

AUGUST 16, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Joe Crim, Chairman. Those present were Larry Rackley and Shayla Hudson, Commissioners; Bryce Shields, 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: Penny Higby, county resident, had an issue regarding the process to file a complaint with Code Enforcement, stating that you shouldn't have to file a complaint for weeds to be cleaned up.

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: Mr. Rackley made a motion that no agenda items impose a 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 AND LANDFILL – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill stated that they finished the project at the Sheriff's office. They have been helping at the Landfill. Mr. Hill has been spraying weeds in Grass Valley and Imlay. Mr. Hill reported that he will have an employee out for 6 weeks on medical. They took delivery of the new water truck. They are processing gravel in Grass Valley for the project starting Monday. They will also do shoulder work when the project is done. There were some washouts in Jersey Valley that were fixed, and they are working on others today. They also hand patched up to Coeur.

Ms. Higby asked if the Volunteer Board could get a copy of the work invoice for the diesel, as she is going to have to justify the expense.

Salary Resolution, L. Delavega: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for Lucas Delavega, initial employment at an Advanced Step, starting him as a Road Maintenance Worker I, Range 27, Step 6. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Approval of proposal/agreement from Lumos & Associates for inspection and materials testing services for Grass Valley Road from County line to Youngberg Road, Pershing County, Nevada in the amount of \$32,000: Mr. Crim stated that this is being funded by RTC. Mr. Hill feels this is necessary to guarantee the final product will last.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the proposal/agreement from Lumos & Associates for inspection and materials testing services for Grass Valley Road from the County line to Youngberg Road. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

LANDFILL – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that they cleaned up two of the transfer stations. They still need to do Unionville.

RECYCLING – Commissioner Crim spoke with the cardboard recyclers. He let them know the number of bales we currently have.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that last weekend was Frontier Days. Things went well. They have been cleaning up trees at the cemeteries and built a new trash bin container in the Park. Mr. Handka stated that he has been having issues with kids in the bathrooms again. He will be turning the video over to

Juvenile. They also built three sets of bleachers for the softball fields. Mr. Handka stated that the tenants are finally out of the Airport rental. It is pretty dirty, and several things will need to be replaced.

Approval to purchase a snowplow for ½ ton pickup, not to exceed \$12,000.00: Mrs. Hudson asked if this is in Mr. Handka's budget. Mrs. Childs stated that the line item for the snowplow is \$10,000. He does have \$62,000 in his capital outlay. Mr. Handka has two quotes, one from Michael Hohl for \$10,458.81; and one from Jordan's Truck & Trailer Equipment in the amount of \$11,518.04.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the purchase of a snowplow for a ½ ton pickup from Michael Hohl in the amount of \$10,458.81. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

Mr. Handka spoke about the door locks between the Community Center and Cooperative Extension. He is concerned about fire exits. Mr. Crim thought signs on either side would be more appropriate. He also spoke about securing the island in the kitchen. He doesn't feel that is appropriate in a commercial kitchen. Mrs. Hudson thought it would be better if it can be moved for cleaning purposes. The Board agreed.

PERSHING COUNTY FIRE/AMBULANCE –

GRASS VALLEY FIRE: Chief Sean Burke was present via Zoom.

Chief Burke reported that they have been busy. They responded to one house fire and a few brush fires. On August 25th he will be hosting the Chiefs meeting in Grass Valley. On September 9th they will be having a community day in conjunction with the DARE program. Mrs. Hudson stated that there is a retirement party for Gerry Monroe on the same night as the Chiefs meeting. He is aware and is willing to change the date if necessary.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS/LEPC – Sean Burke was present via Zoom.

Mr. Burke stated that he sent out some information regarding the solar eclipse that is taking place on October 14th. When it happened in 2017, there were some major disruptions, so it is better to be prepared.

INTERLOCAL CONTRACT BETWEEN STATE OF NEVADA, DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND PERSHING COUNTY EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025 – Chief Burke gave an overview of this contract, noting that it has been in place for at least four years. The contract is for \$146,699.00 per year. Mrs. Childs stated that we only budgeted \$135,000.00, so there is a short fall of \$11,000. Mr. Crim asked where the additional funds would come from. Mrs. Childs stated that it is budgeted in General Government and there is contingency that can be used.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the interlocal contract between the State of Nevada, Division of Forestry and Pershing County effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025 with a yearly payment of \$146,699.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

SAFETY/CEMETERY – Cheryl Haas was present.

Ms. Haas reported that the weeds are pretty much under control at the cemeteries. They look really good. When the tree trimmers were at the Park, she asked if they could cut trees at Lone Mountain as well. They did take them down. Big Meadow still has some that need to be removed. Ms. Haas visited the Unionville cemetery, and it looks good. She will be meeting with Dale Talcott, Cemetery Board member, tomorrow to discuss plots that are difficult to reach for burials.

Ms. Haas also reported that the draft Safety Plan has been sent out to Department Heads for review. Sean Burke gave a CPR and AED class for the County yesterday.

Ms. Haas also spoke about issues at the Community Center, stating that Ms. Munden has some concerns. Ms. Haas has spoken with Mr. Crim, Mr. Handka, and Heidi Lusby-Angvick (previous director) regarding the issue with the door between Cooperative Extension and the Community Center. With Ms. Munden not being there 40 hours a week, it is putting additional responsibility on Cooperative Extension. There is also an issue with lots of keys being given out.

Penny Higby also spoke about the Community Center, regarding an issue that happened with an individual entering the building when they weren't supposed to.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott reported that the POOL/PACT completed a passive assessment, and it went very well. They are working on analyzing the information and we should receive a final report in a few weeks. Mr. Abbott has been handling support tickets as they come up. Mrs. Burrows has been helping the Sheriff's office get ready for Burning Man.

Mr. Abbott is continuing work on the AT&T fiber project. He reached a point where he couldn't continue without assistance, so he reached out to AT&T, and hasn't gotten a response from them. We also haven't been given the contact info for our new account rep since Jim Daughters left. Mrs. Childs received early termination billings and Mr. Abbott did get ahold of someone to discuss those. AT&T is looking into it since we haven't terminated any contracts. Mrs. Hudson asked when Mrs. Burrows was returning full-time. Mr. Abbott stated that she will be back in September. Mrs. Hudson asked that when Mrs. Burrows gets back if she could be put on this project full-time until it is complete. Mr. Abbott stated that he could do that.

Approval to renew Office 365 G3 licenses for one year (80 licenses @ \$24.69/mo) and switch G1 licenses to Exchange Online Plan (Mail Only, 25 x \$4.29/mo) totaling \$24,989.40: It was noted that there was a typo on the agenda (amount listed as \$424.69 per month, should be \$24.69). Mr. Abbott explained the two plans and it was noted that it has been budgeted for.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to renew the Office 365 G3 licenses for one year and switch the G1 licenses to Exchange Online Plan, with an amount totaling \$24,989.40 for the year. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

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

Mrs. Lusby-Angvick just returned from the National Brownfields Conference in Detroit. There were about 11 attendees from Nevada. She is currently working on closing out the Pershing County grant. The final report will be published and shared with the Board. Lt. Governor Anthony will be in town August 30th. There is a USDA meeting on Monday as well as a WNDD meeting. Mrs. Lusby-Angvick reported that she will be on vacation starting next Saturday, but will be available by phone and email if needed.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:

LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK-TREASURER – Mrs. Donaldson reported that the office is very busy with taxes being due this month. Mrs. Donaldson has also been busy authorizing Ministers to perform ceremonies at this year's Burning Man event. She has authorized 33 thus far. With it being tax season, they are really feeling the vacancy.

Approval of corrections/changes to the Tax Roll, MH 002692, MH 000145, APN #007-081-19, APN #007-591-03; and APN #009-411-03: Ms. Basso-Cerini spoke about the corrections presented.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the corrections as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

RESOLUTION TO LEASE TEN (10) ACRE-FEET OF WATER RIGHTS HELD BY PERSHING COUNTY AND THIRTY (30) ACRE-FEET OF WATER RIGHTS HELD BY THE PERSHING COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND TO SET DATE OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2023, TO OPEN AND AWARD BID FOR WATER RIGHTS FOR THE RYE PATCH AREA UNDER PERMIT #65330, APN 010-555-01 AND PERMIT #65329, APN #010-493-05:

Mr. Shields explained the purpose of the Resolution and stated that the Resolution will need to be published in the local paper. Public Bids have to include both the County and the School District. Rusty Kiel, Lovelock Meadows Water District Manager, gave some historical information about the water rights. The water rights were obtained for the future use of a school and a county park in Rye Patch. Mr. Kiel also stated that leasing them for mining is a smart business move. He will be having further discussions with Coeur if this moves forward.

Mrs. Hudson asked what the term of the lease would be. Mr. Shields stated that it would be a five year lease. Mrs. Hudson is concerned that if we don't put the water rights to beneficial use, the State will take them.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to adopt Resolution #23-0811, authorizing the lease of ten (10) acre-feet of Water Rights held by Pershing County. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

LAUREEN BASSO-CERINI, ASSESSOR: PRESENTATION BY LAUREEN BASSO-CERINI, ASSESSOR, AND MR. DAVE DAWLEY, CONTRACT APPRAISER TO PRESENT THE PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, FUTURE PROJECTS AND AN OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORICAL IMPROVEMENTS/DATA WHICH HAVE FALLEN OFF THE SECURED ROLL – Mr. Dawley introduced himself and spoke about his background with the Carson City Assessor's office. Mr. Dawley stated that County Assessors are bound by Nevada Revised Statute and Nevada Administrative Code. Every three years, the county has to go through a ratio study, which Pershing just completed. Mr. Dawley spoke about the current staffing levels in the Pershing County Assessor's office. Currently, most of the staff is relatively new and they do not have a certified appraiser. Mr. Dawley also spoke about the importance of standardizing the process.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Steve Cochran was present.

Request for payment of capital defense attorney rates to be increased from \$150 to \$225-250 per hour: Mr. Cochran stated that he wasn't sure why this is under his department. This is a request from the Department of Indigent Defense. He also mentioned that this is not in the budget.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the rate increase for capital defense attorneys from \$150 to \$225-\$250. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:

RENE CHILDS, RECORDER-AUDITOR – Mrs. Childs reported that it is a Payroll and Accounts Payable week. She has been busy scanning items to the auditors for our yearly audit.

Request to remove inventory items AR0539 and AR0535, Cannon Scanners: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to remove inventory items AR0539 and AR0535, Cannon Scanners, from the Recorder-Auditor's inventory. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – Mr. Rackley did receive a text from the Sheriff saying that they are on a Search and Rescue mission.

Request for approval to purchase a building for a squad room for the Pershing County Sheriff's office and relinquish the current squad room to the Pershing County IT Department in the amount of \$88,050.00: Mr. Rackley stated that the Sheriff also stated that this funding should come out of the IT budget. Mr. Abbott stated that he had said he would be willing to help, since he would be getting space as well. Mrs. Childs stated that those expenses are in the Building Fund.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the purchase of the building for a squad room for the Pershing County Sheriff's office and relinquishing the current squad room to the IT Department, in the amount of \$88,050.00, with the funds coming from the Building Fund. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

BRYCE SHIELDS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY – Mr. Shields apologized for his hat, they have been out hunting. There is an issue with the DMV heating/cooling system as it is connected to the Assessor's office. The Assessor's office has been cooperative, but there are still days that it doesn't get cool enough, so they are looking for a solution. Mr. Shields also stated that the first round of negotiations with Burning Man went well. Round 2 is scheduled for August 26th in Reno. Mrs. Hudson feels the meetings should be in Pershing County, since that is where the event takes place. Mr. Shields stated that they felt it was fair since they came here for the 1st meeting.

GRASS VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD: Linda Workman was present via Zoom.

Ms. Workman stated that the flyers are out for the Chili Cook-off, and they are having T-shirts made. She asked if one of the Commissioners would be a judge. The event is October 7th. Mr. Rackley stated that he would do it. They also thanked the Board for the paving project that will start on Monday.

DERBY FIELD AIRPORT: Commissioner Rackley spoke about the tenants leaving the rental in bad shape. He had inmates out there cleaning last week and they will remove the carpet. Mrs. Hudson stated that she doesn't see this getting repaired this year as there isn't anything in the budget. Mr. Rackley stated that there is. Mrs. Childs stated that there is \$15,000 in a line item for emergencies, but it has to come before the Board for approval. She also stated that the funding has to be used for capital outlay, not cleaning, etc. Mrs. Hudson stated that the Board as a whole need to make these decisions.

MARZEN HOUSE MUSEUM: REQUEST APPROVAL OF UNR ARM LOAN OF ACCESSION 90-01, OBJECT 155, 1 LOG CABIN SYRUP CANISTER REPURPOSED INTO A BIRDHOUSE – Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the UNR loan of Accession 90-01, Object 155, 1 Log Cabin Syrup canister repurposed into a birdhouse. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS: ELIZABETH BLONDHEIM, 20 YEARS OF SERVICE – It was noted that Mrs. Blondheim is out on leave. This will be put on a future agenda.

RESOLUTION HONORING CAROL SHANK – Mrs. Hudson made a motion to adopt Resolution #23-0810, honoring former Commissioner Carol Shank. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed unanimously.

PERSHING COUNTY POLICY REGARDING PERS BUYOUT: There wasn't a policy submitted to the Board to review.

MELISSA SLOAN, WIC PROGRAM: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF HOTEL RATE ABOVE THE GSA NEGOTIATED RATE OF \$169.00 PER NIGHT PLUS TAX FOR NATIONAL WIC ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE IN PORTLAND, OR FOR J. MONTES AND N. DIAZ, SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2023 – Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the hotel rate of \$169 per night, plus tax, which is above the GSA negotiated rate, for the National WIC Association Conference in Portland, OR for J. Montes and N. Diaz, September 27-29, 2023. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Morgan Root submitted a letter of resignation.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the resignation of Morgan Root from the Pershing County Economic Development Authority Board and appoint Kelli Anderson to fill that seat. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

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. Childs updated the spreadsheet for the water truck and generator line items.

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

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/HR REP: Mrs. Wesner reported that there is a POOL/PACT training on September 12th for Department Heads, but she hasn't received any response.

APPROVAL TO FILE PROTEST ON WATER APPLICATION #92872, 92873, 92874, 92875, 92876 AND 92877 FILED BY GRANITE SPRINGS DITCH AND PIPELINE, LLC – Mrs. Wesner stated that the Division of Water Resources have rejected the applications, so a protest isn't needed.

APPROVAL OF HIGHER ROOM RATE FOR COUNTY OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE 2023 NACO CONFERENCE IN ELKO, NV ON SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2023 – Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the higher room rate for County Officials attending the 2023 NACO Conference in Elko, September 26-28, 2023. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Ms. Higby asked what the rate is and if there is budget for it. Mrs. Wesner explained that the Board has not selected their hotel yet and there isn't a host hotel this year. Mr. Rackley stated that they know the budget and know that rates are going to be higher.

Mr. Clinger spoke about the water right applications. There were two more from the Department of Wildlife that the Conservation District opposed.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: No additional agenda items were discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters were received from the Bureau of Land Management regarding a right-of-way; Florida Canyon Mining regarding their five-year renewal; and the Bureau of Land Management regarding an EIS for Solidus Resources, LLC.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD FOR DISCUSSION; BOARD MEMBER REPORTS; BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: Mrs. Hudson stated that the Central Nevada Water Authority and the Humboldt River Water Basin Authority have allocated \$25 million to buy-out and retire water rights. The State Engineers office held a meeting with the Humboldt River Working Group and have scheduled two more meetings. Mrs. Hudson stated that so far there has been good dialog. Mrs. Hudson also reported that she would be meeting with Lt. Governor Anthony on the 30th. She will also meet with Senator Cortez Masto on Monday, August 21st.

Mr. Rackley stated that the Airport Advisory Board is aware of the issues at the Airport. Sierra Electronics is working on a quote to remove the batteries on Toulon Peak. The Central Nevada Health District's Health Inspector was here for Frontier Days.

Mr. Crim has nothing to report.

PUBLIC INPUT: Ms. Higby stated that she cannot hear Commissioner Hudson when she speaks.

Carl Clinger spoke about the retiring of Water Rights. He also stated that in 2018, the Water Management Plan was shoved into the County Master Plan without another thought. Mr. Clinger would like to see the County revive the Natural Resource Advisory Board. He also stated that he read an article that Humboldt County is considering appointing a Natural Resource Board.

The meeting recessed at 11:15 a.m. to review vouchers and reconvened at 11:23 a.m.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted, with the exception of vouchers for Vendor #681, Larry Rackley and #255, Joe Crim. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the voucher for Vendor #681, Larry Rackley. Motion seconded by Mr. Crim. Mr. Rackley abstained. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the voucher for Vendor #255, Joe Crim. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley. Mr. Crim abstained. Motion carried.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Approved 9/20/23: _____/s/_____
Joe Crim, Chairman

Attest: _____/s/_____
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk