

**EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**September 06, 2022**

STATE OF NEVADA        )  
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COUNTY OF EUREKA     )

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on September 06, 2022. Present were Chairman J.J. Goicoechea, Vice Chair Michael Sharkozy, Commissioner Rich McKay, District Attorney Ted Beutel, and Administrative Assistant Jackie Berg. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. The interactive video conferencing system was connected and utilized between Crescent Valley and Eureka for the entire meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The following item #3 (discussion of a ¾-inch commercial water service application to service APN 001-221-08), item #4 (discussion of a capital outlay purchase for one (1) new 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 Crew Cab pickup from Findlay Chevrolet), and item #5 (discussion of a capital outlay purchase for one (1) new 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 Crew Cab pickup from Findlay Chevrolet) were removed from the agenda. Commissioner McKay motioned to approve the agenda with the stated changes; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. Chairman Goicoechea began the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Goicoechea opened the floor for public comments.

Sherriff Jesse Watts stated that the Eureka County Sherriff’s Office/Eureka County Clinic has several resources available a long with national resources available for suicidal awareness month.

Sherriff Jesse Watt’s asked for a moment of silence for Stephen Pearce and Carla Ross.

There were no further comments from the public.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

June 21, 2022: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve minutes of the June 21, 2022 meeting; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

**IT DEPARTMENT:**

Jessica Santoyo, IT Support/Helpdesk Technician I and Kim Todd with the Eureka County Comptroller presented to the Board a software program through ClearGov for the Comptroller’s Office to support personnel budgeting and capital project budgeting for a not to exceed amount of \$19,360.00, utilizing funds budgeted for data software contracts (010-012-53010-112) in the annual Audit/Budget account. Commissioner McKay motioned to approve the ClearGov software program. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

## **COMPTROLLER**

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Comptroller Kim Todd. Chairman Goicoechea stated that there were several property tax over payments from the Treasurers Office. Ms. Todd responded that there is a law that the Treasurer's Office will not carry those taxes from year to year because then they wouldn't know where to allocate those funds. After review, Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$2,399,683.26 accounts payable, Nevada Department of Taxation of Room Tax \$845.52. Nevada State Controllers School Taxes \$1,317,268.62. Nevada State Controller \$14.85. Division of Minerals \$128,210.00 and total pass-throughs at \$ 1,446,338.99. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Fund Balance Report: The Board reviewed the current fund balance report. Commissioner McKay asked Ms. Todd if Eureka County was still paying William Bee Ririe a couple invoices out of the indigent account. Ms. Todd responded with yes, they are still paying for four months.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Opioid Settlement Funds: The Board discussed and reviewed funding for opioid recovery systems with counselling, outreach and education. Chairman Goicoechea mentioned that this recovery system is modeled after what other Counties are doing. Commissioner McKay motioned to approve funding. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

District Court, Reno Nevada: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve Chairman Goicoechea to represent Eureka County in a confidential settlement negotiation pertaining to Civil Action 3:22-cv-00190-ART-CLB before the Federal District Court in Reno, Nevada. Ted Buetel commented that it is a requirement that the Federal District Court is setting up to try and weed out all of the cases that shouldn't go forward. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Nevada Gold Energy LLC Tax Abatement Application: Chairman Goicoechea noted that there were emails back and forth from Nevada Gold Mine regarding the new plant plans. The Board discussed to entertain setting up a hearing for further information and concerns they have with these plans. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve a public hearing to obtain further information from Nevada Gold Mine on September, 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Volunteer Work Experience Program: Heidi Whimple with the Eureka County Human Resources presented to the board a program for high school students (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade) for a volunteer position to learn dispatch duties. Sherriff Jesse Watts mentioned that the position description will be considered an internship program. Chairman Goicoechea motioned to move forward after receiving a written position description from Sherriff Jesse Watts.

Hiring and Promotional Policies: Sherriff Jesse Watts questioned the board and asked for clarification on recent hiring and promotional policies. Jesse Watts stated that the policies that are set, are not transparent. Chairman Goicoechea and Heidi Whimple with Human Resources resopned with how the hiring process is handled with the Human

Resources/Comptroller's Office step by step. Chairman Goicoechea felt that the hiring process was being handled according to policy.

### **CLERK RECORDER**

Seventh Judicial District Court Cooperative Agreement: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the Seventh Judicial District Court Cooperative Agreement for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (59% White Pine, 30% Lincoln, 11% Eureka). Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **JUVENILE PROBATION**

Out-of-state travel: Irma Davila with the Juvenile Probation presented to the board, out-of-state travel with herself and two Seventh Judicial District White Pine County Juvenile Probation Officers on September 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> to attend the Utah Principles of Prevention Conference in St. George, Utah. Commissioner McKay motioned to approve with the reimbursement of PACE to cover the two additional White Pine County officers out-of-state travel to attend the Conference. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **SHERIFF**

Out-of-state travel: Sherriff Jesse Watts informed the board that his team was unable to get their newly purchased vehicles delivered and that Sherriff Watts, Under Sheriff Thomas and three employees will be traveling to Salt Lake City, Utah to retrieve them. Commissioner McKay motioned to approve out-of-state travel to Salt Lake City, Utah. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Road Department Update: Raymond Hodson, Asst. Public Works Director updated the Board on recent road projects throughout the County. He also reported helping with setup and cleanup for the Fair in Eureka as well as an update on the Water and Building Department in Crescent Valley.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Update: Public Works Director Jeb Rowley reported on projects and activities.

Johnathan with Lumos was present to give an engineering report on current projects and future projects.

Quantum Electric: Commissioner McKay motioned to approve the amount of \$72,684.00 (which includes a 15% contingency of 9,480.00) to be paid with funds budgeted for capital outlay (040-130-55010-000) in the Building Reserve Fund, to supply and install necessary equipment connecting Mt. Wheeler Power upgrades to the County Courthouse and Eureka Library. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Commercial Water Service: This item was considered at the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, but the Board stipulated that additional engineering related to drainage design plans for the property must be appropriately submitted to and approved by Public Works before approval could be considered.

Jeb Rowley reported that he approved and recommended the hook-up. Commissioner McKay motioned to approve a ¾-inch commercial water service application to service APN 001-221-08 located in Eureka County. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

2022 Chevrolet Silverado pickups: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve two new 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 Crew Cab pickups from Finlay Chevrolet for a total amount of \$48,218.25 each, utilizing funds budgeted in Fiscal Year 2023 for capital outlay (042-140-55010-091) in the Capital Projects Fund and (020-106-55010-000) in the Road Department Fund. Commissioner McKay seconded motion, motion carried 3-0.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Report of Activities: Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager reported on current and emerging natural resource issues affecting Eureka County. He reported that the Conservation District will be meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. and NRAC will have their monthly meeting at 6:00 p.m. On September 15<sup>th</sup> the Advisory Board Management of Wildlife will be hosting their meeting. On September 16<sup>th</sup> the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority will have their quarterly meeting.

Gibellini Vanadium Mine Project: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve commenting on the Gibellini Vanadium Mine Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

BLM: Jake Tibbitts and the Board discussed and reviewed the process by BLM to inventory and utilize Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC). Commissioner McKay motioned to support the response to the BLM in regards to LWC. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded motion; motion carried 3-0.

Secure Rural Schools & Community Self Determination Act (SRS): Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve keeping the current allocation plan of 8% to Title 1, 10% to Title 2 and 10% to Title 3. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following Correspondence was received:

Eureka Recreation Enterprise sent an invitation to an open house on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Eureka County High School Rodeo Club sent a thank you card signed by all members. The DA's Office sent out a letter and attachments for case 22070011, Eureka County Television District sent their Agenda for meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board sent agendas for August 25<sup>th</sup>, August 31<sup>st</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup> with the first meeting being cancelled. Nevada Association of Counties sent a schedule for the annual conference and list of room recommendations, also a summary for their August Board of Directors Meeting. John Rice of Elko sent a letter requesting support as a candidate for the Board of Regents. State Demographer's Office sent out 20 Year Population Projections. Nevada Department of Health issued two quarterly invoices from the State Environmental Protections. UNR CABNR having a field day and sent an invitation to attend. NACO sent a enewsletter.

Commissioner Reports: Chairman Goicoechea reported that the Nevada Department of Health Environmental health services quarterly invoices will now go to the Nevada Central Health instead of the State. He then commented that he was very pleased

with Triple B, that they are using GonaCon and boosting those horses and he is interested to track the reproduction rate of the mares that they turn back out that have been treated with fertility control. Commissioner McKay reported that he will be meeting with the Eureka County School Board on September, 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 to discuss the Beowawe properties and to make the request of taking just the trailer and the water source instead of the entire parcel.


**PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION**

Chairman Goicoechea called for public comments; there were none.


**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; the meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

*Approved by vote of the Board this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022.*

  
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Rich McKay, Chairman

*I, Kathy Bacon-Bowling, Clerk Recorder of Eureka County, acknowledge and accept the attached minutes as approved by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.*

  
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Kathy Bacon-Bowling, Clerk