

**WHITE PINE COUNTY PUBLIC LAND USERS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
WHITE PINE COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JOINT MEETING**

**TUESDAY, January 21, 2020**

**5:00 p.m.**

**White Pine County Library Conference Room  
950 Campton Street, Ely, NV 89301**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Members Present: PLUAC: Craig Baker, Jacob Carter, Mark Tefft, Bill Wilson, Mary Kerner, Dana Johnson WAC: Dave Baker, Steven Carter, Norris Hendrix, Rod McKenzie, Cody Odgers, Dr. Frederick Partey, Gary Perea

Members Absent: WAC: Ernie Flangas, Jill Perez

Public Present: Travis Godon, WPC Commission, Laurie Carson, WPC Commission, Jose Noriega, USFS, Andy Gault, BLM, Jake Tibbitts, Eureka County, Bill Miller, Elanie Calderwood

- I. **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Rod McKenzie and Dana Johnson
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance and Introductions**
- III. **Public Comment** Rod McKenzie commented that the latest edition of the water plan was sent today, you asked the Water Advisory Committee to please review, and he believes that there are a few more issues that need to be addressed.  
Travis Godon commented that at the last meeting he attended the updates to the White Pine County Special Use Permitting Plan was discussed, hearing were held and this was passed meaning that projects on federal lands we will have more of a vote.  
Laurie Carson thanked Jake Tibbitts for being here tonight and tomorrow and helping White Pine County in forming a Natural Resource Department.
- IV. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action - Approval of November 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes PLUAC** Mark Tefft made a motion to approve the 11.12.2019 meeting minutes, Mary Kerner seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- V. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action - Approval of December 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes WAC** Gary Perea made a motion to approve the 12.17.2019 meeting minutes, Norris Hendrix seconded the motion. The motion passed, with Cody Odgers abstaining as he was absent.
- VI. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action - Election of Chairman PLUAC** Dana Johnson made a motion for Jacob Carter to remain as Chairman, Bill Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- VII. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action** – Election of Vice-Chairman PLUAC Mary Kerner made a motion for Dana Johnson to remain as Vice-Chairman, Mark Tefft seconded the motion. The motion passed
- VIII. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action** – Election of Chairman WAC Steve Carter made a motion for Rod McKenzie to remain as Chairman, Frederick Partey seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- IX. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action** – Election of Vice-Chairman WAC Steve Carter made a motion for Cody Odgers to remain as Vice-Chairman, Frederick Partey seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- X. **Presentation** – Jake Tibbitts Eureka County Natural Resources, Creating a Natural Resources Department for White Pine County and Job Description of a Natural Resource Director. Jake Tibbitts made his presentation, which included Eureka County's Natural Resources and Land Use Policy in their County Code and his job description, to the Advisory Committees. He stated that back in the 80's SB40 was passed which mandated that each county in the State develop a Public Lands Policy and Use Plan, it is outlined in NRS 321. He is a full time employee with a full time assistant. He runs the Eureka County Weed Control Program and is the executive secretary for NRAC (Natural Resources Advisory Commission), liaison between the Eureka County Commission and the Eureka County Wildlife Board, supervisor for the Eureka County Conservation District, works with Eureka County Road District, and also works on federal items such as NEPA reviews, EIS reviews and comments on behalf of Eureka County. He attends several meetings each month including Central Nevada Water Authority meetings among others regarding water issues. He meets with NRAC monthly along with other local and state meeting. Going to this meetings are very important so your county has a say in all natural resource issues. Jake is willing to share with any county information he has that might be of a benefit to them.  
The funding for the Eureka County Natural Resource Department is indexed to their PILT. Their current budget is \$330,000.
- XI. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action** – Recommendations for the White Pine County BOCC Meeting Agenda Item 01/22/2020 to hire a Natural Resource Director and combining PLUAC and Water Advisory Committees into one Natural Resources Board PLUAC & WAC Gary Perea made a motion to go before the BOCC to propose hiring a Natural Resource Director first, and second combine PLUAC and WAC into one board a Natural Resource Commission, Dave Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed for the WAC. Mary Kerner made a motion to go before the BOCC to propose hiring a Natural Resource Director first, and second combine PLUAC and WAC into one board a Natural Resource Commission, Craig Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed for PLUAC.
- XII. **\*Discussion/for Possible Action** – Presentation for the White Pine County BOCC Meeting Agenda Item 01/22/2020 to create a steering committee through CRM to develop a White Pine County OHV Management Plan according to Policy 17.1 of the White Pine County Public Lands Management Plan. PLUAC Dana Johnson made the comment that PLUAC is not looking to make designations but to manage and educate OHV users using maps of existing roads and trails. Jose Noriega

commented that White Pine County is behind on this and moving forward with an OHV Management Plan would be beneficial.

**XIII. Next Meeting Time and Date Announcement** The next PLUAC meeting will be 02.11.2020 @ 6:00 pm, the next WAC meeting will be 02.18.2020 @ 5:00 pm.

**XIV. Public Comment** Travis Godon commented that the County Budget meetings are scheduled for March 9 – 11, 2020, it was suggested that the Chairman of each WAC and PLUAC should attend. Jose Noriega commented on SNPLMA Round 17 has funded Tri-County Weed. He also commented that SNPLMA Round 18 might not open or be awarded until after the elections.

**XV. \*Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

Asterisks (\*) Denotes possible action items of the White Pine County Water Advisory Committee

**TITLE 9: NATURAL RESOURCES AND LAND USE  
CHAPTER 10 - NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**Chapter 10 - NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**.010 Created**

There is established a Eureka County Natural Resources Advisory Commission made up of nine (9) non-elected County residents drawn from the diverse interests of Eureka County. The Natural Resources Advisory Commission shall have members representing each of the following interests: ranching (2), farming (2), mining (1), wildlife (2), business (1), and recreation (1).

**.020 Duties**

The Natural Resources Advisory Commission shall advise the Board of County Commissioners regarding the goals and policies established in the Eureka County Public Lands Use Plan and other natural resources and public lands issues.

**.030 Funding**

The Natural Resources Advisory Commission shall be funded under the budget of the Board of County Commissioners.

**.040 Standing committees**

The Natural Resources Advisory Commission may establish standing committees utilizing Commission members and other volunteers representing Eureka County's natural resources interests.

**.050 Temporary committees**

The Natural Resources Advisory Commission may establish temporary committees to address specific issues or problems.

**.060 Recommendation of ordinances**

The Natural Resources Advisory Commission may recommend passage of new ordinances or revisions of existing ordinances to the Board of County Commissioners to implement the Public Land Use Plan or for other natural resources issues facing Eureka County.

**.070 Oversight of the Public Land Use Plan**

The Natural Resources Advisory Commission will oversee implementation and maintenance of the Eureka County Land Use Plan.

**TITLE 9: NATURAL RESOURCES AND LAND USE**  
**CHAPTER 10 - NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**.080 Term of office**

The initial term of office shall be three (3) years for four (4) Commissioners; two (2) years for three (3) Commissioners and one (1) year for two (2) Commissioners. After the initial term, the term of office shall be four (4) year.

Chapter 20 - DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

.010 Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply:

"Natural resources" means all renewable and nonrenewable resources of commercial or noncommercial nature to which private title of ownership has not attached, including but not limited to: forage, timber, minerals, wildlife, recreational opportunities, fishing, unappropriated streams, springs, seeps and wetlands, ground water, geothermal reservoirs, oil and gas and all other similar resources.

.020 Department of Natural Resources created

- A. There is created a Department in the government of Eureka County under the direction of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners to be known as the Department of Natural Resources.
- B. The position of Natural Resources Manager for Eureka County is created. The Natural Resources Manager may be either an independent contractor or an unclassified management position in the County personnel system.
  1. The Natural Resources Manager shall be a person generally qualified by education and experience to inventory, make plans for and manage the County's natural resources under the direction of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners, and to advise the Board about matters involving the County's natural resources.
  2. The Natural Resources Manager shall serve as Executive Secretary to the Eureka County Natural Resources Advisory Commission and as liaison between the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and the Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board.
- C. Compensation and express duties of the Natural Resources Manager shall be as from time to time determined by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and adopted by the Board by resolution or minute order.
  1. The Natural Resources Manager may be either part time or full time, as the Board of Eureka County Commissioners may from time to time determine.

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**EUREKA COUNTY  
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Natural Resources Manager**

**DEFINITION:** Under general direction of the Eureka County Commissioners and in coordination with Eureka County elected and appointed officials, plans, organizes and directs the natural resources department including the Eureka County weed division.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a fully experienced position and the incumbent is able to perform the full range of duties of the position.

**EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:** The duties listed below are examples of the work typically performed by an employee in this position. An employee may not be assigned all duties listed and may be assigned duties which are not listed below.

1. Assists with County water resource inventory.
2. Track water permitting and development activities.
3. Manage cooperative water resource investigations.
4. Assist in the development of County water resource policy.
5. Support County involvement as a Cooperating Agency in mine permitting and other federal land use and National Environmental Policy Act actions.
6. Track, investigate and make recommendations regarding changes in Federal livestock permits.
7. Track, investigate and make recommendations regarding fuels management projects and other Federal rangeland activities.
8. Track, research and make recommendations regarding proposed State and Federal natural resource policy and legislation.
9. Serve as Executive Secretary for the Eureka County Natural Resources Advisory Commission, and
10. Serve as liaison between the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and the Eureka County Wildlife Board.
11. Track, investigate and make recommendations to the Nevada Department of Agriculture activities. (i.e. pest abatement in Eureka County)
12. Manage the Weed Division of Eureka County that includes oversight of staff and technicians.
13. Appearance before the Board of Eureka County Commissioners on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month or at the nearest regularly scheduled meeting. If necessary, there could be additional required appearances.

14. Attendance at all monthly meetings of the Natural Resources Advisory Commission.
15. Attendance at all monthly meetings of the Community NEPA Committee.
16. Direct oversight over Department of Natural Resources administrative staff..
17. Telephone conferences as needed with select representatives of Eureka County..

#### **QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT:**

##### **Knowledge and Ability:**

###### *Knowledge of*

- Nevada water law, familiarity with the Office of the State Engineer and general understanding of rural water resource issues.
- State and Federal environmental laws, particularly the National Environmental Policy Act.
- Bureau of Land Management permitting for mineral extraction.
- Familiarity with Federal grazing administration and principals of rangeland health.
- Command of oral and written communication.
- History of good interpersonal relations, and
- History of satisfactory completion of similar work.

###### *Ability to*

- problem-solve, plan, supervise, organize, and schedule;
- interpret and explain changes in current laws;
- conduct investigations as necessary;
- communicate with the public as necessary regarding a variety of issues;
- effectively communicate policies and procedures to new and existing employees;
- operate standard office equipment including computers and related software applications;
- read, interpret, apply, and explain rules, regulations, policies, and procedures; and
- Use high level interpersonal skills in order to maintain effective working relationships.

**Special Requirements:** Possession of a valid Nevada State driver's license.

**Experience and Training:** Any combination of training, education, and experience that would provide the required knowledge and abilities. A typical way to gain the required knowledge and ability is: Graduation from an accredited

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college or university with a bachelor's degree in a natural resource related field plus a minimum of three years of verified professional experience in natural resources or a masters degree with one year of verified professional experience.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:** The physical requirements described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of the job.

Strength, dexterity, coordination, and vision to use keyboard and video display terminal for prolonged periods. Strength and stamina to bend, stoop, sit, and stand for long periods of time. Dexterity and coordination to handle files and single pieces of paper; occasional lifting of files, stacks of paper or reports, references, and other materials. Some reaching for items above and below desk level. Some reaching, bending, squatting, and stooping to access files and records is necessary. The manual dexterity and cognitive ability to operate a personal computer using word processing and databases. The ability to communicate via telephone. Moderate lifting (up to 50 pounds) is occasionally required. On occasion will be required to work outdoors. This will require strength, stamina and dexterity to sit in vehicles on rough roads and rough surfaces for extended hours. Will occasionally walk on uneven or slippery surfaces; frequently bend at the knees and waist to inspect sources; perform repetitive motions including use of controls with hands and feet; walk in and along roads, creeks/ditches, pastures, fields, and or marshes.

In compliance with applicable disability laws, reasonable accommodations may be provided for qualified individuals with a disability who require and request such accommodations. Incumbents and individuals who have been offered employment are encouraged to discuss potential accommodations with the employer.

**WORKING CONDITIONS:** Work is performed under the following conditions:

Position functions indoors in an office type environment where most work is performed at a desk. Position may occasionally be required to travel by car to pick up or deliver material. Environment is generally clean with limited exposure to conditions such as dust, fumes, noise, or odors. Frequent interruptions to planned work activities occur. On occasion will work outdoors in the field; that will include water monitoring, rangeland monitoring and pest abatement work. Will be exposed to heat, rain, snow, cold, wind, and dust. The applicant may also be exposed to vibrations, noise, and dampness.

**JOB RISK FACTORS:** Job risks have been identified through a job analysis of this position. This job is a safety sensitive position.

Insert identified job risk factors only after completing a job hazard analysis.