BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

TUESDAY 10:00 A.M. JUNE 16, 2026

PRESENT:

Clara Andriola, Chair
Mariluz Garcia, Vice Chair
Alexis Hill, Commissioner
Michael Clark, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner, via telephone

Janis Galassini, County Clerk
Kate Thomas, County Manager
Michael Large, Chief 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, Board Records and Minutes Manager Evonne Strickland called roll and the Board conducted the following business:

26-0375 **AGENDA ITEM 3** Public Comment.

Donna Dawson-Schwartz expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to provide her comments as a Library Board of Trustees' (LBT) applicant. She said she wanted to be appointed to the LBT to take on a more active role in supporting the Washoe County Library System (WCLS) and its continued success. She speculated that the Board had read her background in education and civic involvement and believed that her experience producing her recent school's accreditation report for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) demonstrated her ability to lead and solve problems. She recalled that stakeholders, faculty, students, and parents were guided through an evaluation of efforts to achieve the school's goals. She said that every group could list their successes and goals, but her task was to guide them through the critical exercise of evaluating their weaknesses to create a remediation plan. She noted that at times the process was challenging because the groups found it easy to list their successes. She said that while the groups agreed with the school's goals, each group had different opinions on how to achieve them. She explained that she guided each group to actively listen to one another, even when their points of view differed. She said that the groups participated in consensus-building by focusing on commonalities rather than differences. She mentioned that each group returned to the shared goal of not only accurately depicting a school worthy of accreditation but also providing a blueprint for action to continue growing and improving. She said that the members often needed to compromise, and her job was to encourage patience while being persistent in her task. She proudly asserted that a thorough report was conducted, resulting in the school receiving a six-year accreditation. She thanked the Board for the time and hoped her experience showed how practical experience would make her an effective member of the LBT.

Pam Darr recalled serving as a precinct captain in Precinct 6411. She said that it was interesting to listen to new residents. She explained that this year, she was shocked by how many active voters had moved away. She recalled visiting a house with six individuals supposedly living there; however, two had moved away, and two more were in the process of moving. She expressed concern that all six of those people were receiving active ballots. She noted that she visited another home of a 96-year-old woman who had passed away in 2018 but was still listed as active. She opined that it was important to canvass neighborhoods. She said there were many new businesses, creating a transient environment in the community. She asserted that the live ballots being delivered to individuals who no longer lived in the area should be brought to the Legislature's attention. She said that if mail-in ballots were an option, they needed to be handled cleanly, given how transient she believed the State was. She indicated that she had been a canvasser for six years. She said that Los Angeles, California, had many issues with homeless-related non-profits. She pointed out a recent news article about taxpayer dollars received by nonprofits that should have been returned, including Volunteers of America Los Angeles (VOALA). She said she did not know whether there was a connection to the Volunteers of America (VOA) that operated in the region and said she did not want the community to be in the news. She felt that every penny provided to a non-profit needed to be used and accounted for. She said there was a lot of bad news about the homeless industrial complex that she did not want the County to be involved in. She urged the Board to figure out how much individuals were paid and ensure they were held accountable.

Earl Ravid indicated that he was an LBT applicant. He believed his resume contained many examples of his experience and history for the Board's review. He said that the LBT appointment mattered because Nevada law was clear regarding the purpose of a public library. He opined that the library was required to produce educational materials for all citizens. He said that the County had grown and that the people arriving brought diverse backgrounds, interests, and needs. He speculated that growth alone did not tell the whole story and that there were longtime residents, such as seniors who may not have reliable internet access at home, working families who relied on the library for more than just books, or young people who needed a quiet space to study. He clarified that he was not criticizing the library but wanted to recognize what was possible. He said there were two LBT positions open and urged the Board to consider the kind of vision and leadership they wanted to maximize the library's impact in the community. He compared decisions to a ship's rudder, determining a vessel's path and destination. He envisioned a library system that used every available tool, including physical and digital materials, resources, and community partnerships. He thought that many people in the County did not yet know what the library could do for them. He said there was a solvable communication problem that required further announcements in neighborhoods, schools, and community gatherings. He indicated that there was an untapped opportunity to engage the region's growing technology sector, private business expertise, and genuine interest in community investment. He said that a well-governed LBT could open conversations about infrastructure, digital access, and expanded library holdings in ways that benefit residents without burdening the public budget.

Bill Moton said he was an LBT candidate and grandfather of five, with three living in Reno. He noted that his oldest grandchild was roughly three years old when the family began visiting the library, which he found to be a great experience. He believed that the books and activities at the library were great for children. He had found over the years that libraries were a critical educational asset for the communities they served, because not only did libraries augment schools, but they also provided important educational outreach services to all ages. He mentioned that he was a Scoutmaster who used public library spaces to teach merit badges and rank advancements, which he found very useful. He said that the Senior Center Library was a place not just for reading books but also for exchanging ideas and information. He asserted that the library was a community hub, which he appreciated. He explained that the WCLS required very thoughtful strategies and detailed planning with limited budgets to ensure operational effectiveness. He asserted that he wanted to volunteer his time and skills to the residents so they could get the most out of the WCLS. He recalled that he had been retired since 2021 but had previously worked for a large international high-tech information organization for 42 years as an engineer, advanced tech programmer, first- and second-line manager, project executive, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) application and cloud infrastructure specialist. He said that he had to learn and engage with problems.

Heidi Soper displayed photos, copies of which were distributed to the Board and placed on file with the Clerk. She said that she was the Sun Valley Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Chair and a 38-year resident of Sun Valley. She expressed concern regarding Agenda Items 30 through 34 and urged the Board to confirm the complaints regarding public nuisances. She said that all the properties listed in the agenda items had turned into dumping grounds for old cars, motorhomes, and trash. She believed that the properties were a blight, a potential health risk, and a fire hazard. She speculated that if there were squatters on the properties, they needed to be removed. She said she did not have photos of the property on 5th Street showing people standing in the middle of the trash. She noted that the Quartz Lane photos were not great pictures because there were two massive dogs chained to the front fence. She said that if the property owners were alive or working, they needed to be required to clean their property within a specific time or face court action from the County. She mentioned that if the owners were deceased, the County needed to take action to assume ownership within an appropriate time to ensure cleanup was performed. She felt the problems were a constant source of complaints at CAB meetings and asserted that the issues needed to be eliminated altogether. She assumed the Board knew that 520 Carnes Drive was supposed to be included in the cleanup process, but she thought her photo suggested otherwise. She asked that the Board confirm the complaints. She understood that the process would take time and involve many people, but she wanted progress to start now. She reported that it was National Fudge Day.

Terry Brooks read an original poem regarding discrimination, employment, and disabilities.

Board Records and Minutes Manager Evonne Strickland indicated that the timer displayed in Chambers would be reverted to a manual timer because Technology Services (TS) needed to run an update.

Amy Owens displayed photos, copies of which were distributed to the Board and placed on file with the Clerk. She said that while she would like to discuss her experience with the Washoe County Leadership Academy (WCLA), she would instead express her concern regarding pedestrian safety on Sun Valley Boulevard. She recalled that on the previous Thursday, two people were hit in a crosswalk on Sun Valley Boulevard and 5th Street. She said that someone was hit by a car and killed in the same intersection six months ago, someone was struck by a vehicle about a quarter mile from the intersection in March, and a pedestrian was struck and killed on a scooter in April. She pointed out that five people were hit in that area, with three of them killed. She said that three families lost their loved ones, with many others affected by the aftermath. She noted that her statistics covered only the last six months and asked for the Board's assistance in prioritizing pedestrian crossing lights. She believed that quick-fix projects needed to be implemented. She understood that a major project was underway to add pedestrian improvements, but said that she was not the only one who felt it could not come soon enough. She opined that the County had ignored the Sun Valley community; however, she felt the projects needed to be implemented now, not years later when funding was available. She indicated that pedestrians should be able to walk safely without fear of being struck by a vehicle. She said that the community needed sidewalks but would settle for reflective delineative signs separating the roadway from the bike lane and shoulder. She mentioned that pedestrians should cross streets when there is no cross traffic to ensure safety. She urged the Board to consider how to make the area even safer, such as brightly painted crosswalks or nighttime road cross lights. She said the WCLA showed her that tax dollars were spent responsibly, and she thought the dollars should be allocated to the Sun Valley area. She relayed that she had already contacted Washoe 311, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), and the City of Reno. She asked whether the Board knew whether the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), RTC, or the City of Reno had jurisdiction over the stoplights, and whether that jurisdiction depended on what was occurring. She believed not knowing created confusion. She requested that the Board help the community and said that no one else should die on that unsafe stretch of road.

Amy Pulver indicated that she was an applicant for the LBT opening. She thanked Chair Andriola for calling her and every other candidate to ask questions. She expressed pleasure in seeing so many qualified applicants. She wished to advocate for the LBT criteria, which she hoped the Board would consider when choosing a candidate. She recalled having attended all LBT meetings since November 2023 and believed that it was clear that not all trustees fully understood and embraced the duties of the position. She said that the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records (NSLA) offered both trustee training and an outline of trustee roles and responsibilities rooted in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 379. She hoped that the Board would appoint trustees who would commit to taking their training and responsibilities seriously, set policies, hire and evaluate the library director, implement the library director’s plan, manage the budget and finances, monitor overall effectiveness, and advocate for the library in the community. She relayed that the County hired a new library director, which meant the LBT had to develop a performance plan with specific metrics to fairly and objectively evaluate their performance at relevant intervals. She opined that Human Resources (HR) could help ensure compliance with County rules. She said that advocacy for the library included developing relationships with the Commissioners, partners, the community, and potential funders while being a defender of intellectual freedom and an individual's right to information. She reported that ethics, outlined by the State, included that a trustee should not be critical of other board members inside or outside board meetings, not use the library for personal advantage, should not discuss confidential proceedings outside of meetings, should not promise votes on any given issue, or interfere with the duties of the library director or undermine their authority, knowledge of, and continued advocacy for library funding. She pointed out that Agenda Item 19 involved appointing a Commissioner to serve as a liaison to the LBT, a role she strongly supported. She said that having a Commissioner responsible for maintaining a close relationship with the LBT would help heal ongoing concerns.

Cody Phinney noted that she was an applicant for the LBT and that, as of last June, she had retired from the State after 27 years of service. She indicated that she was looking for a way to engage and participate in the community. She recalled that she was a graduate of Edward C. Reed High School (RHS) and had taken her children to the library. She believed that the libraries were a critical resource that needed to be protected. She said that she applied to the LBT because education had become an enormous blessing in her life and was the reason she had become successful. She opined that the libraries were the foundation of educational access and a pillar in the community. She said that the library was one of the few places where residents could participate in public activities without being expected to spend money. She reported having experience serving at the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and the Nevada Department of Human Services (DHS). She said that during her time at the State, she spent a lot of time working and serving on public bodies, and within her last two years of service, she was able to participate in a wide array of stakeholder meetings and succeeded in organizing a plan for the State with two major programs in Washoe County and Clark County. She recalled that working at the State was an exciting experience and that she had recently been invited to participate in or attend the ceremonial groundbreaking of the new facility she helped secure funding for, which she said would improve Nevada's ability to serve mentally ill criminal offenders. She clarified that she felt her experience could be useful in ensuring the library received appropriate advocacy and support to improve an already wonderful system. She said she would be honored to put her experience to work for the benefit of the WCLS and thanked the Board for their consideration.

Maureen McElroy indicated that she was a Washoe County resident, a native Nevadan, and a proud retiree of the WCLS with 24 years of service. She wished to speak about Agenda Item 18 and emphasized the importance and impact of the LBT on the community and the library's future. She said that LBT played an essential role in steering the public library system, guiding operations and services, advocating for funding and community support, and working in concert with the library director regarding budgeting and the library's strategic plan. She believed the community needed trustees to work diligently to ensure the WCLS's success. She opined that the past few years were difficult for the WCLS staff, the community, and the LBT. She urged the Board to be cognizant when selecting future trustees, choosing informed and engaged advocates who understood that a healthy public library system served all elements of a diverse community and that the WCLS was a sanctuary of education, enlightenment, and discovery. She thought it was important that the future trustees understood the WCLS was obligated to offer a wide variety of services, materials, and perspectives. She said that trustees who would champion a budget that allowed all her previously listed elements were important. She expressed excitement that the Board had the opportunity to appoint a new trustee and implored the Board to keep her suggestions in mind.

Doug Jalen noted that he was a precinct co-captain. He said that his precinct received a list of registered Republicans from the Registrar of Voters (ROV) around April or May from two precincts. He reported that 320 postcards were sent to registered Republicans at the addresses provided by the ROV. He said that he had 141 returned postcards with insufficient addresses, 9 of which were returned non-deliverable. He explained that he had asked the United States Postal Service (USPS) about insufficient or non-deliverable addresses, and he relayed that the USPS said the addresses lacked the proper number of digits in the unit number, with some not having a unit number at all or listing it incorrectly. He asserted that the ROV lacked the correct information and wondered how many ballots were returned to the incorrect address or how many voters were disenfranchised as a result. He wondered whether the Commissioners found what he believed was a high level of incompetence to be acceptable. He believed that if the error was not normal, then the ROV specifically targeted Republican precincts for disenfranchisement by not being transparent and incompetent. He opined that the ROV lacked any credibility and needed a complete overhaul to restore voter confidence for honest and fair elections.

Debra Jalen displayed an image, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She believed that the election had been difficult. She said that on election night, there were no high chairs in the ROV lobby to view the tabulation room, and she noted that a standard chair was not high enough for anyone to see into the tabulation area. She said that there were observers with physical challenges who could not stand for long periods or who found standing not conducive to their health. She recalled that one observer had asked a staff member for a high chair and had been denied. She said that in previous elections there had always been high chairs in the area. She explained that the same afternoon, an observer made two verbal requests to turn on the lights in the tabulation room because it was dark and a glare had formed on the window, but the requests were denied. She said that at 4:30 p.m., she contacted Assistant County Manager (ACM) Ryan Gustafson to ask for high chairs and for the lights to be turned on, and the request was granted within a few minutes. She reported that at 7:30 p.m., Public Information Officer (PIO) George Guthrie entered the observation room and notified those in attendance that intake would be held in the garage, which she said was different from the past. She said she asked Mr. Guthrie about the change because no one knew why it was made. She relayed that she and others had to stand 50 to 60 feet away from the intake area, and that only three observers were allowed, none of whom could see what was happening. She said that protocol was not being followed because the area lacked sufficient lighting. She pointed out that she had recently learned that employees could take their laptops home, which she did not understand. She asserted that there were not enough cameras in the processing room and that the shelving was too high, hindering observers' ability to see everything. She referred to her displayed photos and indicated that they represented three inlays at the Washoe County Administrative Complex lobby, which displayed the words, *integrity*, *effective communication*, and *quality public service,* which she felt the voters believed had not been provided.

Alicia Lindsay-Dietrich said that she was a 30-year Washoe County resident who supported the WCLA. She recalled that she had been part of the first cohort a few years ago and said that the program connected her to the community and local government in wonderful ways. She expressed gratitude for the experience and hoped that someday more citizens would be able to participate, or that the program could expand to include school-age children, so they could better understand the County team as she did. She believed it was amazing to witness Commissioners, employees, and various other agencies work hard to ensure Washoe County was a good place to live. She said that she was grateful for the Board's support of the program and hoped it would continue. She explained that she was a champion for keeping library collections diverse and for ensuring that libraries received generous funding. She asserted that libraries were essential places for free expression and that a strong, inclusive library was a sign of a healthy democracy. She said that the Country's founders understood the importance of free speech and enshrined it in the United States (US) Bill of Rights. She hoped the Commissioners would consider candidates for the LBT who understood the library's recent challenges, had served on nonpartisan boards, and, if possible, were educators with library management experience.

<u>10:38 a.m.</u> **Commissioner Clark left the meeting.**

Roblyn Williams provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. She asserted that she was a disenfranchised voter. She said there was a life to the ballot and referred to her documents provided to the Clerk regarding observance and the voting process. She believed her photos showed zero meaningful observation. She explained that she witnessed a staff member take a laptop out of the building, take it to her own home, and plug it into an ROV computer. She opined that the tabulators were very sensitive and not visible from the observation area, as were the scanners into which voters placed their ballots. She said she witnessed the duplication of out-of-country military ballots and mentioned that there was one Republican ballot for every 15 ballots. She stated that there were no meaningful observations and referred to the photos she displayed of the electronic ballots. She speculated that a computer had been plugged in for 45 minutes with no one around it. She reiterated that there was no meaningful observation to see where the ballots went.

Dr. Julie Hogan indicated that she was the WCLA co-chair and a professor at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). She thanked the Board and the County staff who provided funding to the WCLA. She recalled that some highlights of the WCLA experience included witnessing emergency response systems, water facility systems, animal services, the library, and public health services. She said that year's class project was a result of a nine-month program that provided in-depth education regarding many crucial County services. She asserted that the WCLA was a valuable program.

William Bates noted that he was a landlord in Sun Valley and was affected by the public nuisance cleanups the County was conducting. He stated that once the County removed someone from a property, that individual moved to another property. He suggested that the Board create a designation for non-habitable land that would allow the landowner to display a *non-habitable* sign. He believed that the designation would allow Code Enforcement to be called and allow the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) to remove people from the land that did not belong there. He opined that the designation could help simplify the current lengthy process. He understood that the County did not want to burden the landowners; however, he felt that the current process took a lot of time and effort. He said he had two trailers on his property: one that leaked and another into which an individual deposited human waste into a hole. He recalled knowing an 89-year-old landowner who had been sued and was now afraid he would be found to have violated squatters' rights. He reiterated that a *non-habitable* sign would be beneficial and would not involve a large process. He reported that Vice Chair Garcia had heard his concerns. He said there needed to be a shorter path for landowners that did not take 30 days. He explained that one of his tenants had a generator running under his window all day. He expressed confusion regarding how someone with no money could afford to run a generator all day. He mentioned that many of the squatters had a steady line of individuals who would show up on the property for a few minutes and leave. He asserted that he was not accusing them of dealing drugs; however, it was suspicious.

Bobee-Kay Clark indicated that she was a retired Washoe County School District (WCSD) teacher and had taught grades kindergarten through 12th for 33 years. She said she appreciated hearing from everyone who spoke about the LBT appointment. She noted that she loved the library. She recalled that she had served on many committees and learned a great deal from them. She believed that it was important to be an expert on the committee one served, and while it might be nice to have a degree in zoology, having someone with an education, literacy, or library sciences degree was important for the LBT. She urged the Board to consider the experts because she felt their voices mattered and could be efficient. She said that emotional immaturity slowed progress and that understanding whether someone had empathy was good judgment for knowing if they were emotionally mature. She opined that if someone asked another to fundamentally shrink themselves for the other's emotional convenience, it would not assist LBT progress. She reiterated the importance of choosing empathetic experts. She expressed appreciation toward the Board and thanked them for their work.

Penny Brock reported that she had been a voting observer since May 15, 2026, and would continue to do so through the end of the Primary Election. She noted that she and many other observers were tired and found observing to be grueling. She recalled that on election night, she left at 12:15 a.m. while three other observers remained. She asserted that she took her job of observing very seriously because she suspected there were many integrity issues in the elections. She said that observers were disenfranchised and could not perform meaningful observation. She noted that if there was a question, observers had to fill out a form and wait 72 hours for a response, with answers often incomplete or unanswered. She felt that observation in the ballot processing room was blocked and that the area lacked cameras, which she said was a huge issue. She explained that the 39,000 ballots were sorted in an hour, their signatures verified, and then sorted into 400 different precincts. She said the sorter was having technical issues. She believed that more mail ballots were sent out than there were active registered voters, and that the ROV generated online ballots, which she felt was a flaw because there was no way to verify that the individuals were Nevada citizens. She expressed concerns about the Dominion Voting System and the ballot-marking devices (BMDs) because they contained illegal contracts resulting from the lack of bid solicitation.

Perry Sisco believed that his home was being subjected to a hostile takeover by a water company in Black Springs, which he said had attached falsified documents to his tax bill. He reported that he was a senior on a limited budget and did not know how he would pay the fines. He said the tax company would take his land after 20 years, and he did not know how to protect his property because of the falsified documents. He opined that no one was looking into his bill and that he felt he would lose everything. He said that he had a dog and a family and that he would be homeless if the bill was not addressed. He relayed that he was attempting to develop his property into an electric vehicle (EV) station for diesel trucks for clean energy, but it would be taken away. He said he had an offer to develop his property that would benefit everyone. He thanked the Board for their time. Chair Andriola informed Mr. Sisco that the staff was available to assist him.

William Macauley Jr. thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and participate in the government network. He noted that he was not an LBT candidate but wanted to inform the Board that he had attended the LBT meetings for some time and wished to share his observations. He said that interacting with the business community for the WCLS was an interesting idea that could bring new perspectives. He explained that he was not privy to the WCLS's internal workings but suggested that the LBT include someone with more entrepreneurial experience, who could energize ideas and be a great asset to the LBT. He asserted that the LBT should be representative of the community. He noted that the LBT's diverse geographic representation had been a concern and urged the Board to ensure broader representation. He said that Washoe County was not just one community but many, which meant the LBT needed to be increasingly homogeneous. He speculated that only one trustee had direct experience with the library and requested that the Board appoint someone with working knowledge of the library, such as Marcus Nesbitt.

Veronica Cortes mentioned that she lived in District 5 and was a longtime resident of Sun Valley. She indicated that there was a one-mile amendment to the CABs regarding appointments, which she said was how she was appointed by Vice Chair Garcia. She said that she was part of many projects in Sun Valley along with Vice Chair Garcia. She reported that Vice Chair Garcia brought many Hispanic communities together, for which she was grateful. She said she had a business in Sun Valley that served as a depot for five different food trucks. She expressed concern about the growth of the Sun Valley area and said that the community was trying to enjoy services, togetherness, and pride, but could not do so because individuals were being run over by cars. She said that the same night a child was taken off life support after rolling his quad, another person had lost their life on a scooter. She said there was also a driving while under the influence (DUI) accident that resulted in someone being killed a block away from her home. She asserted that Sun Valley had a public safety issue that needed to be addressed.

Laura Wetherington thanked the Board for their service and for giving her the opportunity to speak. She said that she respected her neighbor’s right to hold whatever belief system they wished, whether she agreed with them or not. She noted that she cherished WCLS’s mission to reflect the whole community in its outreach, services, and materials. She said that the library's governance must uphold the democratic principle that the library is for everyone. She implored the Board to appoint LBT trustees willing to undergo the training required for their roles. She recalled that in a recent strategic planning workshop, a County staff member discussed the County website’s success in ensuring that every resident could access it or receive information, programs, and services effectively. She suggested that her neighbors, who would argue that the library should be financially restricted or closed because of its programming or materials, should understand they would be missing something essential from the community. She said that according to the most recent available data from the Nevada Department of Education’s (NDEs) Nevada Report Card, 47.9 percent of individuals were proficient in elementary English language arts, and 44 percent were proficient in elementary math. She asserted that the library was an essential partner in educational investments for children. She relayed that the new WCLS library director recently discussed the correlation between third-grade reading rates and the future demand for prison cells. She said investment in the library was an investment in Washoe County’s future leaders, security, and fiscal outlay. She urged the Board to appoint those who would be cheerleaders for the library’s mission to serve everyone in the community while also advocating, fundraising, and training for the pluralistic public good.

Janet Butcher displayed a document, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She noted that she not only voted but also observed the process. She said that she called the individuals whose ballots were rejected for various reasons and recalled that one person had not received a ballot, which was why her signature did not match. She hoped the individual received assistance from the ROV to correct her ballot. She said that many people indicated that their spouse had passed away and someone else had signed the ballot. She explained that she was data-driven and working to organize the statistics she had collected. She recalled asking whether all votes were tabulated on the night of the election, and relayed that Deputy ROV Reginald Greer had stated there was not enough time to process the significant volume of ballots. She urged the Board to eliminate mail-in ballots if the ROV could not handle the volume. She indicated that many of her questions would be submitted to the Clerk because she felt it was important that the information be received. She speculated that people did not vote because they were unsure whether their vote would even be counted. She referred to the photo she displayed and noted that it appeared to show an individual handling ballots, but she wondered why they were handling them alone.

Ms. Strickland advised the Board that she received emailed public comments, which were placed on file with the Clerk.

26-0376 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

Vice Chair Garcia thanked everyone who provided public comment because she believed the topics were important. She opined that there were many unsung heroes in Washoe County who worked every day in various departments. She acknowledged those who worked full-time, worked temporarily, or volunteered in the Registrar of Voters (ROV) Office. She said that the Board was always open to ideas and ways to improve. She asserted that the ROV workers put in many grueling hours and thanked them for their service.

Vice Chair Garcia expressed appreciation to those who spoke passionately about Sun Valley safety issues, noting that the area needed a lot of love and attention. She said that the Board had helped prioritize the safety and blight issues, such as the public nuisance items on the current Agenda. She noted that it was the first time a public nuisance had been on the Board agenda since 2018, which she felt was significant. She understood that at times the Board seemed to be moving slowly, but she speculated that the County was making headway. She pointed out that the loophole the Board was attempting to address concerned deceased private property landowners who were no longer alive to be held responsible for public nuisances. She assumed there was significant confusion and disruption among Code Enforcement, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO), and the Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Team. She claimed that many individuals were paying close attention to the concerns, and she was confident that the County could address the issues.

Vice Chair Garcia noted that she wished she could magically fix pedestrian safety concerns with the remaining $25 million needed in funding to address the issues. She said it was the first time the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) and the County had collaborated to secure funding and resources for the Sun Valley Boulevard Improvement Project. She thanked Commissioner Hill, who was a member of the RTC Board, for helping make the Sun Valley Boulevard Improvement Project a priority. She asserted that the area was, unfortunately, not within the Board's jurisdiction, but hoped that grant funding would be approved. She reported that construction for the improvement project was anticipated to begin in the fall of 2027 and would continue through 2029, which she understood would be its own problem. However, she believed the project could not wait another 70 years.

Vice Chair Garcia indicated that there was some public comment regarding the region's desired growth pattern; however, that growth depended on economic development. She noted that Agenda Item 6F1 pertained to a Sun Valley economic study to be conducted with assistance from her commissioner discretionary funds. She asserted that she was prioritizing the area and wanted to understand whether the County could incentivize economic opportunities to bring more services to the area. She said that Sun Valley had been without a grocery store for several months and had only an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) in the area. She explained that she heard from her constituents and believed that the meeting was a monumental day for the Sun Valley community. She said that concerns could not be addressed alone and appreciated her colleagues' support. She opined that there were amazing individuals at the District Attorney's (DA) Office, Code Enforcement, law enforcement, and in the Office of the County Manager (OCM). She reiterated her appreciation to the hard-working staff for their assistance in addressing the needs of Sun Valley.

Chair Andriola believed that a theme of the Agenda was Sun Valley, led by Vice Chair Garcia. She indicated that, as the Board Chair, she supported Vice Chair Garcia's passion for her district. She explained that she had participated in many ride-alongs with the HOPE Team and had witnessed the concerns firsthand. She said the government tended to move slowly, but she appreciated the monumental items on the Agenda. She thanked County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas and Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large for their work. She recalled a public commenter who struggled with the loopholes in the Washoe County Code (WCC) and hoped that those issues could be addressed and amended at the current meeting. She requested that CM Thomas research whether a *non-habitable* sign could be used to automatically trigger a more effective response to the individuals creating the public nuisances.

26-0377 **<u>AGENDA ITEM 5A1</u>** Presentation by the 2025-2026 Washoe County Leadership Academy (WCLA) participants on their class project, focusing on wildfire mitigation and a home hardening education pilot. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

Washoe County Leadership Academy (WCLA) Co-Chair and Assistant Professor at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), Doctor (Dr.) Julie Hogan, Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities (NCED) Senior Project Coordinator, Ida Packard, and UNR student Jesus Lopez conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Wildfire Mitigation and Adaptation Pilot Project; Research & Impact; Problem Area – Wildfire Risk; Geographic Lens – Sun Valley; Project Goal; Impact; Next Steps & Recommendations for Sustainability; Academy Member Engagement; With Gratitude; Project Partners & Special Thanks.

Ms. Hogan shared the slide *Wildfire Mitigation and Adaptation Pilot Project* and asked WCLA members who had been able to attend the meeting to stand. She stated that the Academy had been a life-changing experience for many of them. She felt they had received a deep and engaging education, and were able to learn about a number of topics facing Washoe County. She announced the WCLA class decided to focus specifically on wildfire mitigation and an adaptation pilot project.

Ms. Hogan shared the slide titled *Research & Impact* and stated that the WCLA had selected the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD)'s presentation on the need for wildfire safety and preparedness. She stated they had created a number of committees, the first of which created a decision brief. She noted the brief contained a few points, including: identifying a problem area looking at wildfire risk and the lack of engagement with home hardening in the County; developing a geographic lens to identify communities with high fire risk; increasing awareness and access to realistic home hardening.

Mr. Lopez shared the slide titled *Problem Area – Wildfire Risk* and shared that every year, there were more devastating fires, specifically on the West Coast. He noted they were getting larger and lasting longer. He explained there were longer fire seasons, and the bigger fires were more uncontrollable and were destroying properties. He stated it was a significant risk for those in the West, and specifically in Washoe County. He thought it was not only a fire department issue, but an issue that affected every homeowner.

Mr. Lopez shared the slide *Geographic Lens – Sun Valley* and said his group decided to focus on Sun Valley, not only because it had a high wildfire risk, but also because it faced other barriers as a community. He felt that progress had been a focus for wildfires, but not much progress had been made due to language barriers, along with residents lacking the means to begin hardening their homes.

Ms. Packard shared the slide titled *Project Goal* and stated that after their initial meeting with the TMFPD and Living With Fire (LWF), the research and impact committee presented three options to consider. She stated her group wanted to do all three options, which were outreach to elementary schools, home assessment and home hardening within the community, and providing educational resources to the community. She noted that several members attended the LWF 2026 Fire Adapted Nevada Summit and understood that it was the collective effort of residents that prevented fires and protected homes and neighbors. Because of this, the group wanted to educate residents about the dangers of wildfires and how to adapt to them via home assessments, and then eventually home hardening. To conduct the home assessments, she explained that the group presented at the Sun Valley Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) where they collected names of homeowners. She noted that one of their members was trained to provide the assessments, and then that individual was accompanied by Spencer Eusden from LWF and completed the assessments. She noted that the group had help from existing resources and partnerships. She stated that beyond helping with the assessments, LWF at the UNR extension provided educational materials pertinent to their goals, and the TMFPD provided training on home assessments and would also help them moving forward into the home hardening portion.

Ms. Packard shared the slide titled *Impact* and explained that in cooperation with the Washoe County School District (WCSD), the group sent activity books to fourth grade students. She noted 355 books were sent to a total of 16 classrooms in four schools. She added that they distributed materials at the Sun Valley General Improvement District's (SVGID) Dive Into Summer event. She noted they attended a food truck event the previous week to share materials and would attend two more. She stated that they also recommended two homes for hardening, and had turned that portion over to Brett Taylor with the TMFPD. The group hoped that a Public Service Announcement (PSA) could be created for Washoe County about how to harden homes and protect the community.

Ms. Hogan shared the slide titled *Next Steps and Recommendations for Sustainability* and stated they had a number of next steps and recommendations to make to sustain and scale up the work across Washoe County. She said the first was to continue engagement with existing partners. She noted they had not created something new, but instead leveraged existing resources with what they had. The second step was to consider redirecting funding towards fire mitigation adaptation to address the reduction of Washoe County Extension funding for those activities. The third, she explained, was to build upon the knowledge obtained by the project and expand it in the future. She also suggested using future WCLA projects to expand beyond their pilot phase into other areas of the County. Finally, she added, was to build upon successes and replicate them around the County.

Ms. Hogan shared the slide titled *Academy Member Engagement* and stated that it was important to explain how much they had been doing that year. She reiterated all of the accomplishments they had detailed earlier, and added that the group had participated in the UNR Washoe County Day and volunteered at the Washoe County Emergency Management Pollinator Gardening Day.

Mr. Lopez shared the slide titled *With Gratitude* and thanked the Board for allowing them to be part of the WCLA. He felt that even though they had all joined for different reasons, they were leaving with more appreciation for what went on behind the scenes and what got done in the day-to-day.

Ms. Packard shared the slide titled *Project Partners and Special Thanks* and stated that they wanted to show some of the project partners and give special thanks to the SVGID for allowing them to participate in the Dive Into Summer event. She thanked the TMFPD, LWF, and the UNR Cooperative Extension.

Chair Andriola mentioned Dr. Marlene Rebori and stated that they should be recognized for being in every WCLA facilitation since its inception. She felt that Commissioner Hill should be recognized for having come up with the idea. She thanked County staff and County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas. She felt that the topic the group had chosen was important. She asked how many participants were in the class. It was clarified that there were 26 participants.

Chair Andriola said that if you told ten people about home hardening, and those ten told ten more people, then maybe the idea would move through the community about how important it was to be preventative. She stated she was familiar with the topic, and she challenged the class to tell 20 people each. She loved the sustainability portion and the PSA, but felt that it started with advocacy first, which she also challenged the group with.

Commissioner Hill thought the group had done good work that was impressive and important. She wanted to know what was happening with the funding on the extension. She stated someone needed to get her the information so that she could help.

Chair Andriola replied that it was in good standing.

Commissioner Hill felt they needed to do a block-by-block approach. She explained that involved seeing how neighborhoods could come together and advocate for each other, and ensure good decisions and investments were being made, and that the correct people were involved. She felt it was important that everyone understood what their local government did. She knew the class was a time commitment. She admired that their employers let them take the class, and that the students cared about the community and wanted to invest in it. She appreciated that they had found a project they cared about, and were giving the Board an opportunity to see how they could leverage the work for future classes and at the County. She asked them to reach out to the Board if they needed anything, and that they would continue to invest in the work and in ensuring the community was safe from wildfires.

Vice Chair Garcia felt that the intelligence, hard work, and motivated participants were incredible. She stated they were running nonprofits, helping with tribal communities, and were involved in the community and education across many different levels. She thought it was inspiring. She acknowledged it was a commitment to participate in the WCLA, and was impressed the participants completed the course and delivered good work. She stated that Washoe County was literally living with fire. She noted there was a fire Sunday night, and now they were in this presentation showing the class's work in Sun Valley on the subject. She felt the class really had been all over the County.

11:31 a.m. **The Board recessed for a photo.**

11:33 a.m. **The Board reconvened with Commissioner Clark absent.**

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 6A1 THROUGH 6I1

26-0378 **6A1** Recommendation to accept grant funding [$19,881.75 with no County match] for Fiscal Year 2026 from the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, received under the Secure Rural Reauthorization Act of 2025 (SRS Act) for the benefit of public schools and roads within Washoe County and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0379 **6A2** Recommendation to approve an interlocal agreement between Washoe County and the Sun Valley General Improvement District, a quasi-municipal corporation and body politic, organized pursuant to the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 318, for assistance in funding parks and recreation services in the amount of [not to exceed $150,000] in FY27, with future year increases commensurate with CPI-U adjustments. Community Services. (Districts 3 and 5.)

26-0380 **6B1** Recommendation to approve Washoe County's Indebtedness Report and accompanying schedules for fiscal year 2025/26 as of June 30, 2026, including general obligation and special assessment debt. If approved, staff will submit the report and schedules to the Washoe County Debt Management Commission and to the Nevada Department of Taxation by

August 1, 2026, pursuant to NRS 350.013. Comptroller. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0381 **6C1** Recommendation to accept renewed funding for a Deputy District Attorney for the provision of continuing prosecutor services related to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Task Force in the amount of [$125,000 no match] from the Office of National Drug Control Policy award to Nevada HIDTA for the retroactive period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026, with an estimated $107,609 in position costs to be absorbed within existing District Attorney budget authority, direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments, and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement. District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0382 **6D1** Recommendation to approve the purchase and/or use of prepaid cards/gift cards to be utilized as an option for resource needs and/or incentives for individuals, clients, participants, children, and families who interact with the Human Services Agency for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0383 **6E1** Recommendation to approve the acceptance of reimbursements from the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program for Fiscal Year 2026/27 for youth detained at the Wittenberg Hall Detention Facility [Estimated reimbursement $75,000]. Juvenile Services. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0384 **6F1** Recommendation to extend prior approval into the 2026-2027 fiscal year for funding in the amount of $50,000 for the Sun Valley economic study plan approved for the fiscal year 2025-2026 on December 16, 2025, through item number 9.F.1 and adopted resolution number 25-143, resulting in these funds being recognized as committed in fiscal year 2025-2026 financial reporting. Manager's Office. (Commission District 3.)

26-0385 **6F2** Recommendation to appoint Pamela Mann as Director of Human Services Agency effective June 16, 2026, with an annual salary of $235,060.80. Manager's office. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0386 **6G1** Recommendation to approve the budget amendments and net-zero, cross-fund budget appropriation transfer totaling [$12,499.00; no county match] in revenues, expenditures, and transfers to the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services TB Clinic and NNPH 9th Street Modernization Grant; direct Finance to make the appropriate budget amendments; and authorize Washoe County Manager to execute and deliver any and all instruments and to enter into all agreements and/or amendments as required to initiate, construct and closeout the Remodel Project. Northern Nevada Public Health. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0387 **6H1** Recommendation to accept a fiscal year 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant award [amount not to exceed $56,000.00, no County match required] as administered from the State of Nevada Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security, project number to be determined, to acquire intelligence mapping and sharing software that directly supports law enforcement and investigative agencies for the retroactive grant period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2027; authorize the Sheriff to execute the award document; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0388 **6H2** Recommendation to approve the Interlocal Contract between Public Agencies: Between Washoe County on behalf of Washoe County Sheriff's Office and the State of Nevada, Office of the Attorney General, providing that the Office of the Attorney General provide, Nevada SAVE Notifications Service for the term of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 with a cost not to exceed [$71,623.06] for FY 2026 through FY 2027. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0389 **6H3** Recommendation to acknowledge Receipt of Status Report of Commissary Fund set up per NRS 211.360 to be utilized for the welfare and benefit of the inmates for items such as counseling, chaplaincy services, vocational training, and certifications programs for inmates in the jail, submitted by the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Commissary Committee for the Second and Third Quarters of Fiscal Year 2026. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0390 **6H4** Recommendation to retroactively approve the Forensic Support Services Agreements between Washoe County on behalf of Washoe County Sheriff's Office and Storey County Sheriff's Office for Forensic Laboratory Analysis Service fees for the retroactive term of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 with a total income of [$64,100.00]. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0391 **6H5** Recommendation to accept a fiscal year 2025 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program grant award [amount not to exceed $103,127.50, no County match required] as administered from the Reno Police Department, project number to be determined, for the purchase of Cellebrite software licenses for the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Team to collect, manage, and securely share digital evidence and mitigate cybersecurity threats for the retroactive grant period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2028; authorize the Sheriff to execute the award document; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0392 **6H6** Recommendation to accept a fiscal year 2025 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant award [amount not to exceed $121,140.00, no County match required] as administered from the State of Nevada Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security, project number to be determined, to support the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) through salary of the support specialists, training, and supplies for exercise or deployment for the retroactive grant period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2027; authorize the Sheriff to execute the award document; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0393 **6H7** Recommendation to retroactively approve the Security Agreement between Brooksee, Inc. and Washoe County, on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office to provide security & patrolling services [No fiscal impact to County. Security costs and any associated salaries, benefits and/or overtime will be reimbursed] needed in the Reno, Nevada area during the Revel Marathon from May 16th, 2026 through the last day of June 2027. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

26-0394 **6I1** Recommendation to approve and acknowledge a Fiscal Year 2026 allocation from the Administrative Office of the Courts Specialty Court Committee to the Sparks Justice Court [$1,512.43 for FY26, no match required], paid in one installment retroactive to January 30, 2026, grant end date June 30, 2026; and direct Finance to make the appropriate budget amendments. Sparks Justice Court. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment on the Consent Agenda Items listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 6A1 through 6I1 be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 6A1 through 6I1 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

BLOCK VOTE – 7 THROUGH 17 AND 22 THROUGH 25

26-0395 **AGENDA ITEM 7** Recommendation to approve the multi-year contract with Government Tax Advisors, LLC (GovTax) for professional services in an amount not to exceed [$350,000.00] per fiscal year through June 30, 2031, to conduct audits on business property accounts and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the agreement and authorize the expenditure. Assessor. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Penny Brock stated that she was commenting on Agenda Item 7 for the approval of a multi-year contract with Government Tax Advisors (GovTax), Limited Liability Company (LLC). She noted that she had not had the opportunity to review the Agenda or the related attachments, but she expressed concerns over Agenda Item 7. She asked whether the required solicitation of bids had been conducted per Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 3.32 for the approval of the contract associated with Agenda Item 7. She reiterated that her concern and question regarding the item was whether the required solicitation process had been done, and which other vendors had submitted solicitations.

Chair Andriola asked County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas whether there was anything she would like to address regarding Agenda Item 7. CM Thomas responded that she could get additional information on the matter for the public speaker.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be approved and authorized.

26-0396 **AGENDA ITEM 8** Recommendation to approve the fiscal year 2027 payment of $332,006 which constitutes Washoe County's share in annual funding for the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA) pursuant to NRS 278.0264(7) and an adopted interlocal agreement. The total amount will be paid to TMRPA in quarterly installments with the first occurring on July 1, 2026. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be approved.

26-0397 **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to approve a Real Property Purchase and Sale Agreement between Washoe County and Lennar Reno, LLC for the acquisition of ±13.325 acres at 0 Lear Boulevard (APN 568-100-12) [in the amount of $500,000.00], funded by previously accepted State of Nevada Division of State Parks Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant No. 32-00413 "Swan Lake Acquisition and Development" (approved by the Board of County Commissioners on September 16, 2025), in support of the Swan Lake Nature Study Area; and to authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to execute the Agreement and all necessary documents for the purchase. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

Chair Andriola opined that Agenda Item 9 was a testament to Washoe County and the hard work staff had been doing. She explained that the item concerned a

Real Property Purchase and Sales Agreement for plus or minus 13.325 acres at 0 Lear Boulevard in the amount of $500,000, which was funded by the previously accepted State of Nevada Division of State Parks Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). She asked County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas if she had anything to add. CM Thomas commended staff and acknowledged that a substantial amount of hard work went into Agenda Item 9. She thanked Chair Andriola for bringing the item to attention, as it was being considered as part of the Block vote.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved and authorized.

26-0398 **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to approve the asset reassignment of multiple vehicles from various Washoe County Departments to Equipment Services Fund; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate asset adjustments [estimated net $1,714,404.47]. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved and directed.

26-0399 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve: (1) release of Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Mitigation Funds for use on the Upper Third and Rosewood Creeks Water Quality Improvement Phase I Project [in the amount of $202,346.75]; (2) compensate the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District (NTCD) for engineering and technical support to Washoe County for the Lake Clarity Crediting Program [in the amount of $33,311.00]; and (3) award a bid and approve the Agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Upper Third and Rosewood Creeks Water Quality Improvement Phase I Project, PWP-WA-2026-301[staff recommends FW Carson Co. in the amount of $809,387.00]. This project is funded by grants from the Nevada Division of State Lands and the subject Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Mitigation Funds. Community Services. (Commission District 1.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved, compensated, and awarded.

26-0400 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to accept a renewed Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of [$324,000, $81,000 in-kind match], from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety to continue funding a Deputy District Attorney IV and related travel; from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the cooperative agreement. District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be accepted, directed, and authorized.

26-0401 **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to approve the use of General Fund Contingency in the total amount of [$953,000] for Fiscal Year 2026 in accordance with Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 354.598005 to increase expenditure authority to support 1) increased expenditure authority in Conflict Counsel in the total amount of [$345,000] to support cost increases for court appointed attorneys; 2) increased expenditure authority in Public Defender's Office for capital representation training [$8,000] to support reasonable and necessary costs to meet minimum Due Process rights; 3) increased expenditure authority in Alternate Public Defender's Office for Expert Witness Fees [$269,000], Interpreters [$26,000] and Travel [$5,000] to support reasonable and necessary costs to meet minimum Due Process rights in the Avram Nika Trial; 4) increased expenditure authority in Registrar of Voters' to support increases for the 2026 Primary Election [$300,000]; and direct Finance to make the appropriate cross-functional budget appropriation transfers. [Total fiscal year 2026 impact $953,000; net fiscal impact $-0-]. Finance. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be approved and directed.

26-0402 **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to accept the 2026-2027 Fund for Resilient Nevada LifeSet award from the State of Nevada Department of Human Services Director's Office in the amount of [$1,062,680], including the possible purchase and/or use of prepaid cards/gift cards for participant incentives, retroactive from February 19, 2026 through June 30, 2027; funding will be used to invest in the staffing associated with the LifeSet program for young adults aged 18-21 who have chosen to remain in foster care; authorize the Division Director of Finance & Administration of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute agreement documents; and direct Finance 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 Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

26-0403 **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to accept two subgrant award amendments from the State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division for the following Older Americans Act Title III Programs: (1) Congregate Meals [$70,623; $10,593.00 county match] retroactively from October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026; and (2) Home Delivered Meals [$584,494.10; $87,674.00 county match] retroactively from October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026; authorize the Division Director of Finance & Administration of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award documents; and direct Finance 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 Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

26-0404 **AGENDA ITEM 16** Recommendation to accept a second FY26 Adoption Savings subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [$607,022.00; no county match] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 to provide supportive services to facilitate and maintain the successful adoption of children from the Washoe County Child Welfare System; authorize the Division Director of Finance & Administration of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the award and related documents; and direct Finance 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 Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 16 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

26-0405 **AGENDA ITEM 17** Recommendation to approve a subgrant of Washoe Opioid Abatement and Recovery Fund (WOARF) non-bankruptcy funds through the One Nevada Agreement, procured via Request for Proposals (RFP) #3292-25, to Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada, a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious or educational purposes, in the amount of [$533,860], for a term of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, with an optional one-year renewal term up to the amount of [$533,860]; to support street outreach efforts in Washoe County to individuals who are unsheltered and are experiencing or are at risk of experiencing Opioid Use Disorder; approve related Resolution R26-0000044; and authorize the Purchasing & Contracts Manager to execute the necessary award documents. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 17 be approved and authorized.

Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 17 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

26-0406 **AGENDA ITEM 22** Recommendation to approve budget amendments totaling an increase of [$575,493.00; $58,086.90 in county match] in both revenue and expense to the FY26 H5N1- HPP Subaward, retroactive to July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, for the Population Health (PHD) Division to support the preparedness and response needs of the health delivery system for emerging special pathogen threats, such as avian influenza or bird flu. Maintain existing and create new activities to increase the capability to bolster preparedness and response activities for emerging threats, and direct Finance to make the appropriate budget amendments. Northern Nevada Public Health. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 22 be approved and directed.

26-0407 **AGENDA ITEM 23** Recommendation to approve budget amendments totaling an increase of [$289,455.91; $1,576,324.00 in county match] in both revenues and expenditures to the FY26 Family Planning Title X Notice of Subaward, retroactive to April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, for the Community and Clinical Health Services (CCHS) Division to support Family Planning Title X Program and direct Finance to make the appropriate budget amendments. Northern Nevada Public Health. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 23 be approved and directed.

26-0408 **AGENDA ITEM 24** Recommendation to approve the reimbursement of costs incurred by the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, and Washoe County for expenses related to and in support of the Enhanced 911 Emergency Response System and portable event recording devices as recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee on May 21, 2026, and in an amount not to exceed [$304,978.39] as specified within the adopted Enhanced 911 Fund's operating budget. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 24 be approved.

26-0409 **AGENDA ITEM 25** Recommendation to approve a Fiscal Year 2025/2026 unbudgeted transfer of $1,892,323.36 from the Enhanced 911 Fund to the Capital Improvements Fund to support Washoe County's portion of the Nevada Shared Radio System P25 Project for microwave backhaul equipment, installation and implementation services, which will support direct communication between Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and first responders; as recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee on May 21, 2026; and, if approved, direct Comptroller to complete the journal entry and net-zero, cross-fund unbudgeted transfer. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 25 be approved and directed.

26-0410 **AGENDA ITEM 18** Recommendation to appoint two candidates from a pool of applicants including: Fred E. Avera, Elizabeth A. Cadigan, Jacquelyn J. Cheun-Jensen, James Chuck, Donna R. Dawson-Schwartz, David A. Dulcey, Alyssa Goins, Sharon Goldrup, Martha Growdon, Karen A. Hayes, Nicôl L. Herris, Katherine Hollingsworth, Lizeth Lechuga

Gomez, Douglas L. Miller, Billy James Moton, Denise Myer, Laurie A. Nahser Martin, Marcus Nesbitt, Anne S. Pettigrew, Cody Phinney, Amy Pulver, Earl V. Ravid, Sean Sullivan, Andrea Tavener, and Brandi J. Tripp Russell, to fill two vacancies on the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees pursuant to NRS 379.020(3) for four-year terms beginning on July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2030. Library. (All Commission Districts.)

County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas said Community Outreach Coordinator Alexandra Wilson would explain the selection process to the Board.

Ms. Wilson said that the Board had many candidates to consider for the two upcoming vacancies on the Library Board of Trustees (LBT). She noted that ballots would be distributed and that the Board would need to select its top three candidates for the two open positions. She mentioned that Commissioner Herman would participate by phone and state her selections verbally. Ms. Wilson indicated that the votes would continue until the top two candidates were selected.

Chair Andriola shared that District 4 had not been represented for some time and encouraged her colleagues to consider that when voting on the appointment. She noted that Districts 3 and 5 were not represented. She indicated that, in the future, she would like to explore options to ensure representation in each district. She expressed her appreciation for the 25 applicants and their insightful contributions. She noted that a common theme among applicants was the recommendation to expand outreach efforts to educate the public about library services, promote literacy, and raise awareness of the many programs and resources libraries offered. She shared a comment from one applicant that she found particularly inspiring. She stated that the applicant said that libraries offered a magical opportunity for children, teens, and adults, and brought joy to many. She thought that everyone wanted to bring joy to the library and was grateful for all the great things it did. She thanked each applicant for applying.

On the call for public comment, Laurie Nahser Martin thanked Chair Andriola for calling each applicant and asking questions. She thanked the Commissioners for their care and consideration in reviewing 25 applications and resumes full of experience and qualifications. She shared that she had been a library user since childhood and now shared that experience with her five-year-old grandchild. She said that libraries were vital to the community. She noted that she had been a teacher for the Tahoe Unified School District for 20 years and expressed her appreciation for school and community libraries. She mentioned that she was elected to the Tahoe Forest Hospital District Board of Directors and Trustees, served for eight years, and also participated in other volunteer opportunities in the community. She emphasized the importance of her time volunteering with the Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) and participating in Bridges Out of Poverty. She said she was committed to ensuring libraries were inclusive and welcoming places. She explained that she lived in District 1 and thanked Commissioner Hill for all she had done for her district. She acknowledged that the Board was looking for representation across the County, but she thought many applicants had traveled throughout the County and appreciated each district. She felt that libraries were poised for growth. She indicated that while listening to National Public Radio (NPR), the broadcasters compared the current time to the construction of the transcontinental railroad. She noted that, while people tried to navigate and understand artificial intelligence (AI) and what was happening in the media, they also tried to appreciate the primary sources within libraries, archives, and all that was represented there. She thanked the Board and concluded with a quote from Albert Einstein: *The only thing you need to know is the location of the library*.

Tara de Queiroz described herself as a library superfan and shared that she had attended LBT meetings since December 2023, and added that she needed to find a more relaxing hobby. She explained that after seeing what had happened at the meeting in December 2023 and at several others since, she was afraid that the LBT was out of control and would take the library system off track. She suggested that the Board had overseen major derailments, including the loss of secured funding, beloved programs, and key personnel. She thought that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) had the opportunity to ensure that the LBT got back on track. She asked the BCC to appoint trustees with deep knowledge and love for the library system. She felt that after what the library system had been through over the past few years, it made sense to appoint someone who had been engaged. She hoped the BCC would choose a candidate who had either worked in the libraries or attended LBT meetings and been active in supporting staff and the library system. She asked the BCC to ensure that the LBT would have a majority of trustees who could be trusted to support the library and would allow the staff to use their expertise to work with Library Board Director Lisa McClure to run the library successfully, as had been done for decades. She said that once that happened, she and the other library advocates might start spending their third Wednesday evenings doing something more relaxing.

Andrea Tavener said that she was an applicant for the LBT and lived in District 4. She noted that she was hopeful that her resume, cover letter, and letters of recommendation would speak about her love of the library system and where she would like to see it go in the future. She highlighted why she loved the library system and how she became an avid reader. She explained that when she was nine, her friends were in summer recreational programs. She stated that she had two older brothers who were tasked with babysitting her. She mentioned that during the summer, the mobile library, which was about the size of an ice cream truck, would pull up in front of her house every week. She mentioned that she enrolled in the summer reading program and was able to select books. She thought the helpful librarian was proud of her when she turned in her reading logs. She shared that those feelings had persisted, even after her retirement. She said that she loved reading and supported the library system. She noted that even after retirement, she continued to advocate and attend LBT meetings. She mentioned that, as a single mom, when she first started visiting the library, she would bring her seven-year-old son, who participated in a third-grade outreach program. She said that he would fill bags with candy, books, and the summer reading log. She indicated that the library used to visit all third-grade classrooms to encourage kids to sign up for a library card, and added that the program had been eliminated. She commended the staff for everything that they had endured over the past two years, which she believed showed dedication. She said that one of her top priorities would be on the fiscal side of the strategic plan. She suggested that the strategic plan was overdue and must be submitted by December 31, 2026, or federal and State funding would be lost. She noted that if appointed to the LBT, she would work with stakeholders, the community, the director, and staff on developing a strategic plan. She appreciated the difficult decision the Board would need to make and thanked them for their consideration.

Anne Pettigrew said that she volunteered to serve on the LBT because of her lifelong love of reading. She noted that as a child, when she read Pearl S. Buck's *The Good Earth*, she would put on her Chinese satin slippers. She stated that as a teenager, she hid in the walk-in closet to read. She shared that, as a young mother, nap time was her favorite time because, while her children slept, she made a pot of tea and read everything Leo Tolstoy, Anthony Trollope, William Makepeace Thackeray, and Jane Austen. She said she discovered audiobooks in the 1980s and would listen to them while she was picking up her children. She expressed her gratitude to writers whose time and talent enabled readers to engage in the creative activity of reading. She suggested that reading helped conjure images rather than being spoon-fed through the internet, social media, and movies. She thought that there had been a decline in reading. She explained that if she were on the LBT, she would take several actions to increase the library's customer base by getting more people to love reading, particularly young people. She thought that there were high school and college students who had never read an entire book, because she believed some spent too much time on social media. She stated that increasing and fostering young readers' love of reading would expand the library's customer base. She said that, as a member of the LBT, she would listen and learn about library operations she was not familiar with. She shared that she had used digital video discs (DVDs), books, and audiobooks in the library. She mentioned that she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the State Bar of California, and that for many years she worked in high tech and telecom in Silicon Valley as in-house counsel. She noted that, for several years leading up to her retirement, she taught Spanish, French, Italian, and English as a second language at the high school and adult school levels. She stated that she read in Spanish, French, and Italian, and listened to books in those languages to expand her vocabulary. She said that she kept a dictionary nearby because those languages were not her native language. She noted that she moved to Nevada in 2015.

Sean Sullivan was not present when called to speak.

Penny Brock thanked Chair Andriola for noting that District 3 was not represented on the LBT. She asked for clarification of what other districts were not represented and added that she lived in District 2, which she believed was unrepresented. She acknowledged a prior comment made by Ms. Tavener regarding federal funding, which she found interesting. She shared her concern and mentioned that President Donald Trump had said that if states or counties did not follow election laws, he would terminate federal funding. She mentioned that she was unaware of Registrar of Voters (ROV) Andrew McDonald's position, but stated that if Washoe County did not follow federal election laws, per Executive Order, Congress, and the Supreme Court, then federal funding could be lost. She emphasized the importance of the Commissioners following and considering election laws as the General Election approached.

Janet Butcher said that she would not tell the Board which applicant to choose. She acknowledged that Chair Andriola had previously stated that she spoke to each applicant, which she hoped was true. She stated that the library was fully funded. She noted that just because Washoe County Question Number One (WC-1) was not passed, it did not mean that the library would not be funded. She suggested that the Board had voted to fully fund the library. She stated that not passing WC-1 meant that the 30-year funding tax would no longer continue. She thought things were changing rapidly, and locking in a 30-year commitment was probably the main reason it was voted down. She stated that she had attended many LBT meetings over the past four years. She suggested that the chaos that occurred at the LBT meetings was not always what some might think. She recalled a previous meeting in Incline Village, where bikini-clad men spoke, and another where individuals were impersonating German photographers, which she felt created chaos. She noted that there were times when a trustee was singled out and spoken to inappropriately by people who lacked accurate information. She explained that during the last elections, people were telling stories full of misinformation and untruths. She hoped that the BCC would help diversify the members serving on the LBT. She acknowledged that many people grew up in the library, and she emphasized the importance of having representation that was County-wide.

Board Records and Minutes Manager Evonne Strickland stated that emailed public comment was received and placed on file with the Clerk.

Chair Andriola clarified that the LBT currently included two members from District 1, one member from District 2, and no members from Districts 3, 4, or 5.

Ms. Wilson instructed the Board to choose their top three candidates.

Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large asked if Commissioner Herman would vote verbally.

Chair Andriola confirmed that Commissioner Herman would cast her vote verbally. She asked Commissioner Herman to state the three candidates that she wished to be appointed. Commissioner Herman shared that she was voting for Andrea Tavener, Denise Myer, and Brandi Tripp Russell.

For round one, Ms. Strickland read the Commissioners' votes aloud. Chair Andriola summarized that the top candidates were Ms. Tavener, Ms. Myer, and Mr. Nesbitt.

Chair Andriola stressed the importance of being transparent and working through the process.

Ms. Wilson instructed the Board to choose their top two selections from Ms. Tavener, Ms. Myer, and Mr. Nesbitt.

Commissioner Hill said that Ms. Tavener had received unanimous support and suggested that the Board did not need to vote for her again. She instructed that the Board need only determine the second appointee.

CDDA Large said the two candidates remaining for consideration were Ms. Myer and Mr. Nesbitt.

Commissioner Hill asked whether the Board would choose only one candidate.

Ms. Wilson told the Board to choose one candidate from the two remaining top selections.

Chair Andriola asked whether the Board could choose whoever they wanted as their top two candidates.

Ms. Wilson clarified that the Board had two options. She confirmed that Ms. Tavener had received four votes and did not need to be included in another vote. She stated that the Board could either select the preferred candidate between Ms. Myer and Mr. Nesbitt for the second open position. The second option was to continue the voting process with Ms. Tavener included and select the top two candidates from the three already chosen. She stated that the decision on how to proceed was up to the Board.

For simplicity, Chair Andriola suggested that Ms. Tavener be selected as one of the appointees, given Ms. Tavener's unanimous support from the Board. She stated that the Board should select its remaining appointee from the list of candidates, excluding Ms. Tavener.

Ms. Wilson clarified that the Board would choose their top candidate from the remaining two individuals.

Chair Andriola asked whether the Board was choosing one candidate between Ms. Myer and Mr. Nesbitt. She thought that it was difficult to decide among many great candidates. She asked Commissioner Herman to verbally share her selection. Commissioner Herman said she voted for Ms. Myer.

For round two, Ms. Strickland read the results, and it was determined there was a tie between Ms. Myer and Mr. Nesbitt. Commissioner Hill suggested that for round three, the vote be opened to all candidates to avoid another tie.

Chair Andriola asked for clarification on whether the vote could be opened to all candidates in anticipation of another tie. She noted that Ms. Tavener would be excluded from further voting due to her unanimous support. Chair Andriola asked how many candidates needed to be selected from the remaining list and suggested selecting the top two to avoid another tie. Ms. Wilson confirmed that the Board should select the top two candidates. Chair Andriola asked Commissioner Herman to read her selections aloud, and Commissioner Herman selected Ms. Myer and Amy Pulver.

For round three, Ms. Strickland read the results, and it was determined there was a tie between Ms. Myer and Mr. Nesbitt.

CDDA Large said that the Board had two options: it could continue voting, or, since one candidate had been chosen, it could make a motion to appoint Ms. Tavener as the unanimous selection and then table the second position.

Chair Andriola replied that she did not want to table the vote. She mentioned that the Board should consider who had been voted for in previous rounds, the importance of the library, the balance needed in the library, and all the hard work that had gone into vetting the candidates. She thanked CDDA Large for his suggestion but recommended having one more vote.

Vice Chair Garcia noted that the District 3 candidates were Mr. Nesbitt and Lizeth Lechuga Gomez.

Chair Andriola thought that Vice Chair Garcia had made a good point. She said that the Board needed to choose its top two candidates. She asked Commissioner Herman to give her selections. Commissioner Herman verbally voted for Ms. Myer and Ms. Pulver.

For round four, Ms. Strickland read the results and named Mr. Nesbitt as the selected candidate.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Andrea Tavener and Marcus Nesbitt be appointed to the Washoe County LBT for a term beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2030.

Chair Andriola thanked the applicants for submitting their applications. She suggested that the applicants keep future opportunities in mind, not only for the LBT but for other boards and commissions, as there were many qualified people.

12:10 p.m. **The Board recessed.**

12:20 p.m. **The Board reconvened with Commissioner Clark absent.**

26-0411 **AGENDA ITEM 19** Discussion and possible action to appoint a County Commissioner as liaison to the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees with no term. The liaison role is intended to allow the Commissioner appointed to serve as a bridge between the appointed Library Board of Trustees and the elected Board of County Commissioners. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Andriola asked if the Commissioners needed clarification on Agenda Item 19. Commissioner Herman replied that she wanted additional information.

Assistant County Manager (ACM) David Solaro explained that Commissioner Hill had requested that a Commissioner liaison serve on the Library Board of Trustees (LBT), as noted in Agenda Item 19. He mentioned that the last time the Board voted on a Commissioner being liaison to the LBT was in 2015. He added that the position was held for a one-year term by former Commissioner Kitty Jung. He shared that he could not find any mention of an LBT liaison in the meeting minutes since 2015. He expressed his excitement to bring back the LBT Commissioner liaison. He acknowledged that other boards and commissions had liaisons from the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and stated his appreciation for having someone from the appointing authority involved to better understand what was happening. He mentioned he could answer any questions that the Board might have. He said he was unsure why the position did not continue after that time and added that he had been serving as a liaison between the Office of the County Manager (OCM) and the LBT for several years.

Chair Andriola said that she did not think there was a provision to remove ACM Solaro from that position.

Vice Chair Garcia thanked Commissioner Hill for suggesting the LBT liaison. She emphasized the importance of the position and felt a slight disconnect between the library system because there was no elected official on the LBT. She indicated that unless information was shared by the Office of the County Manager (OCM) or the BCC attended library board meetings, it could feel like a lot was happening, and the community might mistakenly think the BCC had control. She felt there had been significant miscommunication over the past several years and expressed her support for the liaison role. She disclosed that her sister was a long-time employee of the library system, but that would not prevent her from voting on library-related appointments. She mentioned that she served as a liaison on another board, and having an LBT liaison was not a new idea. She explained that every January, the Board reviewed open positions on boards and commissions to determine which Commissioner would serve on each board. She indicated that January was a good time to reevaluate each Commissioner's duties and make any necessary modifications.

On the call for public comment, Janet Butcher said that she would like ACM Solaro to remain as the LBT liaison. She mentioned that she had always wondered why a Commissioner liaison had not attended the LBT meetings. She noted that she had seen Vice Chair Garcia attend one meeting and Commissioner Clark attend a few meetings. She wondered why the BCC was not more involved in the library. She stated that the LBTs volunteered their time and effort but often did not receive recognition. She suggested that some LBTs received negative press coverage from local news outlets and said she felt many of the stories were not truthful. She alleged that news outlets reported stories without all pertinent information, and that the reports were likely false and caused unnecessary chaos. She shared her concern that Vice Chair Garcia's sister worked as a librarian and cautioned her to be objective when voting on library matters.

Chair Andriola reiterated that Commissioner Hill suggested an LBT liaison, but said she was unaware of the lapse in appointments since 2015. She noted that ACM Solaro would remain in his current position as the library's liaison. She emphasized the point made earlier by Vice Chair Garcia regarding the BCC's appointment to various boards and commissions each January. She stated that others could gain exposure to the LBT when the Board re-evaluated positions in January. She mentioned that it could take time to gain experience on the various boards that the Commissioners served on. She explained that the appointment would not be permanent, as appointments rotated. She said that she looked forward to future opportunities to serve on various boards.

On motion by Vice Chair Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Commissioner Hill be appointed as liaison to the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees.

26-0412 **AGENDA ITEM 20** Discussion and Possible Adoption of a Joint Resolution of Intent to Participate in the Governance of the Housing Authority of the City of Reno as a Regional Housing Entity to be Known as the Truckee Meadows Housing Authority (TMHA), in Furtherance of Assembly Bill 103, 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas explained that the resolution went before the Cities of Reno and Sparks, who adopted their resolutions on June 3 and June 8. She noted that Washoe County was the third body to hear the proposal and added that a companion piece would follow in Agenda Item 21.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

Commissioner Hill said that Vice Chair Garcia was appointed to the Reno Housing Authority (RHA) nearly one month ago and had completed training. She believed that there needed to be continuity. She thought that the Truckee Meadows Housing Authority (TMHA) was a board that all the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) strongly supported because housing was a top priority. She requested to be appointed to the TMHA because Incline Village had planned a large project in partnership with the former Reno Housing Authority (RHA). She felt that she needed to reassure her district that she would be engaged in the project. She emphasized the importance of being on the TMHA when completing the Request for Proposals (RFPs), following the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) approval of the joint use of housing and transportation in Incline Village. She said that if another Commissioner were interested in participating in the future, she would be open to the idea.

CM Thomas clarified that the item under discussion was only to approve the resolution to form the entity.

Chair Andriola stated that Agenda Item 21 would be more applicable to Commissioner Hill's comments.

On motion by Vice Chair Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 20 be adopted. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 20 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

26-0413 **AGENDA ITEM 21** Recommendation to appoint two Board of County Commissioner members to serve on the Truckee Meadows Housing Authority (TMHA), with one member appointed to an initial two-year term and one member appointed to an initial three-year term, in furtherance of Assembly Bill 103, 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature and the Joint Resolution of Intent. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

Commissioner Hill moved to appoint herself and Vice Chair Garcia to the Truckee Meadows Housing Authority (TMHA) if the Board was agreeable.

Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large asked for clarification on who would be appointed to the two-and three-year terms.

Chair Andriola said she would defer to Vice Chair Garcia, as she had been previously appointed.

Vice Chair Garcia asked Executive Director of the Reno Housing Authority (RHA), Dr. Hilary Lopez, to clarify whether Commissioner Hill had informally served as Washoe County's liaison for approximately two years alongside another Sparks City Council member. She acknowledged Commissioner Hill's involvement with the organization. She believed that, given the institutional knowledge Commissioner Hill had gained over the past few years and her current onboarding background, appointing her to the two-year term would be beneficial if she were interested. She noted that the timeframe for the resolution process was unknown. She said that after RHA Chair Kathleen Taylor contacted her, she met with Dr. Lopez. She expressed gratitude for the opportunity and hoped to continue serving in her current role.

Dr. Lopez mentioned that the resolution would be heard by the RHA Board on the afternoon of June 16, 2026, making it the fourth organization to consider adopting the resolution. She explained that once all four entities adopted the resolution, the process of appointing members would begin, and the participating jurisdictions would appoint their respective representatives. She noted that after all appointments were completed, the transition to the TMHA and the seating of the new board would begin. She noted that language included in the most recent legislative session's State bill raised concerns for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). She said that the joint resolution served as an interim solution until the language could be revised during the next legislative session. She added that it was unclear how long it would take for all entities to adopt the resolution. She mentioned that, in the interim, appointments were made through the current process to ensure that the board maintained a quorum and could continue conducting business. She shared that the new board was expected to be seated in late summer or early fall, while the legislative language would be addressed during the next session. She explained that one interim appointment was for a two-year term and another for a three-year term to establish staggered terms going forward. She indicated that subsequent appointments would be for four-year terms or would be concurrent with someone's appointed term.

Vice Chair Garcia deferred to Commissioner Hill on which term she preferred.

Chair Andriola said she wanted to give Commissioner Herman and Commissioner Hill an opportunity to ask any clarifying questions. She mentioned that she appreciated Dr. Lopez's help in navigating the process.

Commissioner Hill accepted Vice Chair Garcia's suggestion for the two-year term.

Vice Chair Garcia acknowledged that there was both a two-year and a three-year term.

Commissioner Hill said she would like to be appointed to the two-year term, and Vice Chair Garcia to the three-year term.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Commissioner Hill be appointed to the TMHA for an initial two-year term, and Vice Chair Garcia to the TMHA for an initial three-year term.

PUBLIC HEARING

26-0414 **AGENDA ITEM 26** Public hearing and possible action to: (1) consider a report of each property delinquent on its utility charges and the amount of each property's delinquency, along with any objections to the report; and, (2) After considering the report and any objections to it, determine whether to adopt the report and correspondingly adopt Resolution 26-043 to collect certain delinquent utility charges on the tax roll. All Assessor Parcel Numbers of affected properties are listed in Resolution 26-043 accessible as a linked attachment on the agenda on the county commission's webpage [total delinquent amount of $239,764.33]. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Andriola opened the public hearing.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 26 be considered, determined, and adopted.

Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 26 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

26-0415 **AGENDA ITEM 27** Public Hearing: Second reading and possible adoption of an ordinance amending Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code) within Article 336 Housing Incentives to add small unit density standards allowing increased density for dwelling units with a maximum unit size of 1,200 square feet and establishing requirements for utilizing the increased density; and all matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto. In making its determination, the Board shall either affirm, modify or reject the findings of fact included in the Planning Commission's recommendation. This ordinance is part of a group of amendments the Board has identified as a top priority for implementation of the master plan. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Board Records and Minutes Manager Evonne Strickland read the title for Ordinance No. 1759, Bill No. 1948.

On the call for public comment, Pat Davison stated she was a resident of District 5 and had provided substantial comment at the May 12 meeting. She reiterated her request that the Board support the change, as the Planning Commission (PC) had done in April. She added that May was Affordable Housing Month and June was National Homeownership Month. She noted she had not learned that until recently, but wanted to get the information on the record so that they might be recognized next year.

On motion by Vice Chair Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Ordinance No. 1759, Bill No. 1948, be adopted, approved, and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

26-0416 **AGENDA ITEM 28** Public Hearing: Second reading and potential adoption of an ordinance amending Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code) within Article 336 housing incentives, to establish a density bonus for attainable housing that scales to the underlying regulatory zone, providing for higher attainable densities in more intense regulatory zones; to establish a density bonus for attainable senior housing above the bonus for non-age restricted attainable; to prohibit the stacking of multiple density bonuses; to set the minimum period of affordability at 30 years for rental projects and 9 years for sale products; and all matters necessarily connected therewith and relating thereto. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Board Records and Minutes Manager Evonne Strickland, read the title for Ordinance No. 1760, Bill No. 1953.

On the call for public comment, Pat Davison stated that she provided substantive comments at the May 26 meeting. She requested that the Board adopt the ordinance as the Planning Commission (PC) had recommended. She stated she would comment on the work done over the past 2 to 3 years. She expressed that it had been her honor and pleasure to be involved in all of the changes. She stated the Board had given instructions to County staff, and that Planning Manager Katherine Oakley and Senior Planner Doctor (Dr.) Eric Young had marched forward with exemplary commitment. She added that County staff had exhibited creative thinking with many solutions to increase the supply of attainable housing. She stated that that was a success story in its own right. She felt that approving the changes could be one of the most important and influential things the Board did as decision-makers. She stated they might never know how many individuals and families they directly affected in a positive manner.

Ms. Davison expressed that helping someone find a safe and permanent place to call home was noble and honorable work. She hoped the Board was proud of the team efforts under their watch. She admitted it was repetitive at times, and recognized that sometimes she was speaking to an audience who may not have known how extensive the local housing shortage was or how difficult it could be to reverse the trend. She noted the housing shortage affected almost everyone, whether they realized it or not. She declared that she supported Vice Chair Garcia's suggestion for an implementation report in six months to one year. She also thought the County should be actively promoting the package of changes to interested audiences like Homeowners Associations (HOA), realtors, builders, and developers. She felt they had something of great value and benefit which deserved a spotlight. She thanked the team again, and stated that it was time to celebrate.

Community Services Department (CSD) Division Director Kelly Mullin stated that she wanted to celebrate the two housing items on the Agenda, which were the culmination of over two and a half years of work focused on housing in the unincorporated County. She noted they had originally prioritized the work back in the Strategic Plan for (FY) 2024, but since then, there had been approximately nine packages focused on bringing a broader range of housing types to Washoe County residents, along with facilitating seniors aging in place. She summarized the different work that had been done and felt that it was very important. She acknowledged the staff who made it all happen, including Ms. Oakley, Dr. Young, Senior Planner Chris Bronczyk, Planning Manager Trevor Lloyd, Planning Manager Chad Giesinger, Senior Planner Courtney Weiche, Planner Joleen Bertetto, Planner Timothy Evans, Planner Julee Olander, Administrative Secretary Supervisor Kathy Emerson, Office Supervisor Iryna Wilcox, Senior Office Specialist Adriana Albarran, and Senior Office Specialist Brandon Roman. She also acknowledged Ms. Davison, whom she described as a dedicated member of the community, who had attended every single one of the hearings in support. She also offered thanks to the (PC) and the Board for making housing a priority within the unincorporated County.

Chair Andriola stated that all involved should receive a big thank-you, including Ms. Mullin herself, County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas, the Assistant County Manager (ACM), and Director of Community Services Eric Crump.

Board Records and Minutes Manager Evonne Strickland stated that emailed public comment was received and placed on file.

On motion by Vice Chair Garcia, seconded by Chair Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Ordinance No. 1760, Bill No. 1953, be adopted, approved, and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

26-0417 **AGENDA ITEM 29** Public Hearing: Second reading and possible adoption of an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1000 in order to change the boundaries of District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation); AND, Public Hearing: Second reading and possible adoption of an ordinance imposing a fee on the parcels of land in Washoe County, Nevada, District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation) to pay the costs of developing and carrying out a plan for remediation. The Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District was formed in 1997 to address the tetrachloroethene (PCE) contamination of groundwater in the central Truckee Meadows area (Remediation Program). The Remediation Program is tasked with remediating PCE contamination and annually updates both the Service Area boundary and Contaminant Area boundary based on continuous analysis and modeling efforts. There is no impact to the General Fund. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Board Records and Minutes Manager Evonne Strickland read the title for Ordinance No. 1761, Bill No. 1951.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Ordinance No. 1761, Bill No. 1951, be adopted, approved, and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large reminded that a vote was needed for the second ordinance, Ordinance No. 1762, Bill No. 1952.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Ordinance No. 1762, Bill No. 1952, be adopted, approved, and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

26-0418 **AGENDA ITEM 30** Public Hearing: Complaint alleging a public nuisance case under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 244.360 and Washoe County Code Chapters 50 and 125 on private property at Quartz Lane (APN 085-330-19, 085-330-23, and 085-330-20) in Sun Valley, Nevada. The alleged nuisance generally consists of the accumulation and/or dumping of junk vehicles and other debris on the property. If a public nuisance is determined to exist on the property options may include: pursuing administrative enforcement to include abatement, directing the commencement of a civil action for abatement in the courts, or ordering a non-judicial abatement of a nuisance. Manager's office. (Commission District 5.)

Chair Andriola asked Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large to speak about the item.

CDDA Large stated that it was the first of multiple public hearings before the Board regarding public nuisances. He recalled that 2018 was the last public nuisance to come before the Board. He explained that Agenda Item 30 was a complaint alleging a public nuisance case under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 244.360 (WCC) Chapter 50 and Chapter 125 on property. He noted the complaint involved several Assessor’s Parcel Numbers (APN) dealing with the public roadway on Quartz Lane. He clarified that the alleged public nuisance consisted of the accumulation and or dumping of junk vehicles and other debris on the property. He announced that the Board’s task was to determine whether a public nuisance existed and, if so, to adopt an ordinance or resolution declaring a public nuisance. He added that direction would then be given to the property owners, informing them that they had five days to clean up the site and, if they did not, Washoe County would move in and perform that instead, and then reassess the properties for a lien to account for the work that had been expended.

CDDA Large explained that on May 12, the Board acknowledged receipt of a public nuisance complaint received by Washoe County Code Enforcement (WCCE), and a hearing had been set for the current date. He added that the public hearing was noticed in the *Reno Gazette-Journal* (RGJ) on May 17 and May 24. Additionally, he noted, the District Attorney (DA)’s Office had provided notice by certified and regular mail to the last known owners of the property pursuant to Washoe County property records.

Assistant County Manager (ACM) David Solaro conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Public Hearing on Determination of Nuisance and Order of Abatement; Quartz Lane (Fink Parcels); Code Enforcement Violation History; PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (6 slides), and Thank you.

ACM Solaro shared the slide titled *Code Enforcement Violation History* and stated the item was specific to three parcels owned by deceased individuals in Sun Valley. He stated that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) had a public nuisance hearing on the series of parcels in the 2018 to 2019 timeframe, and that Washoe County staff had performed an abatement. He stated they had been keeping track of the information related to costs associated with that abatement, and that some of the pictures he would show were older pictures from the initial abatement or prior to that abatement. He clarified that the series of parcels had been abated at least two other times since that initial abatement. He noted that the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Team had recently been taking care of some things associated with the parcel. He stated that the Board had heard from the community in the past regarding squatting that had occurred on the three series of parcels, which interfered with the use of the roadway. He explained that it made it difficult for people to wall their private roadway parcels, and for individuals to access their properties, which were further up. He stated there had been multiple attempts to take care of the properties, but that they continued to be problematic.

ACM Solaro shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 1/6)* and explained that the three parcels on Quartz Lane in Sun Valley were half the width of the roadway there. He added that they were created as separate parcels across the street, and that roadway access was actually an easement through the full-length parcels that went to the middle of the roadway.

ACM Solaro shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 2/6)* and reiterated that the pictures were prior to the first abatement, but were representative of chronic nuisance material that occurred over and over on those parcels.

ACM Solaro shared the slides titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 3, 4, 5, and 6) and Thank you* and explained the continuing issues were the reason his team brought the item before the Board, to receive direction from the Board and have them consider the lots as nuisance parcels so his team could proceed and clean them up. He felt it was unfortunate that they had to use public funds to do that, but it was what the community had requested from them.

Vice Chair Garcia hoped that CDDA Large or ACM Solaro could speak about possible long-term solutions for the very complex, segmented roadway parcels.

ACM Solaro explained that in determining the best course of action for the parcels, the first step was getting them cleaned up. He stated there were options for Washoe County to take ownership of the parcels. He noted they had looked at options to dedicate parcels to neighboring property owners. He added that they were also requesting that a neighboring property owner be considered a nuisance, so he was not sure how the solutions would work on a parcel-by-parcel basis. He knew the DA's Office was conducting research to understand what the end result would look like. He reiterated that it was an area of the County that was created with easements and property pieces, and the roadways were dedicated on maps, not brought to County standards, and so the County never took ownership of the roadways. He felt that was an area where they had a difficult time enforcing anything on the properties. He professed that the HOPE team was fantastic at moving people along. He clarified that he did not have a great answer for the Commissioners that day, but did know that the DA's Office, the Washoe County Community Services Department (CSD), and others were trying to figure out the best long-term solutions. He mentioned that at one point, they had looked at fencing the property, but that would still impact the use of the roadway for other parcels.

CDDA Large added that each of the properties was very separate and unique, and it was difficult to apply a single overall solution. He attested that he had heard William Bates speak during public comment and that he had spoken with him afterward in the lobby. He thought there needed to be meetings with interested parties regarding long-term solutions, because he felt that when they cleaned up one site, another site needed attention. He reiterated the need for a comprehensive solution. He recalled an idea that Mr. Bates had suggested, which was streamlining the process and empowering property owners to let Washoe County know their rights and what they, as a County, could do, such as passing ordinances and changing code for a quicker way to deal with nuisance properties and get cleanups, law enforcement, and WCCE out in a quick manner. He felt there was no reason it should take as long as it currently did, and sympathized with the neighbors being affected on a daily basis. He stated it was one thing for them to dictate what happened on individual properties from a distance, but was different to actually be on site doing the work.

Vice Chair Garcia expressed her preference that Washoe County not take ownership of all the small parcels throughout the unincorporated part of the County, and instead create a streamlined, accessible process. She described it as finding a way to invite in some of the adjacent property owners who made their own steps to try to find solutions to the problem. She felt that Washoe County was already at capacity, maintaining their own roads, so she would advocate for neighbors to help and call WCCE if someone came to occupy neighboring properties.

ACM Solaro stated that in coming months there would be code changes associated with Chapters 50 and 125, and those would address some of the struggles WCCE was currently facing with the parcels. He felt there were solutions to the problem, but it would take time to put into place. He mentioned that staff was working diligently trying to identify the best solution for Washoe County.

Vice Chair Garcia stated that as they were approaching another legislative session, she hoped there was a way to strengthen the public nuisance code to specifically address deceased property owners. She felt this was an opportunity to consider all possible solutions. She thought the public did not understand how many thousands of dollars were spent to get Quartz Lane cleaned up, and then within a month it had begun accumulating junk again.

Chair Andriola thanked the team for their leadership and speed. She felt they all recognized the loophole had a compounding effect.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 30 be adopted and ordered.

Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 30 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

26-0419 **AGENDA ITEM 31** Public Hearing: Complaint alleging a public nuisance case under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 244.360 and Washoe County Code Chapters 50 and 125 on private property on Slope Drive, APNs 085-090-19, 085-090-51, 085-090-52, 085-090-53, and 085-090-54, in Sun Valley, Nevada. The alleged nuisance generally consists of the accumulation and/or dumping of junk vehicles and other debris on the property. If a public nuisance is determined to exist on the property options may include: pursuing administrative enforcement to include abatement, directing the commencement of a civil action for abatement in the courts, or ordering a non-judicial abatement of a nuisance. Manager's Office. (Commission District 3.)

Planning Manager Chad Giesinger conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Public Hearing on Determination of Nuisance and Order of Abatement; Slope Dr. Parcels; Code Enforcement Violation History; PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (5 slides), and Thank you.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *Code Enforcement Violation History* and stated that the history of the code enforcement violation dated back to 2019 in that area. He noted that initially, there was confusion over who should handle the cases because it involved an actual roadway, which was dedicated on the parcel map. He explained that the case was transferred to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) and then recently transferred back to Washoe County Code Enforcement (WCCE). He noted there had recently been a mass cleanup of the property. He explained that 17 vehicles were towed, and one Recreational Vehicle (RV) was rendered. He declared that the property owner was deceased and identified them as William Eccles, who had subdivided many properties in Sun Valley in 1975. He stated there was no currently responsible party to send the penalty notices to. He mentioned that the roadway parcels were dedicated by Tract Map 1531 but neither accepted nor approved. He noted they had essentially no taxable value, which made it difficult to put pressure on the properties in terms of a lien process. He said that nobody was stepping up to claim the properties, which was common with the other parcels. He added that there was also an open Environmental Health Services (EHS) case for trash and sewage on the parcels. He reiterated that they had conducted a cleanup, but that things usually returned to the parcels within a short time.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (1/5)* and explained there were photos of what was being described, pointing out the highlighted area on the left-hand side of the slide. He noted the subject properties along Slope Drive.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (2/5)* and described it as showing various trailers, unregistered vehicles, and an RV that was being lived in.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (3/5)* and stated that the RV was inoperable. He explained the parcels tend to accumulate a lot of building materials.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (4/5)* and noted that there were no bathrooms present and that there were junked, torn-apart vehicles.

Vice Chair Garcia thanked WCCE and the Washoe County Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Team. She noted there was an arrest on that particular incident and felt everyone came together and did good work. She expressed that the cleaned-up site looked much better.

Chair Andriola felt the pictures did not fully portray how bad the site condition was. She explained she had seen it firsthand multiple times and was looking forward to seeing the cleaned-up site.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 31 be adopted and ordered.

Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 31 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

26-0420 **AGENDA ITEM 32** Public Hearing: Complaint alleging a public nuisance case under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 244.360 and Washoe County Code Chapters 50 and 125 on private property at 320 Quartz Lane (APN 085-330-11) in Sun Valley, Nevada. The alleged nuisance generally consists of the accumulation and/or dumping of junk vehicles and other debris on the property. If a public nuisance is determined to exist on the property options may include: pursuing administrative enforcement to include abatement, directing the commencement of a civil action for abatement in the courts, or ordering a non-judicial abatement of a nuisance. Manager's office. (Commission District 5.)

Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large stated that the Board received a public nuisance complaint on May 12 and set it for hearing on June 16. He noted that it was published on May 17 and May 24 in the *Reno Gazette-Journal* (RGJ). He specified that on May 14, the District Attorney's (DA) Office sent a letter regarding the public hearing by certified mail and regular mail.

On the call for public comment, Rose Stuart stated that the property was her son's, and she agreed that it was a mess. She alleged that at least one trailer and several vehicles that did not belong to her son had been dropped on the property. She explained that he had tried to get them removed but had not been able to accomplish that. She reiterated her agreement that the property was a mess. She asked if there was a way to get the trailer removed in particular, because there were people living in it, and there were messes on the street. She stated that she and her husband had cleaned the property in the past, but at their ages, they were no longer able to do that. She told the Board that if she and her husband could receive some help, they would be happy to pay for people to work on cleaning up the site.

CDDA Large stated that the nuisance existed on the property, and that he, along with Washoe County Code Enforcement (WCCE), would be happy to work with Ms. Stewart and her husband and son to explore legal options to remove vehicles from the property that were not theirs, along with any squatters or those staying without permission. He acknowledged it could be a difficult situation, but reiterated his team was happy to work with them to try and find a solution.

Chair Andriola hoped the motion would include that statement.

Vice Chair Garcia asked if the property was the last public nuisance declared prior to her election as Commissioner.

CDDA Large believed it was the roadway portion of 320 Quartz Lane.

Vice Chair Garcia clarified that the previous nuisance was not the same Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) that was currently before the Board.

Vice Chair Garcia acknowledged the constituents in Chambers and noted she had witnessed the past cleanup done by the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO), who had removed trailers, debris, and human waste. She noted that, after the prior cleanup, the debris came back within a month. She asked Ms. Stuart, since they were not the legal owners of the property, if their son was the legal owner. Ms. Stuart affirmed that was correct. Vice Chair Garcia emphasized that, when Ms. Stuart worked with County staff, they should look at a better systemic solution to the problem because it was a magnet for issues occurring on the roadway parcel as well. She stated that in a perfect world, they would get the roadway parcels cleared and abated, but that they also needed Ms. Stuart's son to play a significant role to ensure his behaviors did not spill out to the roadway parcel in the near future. She reiterated the need for everyone to work on the issue together. She clarified that while she was not the Commissioner representing that district, she did receive phone calls about the property regularly, and it was now so significant that it was deteriorating the quality of life for District 5 constituents. She added that she was very concerned about the public health issues that continued to resurface.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 32 be adopted and ordered with CDDA Large's addendum.

Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 32 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

26-0421 **AGENDA ITEM 33** Public Hearing: Complaint alleging a public nuisance case under Nevada Revised Statutes 244.360 and Washoe County Code Chapters 50 and 125 on private property at 260 Gerdes Ave. (APN 506-021-21) in Sun Valley, Nevada. The alleged nuisance generally consists of the accumulation and/or dumping of junk vehicles and other debris on the property. If a public nuisance is determined to exist on the property options may include: pursuing administrative enforcement to include abatement, directing the commencement of a civil action for abatement in the courts, or ordering a non-judicial abatement of a nuisance. Manager's office. (Commission District 5.)

Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large specified that the Board recognized the Washoe County Code Enforcement (WCCE) complaint on May 12, 2026, and set the hearing for the current day and time. He noted it was published in the *Reno Gazette-Journal* (RGJ) on May 17 and May 24, and that the last known owner was served via certified mail and regular mail on May 14 by the District Attorney (DA)'s office.

Planning Manager Chad Giesinger, conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Public Hearing on Determination of Nuisance and Order of Abatement; 260 Gerdes; Code Enforcement Violation History; PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (6 slides), and Thank you.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slides titled *260 Gerdes* and *Code Enforcement Violation History*, and stated that it was the longest-running code enforcement violation case, dating back to 2010. He noted that the issues were junk vehicles, debris, trash, and Recreational Vehicle (RV) living. He explained that the owner was deceased and there was a relative living on the property, but that the property had not gone through probate so it was still in the deceased owner's name. He added that the property was current on taxes and had a taxable value. He clarified that it was not a roadway parcel, but a basic fee simple parcel. He specified that his team had recorded liens, and had used most of the tools available to them under Chapter 125. He stated that currently, the property held the record of 53 penalty notices and $22,000 in fines. He added that in past years, some tows from the property had been conducted, most recently that year. He believed seven vehicles had been towed, as they were blocking most of the roadway and had to be towed for public safety reasons. He noted that Washoe County Code Enforcement (WCCE) had coordinated dumpsters in the past, and that the current resident, who was the son of the deceased owner, had occasionally cooperated with WCCE for various cleanups. He declared they had been close to a cleanup from a public view standpoint at one time in the past, but that all the clutter came back again. He explained there were three other individuals living on the property, and they seemed to be the cause of much of the junk. He stated that Environmental Health Services (EHS) also had an open case for trash and potential sewage.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 1/6)* and stated that the photos depicting the property showed that it was quite a mess. He pointed out the items on Gerdes Avenue were of particular concern.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 2/6)* and noted there were numerous RVs, and that the one at the bottom of the image, which appeared it could actually be moved, was being lived in by an individual who was fairly responsive, so the team was trying to work with them.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slides titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 3/6)*, *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 4/6)*, and noted that they showed more items like couches and debris.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 5/6)* and explained that trailers tended to accumulate debris as shown in the photo.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (Slide 6/6)* and noted more unregistered vehicles, along with a boat. He clarified that boats were particularly difficult to get rid of as they were under the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW)'s jurisdiction.

Vice Chair Garcia believed that on this Agenda Item and the next, the son or daughter of the deceased was the one squatting on the property. She noted that though the County could not force people to go through probate, it was incredibly challenging for similar parcels in the middle of neighborhoods next to churches and schools with squatters who were the heirs of the deceased. She acknowledged the County did not have a mechanism to keep those sites safe and clean. She did not know what the solution was, but she did know that sites at Carnes, Fifth Avenue, and Gerdes Avenue all had heirs squatting on the property.

CDDA Large noted that *squatter* was a term used often. He clarified that the heirs of properties had property rights. He was not aware of a legal mechanism to force people through the probate process, at least in the portions of the Code he had reviewed. He noted that could be a legislative change. In terms of squatters, stated that the phrase was typically used to mean that one did not have permission to be on the property. But, he explained, if an heir gave permission for someone to stay on the property, it was similar to someone inviting a houseguest to live at one's house. He clarified that when referring to squatters, it meant someone living on a property without that permission. That, he added, was the situation on Carnes. He noted that every one of the situations was unique. He stated that they did not know the current resident's position on the matter, and if he was inviting people to live on his property. He referred to the previous hearing and said that they did not know if that owner had allowed people to live on the property or not. He noted that was where the WCCE team worked tirelessly, because the situations were very unique, but could become prolonged problems that were not being resolved and needed to be dealt with faster.

Chair Hill stated that these were complaints she heard often, and that she thought they were issues for the (WCRO), but that CDDA Large was correct, and it was not. She felt the issue was actually that the County could not require descendants to go through probate. She thought that was a worthwhile issue to address. She was not sure if other counties had the same issue, but noted neighbors were dealing with blighted properties, knowing that the descendants were living there and not doing anything about it. She stated that it was a major issue and that she would offer support and help where she could.

Chair Andriola added that she was considering how various and unique each item was. She felt it was a perfect issue to bring to the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO). She thought it could be helpful to have an official presentation to NACO so that the other members could have a real understanding of the legal aspects.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Garcia, seconded by Chair Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 33 be adopted and ordered.

Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 33 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

26-0422 **AGENDA ITEM 34** Public Hearing: Complaint alleging a public nuisance case under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 244.360 and Washoe County Code Chapters 50 and 125 on private property at 179 E. 5th Street (APN 085-830-24) in Sun Valley, Nevada. The alleged nuisance generally consists of the accumulation and/or dumping of junk vehicles and other debris on the property. If a public nuisance is determined to exist on the property options may include: pursuing administrative enforcement to include abatement, directing the commencement of a civil action for abatement in the courts, or ordering a non-judicial abatement of a nuisance. Manager's office. (Commission District 3.)

Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large stated that the complaint came from Washoe County Code Enforcement (WCCE) and was recognized by the Board on May 12, 2026, with a public hearing set for the current day, and was published in the *Reno Gazette-Journal* (RGJ) on May 17 and May 24, and that on May 14 the District

Attorney's (DA) Office contacted or served the last known owners of the property via certified and regular mail.

Planning Manager Chad Giesinger conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Public Hearing on Determination of Nuisance and Order of Abatement; 179 E. 5th; Code Enforcement Violation History; PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (8 slides), and Thank you.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slides titled *179 E. 5th* and *Code Enforcement Violation History*, and noted the issue began with the property in front of the specified parcel, which he believed was 175 East Fifth Street. He stated that staff knew the owner, performed code enforcement on the property, and got it cleaned up. But, he noted, it all simply moved to the adjacent property behind it, which was the property before the Board, 179 East Fifth. Currently, he explained, there were numerous people living on that property, and it had significantly degraded. He noted the case was just opened in April 2025, which was not as long-running as the previous case, but that the current property contained even more junk. He noted multiple Recreational Vehicle (RV) living scenarios. He explained that the owner was deceased, but that the property had not gone through probate. He stated his team had been in contact with the brother of the deceased owner. He thought the brother lived in Oregon and did not have the means to deal with the property. He shared that the brother was initially going to pursue court action to get control of the property and evict people, but Mr. Giesinger was unaware if any progress had been made.

Mr. Giesinger reiterated that various squatters were on the property who did not have permission from the brother, as far as he was aware. He noted the property did have a taxable value. He specified they were sending penalty notices to the last owner of record, had recorded the liens, and had used all the tools at their disposal. He stated it was on the tenth penalty notice to date, at $3,500 in fines. He explained that Washoe County Environmental Health Services (EHS) also had an open case, and they had provided many of the photos he was about to present, but that they had even less leverage than his department did. He noted EHS would likely have to pursue a criminal case at the current point, after issuing warnings and the like.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (1/8)* and stated that was how it looked in the past, and that it currently looked worse. He noted it was an aerial photograph from one and a half to two years ago.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (2/8)* and mentioned that the pictures were current and showed open garbage and all kinds of equipment.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slide titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (3/8)* and *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (4/8)* and pointed out junk vehicles, living scenarios, and appliances, with no way to connect to sewage or pumping on the RVs.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slides titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (5/8)* and *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (6/8)*, noting various dilapidated structures and open garbage. He stated it was unknown if there were hazardous materials present.

Mr. Giesinger shared the slides titled *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (7/8)*, *PHOTOS – Proof of Public Nuisance Conditions (8/8)*, and *Thank you*, explaining that one could see that people were living there.

Vice Chair Garcia felt that the case was very upsetting. She noted it had concerned her for months, with the last update she received being in October. She explained that, to convey how quickly the situation had deteriorated, in October she had counted 11 trailers, 20 people, and 4 dogs. She expressed that it looked like those numbers had increased, and the property resembled a war zone. She shared that the neighbors surrounding the parcel had their neighborhood hijacked from them and were scared and fearful of retaliation. That, she explained, was what she found particularly upsetting about this case. She understood people had mental health issues or may not have the resources to keep their properties clean, which she stated was why they did some proactive cleanups. But, she said, this site seemed like a disaster. She wanted to let the people, who might not speak up publicly out of fear of retaliation, know that there was hope. She stated they could get it cleaned up and that they would communicate with Mr. Wilson, who tried to keep the property clean but could not. She felt it was impossible for him to keep the property clean because of the number and frequency of trailers, seeming to change by the day. She stated that the trailers would come at night or even in the middle of the day. She encouraged the DA's Office to resume contact and communication with him.

Chair Andriola stated that when she was riding with the HOPE Team at the site, they saw a trailer that they believed was headed for the site.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 34 be adopted and ordered.

Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Agenda Item 34 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

Chair Andriola asked what a possible time frame for cleanup would be from a legal perspective.

CDDA Large stated that from a legal standpoint, because the resolution had been passed, they would notify the owners, who would have five days to clean it up on their own. If they failed to do so, then Washoe County had permission to pursue an abatement action. Regarding the question of when that would happen, he explained that it would involve a matter of prioritization and resources. He believed a high degree of community coordination to lobby resources would need to happen and would have to involve all parties, such as the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) and Washoe County Code Enforcement (WCCE). He noted it would take a little bit of time, and he expressed that Washoe County had a great County Manager (CM) and WCCE that could coordinate all of it.

Chair Andriola appreciated CDDA Large's statement, and appreciated the support from local organizations, as she felt it would take a lot of effort to get the sites cleaned up.

26-0423 **AGENDA ITEM 35** Public Comment.

Penny Brock was not present when called to speak.

26-0424 **AGENDA ITEM 36** Announcements/Reports.

County Manager (CM) Kate Thomas recalled that Chair Andriola had asked her to follow up on a question regarding the solicitation process for Agenda Item 7 brought forth during the meeting, which was the Assessor's Office's multiple-year contract with Government Tax Advisors (GovTax), Limited Liability Company (LLC). She noted that the contract was for a professional service, which was exempt from the competitive solicitation requirements for Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 3.32 governing purchasing in the State of Nevada for local governments. She explained that the company in question audited personal property accounts to help ensure the accuracy of personal property assessment. She stated that such a service could only be provided by a company that held a valid appraiser certificate in the State of Nevada. She expressed hope that her response had answered the question raised before the Board.

Vice Chair Garcia stated her intent to express immense gratitude to staff, the District Attorney's (DA) Office, constituents who attended the meeting that day, and her fellow Commissioners. She stated that some major issues had been addressed during the meeting and thanked the Board for its leadership.

Chair Andriola stated that the current meeting was largely about concentrating on eliminating the encampment loopholes discussed previously. She explained that additional agenda items would be introduced in the future to further address the issue, as she believed other circumvention methods were being used. She used the term *squatter* to describe those who were residing in the previously described encampments, and noted that she was currently engaging in discussions with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) and a government liaison to research measures that could be implemented following the introduction of the camping ordinance and to discuss the WCSO's findings. She noted that a substantial part of those efforts resulted from ride-alongs conducted with the WCSO and the Homeless Outreach Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Team, and that they could continue in the future. She explained that there was a shared responsibility for public policy, and while the Board did the best it could for those efforts, those matters sometimes evolved and had recently been magnified following the passing of certain measures. She opined that there were other places in the community that could be helped by similar actions, and she expressed hope that a policy to address the issue could be implemented at the right time by collaborating with the DA's Office, Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large, CM Thomas, the WCSO, and the appropriate staff.

* * * * * * * * * * *

1:37 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

____
CLARA ANDRIOLA, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

____
JANIS GALASSINI, County Clerk and
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Prepared by:
Brooke Koerner, Deputy County Clerk
Elizabeth Tietjen, Deputy County Clerk
Andrew Garnand, Deputy County Clerk
Jessica Melka, Deputy County Clerk