WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT
BOARD MEETING DATE: December 9, 2025

DATE: November 14, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Sally Johnston, Program Assistant, Office of the County Manager, (775) 328-2731, 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 [$60,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [$25,000.00] grant to Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department – a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the fire department and enable it to service the citizens of Gerlach and the surrounding area; and a [$20,000.00] grant to Food Bank of Northern Nevada - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of feeding the hungry in Washoe County; and a [$15,000.00] grant to Safe Embrace - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of helping victims become survivors; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary disbursements of funds. Manager's Office (Commission District 5). FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

This item requests the Board to approve resolutions and disburse district funds in the total amount of [$60,000.00] for Commission District 5.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:

1. Economic Impacts: Meet the Needs of Our Growing Community, Support a Thriving Community
2. Vulnerable Populations: Coordination Between Agencies & Communication of Programs
3. Innovative Services: Strengthen Our Culture of Service

PREVIOUS ACTION

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On October 21, 2025 the Board of County Commissioners directed a [$5,000.00] grant to Senior ResQ - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support their endeavor to assist seniors with help when their rent has been raised.

On October 14, 2025 the Board of County Commissioners directed a [$10,000.00] grant to 4-H Youth Development Program of the University of Nevada Extension - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes - to support the Washoe County 4-H Large Livestock, Horse Programs, and awards at the Nevada State Fair; and a [$10,000.00] grant to the Washoe County Human Services Agency – a government entity -- to support the Men's CrossRoads program; and a [$5,000.00] grant to North Valleys Band Boosters – a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the North Valleys High School Marching Band program; and a [$5,000.00] grant to North Valleys High School – a government entity – to support the North Valleys High School JROTC program.

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 non-profit 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 Herman has elected to support the following organization in fiscal year 2025-2026:

- [$25,000.00] grant to Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department – a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the fire department and enable it to service the citizens of Gerlach and the surrounding area.

- [$20,000.00] grant to Food Bank of Northern Nevada - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of feeding the hungry in Washoe County.

- [$15,000.00] grant to Safe Embrace - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of helping victims become survivors.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient FY26 budget authority exists within the Cost Center District 5 Constituents (C100105) and account Payments to other Agencies (710400). This action requests approval and distribution of a total of [$60,000.00] to the following organizations.

Expense Disbursements are required as follows:

- Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department: $25,000.00
- Food Bank of Northern Nevada: $20,000.00
- Safe Embrace: $15,000.00

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [$60,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [$25,000.00] grant to Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department – a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the fire department and enable it to service the citizens of Gerlach and the surrounding area; and a [$20,000.00] grant to Food Bank of Northern Nevada - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of feeding the hungry in Washoe County; and a [$15,000.00] grant to Safe Embrace - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of helping victims become survivors; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary disbursements of funds. Manager's Office (Commission District 5). FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

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 amount of [$60,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [$25,000.00] grant to Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department – a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the fire department and enable it to service the citizens of Gerlach and the surrounding area; and a [$20,000.00] grant to Food Bank of Northern Nevada - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of feeding the hungry in Washoe County; and a [$15,000.00] grant to Safe Embrace - a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes – to support the mission of helping victims become survivors; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary disbursements of funds."*