



LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 6, 2015
Commission Chambers
Lincoln County Courthouse
181 Main Street
Pioche, Nevada

Commissioners

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

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

Kevin called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Clerk Lisa Lloyd called the roll.

PRESENT: PAUL DONOHUE LISA LLOYD, Clerk
KEVIN PHILLIPS DANIEL HOOGE, District Attorney
PAUL MATHEWS (left the meeting at 12:03)
VARLIN HIGBEE
ABSENT: ADAM KATSCHKE

There is a quorum present and the agenda was posted on 3-31-15. The Invocation was offered by Paul M. and Paul D. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#2-PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin called for public comment. None offered.

CONSENT AGENDA

#3 Approve/Deny minutes of the March 16 and March 23.

#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 Paul D. All voted in favor.

#5-VOUCHERS

Recorder/Auditor Leslie Boucher presented the vouchers and cash balance report. General County has a balance of \$1,446,980.86 with estimated expenditures being \$197,140.91. General County will have a balance of \$1,249,839.95. **Varlin made a motion to approve the vouchers as presented, with the exception of the LC Telephone and Mountain Merc vouchers; seconded by Paul D. All voted in favor. Paul M. made a motion to approve the vouchers for Mountain Merc; seconded by Paul D. Kevin disclosed he is part owner of the Merc and abstained. Motion carried. Paul M. made a motion to approve the LCTS vouchers; seconded by Kevin. Paul D. abstained as he is an employee of LCTS. Motion carried.** Paul D. advised that the Sheriff's Office purchased a Jeep; most of the cost was paid by the federal government.

#6-OFFICER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

TREASURER Shawn Frehner presented the monthly report showing receipts for the County over the past month. \$3,949,397.91 is the total amount received. The tax auction was held Friday; it was very successful.

CLERK Lisa Lloyd reported that we are going to need to include approximately \$11,000-14,000 in the budget to enable us to scan our voter registration applications. There are numerous bills before the Legislature that will not only require this but will require electronic poll books. There are only two counties left in the entire state that do not scan their voter registrations, Lincoln County and Eureka County.

#7-HIGHWAY COMMISSION

This item was handled under separate agenda.

#8-LINCOLN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

This item was covered under a separate item.

#9-RESIGNATION

Paul M. made a motion to accept the resignation of Kris Higbee from the LC Fair & Recreation Board and Room Tax Board; seconded by Paul D. All voted in favor.

#10-APPOINTMENT

Paul D. made a motion to approve the appointment of Summer Pearce and Merre Scott to the LC Fair & Recreation and Room Tax Board; seconded by Varlin. All voted in favor.

#11-COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE

Holly Gatzke presented the annual and future plans of the Cooperative Extension Office, which runs largely on grants. Grants tend to focus more on statewide ag programs. 4-H is running normally. There are 39 leaders and 27 clubs with 167 kids signed up for the year. Activities are being provided for the kids but it all boils down to the leaders, who make a big difference in the kids' lives. Workforce continues to go strong; there is an increased amount of funds. 25 adults and 31 youth are being served. Holly continues to focus on economic development. Holly works with LCAT; a new tourism website was launched last year. There is funding that will provide for electronic ad boards in Las Vegas. Ben Rowley is going to communicate with restaurants and hotels so those businesses are aware of incoming events. There is a team of Texas A&M ag economists that will be coming in this week. They want to do livestock budgets in this area. This shows profit returns and other information. Holly will be doing Value Added workshops as well as a Producer-to-Chef program. The surveys showed that people in LC don't eat a great deal of vegetables in this County. Hailey will be teaching nutrition and how to purchase items on a budget; this program will be started shortly. No action was taken on this item as it was informational only.

#12-TRUSTEE AUCTION

Treasurer Shawn Frehner presented the Return of Sale. The bidder did not pay for Parcel 3 so it will be on a future auction. That bidder will be banned from taking part in any future auctions since they didn't pay for their parcel. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the report on the auction and sale; seconded by Varlin. All voted in favor.**

#13-COORECTIVE ACTION LETTER FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 AUDIT

This item concerns a letter of corrective action addressed to the Department of Taxation concerning Fiscal Year 2013-2014 audit. **Paul M. made a motion to approve the letter; seconded by Varlin. All voted in favor.**

#14-NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Paul M. made a motion to approve the payment of costs incurred for the NACO conference held November 18-20, 2014 in the amount of \$2,117.48, paid from the General Fund; seconded by Varlin. All voted in favor.

#15-RESOLUTION #2015-05

This item concerns a resolution directing all proceeds collected from the LC Fair to be deposited directly into the County Fair Fund, the Fair Committee Capital Projects Fund will continue to be funded by the LC Board of Commissioners through the annual budget process. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the resolution; seconded by Varlin. All voted in favor.**

#16-PUBLIC DEFENDER CONTRACT

Dylan Frehner, Esq., presented a proposal for legal services that include work from Dylan's office and Richard Sears' office. The contract for Dylan's office is \$125,000; conflict counsel (Richard Sears) is \$20,000. This contract is for fiscal years 2015-2019 for a total cost of \$145,000 and guarantees that Dylan's office will provide 1,250 hours through his office. If the hours aren't met, the money will be reimbursed to the County. Daniel advised that he's reviewed the contract and it looks good. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the contract; seconded by Paul M. All voted in favor.** Kevin stated that one of the issues he has with pending legislation is

that the state would handle all indigent cases. Dylan responded that the state would only handle indigent capital cases.

#17-NUCLEAR OVERSIGHT PROGRAM

Connie Simkins advised that the State of Idaho has fined the DOE \$3,600 per day as DOE has missed their cleanup deadline. Andrews County, TX, has put forth a consolidated interim plan for storage site for both high level nuclear waste and spent fuel. This county now holds 2 low level waste sites that are a private company. NM has fined the DOE \$54 million for what went wrong at the WIPP facility in NM; this case is under appeal. Last year a two year budget was approved for the LC Nuclear Oversight program; there have been no changes and less has been spent than anticipated. Connie has an adequate amount of funding to purchase computers for the libraries. Connie would like to purchase one computer for each library, to be done so by the first of July 2015. LC Nuclear Oversight has a website; the cost for hosting is \$83 per month. Connie would like to shut the website down until the program is rejuvenated. All of the information from the website is stored on external hard drives. Connie will meet with John Ruse, the NV State BLM Director, on 4-17. Connie has a large plotter in her office that seldom gets used so she has allowed Jason Pitts to take it to his office to print maps for the County. No action was taken on this item.

#18-ENERGY COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE PEER EXCHANGE

Paul D. made a motion to approve the attendance of two Commissioners at the Energy Communities Alliance Peer Exchange on May 18-19 in Aiken, SC; seconded by Varlin. Paul M. was absent for the vote. Motion carried.

#19-NUCLEAR OVERSIGHT PROGRAM

Connie Simkins advised there are 38 pages of inventory items that need to be de-obligated and reassigned. Connie requested permission to assign various items to the people that actual have the items. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the request to de-obligate Oversight office inventory items and to reassign to the departments that have possession of them; seconded by Varlin. Paul M. was absent for the vote. Motion carried.**

#20-PANACA TOWN CENTER LEASE AGREEMENT

Cory Lytle reviewed the lease termination agreement with the LC School District for office and classroom space in the Panaca Town Center. Superintendent Steve Hansen has seen the agreement. **Paul D. made a motion to approve the lease termination agreement; seconded by Paul M. All voted in favor.**

#21-GARDEN VALLEY WITHDRAWAL ACT

Cory suggested that the Board resend the original letter to the NV Delegation that was previously sent opposing the Garden Valley Withdrawal Act. **Paul D. made a motion to send a letter with the previously sent opposition letter attached; seconded by Varlin. All voted in favor.**

#22-LC LAND ACT/LC CONSERVATION, RECREATION, AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

Dr. Mike Baughman addressed the Board and presented a request for approval of letters of Continued Support for Enactment of Amendments to the LC Land Act and the LC Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act. These letters will be sent to Senator Reid, Senator Heller, and Congressman Hardy. **Paul M. made a motion to approve and send the letters; seconded by Paul D. All voted in favor.**

#23-REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Dr. Mike Baughman offered a presentation concerning the past, current, and planned activities of the LC Regional Development Authority. Mike offered a history of this program. Current programs include the micro loan program which has been repaid in the amount of \$51,847.63. The DA is not accepting new applications for micro loans. Other initiatives underway include: LC comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, LCRDA website, industrial park development, Caliente mountain bike trail system, and evaluation of interconnection costs to existing LC Power District #1 electrical substations. Mike maintains his certified economic developer status. The FY 2016 budget has been adopted, total amount of \$183,800. No action was taken on this information only item.

#24-NON-CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' CLASSIFICATION/SALARY TABLE

Cory Lytle and Richard Simpson presented additional comparables for Richard's position. Wages are inconsistent from county to county. Custodian II is included in the proposed budget at Grade 34-2. The job description given at the last meeting was for Custodian I and Custodian II. Cory stated that Richard does a great deal of things in addition to what a regular custodian does. Cory didn't budget an increase for his position, Planning/Building Director. Cory originally requested a Grade 42 for Planning/Building Director but this didn't include an increase. Cory emphasized that we are splitting Custodian I and II; there are figures in the proposed budget for a Custodian I. This individual will fill in for Richard as needed and help at the Panaca Town Center. Custodian I would be Grade 27. Elaine Zimmerman, Grants Administrator, presented a job description for her position. Elaine also included the State of NV cost estimator as well as the budget that was submitting using the incorrect pay scale. Elaine presented comparables with other counties that are close to ours in size. Grants positions range from \$52,000-\$71,000. Elaine does Connie's invoicing and payroll. She also helps Rick. Elaine does RTC, airports, indigent, medical indigent, and several other duties that fall outside of grants. Elaine works closely with many of the work groups throughout the state and she also makes sure the County is keeping up with regulations. Elaine works with Human Services, Social Services, and LC Nuclear Oversight. Elaine is proposing that her position be Grade 37-04. If positioned at 37-04 it would only be for a few months as her anniversary date is the end of October and she would then move to 37-05. The Board agreed to have the numbers budgeted at Grade 37-05. Varlin commented that titles of positions are very important. Should the County ever have to go into Chapter 11, titles would become very important. Denice Brown discussed Leslie Jan Childer's position; she's the museum curator. Leslie currently earns \$8.65 per hour and she's employee/employer. The budget was submitted at 4% increase, which would raise Leslie to \$8.90. Leslie works 24 hours per week and she does myriad different things. To put Leslie on the scale would require that she start at Grade 10-05, or \$9.03 per hour. This position includes prorated benefits. Jo Lloyd's position is discussed; she's head librarian. Currently, Jo earns \$12.21 per hour but she submitted an increase request to \$15 per hour with her proposed budget, which is a 20% increase. Daniel advised that whatever the Board can afford for any individual position is where they should start then work backwards from there by 10 steps to see where the position should start. Paul D. stated that the Museum and Library Board should address the wage rate for both Jo and Leslie Jan. The Board agreed that these two positions will not be included on the wage scale. No action taken.

#25-COMMISSIONER REPORTS

COMMISSIONER KEVIN PHILLIPS met with Varlin and others concerning the Pahrangat Valley drain project. Kevin attended a Quad State meeting at Primm last week. Kevin went to the NACO legislative day in Carson City on 3-30. **COMMISSIONER PAUL DONOHUE** met with the Room Tax/LC Fair & Rec Board. Paul D. advised that these boards get their funding via the sales of motel rooms; he's nervous about the amount. Historically, they've had a great deal of funding but revenues have decreased. Paul D. suggested that outreach take place on the next burn day to encourage safety.

#26-PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin called for public comment. Connie Simkins advised that the \$10,000 Dr. Baughman referred to earlier in the day came from the LC Nuclear Oversight budget.

#27-ADJOURN

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, adjourned the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

Attest: _____ Approve: _____