



## LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 21, 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 9:08 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 10-15-13. The Invocation was offered by Kevin and Paul D. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **#2-PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ed called for public comment. Ed received a letter from the Nye County Commissioner regarding Yucca Mountain.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- #3 Approve/Deny minutes of the October 7 meeting.
- #4 Approve/Deny original and renewed business licenses according to staff recommendations (an itemized list of business licenses is available for public review in the Building Department prior to the meeting).

**Paul M. made a motion to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

**#5**

**This item didn't exist on the agenda.**

### **#6-VOUCHERS**

Recorder/Auditor Leslie Boucher presented the vouchers and cash balance report. General County has a balance of \$486,381.99 with estimated expenditures being \$131,793.58. General County will have a balance of \$354,588.41. Transportation has a cash balance of \$54,278.03 with estimated expenditures being \$3,405.88. Transportation will have a balance of \$50,872.15. Senior Nutrition has a balance of \$116,761.16 with estimated expenditures being \$9,506.16. Senior Nutrition will have a balance of \$107,255.00. Detention Center has a cash balance of \$263,587.82 with estimated expenditures being \$71,361.79. Detention Center will have a cash balance of \$192,226.03. Solid Waste has a cash balance of \$1,047,668.71 with no expenditures. Solid Waste owes LC Water Special Projects, Fund 87, \$27,484.15. Airport has a balance of \$91.06 with estimated expenditures of \$218.75. Airport will have a negative balance of \$127.69. The funding for the Airport still hasn't been received due to the government shutdown, but \$7,000 will be received the first of November. Leslie will take the bills out of General County and reimburse that fund when the money comes in. Planning has a balance of \$37,602.22 with estimated expenditures being \$9,716.05. Planning will have a balance of \$29,685.67 after the reimbursement of \$1,799.50. Planning Department Fund is getting low; all funds that need to be transferred in have already been transferred for the year. Leslie cautioned the Board to watch this fund closely. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the vouchers as presented with the exception of the LCTS, Mountain Merc, and Meadow Valley Pharmacy vouchers; seconded by Adam. All voted in favor. Adam made a motion to approve the Mountain Merc vouchers; seconded by Paul M. Kevin disclosed he is part owner of**

Mountain Merc and abstained from the vote. Motion carried. Paul M. made a motion to approve the Meadow Valley Pharmacy vouchers; seconded by Kevin. Adam disclosed that he is the owner of the pharmacy; he abstained from the discussion and the vote. Motion carried. Kevin made a motion to approve the LCTS vouchers; seconded by Paul M. Paul D. disclosed that he is an employee of LCTS and abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

#### **#7-OFFICER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY** Daniel Hooge advised that he and the Board will meet with the Teamsters today after the Commission meeting. **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR** Rick Stever advised that DEM has received funding to do a statewide and public information plan. Rick and Sheriff Kerry Lee will provide information for the plan, including the contact procedure and who will send out the warning. **SHERIFF** Kerry Lee commented that it's been a very long time since the jail tour was done.

#### **#8-HIGHWAY COMMISSION**

This item was handled under separate agenda.

#### **#9- LINCOLN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT**

This item was handled under separate agenda.

#### **#10-PANACA FIRE DISTRICT**

This item was covered under a separate agenda.

#### **#11-LIQUOR BOARD**

This item was covered under a separate agenda.

#### **#12-LC SOUTHEASTERN HABITAT CONSERVATION GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

This item was covered under a separate agenda.

#### **#13-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 2014**

Grants Administrator Elaine Zimmerman presented the proposed projects for the 2014 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Gary Elmer presented a proposal for a grant to perform an engineering study on the dike in Panaca and the flooding issues in Pioche; this is the same proposal that was submitted last year. This would cover the entire dike. There was some discussion about pursuing the grant when the county doesn't own the ground. A study was done in 2007 on the dike that was paid for by CDBG. The study didn't encompass the entire water shed, and the study was inconclusive. Gary is requesting a study so Panaca knows what direction to take in moving forward. Elaine advised that Pioche will be included in the proposal for the study of the dike since it has flooding issues as well. Combining the two towns might allow for the use of Hazard Mitigation funding. Alamo Sewer & Water District will be proposing a utility master plan in the approximate amount of \$50,000. Pioche Public Utilities would like to complete the Buck Avenue construction on the sewer. No action was taken on this item.

#### **#14-GRANTS**

There was some discussion about whether or not this can be paid from the Sheriff's budget. Sheriff Kerry Lee advised that he's already taken well over \$4,000 that he's waiting to get back. Last year the costs were paid by the SO and then reimbursed. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the payment of the training costs from PILT Grant Match for the K9 Officer until reimbursement can be obtained from the Justice Association Grant in the amount of \$4,000; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

#### **#15-ALAMO HIGH SCHOOL RODEO CLUB**

Grants Administrator Elaine Zimmerman was contacted by Robin of the Alamo Rodeo Club with regards to obtaining a donation from the Western Elite Youth Fund for the high school rodeo. Ed presented a letter he received from the Alamo High School Rodeo Club outlining amounts for donations. Currently, there is approximately \$10,000 in the WE Youth Fund. Paul M. stated that the Board has been sensitive to organizations "double dipping", such as going to Room Tax and Commissioners. Paul M. stated that this might be double dipping since Room Tax has already donated funds for the rodeo. Paul D. responded that he can't

think of another youth activity that would involve more youth as the rodeo; so very many people are involved. WE gave the county these funds to be used specifically for youth activities. Paul D. feels that the funds should be used until they are gone as long as the money is applied to youth activities. Elaine has been pushing for accountability on the use of these funds. **Paul M. made a motion to approve a donation of \$500 for the Alamo High School Rodeo Club; seconded by Adam. All voted in favor.**

#### **#16-FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA**

Grants Administrator Elaine Zimmerman presented a request from Future Farmers of America for a donation. FFA has qualified for competition in Wyoming. The request is for the hotel rooms and meals, \$740. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the donation of \$740 to FFA; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

#### **#17-LAND MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE**

**Paul D. made a motion to approve the contribution of \$3,896.50 to the Land Management Task Force from Fund 012; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

#### **#18-NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

**Kevin made a motion to approve the payment of \$450.00 from the same fund it has historically been paid from for Nevada Association of Counties dues; seconded by Paul M. All voted in favor.**

#### **#19-COPY MACHINE**

This item concerns the purchase of a new copier for the third floor where Grants, Commissioners' administrative assistant, and Meadow Valley Justice Court are located. Paul M. discussed whether or not a lease on a copier is viable. By the time the lease is completed the cost is nearly equal to what you would pay for a new copier. Grants and the Commissioners' Administrative Office would cover the majority of the cost for the copy. The maintenance agreement would be split into thirds between Grants, Commissioners' Administrative Office, and Meadow Valley Justice Court. **Paul M. made a motion to purchase a new Canon copy machine in the amount of \$6,692.50, half to be paid by Grants and half to be paid by the Capital Projects Fund; seconded by Paul D. All voted in favor.**

#### **#20-RECOLOGY CRESTLINE, INC.**

Paul M. commented that this item should be tabled in order for the Recology Crestline, Inc. representatives to come in and advise where they are at with regards to contracts. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the annual rate adjustment to Recology Crestline for fiscal year 2013-2014 by 6% as of October 1, 2013 and to pass the 6% increase for the waste collection fees on to the residents; seconded by Adam. All voted in favor.**

#### **#21-RESOLUTION #2013-18**

Glenn Zelch presented this item, which concerns raising the Pioche Public Utilities (PPU) power-water-sewer rates. These increases are a direct result of LC Power District raising their rates. The existing power system is operating adequately. The power increases will be about 15%. A public hearing was held in Pioche. \$.96 per month is the increase for base charge of water, with \$.08 per gallon on over-usage. Sewer account is losing money and has been for over a year. \$1.06 is the increase in the flat rate monthly charge for sewer, with an \$.08 over-usage rate for commercial customers. Kevin read the resolution into the record. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the resolution increasing the rates for sewer, water, and power for PPU; seconded by Adam. All voted in favor.**

#### **#22-PIOCHE PUBLIC UTILITIES**

This item concerns a proposal by Pioche Public Utilities to allow customers with two meters at one address to average their combined waster use and reduce overage charges. This item was tabled.

#### **#23-NEVADA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL ADVERTISEMENT**

Rachel Williford was presented on behalf of LC Record. Rachel presented a proposal for LC to commemorate NV's Sesquicentennial with an advertisement in the LC Record's special Sesquicentennial section that will come out in November. Prices range from a full page at \$500 to 1/8 of a page at \$100. **Adam made a motion to approve a 1/4 page ad with Rachel designing the content; seconded by Paul M. All voted in favor.**

#### **#24-LC REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Dr. Mike Baughman has requested the Board to readdress the recent appointments to the LC Regional Development Authority, limiting the appointment to one person instead of two. The resolution creating this board limits the amount of seats available. LCRDA recommended that Kyle Donohue be kept. Paul M. would still vote the other way, to have Bevan Lister on the board to represent agriculture. Paul D. disclosed that his son is Kyle Donohue. Paul D. stated that several of the members on LCRDA board sit on many other boards within the county. There are benefits to having the Power District represented on this board as well as having someone who doesn't currently sit on another board take part. **Kevin renewed the original motion he made, to appoint Kyle Donohue to LCRDA; seconded by Adam. Paul D. abstained. Paul M. voted was opposed. Motion carried.**

#### **#25-NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Paul M. made a motion to approve a letter to the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) supporting NDOT's study of intermountain west corridors for the proposed Interstate 11 between Phoenix and Las Vegas, potentially extending north into Canada and south to Mexico; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

#### **#26-AGREEMENT BETWEEN LC/LC-COYOTE SPRINGS GID**

**Paul M. made a motion to renew the interlocal agreement between LC and LC-Coyote Springs Consolidated General Improvement District; seconded by Adam. All voted in favor.**

#### **#27-RESOLUTION #2013-17**

**Paul D. made a resolution to approve the updated Planning and Building Department fees; seconded by Adam. All voted in favor.**

#### **#28-COUNTY SURVEYOR**

**Paul M. made a motion to approve the change order to extend the contract with Basin Engineering Corporation for 1 year, beginning July 1, 2013 end expiring June 30, 2014 for county surveyor/civil engineering services and plotting of mining claims on county base maps; seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor.**

#### **#29-TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

This item concerns the review of the proposals received for a new telephone system for the LC Courthouse, LC Detention Center, and related administrative buildings. This item is also a continuation from the last Commission meeting. Tracy Lee addressed the Board concerning the budgeted amount for the telephone system. Tracy advised that he went looking for the amount that was budgeted and came up with \$35,000 in the Sheriff's budget for a phone system. Tracy stated that doesn't leave enough negotiating room with either of the proposals to meet the amount. Tracy recommended that the RFP be terminated. Sheriff Kerry Lee stated that the \$35,000 has been in his budget for three straight years and he's requested a phone upgrade for several years now. Kerry reminded the Board that the phone system issues were talked about extensively in the budget hearings. At that time, it was decided that both the Sheriff's Office and the Courthouse would be done. Paul M. stated that he didn't remember both systems being included during that time; he only recalls the SO being decided upon. Kerry stated the more it was talked about, the more everyone decided that both should be done at the same time. Tracy commented that he believes the budgeted funding is enough to do the SO. Paul M. asked if it would be possible to purchase the big components and then add on later. Perhaps, but the RFP stipulates a set of rules governing how many handsets, etc. It would be putting a great deal back on the vendors to make such big adjustments. It would be possible to have the vendors resubmit their proposals with a new set of criteria. The Board discussed the proposals while Paul M. consulted the budget to see if he could locate the necessary funds. Sentinel's price is \$80,310 and iTech is \$48,914.25. Paul M. advised that there are some funds in the IT Override fund. Tracy responded that the funds in IT Override have already been attached to a spending plan. Paul M. suggested that the funds could be taken out of PILT General Government and then reimbursed by the end of the year. Paul M. stated that there are also funds in the Grant Match Account but the funds potentially have a grant attached to them. **Kevin made a motion to purchase the iTech system, to make up the difference between the \$35,000 the Sheriff has and the actual cost of the system from the**

**PILT Fund, and to reimburse the PILT Fund by the end of the year; seconded by Adam.** Discussions took place concerning POTS and other technical aspects of the two RFPs. A letter of intent to award will be sent to iTech. **All voted in favor.**

**#30-LITTLE ASH**

A petition has been signed in favor of having Little Ash Springs turned over to the county. Ed stated there is a committee that has been formed in Alamo to address this. The committee will have to come up with a plan to present to both the Board, BLM, and US Fish & Wildlife. This is important to the people in Pahrnagat Valley and they will continue to work on it. Wade Poulsen met with Bret Whipple; Whipple Ranch owns the property right before Little Ash that will be fenced off. This will force the traffic to go to the north about ¼ to ½ a mile; this area is not developed. Little Ash would make a wonderful park and BLM is willing to work with the county on this. Adam asked if the county will be responsible for health and safety issues. In 2006 the BLM offered the Board the opportunity to take Little Ash over. The Board refused at that time due to the cost for cleanup and maintenance. Wade, as a citizen of Pahrnagat, would like to see a proposed business plan showing how it could be a benefit to the county and how it would pay for the maintenance costs. No action was taken on this item.

**#31-LC PERSONNEL POLICY**

This item was tabled.

**#32-COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**COMMISSIONER PAUL MATHEWS** attended the Tri-County Weed meeting. **COMMISSIONER ED HIGBEE** attended a phone conference with Patty Cafferata regarding the sesquicentennial. Ed met with Niger Ennis who intends to run for Congress. **COMMISSIONER ADAM KATSCHKE** was contacted by Steven Horsford while there was no government funding. If the shutdown had continued much longer they wanted to know if the county could help with food drops and food stamps. An extra food drop from the place in UT that already brings food to LC will be doing an extra drop in November. Adam and Jo Lloyd went to the Caliente library as there have been several complaints about how dirty the library was. It has since been cleaned up. **COMMISSIONER PAUL DONOHUE** attended the Room Tax and Fair Board meeting. Several trees were planted on the fairgrounds and they intend to plant several more in other locations. RTFB will also be working on a drip system to water the trees. Paul D. attended two sessions of training for public sector negotiating. Paul D. reviewed the NV Connected Broadband standard set for the counties in NV. You must have a 98% to get the "gold standard" and LC is at 97.14%. Paul D. will be in New Orleans next week.

**#33-PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ed called for public comment. Wade Poulsen attended the NV Rural Economic Development Summit last week. The Connect NV Broadband issue was addressed. NV Rural Housing Authority has money available for any residents of LC that are buying a new primary home. If you make \$92,000 or less you are eligible for federal grant money that can be used for a down payment of closing costs. NVRHA would like to come and make a presentation to the Board. Individuals who qualify can get up to \$8,000.

**#34-ADJOURN**

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, Ed adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

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