## BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 4, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF NEVADA	)
	:SS
COUNTY OF EUREKA	)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

1. Approval of the agenda notice with addition of any emergency item and/or deletion of any item. Unless otherwise stated, items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda, in the direction of the Chair. (For Possible Action)

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on February 4, 2025. Present were Chairman Rich McKay, Vice Chair Marty Plaskett, Commissioner Mike Schoenwald, District Attorney, Ted Beutel and Deputy Clerk Recorder, Katelyn Ziemann. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. The interactive video conferencing system was connected between Crescent Valley and Eureka for the entire meeting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Public comment and discussion. Notice: No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. Public comment may be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Public comment may be allowed on "Action" items, in addition to the two times specified on the agenda. (Discussion)

Chairman McKay called for public comment in Crescent Valley, hearing none he called in Eureka. Assessor Michael Mears reported that he did not receive any appeals to the County Board of Equalization. Chairman McKay asked for a moment of silence for the many Eureka and Crescent Valley residents that passed away in the last month, from Eureka the Honorable John Schweble, Art Miles, Paul Athey and from Crescent Valley, Barbara Dugan and Devin Barton.

2. Consider items requiring action to be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting. Notice: The public is welcome to request agenda items for future meetings during the Public Comment period or may consult with one or more of the Board of Commissioners to request agenda items for future meetings. (Discussion)

None considered.

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### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of the minutes of January 6, 2025, Commission meeting. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the January 6, 2025, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### COUNTY COMPTROLLER – Kim Todd, Comptroller

1. Payment of expenditures. Notice: Expenditures received after action has been taken under this Comptroller section may be presented and acted upon throughout the day. (For Possible Action)

The Board along with Comptroller Kim Todd reviewed the expenditures.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve expenditures of \$5,474,003.28 with the passthroughs of \$501.77 to the Nevada Department taxation Room Tax, \$1,952,060.77 to the Nevada State Controller-School Taxes, \$535,258.34 to Nevada State Controller, and \$78.00 to the Washoe County Crime Lab for a total of \$2,487,898.88. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Review Fund Balance Report. (Discussion)

The Board reviewed the current fund balance report.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

1. Discuss legislation being considered by the Nevada Legislature at their upcoming 2025 Session. No position on legislation will be taken by the Board at this time. (Discussion)

Michael Mears updated the Board on the Nevada Legislature sessions, the SB116 Elected Official Salary Bill has been brought forward and will eventually come before the board.

2. Discuss, approve or deny ratifying the resolution recognizing Maureen Garner for her many years of Service to Eureka County. *Note: Resolution was not approved at prior meeting.* (For Possible Action)

The resolution recognizing Maureen Garner for her many years of Service to Eureka County was read at the previous meeting but was accidentally not approved.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve ratifying the resolution recognizing Maureen Garner for her many years of Service to Eureka County, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny ratifying the waiving of the rental fee of the Opera House for the memorial service, of the Honorable John F. Schweble, an 18-year employee of Eureka County, held January 18, 2025. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve ratifying waving the rental fee of the Opera House for the memorial service, of the Honorable John F. Schweble, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Discuss, approve or deny acceptance of the donation of APN: 002-043-02, a 2.07-acre parcel located at 565 Fifth Street in Crescent Valley Town. Duane Nakano, Trustee of the Nakano Family Trust wishes to donate this parcel to Eureka County. (For Possible Action)

The Board along with Treasurer Pernecia Johnson and County Assessor Michael Mears discussed the pros and cons of accepting the donation of APN: 002-043-02, a 2.07-acre parcel located at 565 Fifth Street in Crescent Valley Town.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to accept the donation of APN: 002-043-02, a 2.07-acre parcel located at 565 Fifth Street in Crescent Valley Town, Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

5. Discuss, approve or deny ratifying the Indigent Defense Financial Status Report for Quarter 2 of Fiscal Year 2024-25, detailing costs expended for provision of public defense services. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve ratifying the Indigent Defense Financial Status Report for Quarter 2 of Fiscal Year 2024-25, Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### RESOLUTION

1. Discuss and consider resolution recognizing Kenny Sanders for his many years of Service to Eureka County. (For Possible Action)

Deputy Clerk Recorder, Katelyn Ziemann read the resolution recognizing Kenny Sanders for his many years of Service to Eureka County.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the resolution recognizing Kenny Sanders for his many years of Service to Eureka County, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### RESOLUTION

#### HONORING KENNY SANDERS

#### FOR 27 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS AND VISITORS OF EUREKA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Eureka County Commissioners wishes to honor friend and colleague, Kenny Sanders, for his years of service to Eureka County and its Citizens from 12/22/1997 to 12/13/2024

WHEREAS, Kenny began his life journey in Delta, Colorado when he was born on 2/12/1967 to Ken and Lola Sanders. He is the oldest of four, with three younger sisters: Krissy, Brandy, and Teressa. Kenny graduated from Eureka County High School with the class of 1985. Kenny held employment at the mines as an equipment operator before beginning employment with Eureka County in 1997 as a Deputy in the Sheriff's Office Detentions. During his time at the Sheriff's Office Kenny moved into the role of Sergeant in 2001. Kenny is remembered for treating all people with the utmost respect and was an example of what "community policing" should be. He was often referred to as "Radar" because he could anticipate the things that needed to be done before being asked to complete them. Kenny lifted and encouraged his trainees and was able to train dozens of new Deputy recruits, many of which stayed long term at the Sheriff's Office. Kenny was a hands-on leader and led by example in all his roles. Kenny began volunteering as an EMT in 2006. In 2019, Kenny moved into the position of EMS Coordinator where he was integral in supporting the first response team in Eureka County, saving countless lives in responding to medical emergencies.

WHEREAS, Kenny was married to Jeri Sanders in 02/28/2013 and together they raised 9 children, Kenny's 3 boys; JD, Barry, and Christopher Michael, Jeri's 2 boys and 3 daughters; and a son, David. Kenny and Jeri call Eureka home to this day and continue to be an asset to our community. Kenny plays an active role in sports in Eureka Schools, having coached both football and baseball over the years.

WHEREAS, County officials, employees, and residents celebrate with Kenny on his much deserved retirement, and wish him health and happiness in his future endeavors. His kindness and dedication will be missed for years to come at Eureka County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eureka County Commissioners recognize and honor Kenny Sanders for his longtime service and dedication to Eureka County. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be published in the minutes of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners to remain a part of the permanent and historical records of Eureka County.

ADOPTED this 4 day of February, 2025.

Katherine J/Bowling, Clerk Recorder

BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COUNTY OF EUREKA, STATE OF NEVADA

Richard McKay, Chairman

Michael Schoenwald, Commissioner

Marty Plaskett, Commissioner

Discuss, approve or deny adopting a Proclamation declaring February 2025 as "National Radon Action Month in Nevada" (For Possible Action)

Free Radon test kits can be picked up at the Extension Office on Main Street for the months of January and February.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve adopting a Proclamation declaring February 2025 as "National Radon Action Month in Nevada", Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

# PROCLAMATION DECLARING FEBRARY 2025 AS "NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH IN NEVADA"

WHEREAS, the state of Nevada, known for its natural beauty, is also home to abundant uranium deposits that, while beneficial in certain applications, naturally break down into radon gas, a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that can pose serious health risks to residents; and

WHEREAS, radon exposure is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers and the second leading cause among smokers, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimating that 21,000 Americans lose their lives annually due to lung cancer caused by radon exposure; and

WHEREAS, lung cancer tragically claims the lives of more women than breast cancer and all other cancers combined, highlighting the significant risk posed to Nevadans, who face an even higher risk of lung cancer compared to the national average; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one in four homes in Nevada has elevated levels of radon, making it crucial for residents to be aware that even neighboring homes may have vastly different radon levels; and

WHEREAS, testing is the only way to detect elevated radon levels in homes, and this simple, often low-cost process can lead to mitigation efforts that greatly improve home safety and health; and

WHEREAS, the University of Nevada, Reno Extension's Nevada Radon Education Program, alongside the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, actively supports statewide efforts to educate Nevadans on the importance of testing and mitigating radon levels and to promote radon-resistant new construction; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Eureka County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims February 2025 as "National Radon Action Month in Nevada" and urges all residents to protect their health by testing their homes for radon. Free radon test kits will be available throughout January and February at 30 pick-up locations including Extension offices statewide to help Nevadans ensure a safe and healthy home environment.

Adopted this 21st day of January, 2025.

Board of Eureka County Commissioners County of Eureka, State of Nevada

Rich McKay, Chairman

Marty Plaskett, Vice Chair

Mike Schoenwald, Member

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### TREASURER-Pernecia Johnson, Treasurer

1. Review list of tax delinquent properties held in trust by the Treasurer and consider proceeding to sale pursuant to 2019 Order of the Board and NRS Chapter 361. (For Possible Action)

The Board reviewed the delinquent tax lists from the Treasurer's office and approved both item #1 and #2 at the same time.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the list of tax delinquent properties held in trust by the Treasurer and consider proceeding to sale pursuant to 2019 Order of the Board and NRS Chapter 361 and approve Eureka County's acquisition of any of the tax delinquent parcels pursuant to NRS 361.603, also approving the Pioneer pass parcel to be include with the list. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Review and approve Eureka County's acquisition of any of the tax delinquent parcels pursuant to NRS 361.603. (For Possible Action)

Approved with item #1.

3. Review Treasurer's Report for December 2024. (Discussion)

The Board along with Treasurer Pernecia Johnson reviewed the Treasurer's Report for December 2024.

### IT- Misty Rowley, IT Director

1. Discuss, approve or deny Quote #25-01-10 Switch Upgrade With mGig core and authorize purchase of replacement networking equipment in Eureka and Crescent Valley for a not to exceed amount of \$145,833.76 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-018-55010-000) in the Technology Support budget. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve Quote #25-01-10 Switch Upgrade With mGig core and authorized purchase of replacement networking equipment in Eureka and Crescent Valley not to exceed amount of \$145,833.76 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-018-55010-000) in the Technology Support budget. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

## JUVENILE PROBATION- Steve Zimmerman, JPO

1. Discuss, approve or deny a temporary credit limit increase on the County purchasing card issued to Irma Davila, in the amount of \$1,500 (\$2,000 total), for the months of February and March for the purchases of Dance Program supplies. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve a temporary credit limit increase on the County purchasing card issued to Irma Davila, in the amount of \$1,500 (\$2,000 total), for the months of

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February and March for the purchases of Dance Program supplies. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Discuss, approve or deny a temporary credit limit increase on the County purchasing card issued to Steve Zimmerman, in the amount of \$1,500, for the months of February and March for the purchases of Dance Program supplies. And an additional \$7,000 for the month of March to cover expenses for the annual high school ski trip. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve a temporary credit limit increase on the County purchasing card issued to Steve Zimmerman, in the amount of \$1,500, for the months of February and March for the purchases of Dance Program supplies, and an additional \$7,000 for the month of March to cover expenses for the annual high school ski trip. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### SHERIFF- Miles Umina, Acting Sheriff

1. Report on Sheriff's Office projects and activities. (Discussion)

Acting Sheriff, Miles Umina reported that for the month of January, Kim Todd and himself have been working with Ed Kilgore to clean up the budget. He wanted to thank the Public Works departments for their work on upgrades around the Sheriff's office. He reported that in December they had 1,309 calls for service that were generated by dispatch. Out of those calls 30 cases were generated with 3 arrests. In January they had 1,240 calls for service that were generated by dispatch. Out of those calls 31 cases were generated, with 3 arrests from the Sheriff's office and 1 arrest from NHP. Sheriff Umina wanted to recognize Under Sheriff Tyler Thomas for helping a neighbor in need of help, while off duty, after a fire started in their home. Sheriff Umina also reported that with the help of the entire Sheriff's Office they have revamped their mission statement, vision and values for the department. This can be found by contacting the Eureka County Sheriff's Office.

2. Discuss, approve or deny an advanced step hire for the candidate of the Deputy III position at a range 12/ step 22 (\$39.10) on the Eureka Law Enforcement (ELE) pay scale. (For Possible Action)

Sheriff Umina explained that the individual they are looking to hire is a Eureka native, his family lives here and he knows the history of Eureka and the Sheriff's office. Because he has been a Deputy in the past the candidate will not have to go through 17 weeks of Post, he will just attend 80 hours to receive back his Post certificate.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve an advanced step hire for the candidate of the Deputy III position at a range 12/ step 22 (\$39.10) on the Eureka Law Enforcement (ELE) pay scale, Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### PUBLIC WORKS – Jeb Rowley, Public Works Director

1. Report on Public Works projects and activities. (Discussion)

The Public Works Director, Jeb Rowley reported that they have been concentrating on road maintenance agreement MOU's that they have with the mines in both the North and the South. The road crew have been busy crack sealing many roads around the valley and at the airport. The Eureka Clinic will not have X-Rays for about 30 to 40 days in March while the new machine is installed, there will be updates sent out on Eureka social media sites.

2. Discuss, approve or deny Proposal #16020 from Total Security Solutions for purchase of a ballistic transaction window and ballistic opaque tiles to be installed in the Eureka Justice Facility, for an amount not to exceed \$18,000.00, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-034-55010-000) in the Sheriff 's Office budget. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve Proposal #16020 from Total Security Solutions for purchase of a ballistic transaction window and ballistic opaque tiles to be installed in the Eureka Justice Facility, for an amount not to exceed \$18,000.00, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-034-55010-000) in the Sheriff 's Office budget. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### NEVADA DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

1. Review and approve the Nevada Division of Water Resources Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget for the assessment to be collected by Eureka County on behalf of the Division for necessary expenses related to supervision over the distribution of water of the Humboldt River as decreed. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the Nevada Division of Water Resources Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget for the assessment to be collected by Eureka County on behalf of the Division for necessary expenses related to supervision over the distribution of water of the Humboldt River as decreed. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### CENTRAL NEVADA REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

1. Discuss, approve or deny resolution approving membership of Mineral County to the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority (CNRWA) and amending the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement Establishing the CNRWA. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve a resolution approving membership of Mineral County to the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority (CNRWA) and amending the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement Establishing the CNRWA and allow for Chairman McKay to sign outside of the meeting. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### EUREKA COUNTY RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT EUREKA COUNTY APPROVE MINERAL COUNTY AS A MEMBER COUNTY OF THE CENTRAL NEVADA REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025

WHEREAS, the members of the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority (hereafter referred to as "Authority") are Churchill County, Elko County, Esmeralda County, Eureka County, Humboldt County, Lander County, Nye County, Pershing County and White Pine County, each of which is a general purpose unit of local government and subdivision of the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is a unit of local government, created pursuant to the Nevada Interlocal Cooperation Act, with a goal to collaboratively and proactively address water resource issues common to the Nevada Central Hydrographic Region; and

WHEREAS, eighteen ground water basins in Mineral County are located, wholly or partially, in the Nevada Central Hydrographic Region; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2025 the Mineral County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to join the Authority; and

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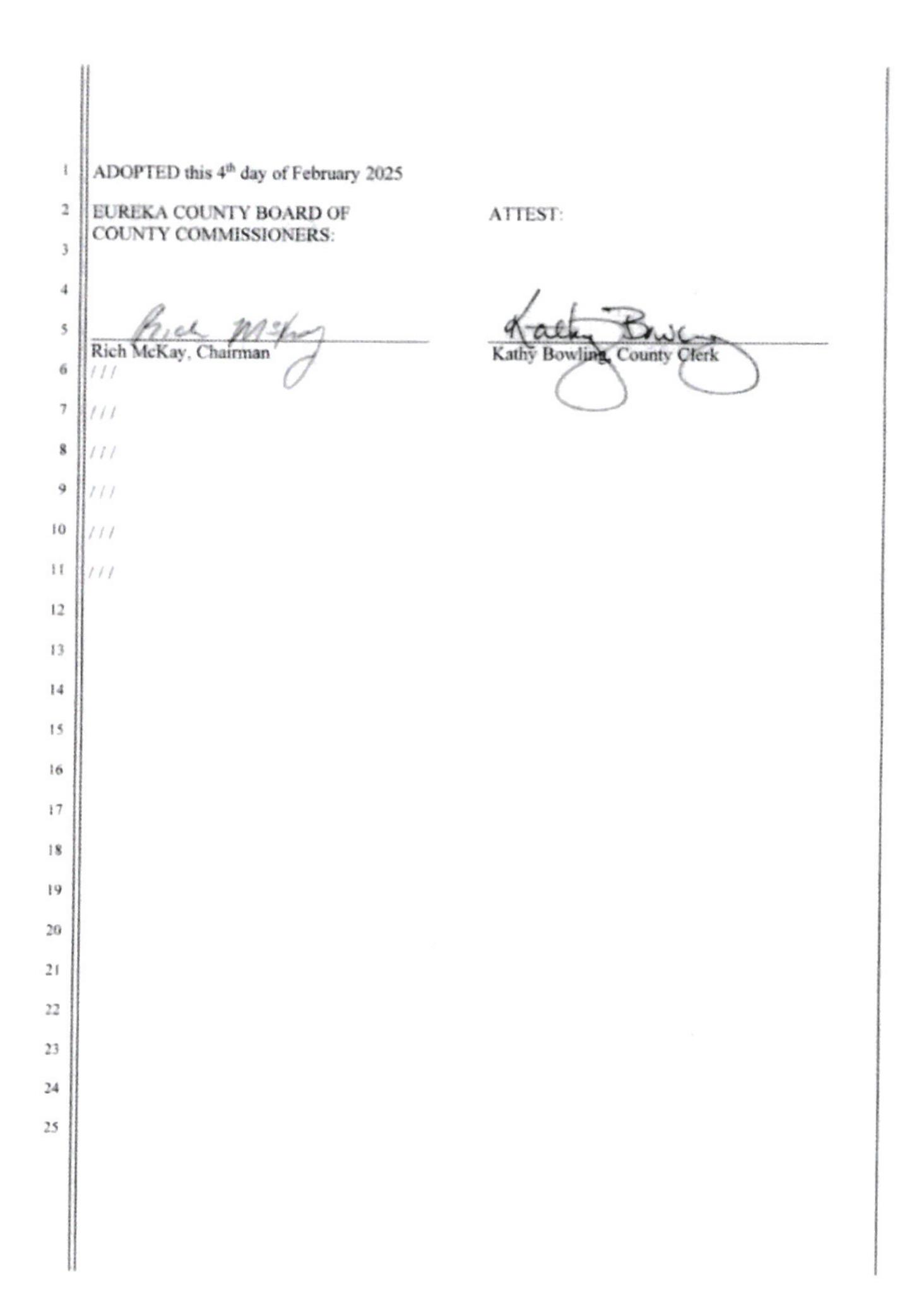
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WHEREAS, on January 15, 2025 the Authority Board of Directors voted 18 to 0 to recommend member county commissions approve Mineral County as a member county, pursuant to Article 12.B of the Cooperative Agreement creating the Authority; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Eureka County Board of Commissioners that pursuant to Articles 6 and 12.B of the Cooperative Agreement creating the Authority, that: 1) Mineral County is accepted as an Authority member effective January 1, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mineral County has all the rights and privileges as conferred in the Cooperative Agreement creating the Authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be maintained in the official files of the Authority with the original of the executed Cooperative Agreement establishing the Authority.



## NATURAL RESOURCES – Jake Tibbits, Natural Resources Director

1. Report on current and emerging natural resource issues affecting Eureka County. (Discussion)

Natural Resources Director, Jake Tibbits reported that the Mountain Solar NEPA kickoff meeting will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 at the Battle Mountain District Office. Jake will be traveling to Carson City to present at the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. Crescent Valley Firewise will hold their meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The Diamond Valley Rodent District will be meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Eureka Conservation District will meet February 14<sup>th</sup>. Nevada Gold Mines is holding their Community Development Committee meeting, he will have more information later. NRAC will be meeting on the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup>.

2. Discuss, approve or deny 2024 Certification of Expenditure of Funds for Title III funds received through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act. (For Possible Action)

Jake explained that this will be a ratification, the Board approved the certification at a past meeting but will be signed and confirmed then.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the 2024 Certification of Expenditure of Funds for Title III funds received through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss and consider providing a support letter for a federal appropriations request for assistance in establishing an agrivoltaics center at the University of Nevada, Reno's Great Basin Research and Extension Center (GBREC). (For Possible Action)

Jake explained that the letter of support for the federal appropriations request for assistance in establishing an agrivoltaics center at the University of Nevada, Reno's Great Basin Research and Extension Center (GBREC) is a farm area that was donated as a utility project. The project provides community scale power needs through support and new ideas for ranchers and farmers.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve providing a support letter for a federal appropriations request for assistance in establishing an agrivoltaics center at the University of Nevada, Reno's Great Basin Research and Extension Center (GBREC). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Discuss, approve or deny out-of-state travel for Natural Resources Manager to attend the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) annual meeting in Salt Lake City, UT, February 10-12, 2025. Note: Mr. Tibbitts chairs the NACD Public Lands Subcommittee and is the NACD Nevada board member. All expenses for travel, lodging, meals and per diem will be paid by the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve out-of-state travel for Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts to attend the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) annual meeting in Salt Lake City, UT, February 10-12, 2025. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board took a 15-minute recess.

Chairman McKay called the meeting back to order at 11:22 a.m.

## FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET

- 1. Conduct budget reviews with departments listed below including possible action or direction related to tentative budgets. Note: Tentative Budgets are due to the Department of Taxation by April 15, 2025. All budgets are subject to revision before adoption of the Final Budget which is due by June 1, 2025. (For Possible Action)
- a. Justice Court, Justice Court AA, Justice Court Facility Fund
- b. Clerk Recorder, Recorder Tech Fund, Elections, District Court
- c. Juvenile Probation, Juvenile Probation AA Fund
- d. Ambulance & EMS
- e. Treasurer, Public Guardian
- f. Assessor, Assessor Tech Fund
- g. Human Resources
- h. Comptroller, Annual Audit/Budget
- i. District Attorney, Law Library
- j. IT/Data Processing

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- k. Recreation and Tourism Board
- 1. Fair Board
- m. Senior Center
- n. Natural Resources, NRAC, Game Board, Diamond Valley Weed/Rodent, Natural Resource Multi-Use
- o. Ag Extension
- p. Commissioners, North End Activity Fund, Medical Clinic, Water Mitigation, Library

<u>Treasurer:</u> Pernecia Johnson explained that she moved the Public Guardian accounts around and explained that there will be more spending out of her Legal Fees accounts due to estate cases that she will have this year.

<u>Justice Court:</u> Judge Dorothy Rowley appeared before the Board noting that her budget is the same. She mentioned that she used her projected capital outlay this year to purchase a new copier for her office. They did discuss lowering the phone and fax costs due to them switching to different systems.

Assessor: Michael Mears appeared before the Board noting that he is submitting a flat budget. He is increasing his phone and fax costs due to them being consistently more than projected, he will increase it by \$200. Michael Mears would like to retain Mark Stafford to continue to assist his office in assessments. He is also expecting to purchase a new vehicle for the Assessor's office, their current truck is too small for 3 people and is starting to have mechanical issues. He will continue to work with Public Works to get the proper vehicle needed.

<u>Clerk Recorder:</u> Kim Todd presented the Clerk Recorders budget for Kathy Bowling; she submitted a flat budget. Elections is a State Mandate that Counties have no control over, new contracts will be coming in, so the Elections budget is subject to change. The District Courts budget is also a flat budget, due to Child Protective Services Assessment, Youth Parole, Public Defender costs, jury trials, the numbers are difficult to project. Many of the payments through District Court, similar to Justice Court, are pass throughs being, restitution, judge payments and the Tri County Agreement.

Juvenile Probation: Kim Todd presented the Juvenile Probation budget for Steve Zimmerman, the grant money for the PACE coalition lowered to \$8,500 a year. Steve increased the recreation program budget by \$1,000. Many of Steves programs are grant run programs like the tutoring grants and life skills. Many of the fees Juvenile Probation do not use but are mandatory to have like, counseling, house arrest costs, medical costs and restitution.

The Board took a 15-minute recess for lunch.

Chairman McKay called the meeting back to order at 12:15 p.m.

Natural Resources: Jake Tibbitts presented his budget to the Board; he is submitting a flat budget. Jake also has grant funded projects, the Firewise project is supported by federal funding and the Wildlife Enhancement Project. No changes to the NRAC budget. The Game Board is proposing a flat budget. Diamond Valley Weed/Rodent budget, the majority gets reimbursed through weed assistance agreements with the BLM for both Elko District and Battle Mountain. He is decreasing the chemical budget by \$10,000. He increased the Insurance Budget based off previous years. He increased the fuel budget due to rising fuel prices. The Diamond Valley

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Rodent District is funded only by the properties within the Diamond Valley District, they are decreasing contract services so they can increase services and supplies.

Water Mitigation: Jake Tibbitts explained that the Water Mitigation fund is primarily funded by grants, the Kobe Valley grant, a mitigation payment that Barrick Gold provided. Any ARPA funds go into this account. The Water Mitigation funds the gauging stations like, the Tonkin Springs, Roberts, Henderson, Coyles Creek, Devils Gate gauging stations. Discussion ensued over the Conservation District rolling funds over, along with where donations will land.

North End Activity Fund: Jeremy Rice requested a budget increase up to \$20,000. They are hoping to plan some more community events this year. Kim Todd commented that they do receive money from Nevada Gold Mines.

Ambulance & EMS: Nichole Cooley presented that the ambulance supplies budget went up due to the difficulty of getting supplies. She is increasing the fuel budget due to the rise in fuel costs. The travel and training budget will increase with the new hires and the rising costs of classes and training materials. The phone and fax budget increased with the new Push to Talk subscriptions.

<u>Human Resources:</u> Tasha Dunlap presented her budget with a decrease in office supplies and postage. A question was asked about the personnel support account, she explained that it covers things like drug screens and background checks.

<u>Comptroller:</u> Kim Todd presented a flat budget and explained that her budget pays for the entire Tyler system for the whole county. She increased her postage budget by \$250 due to rising costs of postage.

<u>District Attorney:</u> Ted Beutel presented a flat budget to the Board; he decreased his travel and training by \$15,000.

IT: Misty Rowley presented her budget to the Board, she increased her services and supplies by \$5,000, computer software went up about \$60,000. She is migrating and changing software this March as well as upgrades and cloud licensing. Her contract services went down about \$100,000, and Circuit broadband went down about \$12,000. Her capital outlay went up \$60,000 for the new fiber rings.

Recreation & Tourism Board: Kim Todd presented the Rec Boards budget; they receive money from room tax that they use to put on their events. They want to lower their contract services and keep miscellaneous grants at \$65,000. Rich McKay, who sits on the Rec Board, explained that the Board allocates money for advertising.

<u>Fair Board:</u> Kim Todd presented the budget, they are lowering their contract services, they currently do not have a secretary, so those expenses haven't been used. They combined the two-line items Bulls and Rough Stock into one called Rodeo. They are going to have to put out bids for a new cattle provider this year, so they increased that item by about \$8,000. They have cut the cutting and working cow horse events so they can put more money into the kids' activities.

Senior Center: Linda Gordon presented her budget to the Board. The travel and training account will go up because they are transporting more and more seniors to doctors' appointments. The

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phone and fax will increase in Crescent Valley. Her capital outlay will increase to purchase new computers in the Crescent Valley Senior Center.

Ag Extension: Kim Todd presented the Ag Extension budget; they have a service contract with UNR and the county receives a quarterly invoice. They receive taxes which are required by NRS. They want to donate a large grant to the Boys and Girls Club, almost \$800,000. They are still working out the details of when that will be, this year or next.

Commissioners: The Board and Kim Todd discussed the Commissioner budget. They increased the lobbyist budget due to rising costs and a heavy legislature session. They increased the NACO budget due to their membership fees increasing. They decided to increase the capital outlay fund to \$1.5 million to cover emergencies. The new X-Ray machine and dental equipment will take up a lot of the funds, extra money in the budget will help prepare for unexpected things such as the flood from a few years ago. They also increased the miscellaneous grant funds for donations. Discussion ensued over the MedEx Air 1 contracts; more information will need to be gathered.

Medical Clinic: No changes were made; the Board decided to get more information and discuss at another budget meeting.

<u>Library:</u> The Board and Kim Todd discussed contracts with the Elko Mybrary, and increased the budget \$5,000 to accommodate increases they have been seeing in the past.

No action was taken.

2. Discuss current tax rates and consider any proposed changes to the tax rate, which must be submitted to the Nevada Department of Taxation by February 21, 2025. Note: No actual change to the tax rate may be considered without a public hearing; this is simply to meet state requirements for reporting any proposed changes. (For Possible Action)

Kim Todd explained through a PowerPoint presentation the increases over the past 4 years. Due to the Board increasing taxes in 2024, they chose to not raise taxes this Fiscal year 2025-2026. The Board discussed lowering the General Fund tax to increase the Building Maintenance and Future Reserve funds to help cover building maintenance that is needed throughout the county. The Board discussed a possible date for a Public Hearing.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to make no changes to the tax rate, Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Review tax allocation worksheet and provide direction related to allocation of the tax rate among specific funds for specific purposes. Note: The proposed allocation of the tax rate must be submitted to the Department of Taxation. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to reallocate from the General Fund to Building Maintenance and Future Reserve, Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Discuss and tentatively consider capital outlay requests from department heads, prioritize projects and purchases and consider funding sources for all capital outlay scheduled for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. (For Possible Action)

Kim Todd passed out a folder showing all the project requests from departments for the Fiscal year 2025-2026, the Board discussed many of the projects. Some of the projects discussed were, the State Health Department highly advises the swimming pool to be painted and the deck to be resurfaced. The Senior Center and Medical Clinic needs painted as well. There will be increases in communication for the Sheriff's office and ambulance equipment. Election software will have changes, but nothing has been finalized yet. IT departments fiberoptic projects will continue along with the water upgrades. Crescent Valley is requesting surveillance cameras in their town park to help with the vandalizing issues.

No action was taken.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Review correspondence. (Discussion)

Deputy Clerk Recorder, Katelyn Ziemann read the meetings correspondence; Eureka NRAC's meeting notice for February 19th at 6pm and Eureka's CAB meeting invite on January 15th at 4:30 pm.

2. Commissioner reports on pertinent correspondence or other matters. (Discussion)

None considered.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Public comment and discussion. Notice: No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. Public comments may be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Public comment may be allowed on "Action" items, in addition to the two times specified on the agenda. (Discussion)

Chairman McKay called for public comment in Crescent Valley. Lisa Wolf with the Eureka Sentinel asked a question regarding the general fund balance. She stated that the current general fund balance is \$32,204,587 and the estimated assessment value of the county is \$846,767,099, she asked what that meant and the difference? Assessor Michael Mears answered her question by stating that it is the combination of value on the secured roll and the unsecured roll, it does not include mining net proceeds. It is strictly property improvements and land values; it has gone up largely due to mining project expansions and the addition of solar projects and new homes being built in the Southern end of the county. Chairman McKay called for public comment in Eureka, hearing none he proceeded to the next item.

2. Consider items requiring action to be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting. Notice: The public is welcome to request agenda items for future meetings during the Public Comment period or may consult with one or more of the Board of Commissioners to request agenda items for future meetings. (Discussion)

Kim Todd brought to the Boards attention that the Board should start accepting letters regarding interest in the Sheriffs position.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

1. Adjournment of meeting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman, Rich McKay

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by Deputy Clerk Recorder Katelyn Ziemann.

Approved this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025 by the Eureka County Board of Commissioners.

County Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling