

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

MARCH 26, 2019

PRESENT:

Vaughn Hartung, Chair

Bob Lucey, Vice Chair

Marsha Berkgigler, Commissioner

Kitty Jung, Commissioner

Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

Nancy Parent, County Clerk

John Slaughter, County Manager

David Watts-Vial, Deputy District Attorney

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:00 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

19-0216 **AGENDA ITEM 3** Appearance: Jason Riederer, Director of Government Relations and Kilgore, Chief of Staff to the CEO Flirtey Presentation and update on Unmanned Aircraft System Integration Pilot Program (UAS IPP Program).

Jason Riederer, Director of Government Relations for Flirtey, conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: Who is Flirtey; Flirtey's Pioneering Achievements; The UAS IPP Fast-Track Program; The City of Reno and Flirtey; Fast-Track Program Partners; Reno IPP Key Facts; The City of Reno and Flirtey's Next Steps; Biggest Little City for Drone Delivery; and Questions.

Mr. Riederer provided a brief introduction of Flirtey including its mission statement, establishment, and pioneering achievements. He reviewed the establishment of the UAS IPP by the U.S. Department of Transportation pursuant to a presidential directive. He said participants of the program would assist the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to create UAS regulations and rules. He stated there were 2,800 applicants interested in the program and Flirtey was one of the 10 awardees selected.

Mr. Riederer stated the Flirtey IPP focused on delivery of medical defibrillators and commercial packages. He noted cardiac arrest was the leading cause of natural death in America and survival rates decreased each minute the patient waited to receive defibrillation. Through the IPP, Flirtey's drones would integrate with the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority and would dispatch an Automated

External Defibrillator (AED) at the same time first responders were deployed. He stated the IPP could potentially increase a patient's survival rate from 10 percent to 50 percent because drones would not encounter the same traffic issues as an ambulance. He indicated one drone carrying an AED could potentially save one life for the City of Reno every two weeks.

Mr. Riederer said their implementation was based on a gradual approach which aligned with the FAA's approach for ensuring safety. He stated Flirtey had been conducting testing in a rural environment in northern Nevada. They had received several FAA regulatory approvals which authorized them to begin flight testing and conduct operations not previously authorized by the FAA. He said they had made good progress and anticipated continued fast-track approvals from the FAA for the remainder of the program. He mentioned the program would expire in October 2020 unless it was extended. He stated Flirtey was working to educate the public on how the program could save lives and how it could benefit the region and the community. He noted the City of Reno launched an informative website for the program, which included options to receive updates and provide feedback. Informative meetings with stakeholders and the public would be conducted throughout the course of the program. He stated the IPP was paving the way for drone delivery of life-saving medical equipment and commercial package delivery. He thanked the Board for supporting Flirtey and the program.

Chair Hartung thanked Mr. Riederer for the presentation.

19-0217 AGENDA ITEM 4 Public Comment.

Chair Hartung acknowledged many public commenters wanted to speak about Agenda Item 17 and some people wanted to get to Carson City so he would move that item up. Agenda Item 20 would be heard no earlier than 3:00 p.m. but anyone wishing to speak on it could make public comment.

Ms. Tammy Holt-Still displayed images of flooding at the sewer plant in Lemmon Valley, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. She spoke about a gravel truck that slid down a gravel pile while trying to put gravel around the flooded area. She said the elementary school and ball field were affected because effluent flooded the fields. She displayed an image of a sewer hose going from an access hole into the field and expressed concern about sewage possibly being pumped directly into the fields.

Ms. Virginia Kraus was called but declined to speak.

Ms. Stephanie Michaels spoke about the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF), saying it was an attempt to mitigate some of the housing issues taking place in the County. She noted people moved in from out of the area and raised housing prices. She stated she was disabled and was raising her granddaughter on the same income she earned in 1980. She said she was supposed to spend 30 percent of her income on housing but she was spending over 50 percent. Her latest increase in rent was \$200. She was unable to pay her credit cards and was unable to move. She said the State considered her

income too high for any type of assistance but she was unable to afford a regular apartment so she lived in Section 42 housing. She expressed concern about the housing fund not having set requirements. She asked the Board to remember middle class residents and not allow regular development to take over the Trust Fund.

Mr. Phillip Kaiser said there were three key factors the Board needed to consider when appointing someone to the Nevada State Assembly District 30 seat. First, the person needed to be a longtime resident of the area which made them aware of local issues. Second, the person needed to be familiar with the Legislature, know the people, and know the processes involved. He noted the legislative session was almost halfway done so the appointee needed to move quickly. Third, the person needed to be cognizant of the issues in education. He stated education was the foundation for economic and business development and it was the largest item the Legislature funded each year. He said the candidate who best fit all three criteria was Natha Anderson.

Mr. David Frazier thanked the Board for the AHTF. He stated there was still work to be done. He spoke about fighting for housing tax credits and better wages for the community. He spoke about goods and services taxes (GST) as a funding source for affordable housing and about policing and jailing as a solution for poverty. He stated the community needed to stop relying on the courts to solve social issues; it needed to invest in housing and infrastructure which would create jobs, provide stability, and reduce crime.

Ms. Susan Kaiser said the appointee to the Nevada State Assembly District 30 seat would face a steep learning curve. She noted there were only 70 days remaining in the legislative session so it was critical to select a candidate who had experience in the Legislature. She said the candidate needed to be familiar with working and living in Nevada and be aware of past and future challenges faced by the community. The candidate needed to know the value of education and understand challenges faced by teachers. She asserted Natha Anderson was the only candidate who met the requirements.

Mr. Gerry Mifsud, Ward 3 Neighborhood Advisory Board member, provided a document, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He spoke about an event which he and Reno City Councilman Oscar Delgado organized for seniors in the community. He said the free event would take place in Teglia's Paradise Park in July. It was intended to bring seniors and children in the community together because both were valuable and vulnerable. He stated there would be motivational speakers and senior service tables to offer resources. He requested support from the Board for the event.

Ms. Donna Clontz, Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board (SSAB) Vice Chair, referred to Consent Agenda Item 7, noting the SSAB had additional open positions. She said the SSAB was working with Commissioner Jung to fill seats in District 3. She thanked Commissioner Jung for recommending the Nextdoor social media platform to reach more applicants. She stated the SSAB had been discussing the use of GST money as a way of funding affordable housing because all seniors in the community

faced the issue of affordable housing. She said the SSAB supported the creation of the AHTF and looked forward to discussions on how it would be funded.

Ms. Virginia Wiggins was called but was not present to speak.

Mr. Sam Dehne spoke about Reno media, his flight experience, the flooding in Lemmon Valley, Wildcreek High School, Burning Man, and the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada.

County Clerk Nancy Parent placed email correspondence from Annemarie Grant on the record.

Mr. Danny Cleous expressed frustration about the County's response to flooding in Lemmon Valley. He noted Lemmon Valley Elementary School and the adjacent ball park were affected by the flooding. He said the Environmental Protection Agency stated when effluent was added to water it became effluent. He expressed concern about possible soil contamination and how it would be mitigated. He said the concrete sluice on Lemmon Valley Drive, which was supposed to move 200 homes out of the flood plain, had not worked. He stated a construction company offered to help mitigate flooding in 2017 and the County declined the offer. He asserted all Commissioners needed to be dismissed if that was true.

19-0218 AGENDA ITEM 5 Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Herman mentioned she had not heard an update on the signs for Peavine Mountain which cost \$4,250 and were intended to designate areas for shooting which would not be safe for walkers. She said she had not heard any additional information about neighborhood complaints and thought the Board would be doing something about them. She stated she had previously requested information about Revised Statute 2477 (RS2477) roads. She noted RS2477 roads included roads used to cross Bureau of Land Management property and give people access to ranch property, hunting, and recreation areas. She expressed concern about those roads being closed. She said she attended a meeting the previous day where questions about a RS2477 road were raised and it reminded her she had requested that information years ago.

Commissioner Herman said she had requested a report about how the Cold Springs bus for seniors was being used. She wanted to know how much it was being used and whether prior problems were continuing to happen. She stated the North Valleys Church of the Nazarene in Lemmon Valley was having roof repairs done and County staff told them a licensed contractor needed to perform the work. She asked whether something could be done because the church could not afford to hire a contractor. She mentioned she was researching the procedure for getting a Second Amendment Sanctuary designation for Washoe County.

Commissioner Jung requested an update from the County's government affairs liaison about bills concerning consumer protection, rental assistance, and

incentives or penalties for landlords renting to the middle class. She referenced the public commenter who made too much money to qualify for assistance programs and said that situation was becoming more common. She noted the middle class was the most at risk for homelessness. She requested information about what the County was doing in addition to the affordable housing issues that the Board had supported.

Commissioner Jung expressed interest in supporting the senior event discussed by Mr. Mifsud. She understood Mr. Mifsud had a 501(c)(3) organization through Sierra Arts. She noted the Board had been told many times they could not accept donations because the County did not have a 501(c)(3) organization. She recognized it was difficult to get a 501(c)(3) organization but the County could use someone else's.

Commissioner Jung referenced the Lemmon Valley softball field issue and noted private contractors had offered to donate wet-field solutions. She said she did not know what a wet-field solution entailed but private contractors said they would evaluate and provide labor. She mentioned Parks and Open Space previously had their budget cut by 48 percent and it had not been refreshed. She noted going to other ball fields to play was not an option because many of the residents in that area were unable to afford enrolling their kids in after-school sports. The concessions sold at that field paid for approximately 90 percent of operations including subsidizing players who could not afford the fees. Delaying them was not an option because they were competitive athletes who needed to be ready for opening day. She stressed concessions were key; without them there would be no team.

Referring to the signs on Peavine Mountain, Commissioner Jung noted she paid for them out of her discretionary funds and had not received an invoice or a tour of the sign locations. She asked for that information as soon as possible.

Chair Hartung mentioned the Nevada Veterans Memorial would have a groundbreaking event on Friday, March 29, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sparks Marina. He was told the first 300 people at the event would receive a gift. He noted the Spanish Spring Library would host a presentation on Tuesday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m. by Dr. Don Molde titled "Let's Talk Coyotes". He said he had heard it was a good presentation, admission was free, and it was family friendly.

PROCLAMATIONS

19-0219 **AGENDA ITEM 6.A.** Proclaim March 31, 2019 as César Chávez Day.

Commissioner Jung apologized on behalf of the Chávez family; they were not present to accept the Proclamation because of a death in the family. She announced Governor Steve Sisolak would speak at the César Chávez dinner for the first time in Nevada history. The event would be at the Grand Sierra Resort on Wednesday, March 27, 2019. She said all Commissioners were invited but she would not be able to attend. She offered to purchase a ticket for anyone who wished to attend.

Commissioner Jung read the Proclamation. She thanked staff, the Board, and County Manager John Slaughter for putting the Proclamation on the agenda every March. She said it was the 11th year she had presented the Proclamation and she hoped it would continue after her tenure.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Sam Dehne spoke about parallels between Cèsar Chávez's life and his own life.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6A be adopted.

19-0220 **AGENDA ITEM 17** Public Hearing: Second reading and adoption of an ordinance establishing the Washoe County Affordable Housing Trust Fund and providing that the fund will receive monies from various sources to be used consistent with a later publically-approved plan to facilitate the supply of housing affordable to households of low income. Manager. (All Commission Districts.).

Nancy Parent, County Clerk, read the title for Ordinance No. 1632, Bill No. 1818.

The Chair opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said Ordinance.

Ms. Jessica Wise thanked the Board for their work on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF). She stated many residents of northern Nevada were burdened with the high cost of housing. The shortage of affordable housing had the greatest impact on low-income families. She said many families had to choose between housing, health, or food and most chose housing and forwent health and food. She said the Northern Nevada Food Bank (NNFB) assisted as many residents as possible. She stated the NNFB supported the AHTF because they believed in providing residents with as many resources as possible.

Ms. Paula McDonough said she was a volunteer at the overflow shelter which housed approximately 50 people. She informed the Board five or six people at the shelter each night were homeless because their rent was raised beyond what they could afford. Some of those people were on disability but some were employed full time but could not find affordable housing.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, Chair Hartung ordered that Ordinance No. 1632, Bill No. 1818, be adopted, approved and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 7A1 THROUGH 7F2

- 19-0221** **7A1** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioners' regular meeting of February 12, 2019. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)
- 19-0222** **7A2** Acknowledge the communications and reports received by the Clerk on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)
- 19-0223** **7B** Recommendation to approve roll change requests, pursuant to NRS 361.765 and/or NRS 361.768, for errors discovered on the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 secured and unsecured tax rolls and authorize Chair to execute the changes described in Exhibits A and B and direct the Washoe County Treasurer to correct the error(s). [cumulative amount of decrease to all taxing entities \$15,192.88]. Assessor. (Commission Districts 2, 3, 4, 5)
- 19-0224** **7C** Recommendation to approve the purchase of 7 new and 10 upgraded GeneMapper ID-X licenses from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$113,500.00] using \$52,500 from the 2018 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11515) and \$61,000.00 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391) under a sole source purchasing exemption. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 19-0225** **7D1** Recommendation to adopt a Resolution Supporting the Project known as the Reno Spaghetti Bowl Project. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)
- 19-0226** **7D2** Recommendation to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and NCE, Inc., commencing March 26, 2019 through March 26, 2020, to prepare and submit Army Corps of Engineers and NDEP permit applications for the Pleasant Valley Reach 3 Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project within the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility service territory [\$34,775.00 for a total contract amount of \$112,260.00]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)
- 19-0227** **7E1** Recommendation to approve Grant Agreement between Washoe County and non-profit Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) in the amount of [\$75,000] for the period March 26, 2019 through June 30, 2019 in support of food security efforts to the indigent population; and approve Resolution necessary for same. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 19-0228** **7E2** Recommendation to approve First Amendment to Subaward from Casey Family Programs, in the amount of [\$35,000; no County match]

retroactive from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 to facilitate family reunification and permanency for children and reduce foster care reentries; retroactively authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute grant award documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

19-0229 **7E3** Recommendation to appoint Jennifer McMenomy and James Doyle [District 2], to the Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board for the four year term effective March 26, 2019 thru March 31, 2023. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

19-0230 **7F1** Recommendation to certify charges, levy and direct the Treasurer [to collect \$32,173.53] in special assessments for fiscal year 2019/2020 as requested by the State Engineer of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, for Black Rock Desert Groundwater Basin (\$68.91), Honey Lake Valley Groundwater Basin (\$1,371.22), Hualapai Flat Water District (\$2,134.76), San Emidio Desert District (\$4,217.83), Warm Springs Valley Groundwater Basin (\$2,332.57), Washoe Valley Groundwater Basin (\$2,548.24), Warm Springs/Winnemucca Creek Basin (\$4,000.00), Cold Springs Valley Groundwater Basin (\$0.00), Lake Tahoe Groundwater Basin (\$1,000.00), Lemmon Valley Water District (\$2,500.00/ no assessment required due to sufficient cash resources in Lemmon Valley Water District Fund), Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basin (\$2,500.00), Spanish Springs Valley Groundwater Basin (\$3,000.00), Tracy Segment Groundwater Basin (\$2,000.00), Truckee Canyon Segment Groundwater Basin (\$2,000.00) and Truckee Meadows/Sun Valley Groundwater Basin (\$2,500.00). The Board of Commissioners authorizes the county Treasurer to remove uncollectible assessments and/or correct assessments on the tax roll as requested by the Division of Water Resources; and direct the Comptroller to pay to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources the requested funds. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

19-0231 **7F2** Recommendation to adjust the Washoe Leadership Program budget by moving [\$9,995.00] of general Washoe Leadership Program funds from other expense line item to cover food costs for staff participating in the annual Employee Appreciation Picnic on August 25, 2018. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Lucey noted Consent Agenda Item 7E3 was the appointment of Jennifer McMenomy and James Doyle to the Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board. He thanked them for their time and commitment to the Senior Services Advisory Board and their continued willingness to serve.

Chair Hartung recognized Agenda Item 7E1, the grant for the food bank, and expressed his thanks.

On call for public comment Mr. Sam Dehne spoke about Reno media and about funds being voted on for several items on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Greg Hudson spoke regarding Agenda Item 7E2. He spoke about the issues he had with Child Protective Services (CPS) case workers regarding his grandchildren. He felt they were on a mission to take his grandchildren away. He listed the eight case workers against whom he filed complaints. He contacted the State Examiners Board and received no help. He had spoken with Assistant County Manager Kate Thomas and Commissioner Herman.

Chair Hartung asked Mr. Hudson how his issue with CPS pertained to Consent Agenda Item 7E2. Mr. Hudson replied he was speaking on a CPS issue and was told he could speak at the end of the meeting or during Consent Agenda comments. Chair Hartung said he understood but clarified Item 7E2 concerned a grant. Mr. Hudson said Commissioner Herman told him CPS was touting the record number of adoptions but he believed CPS was creating adoptions by taking children away from their families without just cause.

Ms. Johnna Lyda spoke regarding Item 7E2 as it pertained to her grandchildren's CPS case. She said CPS staff told her they wanted to put her grandchildren up for adoption even though she was willing to take them. She stated CPS staff had indicated family members would not be able to take the children. She contacted Legal Aid, which was a grant-funded program, and was told she could not receive aid. She noted she was on disability and had a low income. Legal Aid told her they did not have an attorney to help with CPS issues. She said the District Attorney would not let her attend her son's court case to gain custody of his children and felt they were working with CPS staff to keep the children away from the family.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbighler, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 7A1 through 7F2 be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 7A1 through 7F2 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

BLOCK VOTE – 9 THROUGH 13

- 19-0232** **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to approve receipt of a direct grant award [\$155,680.00, no County match required] from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), FY2017, Project number 2019-AP-BX-0219, to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Detention Bureau. Beginning date of the grant term is retroactive to October 1, 2018, with no end date. If approved, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved and directed.

- 19-0233** **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to approve a subaward from State Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), in the amount of [\$220,990; no County match] retroactive from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019 for the FY19 Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP); authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute grant award documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved, authorized, and directed.

- 19-0234** **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to acknowledge and approve the Washoe County FY19-20 Strategic Plan goals, initiatives and the Commission Goal Team Sponsors. Manager. (All Commission Districts.).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be acknowledged and approved.

- 19-0235** **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to approve the purchase of 39 Panasonic CF-33 Toughbook computers and mounting components from Lehr Auto Electric Inc., 4707 Northgate Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95834 [in the amount of \$230,856.44] using a joinder contract utilizing the Omnia Partners Public Sector (formerly National IPA) Contract No. 171725-01 as permitted pursuant to the joinder provision of NRS 332-195. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be approved.

- 19-0236** **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to: 1) Void Amendment #1 to Funding Agreement between the State of Nevada Acting by and through its Division of State Lands and Washoe County Community Services Department for Phase V of the Lake Tahoe Bike Path Project previously approved at the December 18, 2018 Board of County Commission meeting; and 2) approve Amendment #1 to the Original Phase V Funding Agreement between the State of Nevada Acting by and through its Division of State Lands and the Conservation and Resource Protection Grant Program and Washoe County Community Services Department - Regional Parks and Open Space for Phase V of the Lake Tahoe Bike Path Project to revise the Project Budget and Extension of Time [no fiscal impact to Washoe County]; and 3) authorize the Assistant County Manager [David Solaro] to execute the amendment and related documents. Community Services. (Commission District 1.).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be voided, approved, and authorized.

- 19-0237** **AGENDA ITEM 8** Recommendation to approve an agreement for legal services with Eglet Prince, LLP and Bradley, Drendel & Jeanney to represent Washoe County agencies in litigation for damages suffered from the actions of manufacturers, distributors and dispensers of opioid-based drugs, and to authorize the filing of actions against such entities. District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.).

Washoe County District Attorney Chris Hicks introduced attorneys Mark Wendel from Drendel & Jeanney and Bob Adams from Eglet Prince, LLP. Mr. Hicks mentioned the opioid epidemic had been increasing in Nevada for some time. He said he had been a prosecutor for 17 years and the elected District Attorney for four. He stated

the issues caused by the increases in addiction affected the health and safety of the community, taxed County services, and caused tragic loss of life. He said there was no doubt the community had been affected by the opioid epidemic. He met with the attorneys who would be presenting and believed their services were warranted and would benefit the County. He expressed confidence in the lawyers and their firms. He encouraged the Board to vote in favor of Agenda Item 8.

Robert Eglet, Senior Partner with Eglet Prince, LLP, conducted a PowerPoint presentation consisting of 150 slides, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Mr. Eglet asserted communities, counties, and the country were facing the worst domestic crisis of the generation caused by opioid manufacturers and distributors who had the motive and means to cause the crisis. The motive was hundreds of billions of dollars in profits and the means was prescription opioids. The result was the worst and most widespread drug epidemic in the country's history. He stated an aggressive marketing campaign was implemented 20 years earlier to convince the public and medical professionals that using opioids for everyday chronic pain was safe.

Mr. Eglet read the PowerPoint presentation which outlined the progressive increase in opioid use and resulting addiction rates. He said the nearly 2 million people in America who were addicted to opioids contributed to increases in heroin use because nearly 80 percent of heroin users started with prescription opioids. He indicated over 175 Americans died each day from an opioid overdose. He spoke about the book "Exit Wounds" written by Purdue Pharmaceuticals, an opioid manufacturer, to target veterans for opioid prescription use by claiming they increased a person's level of functioning. He discussed the negative findings by various studies including the economic impacts of the opioid crisis. He said drug companies knew their marketing was contrary to scientific and medical evidence.

Mr. Eglet reviewed the responsibilities and legal duties of opioid distributors based on the 1970 Controlled Substances Act. He named the three primary drug distributors responsible for 85 percent of the opioid market and noted the two largest, McKesson and CardinalHealth, had been fined by the federal government for failing to report suspicious orders of opioids.

Mr. Eglet said there had been over 1,000 lawsuits filed against drug manufacturers and distributors by cities, counties, and states. He discussed why it would behoove each Nevada county to file its own lawsuit. He said the laws for these types of cases were favorable in Nevada and there were no state caps on punitive damages. He indicated County resources would not be required to prosecute the case because the two firms would advance the costs for litigation on a contingency fee. He spoke about the background of each law firm and the experience and accomplishments of the attorneys who would be involved in the case. He stated they were local law firms with strong relationships in the Nevada Judiciary and they were prepared to allocate the necessary resources to litigate the case to conclusion.

Chair Hartung asked Mr. Eglet to introduce the other lawyers present. Mr. Eglet introduced Robert Adams, senior partner at Eglet Prince and Mark Wenzel, partner at Bradley, Drendel & Jeanney.

Commissioner Lucey thanked Mr. Eglet for the presentation. He inquired whether the structure of the case would change as a result of a possible bankruptcy filed by Purdue Pharma. He said one reason for filing in State Court instead of Federal Court was that Purdue Pharma was incorporated in the State. He asked about the implications of a bankruptcy Mr. Adams responded there were five defendants incorporated in the State of Nevada but Purdue Pharma was not one of them. He clarified Purdue Pharma had not announced bankruptcy; they announced they would seek guidance. Mr. Eglet noted large companies threaten bankruptcy in an attempt to force settlements. He stated Purdue Pharma was not a publicly-traded corporation; it was a closely-held company owned and operated by the Sackler family. He explained the litigators would amend the complaints in Clark County and the City of Reno to plead alter ego claims against Sackler family members. He said the family members had preemptively drained billions of dollars from the company over the previous five or six years. He asserted litigants would get to the Purdue money through the company or through the individual family members.

Commissioner Lucey noted the presentation indicated the law firms would carry the costs of prosecuting the case. He asked whether staff from the District Attorney's Office would be required to assist with discovery and assessment of damages. He requested an estimate of the staff time that would be required. Mr. Eglet responded it might require some staff time. He said they had retained forensic economists who would review records for each County department to assess the amount of money expended on opioid-related issues. He indicated the damages resulting from opioid abuse were widely spread and included issues such as home robberies committed by opioid or heroin-addicted individuals. The costs of investigating those robberies would be included in the accounting of damages.

Commissioner Jung thanked the litigators for the presentation and said she had long advocated holding people responsible for the opioid crisis. She stated it affected mostly young people in all demographics. She referred to Mr. Eglet's statement about the opioid crisis having an economic impact equal to 2.8 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product. She said that figure did not calculate human misery. She asked to what extent the litigators would calculate human misery. Mr. Eglet responded the damages to individuals were not damages they could pursue in the type of case they would file. He said individuals could pursue damages individually as long as the statute of limitations had not expired. Commissioner Jung said it had changed the face of the community. Mr. Eglet agreed and said they could pursue the cost for rehabilitation because the only way to solve the problem was to cure the disease. He stated addiction was curable with in-patient rehabilitation, which was costly and often took more than one 28-day stay. Commissioner Jung stated relapse was part of recovery. Mr. Eglet agreed.

Commissioner Jung confirmed the litigators would not pursue individual damages. Mr. Eglet said he did not think it would be possible. Commissioner Jung asked

whether Mr. Eglet would be able to recommend an attorney to an individual or group of activists who came forward. Mr. Eglet responded the law firms were working with attorneys across the country that would pursue individual cases. He said one issue with individual cases was the statute of limitations.

Commissioner Jung asked what the statute of limitations was. Mr. Eglet replied almost every jurisdiction ruled it was two years from notice that the person was addicted. He said the first time a person checked into a rehabilitation facility signified notice. He noted a person typically went through rehabilitation and relapsed. By the time they were in a position to pursue a lawsuit, two years would have passed.

Commissioner Jung asked whether Mr. Eglet could work with the County's government affairs liaison to help change the statute of limitations. She said it might be a national push but it could start locally. She noted the Legislature was in session. Mr. Eglet noted each state had its own statute of limitations. Commissioner Jung said she was concerned about Nevada. Mr. Eglet said they could try but they had encountered significant resistance from the Legislature each time they tried to extend the statute of limitations unless it involved sexual assault cases. Commissioner Jung voiced doubts about encountering resistance because one in five people were addicted and each person in the Legislature had been affected in some way. Mr. Eglet agreed but was hesitant to raise hopes too much on the issue. He said he had been involved in volunteer lobbying at the Legislature for trial lawyers for over 20 years and was aware of the difficulties with getting things like this passed.

Commissioner Jung agreed about veterans returning home with major injuries they would not have survived without modern technology. She said they were abandoned by the government to fight the opioid addiction on their own. She mentioned one of the dispensaries located in Carson City and Spanish Springs was a national company with a major investor who was a retired National Football League player. She noted opioid use was prevalent in all professional and college sports because athletes were expected to play through pain. She expressed doubt about the situation resolving itself since the data pointed to it getting worse.

Commissioner Jung suggested Mr. Eglet work with the Washoe County Medical Examiner on the issue. She said County overdose deaths were primarily related to methamphetamines. She indicated she was unsure whether the heroin effect had not simply reached the County yet or whether the geography in the area had insulated the community from it. She stated the Medical Examiner could provide more data about the effects of opioids and methamphetamines. She understood there was no one to sue for methamphetamines but it was a rampant issue locally. It did not receive attention because opioids were what everyone talked about at the national level.

Commissioner Herman commented her nephew experienced the aggressive marketing tactics of large pharmaceutical companies while in medical school. She said he ultimately decided to go into a different career field because he did not want

to deal with that pressure. She wondered how many prospective doctors were lost because of the pressure exerted by pharmaceutical companies.

Commissioner Berkbigler said there was no question the opioid crisis was a serious issue that needed to be addressed. She stated it was driving costs for taxpayers because municipalities had to put significant amounts of money toward the issue. She expressed appreciation for the litigators' efforts and for the County being included in the plan. She noted she had spoken with Bill Bradley, partner with Bradley, Drendel & Jeanney, about the issue the previous day.

Chair Hartung asked how the 25 percent contingency fee for any recovery mentioned in the staff report would be affected if attorney fees were awarded in addition to a settlement. He requested clarification of whether the attorney fees would be combined with the settlement before the contingency fee was paid or whether the contingency fee would be paid in addition to attorneys' fees. Mr. Eglet responded the contingency fee was generally calculated based on the judgement minus attorneys' fees. Being awarded attorneys' fees would essentially reduce the contingency fee. He specified attorneys' fees would go to the County and could be used to pay the contingency fee.

Chair Hartung sought clarification that \$2.5 million would be the contingency fee if the County was awarded \$10 million, which Mr. Eglet confirmed. Chair Hartung asked what would happen if the County was awarded an additional \$3 million for attorneys' fees. Mr. Eglet replied that it would go to the County; the \$2.5 million contingency would be paid from the \$3 million and the County would retain the remainder. Chair Hartung asked whether the County would be responsible for dividing the contingency fees between the law firms or whether the attorneys would take care of that. Mr. Eglet responded the fee split between the law firms had been agreed upon in advance. The County would pay one contingency fee and all attorneys and firms would be paid from that fee.

Chair Hartung stated he looked forward to reading the case briefs. He understood the County was one of the last entities to join the litigation. He said Bradley, Drendel & Jeanney was a familiar firm, noting both law firms were highly recommended.

Deputy District Attorney David Watts-Vial noted the agreement before the Board was negotiated with Eglet Prince and Bradley, Drendel & Jeanney. They agreed to the terms of the agreement, which was now recommended to the Board for approval. He pointed out there were two components to the agenda item. First, the Board would approve the agreement. Second, the Board would authorize the filing of actions against the entities listed.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Greg Hudson stated he had seen many lawsuits against drug manufacturers over the years; those companies responded by raising their prices. He commented he had witnessed a drug company representative badger his doctor into buying their medications. He said a limit needed to be placed on drug manufacturers and representatives to prevent them from coercing doctors into

prescribing their products. A limit also needed to be placed on drug advertisements which told viewers to request medications from their doctors. He noted doctors, not patients, should make decisions about medications. He asserted prosecuting drug company executives would be more effective at putting a stop to the issue. Making drug companies pay a fine would only cause an increase in medication costs for the public but 50-year prison sentences might put an end to the issue.

Chair Hartung said he had reached the same conclusion about commercials for medications.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that the agreement for legal services with Eglet Prince, LLP and Bradley, Drendel & Jeanney to represent Washoe County agencies in litigation for damages suffered from the actions of manufacturers, distributors, and dispensers of opioid-based drugs be approved, and the filing of actions against such entities be authorized.

Chair Hartung asked Mr. Watts-Vial whether the motion fulfilled the necessary requirements. Mr. Watts-Vial replied it did.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

19-0238 **AGENDA ITEM 14** Public Hearing on the Intent of the Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County, Nevada, to issue General Obligation (Limited Tax) Sewer Bonds (Additionally Secured by Pledged Revenues). Manager. (All Commission Districts.).

County Manager John Slaughter said the item was listed as an action item but it was a public hearing which allowed the public to comment. No action was expected.

Assistant County Manager Christine Vuletich reiterated Mr. Slaughter's statement about the purpose of Agenda Item 14. She said the public hearing was a required legal proceeding in response to the action taken by the Board during a prior meeting. She stated there was no other action being taken. She noted the County was within the 90-day petition period and a subsequent bond ordinance would be presented to the Board at the end of May.

Chair Hartung opened the public hearing. There being no response, the hearing was closed. No action was taken on this item.

19-0239

AGENDA ITEM 15 Public Hearing: Possible adoption of resolutions adopting Master Plan Amendment Case Number WMPA18-0009 (1015 US Highway 395 S) and Regulatory Zone Amendment Case Number WRZA18-0008 (1015 US Highway 395 S), and if adopted, authorize the Chair to sign the resolutions to that effect:

Master Plan Amendment: To adopt an amendment to the South Valleys Area Plan, a component of the Washoe County Master Plan, to add the Master Plan Category of Rural (R) on a ± 2.56 acre parcel that was previously part of the Nevada State Department of Transportation (NDOT) right-of-way and currently has no assigned Master Plan Category. If adopted, the Master Plan Amendment will take effect after a determination of conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan by the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission;

AND

Regulatory Zone Amendment: Subject to final approval of the associated Master Plan Amendment change and a finding of conformance with the 2012 Truckee Meadows Regional Plan, to recommend adoption of an amendment to the South Valleys Regulatory Zone Map, to add the Regulatory Zone of General Rural (GR) on a ± 2.56 acre parcel that was previously part of the Nevada State Department of Transportation (NDOT) right-of-way and currently has no assigned Regulatory Zone.

The site is located at 1015 US 395 Highway S. The parcel (046-051-49) is ± 2.56 acres in size and is within the South Valleys Area Plan. The property owner is Michael D & Penny L Sayan. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

Chair Hartung opened the public hearing.

Planner Julie Olander conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She reviewed slides with the following titles: WMPA18-0009 & WRZA18-0008; Request; Site Location; Background; Site; Master Plan Designation; Regulatory Zoning; Analysis; Public Notice & CAB; Motion for MPA; and Motion for RZA.

Ms. Olander said the item involved a parcel which was acquired by the Nevada Department of Transportation in 2001 for the I-580 expansion. She explained it was a parcel that became a public right of way. The Community Services Department was requesting the property be made a parcel again with a designation of general rural (GR). She noted there was a house located on the property and the owner had been working on reestablishing it as a residence.

Chair Hartung questioned the zoning of GR on a 2.5-acre parcel. He said he thought GR was used for 40-acre parcels and the high density residential (HDR) designation would be used for a 2.5-acre parcel. Ms. Olander replied it would be a non-conforming lot. She said the owner had tried to develop it as a commercial lot but it was outside the Truckee Meadows Service Area which prevented commercial use. She noted

the adjacent properties had the GR designation and other properties throughout the County had that designation despite being less than 40 acres. She said the HDR designation would not work for the property so GR was the best scenario. The property owner was satisfied with the GR designation but he would pursue commercial development if regional or area plans changed in the future.

Nancy Parent, County Clerk, received a certificate of mailing from the Community Services Department regarding notices mailed to affected property owners, a copy of which was placed on file.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Master Plan Amendment Case Number WMPA18-0009 (1015 US Highway 395S) be adopted.

Deputy District Attorney David Watts-Vial stated the item had two components. The first was the master plan amendment and the second was a regulatory zoning matter.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Regulatory Zoning Map Amendment Case Number WRZA18-0008 be approved.

Mr. Watts-Vial said there was a further component in the staff report to authorize the Chair to sign the Resolution included on the item as Attachments A and B.

Chair Hartung said he thought that was contained in the motion, which was followed by a brief discussion.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, the Chair was authorized to sign the Resolutions for Agenda Item 15. Any and all Resolutions pertinent to Agenda Items 15 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

19-0240 **AGENDA ITEM 16** Public Hearing: Second reading and adoption of an ordinance amending the Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code), within Article 306, Accessory Uses and Structures, Detached Accessory Structures 110.306.10(a), Lot Coverage, to add a requirement regulating lot coverage limitations for accessory structures, by specifying that on legal non-conforming lots, when the lot size does not meet the minimum lot size for the actual regulatory zone applicable to the lot, the allowed lot coverage under this section will be based on the regulatory zone thresholds set forth in this section for the next densest regulatory zone for which the actual lot size does meet the minimum lot size requirements; and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

The Chair opened the public hearing.

Nancy Parent, County Clerk, read the title for Ordinance No. 1633, Bill No. 1820 and noted a clerical correction to second reading.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Berkgigler, seconded by Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, Chair Hartung ordered that Ordinance No. 1633, Bill No. 1820, be adopted, approved and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

19-0241 **AGENDA ITEM 19** Discussion and direction to staff regarding legislation or legislative issues proposed by legislators, by Washoe County, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, or by other entities permitted by the Nevada State Legislature to submit bill draft requests, or such legislative issues as may be deemed by the Chair or the Board to be of critical significance to Washoe County. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

Government Affairs Liaison Jamie Rodriguez referred to Commissioner Jung's request to include consumer protection bills and rental assistance bills in the legislative report. She indicated she had included those in Commissioner Jung's housing request from the previous Board meeting. She confirmed Commissioner Jung's request to investigate extending the statute of limitations on civil actions for opioid cases.

Ms. Rodriguez said it was week 8 of the legislative session with 69 days remaining. She noted the legislative report provided to the Board was prepared the previous Thursday so she would provide updated information about what occurred Friday and Monday. She said there had been 979 bills introduced to the Legislature; staff was tracking approximately 660 bills, or 67 percent of the bills that had been introduced. Staff was watching to ensure impacts to the County could be mitigated as necessary.

Chair Hartung asked how the number of bills compared to a typical year. Ms. Rodriguez responded it was comparable as a typical year had approximately 1,000 bills. She noted deadlines had been extended without a specific deadline for introducing bills. She said additional bills were expected. She stated there were usually 20 to 30 emergency bills which could be added after the deadline.

Ms. Rodriguez stated the deadline had been essentially waived so bills were still being introduced. She said the next deadline was April 2, 2019, which was the beginning of the closing of State budgets. The deadline was important to the County because of possible appropriations or allocations of costs to the County. She noted the next deadline would be April 12, 2019 which was the first committee passage deadline, when a large number of bills being followed by staff were likely to be taken off the list.

Ms. Rodriguez mentioned staff changed the format of the legislative report and she hoped it would be easier to follow. She said there would be several additions to the report the following week as per a recent legislative call. One thing that would be added to the report was the highlighting of any anticipated fiscal impacts resulting from a piece of legislature. She mentioned staff would include hyperlinks to additional information for each bill. She indicated staff would request a position from the Board on several new bills, but they had to fully evaluate the bills before requesting the Board's position.

Ms. Rodriguez said staff had created a category of 'concerned as written' as a result of conversations that occurred regarding some bills. She stated she would change it from 'concerned as written' to 'oppose' with a note if the Board did not object. The note would indicate any direction from the Board about amendments needed to address concerns with the bill.

Commissioner Berkbighler asked for an explanation of Assembly Bill (AB) 301 which stated "Section 1 additionally requires the board to take necessary precautions against suicide and death in the county jail and any branch county jail". She asked how the Board was expected to do that. Ms. Rodriguez responded the current statute required the County to take all necessary steps to prevent escape and to care for prisoners. She said AB301 would expand that responsibility to address potential deaths and suicides. Commissioner Berkbighler inquired how the Board could know what was occurring at the jail and whether the Commissioners would be required to go to the jail every three months. She asked why the County had a Sheriff if that was the case.

Ms. Rodriguez explained it was Majority Leader Teresa Francisca Benitez-Thompson's bill and there was an amendment being drafted. She indicated that under current Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) the Sheriff was supposed to submit a report to the Board every three months on the status of the jail. She said AB301 was intended to include issues or steps recommended by the Sheriff. The responsibility of the Board would be to review the report and determine whether budgetary adjustments needed to be made to support those initiatives.

Commissioner Berkbigler thanked Ms. Rodriguez for the explanation. The Commissioner stated she had many years of experience writing legislation. As the bill was written she felt she would be at fault if she did not spend time in the jail making sure the Sheriff was doing his job and no prisoners were committing suicide or escaping. She said it needed to be corrected and hoped the amendment to the bill would accomplish that. Ms. Rodriguez responded part of the amendment would be to clarify that a report would need to be delivered to the Board by the Sheriff every six months; the new language would list the subjects to be included in the report.

Ms. Rodriguez said the second component of the bill required the Sheriff to notify the Board of any jail death within 24 hours to ensure everyone was aware of what had happened and what would be done as a result. The third component of the bill would clarify what needed to be included in the Sheriff's 6-month report. She said all sheriffs were required to submit a report annually to the Department of Justice (DOJ) which included deaths, illnesses, and anything they had to address in the jail during the year. AB301 would provide the County with a copy of the information reported to the DOJ every six months. The focus would be on whether there were jail deaths and the results of completed investigations. She noted there would be no Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act violations or discussions about ongoing investigations. As written, the bill would not apply to city jails so that would be clarified with the amendment. The revised bill would require the Sheriff to report to any overseeing body. The argument was there was no easy way to have access to or discuss that type of information openly. She said the reports submitted to the DOJ were put into a 4-year compilation of the entire state but they did not provide specifics of where deaths occurred. Making specific information more available would facilitate identification of issues so they could be addressed.

Commissioner Berkbigler said she was completely supportive of the concept that prisoners in jail needed to be safe, fed properly, and receiving medical care. She expressed concern with the legislative language, stating it would be the responsibility of an elected County Commissioner to ensure those things. She maintained legislation language needed to be clear and understandable. She expressed concern about the County and Commissioners being sued if something happened as a result of the Sheriff not taking care of the jail. She surmised the Board had to ensure the legislation was clear from a financial perspective. She expressed confidence in the Sheriff's abilities and was not concerned about the jail under his administration. She was adamant the language of the law needed to be clear about where the reports went and where the responsibility ultimately was. Ms. Rodriguez agreed with Commissioner Berkbigler's concerns and was working with the Majority Leader on an amendment. She said she would ensure there was clarifying language in the bill stating the responsibility would be on the Sheriff and the bill was simply allowing a report to be submitted to the Board.

Chair Hartung agreed with Commissioner Berkbigler. He expressed concern about county commissioners being responsible although there were two other municipalities utilizing the jail. He noted less than half of the prisoners were from

unincorporated Washoe County. He stated any culpability needed to be distributed throughout the various entities.

Commissioner Jung agreed with Commissioner Berkbigler's concerns. She noted she was not a subject matter expert on jails and could not judge the adequacy of the conditions. She concurred with Commissioner Berkbigler's statement that the Sheriff was an elected official who was responsible for law enforcement and the jail. She thought the bill was trying to further dilute responsibility. She understood the Sheriff was not advocating for the change and acknowledged there were often unintended consequences when laws were written. She felt the Board should not be held accountable for another elected official's job. Ms. Rodriguez responded she would make sure the language was clarified because the intent was simply to receive a copy of a report. She said Assistant District Attorney Paul Lipparelli had been working with staff to ensure the language would be as it was intended.

Chair Hartung thanked Commissioners Berkbigler and Jung. He noted NRS 211.020 was the section being considered for change and its previous iteration was in 1987, before the regional jail was built. He was aware of prisoner complaints over various issues but he opined the best that could be done was already being done. He stated it was nearly impossible to prevent prisoner deaths, particularly when a person has the intent to commit suicide. He judged it irresponsible for the Legislature to make the Commissioners responsible for a facility they only visited periodically.

Ms. Rodriguez mentioned the report listed bills based on subject areas of interest as identified by the Board. She said staff would include a bill list summary at the end of the report in the future. The summary would provide a listing of bills based on categories such as housing. The intent was for Commissioners to effortlessly find bills on a particular topic. She noted Commissioners would also be able to easily identify bills they did not want on the watch list.

Chair Hartung thanked Commissioners Berkbigler and Jung for keeping on task and pointing out deficiencies. He thanked Ms. Rodriguez for her efforts. He noted she had one of the most difficult and fast-paced jobs; the 120-day legislative sessions were chaotic. Ms. Rodriguez thanked Chair Hartung and the Board for their comments. She expressed appreciation for staff who provided subject matter expertise which enabled her to represent the County at the Legislature.

Chair Hartung asked Deputy District Attorney David Watts-Vial whether the Board needed to take action on this item. Mr. Watts-Vial replied no action was required but Commissioners could take action if they wanted. He said the Board should take public comment.

There was public comment or action taken on this item.

19-0242 **AGENDA ITEM 18** Possible Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations with Washoe County and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220.

Chair Hartung asked Deputy District Attorney David Watts-Vial whether the Board would recess and reconvene the meeting in Chambers later in the day. Mr. Watts-Vial confirmed the meeting would not adjourn after the closed session. He said the Chair would entertain a motion for the closed session, take public comment, and then the Board would recess. The Board would then reconvene at 3:00 p.m. to finalize the agenda.

12:33 p.m. On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that the meeting recess to a closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with Employee Organizations per NRS 288.220 and reconvene at 3:00 p.m..

3:00 p.m. The Board reconvened with all Commissioners present.

19-0243 **AGENDA ITEM 20** Appointment of a person to the declared vacancy of the Nevada State Assembly District 30 seat, pursuant to NRS 218A.260, from among the following candidates: Natha Clyde Anderson, Laura Bayer, Deborah Ann Chicago, Elvira Diaz, Jenna Garcia, Joseph C. Giampapa, Jonathon R. Haley, Debra Lynn Harris, Thor Kevin Jensen, Javier Lara-Renteria, Emerson Marcus, Leslie Ann Mix, Nancy A. Price, Evan Pritsos, Greg Smith, Wendy Danielle Stolyarov, and the Clerk shall send notification of the appointment to the Secretary of State, the Speaker of the Assembly and to the Governor of the State of Nevada.

Chair Hartung asked whether any applicants had withdrawn, to which County Manager John Slaughter announced Mr. Jonathan R. Haley chose to withdraw from consideration. Additionally, one applicant, Ms. Debra Lynn Harris, was traveling and would be available by phone.

Chair Hartung explained each Commissioner would have an opportunity to express what they sought in a candidate and pose questions for candidates to answer. He would then open public comment, after which the Board would deliberate. At that point, the names of the applicants would be selected by the Commissioners to establish the applicants' speaking order. The applicants would be asked to voluntarily sequester themselves in the Caucus Room so they could not hear other applicants' answers. Additionally, he requested all phones be turned off while the candidates were waiting. Then there would be a recess.

Chair Hartung further explained each applicant would be given five minutes to speak to the Board. After each presentation, the Board would deliberate and a first round of voting would occur with each Commissioner selecting two applicants. Assuming there were no unclear markings on the tally sheets, the County Clerk would then read the results. Further rounds would then continue if necessary until the Board

selected one applicant. He asked the Commissioners to lay out their expectations for whoever was appointed to the position.

Commissioner Herman stated she looked for intelligence, experience, the length of time living in Nevada, and the types of positions the applicants previously held that led them to want to be a part of the Assembly.

Commissioner Berkbigler assumed anyone applying would be intelligent, so she sought someone with a vested interest in the greater Reno area and one who had lived in the area for a while. She wanted an applicant who was willing to work with both parties on any issue that would impact residents of northern Nevada.

Commissioner Jung posed the question of how applicants prepared themselves to start work with the Legislature on March 27 since the legislative session was already almost halfway through.

Commissioner Lucey also wanted to know how prepared the applicants were to go into session the following day. He wished to see an understanding of the issues being discussed at the Legislature, noting there were more than 900 bills being considered; these discussions would change laws throughout the entire state. He wanted the applicant to be open-minded and have the ability to remain unbiased. Finally, he wanted the applicant to understand how each piece of legislation would affect this community, region, and state.

Chair Hartung said he looked for someone who was a good listener. Additionally he wanted someone who would immediately be ready to contribute and wished for the applicant to be a longtime resident of District 30. He desired someone who would work collaboratively and someone who could quickly build relationships at the Legislature. He asked applicants to explain how they would be a quick study to make quick voting decisions.

Chair Hartung said he would open public comment. He admitted he could not stop applicants from making public comments but reminded them they would receive five minutes to make their presentations.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Christian Arroyo said Ms. Elvira Diaz should receive the District 30 Assembly position because she helped many immigrants become citizens, she was a good listener, and she fought for what was right. He said she would help make Nevada a better place.

Mr. Alfredo Soto opined Ms. Diaz was the best candidate because she worked hard for everyone in the community regardless of race or religion. He thought she would be good to help the community in that position.

Through an interpreter, Mr. Juan Velazquez said his vote was for Ms. Diaz because she helped immigrants receive citizenship and he had received her services for the previous five years.

Mr. David Colborne stated he was a 20-year Washoe County resident and the partner of Ms. Wendy Danielle Stolyarov, admitting he was not an impartial observer. He talked about meeting her when she was doing unpaid lobbying work on behalf of the Libertarian party. He stated she quickly built relationships with progressive groups by being honest, curious, empathetic, driven, and fearless. He said she worked with other groups like Americans For Prosperity when appropriate depending on the issue. He added she was not a single-issue lobbyist and listed some of the varied causes for which she testified. He indicated Democrats welcomed her because of her values. He agreed education was important and said Ms. Stolyarov recognized the Legislature discussed a variety of issues. He said Ms. Stolyarov had a track record of addressing each issue intelligently and empathetically. He asked the Board to give her a chance.

Ms. Sherry Powell said she worked with legislators of both parties for the rights of victims of violent crime; she thanked everyone who voted for Marsy's Law. She pointed out there were movements by both parties to protect the rights of victims of crime and to elect more women. She said she used to be a Local 3 Operating Engineer, which she described as a position which did not welcome women. She said women were assaulted and abused during her time there. Her complaints were not heard. She asked the Board not to select Mr. Greg Smith because he did not respond to her complaints and women continued to be restricted in their hours so they could not obtain healthcare. She wanted the Board to continue the momentum of respect toward women, citing a few recent successful bills that passed.

Mr. Chris Daly, Deputy Director of the Nevada State Education Association, expressed his support for Ms. Natha Anderson. He said he began working with her on the Washoe County Question 1 (WC-1) campaign in 2016, calling her a driving force among educators in ensuring new schools were built in the County and existing schools were maintained. He noted he engaged with her at the Legislature during the two prior legislative sessions, assuring the Board that, while education issues were not always prominent locally, they were at the Legislature. He stated more than 30 percent of the proposed bills related to education and nearly 50 percent of the State budget went to education. He claimed she already had relationships with legislators, including new Republicans from southern Nevada. Additionally she had read most of the bills in the session and he stated she would be a champion for northern Nevada, for education, and for kids.

Mr. Ruben Murillo, President of the Nevada State Education Association, stated he was representing teachers and support professionals from the Washoe Education Association and the Washoe Support Professionals Education Association. He said Ms. Anderson came from a long line of education advocates, including her father Bernie Anderson, who represented Sparks for many years. He felt Ms. Anderson could carry on a tradition of representing the constituents of District 30. He pointed out she kept track of

all bills in the Legislature, even those not dealing with education; she would be ready to work immediately. He said she was heavily involved in WC-1, which impacted everyone across the County. He challenged the Board to quiz her on the bills and hoped they would consider her for the position.

Ms. Jana Hofeditz stated she wanted to see Ms. Leslie Mix take the seat, saying Ms. Mix had compassion and concern for public lands, environment, and wildlife. She mentioned Ms. Mix worked with the Hispanic community to have them treated as equals. Ms. Hofeditz told a story about policing a coyote killing contest in Lemmon Valley with Ms. Mix. She said Ms. Mix was compassionate and a great listener who cared about humans and wildlife. She hoped the Board would recognize what a great fit she would be.

Mr. David Gamble Jr. spoke in support of Jenna Garcia and mentioned he was trained by her at the Office of the Alternate Public Defender. He noted she trained him very quickly and said she had a great mind for legal analysis; additionally she had a great memory and was a quick learner. He stated Ms. Garcia realized laws were not just words on paper but they would have consequences for people. He said she had compassion and empathy, which he described as essential skills for a legislator. He urged the Board to consider her.

Ms. Melissa Boesen, President of the Washoe Education Support Professionals, urged the Board to place Ms. Anderson in the Assembly seat. She praised Ms. Anderson, saying Ms. Anderson had provided her with tips and techniques to navigate the Legislature. She thought Ms. Anderson would be ready immediately and she urged the Board to accept Ms. Anderson into the position.

Mr. Manuel Berroa explained he was born in the Caribbean and moved to New York. After 9/11, he moved to Reno and ended up at *The Reno Gazette-Journal* (RGJ). One of his bosses was Ms. Mix, who he was pleased to see was bilingual. He opined she was fearless, open-minded, and she could work with people of any ethnicity. He described her as overqualified and from a great family; he felt she was the right candidate.

Mr. Mathew De La Rosa spoke in support of Ms. Garcia, stating she did the things that needed to be done, not necessarily what would simply make people happy. He told a story of wanting to work for a Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital because it would help pay for his education; Ms. Garcia stressed working for the VA was a good thing to do. He said she chose public service over going into private practice because she believed in doing what was right even though private practice would have been more financially rewarding. He emphasized she had an undying will to serve the public.

Ms. Dana Galvin, a 29-year teacher for the Washoe County School District, spoke in support of Ms. Anderson, saying she was the best-prepared candidate. She commented she learned so much from Ms. Anderson, who served under her as the Vice President of the Washoe Education Association. She thought Ms.

Anderson would be the best Assemblyperson District 30 ever had and implored the Board to select her.

There being no further public comment, Chair Hartung explained the Commissioners would each draw one name from a bowl to determine the order of the candidates' presentations. The order of candidates was drawn as follows:

Commissioner Jung drew Ms. Deborah Lynn Harris
Commissioner Lucey drew Ms. Leslie Ann Mix
Chair Hartung drew Ms. Elvira Diaz
Commissioner Berkbighler drew Ms. Deborah Ann Chicago
Commissioner Herman drew Mr. Evan Pritsos
Commissioner Herman drew Ms. Nancy A. Price
Commissioner Berkbighler drew Ms. Jenna Garcia
Chair Hartung drew Ms. Laura Bayer
Commissioner Lucey drew Mr. Joseph Giampapa
Commissioner Jung drew Ms. Wendy Danielle Stolyarov
Commissioner Jung drew Mr. Greg Smith
Commissioner Lucey drew Ms. Natha Clyde Anderson
Chair Hartung drew Mr. Javier Lara-Renteria
Commissioner Berkbighler drew Mr. Thor Kevin Jensen
Commissioner Herman drew Mr. Emerson Marcus

Chair Hartung asked the candidates to go to the Caucus Room during a short recess. After the recess, the candidates would be brought back to the Commission Chambers in the order selected. Candidates would be allowed to stay in the Chambers once they had spoken.

3:42 p.m. The Board recessed.

3:53 p.m. The Board reconvened with all Commissioners present.

Chair Hartung reiterated each candidate would have five minutes to speak.

Ms. Harris stated she did not prepare a speech because she wanted to address the Commissioners' concerns. She mentioned she had been a Nevada resident for 11 years. She promoted the variety of experience she had, both professionally and personally, noting she volunteered in various capacities. She worked in business for many years with her own financial services company, which allowed her to work with people of a variety of backgrounds as well as with small businesses and large corporations. She said she had a good grasp of financial issues. She said she was an educator for the past 20 years, which allowed her to teach government to young adults along with teaching psychology. She worked within the community with English language learners, which provided her with a unique insight in the newest members of the community; this led her to try to advocate for them through the Legislature. She added she enrolled in a course for educating legislators in preparation for possibly being a part of this legislative session.

She indicated her education allowed her to quickly assimilate new information and distill the most important aspects. She described herself as open-minded and unbiased which would be important in this position. She pointed out nearly every position she held over the prior 30 years involved working with people and she tried to provide ways to make the world a better place, whether through educating families, helping provide for families' financial success, or educating young people. In summation, she believed she could get up to speed quickly and she had a network of people to provide information, support, and resources. She thanked the Board to allow her to make a presentation.

Ms. Mix thanked the Board for the process. She mentioned she had been considered for a number of political appointments and positions throughout the state. She said she was the type of person who was needed to represent the general population. She pointed out her district was predominantly white and Latino and she said she was a recognized Latino leader. She stated she was instrumental in educating the community about the parts played by smaller community components. She said she always believed all people should be represented. She commented she lived in Nevada for 41 years, saying her father was one of the employees who opened Harrah's at Lake Tahoe. Even when she was raised in Cuba, Nicaragua, and Puerto Rico, she came to Reno and Lake Tahoe often. She said there were not many bicultural and bilingual people in the area when she moved here in 1978. She indicated she often worked with Spanish language media and said leadership positions like that were complex and required much collaborative effort. She said she had a history working with hot-button issues such as immigration, so she was used to working with people on both sides of these issues. She felt she had a good perspective working with multiple facets of government and added she worked as a Committee Manager for the State Senate; she was very familiar with the software and could access all the bills for the session. She explained she knew many people in decision-making roles in both the northern and southern parts of the state. She said she would appreciate the Board's vote.

Ms. Diaz noted she worked a lot on the topics of immigration and transgender rights. She stated she worked as a chemist in California for 20 years, starting from the bottom and working her way up to team leader. She said she was ready to work. She told a story about her transgender son asking her to testify in 2011; three bills related to transgender rights were passed in that session. She remarked she lobbied for 120 days to one Republican legislator. During the 2017 legislative session she lobbied extensively with a Assemblyman from Sparks on a transgender rights bill which was unanimously passed. She spoke about lobbying during this legislative session and said people on both sides of the aisle considered her a friend. She felt others needed to be open to changing their minds as she had about transgender rights. She said she had lodging available in Carson City and could begin working the following day. She pointed out the three people who advocated for her during public comment were all Latino and she said she wanted to empower Latino owners to be more engaged in issues. She asked the Board to vote for her because she had a real passion for what she did. She stated she had friends who were lobbyists and she felt at home at the Legislature. She mentioned she wanted to eradicate homelessness in Sparks and work on drug addiction. She thanked the Board.

Ms. Chicago mentioned she was a 20-year County employee who retired three years earlier and she was a native Nevadan. She indicated she was first in the state and second in the nation for trap shooting at age 13 and had won two volunteer presidential awards from President Obama. She was a journalist with 38 television stations, three networks, and worked as a video disc jockey with MTV. She listed her training certifications from groups such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Security Agency. She mentioned she worked on several political campaigns and wrote articles for Hispanic newspapers. She listed a half dozen agencies she worked with, noting she won an award in 2000 for her contribution to the Corporate Challenge; the award was given by the Cities of Reno and Sparks and the County. She stated she was once the Woman of the Year for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for raising \$38,000 for them. She pointed out she could begin working immediately because she was retired.

Mr. Pritsos stated he had lived in Assembly District 30 for about 95 percent of his life and had been involved in education and civic engagement within the community for a long time. He said he coached the instructors of the *We the People* program at Wooster High School to teach students about government and the political process. He mentioned he was an instructor of history and political science at Truckee Meadows Community College and Western Nevada College (WNC). He felt that experience showed the importance of teaching youth about their government, particularly because most his students only took the class because it was a requirement and not out of genuine interest. He thought more resources needed to be allocated for programs like this and he spoke briefly about a program at WNC which allowed people in jail to take college classes for credit while incarcerated. He explained he had worked with State Senator Julia Ratti when she was a member of the Sparks City Council. In addition to having her as a connection in the Legislature, he tracked a number of bills during the session. He typically drove to Carson City for work so he felt working in the Legislative would not be a change of pace for him.

Ms. Price thought it was appropriate for the appointment to be only for the current term because it would put candidates for the 2020 term on a level playing field. She noted she was a stock broker associated with the Air Force for 24 years and was a regent in an elected office. She recognized having an opinion on the issues was different than voting on related bills; she was accustomed to voting during her career. She had lived in District 30 since 1969 and her sons graduated from Sparks High School. She moved to Las Vegas for work and said she was familiar with the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System. She indicated she had been a Republican but was now a Democrat, which would be helpful for being able to associate across party lines. She mentioned she was ready to begin immediately because starting late required knowing how to depend on committees and how to find and work with opinion leaders. She felt she was ready for the politics of the Assembly because she loved working with the politics of education and the politics of the military; each was challenging. She was ready to begin and hoped the Board would see that.

Ms. Garcia said Judge Lidia Sitglich once told her anybody could make a difference in Nevada if they worked hard enough; she said she wanted to make a difference. She admitted she did not have political experience nor had she lobbied at the Legislature, but her office did have a lobbyist so she was familiar with what was happening at the Legislature, particularly with criminal justice reform, indigent defense, and health and human services. She felt the job required a balance of advocacy and negotiation and that was what her job entailed. As a criminal defense attorney, advocating was her primary job, but she spent a significant amount of time working with district attorneys. Working across the aisle and having to find middle ground were parts of her job. She said she grew up in northern Nevada and was familiar with the politics and, because her father worked at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), she spoke with him often about the college's needs, agriculture, and water rights. She underscored the importance of working for northern Nevada and not getting subsumed by the south. She was very experienced at reviewing statutes and considering legislative intent. She declared she was ready to take the position, saying she spent a lifetime having to figure out how to do things. She told a story about working for Jim Hardesty, who asked her to prepare a bench memo on her first day of work. She expressed willingness to work with every member of the Legislature and added she was friends with several lobbyists. She felt she was good at thinking on her feet and was ready to go.

Ms. Bayer thanked the Board for the opportunity. She explained she handed in her retirement paperwork from the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) two weeks prior and said they would be willing to work on her retirement date if she was appointed to the position. She said she could devote 100 percent of her time to the position since there was a lot of catching up to do. She said she lived in Washoe County for 13 years, following 12 years in Clark County and one year in Carson City. She said former Sparks Mayor Geno Martini appointed her to serve on the Airport Noise Advisory Panel, for which she served until she took the position at the RTAA. She noted she was also appointed as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, which she loved for addressing quality of life issues for residents of District 30. She explained she had over 22 years in local government, first in North Las Vegas with parks and recreation and with public works for five years each. Since moving north, she worked at the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, the Truckee River Flood Management Authority, and the RTAA. At these places she was privy to important, executive-level information, which gave her a well-rounded background in working with people in public service. She felt Assembly members on both sides of the aisle wanted to do what was best for Nevada citizens and she thought it was important to remember that when speaking with people with opposing viewpoints. Legislators needed to arrive at solutions that would best help Nevadans.

Mr. Giampapa said he grew up learning the importance of cooperation and dealing with different personalities for a common outcome. He said he had been in the area for almost half a century and had taught at nearly all levels. He remarked he had a Master's Degree in Effective Communication and Sociology and one of his first jobs was teaching Nevada history. He later taught the academically talented which involved taking his children to sit in during various legislative sessions. He said he taught debate, which he felt was important because it involved researching all aspects of an issue. He

mentioned he served on about six boards, acting as the Chair of the Lemmon Valley Citizen Advisory Board and Sierra Nevada Community Access Television. He described himself as an academic listener and a creative problem solver. He pointed out he went to school on the GI Bill, which benefitted him at UNR. He said his work in cryptography in the Army, where the objective was to find perfect answers for complicated issues, would translate to the Legislature. He felt his experience with his multi-cultural family would help him work with diverse personalities. He concluded that District 30 would be in good hands no matter who was chosen.

Ms. Stolyarov thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. She said she had lived in northern Nevada for nearly a decade and had deep experience in the Legislature as well as a broad understanding of the issues facing the District. She listed some issues being discussed this session: education, affordable housing, homelessness, economic development, women's rights, the opioid epidemic, and criminal justice reform. She explained she had experience working with legislators and interested parties on all these issues. She felt like legislators had to have their own priorities but also had to represent their constituents effectively and accurately. She said she would provide competent representation for all of District 30 on any issue, regardless of party lines or personal passion. She mentioned she spent the previous weekend reviewing all the bills of concern to the Commission. She thought the District needed someone to restore trust in the seat and said the major parties in the state were losing voter share. She wanted to address the alienation of the younger generations, who she thought would not trust the same type of leadership. She said she was ready to serve the people of District 30 equitably and asked the Board to let her use her passion to represent the District's citizens.

Mr. Smith remarked the vacancy came at a tumultuous time within the legislative process, and he committed to conduct himself with the utmost integrity. He said he moved to Nevada in 1962 and to Washoe County in 1982; he had lived in District 30 for 35 years. He said he was familiar with the challenges in the community and was committed to working with the Board and with members of the Legislature on both sides of the aisle. He promoted an apprenticeship program he developed and said he was conversant in budgeting, human resources, and management. He further explained he was dedicated to wildlife conservation issues and had been a leader in the apprenticeship world for 16 years. He stated the impact of legislation on local government should be addressed during the legislative process. He noted he had a working relationship with existing legislators and his life experiences would help him make quick decisions. He was familiar with the proper decorum needed to proudly represent his district and he voiced commitment to be accessible to constituents. Since he was retired, he was available to start immediately. He thought these qualifications made him the best candidate and asked the Board for their vote.

Ms. Anderson said it was an honor to apply for the position. She stated she was a second-generation Sparks native and a fourth-generation educator. She said she was proud of being from northern Nevada. She told a story about the transformation from Helms Pit to the Sparks Marina and said northern Nevada always managed to turn

negatives into positives. She remarked leaders in this area responded to problems by finding agreement among different parties to come up with long-term plans. She explained she had not wanted to be an educator until she took a course in education leadership where she volunteered in a classroom once a week. She realized education was not about checking off boxes but seeing children realize their potential. She planned to bring these qualities to the Legislature. She said she understood the difference between the words 'may' and 'shall'. She stated she was ready to take on the challenge of making last-second decisions on many bills over the following 70 days as well as working within other contingencies with the Legislature. She listed members of the Assembly with whom she had conversations: Teresa Benitez-Thompson, Jill Tolles, Heidi Seevers Gansert, and Ben Kieckhefer. She said the decisions made at the Legislature were about making the region better and she felt ready for the job. She asked the Board to be confident in their choice, to provide their cell phone numbers so she could contact them quickly, and to select her for the position.

Mr. Lara-Renteria stated he had lived in District 30 for 18 years, though he had not been to the Legislature since a high school trip in 2005. He thought it would be a great idea to serve the people of Nevada with honor and integrity. He explained he was a quick learner who got along well with other people. He opined he would find another way to get involved with the legislative process if he was not appointed to the position. He mentioned he graduated from UNR with a degree in political science and criminal justice and he planned to get a Master's Degree in public administration. He thanked the Board for their consideration.

Mr. Jensen said he retired in Fallon and, while he could have moved anywhere in the country, he chose Nevada, where he had been a resident since 2001. He acknowledged the Board wanted someone who would be ready the following day and said anyone who was selected would be an unknown at the Legislature. He stated creditability and respect were earned and whoever was appointed would need to act as an information sponge. He mentioned he would request to meet with each Commissioner if he was appointed to determine their concerns for the County and the District. In reviewing the Assembly bills (ABs), he felt one stood out. AB 99 would require the school system to teach fundamental government, which he thought was needed. He was a coach for the *We the People* program for four years at Reed High School and Wooster High School and said most students did not know why important documents existed or what they did. He told a story about students in a competition who did not know an answer to a question, which he felt was an indictment of the school system. He thought young people who would be voters needed a basic understanding of government. He admitted efforts to enhance bills to benefit the State should have already been made but the appointee needed to represent the District and the County. Meeting with people in charge of those entities was important to determine which bills should be supported and which should be opposed. Regarding AB 4, which would allow local communities to designate fire districts and tax local residents, he felt Paradise, California could have prevented the fire if they had their own fire department. He thanked the Board for their time.

Mr. Marcus said he had experience with government as a reporter for the RGJ. His time there allowed him to develop critical thinking and the ability to quickly become an expert on many issues; he would rely on these skills if appointed. During this time he also served as a traditional Guardsman, fulfilling military duty one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer. He left the RGJ in 2015 to work in Carson City at the office of the Adjutant General and he received his commission in the Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant in 2018. He explained he had a Bachelor's Degree in journalism and a Master's Degree in history with a focus on Nevada history, both from UNR. He noted he lived in Sparks with his family and was appointed to the City of Reno's Historic Resources Commission in 2017. He said he had been described as a Democrat who could work across the aisle. Among the issues he wanted to focus on were transparency, clean energy, education, veteran's issues, and historic preservation. He felt transparency was vital for the state and he wanted campaign finance laws to be reworked. He pointed to a specific case in Storey County involving a judge requiring a journalist to give up his source and said he wanted the Legislature to strengthen its shield law for journalists. He was a proponent of renewable energy, noting he committed to installing solar panels on his home. He explained the program that gave him a rebate for doing so was set to expire even though the program kept Nevada moving in the right direction regarding clean energy. He spoke about some of the community outreach he had done regarding historic preservation of Reno area homes as well as his involvement with the Nevada National Guard. He said he would use his experience to make Nevada the most military and veteran friendly state. He thanked the Board and said he was ready to serve District 30.

Commissioner Berkbiger praised the group of applicants, saying they were all qualified to serve in the Legislature. She pointed out it would be difficult to join the Legislature at this late juncture, but she thanked each candidate for caring about northern Nevada.

Commissioner Lucey commended the applicants' depth of experience and that they all shared a passion for their District. He said it was reassuring to see continued support for public service. He acknowledged the difficulty for candidates to talk about themselves in a public forum and the challenge the Board would have selecting one applicant. He thought many of the candidates were well versed in the topics they might deal with and said he looked forward to working with the selected individual.

Chair Hartung noted other elected officials were present at the meeting: District Attorney Chris Hicks, County Recorder Kalie Work, and County Assessor Mike Clark. He indicated it was difficult to work in the public arena. He said he was impressed with the diversity of the field, in terms of profession, race, and military experience. He admitted it would be an extremely difficult choice because all 15 applicants were highly qualified.

Chair Hartung directed County Clerk Nancy Parent to distribute ballots. Ms. Parent noted she was provided with letters and emails showing support for various applicants, which she placed on the record. She then distributed the first-round ballots.

Chair Hartung explained each Commissioner would select two applicants, at which point the Clerk would collect the ballots and confirm their legibility. Then she would read the names aloud.

There was a brief discussion where it was determined the selections were not weighted; each of the Commissioners' two choices would count equally. Additionally, it was decided a Commissioner did not have to vote for two candidates if they did not wish to.

After Ms. Parent collected the ballots and confirmed their readability, she announced the results:

Commissioner Herman nominated Mr. Jensen and Mr. Marcus.
Commissioner Berbkigler nominated Ms. Mix and Mr. Smith.
Chair Hartung nominated Ms. Garcia and Mr. Smith.
Commissioner Lucey nominated Mr. Smith and Ms. Stolyarov.
Commissioner Jung nominated Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garcia.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Berbkigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Greg Smith be appointed to fill the vacant Nevada State Assembly District 30 seat.

Mr. Smith thanked the Board for their support and confidence and said he would represent all sides to the best of his abilities.

Ms. Parent indicated she would meet with Mr. Smith immediately to complete some paperwork.

19-0244 AGENDA ITEM 21 Public Comment.

There was no reply to the call for public comment.

19-0245 AGENDA ITEM 22 Announcements/Reports.

County Manager John Slaughter thanked staff for their organizational efforts, specifically the County Clerk's staff, Management Analyst Bojana Vujeva, Office Support Specialist Fidel Salas, and Management Analyst Dana Searcy.

Chair Hartung thanked staff and expressed appreciation for Commissioner Lucey's input and the assistance of the Manager's Office staff. He was pleased with how the proceedings went.

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5:09 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

VAUGHN HARTUNG, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

NANCY PARENT, County Clerk and
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Prepared by:
Carolina Stickley and Derek Sonderfan, Deputy County Clerks

Pending Board Approval