



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service  
[www.washoecounty.gov](http://www.washoecounty.gov)

## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** February 10, 2026

**DATE:** January 20, 2026  
**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**FROM:** Sally Johnston, Program Assistant, Office of the County Manager, (775) 737-1855, [sjohnston@washoecounty.gov](mailto:sjohnston@washoecounty.gov)  
**THROUGH:** Kate Thomas, County Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$5,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; District 3 Commissioner Mariluz Garcia recommends a [\$5,000.00] grant to Indigenous People's Council on Biocolonialism (IPCB) - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to cover the expenses for artist Autumn Harry to paint a mural at the Sparks Library; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 3.) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

---

### SUMMARY

This item requests the Board to approve Resolution and disburse district funds in the total amount of [\$5,000.00] for Commission District 3.

#### **Washoe County Strategic Objectives supported by this item:**

1. Economic Impacts: Meet the Needs of Our Growing Community, Support a Thriving Community
2. Innovative Services: Strengthening Our Culture of Service

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On December 16, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners directed a [\$50,000.00] grant to Washoe County Office of the County Manager - a government entity – for the purpose of having an economic study plan conducted for the Sun Valley area; and a [\$5,000.00] grant to Great Basin Community Food Co-op - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support the Co-ops Friends of the Foodshed to promote a healthy lifestyle for all living things.

On November 18, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners directed a [\$2,500.00] grant to Born 2 Ball Basketball Academy - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support bringing affordable competitive basketball opportunities to youth athletes in Reno and Sparks.

**AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_**

On October 21, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners directed a [\$2,500.00] grant to Desert Pigs - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support the great work they do throughout Nevada cleaning up illegal dumpsites on public land.

On October 14, 2025 the Board of County Commissioners directed a [\$2,500.00] grant to Awaken - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support outreach and services to adults and youth who have been sex trafficked; and a [\$2,500.00] grant to Horsemanship 4 Heroes – a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support the therapeutic work they are doing for veterans, first responders, and their families; and a [\$2,500.00] grant to Sleep in Heavenly Peace - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support the mission that no child should have to sleep on the floor.

On September 16, 2025 the Board of County Commissioners directed a [\$5,000.00] grant to STEP2 – a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support the mission of breaking the cycle of addiction and violence in families, by empowering women to build and maintain a clean and sober life; and a [\$2,500.00] grant to New Revival Church – a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to support the food pantry, Willa Mae’s Closet, and school partnership taking place at Operation Revival in Sun Valley.

On August 19, 2025 the Board of County Commissioners directed a [\$2,000.00] grant to Washoe County Human Services Agency – Child Protective Services (HSA-CPS) – a government entity – to support FAM (Foster, Adopt, Mentor) Fest. FAM Fest brings together individuals, families, and organizations, who believe in the power community, the importance of belonging, and focuses on the vital role that all play in supporting those in foster care.

## **BACKGROUND**

Modification of guidelines and adoption of resolution for County Commission District Special Funding on February 10, 2015, created Commission District Special Funds for each Commission District. On May 20, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners approved the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget with special district funds allocated per Commission District in the amount of \$100,000.00. The monies appropriated are to support needs for all Washoe County residents.

Funds appropriated through the Commission District Special Funds must provide substantial benefit to the inhabitants of the County. The recipient must be a nonprofit organization, created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes, or a government entity. Funds shall not provide any personal or private benefit for the Commissioners, directly or indirectly benefit any campaign efforts by a commissioner, violate Ethics in Government law, or be used to purchase tickets to special events.

Commissioner Garcia has elected to support the following organization in fiscal year 2025-2026:

- A [\$5,000.00] grant to Indigenous People’s Council on Biocolonialism (IPCB) - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to cover the expenses for artist Autumn Harry to paint a mural at the Sparks Library. These funds were previously granted to Be the Change Project to support the Wedekind Road Art Project on June 24, 2025 and were returned to Washoe County on January 8, 2026 in the amount of \$5,000.00. Be the Change Project was unable to fulfill the purpose of the distribution within the twelve-month time frame that was given to use the funds. Therefore, the funds were returned to Washoe County and reallocated to a different nonprofit for the same purpose.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Sufficient FY25-26 budget authority exists within the Cost Center District 3 Constituents (C100103) and account Payments to other Agencies (710400). This action requests approval and distribution of a [total of \$5,000.00] to the Indigenous People’s Council on Biocolonialism.

Expense Disbursement is required as follows:

- Indigenous People’s Council on Biocolonialism: \$5,000.00

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$5,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; District 3 Commissioner Mariluz Garcia recommends [\$5,000.00] grant to Indigenous People’s Council on Biocolonialism (IPCB) - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to cover the expenses for artist Autumn Harry to paint a mural at the Sparks Library; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager’s Office (Commission District 3).

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

*Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “Move to approve the Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the of [\$5,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; District 3 Commissioner Mariluz Garcia recommends [\$5,000.00] grant to Indigenous People’s Council on Biocolonialism (IPCB) - a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes – to cover the expenses for artist Autumn Harry to paint a mural at the Sparks Library; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary disbursement of funds.”*