable populous to submit to weekly COVID testing and wearing a mask and other precautionary measures at work: Mr. Rackley stated that he asked that this be on the agenda for discussion. Mr. Rackley feels that staff working with a vulnerable population should be required to be vaccinated; however, legal counsel did not agree. Mr. Rackley is concerned for the health of our seniors. He would like the employees to be tested every Monday. Speaking with the Sheriff, he is testing inmates when they come in and it costs \$24.00 per test. We do not have a budget for that. Mrs. Hudson feels the best we can do is require the volunteers to wear masks. Mr. Abbott asked if they are doing the screening steps, i.e. taking temperatures, etc. Mr. Rackley stated they are not.

AMBULANCE/LOVELOCK FIRE – Chief Wilcox was present via Zoom.

Chief Wilcox stated that they have some concerns regarding the Rye Patch area. Lovelock always responds, but they are not seeing anyone from Rye Patch. The latest was a fire call yesterday. He mentioned that the County is looking at expanding the firehouse in Rye Patch. The necessity of the expansion was questioned. Mrs. Childs also stated that we shouldn't be paying PERS on members who are not active. Mr. Rackley feels this should be discussed at a Chief's meeting. Chief Wilcox stated that Lovelock needs a new ambulance and the money earmarked for the firehouse expansion would help with that purchase.

GRASS VALLEY FIRE – Mr. Rackley read an update from Chief Burke. They held department elections. Sean Burke will continue as the Chief and the Assistant Chief is Zack Johnson. They currently have 15 members. Their training continues, with the main emphasis on completing their Firefighter I training, which they anticipate having 12 members completed by the end of January.

LEPC – Mr. Rackley reported that the SERC (State Emergency Response Commission) grant paperwork has been submitted and all other grants are on track.

ADVERTISING/HIRING AND SETTING SALARY FOR EMS COORDINATOR: Mr. Rackley stated that we should be advertising. The salary doesn't have to be set prior to that, it should be dependent on qualifications.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to move forward with advertising to fill the full-time EMS Coordinator position. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

OPTION PROPOSAL OF \$75.00 EACH, STIPEND FOR DERBY FIELD AIRPORT/HOSPITAL TRANSPORTS WHEN THERE ARE TWO AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS OR \$150.00 FOR ONE AMBULANCE ATTENDANT: Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the proposal to split the \$150 stipend, to \$75.00 each if two ambulance attendants report for a Derby Field Airport/Hospital transport. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Chief Wilcox asked where the EMS Coordinator position will be advertised. It was noted that the County will advertise in the Lovelock Review-Miner, the County website, the County Facebook page and on NACO's (Nevada Association of County Officials) website.

APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL CONTRACT BETWEEN PUBLIC AGENCIES, DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES, NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND PERSHING COUNTY FOR THE WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$131,064.00 FOR FY 2022 AND 131,064.00 FOR FY 2023, NOT TO EXCEED \$262,128 – Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the Interlocal Contract between Public Agencies, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Nevada Division of Forestry and Pershing County for the Wildland Fire Protection Program effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 with a total amount not to exceed \$262,128.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

SAFETY / CHN / CEMETERY – Ms. Haas has clinic today. No report was submitted; however, Mrs. Shank reported that the Wreaths across America project went very well. We are up to date on Safety. Our nurse, Marsha Foreman has submitted her retirement effective in April. There are meetings scheduled to discuss a joint health district and Mrs. Shank will attend.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott reported he is still playing catch up from his vacation. AT&T is starting the process for the fiber build-out. Mr. Abbott has a walk-through with them tomorrow.

Salary Resolution, J. Abbott, IT Manager; Set Salary for IT Manager: Mrs. Childs stated that there is only \$100,000 in contingency to cover the General Fund. She was unaware that the Board was considering an increase to Mr. Abbott's salary as well. Mr. Abbott stated that he is willing to hold off on his Salary Resolution until July 1st if necessary. He is more concerned about getting support staff in place.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Justin Abbott, changing his job title to IT Manager effective immediately. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Set Salary for IT Technician: Mrs. Wesner has received one application. Mrs. Shank stated that they were looking at \$35,000 - \$40,000 dependent on qualifications.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to set the salary for the IT Technician between \$35,000 and \$40,000 dependent on qualifications. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

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

The West Coast Salmon Nevada team will be here on Monday.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:

LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK-TREASURER – Mrs. Donaldson did not have anything to report. She did say that she will have Tax Roll corrections for the next meeting.

RENE CHILDS, RECORDER-AUDITOR – Mrs. Childs stated that we need to establish protocols for COVID, so every department is following the same guidelines. After 3 days of sick leave, you must have a doctor's note to return to work and FMLA paperwork needs to be filled out. This is not happening. Mrs. Childs will work with Mrs. Wesner and they will bring something to the Board.

LAUREEN BASSO-CERINI, ASSESSOR – Ms. Basso-Cerini gave an update on the land value error she reported at a previous meeting. Mr. Shields stated that Devnet should make us whole from this software glitch.

Salary Resolutions, J. Hill and M. Root: Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Jennifer Hill moving her from an Administrative Clerk II, Range 26, Step 5 to a Range 26, Step 7 and the Salary Resolution for Morgan Root, Moving her from an Appraiser I, Range 29, Step 5 to a Range 29, Step 7, both effective January 3, 2022. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

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

Mr. Evans didn't have an update. He did receive an email from Farr West regarding the Hydrological Evaluation for Grass Valley. The draft is almost ready to be presented to the Board.

REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE SCOPE OF WORK, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT AND PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$109,642.00 FOR FARR WEST ENGINEERING TO PROCEED WITH A PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT, SEEK FUNDING SOURCES, AND IF FUNDING IS OBTAINED TO PROCEED WITH THE IMLAY WATER PROJECT – There was discussion regarding where the funding would come from. The American Rescue Plan funding was discussed. Mr. Rackley would like to meet with the Fire Chiefs to discuss their funding priorities prior to any changes to the priority list for the ARP funds.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve Farr West Engineering's Scope of Work, Professional Services Agreement, and Preliminary Engineering in the amount of \$109,642.00 for the Imlay Water Project, using American Rescue Plan funding, while looking for other funding sources as well. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson. Mr. Rackley opposed. Motion carried.

JERRY ALLEN, SHERIFF: Sheriff Allen reported that there are currently 11 inmates in custody. He has one employee out with COVID and one of the dispatchers gave notice.

Purchase of (1) 2013 Ford F350 and (1) F350 Animal Control trucks for Lovelock Animal Control/Humane Society for \$250.00 each truck for a total of \$500.00 for both trucks: Sheriff Allen stated that these are \$85,000 vehicles. Sheriff Allen did speak to the Mayor, and the City of Lovelock will split the cost.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the purchase of two Animal Control trucks for the Lovelock Animal Control/Humane Society for a total of \$500.00 with the City paying half of the expense. Motion seconded by Mrs. Shank and passed.

Notification of Sgt. J. Rogers and S. Perez traveling to Utah to attend FTO training 1/30/22 – 2/2/22: Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the out of state travel for Sgt. John Rogers and Sheila Perez to attend FTO training in Utah 1/30/22-2/2/22. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Notification of Sgt. K. Rogers attending DARE Instructor training in Michigan 1/23/22 to 2/5/22: Sheriff Allen stated that this training has been cancelled.

Mrs. Childs asked for clarification regarding the "Notification" wording on the agenda, as all Out of State Travel must be approved by the Board.

WADE ROBISON, SUBMITTAL OF AFFIDAVIT AND PETITION PURSUANT TO NRS 517.390 TO EXPLORE AND DEVELOP MINING CLAIMS BELONGING TO PERSHING COUNTY, APN #009-350-77 AND 003-071-46: Mr. Robison was present via Zoom.

Mr. Shields explained the process for petitioning to explore and develop a mining claim, which has been deeded to the County for delinquent taxes.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the request by Wade Robison pursuant to NRS 517.390, to explore and develop mining claims belonging to Pershing County, located on APN #009-350-77 and 003-071-46. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

PUBLIC DEFENDER: DISCUSSION REGARDING CONTRACT FOR STANDBY PUBLIC DEFENDER AND DISCUSSION ON THE IMPACT ON THE JUSTICE COURT AND OTHER OFFICES TO COMPLY WITH AB424, 2021 WHICH REQUIRES BAIL HEARINGS WITHIN 48 HOURS OF ARREST – Steve Cochran, Public Defender, and Karen Stephens, Justice of the Peace, were present.

Remote capabilities were discussed. Mr. Abbott recommended a laptop with a headset for speaking and hearing, along with a Verizon hotspot device. In regard to document sharing, email is not recommended. Mr. Abbott suggested sharing files on One-drive or within a group on Microsoft Teams. Sheriff Allen asked what is needed at the Jail.

Mr. Shields also added that staff in the DA's office, Public Defender's office, and Justice Court should get stand-by pay for those additional hours required outside of normal business hours.

PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS: There were no proclamations or awards considered.

GRASS VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD: Paul Schlehr was present.

Mr. Schlehr stated that they did not have a meeting in December and their next meeting is scheduled for January 31st.

DERBY FIELD AIRPORT: UPDATE AND APPROVAL OF HANGAR LEASE AGREEMENT – Mr. Rackley stated that he has been working with Mr. Shields regarding the lease agreement. Mrs. Shank stated that Kurt Haukohl spoke at the NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation) meeting about the availability of funding for hangars.

7 TROUGHS DISTILLING LEASE AGREEMENT FOR WINDMILL BUILDING: APPROVAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PERSHING COUNTY AND SEVEN TROUGHS DISTILLING, LLC FOR RENTAL OF THE "WINDMILL PROPERTY" LOCATED AT 925 CORNELL AVE AND 950 DARTMOUTH AVE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022 (A PERIOD OF SIX (6) MONTHS) AT THE RATE OF \$1,600.00 PER MONTH. THIS AGREEMENT CHANGES THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THE LEASE FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 TO JANUARY 1, 2022 – Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the lease agreement with the amended dates of January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022 between Pershing County and Seven Troughs Distilling, LLC. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS: CEMETERY – Letters asking to be reappointed were received from Glenn Rose, Winston Gray, and Dale Talcott. A letter of interest was also received from Julie Amodei.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to reappoint Glenn Rose, Winston Gray and Dale Talcott and to appoint Julie Amodei to the Cemetery Board. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

LOVELOCK VALLEY WEED DISTRICT – A letter was received from Mike Gibson asking to be reappointed to the Weed District.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to reappoint Mike Gibson to the Weed District. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL: Mr. Shields stated that Stantec has agreed to release us from our contract and will be returning any funds paid.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: SET DATES FOR PLANNING WORKSHOPS; SET DATE FOR PRE-BUDGET MEETING WITH THE CITY OF LOVELOCK – The Board agreed to set the first Planning Workshop for Friday, February 18th at 9:00 a.m.

In regard to a meeting with the City of Lovelock, Mrs. Wesner will reach out to them and see if Tuesday, February 15th will work for them.

Mrs. Shank stated that some re-organization of positions may be needed as a Planner is needed to oversee future growth.

Budget Workshops were set for all day on March 15th, after the Commission meeting on March 16th, and March 17th.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no additional correspondence.

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 RESUCE PLAN FUNDING FOR PERSHING COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,306,252.00: There was no discussion.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION, BOARD MEMBER REPORTS, BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: Mrs. Shank stated that she and Mrs. Lusby-Angvick attended the NDOT meeting yesterday. The G29 bridge is supposed to be done next year. Cosgrave needs to be added as a priority. The need for pedestrian lights from the Courthouse to the Admin Building was also noted.

Mr. Rackley stated he would be speaking with Mrs. Childs about the possibility of purchasing a snow cat for Toulon Peak.

Mrs. Hudson stated that the Rec Board approved moving forward with the Pool repairs and purchasing a slide to replace the high dive. The total expenditure will be \$284,000. The repairs will start once materials come in.

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

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

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Approved 3/02/22: _____ /s/
Shayla Hudson, Chairwoman

Attest: _____ /s/
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk