

BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 4, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF NEVADA)
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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 March 4, 2025. Present were Chairman Rich McKay, Vice Chair Marty Plaskett, Commissioner Mike Schoenwald, District Attorney Ted Beutel and County Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling. 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 agenda with the tabling of Commissioners item #3, 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 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. Laura Shivers read a letter on behalf of Kim Sewell. Kim Sewell commented that the Crescent Valley Medical Services Advisory Committee is not satisfied with the level of care they are currently receiving at their clinic. She commented that 2 days a week is not accommodating, especially when they are referred out for everything. During the time frame of October 23, 2024, to November 19, 2024 the MA was not available to the Crescent Valley residents. The committee is asking the Commission Board to short pay William B Ririe Hospital for the lack of providers. They are currently working on bringing Vitality Unlimited in to provide mental health services to their area. They are still investigating the cost of casual employees and legal issues and will have an update to the Board after their meeting on March 25. Laura Shivers made her own positive public comment in support of the Commissioners agenda item # 4 & #5; Nona Kellerman has resigned as a board member to an alternate member and is asking alternate member Nick Collins to be

moved to a Board member. She also commented that Christina Tucker has put in a letter of interest to serve on the board as well. 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)*

None considered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the minutes of the February 4, 2025, Commission meeting. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the February 4, 2025, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Schoenwald 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 \$810,631.17 with the passthrough of \$8,455 to the Nevada Department of Taxation Room Tax. 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)**

Micheal Mears reported that most of the bills are waiting for agenda committees, agenda hearings or committee referrals. They are still in negotiations and waiting for bills to finalize such as the SB116 elected officials' salary bill. Audience member Trina Machacek asked if the Board has thought about standing behind bill AB81, abolishing daylight savings time. The Board discussed adding it as a future agenda item to discuss their thoughts on the topic.

2. Update on the process for advertising, accepting applications and conducting interviews for the appointed Sheriff position that would begin April 1, 2025, and would end on December 31, 2026. **(For Possible Action)**

Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling gave an update on the advertisement for the appointed Sheriff position; they ran a flyer underneath the Commissioners on the County Website and posted a notice in the paper. It was decided that the Clerk would accept letters of interest/applications until

March 13, 2025. The Board decided to hold open interviews during the March 18th Commission meeting for anyone who submits a letter or application.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the current process discussed with the intention of having a public interview at the March 18th commissioner meeting to appoint a Sheriff.

Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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| 3. Discuss, approve or deny contract with Gallagher Dental Care - Morris S. Gallagher, DDS regarding dental services at the Eureka Medical Clinic. (For Possible Action) |
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Item was tabled.

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| 4. Discuss and consider a request from Nona Kellerman, member of the Crescent Valley Medical Services Advisory Committee (CVMSAC), to be removed as a member and serve as an alternate member of the CVMSAC. (For Possible Action) |
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The Board chose to approve items #4 and #5 at the same time.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the resignation from Nona Kellerman and appoint Nicholas Collins as a CVMSAC board member. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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| 5. Discuss letter of interest received from Nicholas Collins, to serve on the CVMSAC as a member instead of an alternate member. (For Possible Action) |
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Approved with item #4.

EUREKA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL – Jaylene Callister, Guidance Counselor (via letter)

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| 1. Discuss, approve or deny a contribution to the Eureka County High School annual scholarship drive for the Class of 2025, to be paid with monies budgeted for miscellaneous grants in the Commission budget. <i>Note: Last year the contribution was \$3,000.00.</i> (For Possible Action) |
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The board was in favor of a donation to the Eureka County High School annual scholarship drive. The Board also discussed an additional scholarship contribution to the Crescent Valley Seniors graduating from Battle Mountain High School. Commissioner Schoenwald will investigate if there are any Crescent Valley Seniors, and the item will be on a future agenda.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve a \$3,000 contribution to the Eureka County High School annual scholarship drive for the Class of 2025, to be paid with monies budgeted for miscellaneous grants in the Commission budget. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

HEALTHY PAWS OF EUREKA – Cynthia Beutel, President

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| 1. Discuss, approve or deny a request for funding, in the amount of \$5,000.00, towards the spay, neuter or well-being of animals in Eureka County. <i>Note: The last contribution to Healthy Paws was \$5,000.00 in 2023.</i> (For Possible Action) |
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Cindy Beutel went before the board to ask for a contribution of \$5,000 to Healthy Paws of Eureka to help with the spaying and neutering of dogs and cats in Eureka County. Cindy

explained that they have been able to help many animals; she herself has raised many litters of kittens and adopted them out. Cindy works in both Eureka and Crescent Valley; the donation will help to continue her cause. Cindy is looking for a partner in Crescent Valley. Commissioner Schoenwald mentioned helping to spread the word.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the request for a \$5,000 contribution to Healthy Paws. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

LAURA SHIVERS-

1. Discussion of increasing the Library Contract to 18 hours a week, to be broken down to 4.5 hours a day, 4 days a week, and increasing books from 1,000 to 1,500. *Note: The Mybrary Library contract will be on a future agenda. (Discussion)*

Laura Shivers went before the Board to ask that they consider changing the Mybrary Library contract to increase the hours to 4.5 hours a day, 4 days a week. She explained that the library is a great resource for people who do not have internet access at home, as well as the story-times and information made available.

The Board was in favor of extending the hours, they have not discussed the library contract yet so the hours will be on another agenda.

TREASURER- Pernecia Johnson, Treasurer

1. Review Treasurer's Report for January 2024. **(Discussion)**

The Board along with Pernecia Johnson reviewed the January 2025 Treasurer's Report.

IT-Misty Rowley, IT Director

1. Update on IT projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

IT Director, Misty Rowley updated the Board on IT projects. They worked on reviewing and updating the County's acceptable use policy. They started the Mimecast business email compromise project, continued working on next year's budget and worked on the March newsletter. She said that the Assessor's office, Public Works office and IT met with Skyfiber. She then had Assessor Michael Mears explain to the Board that Skyfiber was awarded the contract to provide fiber connection to all the houses in Diamond Valley by the end of 2026 with up to 1 gigabyte of service available to each site for around \$100 a month. Discussion ensued about future hard fiber connections for Eureka Town and Crescent Valley.

AMBULANCE AND EMS-Nichole Cooley

1. Review 4th quarter report for mandatory ambulance bill write-offs for Medicaid and Medicare accounts. **(Discussion)**

Item was tabled.

The Board took a 5 minute break.

Chairman McKay called the meeting back to order at 10:28 a.m.

HUMAN RESOURCES-Tasha Dunlap, Human Resources Director

1. Report on Human Resources projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

Human Resources Director, Tasha Dunlap reported that they are holding interviews in both Eureka and Crescent Valley for EMT positions. She is working with Jeri Sanders to put on a de-escalation training for both law enforcement and civilians in April. There will be supervisor training for reasonable suspicion on March 27th with Sinnett Consulting Services. Eureka is in partnership with White Pine County for a finance training March 28th in Ely.

SHERIFF- Miles Umina, Acting Sheriff

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

Acting Sheriff, Miles Umina thanked the Public Works department for all their work down at the Justice Facility updating entrances. He explained they are still in the process of filling 2 positions in the North. Miles has directed his deputies to focus more on the main street, with the snowy weather they have been busy.

ROAD DEPARTMENT-Raymond Hodson, Assistant Public Works Director

1. Report on Road Department projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

Assistant Public Works Director, Raymond Hodson reported that the road department has been running the screening plant in the Collingwood pit for most of the month. They finished up with the rubber pot and returned it to Reno. The road crew has been busy plowing roads with all the snow.

PUBLIC WORKS – Jeb Rowley, Public Works Director

1. Public Works projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

The Public Works Director, Jeb Rowley reported that there have been a lot of plumbing repairs in the jails. The existing X-Ray machine will go offline March 17th to install the new X-Ray machine in the Eureka Medical Clinic. They will also be replacing the counter tops in the Eureka Clinic as well.

2. Discuss, approve or deny ratifying a credit card increase for Jayme Halpin to \$3,000.00 for materials and supplies to make building repairs at the Eureka Medical Clinic. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve ratifying a credit card increase for Jayme Halpin to \$3,000.00 for materials and supplies to make building repairs at the Eureka Medical Clinic. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny a purchase of a vending machine for The Eureka County Swimming Pool, not to exceed the amount of \$4,178.00, utilizing funds from Capital Outlay in the Buildings and Grounds Fund (010-015-55010-000). **(For Possible Action)**

Jeb explained that the vending machine for the swimming pool will support swim meets, activities, events and fundraisers. The swimming pool supervisor, Brenna will stock the vending machine.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the purchase of a vending machine for The Eureka County Swimming Pool, not to exceed the amount of \$4,178.00, utilizing funds from Capital

Outlay in the Buildings and Grounds Fund (010-015-55010-000). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Discuss, approve or deny accepting Kobeh Valley Well and Transmission Main Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Lumos and Associates. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve accepting the Kobeh Valley Well and Transmission Main Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Lumos and Associates. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET

1. Conduct budget reviews for all departments 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)**

The Board along with Comptroller Kim Todd reviewed all the department budgets that were submitted.

Commissioner: Commissioners budget increased \$20,000, and the Capital Outlay increased to \$1.5 million for the emergency fund.

Treasurer: The Treasurer increased the services and supplies about 25%.

Recorder: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Assessor: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Human Resources: Decreased their services and supplies about \$500.

Elections: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Comptroller: Services and supplies increased \$5,000 to cover Tyler Technologies.

Buildings and Grounds: Services and supplies increased by \$15,000.

Airport: Services and supplies increased \$3,000.

NRAC: Services and supplies stayed the same.

IT: Services and supplies decreased by about \$50,000.

Planning Commission: Services and supplies decreased by about \$200.

County Wide Miscellaneous: Services and supplies increased.

Juvenile Probation: Services and supplies decreased \$3,000.

District Attorney: Services and supplies decreased \$10,000.

District Court: Services and supplies increased \$20,000 to accommodate the public defender legal aid fees.

Justice Court: Services and supplies decreased \$500.

Sheriff: Services and supplies increased \$40,000.

LEPC: Services and supplies increased \$3,000.

Emergency Management: Services and supplies decreased \$130,000.

Public Works: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Diagnostic Center: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Ambulance: Services and supplies increased about \$20,000.

Cemeteries: Services and supplies increased \$2,000.

Swimming Pool: Services and supplies stayed the same.

North End Activities: Services and supplies increased \$8,000.

Senior Centers: Services and supplies increased \$2,000.

Museum: Services and supplies decreased \$3,000.

Parks: Services and supplies increased \$1,000.

Library: Services and supplies increased \$5,000 and are subject to change with the new contract.

Opera House: Services and supplies increased \$2,000.

Natural Resources: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Retiree Health Insurance: Services and supplies increased by about \$10,000, the number will continuously change as people retire and join.

Road Fund: Services and supplies increased \$20,000.

RTC: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Ag Extension: Capital Outlay increased, they plan to donate \$800,000 to the Boys and Girls Club.

Fair: Services and supplies increased \$6,000.

Building Maintenance: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Capital Projects: Services and supplies increased \$20,000.

Eureka Town: Eureka Town streets and lighting services and supplies stayed the same.

Eureka Water: Services and supplies increased \$20,000.

Sewer: Services and supplies increased \$2,000.

Crescent Valley Town: Services and supplies increased \$100 to cover insurance costs.

Fire Department: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Crescent Valley Town Maintenance: Services and supplies stayed the same.

Crescent Valley Water: Services and supplies increased \$4,000.

TV District: Admin increased \$5,000, Tank Hill remained the same, Prospect Peak remained the same, Argenta remained the same.

Weed District: Services and supplies decreased \$8,000.

Diamond Valley Rodent: Services and supplies increased, they have begun the cost share program that has about doubled their budget.

Recreation Fund: Services and supplies decreased \$100.

Devils Gate: Services and supplies increased \$3,000.

Water Mitigation: Water mitigation fund remained the same.

Natural Resources: Services and supplies remained the same.

Department of Minerals: The Department of Minerals is a passthrough.

Game Board: Services and supplies remained the same.

Accident Indigent: Accident Indigent is a passthrough.

Eureka County Indigent: Services and supplies increased \$1,000; the fund is difficult to anticipate due to never knowing when it will be needed.

Hospital Indigent: Services and supplies remained the same.

Landfill: Services and supplies decreased by about \$140,000 due to the Olcese subsidy.

Assessor Tech: The tech fund remained the same.

Recorder Tech: The tech fund remained the same.

District Court Improvements: The fund decreased \$3,000.

Justice Court: Services and supplies remained the same.

Juvenile Court: Services and supplies decreased \$6,000.

Justice Facility: Services and supplies remained the same.

Forensic: Forensic is a passthrough.

No action was taken.

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| <p>2. Review, discuss and provide direction to the Comptroller related to proposed cost of living adjustments for Non-PERS and PERS employees, effective July 6, 2025. <i>Note: All union contracts have pre-negotiated a 3% increase for FY 2025. PERS rate of contributions will increase effective July 20, 2025, for Regular and Police/Fire Employees, and will affect their pay. (For Possible Action)</i></p> |
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Kim Todd recommended to the Board a 5% Cost of Living (COLA) adjustment to full-time employees and once the PERS factor kicks in the full-time benefited employees will get 3.375%. The union contracts have pre-negotiated a 3% COLA adjustment, once the PERS factor kicks in the law enforcement will get a 1.375% COLA. She recommended non PERS employees (casuals) get a 3% adjustment.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve a 5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for full time employees, a 3% union negotiated COLA and a 3% COLA for casuals effective July 6, 2025. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny possibly adjusting the starting wages for all non-PERS pay ranges (E01-E04), effective July 6, 2025. *Note: This will not affect any current employees.* **(For Possible Action)**

Chairman McKay explained that business owners in town have recently brought it to his attention that the pay of the teenage casual workers, at the pool specifically, has affected local businesses hiring help. He suggests that lowering the starting pay for new casual workers at the pool will encourage teenagers to seek employment at more of the local businesses. Kim Todd explained that Nevada minimum wage is \$12, and a casual employee at the pool starts at \$18. Discussion ensued over the difference in responsibilities between a pool attendant and a lifeguard, there was agreement that a lifeguard should be paid more due to them going through different training and becoming certified. Pool attendants are at Range E01 on the Eureka County Salary Scale with starting pay being \$18 an hour, and a lifeguard is at a Range E02 with the starting pay at \$18.88 an hour. Ultimately the Board agreed that the only non-PERS employees starting wages that they would change would be Range E01 and Range E02. This wage change would only affect new employees, current employees already hired would not be affected.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve adjusting the Eureka County Salary Scale starting wages for new Non-PERS Employees. A Range E01 will begin with the wage of \$15 an hour and Range E02 will start at \$17 an hour. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Review, discuss and 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 suggested moving the pool resurfacing and the senior center and medical clinic paint projects down to the capital outlay projects budget. The Board discussed the Crescent Valley request for exercise equipment and the security camera in the park. Kim Todd suggested adding an additional \$25,000 to the already requested \$17,000 to accommodate the potential increases covering the camera. Misty Rowley discussed rolling over \$250,000 from this year to next year to cover the fiber optic and IT computer network upgrades. Jeb Rowley discussed the \$85,000 needed for the buildings and grounds access codes for both EMS centers, the senior center in Crescent Valley and potentially other locations. The Board discussed the backhoe that Public Works is requesting to replace a current one. The Sheriff's Office budgeted \$350,000 for the last couple of years to cover the 911 upgrade, the contract price is \$289,572.79 so they will decrease the budgeted amount to \$300,000. The Board discussed purchasing 2 new Sheriff trucks for \$200,000. They discussed the differences in leasing versus purchasing, ultimately, they will save money by purchasing new trucks. They also discussed dropping the server updates to \$45,000. There is a budget item for ADA compliance suggestions, the width of bathrooms, signage and parking lot stripping. \$170,000 was added to the budget. Emergency management budgeted \$165,000 for the compressor at the Crescent Valley Fire department and 10 SCBA replacements. The Board discussed the snowplow budgeted at \$300,000 for the Road Department, Jeb decided instead to purchase a new road operator pickup for \$75,000, changing the Road Department budget to \$225,000. Building and maintenance budgeted \$300,000 to \$400,000 just for

emergencies to cover such things as flooding or a roof collapse. The building maintenance budget will also cover the window replacements at the Court House, Opera House and Museum. The Board asked if the pool resurfacing could be pushed a year, Jeb explained that the Health Department listed the pool surface as a deficiency in the recent health sanitation inspection. The Board decided to go ahead with the pool resurfacing. The Board also discussed replacing the Acadia car that broke down last time it was used. The Board discussed the side by side that the Sheriff's office requested for the North End Search and Rescue Team, putting two in both towns helps to strengthen the units being dispatched to urgent situations. Kim Todd discussed the Kobey Valley well budget is covered by a grant from the state. Kim also discussed the new vehicle that the Assessors office is requesting and putting it in the Assessor tech fund. For the Crescent Valley airport project, the paving will come out of the RTC fund, and the water upgrades will come from the Crescent Valley Town Water fund. Eureka Town fund will cover the water tank painting. The TV District budgeted \$100,000 for grounding equipment at Prospect Peak and Argenta, also \$10,000 to acquire the Las Vegas channel. The Weed District added \$1,000 to their budget. The Rodent Board budgeted another \$40,000 for a burrow builder.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to instruct the comptroller to move forward with the budgetary information that they discussed along with the changes made. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Review correspondence. (Discussion)

Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling read the meeting correspondence; NWRA/ Registration for NV State Engineer Legislative updates virtual event for July 31, 2025, NWRA 2025 Truckee River Tour to be held May 1-2, 2025, NV Div of Environmental Protection BMRR Approval of the Mill Canyon Exploration Project Trenching Minor Modification and Reclamation Permit. NDOT list of needs identified during the Nye County Workshop, email from Natural Resources an updated 2025 Conservation and Diamond Valley Rodent District Board newly elected officers, save the date notice from the Fallon Range Training Complex, IEC meeting for March 24, 2pm Churchill County Commission Chambers/Registration Form, CVTAB Agenda for 3-5-2025, TV Board Meeting Agenda for 3-7-25. Appointment of Judge Adriana Rincon White to 8th Judicial District County, Dept., Gov. Outlines NV Medicaid Priorities in Letter to NV Legislative Leadership, NV Gold mines Q1 2025 Community Meeting at Eureka Opera House save the date. (March 20, 2025 9am to 10:30 am), NGM Annual Water Reporting Link, NV Tax Commission Meeting for March 5, 2025 @ 9 am. Nv Gold Mines letter addressing Re-establishment of Desert Bighorn Sheep in the Cortez Range, JPO Grad Night Donation Letter, NDEP Notice of Public Comment Period Beginning Feb 28, 2025 and Public Hearing on April 4, 2025

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

Nothing reported.

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. Chairman McKay asked for a moment of silence for long time Eureka resident Connie Hicks, Connie was known for her handwritten letters and as a town historian.

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.

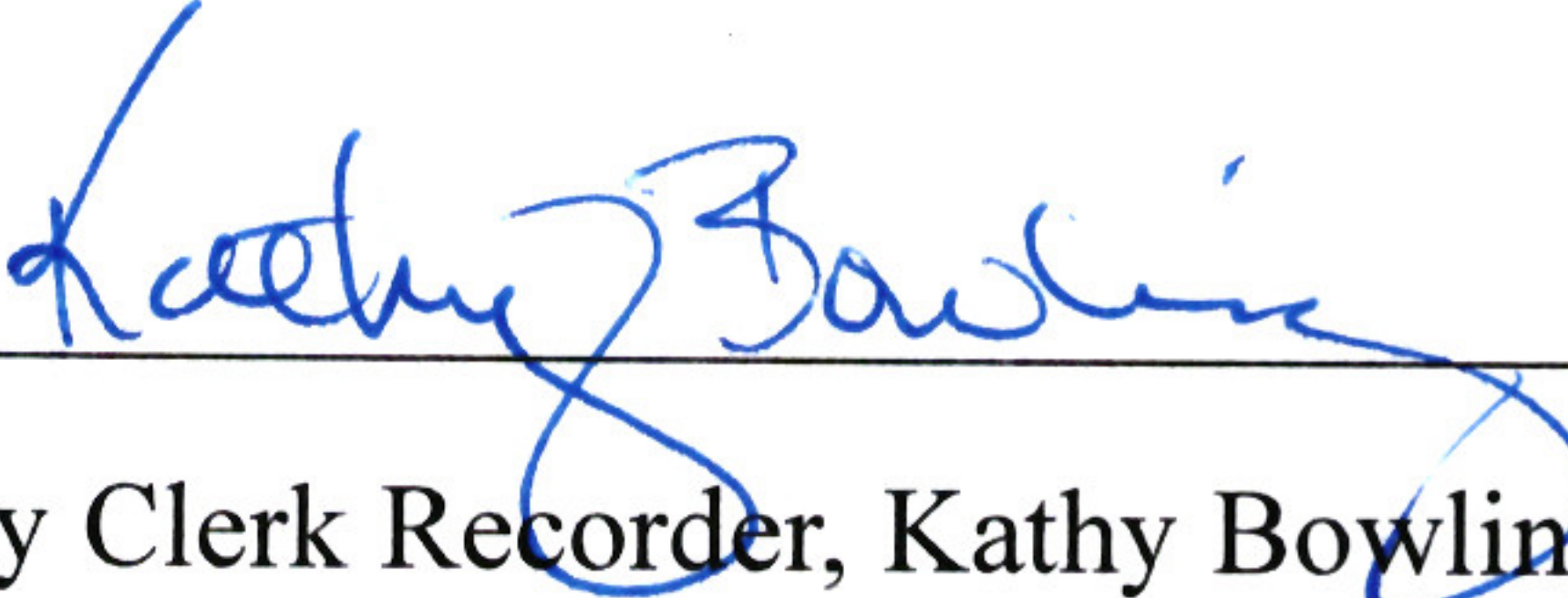
ADJOURNMENT

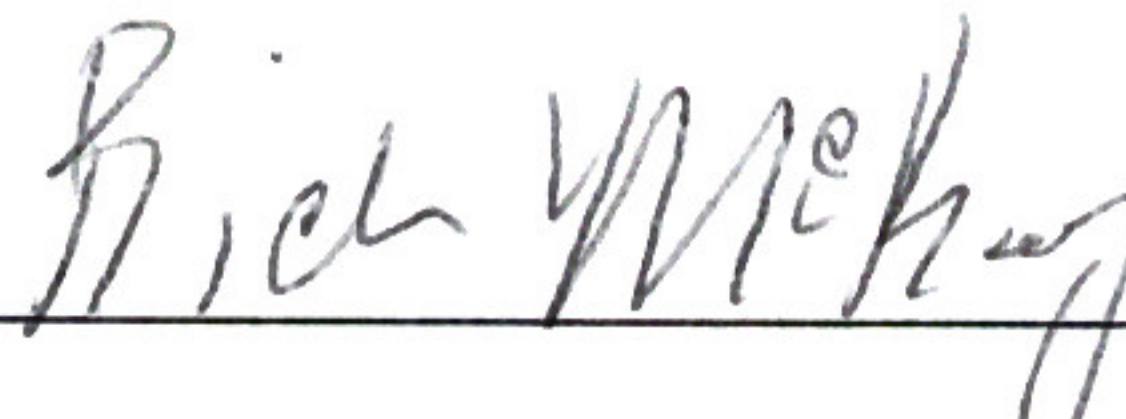
1. Adjournment of meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

*Prepared and submitted by Deputy Clerk Recorder, Katelyn Ziemann.
Approved this 15th day of April, 2025 by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.*

ATTEST: 
County Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling


Chairman, Rich McKay