



Board of Mineral County Commissioners

Hawthorne, Nevada

April 3, 2019

The Honorable Board of Mineral County Commissioners met this day in a regular session with the following people present:

Honorable Chris Hegg	Chairman
Honorable Christine Hoferer	Vice-Chairman
Honorable Garth Price	Member
Honorable Christopher Nepper	Clerk-Treasurer
Honorable Sean Rowe	District Attorney

Absent: Honorable Sean Rowe District Attorney

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Safety Message

Pledge Allegiance was led by Commissioner Price

Safety Message was provided by Emergency Manager Patrick Hughes relative to distracted and convenience driving.

2. Public Comment – Sheri Samson stated that women can multi-task.

3. Approval of Agenda/Necessary Changes

Item 15 was removed by Commissioner Price, who advised that he would reschedule.

RTC meeting was cancelled

Agenda was numbered wrong, item 10 was 9

Minutes for 3-25 to 3-28, 2019 was not presented for review

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the changes to the agenda as presented.

Public Comment: None

4. Accounts Payable Vouchers, Credit Card Approval Form Requests, Capital Outlay Purchase Orders and Auditor's Cash Report by Fund presented for review, discussion and possible action.

Recorder-Auditor Deputy Teresa McNally advised she had a Credit Card approval request for Bret Towe, he said the reason was that it takes the company six weeks to process the check; she stated that she thinks this is becoming a habit.

Recorder-Auditor Deputy Teresa McNally advised she had three Capital Outlays for approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the Capital Outlay purchase for 11,349 from Hawthorne Utilities to Cam Spray for a pressure washer.

Public Comment: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the Capital Outlay purchase for \$2,437.50 from Public Works for the renovations at the Public Health Nurse office.

Public Comment: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the Capital Outlay purchase for \$4,499.25 from the Road Department to Huntlev Motors for the purchase of a dumn trailer.

by the June 30, 2019.

Public Comment: None

5. Reports and Correspondence

Letter from Economic Development approving Mineral County's move to Northern Nevada Development.

6. Minutes of – March 6, 2019 and March 20, 2019 and March 25-28, 2019 for review and possible action.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of March 6, 2019 and March 20, 2019 as presented.

Public Comment: None

7. Business License Applications – The following applications will be presented for discussion and possible action.

A. Michael McCarthy; Roberts Roof and Floor, Inc.; 4801 W. Bell Dr. Las Vegas, NV 89118; New Applicant

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the business license application for Roberts Roof and Floor, Inc.

Public Comment: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to suspend the Board of County Commissioners and convene the Liquor Board.

Public Comment: None

8. Liquor License Applications – The following applications will be presented for discussion and possible action.

A. Molly and Jeff Moody; Old Nevada Pizza, Hawthorne, NV 89415; Change

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the Liquor License change for Old Nevada Pizza.

Public Comment: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to suspend the Liquor Board and reconvene the Board of County Commissioners.

Public Comment: None

9. Larry Grant, Hawthorne Utilities Director – For consideration and possible action relative to authorization to go to bid for a mini excavator. Item was budgeted in the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Mr. Grant advised they were ready to purchase the mini excavator, he provided the bid specifications sheet; what had been budgeted was \$80,000.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to allow the Hawthorne Utilities Director Larry Grant to go out to bid not to exceed the \$80,000 that was budgeted for the mini excavator.

Public Comment: None

Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT) to provide NARCAN free of cost, change of ambulance billing company from REMSA to Be Sharp.

The Board advised because of the way the agenda items read they can only act on the grant item.

Mr. Lawrence advised he had the signed grant contract for \$4091.40; the fire department makes the purchase and then was reimbursed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Hoferer and unanimously carried by the Board to accept the grant from Nevada State Division of Public and Behavior Health in the amount of \$4091.40 for the EMS class with no match.

Public Comment: None

12. **Honorable Sean Rowe, District Attorney**— For consideration and possible action relative to amending Mineral County business license ordinance.

District Attorney Sean Rowe provided information to the Board regarding amending the business license ordinance.

The Board advised putting this back on the agenda in two weeks to give the Board time to look it over.

13. **Honorable Cindy Nixon, Recorder-Auditor** – For consideration and possible action relative to approval of resolution to establish a New Fund in the Mineral County Budget called the Emergency Management Fund.

Discussion ensued regarding the Emergency Fund and Emergency Prep.

Clerk-Treasurer Chris Nepper read resolution 19-008 into the record.

Craig Nixon advised there were grants but it falls under cert team.

Commissioner Price advised that he did not agree with the \$25,000 for supplies; he asked about the supplies in the conex box at the Fire Station; they would not be starting from scratch.

Craig Nixon advised there were grants but it falls under Community Emergency Response Team (Cert Team).

Emergency Manager Patrick Hughes advised the county needs to have an emergency supply of water and food.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Hoferer, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried by the Board to accept resolution 19-008 to establish the Emergency Management Fund effective April 3, 2019.

Public Comment: Commissioner Price advised he did not want the funds to be used improperly.

Commissioner Hoferer that the funds can't be used without prior Board approval.

Craig Nixon advised the funds should be allocated to the Emergency Manager.

Mr. Hughes advised he would work to get an inventory of what the county already has.

14. **Honorable Chris Nepper, Clerk-Treasurer** – For consideration and possible action relative to accommodating train engine at Patriots Plaza.

Mr. Nepper advised this had come to the Board previously.

the new Welcome to Hawthorne sign including the design and location of the sign.

Mark Nixon advised this was an NDOT Project; the only part the county has in the project was the landscaping; the Lions Club had talked to NDOT regarding landscaping the area previously; no local contractors bid on this project.

Wade Barton thinks that Mineral County should have some input; from what he saw it was cheesy and looked like a piece of pipe with letters on it.

Jean Peterson advised that NDOT was going to furnish them with a list of suitable plants for the area.

17. **Honorable Board of Commissioners** – For consideration and possible action relative to discussion of any and all pending legislation currently proposed at the Nevada Legislature.

No discussion

18. For consideration and possible action relative to review of 2018-19 and 2019-20 Budget Estimates.

The Board was revisiting the budget of the Road Department, District Attorney and Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Hoferer advised that Ms. George had new figures for her budget.

Cherrie George Senior Services Director advised there was an increase to her budget; her new position was not brought in at the bottom; her salary amount should go from \$205,897 to \$207,914; benefits should go from \$119,135 to \$119,924.

Commissioner Hoferer advised the Road Department budget shows a mechanic 2 position, they are not sure if there enough work to warrant this position they think another equipment operator is needed; they will go ahead and submit as is on the tentative budget; they will discuss with Public Works Director Eric Hamrey on April 17, 2019.

Commissioner Hoferer advised the District Attorney budgeted for the reclassification for the Legal Secretary and the Office Manager; the Legal Secretary position was reclassified two years ago, she does not like to do a reclassification just because the position is at the top of the wage schedule; she asked if there was any job descriptions and has the reclassification gone through the union process; and she doesn't feel these two positions should be reclassified and the Child Support positions are left as is; she feels the process is not and has not been followed.

Commissioner Price thinks the District Attorney was trying to keep these positions comparable with the Chief Deputy positions; the other departments could come before the Board to have their employees reclassified.

The Board stated not to reclassify these two positions.

Commissioner Hoferer advised there are four vacant positions in the Sheriff's Office that she does not think will be filled with in the next fiscal year, she does not feel over \$283,000 should be allocated for this when it is needed in the General Fund; she would like to go to the table with funding to offer the other employees; she was not suggesting taking the positions away.

Commissioner Price and Commissioner Hegg want to leave the funding as is because they are hoping the positions will be filled.

Discussion ensued regarding the revenue revisions; what was added was the payment from SOC of \$175,455 for 2017-18 possessory use tax; 2018-19 Net Proceeds \$60,000; 2019-20 Net Proceeds \$120,000; Real Roll; transfer from PILT \$440,000 for 2018-19;

Clerk Treasurer Chris Nepper advised that a payment was sent out for the medical indigent.

10:00 AM Mark Nixon, Regional Planning Commission Chairman – For consideration and possible action relative to YESCO Special Use Permit Application denial by Mineral County Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Nixon advised the Planning Commission had a public hearing; there was a lot of public participation; everybody was against so the application was denied by the Planning Commission.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Hoferer, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried by the Board to accept the Mineral County Planning Commission recommendation to deny the YESCO Special Use Permit Application.

Public Comment:

David Bowen advised that if it does get passed they would be allowed to have it there for 50 years.

Jim Essenpreiss stated that YESCO made a poor business decision. He doesn't think they should have to bear the brunt of this decision.

Sandy Essenpreiss advised that it was not just because they didn't want them, they had valid reasons due to safety issues, wildlife issues, property issues,

Doris Brooks advised the light would be shining in her bedroom, and it also would obstruct the view.

Gladys Porter stated she did not think the property sold for very much if they did have to buy the property back.

Geri Taylor house within 80 feet of the sign; it would leave all of them open for scrutiny; Walker Lake community is growing and it is a recreational area it would be ugly and ruin the natural environment. She wanted to invoke NRS 405.050; billboards are no value to the county.

Adla Earl stated the State Treasure designated Walker Lake as a state treasure; in this corridor they don't need a billboard.

Mary Marinello stated that it doesn't make sense to put the billboard on this side of the lake when the business travel will eventually go on the backside of the lake.

Carol Stegman stated billboards should be banned.

Jeff Wynn advised the sign would be in the way of his view of the lake and the stars.

Mary Bowen stated she can't understand why a company would put a big billboard in the back yard of residents.

Jack Taylor asked what the next move was in the process.

The Board advised that YESCO had the right to appeal the decision.

Donella Deck doesn't understand why one company has more rights than the residents; he was told there was a rule at the lake that you can't build two story houses, so how can they put a big billboard up then?

Sandy Essenpreiss stated that this was in the deed restrictions for the Jack Roark Subdivision; this was done so that nobody's view was blocked.

12:30 PM Regional Transportation Commission - Cancelled

2:00 PM Honorable Board of Commissioners – For consideration and possible action relative to the conducting

The Board advised Mr. Fontaine that he needed to work on his communication skills.

The Board asked Mr. Fontaine if he was going to take any education classes.

He stated he had some study classes from ICC for building, plumbing and mechanical coming up.

Commissioner Hegg asked Mr. Fontaine to talk to the department heads before he sends someone to them.

Mr. Fontaine asked the Board to talk to him if they have a complaint; he would like his liaison to come and find out what he has been doing.

Commissioner Price advised Mr. Fontaine to respond to his emails with a text so they both have a paper trail.

Commissioner Hoferer asked Mr. Fontaine if the nuisance complaint forms on the web.

Mr. Fontaine advised them it was in the process; he has seven closed, thirteen open and six nuisance complaints under investigation.

Commissioner Hoferer advised that he may need someone to help with the paperwork.

3:00 PM Honorable Board of Commissioners – For consideration and possible action relative to the conducting annual Performance Evaluation of Larry Grant, Hawthorne Utilities Director, including, but not limited to possible promotion, endorsement engagement, retention, termination, suspension, demotion, and reduction in pay, reprimand or “no action.”

The Board evaluated Mr. Grant on Safety; Quantity and Quality of work; Teamwork; Initiative; Versatility/Time Management; Job Technical Knowledge.

Commissioner Price advised that his concerns regarding the seat belts were getting better and to tell the employees thank you.

Commissioner Hoferer talked to Mr. Grant regarding his Office Manager and an employee taking walks; she did feel it was not a good idea leaving one person in the office.

Mr. Grant advised that it was on their break and his office manager walks on her lunch break.

Commissioner Hoferer asked what they could do for him.

Mr. Grant stated that he has had nothing but support from the Board.

Commissioner Price state he was at the annual Water Conference for Northern and Central Nevada and the Hawthorne Utilities employees were being talked about; it put the County good light.

Mr. Grant advised that Warren Linzen received the Water Operator of the Year.


Board of Highway Commissioners – Nothing at this time

Public Comment – There was a Thank You note from the Boys and Girls Club for the Paint donation

Commissioner Recognition – Commissioner Price thanked everybody that donated to the Boys and Girls Club.

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting of the Board adjourned until

Attest:



Christopher Nepper, Clerk of the Board

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1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) e-mail: complaint@usda.gov