



LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 12, 2014
Commission Chambers
Lincoln County Courthouse
181 Main Street
Pioche, Nevada

Commissioners

Paul Mathews
Kevin Phillips, Vice Chair
Adam Katschke
Paul Donohue
Ed Higbee, Chair

#1-CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ed called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m. Clerk Lisa Lloyd called the roll.

PRESENT: PAUL MATHEWS
ED HIGBEE
ADAM KATSCHKE (left the meeting at 9:22 due to emergency)
KEVIN PHILLIPS
PAUL DONOHUE

LISA LLOYD, Clerk
DANIEL HOOGE, District Attorney

There is a quorum present and the agenda was posted on 5-5-14. The Invocation was offered by Adam and Paul D. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#2-PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed called for public comment. None offered.

#3-SILVER STATE TRAILBLAZERS

Paul D. made a motion to approve the Silver State Trailblazer's motorcycle race to be held east of Caliente, from Ella Mountain to the Miller Spring Wash area, on May 17, 2014; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.

#4-HOMEMAKER FUND

Trina Lytle advised that the state has notified Homemaker that they have to pay back \$13,200 since they didn't earn the money on a fixed fee basis. In order for the program to continue, the county will have to subsidize it in the approximate amount of \$20-30,000 for the next year. The biggest problem the program faces is keeping employees; these positions are part-time. If the program is ended, it will affect two of the Homemakers but they can be incorporated into the Nutrition budget. If the funds are paid back, the state has indicated they will fund for the next fiscal year's program. Paul D. suggested that the program be kept going as best as possible for one more year; if we can't keep it going then we can consider eliminating the service. Trina asked if the Board would be willing to fund the program. The state will only give the program a fixed amount, anything over and above that would have to be subsidized by the county. Paul D. said we need to be very careful not to spend more than the state gives us. If we don't have the required hours next year the state will most likely cease funding the program. No action was taken on this item.

#5-FY 2014-2015 BUDGET

This is the time and place set for budget hearing on the FY 2014-2015 budget. Paul M. reviewed the budget hearings to date. The remaining details that need to be addressed include labor costs and the resulting ending fund balance. The Board was to negotiate with the Law Enforcement unit as well; they will meet tomorrow. Sheriff Kerry Lee reminded the Board that they didn't fully fund the requests from last year that he put in; then the contract items kicked in. Kerry is concerned that his budget will be short due to the labor costs. Coroner budget is approximately \$15,000 over. Paul M. responded that the Sheriff's budget should be fine as no retro was approved. The current ending fund balance is about 8%, but once negotiations are complete it'll result in approximately \$100,000 less; we will still be above the required 4% but it'll be tight. The entire amount for the Panaca Town Center upgrades will have to come from the General Fund, which removes even more from the

ending fund balance. The negotiations with the Teamsters need to be closed in order to complete the budget. Judge Mike Cowley advised he did a quick salary survey for JPs. Mike asked that they be allowed to have their own bargaining unit. If they were to be made equal to other judges in the state, both he and Judge Nola Holton would need a raise. Mike asked that some type of agreement be put in place for them. The Commissioners set the JPs' salaries. Mike asked if the Board would meet with them to create an agreement governing salary increases. Paul M. responded that the Board is working towards a scale for all employees. Rick Stever commented that it's frustrating to go along with the idea of salary freezes; he's witnessed other individuals receiving raises but hasn't received one during the time he's worked. When the scales are complete, they will apply to everyone who may have been wondering if the Board had forgotten about them. There are a lot of people in the county that are making a great deal more money than the scale says they should be making; vice versa, there are a great deal more making less money than the scale says they should. \$216,000 is the current ending fund balance, which can be submitted to the state as it is within the guidelines. Dan McArthur has admitted that the wage numbers used may not be as accurate as we'd like. The public hearing on the budget is set for May 19, 2014 and we have until June 1 to submit the final budget. Paul D. reminded the Board of the need to answer the JPs' questions concerning salary increases. No action was taken.

#6-PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed called for public comment. None offered.

#7-ADJOURN

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, Ed adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Attest: _____ Approve: _____

[Large handwritten signature in red ink, likely reading "D. Ed" or similar, written over the signature lines and extending into the main body of the page.]