



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 12, 2022

DATE: Wednesday, July 6, 2022

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Eric P. Brown, County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept the resignation of Deanna Spikula, Registrar of Voters effective July 31, 2022; to accept the County Manager's recommendation to appoint the Government Affairs Liaison, Jamie Rodriguez, to the position of Interim Registrar of Voters, effective August 1, 2022; and, if approved, to direct the Washoe County Clerk within 10 days to certify the vacancy and new appointment to the Secretary of State's Office. This appointment is pursuant to NRS 244.164 and/or 245.180 and, if approved, will remain effective until either resignation by the appointee or an appointment by the Board of a Registrar on a non-interim basis. While serving in an interim capacity, the appointee shall be vested with the same authority to carry out the powers and duties of a Registrar appointed on a non-interim basis. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The County Manager is recommending that the Board of County Commissioners accept the resignation of Washoe County Registrar of Voters, Deanna Spikula and accept the County Manager's recommendation to appoint the Government Affairs Liaison, Jamie Rodriguez to the position of Washoe County Interim Registrar of Voters, effective August 1, 2022.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Regional and Community Leadership.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On November 17, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners appointed Deanna Spikula as the Washoe County Registrar of Voters.

On April 9, 2013, the Board of County Commissioners appointed Luanne Cutler as the Washoe County Registrar of Voters.

On September 21, 1999, the Board of County Commissioners appointed Dan Burk as the Washoe County Registrar of Voters.

On December 8, 1998, the Board of County Commissioners accepted the resignation of Washoe County Registrar, Laura Dancer and appointed Dan Burk, Administrative

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Assistant serving in the capacity as Assistant Registrar, as the Interim Registrar of Voters.

BACKGROUND

Under Nevada Revised Regulations (NRS) 244.164 in each county having a population of 100,000 or more, the Board of County Commissioners may appoint an individual to the position of Registrar of Voters to assume all the powers and duties with respect to elections. Options available for the selection of a candidate to appoint to the position include directly appointing an individual as Registrar of Voters; appointing an individual as Acting Registrar of Voters for a defined period concluding with a permanent appointment of a Registrar; and conducting an open and competitive recruitment. The County Manager is recommending the direct interim appointment option for the following.

The current Registrar of Voters will resign July 31, 2022, and due to the nature of the requirements of the position, it is imperative that an interim Registrar of Voter be named to reduce any impact on Voter integrity, transparency, and accountability. The interim Registrar of Voter will serve during the recruitment period for a permanent Registrar of Voter.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no incremental fiscal impact for this interim appointment as the Registrar of Voter is a budgeted position. Personnel costs will be absorbed by an existing position during the interim period.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept the resignation of Deanna Spikula, Registrar of Voters effective July 31, 2022; to accept the County Manager's recommendation to appoint the Government Affairs Liaison, Jamie Rodriguez, to the position of Interim Registrar of Voters, effective August 1, 2022; and, if approved, to direct the Washoe County Clerk within 10 days to certify the vacancy and new appointment to the Secretary of State's Office. This appointment is pursuant to NRS 244.164 and/or 245.180 and, if approved, will remain effective until either resignation by the appointee or an appointment by the Board of a Registrar on a non-interim basis. While serving in an interim capacity, the appointee shall be vested with the same authority to carry out the powers and duties of a Registrar appointed on a non-interim basis.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with the recommendation, a possible motion would be

“move to accept the resignation of Deanna Spikula, Registrar of Voters effective July 31, 2022; to accept the County Manager's recommendation to appoint the Government Affairs Liaison, Jamie Rodriguez, to the position of Interim Registrar of Voters, effective August 1, 2022; and, if approved, to direct the Washoe County Clerk within 10 days to certify the vacancy and new appointment to the Secretary of State's Office. This appointment is pursuant to NRS 244.164 and/or 245.180 and, if approved, will remain effective until either resignation by the appointee or an appointment by the Board of a Registrar on a non-interim basis. While serving in an interim capacity, the appointee

shall be vested with the same authority to carry out the powers and duties of a Registrar appointed on a non-interim basis.”