

IN A REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION HELD ON MARCH 14, 2018  
IN THE COUNTY LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM IN ELY, NEVADA

The Following Were Present:

County Commission

Richard Howe, Chairman  
Shane Bybee, Vice-Chairman  
Carol McKenzie, Commissioner  
Gary Perea, Commissioner  
Steve Stork, Commissioner  
Nichole Baldwin, Clerk of the Board  
Susan Lujan, Deputy Clerk

County Officials

Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director  
Jennifer Farnworth, IT Specialist  
Bill Calderwood, Public Works Director  
Mike Wheable, District Attorney  
Scott Henriod, WPC Sheriff  
Megan Brown, Aquatic Center Director  
Jennifer Drew, Building Dept.  
Juan Carlos Cervantes, Ag. Extension  
Shain Manuele, WPC Public Defender  
Tim Woolever, WPC Fire District Chief  
Randy Long, WPC Golf Course  
Bryan Pyle, Deputy District Attorney  
Martha Rivera Sindelar, WPC Recorder

Also Present

Wayne Cameron  
Travis Godon  
George Chachas, KGTV-10  
Johnathan Dishong, Simplistic Solutions  
Kay Roberts-McMurray, Ely Times  
Mark Crouter, KGHM  
Brandon Whipple, CORE Construction  
Ross Rivera, Ely Fire Dept.  
Robert Switzer, City of Ely  
Lester Keizer, BCT  
Earle Keizer, BCT  
Janette Trask, City of Ely  
Pete Mangum  
Melody VanCamp, Mayor of Ely  
Rory Jackson, BCT  
B.J. Almberg, Basin Engineering  
Kevin Robison, Mt. Wheeler Power  
Shellie Watts, Mt. Wheeler Power

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Chairman Richard Howe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Steve Stork led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. George Chachas advised that he reported vandalism to his property on February 14<sup>th</sup>, and not having received any satisfaction he presented a bill for the damages. He noted that as of March 15<sup>th</sup> a 2% interest charge was added to the bill. District Attorney Mike Wheable advised it doesn't work that way! Mr. Chachas continued with a complaint of Commissioner McKenzie not meeting proper standards for her cement work in Lund; Chairman Richard Howe cautioned him, "don't go there." On another subject, regarding last year's RFQ for architectural services for the new Jail/Courthouse facility, Mr. Chachas felt the Board should consider the area where the Annex was. He then advised that Commissioner Shane Bybee, who had sat on the Railroad Advisory Board, had failed to collect rental fees from the S&S Railroad; the City is asking for money, and yet they haven't collected the monies they were due. Also, the City failed to hire a Treasurer with an Accounting degree, and yet they're spending \$2,500 for a CPA to look at their books! He also cited the agenda item regarding the Energy Choice; that choice should be available to everyone. The County, he added, has to start living within their means. Lastly, he cited the agenda item about the Fictitious Firm Name, and wanted to know what that was about. His time for public comment has lapsed; he felt just 3 minutes wasn't enough.

At 9:05 a.m., Chairman Richard Howe recessed the Commission meeting and opened the Fire Commission meeting. At 10:08 a.m., Chairman Richard Howe adjourned the Fire Commission meeting and reconvened the regular Commission meeting.

**9:30 A.M. – PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES, FIRST READINGS, BID OPENINGS, DECISIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON ORDINANCE 484, BILL 02.14.2018a, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11, SECTION 16 TO REGULATE PARKING IN CERTAIN AREAS AT THE MCGILL POOL

Chairman Richard Howe asked for public comment; there was none.

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 485, BILL 02.14.2018a, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11, SECTION 16 TO REGULATE PARKING IN CERTAIN AREAS AT THE MCGILL POOL

Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Steve Stork made a motion to approve Ordinance 485, Bill 2.14.2018a, amending Chapter 11 Section 16 to regulate parking in certain areas at the McGill Pool. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON ORDINANCE 485, BILL 02.14.2018b, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, SECTION 54 TO VEST AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE WHITE PINE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT CONTINGENT UPON THE EXISTENCE OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHITE PINE COUNTY AND THE WHITE PINE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

Chairman Richard Howe asked for public comment; there was none.

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 485, BILL 02.14.2018b, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, SECTION 54 TO VEST AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE WHITE PINE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT CONTINGENT UPON THE EXISTENCE OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHITE PINE COUNTY AND THE WHITE PINE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

Commissioner Carol McKenzie asked that, depending on the existence of this agreement or not, the duties delegated would be discharged by the White Pine County Fire Dept. Emergency Medical Services. What happens if the Fire District becomes an elected district? District Attorney Mike Wheable advised a new agreement would be required in that event. This Ordinance was crafted just to cover the bases, he clarified. That's a function the County provides; if there's an issue, the County still has control, if needed. He added that he didn't see this function changing; the ambulance will always run, regardless. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Gary Perea made a motion to approve Ordinance 485, Bill 2.14.2018b, amending Chapter 2, Section 54 to vest authority to provide Emergency Medical Services in the White Pine County Fire District contingent upon the existence of an interlocal agreement between White Pine County and the White Pine County Fire District. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON ORDINANCE 486, BILL 02.14.2018c, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE 438 REGULATING AMBULANCE SERVICE FRANCHISES IN WHITE PINE COUNTY

Chairman Richard Howe asked for public comment; there was none.

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 486, BILL 02.14.2018c, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE NO. 438 REGULATING AMBULANCE SERVICE FRANCHISES IN WHITE PINE COUNTY

In reply to a query from the Board, District Attorney Mike Wheable advised that the County still controls the ambulance service franchise; this Ordinance just tightens it up. Commissioner Shane Bybee noted that we're having a hard time staffing our Station 1; wouldn't this make it more restrictive, for example requiring 2 people in an ambulance for the Horse Races? Also, wouldn't we be paying for overtime for that? He felt this was a futile effort. D.A. Wheable explained that we have the control to determine who would provide the service; if our management decides we would need overtime and there's not enough people to handle the job, another ambulance service could come here and we would grant them the approval to handle this. He added that we already have a franchise in place, but this Ordinance is current and explains more. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Carol McKenzie made a motion to approve Ordinance 486, Bill 02.14.2018c, repealing and replacing Ordinance 438 regulating ambulance service franchises in White Pine County. Commissioner Gary Perea seconded. Motion carried 4:1, with Commissioner Steve Stork voting in opposition.

**FIRST READING**

DISCUSSION/FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 489, BILL 3.14.2018, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4 PROVIDING THAT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME CERTIFICATES EXPIRE FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER FILING WITH THE WHITE PINE COUNTY CLERK

WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin advised that she had requested this Ordinance be drafted so that her office would have better control over these Fictitious Firm Names. As the law currently states, the forms would never expire unless this Ordinance is done, she explained; there is a 5-year limit for Fictitious Firm names. This will also assist her with the startup of the Business License program. In reply to a query from the Board, she noted there is no cost for renewal unless the name of the business is changed. Clerk Baldwin will also send out a notice for the Fictitious Firm Names over 5 years old, advising them it's time to renew.

**SECOND READING**

DISCUSSION/SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 488, BILL 02.28.2018b, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 10 TO REGULATE MARIJUANA IN WHITE PINE COUNTY

Deputy District Attorney Bryan Pyle advised that the Commission had requested changes during the first reading of this Ordinance, which he made under the D.A.'s direct supervision. Following this second reading, a Public Hearing is done and then it can be passed after that. In reply to a query from Mr. George Chachas, Deputy D.A. Pyle noted the Industrial Park location remains the same for the zoning, and when someone approaches us desiring another location we can amend the Ordinance if needed at that time.

At 10:24 a.m., Chairman Richard Howe recessed the Commission meeting for a break. The meeting was reconvened at 10:33 a.m.

**10:00 A.M. – FY2019 BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**FY2019 Budget Workshop/Discussion/Direction – Public Works and Parks & Recreation**

**Public Works**

- Maintenance – Public Works Director Bill Calderwood highlighted the areas of increase in this budget. He's requesting \$5,600 to provide a 20-yard dumpster to Preston, Lund, and Cherry Creek communities. The nuisance abatement is \$30,000, and the \$5,600 would be in addition to that, as he explained. He is still working on the solid waste management plan, he added for the Board's information. There are also a few items being reduced, which he listed. The big request here is for a 2018 utility truck to replace a 1992 truck with 235,000 miles on it. Under Contract Services' long term needs, he noted the sheds up the canyon need to be demolished, as they are a safety hazard. Also, he is planning for an auction to be held; this will provide an opportunity for the Department Heads to submit items as well.

- Capital Improvements Including Courthouse/Jail Expansion Project – Director Calderwood noted this is a “living document,” as it changes annually. He prioritized this list himself, and noted if someone wants something specific he adds to it. The priorities can be changed around as needed, he added.

- Building and Planning – Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised this was moved from an Enterprise Fund to a special revenue fund in 2017. Director Calderwood indicated an additional \$500 in office supplies is being requested, to upgrade some office furniture; an additional \$200 for Postage to cover legal notices; and also \$1,000 additional for Travel/Training for continuing education credits for Admin. Assistant Jennifer Drew. She’s advancing her Permit Tech, it was noted, so she can answer more questions from the public rather than having them go to Building Official Brad Christiansen. Long-term needs are the GIS mapping, but he noted there’s no cost for that. Assistant Drew advised they’ve had a better year for their permits, and there’s also many expectations with a new mine starting up shortly (Vantage Mine). Director Frances noted the building permits were budgeted for \$92,000; we collected a small portion of that, and the amount is expected to increase this Spring. She advised there are adequate funds to cover this.

- SB74 – Director Frances discussed this briefly and noted everything for the new Jail/Courthouse is being budgeted fully to avoid having to augment. The current 80% of Net Proceeds of Minerals estimate for next year was included, pursuant to the resolution that was recently passed; while she’s awaiting final figures from the Nv. Dept. of Taxation, she didn’t think there would be much of a change here.

- Road Department – Director Frances indicated she will be getting a better estimate for the Board on this Department. Director Calderwood is requesting a \$5,000 increase for electricity, per advice from Mt. Wheeler Power. An oil burner is being used in the Road Shop now, but electric heat will be installed instead which will produce some cost savings. In Equipment over \$5,000, there is a request to replace a pickup truck for \$32,000; the current truck has 195,362 mileage. Also, the GIS software is another request for continuing the upgrade; Director Calderwood is asking for \$100,000 although he felt the cost would be lower. Director Frances advised that if not all of that was used, it would roll over. Director Calderwood is also asking \$15,000 for a concrete pad as there’s no room to fit some of the heavy equipment in the bays and the crews have to do their servicing laying in the mud. Regarding overtime, there’s one employee who prefers that over the comp time, which other crew members prefer instead. He is also looking to hire 2 seasonal temporary employees, with a combined total of less than 800 hours; a Mechanic position and Operator, which positions have been vacant for several years. He added that after visiting with NDOT, as long as an employee is over 18 they can be flagger certified, which is much cheaper for us during our road projects, and to keep our operators out on the road where they should be. Also, a part-time Mechanic is needed, which he felt would be under \$1,000; he had brought this before the Commission in the past, but the position was never filled. He noted that a slight increase would be nice for the seasonal temporary workers, who haven’t had a wage increase over the past 7-8 years that he is aware of, since he’s been overseeing the Golf Course. Director Frances advised that increase hadn’t been included in the budget. Under long-term, Director Calderwood felt some equipment storage would be good to keep their expensive equipment out of the elements; he noted the BLM had brought this up in the past.

- Public Transit – Director Calderwood advised that the budget for Ely Bus has been increased as a specific amount for maintaining those budgets, from \$25,000 to \$27,000. He received a letter from the City noting their road expenditures, and he is asking \$125,000 from that budget for their portion. For Equipment over \$5,000, he is asking \$511,000 for a set of grader picks; a new water truck to update the existing fleet, for \$140,000; and an additional motor grader with a walk-in roller, to replace the remaining John Deere, and then he noted the fleet will be capped. So if all the new graders have the walk-and-roll attachments, he explained that would save another position from being needed. For Equipment under \$5,000, Director Calderwood put \$5,000 in there to cover a canopy for their CAT roller, traffic control signage, and other items.

- RTC – Director Calderwood is requesting \$240,000 for trucks that spray stuff and sealers, etc., for our own distribution truck. This would be purchased through the RTC, and that Board would be the owner of the equipment, not the City of Ely. He explained the RTC Board can have equipment, according to their legal counsel. This would be important as the City and the County could start doing their own equipment maintenance in-house, and stop hiring contractors. The \$5,000 for Equipment Repair is a new item, because he noted “the RTC didn’t have any equipment.” Fuel will be included so that the City can fill up their vehicles, and the bill would go directly to the RTC, as he explained. Director Frances indicated that she will get the dollar

amount that would be needed for the Master Policy Insurance. Director Calderwood continued that for the Transportation Alternative Program grant—the TAP grant—the contract services there would be \$50,000 to do the requirements NDOT would have us do in order to do the sidewalk project on Aultman all the way down to 11<sup>th</sup> Street, as he explained. There is also an additional \$34,000 for rental of a pneumatic roller and road brooms, which neither the City/County has in their fleet; he felt perhaps we could purchase those in the future, depending on how much those are utilized. Director Frances asked who is responsible for storing, titling, etc. the new equipment; there are legal implications that we need to look at in trying to do this, and she needs some questions answered. District Attorney Mike Wheable noted those questions haven't been addressed at this point. He did suggest some options for the RTC to take with respect to the City/County equipment. It was noted during the discussion that it was unknown how much control the County would have in all this. Commissioner Steve Stork commented that building a level of trust is more important than anything else! Director Calderwood advised this would allow both entities to protect their own investments; Commissioner Shane Bybee felt this is a brilliant idea, we would save ourselves lots of money, and he also feels the RTC is where this equipment really belongs. Commissioner Steve Stork agreed, noting that the Airport would have a definite use for this as well.

#### Parks and Recreation

- Parks – Public Works Director Bill Calderwood advised there are 2 CDL holders in this Department, and they're in the same pool as the Road Shop employees, and as such are also subject to random drug tests. He explained that's the reason for the increase in that line item, as they cost \$155.00 each. He put tree removal in County Parks under Contract Services, although he wasn't sure that's where it belonged; this will reduce the canopy, he noted. The McGill pool park trees are also going to need work soon; while it costs quite a bit, it is still needed. He added some replanting will also be done. For Personnel, he's asking for a seasonal temp for our ballpark fields; it would be a 6 month position, 12 hours/week, for 624 hours maximum, at \$14.00/hr. He stated that we do not do a good job prepping the ball fields, as there aren't enough personnel to do that, hence this request. He noted for Travel the same amount as last year is being requested for SNPLMA, which he noted WPC Treasurer Catherine Bakaric oversees those. Under Equipment he is showing \$12,000 to replace the 1984 mower which has a 4' mowing path, with a larger, 6' mowing path. Under long term, he would need to replace the building on the south hill at the Courthouse, citing the encroachment of the mountain pressing in.

- Ag. District 13 – Director Calderwood advised that the Ag. District 13 board approved \$35,000 to rent a skid loader during the year to clean up the corrals; they need that 3-4 times per year. He noted a portion of that amount would also be used for additional maintenance supplies. They have 7 capital improvement projects, for a total of \$111,000; they want Maintenance to do all those projects as it would be a huge cost savings for them to do so. He did note that at least the Fairgrounds Concession Stand remodel is something Maintenance could do. Director Frances noted that we spend thousands of dollars from other items; this is labor for them at no cost, just to make the Board aware. Director Calderwood advised that board is aware we won't get to all those projects, but at least the concession stand could be done. He cited the barn they purchased over a year ago "is sitting on the ground," as there's not enough Maintenance personnel to put it up! Director Frances requested some figures showing the revenues/donations generated at the Fairgrounds.

- Camp Success – Director Calderwood noted an increase from \$800 to \$1,600 for the heating expense—propane—due to the Camp's location and that it's now a really nice facility with more showers for the guests, etc. For Equipment Over \$5,000 he's asking for \$6,100, of which \$2,500 is for additional solar lighting, which is placed along the trails to make them safer for users of the Camp. For Equipment Under \$5,000 he's asking for \$2,000 to begin replacing the tents; he explained they provide 7 tents for the camp users, and set them up; we just need to start replacing the ones that are showing wear and tear. Every weekend this summer the Camp is booked, except for possibly 2 weekends. In reply to a query from Chairman Richard Howe, the fees are based on the number of people using the camp, and it's not a flat rate; it's a day rate, as he explained. Chairman Howe wants a flat rate of from \$250-\$300/day instead. Commissioner Shane Bybee noted that we don't want to preclude smaller groups from being able to use the Camp, either.

- WPC Aquatics Center – Director Frances advised there are some funds being accumulated in a specific account for major improvements to the pool. Aquatic Center Director Megan Brown advised she had received an \$88,000 quote to replaster the pool; that wouldn't need to happen for 15-20 years yet, but the fund

should begin to be built up now to pay for it. She added that some of these funds can also be used to purchase golf carts for the Golf Course, or other major capital improvements. There was some discussion about Fund 385 and 386, and how that fluctuates depending on how the tax revenues come in, and how it will be used for operations some 20 years in the future. Director Brown proceeded with her changes and requests: Under Operating Supplies, she's requesting \$800 for Triathlon supplies and bike racks, although she noted they will try to build the racks themselves. She's been spending \$7,100 on facility repairs/maintenance, but it needs to be raised up to \$12,000. She noted such items as shower handles, etc. would be covered in that amount, as well as the deck/concrete is spalding on the pool. She's awaiting an estimate on that project, which could come in either this year or the next. Director Brown added \$360 into the telephone line item; she noted a cellphone had been added last April but the money was never put in there, and this will take care of that charge. For the copier, she uses the Admin Building copier now, whereas in the past she had to pay an outside agency for her copies. The \$400 in Legal Advertising is for advertising of pool events, and also banners to be placed in front of the building. Director Brown continued that historically she's requested 10-15% of her ending fund balance to be placed in capital improvements; however, for this year she's requesting 60% in order to add the outdoor space in back of the building. Rather than doing the project in phases, she would like to see it all done at once, save some money, and then we could use it right away. In reply to a query from Commissioner Carol McKenzie, Director Brown advised that they are working on a scheme to rent sections out to the public. Other items include increase in Travel to train the Lifeguards, with any annual certifications that need renewals and training supplies. There were no new requests for positions. She needs a new copy machine, noting the high humidity is "killing theirs." Under Contract services, Director Brown is looking to change from Peak software to Sportsites, which also includes inventorying equipment in their software. For the long term she is looking at bleachers, especially in regard to the swim team and other events. She would also like to see the allocation for services split out more equally among the other Departments.

- McGill Swimming Pool – This was briefly touched upon during the above budget.

- Golf Course – Director Frances recalled for the Board that this was an Enterprise Fund that was changed in 2017 to a special revenue fund instead. Public Works Director Bill Calderwood advised that there's an additional Repair/Maintenance amount of \$2,000 put in there in order to start replacing some of the watering time clocks on the greens. Under Equipment Repair/Maintenance, an additional \$3,000 was put in there for their mower; no more parts are available for this equipment in the U.S. He did note that turf tires could be placed on the tractor, though, to do a pull-behind mower, which would be a significant savings there. Golf Professional Randy Long advised that a 7-gang mower would provide a wider cut, plus it would reduce the man hours needed on the fairways. An additional seasonal greenskeeper is needed for 750 hours, plus \$47,000 for the equipment and for 4-5 used golf carts, which arrived last week. Director Calderwood noted they had requested an additional 5 carts in addition to those. It is hoped that the room occupancy tax, via the Tourism & Recreation Board, will be maintained; the same figure for those revenues as last year was plugged in for this year. Soil samples are being taken in order to get some sorely needed nutrients into the greens, which was noted is a priority. There is a new tree program coming in via a grant, it was advised. The idea of having a portable cooler to be utilized for different events was discussed as well.

#### 10:30 A.M. – BCT UPDATE

##### DISCUSSION/UPDATE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FROM BUSINESS CONTINUITY TECHNOLOGY (BCT)

BCT representatives presented today, with the focus on ADS replacement, with security being the biggest issue. The different vendors that have been contracted also need to have compatibility with the existing infrastructure. Mr. Rory Jackson advised 6 servers were installed at the EOC and some air conditioning/power was done as well to keep those servers at a maintained temperature. He noted that Helion, for the Recorder's Office, was the easiest vendor to work with; onsite training will be held in early April, with April 12<sup>th</sup> as the date to go live there. He continued that we're working with VOTEC, but we're awaiting the State's final transition to that system. Configuration will occur October 29<sup>th</sup> for the Finance Dept., with February 25, 2019 as a "go live" date. The Clerk's Office is going with Pioneer, which is scheduled for the beginning of April; there's no firm date to "go live" at this point, however. He noted that has already been postponed once, and they are hoping it won't

happen again. Mr. Jackson indicated the tested connectivity for the Treasurer/Assessor's Office is good, with their choice of Devnet for the ADS replacement. Mr. Earle Keizer cited a "road map" for the Board, which is their Master Plan towards completion; in most cases, they are ahead of schedule. All the heavy hardware has been installed, up and running (printers, scanners, etc.). Training is scheduled for July/August, but they are actually starting now. The Board voiced appreciation for all BCT is doing for us; BCT commended the Finance Dept. and the Department Heads as well. Mr. Lester Keizer added that in saving taxpayer dollars, the hardware costs/vendors showed \$21,500 in savings there. Also, project management wasn't part of the BCT job description, but they took care of that anyway, at no charge to the County (also a savings, of \$22,500). The management of servers and switches are beginning now, and he felt there would be no need for overruns as to time in their contract. The disaster recovery, data storage, and business continuity for the County are all tied in, with a terrific backup system in case ours should go slack; he added they would be able to find our data, in that event. All told, he concluded, with various reductions and cost savings, there is a total savings to the County of \$130,859 to date.

#### 11:00 A.M. – SNPLMA BID AWARD

##### DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR SNPLMA WP09-FAIRGROUNDS RENOVATION PROJECT

B.J. AlMBERG, Basin Engineering, cited the bid breakdown in the Commission packet; 6 firms picked up the packets, and 3 were returned, all of which came in lower than budget. It was recommended that as the winning bid came in \$2,000 under, several of the items would be reduced in the project. The bid was set up to accommodate that possibility, he noted; so they came back with modifications, which were worked out with the County and the BLM. The BBQ grill, park benches and chain link fence were recommended to be installed once the project is complete; if there are no Change Orders, then a submittal will be done to put those items back in, as he explained. Engineer AlMBERG continued that their recommendation is for Reck Bros., who was found to be the lowest responsible/responsive bidder, with these suggested changes. At this point, Commissioner Steve Stork disclosed that Mr. Jerry Ritchie and he do business together, but there will be no affects by this award. Public Works Director also disclosed that Mr. Jerry Ritchie is his brother-in-law, and so he is stepping away from the opening of the bid, etc. He did note he had just visited with Basin Engineering with respect to the product, not the pricing. The funding available for the bid is \$326,505; the total base amount of the bid, with the deductions and no alternatives, is \$298,628.60. Basin Engineering will return with the Change Order as was discussed. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to approve the contract award for SNPLMA WP-09 Fairgrounds Renovation Project to Reck Brothers the lowest responsible/responsive bidder, in the amount of \$298,628.60. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

#### 11:30 A.M. – ENERGY CHOICE

##### DISCUSSION ONLY ABOUT THE ENERGY CHOICE INITIATIVE

Mr. Kevin Robison, Mt. Wheeler Power, introduced New Member Services Manager Shellie Watts, as "the face and conduit for Mt. Wheeler Power for our members and our communities." He noted they are happy to have her serving in that capacity. Mr. Robison cited much has occurred since their presentation last August; the Public Utilities Commission finalized their docket 17-10001, and he thanked this Board for the submission of their comments to that docket. He noted that theirs was the only utility that had been submitted with members' comments, and he thanked the Commissioners for that. He continued that there are some major questions that haven't been resolved regarding the setup of the markets for the Energy Choice; California's Independent System Operation—CALISO—is pushing to be the market player for the State of Nevada if Question 3 passes. He noted that the average rate per kW is currently 18-19 cents in California, whereas in Nevada the rate is roughly 7 cents. Compared to California, Nevada doesn't have many options for heating our houses, businesses, offices, etc. NV Energy's Coalition has \$30 million they are prepared to spend in order to defeat Question 3; no state that has introduced "customer choice" has ever seen their rates go down. He advised that every Nevada resident would see nearly a \$5,700 premium that would have to be charged, over a determined period of time, in order to pay back the stranded investment, just for the "option" of having the Energy Choice. That translates into over

\$55/month, or \$660/year in additional utility payments. The major hurdle now, Mr. Robison advised, is to set up a market. The question is, how can the State provide support/investment in a multibillion dollar market? We need to protect our customers; he cited the ENRON foible. Hopefully this coalition will educate people so that they can start asking the questions; 80% of people surveyed didn't know what Question 3 was intended to provide! In reply to a query from District Attorney Mike Wheable, Mr. Robison provided a brief history of how this all came about. It is also frustrating that NV Energy is a product of the legislature and the regulatory body; they can't do anything without at least the regulatory body (PUC) approving the rate increase, plus it would cost nearly \$1/2 million to just approach the PUC. Commissioner Gary Perea understood that there's a learning process to see that side of the investor utility; he was grateful that our cooperative is very responsible for their members. Mr. Robison advised that it's important to have leadership bodies speak out on what they think would have an impact on your budgets, your Departments, etc. He added that if this passes, we would need a Procurement Department in the County in order to continue purchasing utility needs online. It is written in the proposed initiative that "all Nevada will have the right to choose," and therein may lie some respite. As Mt. Wheeler Power is owned by the members they serve, then we get a certain amount of electorate from each of the 4 Congressional Districts. However, was this Question 3 constitutional? As Mr. Robison noted, who wouldn't vote for an initiative that would provide lower rates, no disconnect fees, etc.? It's only when you dig deeper that you see the points that aren't so appealing. Chairman Richard Howe stated that the Board is 100% behind Mt. Wheeler Power, and we're happy with the way we're being served. He thanked Mr. Robison for the update.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO SEND A LETTER TO THE NEVADA LEGISLATORS ASKING TO EXEMPT WHITE PINE COUNTY, MT. WHEELER POWER, AND OTHER COUNTY COMMISSIONS WHO ARE SERVED BY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES FROM THE ENERGY CHOICE INITIATIVE**

District Attorney Mike Wheable advised this Board is authorized to send a letter to our legislators. Commissioner Steve Stork advised that he wasn't certain about the proper agenda item language, but it was his intent to reach the other counties and get their Commissions on board with this as well. Mr. Robison advised he will do anything they can, including helping to craft a letter that will explain our position and the pitfalls involved with the initiative. Perhaps a presentation could be made to NACO about this; Mr. Robison took note. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to approve. Commissioner Steve Stork made a motion to send a letter to the Nevada legislators asking to exempt White Pine County, Mt. Wheeler Power, and other County Commissions who are served by electric cooperatives from the Energy Choice Initiative, and bring it back to be ratified by this Board. Commissioner Gary Perea seconded. Motion carried.

At 12:07 p.m., Chairman Richard Howe recessed the Commission meeting for a lunch break. The meeting was reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

**ITEMS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**COUNTY COMMISSION**

**STEVE STORK, COMMISSIONER**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT OT INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR POLICE PROTECTION WITH THE CITY OF ELY TO DELETE PROVISION 1(c.)(4) ON "EXHIBIT A PAYMENT SCHEDULE/CALCULATIONS," RESULTING IN A FY18 TOTAL PAYMENT DUE OF \$450,000.00**

Ely Mayor Melody VanCamp thanked the Board for having them be here. She reported the City of Ely had a projection of a shortfall on their revenues, and they aggressively curbed their spending; Hinton Burdick has been working with them on this. They've reduced their spending in all their Departments, but they also need to look at their biggest users, namely the Fire Dept. and the Police contract. While they are working with the Fire Dept. on this issue, their biggest problem is the Police contract, largely due to the sliding scale. She added that this has also been discussed with Finance Director Elizabeth Frances. Chairman Richard Howe advised that there is an agreement in place, but our Police Officers had asked us to reopen the contract. We are at the 3<sup>rd</sup> year



of an 8 year contract right now; we would have to dip into our fund to offset the \$44,000 they are requesting. In his opinion, taking money from the Sheriff's Dept. to give to the City "would be a slap in the face to our officers." They had asked for a wage increase, but this Board didn't open renegotiations with them. The agreement with the City was for 8 years, and now you're asking us to change that. He asked the Board for their opinions.

First, though, City Administrator Bob Switzer advised this is just one of the City's efforts to look at ways to reduce our shortfalls; they are just approaching the Commission with this idea, based on informal discussions held with our Finance Director to investigate the initial financial implications. Chairman Howe asked that there's a possibility the City would be coming back in another area? The reply was yes, that was a possibility. Commissioner Gary Perea asked how much of the Police is part of the City's budget; approximately 36-39% was the response. Commissioner Perea commented that 90-95% of the police calls are in the City, and he is in favor of reducing this amount by addressing their suggestion in 2023 instead of during this year. They would be paying the amount to the County still, he explained, just not during this year, is his suggestion. Commissioner Steve Stork provided his disclosure statement for the record at this point. Commissioner Carol McKenzie agreed with Commissioner Perea, but pointed out that the Sheriff's Dept. has to do their duty but needs the money to be able to keep doing it; she was uncertain about the benefits of such an extension. She was uneasy about reducing anything that would be coming into the Sheriff's Dept. Commissioner Steve Stork agreed with much of what Commissioner Perea had said, and that we have to start teaming up to work on some of these issues earlier, figuring out how to handle our needed police protection. All of the public needs these services; he is fine with deferring it to "the back end of this agreement," as that would give us time to work on getting things together. Commissioner Shane Bybee noted that the agreement started at the base scale, and it was great; the problem is in the escalation. He also felt Commissioner Perea's idea is a good one, but we also need to come to the table and see what we can offer each other to help relieve each of our burdens. He noted that not all of the people pulled over in the City are Ely residents; that also needs some consideration. The City gets shorted when it comes to the tax revenues, especially with the level of service the City is mandated to provide; he felt we should be helping somewhat with that. Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that we struggled with this contract for a long time, and even went to mediation over it, and at the request of the City, this agreement is what we came to. Now we are hearing it isn't working for them; we must hold our own budget down, and we held them to a standard. She is aggravated because we set it up so they would know in advance their part, also in connection with our budgets. We put a lot of time and effort into this agreement; it's equitable and would work, and now it has to change again. She emphasized this is her opinion. She continued that she hasn't seen enough of the City's actuals; this Board made some really hard decisions, they've laid people off, and this money would have paid for someone's job. District Attorney Mike Wheable advised that with both parties' consent, you can reopen and renegotiate the agreement, so long as both parties agree to do that. His concern is that, should that be the choice to do, everyone should keep it simple; set a fixed term with fixed steps over the rest of the contract period, rather than a balloon payment at the end, which also causes some legal concerns. In reply to a query from the Board as to where the City is currently, Administrator Switzer advised they're projecting their General Fund revenues. City Treasurer Janette Trask hasn't figured the percentages yet, she's still working on the budget. Chairman Richard Howe commented that "if we open it for one, what do we do for the others?" He didn't want to "open that can of worms," especially since the County just got done turning down our own Sheriff's Dept. negotiations and now we're looking to renegotiate with the City! The \$44,000 that we're talking about here could be a car for the Sheriff's Dept.; he wants to be very cautious. D.A. Wheable advised it's also on today's agenda to discuss the possibility of having an Armed Resource Officer for the schools! Commissioner Perea repeated his suggestion to extend the \$44,000 payment to the end of the contract. Treasurer Trask advised she had talked with Commissioner Stork and D.A. Wheable with respect to the revenues; Director Frances advised she had spoken with Administrator Switzer; and then Treasurer Trask interrupted and noted that discussion was without her input. Director Frances cited the City's financial statement and noted the grand total; Treasurer Trask stated that the totals come from different revenue sources. Director Frances advised that total was the figure that this agreement was based on. Treasurer Trask noted she figured that was from someone who doesn't know about finances. D.A. Wheable, during that discussion, pointed out that was the standard we used, so it will have to be fixed in the contract. Administrator Switzer advised that this isn't to rehash the mediation session of 3 years ago, we're just asking if this Commission would consider reducing our total payment for the year to \$450,000 instead.

Commissioner Gary Perea made a motion to defer the \$44,000 of this year's payment to the 2023 invoice/bill. D.A. Wheable advised that it should also be noted the effect would be a \$450,000 payment this year, plus the City would have to agree to that; this was included in the motion. Commissioner Shane Bybee seconded. Following lengthy discussion and further comments, motion carried 3:2, with Commissioners Carol McKenzie and Chairman Richard Howe casting the opposing votes.

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF RENEGOTIATION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR POLICE PROTECTION WITH THE CITY OF ELY, TO BE EFFECTIVE FY19, RESULTING IN SET DOLLAR AMOUNT PAYMENTS AND ELIMINATING PAYMENTS BASED UPON A PERCENTAGE OF THE CITY OF ELY'S GENERAL FUND REVENUE

District Attorney Mike Wheable advised that the Board could discuss going forward to see about the possibility of grants and/or payments in lieu of services, and that an addendum could be considered. Commissioner Shane Bybee wants to see the exact revenues that are going into their list, the revenue sources and how much each of them are. City Administrator Bob Switzer advised that could be provided. Following legal counsel's advice, Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to table. Commissioner Steve Stork made a motion to table; Commissioner Shane Bybee seconded. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ONLY ON THE PUBLIC POLICY, BEST PRACTICES. PURPOSES, APPLICATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF WPC FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND WHITE PINE COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND THE WHITE PINE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT'S PERSONNEL POLICY AND THE WHITE PINE COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY GENERALLY, TO ALSO INCLUDE DISCUSSION ON THE PURPOSE OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR POSITION AND DUTIES, COUNTY MANAGER POSITION AND DUTIES, APPOINTED DEPARTMENT HEAD/CHIEFS POSITION AND DUTIES, AND THE ROLE OF THE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS/COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN OVERSIGHT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SAID DUTIES AS FIDUCIARIES TO THE PUBLIC

This item was addressed during the Fire Commission meeting. The discussion is reproduced here:

At this time, District Attorney Mike Wheable advised this duplicate item on the County Commission agenda should also be opened; also, Commissioner Stork will need to provide two disclosure statements. Commissioner Steve Stork provided his disclosure statement for this agenda item and also for the County Commission agenda item. D.A. Wheable advised that discussion should be centered around positions, policies and descriptions, and they should address comments among themselves, with none being directed to WPC Fire District Chief Tim Woolever. The Board understood.

Commissioner Steve Stork advised that after the last meeting he was confused as to what the function of the Fire Commission is. So what is the importance of our Job Descriptions, the purpose of having employee policies, in connection with this or any other Board, if there's an instance whereby the Job Description or policies aren't met or followed? Also, at what point would it be determined oversight and accountability need to be determined? Chairman Richard Howe advised that we rely on the Department Heads, and when there's an issue there is a chain of command that is utilized, and this Board "does not step into the fray." He continued that we should go through each Department Head; therefore, when there's an issue this Board goes to the Department Head and if the problem isn't resolved then they would return to this Board. At our last meeting he advised this Board took an action that we weren't meant to do; as to the action taken or not taken, in his opinion, these kinds of items should be going through the proper channels. So the employee goes to the Department Head, who in turn comes before this Commission for possible action. He added that no one is deliberately trying to undermine anyone, and perhaps we aren't doing this correctly. Commissioner Stork posed a hypothetical question, that if a Job Description lays out minimum standards for someone to hold that position, we hire someone and they don't meet the minimum qualifications for the job, but hired them knowingly—the Department Head and Human Resources—and this Commission becomes aware of it, we see that there's an ongoing issue that hasn't been addressed. In that event, would it be appropriate to come before this Board for oversight? Commissioner Gary Perea advised that not just the Fire District, but also the Department Heads and

everyone in the County needs to absolutely follow the Job Descriptions and our policies set forth. The Department Heads are responsible to ensure everything is getting done. While we do have some hurdles to deal with pertaining to budgets, monies available, and location here in Ely, we still need some understanding insofar as getting people in here to fill those duties and get them to comply with the policies/Job Descriptions. If there's a problem, yes it does come to this Board, BUT we don't want to micromanage, either. Commissioner Stork continued that if such a situation existed and appropriate action by this Board still isn't taken or followed, then what? Commissioner Perea maintained that these should be reviewed case by case; we need to be educated on why something is, or is not, occurring. Commissioner Shane Bybee stated that we WERE educated as to why these things haven't happened; he was bothered by Commissioner Perea's statement. He continued that obviously in the past the Commission didn't do due diligence, to prove we could staff our offices at an effective level, and now it's up to THIS Board to answer the questions. If we can't set our policies, job descriptions, or programs, fund it and live with it; then it's time for a dramatic change. Commissioner Perea advised that if we're still talking about the Fire District, that's why it was formed in the first place, because the State wasn't doing their job. D.A. Wheable turned the discussion back to the generalities as he noted at the beginning of this agenda item. Chairman Richard Howe commented that due to our location, we can't offer particular training sometimes. That also makes it difficult to recruit for some positions as well. He noted more particularly that the question arises if we should allow time extensions in the event people can't get certified. He asked our legal counsel if exceptions could be made to the Job Descriptions and policies, in that event; the response was affirmative. Commissioner Carol McKenzie pointed out that we also need to follow State regulations, and that our County regulations are more strict. D.A. Wheable suggested perhaps we should relax our own standards just slightly, that being the case, to allow for such things as certifications, etc. Commissioner Stork asked the Board if they believe it's their fiduciary responsibility to provide accountability and oversight to each and every Department that they oversee? And, do we have the responsibility to the public for that? The Board agreed. There followed some discussion, during which Commissioner Stork requested some direction insofar as under what circumstances could the Board step in. Following further lengthy discussion, Commissioner Shane Bybee asked how many employees were hired for which advertising and/or consideration wasn't brought before this Commission? He only knows of one, this current temporary hire; we've made an exception, and he felt that we do that consistently, "under extenuating circumstances." After noting there are many positions, such as for the Lifeguards and Golf Course employees, that are filled by Department Heads and not brought before this Board, D.A. Wheable advised that the Human Resource Department is where the decision is being made. Commissioner Bybee advised that if we find we have a candidate that doesn't meet the minimum requirements for the position, that needs to come before this Board and we need to give our reasons for why we make exceptions, both for us and for the public. At this time D.A. Wheable advised the County Commission agenda item should be closed and the Fire Commission agenda item be reopened. This was done.

CAROL MCKENZIE, COMMISSIONER

DISCUSSION ONLY ABOUT WHITE PINE COUNTY'S CONCERNS OR COMMENTS  
REGARDING YUCCA MOUNTAIN

Commissioner Carol McKenzie advised of the High Level Nuclear Waste meeting to be held next Tuesday. Comments are welcomed, input, concerns about Yucca Mountain, the Test Site, etc. She asked the Board for items she could bring up for discussion at that meeting. Commissioner Steve Stork advised that Southern Nevada opposes this, Nye and Elko counties support it, and perhaps Lincoln County as well. There are 10 affected counties, including Inyo (California); AULGs (affected units of local government). Commissioner McKenzie recapped past discussions wherein most counties were in favor of Yucca Mountain, and if this was going to happen, what would we be getting out of it. She maintains that we do still need to be in a position where we could reap some benefits, should this occur. Commissioner Steve Stork asked what else could be done with that land anyway, as it's contaminated for the next 5,000 years or so; so long as the waste is kept above the water table, he has no issues with it. It was brought up that Nye County had requested a letter of support from us last year; WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin advised that for political reasons, this Board chose not to send such a letter. During the discussion, Commissioner Gary Perea felt this needs to go back the way it was prior to defunding the project; we need to be paid for our participation. We need to have our voices heard, he continued, "but not at

our expense.” He added that while he isn’t in support of it, we would also need some long term funding as well. There was a brief discussion of how rural counties would need to respond to an incident, including training, etc. Commissioner Shane Bybee recalled that NDOT had stated they would have to change their routes drastically, adding more passing lanes and pulloffs, for example. Commissioner McKenzie noted that the process was supposed to go all the way to the end, including have all the questions answered, but the project was pulled halfway through. Discussion morphed from the transportation issues---using casks to make shipments stable, threats from terrorism---to having everything in Yucca Mountain to reduce risk factors all over the State. D.A. Wheable felt education was important on how volatile these things are. Director Frances added that volcanism is one of the pieces that keeps our County on the table, it makes us the highest risk. With all that in mind, she continued, we need to get some Federal funding, which apparently is just sitting there and now coming down to us. Following further discussion, it was generally agreed that Commissioner McKenzie should attend the meeting and report back to this Board.

GARY PEREA, COMMISSIONER

DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING HAVING AN ARMED RESOURCE PERSON AT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Commissioner Gary Perea recalled that we had some discussion of this person during the budget hearings; with what is going on in America, no one is immune. He sees issues with us here, with US93, SR 318, and other routes through the County; he would like to see the County assist the Sheriff’s Dept. by having an armed resource person in the schools. He talked with School Superintendent Adam Young about this, and he’s very supportive; Superintendent Young also felt besides the High School, the Jr. High and Elementary schools have this need, as well as the Charter School and the Steptoe Valley High School. Commissioner Perea advised that in his research, he’s found that officers in that capacity will often be trusted by the students more than the teachers, and they will be more receptive to talk about things they’ve seen to those officers than to others. He agreed it would be an additional expense, but that it would be worth it from a safety standpoint. There was some discussion about the estimated cost, and if the School District might be willing to assist with funding some of that, or even if there are grants available to help. Commissioner Perea was of the opinion that we need to have someone in that position first, and then find the funding for it. Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised it would cost \$87,766 for the position; as we’re looking at the City’s decreasing revenues for Police services, etc., we just have to be able to come up with the money, notwithstanding possible grants (HeartLung bill, etc.). She did note for the record that WPC Sheriff Scott Henriod had come to her and requested this position be added into the budget. Commissioner Steve Stork would like to see things develop in this direction from the State and National levels first. WPC Sheriff Scott Henriod suggested that if we are looking at this, we should ask representatives from the schools to come and see some of the options and gather their input as well. It was determined that Commissioner Perea would meet with Sheriff Henriod and Superintendent Young and discuss the matter/gather some information as well.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

SCOTT HENRIOD, SHERIFF

DISCUSSION/ACTION/RATIFICATION OF A LEASE WITH THE STATE OF NEVADA DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATION ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE 30, 2022

WPC Sheriff Scott Henriod advised this is a contract that needs ratification. He explained that the Sheriff’s Dept. rents 2 sites for radio communications, at Cave Mountain and out at Victoria, respectively, where there are buildings that hold our repeaters. Cave Mountain’s fee was waived due to the land acquisition; this fee pertains to Victoria. It is a renewal for a 4-year contract, and the price remains the same during that period; he added the cost had actually dropped. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to ratify the lease with Nv. Dept. of Administration Enterprise Information Technology Services effective July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2022. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

MARTHA RIVERA SINDELAR, RECORDER

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT TO MAKE THE SOFTWARE  
CONVERSION FROM ADS TO HELION IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE

WPC Recorder Martha Rivera Sindelar advised this is in connection with their new software. She narrowed the selection down to 3 vendors, and her staff joined in webinars for their input and in observing many demonstrations. They agreed that Helion would be a good company for their needs; both Douglas and Humboldt counties have used Helion for nearly 10 years, and their experience speaks for itself. She added Eureka County also went with Helion, and they are also very pleased with it; and Esmeralda County went with them in October of last year. Mr. Rory Jackson noted that Helion was the easiest to work with, and they're requesting approval for this from the Board. Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that Mr. Jackson had reviewed the contract, and there were no issues; while there is an annual maintenance fee, she noted that would be less than what they had paid for ADS. Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to approve the contract with Helion to make the software conversion from ADS in the Recorder's Office. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

CATHERINE BAKARIC, TREASURER

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL FOR WHITE PINE COUNTY TREASURER TO PROCEED  
WITH TAX SALE – NRS 361.595 CONVEYANCES OF PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST BY COUNTY  
TREASURER: PROCEDURE; ORDER OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; DEEDS TO PURCHASERS. 2. IF  
THE PROPERTY IS TO BE SOLD, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY MAKE AN ORDER,  
TO BE ENTERED ON THE RECORD OF ITS PROCEEDINGS, DIRECTING THE COUNTY TREASURER  
TO SELL THE PROPERTY PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED THEREIN, AFTER GIVING NOTICE OF SALE,  
FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT LESS THAN THE AMOUNT OF THE TAXES, COSTS, PENALTIES AND  
INTEREST LEGALLY CHARGEABLE AGAINST THE PROPERTY AS STATED IN THE ORDER

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised she is handling this for WPC Treasurer Catherine Bakaric. She noted this is fairly routine; this Board just needs to authorize Treasurer Bakaric to do the tax sale. She noted several are recurring from the last tax sale that didn't sell at that time. Following brief discussion, Commissioner Gary Perea made a motion to approve the WPC Treasurer to proceed with the tax sale as requested. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

NICHOLE BALDWIN, COUNTY CLERK

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF THE REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF THE RUTH  
TOWN COUNCIL FROM KATELIN MASON AS AN AT LARGE RESIDENT OF THE TOWN OF RUTH

WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin advised the previous Ruth Town Council member had either failed to renew his membership, or has moved from the area; Commissioner Shane Bybee noted they had moved to Ely. It was noted that Ruth Town Council Secretary Mary Sorenson worked hard to find someone to fill this vacancy, and Ms. Katelin Mason had volunteered. Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Katelin Mason as an At Large member of the Ruth Town Council, as requested. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

MEGAN BROWN, AQUATIC CENTER DIRECTOR

DISCUSSION/ACTION/RATIFICATION OF REALLOCATING \$10,000 FROM AQUATICS  
DEPARTMENT'S EQUIPMENT OVER \$5,000 FY2018 BUDGET TO AQUATICS DEPARTMENT'S  
FACILITY REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

Aquatic Center Director Megan Brown cited her letter in the backup materials, and asked if the Board had any questions. There was a query regarding the replacement of 20 light fixtures; Director Brown explained that it gets very hot in the pool area up near the roof, and 2 of the fixtures had caught on fire. Replacement of all 20 with a lower heat factor, etc. is called for; the LED fixtures burn much cooler and cost less money. Public Works Director Bill Calderwood advised that the LED lights would last for 7 years or so, plus the lumina percentage would be higher (it would be brighter). Commissioner Steve Stork noted that for his business in Elko,

he obtained a REAP grant from USDA and also NV Energy repaid some of the light fixture replacement costs. This means less maintenance and a cost savings; this is from the Rural Electric Systems Program of the USDA. Director Brown added that the Aquatic Center can also get a rebate from Mt. Wheeler Power, for about \$1,950, and that people can apply once during a 10-year period; this is also being done. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Carol McKenzie made a motion to ratify the reallocation of \$10,000 from the Aquatic Department's Equipment Over \$5,000 budget for FY2018 to the Aquatic Department's Facility Repair/Maintenance, as requested. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ONLY/UPDATE ON GRANT APPLICATION BEING MADE BY MEGAN BROWN TO NATIONAL SWIMMING POOL FOUNDATION FOR FUNDING TO ENGAGE MORE SWIMMERS IN A HEALTH SPECTRUM OF AQUATIC ACTIVITY**

Aquatic Center Director Megan Brown is seeking approval to apply for this; it would provide funding towards swimming lessons, with the goal of getting people started into swimming and keep them going throughout their lives. In reply to a query from the Board, she did note people are swimming less—both as individuals and as a group—at this point in time. The Board commended her for doing a good job.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF SUMMER 2018 AQUATIC CENTER AND MCGILL POOL PROGRAM SCHEDULES**

Director Brown cited her backup material and noted that the McGill Pool will be closed the morning of August 11<sup>th</sup> for the Triathlon and for the Big Splash in September; that is done annually. She changed one of the Aquacize classes to Bollyball, as well as other changes to modify the schedule. Commissioner Shane Bybee noted that people are asking about the pools being open on Sunday during the Summer; would that be cost-effective? Director Brown recalled that the first year, they were open on Sundays the year around; now, however, the McGill Pool is open on Sundays, and then the Aquatic Center is closed on Wednesdays for cleaning. During the discussion, she noted there is a minimum of 3 staff required to be on duty; however, if there's only 20 people at the pool, it isn't really cost-effective. Following brief discussion, Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to approve the Summer 2018 Aquatic Center and McGill Pool Program Schedules as requested. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

**JUAN CARLOS CERVANTES, UNR COOPERATIVE EXTENSION COORDINATOR  
DISCUSSION/UPDATE ON LIST OF PRIORITIZED BUDGET REQUESTS FOR THE  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION DEPARTMENT**

UNR Coop Extension Coordinator Juan Carlos Cervantes advised he had cut his Travel budget by 50% and also many of the items on his prioritized budget request list. Finance Director Elizabeth Frances will review the list with Coordinator Cervantes and get back to the Board.

**DISCUSSION/UPDATE OF COOPERATIVE EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

Coordinator Cervantes provided an update for the Board, specifically geared for the youth/agricultural/natural resources/other projects. He's been working on the STEM projects for the kids, such as building racing drones. The 4-H membership keeps growing, and it's bigger than ever! Instructors are being certified for shooting sports; we will be hosting a State tourney this year. White Pine High School is being educated on food literacy. In the field of agriculture, a method is being used to assess grazing to see if the acreage would be sustainable over time. He is working on developing a local food system; a specific charge of White Pine County is the need to look after the welfare of its citizens, and one benefit of this is that a risk management plan would be ready if there is a disruption in the flow of food coming into the County. He continued that this would also offer entrepreneurial opportunities for people to grow food locally. In the realm of natural resources, mapping weeds in residential areas is deemed important as they tend to travel out into the open areas. It is necessary to identify weeds early, which will result in a reduction of needed treatment in the future. Commissioner Steve Stork thanked Coordinator Cervantes for revisiting the weed issue, and noted that will be a benefit to our citizens. It was noted that the Tri-County Weed District contracts out with the towns and the City; if someone notices an

infestation of weeds in those areas, they can contact Coordinator Cervantes and there will be someone who can investigate/identify the weeds as they are called out.

ELIZABETH FRANCES, FINANCE DIRECTOR

DISCUSSION/UPDATE ON REVENUE ESTIMATES FOR THE FY2019 BUDGET

District Attorney Mike Wheable advised this could be combined with the agenda item regarding the various County Departments, for continuity. Chairman Richard Howe subsequently opened that agenda item for discussion as well.

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL RELATED TO VARIOUS ITEMS AND DEPARTMENTS IN THE FY2019 BUDGET INCLUDING: COMMISSION, CLERK, RECORDER INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGETS, ASSESSOR INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGET, TREASURER, ELECTIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, FINANCE, HUMAN RESOURCES, DISTRICT ATTORNEY, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE-ELY INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGETS, DISTRICT COURT I INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGETS, DISTRICT COURT II INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGETS, JUDICIAL RELATED COSTS, JUVENILE PROBATION, JUVENILE DETENTION, BAILIFFS, JUDICIAL COURT SUPPORT, SHERIFF INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION, DETECTIVE, PATROL, JAIL, CORONER, DISPATCH AND TASK FORCE, FIRE, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE, PARKS MAINTENANCE, PUBLIC HEALTH, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS-ANIMAL CONTROL, COUNTYWIDE EXPENSES, LIBRARY, AIRPORT OPERATING, NATURAL RESOURCES, TRANSFERS, CONTINGENCY, AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION, SOCIAL SERVICES INCLUDING DONATIONS FUND, ROAD DEPARTMENT, AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, SB74 TAX FUND, TOWNS OF LUND, MCGILL & RUTH, SENIOR CENTER, INDUSTRIAL PARK, BUILDING & PLANNING, GOLF COURSE, AQUATIC CENTER INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, CHINA SPRINGS, AND CAMP SUCCESS

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised she tried to get everything included that was requested; she proceeded to go through each page for the Board. She noted she will make adjustments as discussed today and bring them back next time. She did a General Fund revenue analysis; the preliminary budget worksheets for FY2019 were also noted. Commissioner Gary Perea maintained that while we've been criticized by the public with respect to our deficit spending, but we are being fiscally responsible. Director Frances agreed; we have a very healthy fund balance and still have a good reserve at all times for emergencies. She felt this Commission has done a good job. Net Proceeds of Minerals is projected to go up substantially; Mt. Wheeler will be increasing their rates, for example, which in turn increases the utility franchise fee. She factored in a 3% increase there, which Mt. Wheeler Power's Kevin Robison had advised was appropriate. Many of the figures shown were based on the prior year's averages; if there are great differences, she explained that she reviews and adjusts them accordingly. She gave the Board some time to review the materials. She noted that 80% of the Net Proceeds of Minerals has been set aside for the Jail/Courthouse project, plus the Airport Improvement project was also included. Those Net Proceeds are being set up as a "preliminary budget," knowing that these will be one-time items, as the Board had discussed previously. In reply to a query from the Board, she added that we should also be dedicating part of those Net Proceeds towards large Capital Improvement items such as fire trucks, personal protection gear for firefighters, etc. Having reviewed the revenues, she next spoke on the expenditures. She explained the 5-year history of expenditures by Department Summary, so the Board could see which Departments went up or down in their spending. She did note a couple of big changes; the addition of a County Manager, plus a large increase in the IT budget. She decreased the ADS project down to \$1/2 million, which she felt would be more than adequate to pay our new vendors. The other \$1/2 million is for the E911 system; that is a public safety item that needs to be addressed. Director Frances continued her report, and for the General Fund she cited the worksheet showing each Department, their line items, and the increases. She did note the exception is Travel, and she indicated the complete travel amounts for each person requesting travel funds. She will provide an update from today's discussions and present them at the next Commission meeting. The Board congratulated her on doing a fine job.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/DIRECTION/APPROVAL OF CHANGES RELATED TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER CONTRACT REOPENER**

Attorney Shain Manuele was happy to present on behalf of Attorneys Jane Eberhardy and Richard Sears today. He noted that 3 years ago the County went to private attorneys for indigent representation, and he noted they are getting very good services. Last year their Public Defender contracts were renewed; they had requested an increase, but the budget figures weren't known at that time, so they agreed to keep the contract status quo and to do a reopener this year to request an increase. He noted the revenues have come in well, as he understands it. Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised the 8% increase they are requesting would be \$34,800 for the team of three attorneys. She noted that looking at the Sheriff's Dept. during the same timeframe, their increase would have been 3%, and the general employees, a 2.5% increase, just for comparison. Attorney Manuele advised they have put in many hours; their rent was increased; and both the malpractice insurance and licensing fees have also gone up, and that's what they had in mind when they requested this 8% increase. He clarified that each attorney would be receiving \$11,600 per year increase. Also, he noted they had requested \$10,000 last year. Commissioner Gary Perea advised that the Commission had received a letter from the ACLU requesting lots of information; Attorney Manuele explained that 3 indigent defendants filed a lawsuit, not with our County, but that was where the information request originated from. In reply to a query from the Board, he noted that they could do private cases as well, but they're very busy with the contract. As a service to the community they would like to take on private cases, but it is unknown if that is possible due to the time they are putting in as Public Defenders. There followed some detailed discussion about the actual percentage of raise the Board would be willing to offer instead of the 8%. It was noted the increase wouldn't begin until July 1, 2018 and would be in effect for one year, after which renegotiations could be done again. Commissioner Gary Perea made a motion to counter-offer the Public Defenders' increase with 5%. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Attorney Manuele was uncertain if a counter-offer would be appropriate without consulting with the other attorneys. It was felt that offer of 5% could be taken back to the other attorneys and they could approach this Board again if necessary. Motion carried.

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

Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

**NOTICE OF UNTIMED ITEMS**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2018 FOR PROSECUTORS (STOP) THROUGH THE VICTIM/WITNESS SERVICES PROGRAM**

District Attorney Mike Wheable advised this is a grant that's done every year; Finance Director Elizabeth Frances confirmed this. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to approve. Commissioner Steve Stork made a motion to approve the application to the Office of the Attorney General for the VAWA grant for Federal fiscal year 2018 for prosecutors (STOP) through the Victim/Witness Services Program. Commissioner Shane Bybee seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR EMILY WILLARD AND KATHRYN GRIFFITH TO WORK ON UPDATES FOR THE WHITE PINE WATER RESOURCE PLAN AS APPROVED BY THE WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT \$25.00 PER HOUR NOT TO EXCEED 200 HOURS**

WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin advised the Board had approved Ms. Emily Willard to do the PLUAC Public Lands Plan, and this is for the Water Resource Plan, with the assistance of Ms. Kathryn Griffith, for a



maximum of 200 hours at \$25/hour. In reply to a query from Commissioner Shane Bybee, Director Frances advised that if the Board approves this request, she will return next time with a Resolution to cover it. She did note there is adequate funding in Contingency to cover this request, as well as the previous one for the PLUAC. Commissioner Gary Perea added that this is what our Water Attorney, Simeon Herskovits, uses to show what the water is being used for; he noted it's been at least 10 years since the last update. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Gary Perea made a motion to approve the additional compensation for Emily Willard and Kathryn Griffith to work on the White Pine Water Resource Plan as approved by the Water Advisory Committee at \$25.00 per hour, not to exceed 200 hours. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF A PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE THE WEEK OF APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH THE 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 AS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK**

WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin advised this had come from the Marsy's Law backers; they are requesting this Commission to approve the Proclamation. Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to approve the Proclamation as requested. Commissioner Carol McKenzie seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING ON FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

Commissioner Carol McKenzie made a motion to approve the Commission meeting minutes from February 14, 2018 as presented. Commissioner Gary Perea seconded. Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

- Elizabeth - Clarification in personnel policies with respect to temporary employees.
- Richard - Contract with Architects for the Jail/Courthouse project.
- Nichole - Next meeting materials are due by next Tuesday.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Gary Perea advised that at the PLUAC meeting, Ms. Emily Willard gives invoices of the work on the plan as she does the work; he wished to ensure the Chairman or Commissioner Perea's signature would be acceptable to sign the invoice prior to submitting it to Finance. Director Frances indicated that would be fine.


Commissioner Carol McKenzie cited the Tri-County meeting tomorrow, and asked if anyone would be going; the response was negative. She will change the appointment she had made for that day and see if someone could ride with her, in that event. She did note that she didn't get an agenda or information for that Board's meeting, however.

**ADJOURNMENT**

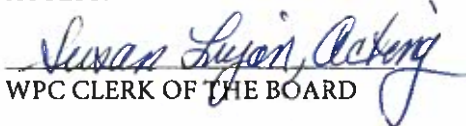
Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to adjourn at 4:07 p.m. Commissioner Gary Perea made the motion; Commissioner Shane Bybee seconded. Motion carried.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF WHITE PINE  
STATE OF NEVADA

BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WPC CLERK OF THE BOARD