



LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 20, 2013
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

Chairman Ed Higbee called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Clerk Lisa Lloyd called the roll.

PRESENT: ED HIGBEE
PAUL DONOHUE
ADAM KATSCHKE
KEVIN PHILLIPS
PAUL MATHEWS

LISA LLOYD, Clerk
DANIEL HOOGE, District Attorney

There is a quorum present and the agenda was posted on 5-14-13. The Invocation was offered by Ed and Kevin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#2-PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed called for public comment. None offered.

CONSENT AGENDA

- #3 Approve/Deny minutes of the May 6 meeting.
- #4 Approval for Panaca Town to hire Trevor Adamson for Panaca park/streets position.
- #5 Approve/Deny original and renewal business licenses with staff recommendations (an itemized list of business licenses is available for public review in the Building Department prior to the meeting).

Paul M. stated the last time he spoke with Spencer Hafen concerning hours there wasn't a solution. Jim Hill advised that once Trevor is approved for employment, they will meet with Trevor to negotiate salary and hours. Discussion has been held concerning whether or not Trevor would spray for weeds, but Spencer was told that the spraying of weeds would be handled by county maintenance. Paul M. responded that no final decision was ever made with regards to spraying. Paul M. asked if the Board is authorizing a full-time person, part-time person, contract person and whether or not the Board should stipulate in the motion. Jim advised they aren't prepared to go full-time. Jim stated that this will definitely be a part-time position. **Adam made a motion to approve the consent agenda, specifying that Trevor Adamson will be hired part-time through the Panaca Town Board; seconded by Paul D. All voted in favor.**

#6-VOUCHERS

Recorder/Auditor Leslie Boucher presented the vouchers and cash balance report. General County has a balance of \$543,356.03 with estimated expenditures being \$153,078.03. General County will have a balance of \$390,278.00. Transportation has a cash balance of \$60,013.83 with estimated expenditures being \$2,164.82. Transportation will have a balance of \$57,849.01. Senior Nutrition has a balance of \$81,176.02 with estimated expenditures being \$9,140.26. Senior Nutrition will have a balance of \$72,035.76. Detention Center has a cash balance of \$95,907.87 with estimated expenditures being \$85,039.71. Detention Center will have a cash balance of \$10,868.16. Solid Waste has a cash balance of \$90,628.73 with no expenditures. Solid Waste owes LC Water Special Projects, Fund 87, \$27,484.15. Airport has a balance of \$3,252.67 with estimated expenditures being \$932.06. Airport will have a balance of \$2,320.61. Planning has a balance of \$9,857.96 with estimated expenditures being \$1,998.36. Planning will have a balance of \$7,859.60. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the vouchers as presented with the exception of the LCTS and Mountain Merc vouchers; seconded by Paul M. All voted in favor. Paul D. made a motion to approve the Mountain**

Merc vouchers; seconded by Adam. Kevin disclosed he is part owner of the business and abstained from the vote. Motion carried. Paul M. made a motion to approve the vouchers for LCTS; seconded by Kevin. Paul D. abstained as he is an employee of LCTS. Motion carried.

#7-OFFICER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Daniel Hooge stated that his deputy passed the bar but he is moving. Daniel will not advertise right away for a new deputy. Hardy Construction is asking for more time; Daniel is opposing that as we are already scheduled for July, which gives plenty of time for deposition. Daniel filed several small claims against those who haven't paid their garbage bills. **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR** Rick Stever attended a Mass Casualty Summit last week in Las Vegas. **TREASURER** Shawn Frehner advised they are doing their research for the tax deeds that will be filed the first of next month.

#8-TRAVEL ADVANCE POLICY

Treasurer Shawn Frehner stated that this item was discussed at the last meeting. The payment is audited by the Treasurer's and Recorder/Auditor's offices. There is truly no need for two elected officials' signatures on travel advances. Daniel advised that there is a written policy and he can make changes to it if approved. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the update to the travel advance, requiring only the claimant and department head signatures; seconded by Kevin.** Paul D. stated that the Board members don't have a department head. Changing this policy throws some confusion into how the Board will handle their advances. Shawn responded that no verification is required when the elected officials sign, they just sign. Paul D. commented that he has to provide a great deal of documentation when he travels. **Paul D. is opposed. Motion carries 4-1.**

#9-HIGHWAY COMMISSION

This item was handled under separate agenda.

#10-LINCOLN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

This item was handled under separate agenda.

#11-PANACA FIRE DISTRICT

This item was covered under separate agenda.

#12-COYOTE SPRINGS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

This item was covered under separate agenda.

#13-FY 2013-2014 BUDGET

Jocelyn Holly, Dan McArthur's office, presented the budget. This is the time and place set for public hearing on the budget. Paul M. stated that the last meeting we had the Board decided to move the tax revenue from Museum and Library into General Fund. With that change, and moving all wages back to 2012 freeze, it brings the ending fund balance to \$475,558. The insurance issue still needs to be addressed and quotes need to be received. The deadline for receiving insurance quotes will have to be extended. If the budget is approved today with a \$475,558 balance then a contingency line item can be included that would allow for money to be moved back to the Library/Museum if we come out better on the insurance issue. Public comment was called for. Daniel discussed salaries and advised that his office took a big cut. No one in Daniel's office has ever received a raise. Leslie discussed the new numbers with Daniel. The new numbers are correct. Sheriff Kerry Lee asked about capital outlay. Paul M. responded that it hasn't changed since the tentative; all those expenditures stayed the same. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the FY 2013-2014 budgets (Lincoln County, Regional Transportation, Panaca, Pioche, and Alamo), including taking the Library/Museum tax revenue for this year and creating a contingency line item in the amount of \$120,000; seconded by Ed. All voted in favor.**

#14-WESTERN ELITE

This item concerns funds donated to youth activities from Western Elite (WE). Michelle Whipple obtains funding for senior night through the youth fund. Elaine stated that she called Marty Soderborg concerning this item; he will come in and present a request. Michelle Whipple addressed the Board and outlined the activities she holds for senior night. From 10 p.m.-12 a.m. she entertains the student body of Alamo. At midnight, the student body

is sent home and she keeps the seniors from midnight to about 5 a.m. The party theme is "holidays" and there are games involving every holiday. It is funded through donations and most of the party is done by parents. This is the 14th year that Michelle has done this but she will step down after this year as she is leaving. All of the funds donated go to the students. This is called a "lock in" party; the kids are free to leave but they can't come back. Prizes aren't awarded until the end of the party. The kids are then escorted home. The reason that this was started is because Michelle doesn't want any child killed on graduation night. WE gives about \$300-400 every year. \$1,737 is the amount the county has received to date from WE. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the donation of \$600 to Michelle Whipple/PVHS for senior night; seconded by Paul M. All voted in favor.**

#15-WESTERN ELITE

This item concerns donations from youth activities funds received from Western Elite (WE). Procedure already exists for this; no action was taken.

#16-HEALTH INSURANCE PROPOSALS

This item concerns presentations of health insurance proposals. Paul M. reviewed the history and reason for shopping for insurance proposals. These proposals provide valuable information to the Board prior to entering into negotiations with the Teamsters but in no way do the proposals have any bearing on the current negotiations or insurance with Teamsters. We have had a difficult time getting information gathered to get quotes, so Paul M. stated this item will most likely be postponed. Paul M. stated the Board is premature in making a decision, but the Board has done what it could to get information and educated quotes. Adam stated that he needs a summary of coverage/benefits as he has another large company looking into submitting a quote. The problem the county has encountered is getting information from Zenith/Teamsters. Many of the brokers are requesting amounts on claims and history of dependents. Zenith/Teamsters keeps this information, but we've had a difficult time obtaining it. Cynthia Throm presented a proposal from Employers Benefits Design, Inc.; this included a quote from St. Mary's. The single premium cost is \$927.16, but this is without dental, vision, and life. More information is needed to get firm quotes. Cynthia also stated that they need to know what effective date they are looking at and what kind of cancellation notice is needed for Teamsters as well as whether or not they will refund the money the county pays for in advance. Adam stated that he doesn't believe we will find the benefits that we get now; everyone needs to be aware that the insurance will change. \$500 out of pocket is very low; we will be looking at out of pocket expenses between \$2,500-3,000. Cynthia advised that she believes her company can save the county some money, but the benefits will certainly not be the same. The county is subject to paying for insurance or paying a penalty under the Affordable Care Act. There was some discussion concerning mailing information request forms to each employee. This discussion also included requiring department heads to ensure that their employees fill out the forms and return them by the deadline. Denise will send the form and it'll be due by June 1. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the sending of the information request forms to all county employees in order to collect health information about employees and their dependents (department heads are responsible for following up and making certain the information is returned by June 1); seconded by Kevin. Denise will send the forms and they will be turned in to Leslie. All voted in favor.**

#17-WELFARE SET-ASIDE PROGRAM

Paul M. made a motion to sign the Welfare Set-Aside Program funding agreement for the 2014 allocation not to exceed \$4,500; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.

#18-PAHRANAGAT VALLEY SENIOR CENTER

Kevin made a motion to approve the payment of advertising costs using grant match funds; seconded by Paul M. All voted in favor.

#19-PAHRANAGAT VALLEY SENIOR CENTER

Paul M. made a motion to approve the signing of the contract with Pearson Brothers Construction for the Pahranaagat Valley Senior Center improvements project; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.

#20-OLD PANACA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Cory presented this item, which concerns the renovation and leasing of office space in the old Panaca elementary school building. Several ideas have been suggested for using the office space. \$45,000 was paid to the county for renovation and the county budgeted about \$50,000 for the same purpose. LC Water District has suggested that the county sign a ten year lease with them for office space. They would pay ten years of lease payment up front. Research needs to be done with regards to fair market value and square footage. The capital outlay and insurance money could then be used to get the building to an operational state. Then plans can be made as to which county entities could be located in which room in the building. Wade Poulsen stated that the LCWD needs to identify the amount of square footage needed. Once that is known, LCWD will come and negotiate a square footage cost. This will create the seed money needed to make the rest of the building functional. IT will be needed, and Wade stated LCWD can pay for it. Originally the school district had earmarked two classrooms, the southeast classrooms. Cory will talk with the school district again to see if this is still the case. Paul D. suggested that dividing a classroom might give the school district enough room and asked Cory to put the question to them. No action was taken on this item as Cory will present a more finalized plan at a future meeting.

#21, 22, 23-RECREATION & PUBLIC PURPOSES, OPEN SPACE, DISPOSAL

This item concerns a letter of request for designation of certain areas for Recreation and Public Purposes (RPP) within Lincoln County on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) managed lands, as well as requests for open space and disposal lands. Cory Lytle stated he's been working on the annual submittal for quite some time. This proposal includes RPP as well as open space designations. Cory presented draft maps and discussed the various requests. The requests include lands in Panaca, Pioche, Alamo as well as a shooting range at Alamo, Beaver Dam, Panaca, and Pioche. Paul D. stated that he is concerned about grazing rights; he doesn't ever want to do anything that will eliminate a rancher's grazing rights. Denice asked if the grazers were approached when these areas were identified. The rights are considered personal property. Cory stated that many of the acreages have already gone through public forum. Acreage identified in years past may not meet what is needed in the current year; it is reviewed and tailored towards economic development. LCCRDA said we can identify up to 90,000, but only 57,000 has been identified. This is the process whereby we start working through the requests. Cory stated that the town boards have been involved to date. There is no reverting clause on open space, only on RPP. Denice asked if there is a way that the public can protest the open space. The shooting range being proposed for Pioche takes several acres out of Lister/Brown grazing range. Bill Brown stated that his concern is for the future disposals as they will take him out of business. When areas are being taken out that encompass feed, it will cause a great deal of concern for the cattle ranchers. Cory would like to take the time to finalize the maps for RPP, open space, and disposals for sale and asked to put this issue on the next agenda for action. This will give him needed time to complete the maps as well as receive input from the public. No action was taken on this item.

#24-NUCLEAR OVERSIGHT PROGRAM

Connie Simkins presented the "as needed" contract form. One of these forms will be filled out for each contractor and when a task comes up quotes will be requested, including how long it will take the contractor to complete the work and how much it will cost. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the "as needed" contract form for special projects work; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

#25-ENERGY COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE

Paul M. made a motion to approve the travel of two Commissioners to Idaho Falls and Idaho Nuclear Energy Lab (INEL) June 3-4 for Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) Peer Exchange on Shaping a Nuclear Future; seconded by Adam. All voted in favor.

#26-NUCLEAR OVERSIGHT

Adam made a motion to approve the letter to Nevada Legislators supporting the completion of the License Review by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; seconded by Kevin. Paul D. was opposed. Kevin highlighted the hypocrisy of Nevada. Now that funding has dried up, they are turning a blind eye to a commodity that is coming in; the state receives money for it but the counties don't. **Motion carried 4-1.**

#27-LC REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

This item concerns a letter of support from LC to Steve Hill, Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development regarding ongoing economic development activities of the LC Regional Development Authority (LCRDA). **Paul M. made a motion to approve the letter of support from LC to Steve Hill; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

#28-COMMISSIONER REPORTS

COMMISSIONER PAUL MATHEWS stated that in the last month or so the Board has violated the personnel policy multiple times. There are some policies that are outdated as well as policies that the Board may or may not agree with. Paul M. suggested that a workshop be held, or a committee be assigned, to revamp and whittle the policy down to something we can live with. The contracts trump the personnel policy, but the county has tried to not have it differ too much. **COMMISSIONER ADAM KATSCHKE** attended the Caliente City Council meeting as well as Workforce Investment meetings.

#29-PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed called for public comment. None offered.

#30-ADJOURN

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, Ed adjourned the meeting at 1:23 p.m.

Attest: _____ Approve: _____

[Large, faint, handwritten signature in red ink, possibly reading "DORIS", is written diagonally across the page.]