



## LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 25, 2009  
Commission Chambers  
Lincoln County Courthouse  
181 Main Street  
Pioche, Nevada

Commissioners  
Paul Mathews, Chair  
Bill Lloyd, Vice Chair  
Tommy Rowe  
Ronda Hornbeck  
Ed Higbee

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

Chairman Paul Mathews called the meeting to order at 8:34. Clerk Lisa Lloyd called the roll.

PRESENT: PAUL MATHEWS, Chair  
BILL LLOYD, Vice Chair  
TOMMY ROWE  
RONDA HORNBECK (joins the meeting at 8:40)  
ED HIGBEE  
LISA C. LLOYD, Clerk  
ABSENT: GREG BARLOW, District Attorney

There is a quorum present and the agenda was posted on 11-19-09 to comply with the open meeting law. The Invocation is offered by Ed and Paul led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### #2-AFFECTED UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AULG) FUNDING FOR FY2010

Connie Simkins advised she will no longer be asking the county to pay for her cell phone as it takes her so long to itemize the phone bill. Connie described the "national scene" with regards to nuclear waste as "chaos". DOE has advised that activities are "business as usual", but Las Vegas staff has been notified that the Human Talent Administrator is coming next Friday. It is unknown why this individual is coming. The State is urging us to continue with the contentions. There is no money in President Obama's budget for this program next year, and it is unknown what the timing will be for shutdown of programs. Connie reviewed a proposal that would allow the program to run for three years and have a contingency fund of about \$200,000. Currently, the program is spending \$104,000 per month, but Connie's suggestions would cut the spending by at least half. White Pine County didn't ask for increased funding, but they have four contentions that have been admitted and will be reviewed in the first phase. These contentions resulted in increased funding to WP. Connie reviewed the funding distribution that resulted from the meeting last week with the AULGs. LC's funding remains reduced by \$250,000, and total funds slated for LC are \$1,050,000. **Tommy made a motion to accept the \$1,050,000; seconded by Ronda.** Ronda commented that original funding would've provided LC with \$1.3 million. LC is giving up the usual amount in order to aid another county. Gary Hollis gave Paul the impression that Nye County is looking for a "bigger piece of the pie" and they are driving towards more funding in order to shut down. Paul commented LC has helped out both Clark County and White Pine County. Clark County aided LC in gaining an additional \$100,000 that has been added to the amount the AULGs railroaded us into originally. Vaughn Higbee commented that a bad precedent has been set. Having these counties come in and negotiate this funding away is what happened with Inyo County. Inyo went to their people in Washington and received a set amount of money. The precedent has been set to align ourselves with different counties in order to make certain we have our fair share. Keith Larsen commented he agrees with the Record of Decision being questioned by the other counties and he's very concerned about it. **Bill is opposed. Motion carries 4-1.** Bill thinks LC should hold out for more as these other counties that want more money are so far away from the area.

### #3-PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul called for public comment. Vaughn Higbee discussed Energy Reserves, which has something to do with the NV Test Site. This could be a tremendous economic boost to LC. Legislation has flown through Congress to create an energy reserve on the NV Test Site; this would be part of Homeland Security. DOE will probably be involved. Vaughn offered to present a complete report on the energy reserves and what opportunities it will

afford the county at a future meeting. There is a possibility of \$8 million coming to the Test Site for these projects that already exist but aren't currently funded. They are looking at turning part of the Test Site into study areas for solar and many other types of energy. The scientific research would possibly include vetting out the best design for solar panels in order to create the most energy and use the least amount of water. There are several energy reserves on the old sites where nuclear material has been buried. Congress is trying to change the mission and fund it as well. This will provide continued economic benefit. LC could make sure we "get a piece of that pie".

**#5-ADJOURN**

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, **Ronda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 a.m.; seconded by Ed. All voted in favor.**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approve: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDINANCE**