



LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 7, 2025
Commission Chambers
Lincoln County Courthouse
181 Main Street
Pioche, Nevada

Commissioners

Janine Woodworth, Chair
Mike Reese
Diane Path
Lisa Poulsen
Keith Pearson

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Clerk Lisa Lloyd called the roll.

PRESENT: MIKE REESE
LISA POULSEN
KEITH PEARSON (via web)
DIANE PATH
JANINE WOODWORTH

LISA LLOYD, Clerk
APRIL BRADSHAW, District Attorney

There is a quorum present and the agenda was posted on 7-1-25 to comply with the open meeting law. The Invocation was given by Diane and Janine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#2-PUBLIC COMMENT

Janine called for public comment. Mike Reese thanked the volunteer fire department and everyone associated with putting on the Fourth of July celebrations.

CONSENT AGENDA

- #3 Approve/Deny minutes of the June 16 and 30 meetings.
- #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).

Mike made a motion to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Lisa. All voted in favor.

#5-VOUCHERS

Recorder/Auditor Amy Elmer presented the cash balances, including payroll totals. Fund 13, 42, 18, and 73 do not have correct cash balances reflected on the sheet. General Fund had an ending fund balance of \$3,631,840.16. Federal In Lieu had an ending fund balance of \$1,509,775.71. Grants had an ending fund balance of \$647,340.00. Detention Center had a fund balance of \$153,499.26. Solid Waste had an ending fund balance of \$81,458.53. Amy transferred an additional \$200,000 in to Fund 64 and an additional \$500,000 into Solid Waste. There was some discussion about the Juvenile Probation payment. We are currently paying 10% of their total cost. There is concern that we were given a \$45,000 bill to pay for a part-time JOP that lives in White Pine. Janine commented the employee needs to be here in LC. If we're paying this much for something, Janine would like to see the break down of what the payment is for. Janine asked the Board approve the vouchers with the exception of the payment to White Pine Juvenile Probation. There is no contract in place. Janine wants case numbers included in the breakdown, finite details need to be included. Currently, initials of the juveniles are included on the bills. Janine asked if our overtime for our officers is included. They're driving our county vehicle; she questioned how we're being charged mileage. The bill only shows fuel; they're not getting mileage. There was some question about the Verizon bill; who is using the phone? **Mike made a motion to approve the vouchers while withholding the bill for juvenile probation fees.** Amy advised they received a reimbursement for traverse for a specific date in June; is this part of the \$44,000 payment or for something separate? The amount is \$610.35. **Mike withdrew his motion. Mike made a motion to omit payment of the fees for juvenile probation officer fees from White Pine County and to approve the remaining vouchers; seconded by Diane. All voted in favor.** The travel reimbursement was for Lynette and Megan. Judge Frehner, who was present virtually, advised he will seek more details. Moving forward, the costs will be included in the \$44,000 check. We won't be getting more individual invoices; the costs will be covered under the \$44,000 payment. Judge Frehner advised the budget has

been approved; it sets out what the amount is for and the purposes. There is no requirement for a contract and these costs are within the budget. The cost is used to offset the department costs so they can cover LC moving forward.

#6-HIGHWAY COMMISSION

This item was covered under separate agenda.

#7-LINCOLN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

This item was covered under separate agenda.

#8-CALIENTE LIBRARY

Tommy Rowe, Caliente Councilmember, addressed the Board. He asked what Caliente needs to do to get their county library open. They're furnishing the space and utilities. There are people that want to use it. Tommy commented they're only able to offer 19.5-20 hours per week in Caliente. They've saved a lot of money over the last few years; there should be more money if they can get it open. Janine responded those funds were taken from that department to be used for LC expenses. This happened in many different accounts. When there was unused excess, the Board chose to use it because it was needed elsewhere. Funds have been budgeted for the county to staff the Caliente branch. The library in that area has had short numbers. Sharron Faehling, Library Director, advised the shortfall in patronage started several years property to the Depot renovation. The numbers for Caliente were about 350 per month. Right before the closure, it was about 120 per month. There were days when the librarian would ask to leave early as they'd had no patrons. Sharron couldn't justify 19.5 hours. The City didn't give her time to prepare a budget. When Sharron attempted to budget, she received no feedback about Caliente. She was only able to budget for Pioche and Alamo. She is still in a budget shortfall and didn't budget for Caliente. She wasn't certain she could fund the 19.5 hours. Janine suggested it might be possible to start out for two days per week, using existing staff. Sharron advised she might have to close the Pioche branch in order to go down to Caliente. Numbers of patrons this year will inform budget requests for next year. Library pays much higher costs to use the depot than others. Sharron asked if she can be guaranteed businesses won't be using the county's internet. Diane discussed the interlocal agreement. Diane was under the impression the library would be open 2-3 days per week, but not full time. Sharron advised this was brought up at the City Council meeting. She was told by Council members and staffers they would put volunteers in the branch so it was open every day. The library can't be open without county staff. Diane let them know all volunteers have to be fully vetted before they can be used. The library must be cleaned, which will be a huge task. The City offered volunteers to help with that in order to get it up and running. Sharron understands there are volunteers who would like to help, but she can't have the library open without supervision. She is responsible for the inventory and doors. There is the chance there would be no accountability and things could happen. Diane responded the City offered to help. Sharron heard that if she wasn't going to be open more than 19.5 hours per week then they would. Diane felt they meant the City "could" have volunteers to keep it open longer. It was an offer, and the City believed Sharron would take the offer if needed. Sharron stated it was "here are the numbers, this is what we have". The interlocal agreement went from a five-year to two-year agreement but has yet to be approved. Sharron is concerned that she might have to move in two years, after having spent a great deal of time getting the space ready. Sharron heard they were considering putting her in a smaller space. She isn't willing to clean up her space, taking the time and effort to do so, then be told she has to move. Diane stated a plan needs to be created so we can move forward. Janine agreed with Sharron; we need a longer agreement. Sharron agreed they could be open up to 19.5 hours per week. Employees, programming, etc., fall under Sharron's purview. Sharron makes the ultimate decision as to how the library is run. Lisa is concerned that Sharron didn't budget for this. Pioche will have to suffer if Caliente is opened. Sharron will have to augment the hours so she can be down there. Lisa feels Caliente should be the one that deals with the budget issues as they didn't provide costs to Sharron when she asked; that's why there isn't a budget for it. Sharron needed to know if she was allowed to get back in; that's the only answer she needed in order to prepare a budget for it. She never heard back from Caliente. Janine advised things that have happened in the past were due to former employees. We need to move forward. City Council didn't know if we were going to be allowed to have a library inside the Depot. We need to do what we can to get the space open, even if it isn't for full eight-hour days. If there are shortfalls, Janine said the Board will deal with it. It's \$9.75 per hour for any part-time employee plus Medicare, etc. Sharron estimated its about \$13,000 per year for a part-time employee. Tommy asked to be Sharron's contact. Caliente has the biggest population in the county; they'd like to have it open at least 19.5-20 hours per week. Tommy asked if Sharron will hire a librarian from Caliente. Sharron will use

an already existing staff member. Tommy asked that Caliente be open 3-4 hours per day, instead of 1-2 days per week. Tommy said, at Sharron's request, they can have a couple of guys come in to help clean up. It would be under her supervision. Sharron said much of the cleaning entails moving everything out of the room so she can shampoo and vacuum carpets. She needs to do this then take the time to put everything back together to see what they have to work with. Tommy would like it to be open five days per week, even if it's for limited hours. The computers were removed from the library; Sharron has old computers she can put in there for now. Sharron advised she has one employee on her payroll but this person is listed as a sub. They've been filling in for her, she isn't budgeted at 19.5 hours per week. This means Sharron will have to go down there; she simply can't do that five days per week. For the first few months, Sharron will have to fill the request. Hours of operation and days of operation fall under Sharron's purview. Tommy asked if the Board can augment the budget for \$12,000 in order to hire an employee that lives in Caliente. This person would work under Sharron and be a county employee. Diane asked for the opportunity to do some research first, she has some ideas for funding. Caliente will have to agree to a five-year agreement prior to anything moving forward. That's the first step. No action was taken on this item.

#9-2024 LINCOLN COUNTY WORKSHOP

Tracy Larkin Thompson, Director for NV Department of Transportation, addressed the Board. Tracy reviewed the power point included in the Board's packet. Mario Gomez, Marty Sigournak, Carl Patrick, Guinevere Hobney, and Ginger Frobes were present on behalf of NDOT. Tracy advised they try to keep the communication lines open. Lisa asked about the number of fatalities on Hwy 93 and whether or not there is any discussion about passing lanes or widening the road. Yes, passing lanes are being considered but the costs are extremely high right now. The study is finished and the area has been identified. Lisa offered to help in any way possible to move this along. No action was taken on this item.

#10-SIXCO UPDATE

This item was tabled.

#11-PIOCHE LABOR DAY

Mike made a motion to approve the Labor Day Committee's request to block off the parking spaces on the front and west side of the Lincoln County Courthouse on August 30, 2025, for the car show; seconded by Lisa. All voted in favor.

#12-VERTICAL BRIDGE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This item was tabled.

#13-SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Derek Foremaster emailed the June activity report to the Board members. NLV has a new booking program they're implementing; we'll have inmates from them shortly thereafter. Our numbers are down right now because Marshals took 13; they're going to get us more. Calls for service remain high. No action was taken on this item.

#14-BYWAY ADVENTURES

Michael Collins addressed the Board. This item is a continuation from last meeting. They've submitted paperwork to Cory. The DA's office needs more time to review. Michael will be the primary point of contact for Byway. He is interested in using the museum as well, but would have to work out details. He will have the keys to the buildings and will make certain they're locked after each use. There is some concern about the need to have county employees be involved. Hours are of concern as well. These tours will be done in the late evening. The interest is ghosts here. Michael would like to get started to see what the interest is and work on the potential for using the museum in addition to the Thompson, Million Dollar, Town Hall, and other places in Pioche. Janine advised she's willing to be involved in helping, but we need to be sure to get a pass from Sharron for the buildings she's responsible for. Mike asked this agreement be building specific; he'd like the dos/don'ts for each building addressed individually. This item was tabled to the next meeting.

#15-RIGHTS-OF-WAY/NON-FUNCTIONING COMMUNICATION SITES – PAHRANAGAT AND DELAMAR

Cory Lytle presented this item, which concerns a plan for rights-of-way on non-functioning communication sites in the Pahranaगत and Delaware ranges. These have been non-functional for decades. Cory advised they're going

to start charging processing fees for these sites. They're dormant and don't get used. BLM has advised they have to either be functioning or we have to follow up on what we intend to do with them. They were used for the TV district but aren't any longer. The county has to clean them up and maintain them because we're responsible for it. Cory asked if the Board wants to keep them or not. It costs time and money regardless. If we keep them, what are we keeping them for? If they haven't been used in the last forty years, what would the purpose or use be? Cory can provide an estimate for cleanup of the sites. He will go look at them and provide an update to the Board. No action was taken on this item.

#16-LEASE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN LC/DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Diane made a motion to approve the lease agreements between Lincoln County and the State of Nevada, Division of Public Safety for office space in the Lincoln County Courthouse and Alamo Annex; seconded by Mike. All voted in favor.

#17-CODY WHIPPLE

Cody Whipple is running for Congressional District 4. He addressed the Board concerning his bid for office and his interest in LC. No action was taken on this item.

#18-LETTER RE: CELLULAR PHONES IN LINCOLN COUNTY & E911

This item was tabled.

#19-QUARTERLY JAIL TOUR

Lisa and Diane will make the tour and report at the next meeting. No action was taken on this item.

#20-OFFICER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Planning/Building Director Cory Lytle advised the main sewer line is rotted. We've had intermittent trouble with it over the years. The line is being rerouted; they'll tie in the ladies restroom and judge's restroom to the main line. The men's restroom will be rebuilt so it's functional. It will have only one stall and a single toilet. The floor will be poured back in. Denice has been impacted as the new line is being run through her office. They've had to dig up the floor but will rough it back in and then re-pour as soon as possible. Cory is working with the contractor to shave some costs. We really need the generator; there is a big issue with the transfer switch. Recorder/Auditor Amy Elmer reported the Recorder's portion has gone live with a free recording alert system. They have to create an account and enter parameters for recording purposes. It's located on the Recorder's web page. This isn't fraud prevention; it's fraud alert. Treasurer Shawn Frehner presented the monthly report for June, the end of the fiscal year. Everything balanced. Shawn presented a report concerning PILT, which has been received. All of the bills have been turned in to the printer. There were a couple of hiccups, but they've been remedied. Assessments were finished in a timely manner and the roll turned over on time. The tax bills will go out in the next couple of weeks. The delinquent landfill costs are on the bills; people will be very upset since this is the first time we've done it this way. Commissioners' Administrative Assistant/Grants Administrator Denice Brown attended the CDBG training in Ely. The first public hearing for CDBG projects will be on the next agenda, but we don't qualify for LMI. Denice will be out of the office off and on the next couple of weeks. District Attorney April Bradshaw advised her assistant resigned. The position has been posted but she has a good replacement who will start July 28th. Wayne is out of the office for the next couple of weeks. The trial set for tomorrow was resolved. The trial slated for later this month will be continued. The caseload remains heavy and her office is incredibly busy. Clerk Lisa Lloyd reported the court schedule continues to be heavy. Filings have increased drastically over last year. We have exceeded the number of new cases filed by this time last year by nearly double. Training and upgrades on the new election equipment have been moved back to October. She will be traveling to a different county to observe the mock elections. JAVS will be here at the end of the month to do upgrades to the courtroom system.

#21-COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Keith Pearson discussed the HCP meeting; the last one was canceled due to lack of quorum. Keith received a call from Billy Wright, who is considering installing a butcher shop at Crestline. There is no power there. Keith attended the special meeting on June 30th. Commissioner Mike Reese reported NACO is September 23-25 in Las Vegas. Mike attended RTC; they approved a project for Caliente. Mike attended the LC Coalition meeting; he let them know we now have a nurse. Mike attended the weekly call with Sixco, who will be here in-person at the next meeting to do a presentation. Mike attended the local Workforce meeting. Mike called in for the NACO

meeting. Mike also attended the special Commission meeting on June 30th. He attended another Workforce meeting with Scott Black. Commissioner Diane Path attended a zoom meeting with National Forest, Counties, and Schools Coalition. She attended the special meeting on the 30th. Diane spoke locally with BLM; she provided addresses so they can keep us apprised of the Mt. Irish fire. Diane did a two-part class with NV Assembly. Diane took part in a zoom regarding public health funding with DPBH. She has spoken with Aaron Hill, who was running for Congressional District 4. She attended Caliente City Council meeting. She also attended a grants meeting. Commissioner Lisa Poulsen attended the RTC meeting; she'll attend another next week. She attended the NACO meeting; they touched on the Christmas tree ornaments. People don't want to mail their ornaments to the Department of Forestry. People can leave their ornaments at Pahrangat Valley Justice Court and with Denice Brown. Then the county can ship one box. The ornaments are due by September 5th. A piece of a Christmas tree skirt was sent to us; Lisa asked Mrs. Foisy to work on it. There will be a cost, but we'll take care of it. These things will go to the White House, who will have a Christmas tree from NV this year. Lisa will attend the Friends of PV meeting this Thursday. BLM was staging out of the Alamo Airport this last weekend; they were very happy with the accommodations. Wendy Rudder received a lot of requests to have that road chip sealed. Lisa will attend Alamo Town Board this week. Commissioner Janine Woodworth attended a NSSAB zoom meeting. Janine attended the ECA virtual training. She attended the special commission meeting on June 30th. She traveled to the Bristol Town Site with Cory, Diane, and Melissa to settle the survey. She attended the Caliente City Council meeting. Janine met with a couple council members in addition to taking calls from county employees concerning various issues.

#22-PUBLIC COMMENT

Janine called for public comment. Janine thanked everyone for enduring the current construction, especially the offices dealing with the constant noise. Janine authorized the affected offices to close during construction if necessary once their daily tasks are done, due to the noise level.

#23-ADJOURN

There being no further business for the Board to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Attest: _____ Approve: _____