



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 19, 2020

DATE: Thursday, May 14, 2020

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager, Finance and Administration
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THROUGH: Eric P. Brown, County Manager
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SUBJECT: Public Hearing on the intent of the Board of County Commissioners to issue General Obligation (Limited Tax) Nevada Shared Radio System Bonds (additionally secured by pledged revenues) in the maximum principal amount of [\$15,000,000] to acquire, construct, improve and equip building projects as defined in NRS 244A.019 within the County; providing the manner, form and contents of the notices thereof; providing other matters properly related thereto; and providing the effective date hereof. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

Today's public hearing is the next in a series of steps in the financing process for the proposed issuance of General Obligation Nevada Shared Radio System Bonds ("the Bonds") in the maximum principal amount of [\$15,000,000] for construction of the new state-wide interoperable public safety communications system, the Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS).

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Stewardship of our community.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On March 20, 2020, The Board of County Commissioners adopted a Resolution of Intent, proposing the issuance of, and authorizing the publication of notices relating to General Obligation (Limited Tax) Nevada Shared Radio System Bonds (additionally secured by pledged revenues) in the maximum principal amount of \$15,000,000 to acquire, construct, improve and equip building projects as defined in NRS 244A.019 within the County; providing the manner, form and contents of the notices thereof; providing other matters properly related thereto; and providing the effective date hereof. .

On February 28, 2020, the Washoe County Debt Management Commission met, and adopted a resolution approving the County's proposal for issuance of the Bonds finding that the provisions of NRS 350.013 to 350.015, inclusive, have been met.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On January 21, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) adopted a resolution directing the Clerk to notify the Washoe County Debt Management Commission (DMC) of the County’s proposal to issue general obligation bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$15,000,000 for construction of the new state-wide interoperable public safety communications system.

On September 19, 2018, the Board approved the System Purchase Agreement between Washoe County and Harris Corporation, Communications System Segment to construct the system infrastructure required for the replacement of the County’s portion of the of the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) public safety radio system.

On May 9, 2017, the Board approved the Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS) contract by and between the State of Nevada acting through its Department of Transportation (NDOT), NV Energy, and Washoe County, as recommended by the Joint Operating Committee (JOC) of the Washoe County Regional Communications System (WCRCS).

BACKGROUND

The WCRS has operated under the terms and provisions of an interlocal agreement dated October 1999. The 800-Megahertz analog system which currently serves various Washoe County departments and organizational units, and more than 20 participating and sponsored agencies, is at “end-of-life”. Washoe County has committed to building the NSRS, a statewide interoperable public safety Project 25 Phase II communications system in partnership with NDOT and NV Energy. Staff is requesting the Board to hold this public hearing as the next step in the financing process, which would include a future adoption of a Bond Ordinance. The bond closing would occur in July 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT

\$2,000,000 in system construction costs were funded in fiscal years 2019 and 2020, with Washoe County contributing \$1,250,000 and \$750,000 contributed from the Regional Communications System Infrastructure Fund approved by the JOC. Upon Board approval of the System Purchase Agreement in 2018, the remaining funding to complete the project was planned to be obtained from debt financing. The maximum principal amount of proposed Bonds to be sold is \$15,000,000. The repayment source is from infrastructure rates paid by the partner and sponsored agencies who utilize the system. The bonds would be additionally secured by a pledge of Consolidated Tax (C-Tax) revenues.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners hold a public hearing on the intent to issue General Obligation (Limited Tax) Nevada Shared Radio System Bonds (additionally secured by pledged revenues) in the maximum principal amount of \$15,000,000 to acquire, construct, improve and equip building projects as defined in NRS 244A.019 within the County; providing the manner, form and contents of the notices thereof; providing other matters properly related thereto; and providing the effective date hereof.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to hold a public hearing on the intent to issue General Obligation (Limited Tax) Nevada Shared Radio System Bonds (additionally secured by pledged revenues) in the maximum principal

amount of \$15,000,000 to acquire, construct, improve and equip building projects as defined in NRS 244A.019 within the County; providing the manner, form and contents of the notices thereof; providing other matters properly related thereto; and providing the effective date hereof.