

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
ESMERALDA COUNTY, NEVADA  
P.O. Box 517, 403 Crook Street, Goldfield, Nevada 89013

MEMBERS

**RALPH KEYES, Chairman**  
Rachel Holt, Vice-Chairwoman  
De Winsor, Commissioner  
[bocc@esmeraldacountynv.org](mailto:bocc@esmeraldacountynv.org)  
[Accessesmeralda.com](http://Accessesmeralda.com)

STAFF

**Maureen Glennen**  
Admin Assistant/Director Sr. Transportation/  
Commodities Co-Coordinator  
Natalie Colunga  
Administrative Clerk/Commodities Co-Coordinator  
(775) 485-3406  
[mglennen@esmeraldacountynv.org](mailto:mglennen@esmeraldacountynv.org)  
[ncolunga@esmeraldacountynv.org](mailto:ncolunga@esmeraldacountynv.org)

May 9, 2023

Rex Steninger, Chairman  
Elko County Commission

VIA EMAIL: [nevadalandsCouncil@outlook.com](mailto:nevadalandsCouncil@outlook.com)

Dear Commissioner Steninger,

On May 2, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), voted unanimously in support of the Elko County Common Sense Lands Act. If you need this support in the form a Resolution, we will have to re-agendize it in that form. We can provide the minutes of our meeting showing we all voted in favor of your Resolution once they are approved by the BOCC for your records.

Please let me know if there is anything else you need.

Sincerely,

Maureen Glennen  
Administrative Assistant



*Board of County Commissioners  
Lincoln County, Nevada*

P.O. Box 90 – Pioche, Nevada 89043  
Telephone (775) 962-8077  
Fax (775) 962-5180

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Varlin Higbee, Chair  
Jared Brackenbury, Vice Chair  
Keith Pearson  
Mike Reese  
Janine Woodworth

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Dylan V. Frehner

**COUNTY CLERK**

Lisa C. Lloyd

**RESOLUTION NO:** 2023-03

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states, upon admission to the Union, were denied equal footing to the original states because the federal government retained possession of their public lands. Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1784 that when new states were admitted to the Union it would be “on an equal footing with the said original states” and that doctrine was followed with the 38 states east of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the equal sovereignty required for a Republic as established in the United States to work. The Equal Sovereignty Principle was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court as recently as 2013 in *Shelby County v. Holder* and recognizes that for a republic to function properly, each member of the republic must be of equal sovereign power. When a state is denied its land, it is inferior politically and economically to both the federal government and the earlier states that were given their land; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the compact entered into when they became states. The Compact Theory maintains that a contract was entered into between the new states and the federal government in which the states gave up all claim to the lands within their borders and the federal government agreed to promptly and completely dispose of the land by sale or grant; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015 a Davillier Law Group analysis determined that the Equal Footing Doctrine, Equal Sovereignty Principle and the Compact Theory were ammunition enough to “pursue litigation in an effort to gain ownership of the public lands;” and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government now controls nearly 90% of Nevada’s lands, more than any other state; and



**WHEREAS**, the paucity of private land in Nevada severely constrains the size and diversity of its economy, since federal lands are removed from tax rolls; and


**WHEREAS**, the Nevada Land Management Task Force, consisting of one county commissioner from each county, determined unanimously in 2015 that significant net revenue could be realized if the public lands were managed by local government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act allowed sales of public lands in Clark County, generating more than \$3 billion in revenue, while no such mechanism exists in the 16 other Nevada counties; now, therefore, be it

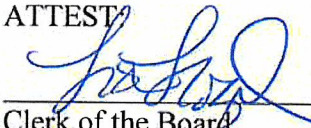
**RESOLVED**, that Lincoln County supports the Elko County Common Sense Lands Act (ECCSLA) that enables individual counties to identify lands they need and requires the Secretary of the Interior to transfer title to the counties without consideration; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Lincoln County recognizes that the ECCSLA only makes eligible for transfer lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and counties are authorized to sell only those lands identified as suitable for sale through consultation with wildlife boards and owners of any valid existing rights or uses.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2023, by the following vote of 4-0 by the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board



# LANDER COUNTY

COUNTY MANAGER

BARTOLO (Bert) RAMOS

50 State Route 305

Battle Mountain, NV 89820

(775) 635-2885

May-25-2023

Elko County Commission

I am pleased to inform you that on May 25th Lander County Commission voted unanimously to support the Elko County Commission Common Sense Lands Act. Lander County commission furthered their support of Elko County via resolution No.2023-07 Common Sense Lands Act.

Equal footing and sovereignty is of the utmost importance to Lander County and we are pleased to support ECCSLA as reflected in our Resolution.

Respectfully,

---

50 State Route 305 S. ◀ ▶ Battle Mountain, NV 89820

Phone: (775) 635-2885 ◀ ▶ Fax: (775) 635-3334 ◀ ▶ Email: [bramos@landercountynv.org](mailto:bramos@landercountynv.org)



**DOC #: 308566**

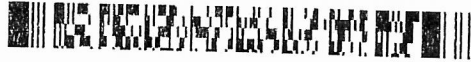
05/25/2023 02:57 PM Page: 1 of 3

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Requested By:  
LANDER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lander County, NV  
Alexis V. Reiva, Recorder

Fee: \$0.00 RPIT: \$0.00  
Recorded By: kabrajan



**RECORDING REQUESTED BY:**

**LANDER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**50 STATE ROUTE 305**

**BATTLE MOUNTAIN, NV 89820**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LANDER COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS TO SUPPORT THE ELKO COUNTY'S COMMON  
SENSE LANDS ACT**

**Meeting: May 25, 2023**

**ITEM #5**

**This page added to provide information required by NRS 111.312, sections 1-2**

**This cover page must be typed or printed**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LANDER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TO SUPPORT THE ELKO COUNTY'S COMMON SENSE LANDS ACT  
No. 2023-07**

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states, upon admission to the Union, were denied equal footing to the original states because the federal government retained possession of their public lands. Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1784 that when new states were admitted to the Union it would be “on an equal footing with the said original states” and that doctrine was followed with the 38 states east of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the equal sovereignty required for a Republic as established in the United States to work properly. The Equal Sovereignty Principle was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court as recently as 2013 in *Shelby County v. Holder* and recognizes that for a republic to function properly, each member of the republic must be of equal sovereign power. When a state is denied its land, it is inferior politically and economically to both the federal government and the earlier states that were given their land; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the compact entered into when they became states. The Compact Theory maintains that a contract was entered into between the new states and the federal government in which the states gave up all claim to the lands within their borders and the federal government agreed to promptly and completely dispose of the land by sale or grant; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015 a Davillier Law Group analysis determined that the Equal Footing Doctrine, Equal Sovereignty Principle and the Compact Theory were ammunition enough to “pursue litigation in an effort to gain ownership of the public land”; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government now controls nearly 90% of Nevada’s lands, more than any other state; and

**WHEREAS**, the paucity of private land in Nevada severely constrains the size and diversity of its economy, since federal lands are removed from tax rolls; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nevada Land Management Task Force, consisting of one county commissioner from each county, determined unanimously in 2015 that significant new revenue could be realized if the public lands were managed by local government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act allowed sales of public lands in Clark County, generating more than \$3 billion in revenue, while no such mechanism exists in the 16 other Nevada counties.



**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Lander County supports the Elko County Common Sense Lands Act (ECCSLA) that enables individual counties to identify lands they need and requires the Secretary of the Interior to transfer title to the counties without consideration; and

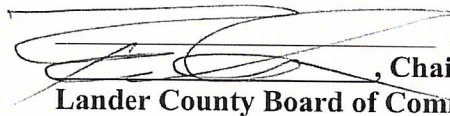
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Lander County recognizes that the ECCSLA only makes eligible for transfer lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and counties are authorized to sell only those lands identified as suitable for sale through consultation with wildlife boards, Board of County Commissioners and owners of any valid existing rights or uses.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 25th of May, 2023.

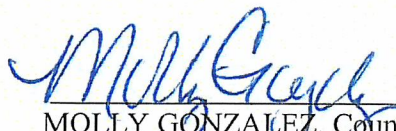
THOSE VOTING AYE:      Commissioner: Patsy Waits  
                                 Commissioner: Kathy V. Ancho  
                                 Commissioner: Bryan Sparks  
                                 Commissioner: Wallace "JR" Thomas  
                                 Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_

THOSE VOTING NAY:      Commissioner: None  
                                 Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_


THOSE ABSENT:          Commissioner: Mike Chopp  
                                 Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chair/Vice Chair  
Lander County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MOLLY GONZALEZ, County Clerk and  
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of  
Commissioners of Lander County, Nevada

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGALITY,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WILLIAM E. SCHAEFFER  
Lander County District Attorney

**SUMMARY: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE “ELKO COUNTY’S COMMON SENSE LANDS ACT” WHICH TRANSFERS SELECTED UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED LAND DIRECTLY TO THE COUNTIES.**

**RESOLUTION NO.** 05-01-236

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states, upon admission to the Union, were denied equal footing to the original states because the federal government retained possession of their public lands. Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1784 that when new states were admitted to the Union it would be “on an equal footing with the said original states” and that doctrine was followed with the 38 states east of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the equal sovereignty required for a Republic as established in the United States to work. The Equal Sovereignty Principle was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court as recently as 2013 in *Shelby County v. Holder* and recognizes that for a republic to function properly, each member of the republic must be of equal sovereign power. When a state is denied its land, it is inferior politically and economically to both the federal government and the earlier states that were given their land; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the compact entered into when they became states. The Compact Theory maintains that a contract was entered into between the new states and the federal government in which the states gave up all claim to the lands within their borders and the federal government agreed to promptly and completely dispose of the land by sale or grant; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015 a Davillier Law Group analysis determined that the Equal Footing Doctrine, Equal Sovereignty Principle and the Compact Theory were ammunition enough to “pursue litigation in an effort to gain ownership of the public lands;” and **WHEREAS**, the federal government now controls nearly 90% of Nevada’s lands, more than any other state; and

**WHEREAS**, the paucity of private land in Nevada severely constrains the size and diversity of its economy, since federal lands are removed from tax rolls; and **WHEREAS**, the Nevada Land Management Task Force, consisting of one county commissioner from each county, determined unanimously in 2015 that significant net revenue could be realized if the public lands were managed by local government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act allowed sales of public lands in Clark County, generating more than \$3 billion in revenue, while no such mechanism exists in the 16 other Nevada counties; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that Humboldt County supports the Elko County Common Sense Lands Act (ECCSLA) that enables individual counties to identify lands they need and requires the Secretary of the Interior to transfer title to the counties without consideration; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Humboldt County recognizes that the ECCSLA only makes eligible for

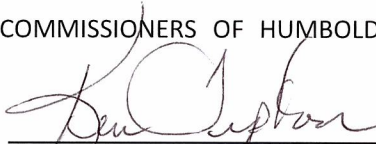


transfer lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and counties are authorized to sell only those lands identified as suitable for sale through consultation with wildlife boards and owners of any valid existing rights or uses.

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Authorized Signer of the Governing Body of Applicant certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution, adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Humboldt county Board of Commissioners held on May 1, 2023.


**ADOPTED** this 1st day of May, 2023 by the Board of County Commissioners, Humboldt County, Nevada.

By the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY,  
NEVADA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Tipton, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TAMI RAE SPERO, Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Macdonald  
Chief Deputy District Attorney





## EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Rich McKay, Chairman ♦ Mike Sharkozy, Vice Chair ♦ Marty Plaskett, Member

*PO Box 540, 10 South Main Street, Eureka, Nevada 89316*

*Phone: (775) 237-7211 ♦ Fax: (775) 237-4610 ♦ [www.co.eureka.nv.us](http://www.co.eureka.nv.us)*

Elko County Board of Commissioners  
540 Court Street, Suite 101  
Elko, Nevada 89801

March 22, 2023

Chairman Steninger and Elko County Commission,

Enclosed please find "Resolution of the Eureka County Board of Commissioners in Support of the Elko County Common Sense Lands Act," as adopted by the Eureka County Board of Commissioners on March 18, 2023.

Sincerely,

Jackie Berg

Deputy Clerk II

for Eureka County Board of Commissioners

Enclosure: as stated



**RESOLUTION  
OF THE EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
IN SUPPORT OF THE  
ELKO COUNTY COMMON SENSE LANDS ACT**

WHEREAS, the 12 Western States, upon admission to the Union, were denied equal footing to the original states because the federal government retained possession of their public lands. Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1784 that when new states were admitted to the Union it would be “on an equal footing with the said original states” and that doctrine was followed with the 38 states east of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the 12 Western States were denied the equal sovereignty required for a Republic, as established in the United States, to work. The Equal Sovereignty Principle was cited by the US Supreme Court as recently as 2013 in *Shelby County v. Holder* and recognizes that for a republic to function properly, each member of the republic must be of equal sovereign power. When a state is denied its land, it is inferior politically and economically to both the federal government and the earlier states that were given their land; and

WHEREAS, the 12 Western States were denied the compact entered into when they became states. The Compact Theory maintains that a contract was entered into between the new states and the federal government in which the states gave up all claim to the lands within their borders and the federal government agreed to promptly and completely dispose of the land by sale or grant; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 a Davillier Law Group analysis determined that the Equal Footing Doctrine, Equal Sovereignty Principle and the Compact Theory were ammunition enough to “pursue litigation in an effort to gain ownership of the public lands;” and

WHEREAS, the federal government now controls nearly 90% of Nevada’s lands, more than any other state; and

WHEREAS, the paucity of private land in Nevada severely constrains the size and diversity of its economy, since federal lands are removed from tax rolls; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada Land Management Task Force, consisting of one county commissioner from each county, determined unanimously in 2015 that significant net revenue could be realized if the public lands were managed by local government; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act allowed sales of public lands in Clark County, generating more than \$3 billion in revenue, while no such mechanism exists in the 16 other Nevada counties; now, therefore, be it

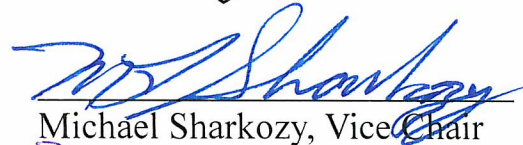
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Eureka County supports the Elko County Common Sense Lands Act (ECCSLA) that enables individual counties to identify lands they need and requires the Secretary of the Interior to transfer title to the counties without consideration; and

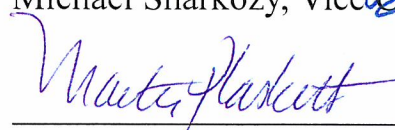
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Eureka County recognizes that the ECCSLA only makes eligible for transfer lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and counties are authorized to sell only those lands identified as suitable for sale through consultation with wildlife boards and owners of any valid existing rights or uses.

ADOPTED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023.

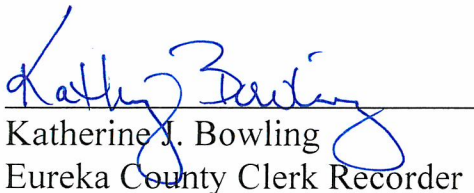
EUREKA COUNTY, NEVADA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
Rich McKay, Chairman

  
Michael Sharkozy, Vice Chair

  
Marty Plaskett, Member

ATTEST:

  
Katherine J. Bowling  
Eureka County Clerk Recorder

Shane Bybee, Chairman  
Laurie L. Carson, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Richard Howe  
Commissioner Hank Vogler  
Commissioner Janet VanCamp

1786 Great Basin Blvd., Suite 3  
Ely, Nevada 89301  
(775) 293-6509  
Fax (775) 289-2544

Nichole Stephey, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

**White Pine County**  
**Board of County Commissioners**

WPClerk@WhitePineCountyNV.Gov

**RESOLUTION 2023-16 SUPPORTING THE ELKO COUNTY COMMON SENSE LAND ACT (ECCSLA)**

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states, upon admission to the Union, were denied equal footing to the original states because the federal government retained possession of their public lands. Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1784 that when new states were admitted to the Union it would be "on an equal footing with the said original states" and that doctrine was followed with the 38 states east of Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the equal sovereignty required for a Republic as established in the United States to work properly. The Equal Sovereignty Principle was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court as recently as 2013 in *Shelby County v. Holder* and recognizes that for a republic to function properly, each member of the republic must be of equal sovereign power. When a state is denied its land, it is inferior politically and economically to both the federal government and the earlier states that were given their land; and

**WHEREAS**, the 12 Western states were denied the compact entered into when they became states. The Compact Theory maintains that a contract was entered into between the new states and the federal government in which the states gave up all claim to the lands within their borders and the federal government agreed to promptly and completely dispose of the land by sale or grant; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015 a Davillier Law Group analysis determined that the Equal Footing Doctrine, Equal Sovereignty Principle and the Compact Theory were ammunition enough to "pursue litigation in an effort to gain ownership of the public lands;" and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government now controls nearly 90% of Nevada's lands, more than any other state; and

**WHEREAS**, the paucity of private land in Nevada severely constrains the size and diversity of its economy, since federal lands are removed from tax rolls; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nevada Land Management Task Force, consisting of one county commissioner from each county, determined unanimously in 2015 that significant net revenue could be realized if the public lands were managed by local government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act allowed sales of public lands in Clark County, generating more than \$3 billion in revenue, while no such mechanism exists in the 16 other Nevada counties;



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that White Pine County supports the Elko County Common Sense Lands Act (ECCSLA) that enables individual counties to identify lands they need and requires the Secretary of the Interior to transfer title to the counties without consideration;


**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that White Pine County recognizes that the ECCSLA only makes eligible for transfer lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and counties are authorized to sell only those lands identified as suitable for sale through consultation with wildlifeboards, Board of County Commissioners and owners of any valid existing rights or uses.

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

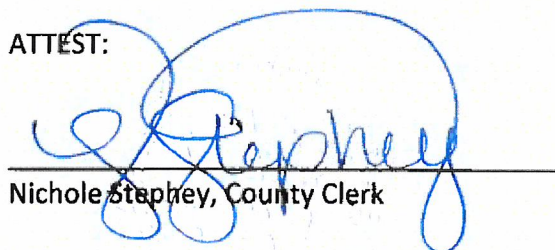
ABSENT: 0

Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

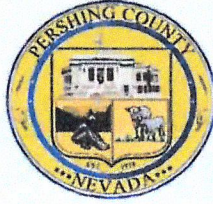
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shane Bybee', written over a horizontal line.

Shane Bybee, Chairman of the White Pine  
Country Commission

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nichole Stephey', written over a horizontal line.  
Nichole Stephey, County Clerk

PERSHING COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



P. O. DRAWER E  
LOVELOCK, NV 89419  
775-273-2342 \* FAX 775-273-5078

RECEIVED

APR - 8 2025

Elko County  
Board of Commissioners

April 2, 2025

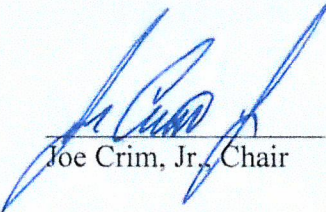
Mr. Jon Karr, Chairman  
Elko County Commission  
540 Court Street Suite 101  
Elko, NV 89801

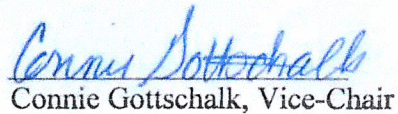
Dear Mr. Karr:

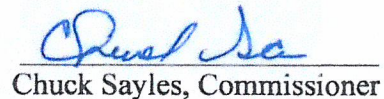
The Pershing County Board of Commissioners heard the presentation from Demar Dahl, Nevada Lands Council, regarding the proposed Bill to be presented to the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress to allow counties to select certain federal lands as needed and as often as needed and to have those lands transferred to them without compensation or unnecessary delay. The commission voted unanimously to support this legislation. Please let us know if there is anything else you will need to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

PERSHING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
Joe Crim, Jr., Chair

  
Connie Gottschalk, Vice-Chair

  
Chuck Sayles, Commissioner