

DECEMBER 6, 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: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the minutes from November 1, 2023 as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

PUBLIC INPUT: There was no public comment 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: Mr. Rackley made a motion that no agenda items impose a burden on a business. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:

ROAD DEPARTMENT AND LANDFILL – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that he was out on vacation. Prior to being out, they replaced two culverts, and will do two more in the spring as the cleaning didn't work. Willow Creek was severely washed out. Brian Greene came back in to help out. The crew has been blading around the County. They also cleaned some cattle guards at Jersey Valley and at Big 5. Mr. Hill received a complaint about a cattle guard at the top of Dun Glenn, but when Mr. Hill looked at it, it was fine.

In regard to the Landfill, Mr. Hill reported that the new employee has already left, and he has hired a replacement.

RECYCLING CENTER – Mr. Crim didn't have anything to report.

SENIOR CENTER / VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR – Mr. Crim reported that the average for congregate is 36 and homebound is 41. There was an issue with the hotshot truck, but it has been repaired.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that the Christmas tree is up and looks great. The crew has been busy the last few weeks putting up decorations. They are also working on replacing fixtures, filters, etc. as needed.

Review of quotes received from Outdoor Power NV for purchase of lawnmower/attachments not to exceed \$17,000.00: Mr. Handka stated that quotes were provided for several different machines, but they were included together in one quote. Mr. Handka stated that he has \$12,000 budgeted, but the Rec Board has agreed to pay the difference.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the purchase of a lawnmower with attachments not to exceed \$17,000, with the caveat that \$5,000 comes from the Rec Board. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

PERSHING COUNTY FIRE/AMBULANCE –

AMBULANCE: Mrs. Hudson read a report from Ms. Nolan. They've had 11 calls, 1 for CPR. Yearly maintenance is to be completed on the Striker gurneys. The department's training is up to date.

LOVELOCK FIRE: Chief Wilcox was present.

Chief Wilcox reported that they've had two fires in the last ten days. They currently have 18 firefighters. They have four taking EMT classes and they are almost finished up. All physicals are up to date and the equipment is in good shape. Chief Wilcox stated that the City truck is finished being serviced and he will be going to Vegas to pick it up next week. He will be looking to have the County

truck serviced as well. Chief Wilcox received a letter from ISO (Insurance Services Office) and they will be here the week of January 15th to inspect all the fire departments. The State Fire Marshall has also been in town doing inspections. Chief Wilcox did a check-in on the Rye Patch Truck Stop, and they still have items they have not addressed.

COMMUNITY CENTER – Dianne Munden was present via Zoom.

Ms. Munden thanked Mr. Handka for all the hard work in putting up all the new holiday decorations. She had a busy November; Turkey Bingo was well attended. The Friends of the Library Craft Fair was very well attended by both vendors and shoppers. The next three weekends are booked solid. The kitchen is hosting the tamale fundraiser for the Hospital.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION/4-H – Colby Burke was present via Zoom.

Ms. Burke reported that 4-H has been very busy. Their float got second place in the Parade of Lights.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present.

Mr. Abbott reported that they have been mainly focused on user support tickets. They have also been doing some troubleshooting for connectivity issues, which is expected with the new fiber. Mr. Abbott also worked on resolving some issues with cradle points and Mrs. Burrows worked on the phones at the Community Center.

Mr. Abbott also spoke about email compromise. This is the season and attacks are getting more sophisticated. Be cautious and aware.

Dianne Haigney, NDPS (Nevada Dept. Public Safety) Office of Cyber Defense Coordination, Acknowledgement for Services in Lieu of Grant Funding for state-wide Security Operations Center as part of OCDC's State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) Application: Ms. Haigney was not present; however, Evert Wilson was present via Zoom. Mr. Abbott explained the project. This acknowledgement allows for the Office of Cyber Defense Coordination to receive our grant funding that was approved with the 2022 SLCGP grant and then they will provide the services.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to acknowledge the Services in Lieu of Grant Funding for the state-wide Security Operations Center as part of OCDC's State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program Application. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

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

Mrs. Lusby-Angvick reported that she attended a USDA Small Business signing at UNR. They are partnering to provide resources for small, rural businesses. She attended the Uprise groundbreaking the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Next week she will be attending NDOT's Strategic Planning Workshop.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – A written report was submitted.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Cochran came before the Board. Mrs. Canchola will be on vacation the next few weeks. Indigent Defense is recommending that we hire another attorney based on caseload. Mr. Cochran feels this is based on the death penalty case and doesn't feel it is justifiable. Mrs. Hudson asked Mr. Cochran to please come to them if he does feel the case load becomes overwhelming.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:

LACEY DONALDSON, CLERK-TREASURER – Mrs. Donaldson stated that she has been very busy making the preparations for the Presidential Preference Primary. On top of moving toward a top-down State-wide Voter Registration System, the State is also implementing a new platform for Candidate Filing. Mrs. Donaldson reported that she has also contacted all of our banking vendors to update signature cards due to Mrs. Childs' retirement.

Approval of credit card for Juliana Hill, Senior Center Director, in the amount of \$2,000.00: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the County credit card for Juliana Hill, Senior Center Director, with a \$2,000.00 limit. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mr. Crim asked about a credit card machine for the Museum. Mrs. Donaldson stated that she is waiting on more information from the vendor. Our current vendor has a product they feel is better than Square.

RECORDER-AUDITOR – Melanie Hamilton was present.

Mrs. Hamilton stated that things are in a bit of a turmoil; however, she is learning lots. She is trying to learn the basics of both payroll and accounts payable; as Ms. Snodgrass has submitted her resignation and another employee will be going on FMLA. She does have interviews scheduled for tomorrow to fill the ¾ time position and will be advertising to fill the payroll position.

BRYCE SHIELDS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY – Mr. Shields stated that he has a vacancy and hopes to close this Friday and do interviews next week.

Request to advertise/hire for Admin I/II or Legal Secretary I/II: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the advertisement and hiring of an Admin I/II or Legal Secretary I/II to fill the vacancy in the District Attorney's office. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Approval of Letter of Engagement for Investigation Services from Edward A. Gladding, Gladding & Michel for Pershing County Employee matter – Gomez complaint: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the Letter of Engagement for investigation services from Edward A. Gladding, Gladding & Michel, for a Pershing County employee matter. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

11TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT – A written report was submitted.

DERBY FIELD AIRPORT: UPDATE/CHANGES TO THE CARETAKER RENT AND DUTIES; UPDATE ON APPLICANTS FOR THE CARETAKER POSITION – Mr. Rackley stated that Mr. Shields is still working on the lease agreement, so this will be put back on a future agenda.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE GAS RANGE, WASHER/DRYER AND APPLIANCE WARRANTIES FOR CARETAKER HOME NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.00 – Mr. Rackley stated that he got some prices from Lowes in the amount of \$1,692.48. He also stated that he did test the dishwasher and it seems to be working ok. Mr. Crim asked where the money was coming from. Mr. Rackley stated that it would come out of the Airport budget.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve up to \$2,000.00 to purchase a gas range, washer/dryer, and appliance warranties for the Derby Field Airport Caretaker home. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE RADIO COMMUNICATION DEVICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$499.95 – Mr. Rackley stated that at the last meeting he reported that there had been a close call with one airplane on the runway and one preparing to land. There was also another incident where two planes were circling, preparing to land at the same time. Having this radio would be helpful to make pilots aware of each other. Mr. Rackley stated that a member of the Stead Airport Advisory Board recommended this radio.

Mrs. Hudson stated that this is an unmanned airport. Mr. Rackley stated when someone is there, they should be able to listen to what is going on. Mr. Rackley stated that it will be stored until there is a caretaker on site. Mr. Crim asked if this was absolutely necessary. Mr. Rackley feels this is a safety issue.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the purchase of a radio communication device in the amount of \$499.95.

Mrs. Hudson asked how we are paying for it. Mr. Rackley stated that it can come out of the Airport Budget. Chuck Sayles asked who would have access to the radio. Mr. Rackley stated that it would be locked up until there is a caretaker. Mrs. Hamilton stated that the Airport budget is at 34% spent at this time. There is \$1,000 in small equipment.

Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson; however, she doesn't feel this is a necessary item. Motion carried.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Rackley brought back the caretaker lease agreement. The rent would be \$400 per month, with first and last due at signing and a deposit. This will be on the next agenda for approval.

ELECTED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:

JERRY ALLEN, SHERIFF – Sheriff Allen stated that they've had two small fires in the Jail, so they are looking to replace light fixtures. He extended an offer for the Dispatch position, and they should start next week. He was supposed to drive to Gardnerville to get our last truck outfitted, but it has since been rescheduled for tomorrow. Sheriff Allen stated that this is with a different vendor, so we will see how it goes. Sheriff Allen stated that the remainder of the vehicles included in the Enterprise Lease are on order. Mr. Rackley asked if any of the vehicles that are being replaced could go to Buildings and Grounds. Sheriff Allen will verify with the Lease Holder whether we can do that. Sheriff Allen stated that he still has vacancies within the department.

LAUREEN BASSO-CERINI, ASSESSOR – Ms. Basso-Cerini stated that they have generated Assessment Notices, and will be sending the file to the vendor for printing after they have been proofed. She has received one application for their vacancy.

RENEWAL AGREEMENT FOR MR. DAVE DAWLEY, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR CONSULTING: Mr. Dawley was also present via Zoom. Mr. Crim asked how many hours he will work for the year. Mr. Dawley started helping last March. He started with land costing, and they currently have 1,300 parcels to complete. Mr. Dawley feels with the big projects completed; he doesn't feel he will be putting in very much time in the new year. The next appraisal cycle is the ranches. Mrs. Hudson asked if there were any changes to the contract. Mr. Shields stated that the terms are the same. Mr. Dawley stated that there is a 10% increase. The total amount spent for the calendar year was \$36,242. Mrs. Hudson asked how long this will continue. Ms. Basso-Cerini stated that it will continue until the wages have been addressed and she can hire someone.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the agreement with Mr. Dave Dawley, Independent Contractor Consulting and authorize Ms. Basso-Cerini to sign the agreement. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:

LIBRARY – Kathie Brinkerhoff was present.

Ms. Brinkerhoff reported that the Friends of the Library's Christmas Fair was Saturday. Ms. Brinkerhoff didn't think there were as many people as in the past, but it was a good event. The Library Director position closes at the end of the month, and they have received one applicant so far. Ms. Brinkerhoff spoke about her hours. She has approval from the Library Board to work after hours, so she is not necessarily there during business hours. Ms. Brinkerhoff spoke about their current grants. Story Hour is still ongoing.

APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL CONTRACT BETWEEN STATE OF NEVADA AND PERSHING COUNTY FOR COUNTY MATCH CONTRACT #28567, FY 2023 – FY 2027, FROM DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, TITLE XIX PROGRAM: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the Interlocal Contract between the State of Nevada and Pershing County for County Match Contract #28567, FY2023-2027, from the Department of Human Services, Title XIX Program as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

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

Mr. Evans gave the Board his monthly fees collected report, stating that November's activity was steady.

BID OPENING FOR DARK FIBER RFP: Justin Abbott was present.

One bid was received from NNE Construction, Inc. The bid amounts for various locations are as follows:

The four mandatory locations (PCSO, Courthouse, Admin Building & Annex)	\$194,400.36
Pershing County Community Center	\$104,644.14
Youth and Family Services	\$87,456.34
Buildings & Grounds Shop	\$48,938.34
Senior Center	\$61,029.00
Family Resource Center	\$72,675.89
Marzen House Museum	\$186,518.34
Road Department	\$136,844.54
Derby Field Airport	\$137,137.34

Mr. Abbott had estimated between \$120,000 to \$150,000 to complete the four main buildings. The Board stated that they could reject the RFP and go back out for bid. Mr. Abbott's concern is getting things back out in time for this budget cycle. Mr. Abbott stated that next fiscal year, we should be with Uprise. Mr. Shields stated that initially this will be a higher cost, but in the long run it would save us money. Mr. Abbott would like to put a side by side comparison together for the next meeting. Mrs. Burrows thought this is a good project to be funded by LATCF (Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds) funds.

The Board would like to see the cost analysis and then they will make a decision at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE STATE OF NEVADA AND PERSHING COUNTY, CONTRACT #28469, TO PAY COSTS INCURRED BY A HOSPITAL FOR A STRANGULATION FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF THE VICTIM OF A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BATTERY BY STRANGULATION: Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the Interlocal Contract between the State of Nevada and Pershing County, Contract #28469, to pay costs incurred by a hospital for a strangulation forensic medical examination of the victim of a domestic violence battery by strangulation. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson 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; LIST OF PROPOSED PROJECTS, PRIORITIZING AND CHANGING/AMENDING THE PROJECTS FOR ALLOCATION OF THE LOCAL ASSISTANCE AND TRIBAL CONSISTENCY FUND (LATCF) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,044,600.00; APPROVAL TO REMIT 1%, \$40,446.00, TO FUND A NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC LANDS COUNTIES CENTER (NACoWIR):

There were no changes made to the list of projects for ARPA funding.

In regard to the LATCF funds, IT is looking for funding of \$125,000 (which does not include the costs for the dark fiber) to replace servers and cable.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to include the \$125,000 for IT in the LATCF funding. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve remitting 1% or \$40,446.00 of the LATCF funds to fund a National Center for Public Lands Counties Center. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson. Before a vote was taken, Commissioner Varlin Higbee from Lincoln County spoke. Mr. Higbee stated that LATCF funds can't be used to pay a lobbyist, which is one of the things WIR will be using the funds for. Mr.

Higbee suggested that the County use General Funds to help fund the National Center for Public Lands Counties Center and backfill the General Fund with LACTF funding. The original motion died.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to fund \$40,446.00 from the County's General Fund to help fund the National Center for Public Lands Counties Center. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hudson and passed.

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

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/HR REP: APPROVAL OF HIGHER ROOM RATE FOR COMMISSIONER HUDSON TO ATTEND NEVADA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE IN LAS VEGAS, NV, JANUARY 29 – FEBRUARY 1, 2024 (ONE NIGHT AT \$159.00) – It was noted that only one of those nights is over the County's limit.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the higher room rate of \$159.00 for one night, for Commissioner Hudson to attend the Nevada Rural Water Association Conference in Las Vegas January 29th through February 1st. Motion seconded by Mr. Crim and passed.

Mrs. Wesner stated that the protest of the water application for Granite Springs needs to be advertised. She has set the public hearing for December 20, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. She also received a notice regarding Black Rock Land Holdings. Mrs. Wesner has been working with POOL/PACT on various employee issues. She is working on an employee training schedule. Lastly, she received a grant application from POOL/PACT to apply for a \$500 Organizational Excellence Award.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: No additional items were discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no additional correspondence discussed.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS, BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: Mr. Rackley reported that the Airport Advisory Board met last week.

Mrs. Hudson attended the Frontier Community Coalition meeting and an update on Boys and Girls Club was given. They currently have 2-5 kids in morning and 15 in the afternoon. They are trying to start a traveling basketball team and will be having a Christmas party. She also attended the Hospital Board meeting. Tech Med made a presentation and the Hospital Board voted to move forward to apply for a grant from the Pennington Foundation to station advanced EMTs for transfers and support our fire department. Mr. Wilcox stated that the original presentation to the Fire Department was totally different then the presentation they gave the Hospital. Mrs. Hudson also reported that she has water meeting coming up in January and the Nevada Rural Water Association Conference at the end of January.

Mr. Crim did not have anything to report.

PUBLIC INPUT: Bonnie Skoglie, Museum Board member, and Kelly Thompson, Museum staff, were present. Mrs. Skoglie stated that on Monday a County employee accessed the museum with a key. While dropping off supplies, they took a tour through the museum. Mrs. Skoglie stated that they are asking that Buildings and Grounds are only there to do work and during business hours.

The Assessor's office sent a message on Zoom thanking Buildings and Grounds for the lovely Christmas decorations.

VOUCHERS: Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted with the exception of a voucher for Vendor #521, BSL Electric, and a voucher for Vendor #556, Larry Rackley. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mrs. Hudson to approve the voucher for Vendor #556, Larry Rackley. Motion seconded by Mr. Crim. Mr. Rackley abstained. Motion carried.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the voucher for Vendor #521, BSL Electric. Motion seconded by Mr. Crim. Mrs. Hudson abstained. Motion carried.

VARLIN HIGBEE, NACO BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESIDENT, AND VINSON GUTHREAU, NACO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UPDATE ON A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HISTORICAL RIGHTS OF WAY; APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HISTORIC ROUTES PRESERVATION ACT: Mr. Higbee and Mr. Guthreau gave a presentation regarding the Historical Routes Preservation Act.

Mrs. Hudson made a motion to approve Resolution #23-1216 in support of the Historical Routes Preservation Act. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mr. Guthreau gave an update on NACO (Nevada Association of Counties) activities. Pershing County will be receiving an IAF refund in the amount of approximately \$105,000.00.

PUBLIC INPUT: Amanda Burrows asked why the County Manager position hasn't been back on the agenda, stating that she feels it is definitely needed.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Approved 1/17/24: _____ /s/
Larry Rackley, Chairman

Attest: _____ /s/
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk