

# REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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A meeting of the Regional Transportation Commission was held on October 18, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. in White Pine County Library Conference Room, 950 Campton Street, Ely, Nevada.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:**

Wayne Cameron, Chairman  
Richard Howe, WPC Commission  
Jolene Gardner, City of Ely

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Martin Troutt, White Pine County Road Dept.  
Steve Baer, NDOT Representative (8:07 a.m.)  
Russ Merritt, City of Ely  
BJ Almberg, Basin Engineering  
Naomi Harris, Recording Secretary  
George Chachas

**ABSENT WERE:**

Desiree Barnson, Representing Ely Bus  
Bill Calderwood, WPC Public Works Director

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Wayne Cameron called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

**\*COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 Minute Time Limit):** - George Chachas said Commissioner McKenzie put in a sidewalk in Lund which does not meet ADA codes. Now she claims it is on private property and that it is a foot away from the State right-of-way. Unfortunately that walk-way is outside of the fence so it implies that it is a sidewalk and it encourages someone to walk on it, not in the ditch or the weeds. She needs to comply. Again, we either have rules and regulations or we don't.

Nothing has been done on 7th Street at the railroad crossing above the old grade school. Speaking to Jolene Gardner, George stated that the City of Ely just approved \$25,000 for capital improvements. That was a federal project and they need to address that. Those other issues that were brought up have to be done with a special improvement district. George said they need to comply with the law and if they put those improvements in, he will file a complaint against them. He is just forewarning them.

Nothing has been brought forward in regards to Veteran's Boulevard and Great Basin Boulevard on whether anyone is going to put in a pedestrian overhead ramp. It's the busiest intersection in the community. There are still no signs in regards to the school in that area. There are still no signs regulating speed in that area. They're bringing in that much more traffic in now that they're contemplating putting the courthouse and jail in that area when it should be going downtown. They're killing downtown.

Recently George read an article in the paper about Avenue F, out by the old clinic, and how Nathan Robertson and other business people were concerned about the flow of traffic and how it effects their businesses. George wants to remind the Board that the downtown community is also concerned about the flow of traffic and the lack of business. Where there is no traffic, there is no business. He wants 4 lanes downtown. If the budget is going to be tight, do it as-is and forget all of the fluff. He asked if they noticed the water break downtown a few days ago and said that is how tight the traffic is going to be. He does not want that kind of traffic.

He stated at the last meeting that there are a lot of the street lights out. He told Jolene Gardner that they are still out. Jolene said their bucket truck was broke down but they will get the lights back on. He told her that she is on the City Council and she should take a little pride.

He wanted to remind the Board that they still have not gotten back to him in regards to the access coming off of Park Avenue, Campton Street, Avenue I, Avenue K and Avenue L. All are accessing Great Basin Blvd. and none of them meet the minimum codes. The City of Ely sued him even though he followed their direction on 7th Street and Avenue G. He said again, they cannot selectively enforce the law.

At the previous meeting he gave the Board a memo dated June 26, 1991 regarding handicap access and all curbs and gutters located on corner lots. They are not compliant. He's putting them on notice. He again is talking to Jolene Gardner. He told them to quit making rules and regulations they cannot live with. He said he also gave the Board part of a City code in regards to curb and gutter. Again, that's not being complied with either.

Wayne Cameron announced that on December 13, 2018 at 1:30 p.m., NDOT will be holding a public meeting at the library in regards to their highway projects.

**DISCUSSION – UPDATES FROM NDOT –** Wayne Cameron told Steve Baer he announced the NDOT meeting for December 13, 2018 at 1:30 at the Library.

**DISCUSSION – CURRENT CITY OF ELY PROJECTS –** Russ Merritt said at the moment the City is concentrating on road maintenance, crack sealing and filling pot holes, etc. They completed the first phase of Mill Street which he thinks was a success with the help of Martin Trout and his crew at the County. He handed out a cost sheet to everyone showing the cost of the project compared to what the cost would have been if they had the road paved. He said going with projects like this saves them money in certain areas which will allow them to use the funds on other projects.

From what he understands, there was an approval for curb and gutter to go in on 7th Street down to Avenue C so there are projects coming up to get them moving forward.

Richard Howe said they did a good job on Mill Street and there are some happy people in that neighborhood. Jolene Gardner said it is holding up very well also. Richard Howe asked Russ Merritt if they are going to eventually chipseal it. Russ said yes. Richard said Russ deserves a pat on the back and thanked him. Russ reiterated that they were blessed to have help from the County.

**DISCUSSION – CURRENT COUNTY PROJECTS** – Martin Troutt said there are no current RTC projects at the moment. They're keeping an eye on the projects they did on Poleline and 212N. Poleline Road is holding up pretty good except right at the intersection of 490, which is not surprising. That's where all of the stop and go traffic is. 212N has two treatments on it and it's holding up pretty well except at the intersection. They are expecting the roads to deteriorate this winter, which is normal. They will go in again in the spring (hopefully with their own distributor truck) and do the final process on 212N along with a chipseal. They are hoping the Poleline Road will only need a total of two treatments plus chipseal like Georgetown Ranch Road did. The roads they treated in Lund are holding up well. The two side roads are holding up really well. 1st West is starting to come apart. Again, as expected, but he thinks they will get away with two treatments total and a chipseal down there also. After that they are looking at going towards Mitchell and Oxborrow and doing the first treatment on those. His only concern is getting too far ahead with these oil treatments and then having a bunch of chipseals stacked up back to back. He is backing off a little bit and stretching it out some. He'd like to get those projects completed with Bill Calderwood's blessing and get the first treatment on Mitchell and Oxborrow but not until they catch up on some of the chipseal projects they already have in place.

Richard Howe asked if the RTC distributor truck will be housed at the county when it comes in. Martin said he's had some discussion with Bill Calderwood but does not know if Bill has had discussion with anyone else. It will be a shared piece of equipment with the City and County. It is a specialized piece of equipment so in his opinion, he thinks it should be housed in one place. As far as whose mechanics should work on it, where the records are kept, and who should operate it is a discussion that needs to be had and something the RTC Board needs to establish. Richard Howe asked if the truck has to be housed inside. Martin Troutt said no. Richard Howe said all of those things like wear, safety and joint training are important but the most important is where it is going to be housed. It needs to be housed in a secured place to prevent it from being vandalized. Russ Merritt said he does not think the City will have a problem with where it will be stored. Richard asked if the City has room for it in their yard. Jolene Gardner said they have a big area. Richard said they will have later discussion on where to house it but they should have both entities trained on it. Everyone in the room agreed. BJ Almborg said they need to establish a minimum standard of training because you don't want everybody to jump on it and run it. It's not a water truck. Martin Troutt said whoever is operating it is required to have their hazmat endorsement. He said after 911 there were more restrictions put on them so he let his go but the County has 2 operators who currently have their hazmat endorsements. He added that he is looking at getting his again. Jolene Gardner said the City does not have anyone with that endorsement. Steve Baer said his State operators do not have the hazmat endorsement and they don't need it if it's in a closed area work zone. It is not required unless you are tramming it somewhere. Wayne Cameron asked the entities to get together and make a plan to bring back to the Board for the next meeting so they can review and approve it. Martin Troutt said there is training built into the awarded bid price. There is also training offered at the Bearcat factory in Wickenburg, Arizona that should be taken advantage of. Wayne Cameron said that is another factor the RTC needs to look at. Is it the responsibility of the RTC to budget for that training? Everyone agreed that it should be, because RTC owns the machine and that cost needs to be incorporated into next year's budget. Martin agreed and said there needs to be budgeting on the mechanic's side and training also. BJ Almborg asked Steve Baer if there are any special certificates required to operate the distributor truck. Steve said NDOT takes a regular operator and gets him trained on it. The longer they operate it the more proficient they get at it. One thing they did last year was they had their mechanic follow the whole

chipseal operation. The mechanic came up sick so a different mechanic had to step in. They ended up having a lot of problems because he did not have that knowledge base of how to solve certain problems. Steve's recommendation would be to have one or two mechanics follow the operation because there are screens and special stuff that are particular to this piece of equipment that they really need to understand how repair, if things go south. BJ AlMBERG asked for clarification when Steve said "follow" the equipment. Did he mean follow it on the jobsite? Steve stated yes. When NDOT used their truck they always had their mechanic onsite. Martin Troutt agreed with that. He said not to take anything away from the City but to his knowledge the City does not have any dedicated mechanics. Jolene Gardner and Russ Merritt both stated no they do not. Martin said in addition, the City has a smaller crew. The County has dedicated mechanics. He added that ultimately it would be up to the RTC board and Bill Calderwood. Since both entities are going to be doing jobs with the truck, he thinks they need to help each other more. Maybe something needs to be established stating a County mechanic will be available and on-site to stay there with the machine. The Board members concurred. Richard Howe stated they are talking too far off the agenda so it needs to be put on for the next meeting so they can really discuss all areas when everyone is present.

**DISCUSSION – SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING –** The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. in the White Pine County Library conference room.

**\*APPROVAL OF RTC MINUTES (08/09/18) –** Richard Howe made a motion to approve the 08/09/18 meeting minutes. Wayne Cameron seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved. Jolene Gardner abstained.

**\*APPROVAL OF RTC MINUTES (Special Meeting 08/29/18) –** Richard Howe made a motion to approve the 08/29/18 meeting minutes. Jolene Gardner seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 Minute Time Limit) –** George Chachas reminded the Board that the Mill Street project should be a general improvement district. They have not finished the curb and gutter. He said that's the policy when you put in a street (speaking to Jolene Gardner) and added that the RTC board should know the same thing. There are also zoning violations in that area that have not been addressed. Here you are putting an RTC project in that area that was supposed to be done by the developer. The fact that the City failed to do that is not your problem. That money needs to come back to this Board and the County.

A traffic light was knocked down months ago at 5th Street and Aultman, there is a tripping hazard with conduit protruding out of the sidewalk, and street lights have been out for months, which you don't need a bucket truck for. There is a sensor that is going out for some reason. From the block where JC Penney used to be all the way down to the County park. Sometimes you have 4 blocks that are out, other times you have 2. It might be a sensor. The problem is the City has no sense in what they are doing. They need to correct that. You have people here for different venues and you have people stumbling on the sidewalk. It's a safety issue and needs to be addressed.

Keith Carson has yet to fulfill the RTC agreement he made in regards to the Orson and Ruby valley gutter. Same with 13th Street and Avenue M.

Also in regards to the 4 lanes downtown, when you folks negatively impact businesses downtown you need to buy those that you effect out. You're addressing the same thing with Nathan Robertson on Avenue F. They don't even comply. There is no sidewalk there. There are ADA violations and people walking in the roadway.

Wayne Cameron asked for clarification on the diesel tax that's going through the legislature now - is the ± \$600,000 for County roads for maintenance only or for improvements? Richard Howe said he did not know. The money goes to the roads but how it's divided he is not sure of. He doesn't know if they have addressed that. BJ AlMBERG said he thinks the diesel tax goes to the State. He said the citizens voted down the fuel indexing at the last vote. If they would have been voted in, those funds would have stayed within the County. He believes the diesel tax continues the way it always has and goes straight to the State. Wayne Cameron said the article he read said it goes towards County roads. Jolene Gardner said the same. They agreed to look into that.

Wayne Cameron adjourned the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

DRAFT

# Mill st. project



**Total hours**

**50**

**Total cost**

**\$16,153**

**Project costs**

**Distributor truck - \$5,550**

**Oil (20 tons) - \$6,603**

**Labor - \$4,000**

**Material ( Millings ) - \$0**