

IN A REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION HELD ON AUGUST 10, 2016 IN THE WHITE PINE COUNTY LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM, 950 CAMPTON STREET, ELY, NEVADA

The Following Were Present:

County Commission

Gary Perea, Chairman  
Carol McKenzie, Vice-Chairman  
Laurie Carson, Commissioner  
Mike Coster, Commissioner  
Richard Howe, Commissioner  
Susan Lujan, Acting Clerk of the Board

County Officials

Jennifer Farnworth, IT Specialist  
Elaine Blackham, Sr. Management Assist't.  
Desiree Barnson, Social Services  
Stephen Bishop, Justice of the Peace  
Bunny Hill, Social Services Director  
Lori Romero, Library Director  
Bill Calderwood, Facility Maint. Superintd't.  
Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director  
Kathy Ricci, Human Resources Director  
Juan Carlos Cervantes, UNR Co-op Extension  
Megan Brown WPC Aquatic Center Director  
Chris Ricci, Senior. Center Director  
Mike Wheable, District Attorney  
Bill Miller, Road Maint. Superintendent  
Tim Woolever, WPC Fire District Chief  
Brad Christiansen, Building Official  
Jennifer Drew, Building & Planning Dept.  
Rost Olsen, Deputy District Attorney

Also Present

Donna Bath, Senator Dean Heller  
Bob Switzer, City of Ely  
George Chachas, KGTV-10  
Jill Moore, BLM  
Andy Britton, GRP Pan, LLC  
Pat Robison, City of Ely  
Buzz Rosevear, Basin Engineering

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Chairman Gary Perea called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. Commissioner Mike Coster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Gary Perea commented this new Library Conference Room is a nice, new facility. He added that if any member of the public has trouble hearing in the back of the room, please advise.

Justice of the Peace Stephen Bishop wished to express his apologies for some confusion during the last Commission meeting regarding the Justice Court's benefit to the County. It was not his intention to suggest he wouldn't use those funds if he didn't receive his requested salary increase; he noted that the confusion "was the result of his ambiguous wording and rather ineloquent delivery." The point he wished to make was that he would continue to distribute those funds to the extent he was allowed to do so. He cited a letter he had prepared, with copies for the Board.

Stephen J. Bishop  
Justice of the Peace  
Phone (775) 293-6540

White Pine County  
Justice Court  
Ely Township No. 1

801 Clark Street #6  
Ely, Nevada 89301  
Fax (775) 289-3392

August 9, 2016

Dear Commissioners,

It is my understanding that, at the past Commission meeting, there arose some confusion regarding my intentions with respect to the Court's collection efforts and the continued use of Court funds for the benefit of the County.

Initially, I apologize for not being present at the meeting where these issues arose. I believe that, had I been present, these concerns could have been addressed in a more immediate manner. The item was placed on the agenda, however, without any consultation regarding my availability and I did not learn of it until approximately two days before the meeting. As a result, on the date of the meeting, I was previously committed to preside over multiple hearings, which had been scheduled for some time.

More to the point, however, I write to apologize for my role in creating the confusion. It was not my intention to suggest that the Court would decline to use of such funds, based upon the decision of the Commission, in this matter. Nor was it my intention to suggest that, under any circumstances, the Court would be less than diligent with the collection of fines and fees. I believe this confusion is likely the result of my ambiguous wording and my rather ineloquent delivery.

Instead, it was my intention to emphasize that it is rather unjust for the Commission to take away a modest salary increase (that all other elected officials were given, as a matter of course, without hesitation) and, at the same time, repeatedly expect that I authorize the use of significant amounts of the Court's dedicated funds to lessen the Commission's constitutional obligations. It was also an attempt to explain that were my attentions and efforts not continuously refocused on this, and other similar budgetary issues, the Court could more readily explore possible new avenues to provide additional benefit the County.

In conclusion, I would like to clearly express my intention to continue to utilize funds -to the extent legally permissible- to improve the Court and County. My commitments and efforts to this end are steadfast and my intentions will remain unchanged regardless of the decision the County makes regarding my salary.

Sincerely,



Stephen J. Bishop  
Ely Justice Court

Library Director Lori Romero welcomed everyone in attendance today into their new Conference Room, and announced she is open for suggestions or improvements. She reported on the Library Book Sale; everyone was pleased that they made a total of \$700 between this sale and their earlier fundraiser. She invited everyone to come to the Library Open House this coming Saturday from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Senior Center Director Chris Ricci was concerned and disappointed about the agenda item regarding the merger of Social Services with the Senior Center. She has some people over there right now giving a presentation on dementia, and it isn't appropriate for the Director not to be there. She added all of our citizens need to attend that, not just our seniors. Director Ricci felt it would be 6-8 months before a good plan could be prepared on the merger, and so far only she, Director Lori Romero, Director Bunny Hill, and Administrative Assistant Desiree Barnson have met to discuss this. She felt she should have been more involved with this agenda item before coming before the Board. Chairman Gary Perea suggested that the Board will probably be tabling the agenda item, but that decision is up to the Board as a whole.

BLM District Manager Jill Moore provided an update on a couple of items. The BLM has published the Final EIS on Bald Mountain Mine, and are awaiting review of the reclamation costs prior to signing their Record of Decision. They should have their Notice to Proceed shortly. The BLM is also working with GRP on the Gold Rock Project EIS, and it is hoped that the Final EIS will be published this Fall. There are currently 2 horse gathers going on in the north near Overland Pass, and crews are assisting the Park Service with the Strawberry Creek Fire. Manager Moore also advised there's a notice in the paper this week regarding the BLM doing a hazmat cleanup out west of Cherry Creek, in response to some

materials needing to be cleaned up from an old mine in that area. It will be carried out by a licensed contractor later on this month. Chairman Gary Perea thanked Manager Moore for her update, and invited her to return again for another update in the Fall.

Mr. George Chachas repeated his request for information from 2014, namely regarding the \$270,000 gift or loan from the County; he has yet to receive the letter addressing that. He's not happy with the Kapetan's snow load agenda item; he feels the Building Inspector is selectively enforcing the law, as well as the Planning Commission. He added that the snow load requirements aren't consistent throughout the County. During his comments, Chairman Perea cautioned him against making inflammatory comments against the Building Inspector. Mr. Chachas continued that the Commission discriminates against people in this community, and it needs to stop. He also noted that there's a guide wire in County Park that can't be seen in the dark, and someone will trip over it; this has been brought to the Board's attention in the past, and yet it's still there. He also brought up the lack of qualified members on the Tourism & Recreation Board. Chairman Perea asked if he had anything new; Mr. Chachas replied, "just some answers."

At 9:16 a.m., Chairman Gary Perea recessed the regular Commission meeting and opened the Special Fire Commission meeting. Fire Commission Chairman Gary Perea adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m. and reconvened the regular Commission meeting.

#### ITEMS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

##### NICHOLE BALDWIN, COUNTY CLERK/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS:

##### DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE BALLOT QUESTIONS.

##### ARGUMENTS AND REBUTTALS TO APPEAR ON THE 2016 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

Commissioner Laurie Carson felt the ballot questions should be consistent with their explanations for and against, and that they should both include construction. District Attorney Mike Wheable advised it's a bit late for comments at this point, as it has already been submitted to the Secretary of State.

Commissioner Carson also noted that the explanation didn't include the monies that went to the RTC that would be a benefit to the City of Ely; also, concerning the gas increase, fuel and gas are two separate things. D.A. Wheable explained that WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin has been laboring with the language and has been working on this for 3-1/2 months, changing the verbage each time the Commission asks for changes. Nearly every Nevada County is making this up with respect to what the NRS really means, so no set of languages will be perfect, and changes are being made all along. As long as we had submission, he added, there's no known deadline for making changes. During the discussion, Commissioner Carson felt that with all the typos and changes, those are "falling on deaf ears." Her biggest concern is to refrain from inflammatory remarks being included in the explanations, and those should have been handled as just statements of fact; however, she did agree this version is much better than what was in the last draft. D.A. Wheable felt it would be tough for us to interpose and argue, however, because the pros and cons believe their statements, so "we are walking a fine line" with tampering with the language. It was pointed out that Clerk Baldwin has been taking this on for the most part on her own, although she has been discussing the questions/statements with the Finance Director and the District Attorney on a regular basis. Commissioner Mike Coster noted some of this is still unclear to him, although he felt we could still change some things, and added that Commissioner Carson's comments may not be falling on deaf ears. Chairman Perea noted this is just for discussion on today's agenda; however, the inconsistencies should still be fixed. He advised this is a difficult process, as he recalls from his past experience, in having ballot questions be prepared. In the past, the Board used to just ratify them, and there wasn't any political involvement. There was some discussion of holding a Town Hall meeting at the end of September/first part of October to discuss the ballot questions/language; D.A. Wheable noted there are going to be 17

different language versions, and in fact Clerk Baldwin was able to avail herself of some of the verbage from the other counties in putting this all together. He continued that if the State is mandating this, then they should have also given some guidance and direction as to language. There's no consistency across the State, and no guidance being provided either, he noted emphatically. In fact, he offered that Clerk Baldwin had disagreed with both sides of the pro/con arguments, so there are 3 different opinions already, and now Commissioner Carson has added more comments. Commissioner Carson clarified that she just meant we should be consistent with the facts and not be inflammatory. Commissioner Mike Coster felt this version was much improved over the other things that had been included before, but weren't relevant. Both he and Commissioner Carol McKenzie pointed out that most voters will read the explanations, but not the entire texts for each question. Commissioner Coster wants to see the final version come back to the Board; Chairman Perea added that if there are inconsistencies, those will be taken care of.

**MEGAN BROWN, WHITE PINE AQUATICS CENTER DIRECTOR:**  
**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY AQUATIC CENTER FALL SCHEDULE**

WPC Aquatics Center Director Megan Brown provided the draft Fall Schedule to the Board. She explained that the public is wanting more availability to do what they would like to do, and she noted those activities are shown in yellow on the graph. While the hours have been slightly extended, she noted that she has never used the payroll budget to take care of those. In reply to a query from the Board, Director Brown advised that most people know the pool needs to be closed one day per week for cleaning, and having that day be Sunday for the Aquatic Center has been acceptable to the public. She added that they've been saving money on chemicals due to the Sunday closure. The Board wanted to know if the pool needed to be closed all day for the chemical cleaning, or could it be opened for a few hours; Director Brown noted it could be reopened for a couple of hours in the afternoon. However, health and safety comes first, and it was noted that if 24 hours are required before reopening the pool then that should be the case. The Board agreed to leave it up to Director Brown's discretion as to whether or not to reopen the pool. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve the White Pine County Aquatic Center Fall and Winter Schedule as presented. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A LONG-TERM RENTAL CONTRACT WITH THE LDS CHURCH AND OTHER CHURCH GROUPS FOR REGULAR USE OF THE AQUATIC CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM**

WPC Aquatic Center Director Megan Brown asked if this could be "discussion only" on the part of the White Pine County School District to move forward; the White Pine Ministerial Association has asked to table this matter for now. The School District would like to start this in January, starting classes at 7:00 AM and to continue for 2-3 periods during the day. They will know more about the timing, whether to schedule a full block or scattered hours, once the School District knows what their classes will look like. She discussed school discounts and fees, noting this isn't a proposal, it's more of an update at this time. The Board had a concern about the School District's time interfering with other people utilizing the pool at the same time; Director Brown noted that generally they rent out the room during evenings and weekends, and that they are asking for it during normal school days. Commissioner Richard Howe felt that a 50% discount for the School District would open the door for others to begin requesting discounts as well; he didn't feel the existing fee was outlandish, and that we should stick with the fee structure as it is without showing preference for anyone or any group. Director Brown noted that the swim team comes in and rents pool space, which brings in more revenue than renting room space. A long-term agreement, however, would mean more revenues coming in. District Attorney Mike Wheable noted that we can't

limit this to churches or non-profit; long-term renters would need the same discount that we would offer to churches, for example, and we can't treat the same thing differently. He noted a few changes to the rental contract and advised that we must remain consistent with our rentals. No action was needed.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING: THE WHITE PINE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT RE: BILL 07-27-16 (ORDINANCE 463) – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WHITE PINE COUNTY CODE REVISING THE SPEED LIMIT ON A CERTAIN SECTION OF THE LACKAWANNA ROAD – THIS AMENDMENT WILL BE TO SUBSECTIONS (d) AND (e) OF COUNTY CODE 11.20.115. NRS 244.357(4) PROVIDES THAT A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY REGULATE BY ORDINANCE VEHICULAR TRAFFIC IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF THE COUNTY AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF LIFE, LIMB AND PROPERTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ORDERLY MOVEMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC UPON ROADS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF THE COUNTY

Chairman Gary Perea read the text title into the record and asked for public comment. Ms. Jani Ahlvers lives on Lackawanna Road, and she cited a few very recent incidents: A young man was nearly hit by traffic going 35-40 mph in that small section of road. She has mules that often wander across the road, and they've narrowly missed being hit also. She's asking for a slowdown in that area, and commented that it's even unsafe to be out in the front yard. Road Maintenance Superintendent Bill Miller cited some backup material on this and explained that the stop sign is not the City limit, it goes a good hundred or more feet. From Ogden Avenue to that point he noted was 20 mph; they will extend this for 440 additional feet, so where the barn is on the left side of the road it would be 20 mph and go up to 25 mph after that point. Commissioner Laurie Carson felt this would be good; where the City employees are parking across the street it would be a reduced speed zone as well, and safer for them, too. Superintendent Miller had met with Capt. Scott Henriod to discuss this, and the Sheriff's Dept. is very much in favor of this. Chairman Gary Perea noted this makes sense, as it's a safety issue, and there's no reason not to move forward with it. There being no further comments from the public, Chairman Gary Perea closed the Public Hearing.

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF BILL 07-27-16 (ORDINANCE 463) – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WHITE PINE COUNTY CODE REVISING THE SPEED LIMIT ON A CERTAIN SECTION OF THE LACKAWANNA ROAD – THIS AMENDMENT WILL BE TO SUBSECTIONS (d) AND (e) OF COUNTY CODE 11.20.115. NRS 244.357(4) PROVIDES THAT A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY REGULATE BY ORDINANCE VEHICULAR TRAFFIC IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF THE COUNTY AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF LIFE, LIMB AND PROPERTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ORDERLY MOVEMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC UPON ROADS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF THE COUNTY

Chairman Gary Perea asked if there were any other comments; there were none. Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 463, Bill 07-27-16. Commissioner Richard Howe seconded. Motion carried.

**ITEMS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**BRAD CHRISTIANSEN, BUILDING OFFICIAL:  
DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF A PARCEL MAP APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY DAVID  
& JUDI BOURBEAU – THE SUBMISSION IS TO MERGE AND RE-SUBDIVIDE THE PARCELS  
AND DO A BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT – THE PARCELS ARE APN 010-710-20 AND APN  
010-710-30 ON KALAMAZOO ROAD**

Building Official Brad Christiansen brought a large map of the parcels and cited smaller map versions in the Commission packets. The Bourbeaus broke up Parcel 3 into three separate parcels, as he explained; there is access provided to all three of the new parcels. He recommended approval to the Board. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Mike Coster made a motion to approve the parcel map application submitted by David & Judi Bourbeau, with the submission to merge and re-subdivide the parcels and do a boundary line adjustment – the parcels are APN 010-710-20 and APN 010-710-30 on Kalamazoo Road. Commissioner Laurie Carson seconded. Motion carried.

**ELAINE BLACKHAM, SENIOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT:  
DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO RETURN GRANT AWARD #07-06-07267 TO THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF  
\$29,912**

Sr. Management Assistant Elaine Blackham advised this is by recommendation of Financial Analyst Elanie Calderwood. We are sending this back since the Great Basin Regional Development Association is disbanding, and they won't be utilizing these funds. We're asking for the Board's approval to send this back; she explained that if the Commission chooses to join the new RDA, she will seek more funds with the Economic Development Administration for a more comprehensive regional strategy. Assistant Blackham continued that the funds were supposed to cover the salary of the Executive Director of the GBRDA. She assured the Board that returning the funds will not affect the County in any way, or any future applications we might make either. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Richard Howe made a motion to approve returning the grant award #07-06-07267 to the U.S. Department of Economic Development Administration in the amount of \$29,912. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**BILL CALDERWOOD, FACILITY MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT:  
DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE ANNUAL UPDATE/ACTIVITY SUMMARY REPORT FOR  
MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL**

Facility Maintenance Superintendent Bill Calderwood cited his backup materials, which is a breakdown of where the Maintenance personnel spend their hours and related costs. He invited questions from the Board; there were none. Chairman Gary Perea requested an update on the spelunking convention; Superintendent Calderwood reported everything went very well, it was a huge success, and there was lots of fun during the week. He was hard pressed to see any damage at all from where they were camped out at the Golf Course. He noted there's no final figures in yet, but he will provide those when they become available. Commissioner Mike Coster talked with Superintendent Calderwood after the auction and noted an ongoing problem with damaging the public toilets. He suggested perhaps a timelock in there to limit vandalism after dark. There was some discussion of the callouts for those and the comp time being used to cover those calls; Superintendent Calderwood advised it takes 45 minutes twice a week to keep those restrooms clean in County Park.

**BUNNY HILL, SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR:**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OPTIONS ON THE COACH USA ELKO CONTRACT AT \$52.77 PER BILLABLE HOUR FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR AND \$54.35 PER BILLABLE HOUR FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR – HOURS ARE NOT TO EXCEED 240 PER MONTH WITH THE EXTENSION COSTING A MAXIMUM OF \$305,505 – THE CONTRACT WOULD BE EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 – COACH USA ELKO IS THE OPERATOR OF ELY BUS FOR WHITE PINE COUNTY**

Social Services Director Bunny Hill apologized as she was trying to work with Coach USA and the contract didn't come in until after the agenda deadline. She did cite the draft contract in the Commission packets. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year options on the Coach USA USA Elko contract at \$52.77 per billable hour for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year and \$54.35 per billable hour for the 4<sup>th</sup> year – hours are not to exceed 240 per month with the extension costing a maximum of \$305,505, that would extend the contract to September 30, 2018, and also that Coach USA Elko is the operator of Ely Bus for White Pine County. Commissioner Richard Howe seconded. Motion carried. Director Hill clarified that the grant starting this year, was written to cover the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

At 10:22 a.m., Chairman Gary Perea recessed the Commission meeting for a break. The meeting was reconvened at 10:37 a.m. Chairman Perea opened the Quarterly Grant Reports portion of the meeting.

**QUARTERLY GRANT REPORTS**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF UPDATES ON QUARTERLY GRANT REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS AND/OR GRANT MANAGERS ON THE FOLLOWING:**

**Office of Emergency Management, WPC Fire District Chief Tim Woolever**

-- HMEP Training Grant; SERC Planning, Training & Equipment Grant; EMPG Performance Grant; EPWG Working Group Grant; HMEP Mid-Cycle Grant.

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances noted that during the interim period between Fire Chiefs, she had provided copies of financial reports to the Board. There are still remaining balances showing on these grants that need to be spent; Sr. Management Assistant Elaine Blackham is working with Chief Woolever on these to get them spent down as needed. She added there are no problems with any of these as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, and some extensions are being requested. Chief Woolever noted that the extension for 30 days was all that had been allowed, although the extension really needs to go for a full year. Other counties were blindsided as well on this, she added.

**WPC Sheriff Dan Watts**

-- Eastern Nevada Narcotics Enforcement Task Force Grant; Highway Safety Grant.

District Attorney Mike Wheable is here to answer questions the Board may have as Sheriff Watts was unable to attend today. He cited backup and noted everything seemed to be in order, and there were no concerns. Director Frances advised of both grants with respect to payroll, and there are no issues. Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve the updates on the quarterly grants as presented. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**COUNTY COMMISSION:**

**GARY PEREA, COMMISSION CHAIRMAN:**

**DISCUSSION/UPDATE/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2016-35 – A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITION OF WHITE PINE COUNTY AS A MEMBER OF THE NORTHEASTERN NEVADA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY VIA ADOPTION OF AN AMENDED INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING MEMBERSHIP**

Chairman Gary Perea noted this had been discussed at the last Commission meeting; he feels it's a really good option for the County. After Ms. Pam Borda's visit, as a representative of NNRDA, he would like to see us join the group and the City of Ely as well, since by membership we would each have a seat on the board and therefore two opportunities to vote. He continued that if the City joined that would reduce the membership fee for the County and both entities would benefit. City Clerk Bob Switzer advised that he had talked with Mayor Melody VanCamp and Mr. Peter Wallish from GOED about this, and the City also sees an advantage to having an additional voice on that board. It will be on the City Council meeting agenda, and he will recommend City membership. Chairman Perea noted that if both the City and the County join, we would be the third largest in representation on that group so we would definitely have some say as to what will be done. Commissioner Richard Howe agreed, this would be a major cost savings to the County and we would have a stronger voice by including the City of Ely in this. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to move forward to approve Resolution 2016-35 providing for the addition of White Pine County as a member of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority via adoption of an amended interlocal cooperative agreement and authorizing membership. Commissioner Richard Howe seconded. Motion carried.

**NOTICE OF UNTIMED ITEMS**

**DISCUSSION/UPDATE REGARDING GRP MINERAL AND THE PAN MINE AND GOLD ROCK PROJECTS**

Mr. Andy Britton, General Manager, provided an update to the Board, noting there have been many changes at the mine. The Pan Mine is now under new ownership; while they had gone through bankruptcy, they kept pouring gold the entire time. They are looking to get moving again, providing jobs and hopefully interacting with the community shortly. GRP purchased most of the assets on May 17<sup>th</sup>; the focus is on the Pan Project, which is 50 miles West of Ely. Their primary focus right now is getting through the EIS for the Gold Rock project, pouring and processing the gold. They expect to be back to a 10,000 tons/day operation by the end of this year. The 10,000 tons include crushing and a conglomeration system, as he noted that's the way the mine was originally designed. He continued that while they are a private company, they are gearing up for public trading, and they will be operating as if they already were. They've hired 6 personnel since the purchase, and they're still building the business with accounting, management systems, etc. being put into place. Licensing is progressing in a timely manner, with plans to expand in the near future. There are safety, environmental, and other programs being put into place. Right now their current personnel consists of 21 people, and they're hoping to have 25 by the end of September, which would be their full employment capability. As to how many personnel from Ely and Eureka, Manager Britton advised it will be roughly 60% from Ely and 40% from Eureka. The Board thanked him for his information.

Jary Pérez, Chairman  
Carol G. McKenzie, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson  
Commissioner Richard Howe  
Commissioner Mike Coster  
Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

801 Clark Street, Suite #5  
Ely, Nevada 89301  
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White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners

RESOLUTION 2016-35

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITION OF  
WHITE PINE COUNTY AS A MEMBER OF  
THE NORTHEASTERN NEVADA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
VIA ADOPTION OF AN AMMENDED INTER-LOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
AND AUTHORIZING MEMBERSHIP THEREBY

WHITE PINE COUNTY

WHEREAS, The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority exists for the purpose of promoting industrial development and positive social-economic growth in Elko County, Lander County, Eureka County, White Pine County and the Cities of Carlin, Elko, Wells, and West Wendover.

WHEREAS, it is the desire of White Pine County to establish a cooperative working relationship for mutual economic and community development with Elko County, Lander County, Eureka County, the Cities of Carlin, Elko, Wells, and West Wendover as well as the State of Nevada, and the Federal government, and

WHEREAS, given the general condition of the economy in the rural areas of Nevada, there is an urgent need for economic development and the general improvement of rural communities, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that White Pine County does hereby set forth the White Pine County Board of County Commissioners intention to adopt the Inter-Local Cooperative Agreement providing for the addition of White Pine County as a member of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority upon approval by the Attorney General's Office of the State of Nevada.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be considered a counterpart of the Inter-Local Cooperative Agreement and shall be deemed to be an original part thereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016, by the following vote:

5 AYES 0 NOS 0 ABSENT

Jary Pérez, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners  
White Pine County

ATTEST:

*Maranda J. DePue*  
COUNTY CLERK

Date: August 10, 2016

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
REVIEWED BY:

Michael Wheable,  
White Pine County District Attorney

DISCUSSION/UPDATE FROM THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION EDUCATOR

Mr. Juan Carlos Cervantes, Ag. Extension Educator, provided an update/summary of what he had submitted for the last Commission meeting. The assessment is nearly 2/3 completed, where the community is assessed and it's determined what will be needed; and then education programs would be provided for those. Assessments were done in 2010 and in 2013; he noted those were well done and he's reviewing those to see if they are still valid. The next step in the process would be to reach out to elected officials and key leaders in the community in a survey format, to refine and focus the most relevant program. He advised that most of his time will be spent seeking and developing a job skills program; reaching out is the most difficult part, and avoiding duplication is very important, as he explained. Educator Cervantes advised that as he is here in White Pine County by himself, that's been a challenge, but he commended his hosts as being very helpful. He continued that interviews were conducted and candidates were located for 4-H; an offer was made, and the outcome is forthcoming. Next, he hopes to have something more definite in the way of a plan for a job skills program. He feels the key to success with the program is to develop some protocol, so that will be his focal point. Commissioner Laurie Carson asked how the job skills program would differ from that of the School District or the Community College; Educator Cervantes noted it's a broad category, and he's contacted various organizations here in White Pine County such as the Chamber of Commerce, RNDC, EDC, etc. He noted that such groups are

doing work that overlaps; the alternative to finding any other sources would be to survey everyone again and scrutinize the results. He pointed out that he would be fortunate to get a 5% return on such surveys. He cited various examples of education programs, such as a "Manners Club" for children, and a "Youth Build Program," from the Dept. of Labor, which has up front costs but he's seeking ways to fund and implement that program here. He explained "Youth Build," which accepts youth from 16-25 years of age; while in his experience most of those are at risk, "they don't have to be," it's remedial training in such areas as construction skills. He noted that affordable housing has been identified in White Pine County as a priority; this program will train young people in job skills related to the construction industry and balance that with remedial education. The result of instituting that program will be reducing costs of improving the County's housing stock, for example. Educator Cervantes also touched upon another area, that of training in the agricultural field, such as arborists; trees make the County attractive, and the right trees for the area being cultivated and grown will attract people into the communities. An arborist program would not only enhance Ely, but arborists can go anywhere in the world to get a job; he pointed out we have no local arborist here in White Pine County, and it's a "multi-million dollar industry." In conclusion, he made a "pitch for the 4-H." The 4-H kids are raffling off 2 Chrome Books for the upcoming livestock auction at the White Pine County Fair, at \$5.00/ticket. The Board thanked him for his update.

#### **ITEMS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

##### **KATHY RICCI, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR:**

##### **DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT FOR BUNNY HILL, DIRECTOR OF WHITE PINE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES, AS OF AUGUST 12, 2016**

Social Services Director Bunny Hill advised she's worked for 17 years with the County as an employee, and 21 years altogether. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Richard Howe made a motion to accept the resignation/retirement for Bunny Hill, Director of White Pine County Social Services, as of August 12, 2016. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Gary Perea had a concern that when the Board accepts a resignation, we should also have another agenda item as to how to give the remaining staff—in this case, Ms. Desiree Barnson—the authority to keep that office open. Commissioner Richard Howe felt Ms. Barnson should have retroactive pay if she takes over that position; he noted she is certainly capable, and we could put together a plan to transition. Chairman Gary Perea directed Ms. Barnson that she has the authority to continue to keep that office open, and whatever she needs to do can be brought back for ratification. Human Resources Director Kathy Ricci added that if she is working out of class, she will automatically receive the 5% over and above her regular pay.

##### **DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO MERGE SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE SENIOR CENTER DEPARTMENTS AS RECOMMENDED IN THE WHITE PINE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT**

Senior Center Director Chris Ricci advised she isn't prepared to speak to this; she asked if now would be the time to comment, or if it could be brought back. District Attorney Mike Wheable advised the Board could also table this agenda item for now. Director Ricci advised that there is a statement that was prepared and signed by Social Services Director Bunny Hill, Library Director Lori Romero, Administrative Assistant Desiree Barnson, and herself that she wished to read into the record. The Board concurred. She added that all had agreed this is what they wished to present to the Board; a conclusion isn't viable at this time because each Department doesn't know enough about the other. Also, as we are trying to reduce the size of government, this would be an opportunity through attrition to achieve this. Commissioner Richard Howe, as their liaison, was not happy with this being done without his knowledge; they didn't call him to discuss it, then they "come to the meeting and complain." He was looking to eliminate/combine/reduce staff; he noted that the Commission has the final decision, and he is

hoping to combine many Departments and reduce staff. He clarified that he's okay with them meeting to discuss this, but to "lambaste another Department Head" — which is how he took their action — is spiteful. He allowed that while his ideas were heard by Ms. Barnson, the others didn't want to talk with him. Chairman Gary Perea wasn't comfortable moving forward with this; the Department Heads obviously have some concerns, and he feels their liaison should have been involved in their discussions. This all needs to be done in a careful, succinct manner, and now isn't the time to run with this. Chairman Perea requested tabling this for now and come back when the time is appropriate. Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to table this agenda item. Commissioner Richard Howe seconded. Motion carried.

August 10, 2016

Dear Commissioners:

Chris Ricci, Senior Center Director; Lori Romero, Library Director & ( Senior Center Advocate); Desiree Bamson, Administrative Assistant and myself have met several times since Chris and I met with Mrs. Frances on June 2<sup>nd</sup> regarding merging the Senior Center and Social Services Departments. We were very disappointed with the Strategic Planning Committee's rush to submit their recommendations without review or even a second meeting with the Department Heads to discuss some of the points that were brought up in the one and only meeting they had with the committee. After that initial meeting I had some ideas that I would have shared with them after I had had time to digest what they were looking to do. I was not sure what the committee was looking for so I was unprepared to bring forth any ideas regarding my department or any merger of departments during this one and only meeting. During this meeting I was asked if I could give up one cent to the general fund, to which I agreed. Then it came before the Commission for three cents. None of the committee members took the time to come to my department to see or ask exactly what takes place behind our walls. They did not venture to the Senior Center to better understand what takes place there either. The Senior Center does not just feed seniors and play bingo, and the Social Services office does not just provide "welfare" services.

During our meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> I discussed with Mrs. Frances the fact that there is too heavy a workload in the Social Services Office for the two currently in the office but not a sufficient workload for a full time third person. I suggested that the Ely Bus be moved out to the Road Department since it is not a Social Services program. Chris and I explained the massive reporting both departments have to do on a monthly basis for State and Federal grants. In 2003 when I became the director I had more than enough time to devote to directly working with clients. Currently I spend 90% of my time doing reports. Submitting requests for funds from each grant and overseeing the Ely Bus and mitigating any issues with our bus or social service clientele.

Mrs. Frances suggested that possibly Chris and I could share a half time administrative assistant in each department. At the time that sounded as an option that needed further consideration. However, Chris and I understood that staffing would remain two full time positions in the Social Services office. Apparently that was not the understanding by Mrs. Frances. Dropping from two full time positions to one and a half positions does not improve getting work accomplished in a timely manner in the Social Services Office with the current workload. An additional half time position in the Senior Center would greatly assist the Director in meeting all her requirements in a timely manner since she does not have an administrative assistant; however, there are no available funds to staff this half time position in her department unless the sales tax question passes with voter approval.

Mrs. Carson asked in a previous meeting what merging these two offices might look like. The four of us have been meeting in an effort to develop a plan to accomplish this. Rather unsuccessfully I might add for the following reasons.

- These are two very different departments with separate duties. Only one duty overlaps and that is data entry into the SAMS database. The statement in the strategic report says that these two departments are closely related. The only way we are closely related is that we both have senior clients but then so does Public Health, the Library, the Clerk's Office, The Assessor, Recorder, Treasurer, District Attorney, actually every department in the county deals with seniors. Why has the merger of the Finance office and Recorder not been brought back as was suggested several times in the past, just not in the strategic report?
- Due to the majority of each department's client base being very different it is imperative that there is a separation of clients. This is for a healthy and safe environment and the moral of all clients.
- Relocating the Social Services office to the old EMS building is totally unacceptable. They would be there with absolutely no security if a violent client presented themselves for services, which happens. Currently the Social Services office is housed in the new administrative building and their offices were designed in conjunction with Juvenile Probation and Public Health as they work with the same clients, have the same HIPAA requirements and provide back up for each other.
- The old EMS building should have been demolished when EMS moved out. The building has been gutted so there is no longer a bathroom, a kitchen or room for classes. To bring this building up to code would cost money so where would the \$30,000 savings Mrs. Frances stated come from with this merger? Since the Social Services budget has already expended funds to redo the floor in the Administrative kitchen and purchased all the appliances, tables and chairs for finance and cooking classes where would the funds come from for the remodel?

- Both departments are OUTSIDE the general fund. The Commission, at the urging of Mrs. Frances has already taken three cents from Social Services for the General Fund. The Social Services budget has never had to take money from the General Fund to cover the mandatory 4.5% annual increase in its budget since I have been the Director. Although I believe we are being singled out because we take our fiduciary responsibility seriously and others are looking at our ending fund balance as a cash cow. Depending how this election goes with the Affordable Care Act the county may be back required to pay for indigent medical care again.
- Currently all Inmate Medical is paid out of the Indigent Budget, not the General Fund. With changes at the Jail we have been able to cut budgeted medical costs down, however that could change at any time depending on jail capacity and medical needs of the inmates. This is a savings to the General Fund but additional Social Services staff time is spent verifying inmate bills and vouchering them out. Since 2011 this has been a savings to the county general fund of between \$29,000 and \$40,000 yearly.
- Senior Homebound Certifications take 30-45 minutes at a minimum, in the seniors' home plus travel time for the Senior Director. Currently there are 57 seniors receiving homebound deliveries of meals. This is at a minimum 42 hours plus travel time to Ruth, McGill and around Ely to recertify these seniors yearly. Data entry into State and Federal programs takes additional hours. With no administrative Assistant in the Senior Center this duty falls to the Director. It also takes her away from the center and the seniors.
- Commodity certifications take 30 minutes for each senior and have to be done yearly, and as they sign up during the year for the program at the Senior Center. Then, data entry has to be completed after this certification taking hours depending on the Senior Directors numbers for this program.
- The Senior Director helps as time permits in signing up seniors for the STAR program. The Social Services program makes appointments for seniors to get assistance in this application process. This is the Senior Tax Rebate program.
- The first initial interview in Social Services takes 60 minutes and each follow up appointment takes 30-45 minutes. This is done monthly with all clients on our active case management program. The number of clients varies from month to month as our goal is to help get clients stable and out of crisis. There is 1-3 hours of data entry into our database and State databases for each client, after each visit.

Conclusion:

It is the consensus of the following that without adequate staffing in both departments a merger of these two departments will only allow both programs to fail. Currently neither department thoroughly understands all the duties and responsibilities of the other. While a merger sounds possibly doable it is the consensus of those doing the jobs that it is not at this time. Many years ago, when reporting was much easier and took less time and when Social services did not have the responsibility of Ely Bus, securing the grants and match dollars to operate, it was considered possibly doable. At that time the Commission chose not to merge the two departments. Now with more than double the reporting it has come up as an option. The only way Social Services can help the Senior Center out financially is through CSBG grant funds to pay for senior meals, but only when we have a completed senior application along with proof of income.

Allowing an additional half time staff person, in addition to the current administrative assistant and Director's positions in the Social Services office would improve timeliness of data entry and could also provide some of the data entry for the Senior Director, in those data programs that overlap. One person could do the data entry for both departments at the same time.

Please do not set these two outstanding programs up to fail because it will be the citizens of this county that ultimately pay the price.

Bunny Hill Bunny Hill Social Services Director  
 Chris Ricci Chris Ricci Senior Nutrition Director  
 Lori Romero Lori Romero Library Director  
 Desiree Bamson Desiree Bamson Administrative Assistant

**ELIZABETH FRANCES, FINANCE DIRECTOR:**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/DIRECTION ON THE REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF ELY TO IMPOSE A MILEAGE CHARGE FOR COUNTY BUILDING PERMITS**

Director Frances advised this was brought forward by the City, as it's related to our County building permits. Sometimes electrical inspections, for example, are needed far from town; with the time and mileage charges, we are losing money on those permits. She recommended moving forward in relation to the legal aspects, as NRS requires us to do, and return with a proposal that makes sense and allows us to impose this mileage charge. Commissioner Laurie Carson cited NRS 354.59891, item h), referring to operating costs; Director Frances will look at that as well. Director Frances continued that their fund balance was growing too large, which led to adjusting rates by dropping or even eliminating some of those. Now that the Building & Planning Dept. isn't an Enterprise Fund, she continued, we have to see how to implement these. In reply to a query from Commissioner Carol McKenzie, it was due to heavy mining activity which resulted in huge permit fees, which in turn made the fund balance so high. She clarified that this agenda item will give direction just to move forward, NOT to implement. Chairman Gary Perea suggested that there could be some cost sharing, for example if 2 people in the Baker area need inspections, they could coordinate with you and share some of those mileage fees. Administrative Assistant Jennifer Drew noted that fees are collected when the permits are issued; and not everyone would be ready for their inspections at the same time, so it would be hard to separate those fees up front. Following further discussion, Chairman Gary Perea entertained a motion to move forward with this. Commissioner Carol McKenzie made a motion to give direction to move forward on the request from the City of Ely to impose a mileage charge for county building permits. Commissioner Laurie Carson seconded. Motion carried.

**KATHY RICCI, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR:**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO APPOINT A DEPARTMENT HEAD TO OVERSEE THE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE'S OFFICE AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE'S CONTRACT WITH WHITE PINE COUNTY, WITH NO ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION**

Human Resources Director Kathy Ricci asked the Board if they would like to appoint someone to oversee Management Assistant Jennifer Rivera in the Public Health Nurse's office at this time; she noted there are others in the Administrative Building that could oversee besides herself. It was noted that Management Assistant Desiree Barnson covered for Social Services Director Bunny Hill while she was out, and perhaps Assistant Barnson could be considered. During the discussion, Director Ricci added that the State is still pursuing the Public Health Nurse contract. Finance Director Elizabeth Frances was suggested as an interim person to oversee that Department; Director Frances agreed she could do that. Commissioner Richard Howe made a motion to appoint Finance Director Elizabeth Frances as interim Department Head to oversee the Management Assistant in the Public Health Nurse's Office as required by the State's contract with White Pine County, with no additional compensation. District Attorney Mike Wheable commented at this point that Director Frances "is always under attack for all the things the Board asks her to do." Director Frances noted that if the Board wishes her to do this, she will. There was a suggestion to consider Assessor Burton Hilton; however, D.A. Wheable pointed out he will be out for the next 1-1/2 weeks. Motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to table this agenda item; Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW JOB CLASS FOR THE WHITE PINE COUNTY LIBRARY – THE NEW JOB CLASS/TITLE WILL BE “LIBRARY ASSISTANT TRAINEE” PLACED AT GRADE 112 PER SALARY TABLE C AS AGREED UPON BETWEEN WHITE PINE COUNTY AND THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL NO. 3**

Human Resources Director Kathy Ricci advised there's a big gap in the Library staff; she contacted the union and discussed this so they are also aware of the problem. Following brief discussion, Chairman Gary Perea entertained a motion to approve this. Commissioner Mike Coster made a motion to approve establishment of a new job class for the WPC Library, that being the Library Assistant Trainee, placed at Grade 112 per Salary Table C as agreed upon between White Pine County and the International Union of Operating Engineers Local No. 3. Commissioner Laurie Carson seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO EXTEND AN ADDITIONAL 30 DAYS FOR AN 8 HOUR WORK DAY FOR THE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT SR. POSITION**

Chairman Gary Perea advised he had put this on the agenda due to the changeover to the new Regional Development Authority; this had been approved 45 days ago, and this is being requested to continue for another 30 days to ensure a good transition. District Attorney Mike Wheable clarified this is for a one month period, not 30 work days; it would also be effective at the end of the 45 days as approved. Commissioner Richard Howe stated we shouldn't allow them extra hours for another 30 days, as this would be a slap in the face for those 2 employees we already took the hour away from. Chairman Perea advised that over the past 3-4 weeks he's had real concerns about reducing their hours; he cited the AT&T situation, the sage grouse, and other issues for which that office has been instrumental by representing White Pine County and getting information out. He noted it is unknown how much NNRDA's Pam Borda will actually be taking on for us. Commissioner Laurie Carson added that it's unknown how much the EDC office would be putting in with respect to overtime; she's worked with them after hours looking at maps, writing letters, making phone calls, etc., and she wanted to avoid the overtime issue. Commissioner Mike Coster wished to defer to the Chairman, noting that the budget is really a problem, we're almost 25% further into the deficit than we approved at the beginning of the year, and there are some things we just cannot do. He added that's not based on the merits or the volume of work coming out of the EDC office, we just can't spend any overtime in that office. He plans to vote against this due to his overwhelming concern. Commissioner Richard Howe added comment regarding our other two employees who have had their pay cut, and by doing this we're saying that EDC is more important than the custodial jobs. Chairman Gary Perea entertained a motion to approve this as requested. Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to extend an additional 30 days for an 8-hour work day for the Community & Economic Development Dept. Administrative Assistant position and Management Assistant Sr. position. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Commissioner Coster wished it clarified regarding overtime or comp time; it was noted it would be comp time. He asked that along with the 30 day review, the Board would get a report on the comp time being utilized there. Motion passed 4:1 with Commissioner Richard Howe voting in opposition.

**ELIZABETH FRANCES, FINANCE DIRECTOR:**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2016-34 TO ESTABLISH FUND #332 FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRACKING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF THE 911 TELEPHONE SURCHARGE**

Following brief discussion, Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-34 to establish Fund #332 for the purpose of tracking revenues and expenditures of the 911 telephone surcharge. Commissioner Mike Coster seconded. Motion carried.

Gary Perea, Chairman  
Carol O. McKenzie, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson  
Commissioner Richard Howe  
Commissioner Mike Coster

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Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

**White Pine County**  
**Board of County Commissioners**  
Resolution Number 2016-34

commissioners@whitepinecountynv.gov

**Resolution to Establish Fund Number 332 for the Purpose of Tracking Revenues and Expenditures of the 911 Telephone Surcharge**

Whereas, the County Commissioners of White Pine County passed Bill Number 1-28-2015, Ordinance Number 459 which authorizes a telephone line surcharge to be imposed for the enhancement or improvement of existing telephone systems used for reporting emergencies pursuant to NRS 244A.7641 through NRS 244A.7647 inclusive; and

Whereas, NRS 244A.7645 (3) specifically requires a county that imposes this surcharge to create a special revenue fund for the purpose of depositing of the money collected and tracking allowed expenditures; and

**Whereas,**

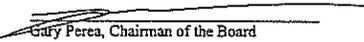
1. The money used to establish the fund and the ongoing revenues in this fund will be from the 911 telephone surcharge; and
2. The legal expenditures allowed from this fund pursuant to NRS 244A.7645 (3b) are improvement of the telephone system for reporting an emergency in the county; and
3. The Telephone Emergency Reporting (911) Advisory Committee shall oversee the financial activity of the fund including expenditures and evaluation of the annual fund balance.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that White Pine County establish fund number 332 as the 911 Telephone Surcharge Fund for the purposes outlined above.

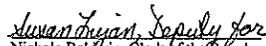
It Is Further Resolved that the Finance Director shall forward the necessary documents to the Department of Taxation, State of Nevada.

Passed, adopted and approved the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0

  
Gary Perea, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

  
Nichole Baldwin, Clerk of the Board

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/RATIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE FY2017 SERC GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,000 WITH NO COUNTY MATCH REQUIRED**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that this is a State grant we receive annually. She apologized that between the turnover from former Chief Waters and current Chief Woolever it wasn't submitted in time to be on the prior agenda, but she is requesting ratification today. Commissioner Mike Coster made a motion to ratify acceptance of the FY2017 SERC grant in the amount of \$29,000 with no County match required. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF THE REQUEST FROM SIMEON HERSKOVITS TO PAY UP TO AN ADDITIONAL \$19,164.60 FOR LEGAL SERVICES ON THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE SNWA PIPELINE ABOVE THE FY2016 AUTHORIZED AMOUNT OF \$100,000**

Chairman Gary Perea advised he had talked with Mr. Simeon Herskovits on Monday, and that he had wanted to ensure he wouldn't offend the Commission by putting in this request, which would be for over and above what had been initially budgeted for. However, he would be grateful if we agreed to do this, reported Chairman Perea. Director Frances noted this wouldn't be for this fiscal year, it was for the last fiscal year, and we're under no obligation to pay this. At the time we made it clear it would be \$100,000, and he does understand we don't have to pay this additional amount. However, she continued, there are funds available remaining in the fund to cover water surveys. District Attorney Mike Wheable asked if the Great Basin Water Network had paid towards this; Chairman Perea advised they have been, in fact

they've been paying more than in prior years, knowing that the County couldn't pay additional funds. D.A. Wheable advised that he can't say enough about the work Mr. Herskovits is doing, he's an expert in the field, but we did remind him during the year about our budget limitations. During the discussion, Chairman Perea recommended paying a portion of the amount being requested, perhaps \$10,000. Commissioner Richard Howe voiced a negative opinion, noting that we budgeted a certain amount, he understands that, period. He isn't questioning his work or fees or anything, but we did agree to that \$100,000 after all. Chairman Perea pointed out that the Commission had suggested the \$100,000, that didn't come from Mr. Herskovitz, and he didn't agree to that. The Board generally agreed they should pay him something, however. Following further discussion, Commissioner Mike Coster made a motion to provide additional funds in the amount of \$10,000 for Mr. Simeon Herskovits for legal services on the campaign against the SNWA pipeline above the FY2016 authorized amount of \$100,000. Chairman Gary Perea seconded. Commissioner Coster noted it is unpredictable as to how many more hours will be spent working on behalf of the County, and yet he has doubled the work for what we've paid to him in the past. Motion carried 4:1, with Commissioner Richard Howe voting in opposition.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF ONE YEAR NO-COST EXTENSION ON THE HERITAGE GRANT #16-09**

Director Frances advised this is being done through the Wildlife Management Board; she explained that the grant is complete, but it crossed the fiscal year timeline. Commissioner Laurie Carson added that she had talked with them during their last meeting and this is already being billed; however, they had to wait until July 15<sup>th</sup> due to the sage grouse issues before they could continue. Following brief discussion, Chairman Gary Perea entertained a motion to approve this as requested. Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve the one year, no-cost extension of the Heritage Grant #16-09 as requested. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2016-33 TO AUGMENT THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION FUND BY \$380,000 TO BRING FORWARD THE BALANCE OF UNSPENT FUNDS ON THE MURRY STREET PROJECT FROM FY2016 TO FY2017**

Director Frances advised this should be the final amount needed so that the Murry Street project can be completed. She assured the Board that the funds are available and may be legally appropriated from the fund balance. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-33 to augment the Regional Transportation Fund by \$380,000 to bring forward the balance of unspent funds on the Murry Street Project from FY2016 to FY2017. Commissioner Mike Coster seconded. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA: TO RATIFY CORRESPONDENCE SENT ON BEHALF OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION; APPROVE PAYROLL FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS; APPROVE HR TRANSMITTAL FOR PAYROLL CHANGES; AND APPROVE BUDGET TRANSFERS WITHIN/BETWEEN FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS WITHIN A FUND THAT DO NOT INCREASE THE TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF THE FUND**

Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mike Coster seconded. Motion carried.

Gary Perea, Chairman  
Carol O. McKenzie, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson  
Commissioner Richard Howe  
Commissioner Mike Coster

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Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners

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Resolution Number 2016-33

Resolution to Augment the Regional Transportation Fund by \$380,000 to Bring Forward from FY2016 into FY2017 the Balance of the Budget for the Murry Street Project

Whereas, at June 30, 2016 the Murry Street Project which was budgeted in FY2016 remained incomplete and had a remaining budget of \$535,825; and

Whereas, of the remaining budget \$153,825 was included in the FY2017 original budget leaving a previously budgeted and unspent amount of \$380,000 in FY2016 that should be rolled forward to FY2017; and

Whereas, the balance of the FY2016 budgeted funds are required to complete this project; and

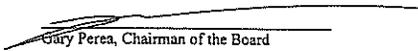
Whereas, the Regional Transportation Fund is estimated to have an FY2017 opening fund balance \$566,137 higher than anticipated or budgeted with \$47,940 utilized for Resolution 2016-30 leaving an available appropriate balance of \$518,197;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that White Pine County shall augment the Regional Transportation Fund from unanticipated and unbudgeted beginning fund balance in the amount of \$380,000 and increase account 065-501-57140-000 (Regional Transportation Fund Capital Improvements) by the same amount.

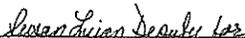
It Is Further Resolved that the Finance Director shall forward the necessary documents to the Department of Taxation, State of Nevada.

Passed, adopted and approved the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0

  
Gary Perea, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

  
Nichole Baldwin, Clerk of the Board

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Resignations

Bunny Hill

L.E.P.C.

Appointments

Cynthia Angelopoulos

McGill Town Council

Desiree Barnson

L.E.P.C.

Commissioner Mike Coster made a motion to accept Ms. Bunny Hill's resignation from L.E.P.C. Deputy Clerk Susan Lujan noted that we also need to acknowledge her membership on the Building Subcommittee; this will be done on the next agenda. Commissioner Laurie Carson seconded. Motion carried. Commissioner Mike Coster then made a motion to appoint Ms. Cynthia Angelopoulos to the McGill Town Council, and Ms. Desiree Barnson to L.E.P.C., as requested. Commissioner Laurie Carson seconded. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES**

July 13

Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to approve the July 13 set of Commission minutes with correction noted. Commissioner Mike Coster seconded. Motion carried, with Commissioner Carol McKenzie abstaining as she wasn't present.

**COUNTY COMMISSION:**

**GARY PEREA, COMMISSION CHAIRMAN:**

**DISCUSSION/UPDATE/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2016-32, A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM**

Chairman Gary Perea commented that he would like to support this, but he finds he sometimes questions the fiscal portion. He advised that the National Park System wants to ensure they have the revenues to continue their deferred maintenance program as needed. He added that as a Commission, we are trying to live within our budgets and make cuts as necessary, but it doesn't seem like the Federal government is as dedicated. He does understand their request, but he is conflicted about this. Commissioner Carol McKenzie asked if it would cause a hardship if we didn't approve this? The response was no; however, Commissioner Laurie Carson read from the text of the resolution—the last Whereas—noting the economic benefits, both direct and indirect, are mentioned with respect to the adjacent communities to National Park sites. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Mike Coster made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-32, a resolution of support for the National Park System. Commissioner Laurie Carson seconded. Motion carried.

Gary Perea, Chairman  
Carol O. McKenzie, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson  
Commissioner Richard Howe  
Commissioner Mike Coster  
Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

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White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners

Resolution 2016-32

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of Congress to maintain America's national parks to ensure our natural places and our history is preserved and documented for future generations, and for the adjacent communities that rely on the direct and indirect economic benefits generated by visits to national park sites.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the (NAME OF LEGISLATIVE BODY) strongly encourages Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System.

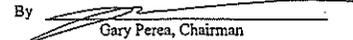
**Resolution of Support for the National Park System**

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

WHEREAS, America's National Park System is a living testament to our citizens' valor, our nation's hardships, our victories, and our traditions as Americans, and has been called "America's Best Idea;" and

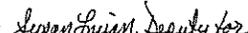
COUNTY OF WHITE PINE, NEVADA

WHEREAS, the National Park System preserves the diversity, culture, and heritage of all Americans, and serves as a living classroom for future generations; and

By  Gary Perea, Chairman

WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park Service is celebrating its centennial and currently manages 410 nationally significant sites and an invaluable collection of more than 75,000 natural and cultural assets that span 84 million acres across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories and insular areas; and

ATTEST:

By  Nichole Baldwin, County Clerk

WHEREAS, Nevada State is home to the Great Basin National Park, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, 14 natural and historic landmarks, as well as monuments like Tule Springs Fossil Beds. Boulder City, NV is a gateway community to the fifth most visited and popular park site in the nation: Lake Mead; and

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
REVIEWED BY:

WHEREAS, the National Park Service's mission is to "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations;" and

Michael Wheable,  
White Pine County District Attorney

WHEREAS, in 2015, the National Park System had more than 307 million visits and 5.6 million in Nevada State; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, National Park Service estimates indicate that park visitors spent more than \$239.9 million in Nevada State at the sites and local communities adjacent to national parks, including \$311 million for Lake Mead National Recreation Area and \$6.4 million for Great Basin National Park; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service has the obligation to preserve our nation's history; promote access to national parks for all citizens; stimulate revenue to sustain itself and nearby communities; educate the public about America's natural, cultural and historical resources, and provide safe facilities and environs to enjoy these resources; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park Service estimated a deferred maintenance backlog of nearly \$12 billion, \$190 million in Nevada State, which includes repairs to aging historical structures, trails, sewers, drainage, thousands of miles of roads, bridges, tunnels, and other vital infrastructure; and

**CAROL MCKENZIE, COMMISSION VICE-CHAIRMAN:**

**DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING EMPLOYEES PARKING ON CAMPTON STREET BEHIND THE COURTHOUSE**

Commissioner Carol McKenzie advised this arose from her concerns; senior citizens have a difficult time walking up the front stairs at the Courthouse, and this is a request to keep the parking on Campton Street more open to the handicapped and elderly. She continued that some employees park there, and it bothers her to see those spaces being locked in for 8 hours at a time. She discussed this with Facility Maintenance Superintendent Bill Calderwood, who suggested perhaps a 30-minute parking restriction for 2 or 3 parking spots there. He noted that there's one ADA spot plus room for about 8 more vehicles; maybe even an hour restriction would work. District Attorney Mike Wheable noted that handicapped spot is used all the time, and there's usually 2 vehicles vying for it. Superintendent Calderwood didn't think ADA would work across the street, but we could dedicate another space for that here. A couple of signs would be a low cost suggestion, he added. Commissioner Richard Howe felt that before we spent any money on this, a memo could be sent to the Courthouse employees asking them to refrain from using that. Following some discussion, it was felt the Board could direct Superintendent Calderwood to put an additional ADA dedicated sign and space plus signs for 60 minutes on the other parking spaces. Superintendent Calderwood pointed out the cost would be \$75.00/sign; he could present at the next meeting what the total costs would be. The Board agreed that costs for adding 1-2 more ADA spaces plus a couple of 1-hour (or 2-hour) parking signs could be provided by Superintendent Calderwood at another Commission meeting.

**RICHARD HOWE, COMMISSIONER:**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL/RATIFICATION OF THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE CREATION OF NEVADAWORKS AS AMENDED BY THE NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Commissioner Richard Howe advised this Board had voted on this 2 months ago; he's on the board for NevadaWorks. Upon review of the agreement, Nevada's Attorney General noted a couple of small additional language items should be added; the changes would allow NevadaWorks to be the "go-to" place for Rehab, JOIN, the handicapped, etc., making it a more useful tool for the communities. Following brief discussion, Chairman Gary Perea entertained a motion to approve/ratify this as requested. Commissioner Richard Howe made a motion to approve/ratify the cooperative agreement for the creation of NevadaWorks as amended by the Nevada Attorney General. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

- ½ cent increase on the motel tax.
- Ballot question.
- Designate Ms. Desiree Barnson to run the Social Services office after Director Hill leaves.
- Reinstate the 1-hour pay for county janitors.
- Golf pro contract expires 12/31.
- Public Health Nurse.
- Merging of Senior Center/social Services; it was noted this wouldn't occur for a long time.
- Campton Street parking signs.
- Add Ms. Bunny Hill's resignation from the Building Subcommittee.

At 12:30 p.m., Chairman Gary Perea recessed the regular Commission meeting and reopened the Fire Commission meeting. At 12:33 p.m., Fire Commission Chairman Gary Perea adjourned the Fire Commission meeting and reconvened the regular Commission meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Facility Maintenance Superintendent Bill Calderwood wished to publicly thank the War Memorial Committee for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Golf Tournament. They presented a \$1,000 check to cover the cost of new flags for the War Memorial. He will prepare a thank-you letter and send it off to them on behalf of White Pine County, and present the letter for ratification on the next Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Laurie Carson advised of the Public Utilities Commission and their stipulated agreement with AT&T; NACO's Executive Director Jeff Fontaine is being notified that we submitted 500 surveys. Based on our community involvement here, when AT&T held their hearing, we were fortunate enough to even be a part of when Mr. Cooper incorporated the public comments from White Pine County. They accepted the City, and all outlying areas of the County were removed from their petition, that was actually made part of the stipulation agreement. However, she added, that will take a long time and we still have concerns with our 911 system, specifically concerns from the Sheriff's Department on this. Commissioner Mike Coster added that on August 31<sup>st</sup> a decision will be made regarding accepting the stipulation agreement; AT&T doesn't want to strike any sections of it, they want it all inclusive, so the PUC could still deny the application with or without the agreement. While it isn't a done deal yet, White Pine County "has been rescued, courtesy of the petition gathering and work everyone did on it."

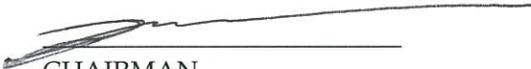
The Board collectively thanked Ms. Bunny Hill for all her years of service, and wished her success in her other endeavors.

**ADJOURNMENT**

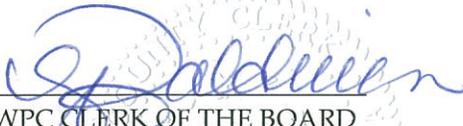
At 12:38 p.m., Commissioner Laurie Carson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF WHITE PINE  
STATE OF NEVADA

BY:

  
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

  
WPC CLERK OF THE BOARD  
