



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

[www.washoecounty.us](http://www.washoecounty.us)

## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** October 9, 2018

**DATE:** Thursday, October 04, 2018

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** John Slaughter, County Manager  
328-2001, [jlaughter@washoecounty.us](mailto:jlaughter@washoecounty.us)

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager, as Washoe County's Interim Public Guardian pursuant to Chapter 5.475 of the Washoe County Code, following the October 5, 2018 retirement of Susan DeBoer. Manager. (All Commission Districts).

---

### SUMMARY

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners appoint Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager, as Interim Public Guardian to replace Susan DeBoer who retired effective October 5, 2018. The Public Guardian is appointed by the County Commission per NRS 253.150. Washoe County Code Chapter 5.475 states the Public Guardian be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners at the recommendation of the County Manager and may serve a term of four years from the date of appointment.

The appointment will be for a period of time that coincides with the recruitment and appointment of a permanent Public Guardian.

**Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Stewardship of our Community, Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities, and Valued, Engaged Employee Workforce.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On August 16, 2005 the Board appointed Susan DeBoer as Interim Public Guardian pending the September, 2005 resignation of the incumbent Guardian, Kay Joslin. The official appointment occurred on December 13, 2005 with reappointments in 2010, 2013, and 2017.

### BACKGROUND

The current Public Guardian retired October 5, 2018 and due to the nature of the requirements of the position, it is imperative that an interim Public Guardian be named to reduce any impact on protected persons. The interim Public Guardian will serve during the recruitment period for a permanent Public Guardian.

Washoe County Code 5.475 provides that a Public Guardian shall be appointed by the

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

Board of County Commissioners at the recommendation of the County Manager and shall serve for a term of four years from the date of appointment. Notwithstanding the term, the Public Guardian serves at the pleasure of the Board of County Commissioners.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no incremental fiscal impact for this interim appointment as the Public Guardian 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 appoint Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager, as Washoe County's Interim Public Guardian pursuant to Chapter 5.475 of the Washoe County Code, following the October 5, 2018 retirement of Susan DeBoer.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board of County Commissioners agree with the recommendation, a possible motion would be:

*“Move to appoint Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager, as Washoe County's Interim Public Guardian pursuant to Chapter 5.475 of the Washoe County Code, following the October 5, 2018 retirement of Susan DeBoer.”*