

**IN A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION HELD ON MARCH 6, 2019  
IN THE COUNTY LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM IN ELY, NEVADA**

The Following Were Present:

County Commission

Richard Howe, Chairman  
Travis Godon, Vice-Chairman  
Ian Bullis, Commissioner  
Shane Bybee, Commissioner  
Steve Stork, Commissioner  
Nichole Baldwin, Clerk of the Board  
Susan Lujan, Deputy Clerk

County Officials

Desiree Barnson, Social Services Director  
Bernadett Sena, Public Health Mgmt. Assist.  
Lynette Gust, Juvenile Probation Officer  
Charissa Halsey, Juvenile Probation  
Stephen Bishop, Ely Justice of the Peace  
James Beecher, Deputy District Attorney  
Mike Wheable, District Attorney  
Steven Dobrescu, District Court Judge  
Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director  
Jennifer Drew, Building Dept. Admin. Assis't.  
Bill Calderwood, Public Works Director  
Tim Norton, Lead Maintenance Supervisor  
Randy Long, Golf Course Professional  
Kirsty Rozich, Aquatic Facilities Director

Also Present

William Panagopoulos, Ag. District 13/Fair & Rodeo

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Chairman Richard Howe called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. Commissioner Travis Godon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/SILENT INVOCATION**

This was duly observed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**FY2020 BUDGET WORKSHOP/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DIRECTION – ANCILLARY SERVICES, COMMUNITIES, REVENUE, PAYROLL AND PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION TO BALANCE THE BUDGET**

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Public Health Nurse**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that both the Public Health and Social Services budgets are in the General Fund; she explained that we have a contract with the State for a Public Health Nurse; our Management Assistant assists the Public Health Nurse with her duties. Director Barnson advised that her budget remains the same as for last year, with the exception of Office Supplies going up \$700, Operating Expenses \$100 and Postage \$100. She noted that she tries to get everything from the State first. Director Frances advised that our contract has been extended for 2 years, which figures are included in the backup materials. That contract will be placed on an upcoming Commission agenda for review. She is also awaiting figures from the State on Health Inspection/Development Services, after which she will update when they come in. She continued that Management Assistant Bernadett Sena is half-time, but she also has additional hours in Director Barnson's budget, which is what the Board will be looking at next. Assistant Sena advised that she bills her hours to the budget; also, the State is giving us 3 days/week of nursing services, instead of just 1 day/week. There is a Family Planning Grant which will be expiring soon, and Director Barnson noted

those grants are not included for the counties to utilize, so they will be eliminated from this fiscal years' budget; although we received them we can't use them, she clarified for the Board.

### **Social Services**

The next budget is Social Services; Director Barnson indicated we don't have revenue figures from the ad valorem tax, the real property tax and Net Proceeds of Minerals. Director Frances will adjust the figures when she receives them. Director Barnson provided the grant figures, but the Federal grant that supports our Ely Bus doesn't have an amount showing. She just got the email on that yesterday; she will be applying for next years' grant. Director Frances noted this will carry forward onto July 1<sup>st</sup>, and it would be an automatic augmentation since it is a Federal grant; the new amount will be available October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Director Barnson reviewed her budget, noting it was the same as for last year; the Home Health Services Contract was for \$15,000; Central Services didn't change but it's unknown if that amount would remain constant. Travel remains the same as there is none expected for this year; however, NACO and the mandatory CSBG grant training might take place. She noted that they are now mobile; they go to the elderly homes, White Pine High School, etc. as needed for their services. She did note they will need a SIM card for their books, since many elderly don't have access to the internet or can use it to research books they could be reading for medical information. Also, they don't have a vehicle currently and she's trying to budget for that. Under Equipment Over \$5,000 she built in some funds for a match for another bus, as she explained. She noted that we will be getting a wheelchair equipment van this year; she added that their vehicles need to be updated so their fleet can keep going forward. The grants remain the same; no one is retiring and they have the same contract with OPI for their copy machine, etc., plus there is a Home Health grant for indigents who are at home. Director Frances added there's an NRS that requires is to do a 4.5% increase annually to this budget, with the exception of the grants. Director Barnson does what she can to help, such as assisting Assistant Sena with her wage and also the Inmate Medical for the Jail comes out of her wage. Director Frances noted that while this budget seems high compared to actuals, that is taking the required additional percentage into account. She added that indigent care can be very expensive; Director Barnson advised there was one case that cost nearly \$1 million. Director Frances advised she isn't planning to put ad valorem monies back into this fund, and explained her reasons for not doing so. Chairman Richard Howe felt we were lucky to have a great Ely Bus service; when he sees it drive by every seat is usually full. He agreed they probably do need another vehicle; Director Barnson noted that she is setting up her 4.5% monies for a new vehicle match in the future. During the discussion it was noted that transportation is needed in the community, and Director Barnson and Assistant Sena are using their personal vehicles to accomplish many of their trips and tasks throughout the County. Director Frances added that a cell phone would also be a good idea for this Department. She didn't do the Central Services allocation since she hasn't received all the figures in yet. Commissioner Ian Bullis asked how much of this affects our net income at the end of the year as a County? Director Frances clarified that in the General Fund, the net income is only affected through the Social Services allocation and also the ad valorem tax. Director Barnson added there's no need to spend all the funds received if they aren't needed, and if she doesn't, she won't spend them. Commissioner Shane Bybee felt we should leave her budget as is; Director Frances noted that when we fall below the \$1 million we would need to look at allocating some of that back so if there's a large medical claim we would be able to meet that. Director Barnson noted that in all the time she's worked for the County, she's only seen one road accident involving an indigent that we were liable to pay; Director Frances added that indigent accidents are also a required ad valorem allocation.

### **JUDICIAL**

#### **District Attorney**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances cited the figures for this fund, which is in the General Fund, in the backup materials. She noted a 15% increase for the Deputy District Attorney, plus a new Deputy D.A. is being requested, which was also set at the 15% pay increase. District Attorney Mike Wheable noted a few hundred can be cut from some of the budget line items he briefly noted, plus cutting Witness Fees from \$23,000 to \$15,000. There is some training expected to come up involving Human Resources and Natural Resources, so the Travel is increased; he added they're doing a lot more HR-related work now. New cell phones were also included; he explained that there are many more items being requested from their public records than normal, and that includes access to cell phones, i.e., Commission-related. D.A. Wheable will work personally with each Commissioner as those Public Records Requests arise. Director Frances asked at what point do we decide to deliver the information to the public, as there is also personal use of the phones; D.A. Wheable noted there is some records liability involved. Director Frances wants to have some discussion of that and to set some guidelines. Commissioner Steve Stork felt we should ask Human Resources Director Timothy Bunch to compare with other counties as to how they are doing with their policies governing these issues. D.A. Wheable continued to review the pay scale analysis across other rural counties, which Director Bunch had prepared. Deputy District Attorney James Beecher pointed out there are some discrepancies in the salaries that appeared to be

showing less when someone is promoted. He felt the salary swaps were in error; overall, though, the chart is fairly accurate. He added that this information was per Chairman Richard Howe's request. Deputy D.A. Beecher continued that he's very happy with Director Bunch's work, it was just these few items that affected the overall averages. He moved to the next page showing the actual amounts of what people are being paid, which he had obtained from the "Transparent Nevada" information. The Board reviewed these and noted that in spite of our smaller population, our criminal cases really stand out from the other counties. It was pointed out that we have 4.5 Deputy D.A.'s—Ms. Melissa Brown's position is half-time—and Douglas County has 10! We are accomplishing much with just our 4.5. So D.A. Wheable is requesting a new attorney, and given the retention, recruitment, and salaries of the other counties, this is the justification for that new position. He added that his own salary is set per NRS, and commented that although the other counties' D.A.'s make more, he does have vacations and other benefits so that doesn't really matter to him. Even some of the other counties' Deputy D.A.'s make more than their D.A. due to their salary being set per NRS. Commissioner Shane Bybee asked which should we pick if we can't give funds for both another attorney and the raises? D.A. Wheable felt the salary increase would definitely be the right choice. He added it is valuable to retain the longevity of the attorneys we do have, citing their knowledge in working with the courts and doing the cases, as well as their specific areas of expertise such as Deputy D.A. Bryan Pyle working with the sage grouse and other such issues. They currently have 3 years of involvement here and that's why the increase in salary would be the preferred choice; "we don't want to lose them." There followed some discussion regarding future plans for the Deputy D.A.'s with respect to the ever-growing caseloads, which have doubled over a short period of time. Deputy D.A. Beecher advised that we are overwhelmed by attorneys from Clark and Washoe counties, they are always in Carson City; it is vital that we show our presence as well, and he will be going to Reno on his own time to represent our interests, such as on a death penalty bill that will be heard this week. D.A. Wheable added that the number of issues that are hitting his phone go from the housing shortage to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, and "we want to be on top of it all with the right responses."

#### Law Library

Director Frances noted this is basically utilized by all the legal staff in White Pine County. Lexus Nexus is online, and it also provides for new law books, as a result of legislation. She felt this fund is pretty straightforward.

#### Justice of the Peace - Ely

Director Frances felt that Judge Stephen Bishop could begin with the General Fund budget and then move into his smaller funds. Judge Bishop cited his information in the backup materials and noted it's a fairly condensed summary of the different items. Director Frances noted there is a \$30,000 figure to add a window into their office, and she felt that is something the Facilities Fees portion of his budget could handle. Commissioner Steve Stork noted it was a long term possibility; there's spotty security/Bailiff coverage there, and if something goes down at the Courthouse, there's nowhere for his staff to go. A window system would be safer, similar to that which is currently at the D.A.'s Office. Judge Bishop agreed and cited the possible bad things that could happen on any day of the week; he's hoping to at least address the staff security problem. While the Facilities Fees could be used, he did note the new Courthouse coming up as well, for which that fund could also assist with. In reply to a query from the Board, Director Frances indicated the new alternate Bailiff/Courthouse Security positions were approved and are in the process of recruitment. Chairman Richard Howe asked about a cheaper barrier window than the \$30,000 that was quoted; Judge Bishop noted that was just an estimate, and furthermore even if we were to break ground today on the new Courthouse we would still have 2 years status quo for security. He would agree that just using the Facility Fees would be best; D.A. Wheable agreed with that. In reply to a query from Commissioner Ian Bullis, Judge Bishop noted that there are "panic buttons" installed throughout the Courthouse. Having the new security officers just being present, in uniform and with a gun, will also raise the security level. Director Frances also noted there's a request for longevity pay in this budget; the Justice of the Peace isn't included in the NRS regarding his salary, plus he's been here for nearly 8 years. Normally after 4 years, she continued, you receive 2% in longevity pay; but unless the Commission votes to do that, it isn't done for the Justice of the Peace. The other elected officials, she clarified, are listed for their raises in the NRS. Judge Bishop pulled the NRS and read it into the record, emphasizing that the "County Officer" is not defined; by his reading he is covered. He would also have to submit to things that the other County Officials have to do, such as having audits; he's been doing that. Briefly, he reviewed the history for the Board, that he was first offered and granted the increase but then the Commission took it away. He is also only requesting a 4% increase for his longevity pay rather than the full amount that he would have been entitled to. Judge Bishop provided another handout showing that he's making \$8,000 less today than when he first started with the County 8 years ago; he reviewed his qualifications and various degrees for the Board. Commissioner Ian Bullis commented that it's clear he's been unfairly treated, and there are some minimal things we should be doing for our people. There was further discussion, after which Judge Bishop read his budget and requested changes to the Board. Director Frances then cited his special revenue funds, and she asked him to explain to the new Commissioners how those impact the General Fund, including how he purchases items for other County Departments. He reviewed them briefly, after which Director Frances advised how the House Arrest Fund impacts the General Fund:

People on House Arrest are supposed to pay their fees, but they don't always do that. A General Fund transfer is made in order to keep that program going, because it's more cost-effective to just pay it than to keep them in jail.

#### **Judicial Costs**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances noted that the Public Defender is the biggest thing in this budget; it was budgeted for higher than what we saw come forward from their recent proposal. It was \$69,800, she clarified for the Board. She added that transcription fees, investigations, etc. are the best estimates shown based on past history. District Attorney Mike Wheable noted that we can add Lexus Nexus to the Public Defenders at no additional cost.

#### **Court 1**

Director Frances advised that District Court Judge Steve Dobrescu isn't requesting any changes in his budget. The Drug Rehabilitation Program is in there, and it's funded through two different grants and fees collected from the Drug Court program. Part of this is a Drug Counselor that is being requested, with the benefits to be paid from the General Fund on an ongoing basis (PERS, Workers' Compensation, Medicare, etc.) so that was added in. Judge Dobrescu noted that Substance Abuse Counselor Amy Adams was on paid salary through that program so we could get her on PERS last year. He reported that we received 2 applications for 2 Law Clerk positions; one won't stay here, but the other would, as they are from a rural town. He noted that we need to keep the people who are doing a good job. We always make the Law Clerks come to Ely so they would have an idea of our remoteness; however, this year we just did Skype, and he's hoping the Law Clerks will still want to stay. One candidate said he was still interested after the interview, and the other candidate's reply is still pending. Director Frances explained that there is one Law Clerk for each of the courts; she cited backup memos from Judge Dobrescu showing that the fees are committed and therefore remain in the special revenue fund. Commissioner Steve Stork asked about records retention and electronic storage rather than having boxes of paper. Judge Dobrescu advised he had discussed this with WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin and her staff; with the new computer system, we're moving to electronic filings, which would reduce the paperwork quite a bit. However, for the 30-40 year-old files, the prior microfiche and copying scanning company left much to be desired. Perusing the original files such as for quiet title, water, and land, they've found some documents were altered or forged, especially the ones over 100 years old, using a different color of ink, etc. The law allows us to copy and destroy originals but he doesn't want to do that until each file is reviewed to ensure forgeries aren't happening. He felt a grant might be obtained to have someone come in and do that work, a professional outfit, and the result would be permanent and make it easier for the Clerks to retrieve the files. There was a discussion regarding the history of the Drug Court program and how important donations help it to get started 14 years ago. D.A. Wheable commented that it's important that many of these people are functional in our community, which is more desirable than keeping them in our jails.

#### **Court 2**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances noted District Court Judge Gary Fairman isn't asking for changes other than the State assessments; depending on those figures, which generally go up, we are required to pay them.

#### **Juvenile Probation**

Juvenile Probation Officer Lynette Gust noted her changes are simple, she just moved money around in the various line items as she reported. She did decrease her budget by \$4,600; however, NRS requires a program caseload and it's done electronically; as of July 1<sup>st</sup> they have to pay for it. Judge Dobrescu noted that all our Juvenile Probation Officers (JPOs) need annual physicals, but they are expensive, roughly \$300 per JPO. This is required by PERS, but it's also for their safety and health. Officer Gust noted as she didn't know the cost of those she didn't include them in her budget. She continued to note that she will be needing another vehicle that should be 4WD; the last vehicle they got as 2 years ago isn't 4WD, and sometimes during transports the roads are really dangerous. Judge Dobrescu added that once the new Jail is functioning, transports will go down by 75-80%.

#### **Juvenile Detention**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that once the jail cells kept for female prisoners in the old jail are rejuvenated, some female juveniles could be held there for short periods of time, which will save transports up to Elko. Judge Dobrescu noted that they go after the parents for the fees and the JPOs are doing a great job collecting those. JPO Charissa Halsey advised \$15,000 was brought in last year from those fees; JPO Gust commended her for being a great bill collector. She added that they also get monies from the State for counseling, and it's almost always all spent for that, or is included in the line item process of moving funds around internally.

#### **Bailiffs**

Director Frances indicated there was nothing new in this budget.

#### **Court Judicial Support**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances cited the different areas of the Jury and Court that are involved in this budget. WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin advised she's not requesting anything other than to keep her Travel budget for the same reasons she noted yesterday; attending the conferences and meetings in order to be educated on the impacts and changes in the Legislature. The long term needs are: When the new Courthouse opens the JAVS system will need to be

transferred over and more cameras will be needed, as she explained briefly. Just for the relocation she quoted JAVS as costing roughly \$16,000. Also, regarding the digital scanning of court files, she is working up a quote with a company out of Carson City. This would include the gaps and missing files from the last scanning efforts, and she is awaiting that information. Director Frances noted that with respect to the JAVS system transfer, an IT scoping meeting will be held this Friday with all the details and people involved to ensure every aspect will be covered. This will include electronic doors, JAVS, cameras, etc. That will be brought back as a proposal to the Commission, she clarified.

At 10:13 a.m., Chairman Richard Howe recessed the Commission meeting for a break. The meeting was reconvened at 10:22 a.m.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building and Planning**

Director Frances explained this is a special revenue fund, although it used to be an enterprise fund; she explained the difference for the new Commission. The fund balance has been decreasing historically; the revenues that are generated aren't adequate to fund the Departmental requests that come forward. The County pays for Administrative Assistant Jennifer Drew's time and the contract with the City of Ely. She advised different things could be done; increase the fees, compare fees to other counties, and discuss how to reduce the expenditures. Public Works Director Bill Calderwood noted some of the increases, such as their Office Supplies, have doubled; the Administrative Assistant also needs a desk upgrade. Assistant Drew advised that due to the interlocal agreement they have with the Nev. Dept. of Manufactured Housing, certain compliance labels are required and they are purchased at \$50.00 each, which in turn is charged back to the customer. 5% of all their inspection fees goes to the Housing Dept. as well. Director Calderwood noted that software support has also increased, due to the upgrade for the new operating system that replaces ADS. The replacement project covers different Departments: While WPC Assessor Burton Hilton will be paying for the costs of the upgrades, the actual maintenance agreements will be paid for by the individual Departments. There are also new computers and dual monitors that are added into the upgrade. Director Frances noted she will be purchasing 20 computers; one of those goes to the Building Official, and then they will refund the purchase price as she explained. Central Services allocation is included (comprised of Human Resources, IT and Finance); the actual figures aren't available so those are estimates showing at this time. Director Calderwood advised that Travel/Training went down; however, Assistant Drew cited a letter in the backup materials where there would be FEMA training for her Department to attend. Director Frances suggested that might be funded through an Emergency Management grant, and then we wouldn't have to spend it out of their fund. Long term was the GIS mapping, to be able to assist their customers as needed.

### **Maintenance**

Director Frances advised that Public Works Director Bill Calderwood is requesting seasonal hours be increased up to 1,000 hours. Currently we pay them \$14.00/hr, which is reflected in the current budget; he wants to increase that, as it hasn't been brought up for at least the last 6 years. Director Frances indicated that this is all in the General Fund; there are no PERS or benefits, and the increases would be for our 3 seasonal workers. Director Calderwood noted it's difficult to find someone willing to work for that low rate; some retired folks have even been helping us out, but he asked the Board to please consider raising that amount. He continued to note the Best Locking System needs to be upgraded, as the initial system has been in place for over 20 years and the keys weren't tracked. He also cited 3 new furnaces for the Maint. Dept.; 12 yrs ago they went to HVAC there and they don't use the AC part of it. Plus, the filters aren't very efficient, they tend to plug up easily. They will be going strictly electric, which will be more energy efficient. Other areas needing improvements include a camera system for the Shooting Range, to help decrease vandalism; and at the Senior Center, people are filling up those dumpsters with their own trash. Someone would also have to monitor the camera systems; that also has associated costs which affect the IT Dept. Travel was increased for our Electrician to be certified in Refrigeration as well as the electrical side of things. Certification classes for safety are included as well, specifically training in backflow check valves, which the Commission already approved. The last increase was for Contract Services, since the elevator contract went up. He continued that he traditionally compares the work being done inside and outside of the General Fund; they do more work outside the General Fund, such as in McGill, Ruth, and the Aquatic Center. There followed a lengthy discussion of work needing to be done at the Little League Parks and Marich Field, such as redoing the pitchers mounds. It was noted they now have portable ones, which could be used for the boys' Little League games but not for the girls' Fast Pitch/softball games. Director Frances pointed out that we subsidize the ball parks every year, and the Commission has never allocated out those costs to the special revenue funds, which supports functions like the White Pine Horse Races, for example. Commissioner Shane Bybee advised that we need to supply a certain level of services required for the taxpayer; they need to be decent, well-maintained, safe facilities. We also need to be creative; that affects people's decisions when they come here if it is a place they would want to stay.

Director Calderwood finished his list out with the long term need of demolishing the sheds up the canyon on the left, as they are a safety hazard.

#### **Capital Improvements**

Director Frances advised this is a special revenue fund, with monies coming in through the ad valorem tax, which figures she is expecting to receive shortly. Public Works Director Bill Calderwood noted that the list has been prioritized for the Board, but the order in which they are done isn't necessarily the same. A top priority project is to repair/replace the Courthouse entrance steps. They were capped 18 years ago, and they've lasted a long time. The concrete is deteriorating and the front is settling. He met with Basin Engineering about this; the Justice Court is also affected, it's cracking along the wall where it's attached to the Courthouse. He added that the pillars are also moving out a bit. The number two item on the list is to replace the Senior Center furnace with a 5-ton cooling unit. The third item would be to replace the exterior paint on the Courthouse. There was also some discussion regarding how to redo the Marich Field parking lot; Director Calderwood noted an estimate had been obtained 5 years ago to redo that along with some drainage there, but the cost was over \$400,000 at that time. He felt perhaps both the Maintenance and Road Depts. could work together on that to find a more feasible solution.

#### **Road Department**

Director Frances noted the Road Dept. revenues are pretty well tapped out; while the current Legislation is looking at diesel fuel tax, it is unknown how that will end up so we can't budget for it at this point in time. There is a request for a new full-time Senior Equipment Operator, to be funded by the General Fund. She noted that would be the appropriate way to pay the wages for this person. Director Calderwood proceeded through the line items that were increased. For Equipment under \$5,000, he's asking for tools that the operators could take with them so they can repair their vehicles in the field as needed. Travel/Training is nearly double mostly involving the SLUPAC meetings. Also to be Hazmat trained, you have to go to Elko to get your fingerprints and background checks for your Driver's License. He explained that Hazmat endorsement is required for those; only 3 of them have that right now. Fuel was increased to ensure we would have enough money to purchase it for the County for the year; he cited a high prediction of usage. Other things on the list were a new fire hydrant in the Road Dept. to wash off all their equipment and a rollup door so they could utilize another bay. Contract Services went up; he explained that Sierra Electronics will allow us to split their fees 3 ways for radio preventative maintenance, among the Fire District, Sheriff's Office, and Road Dept.; it would be a combined contract for all 3 entities. He felt we could begin working on the roads as discussed with the Board to bring them up to standard specs and get them into our fuel tax certification, as he explained. The extra operator he is requesting would be instrumental in getting those roads standardized.

#### **Public Transit**

Director Frances noted this is also a special revenue fund, from monies generated by the ¼ cent sales tax. Public Works Director Bill Calderwood advised that Public Transit funds covers the streetlights, there's \$50,000 in the fund for those, and he suggested doing LED lights as they are more efficient/last longer. There is also a request under the Fuel & Utilities line items. For Equipment Over \$5,000 there's a request for \$100,000 to purchase a piece of equipment; mag chloride and road stabilization as well as chip jobs are also on the list. Such items as cattleguards, culverts, etc. are also included. Long Valley Road is falling apart due to heavy mine traffic and the road is deteriorating; he noted; it will need some major maintenance work. The City/County share the building and utility costs at the Landfill because the Landfill doesn't pay for those, he added. He continued to list the needed equipment; a transport truck, new belly dump, side dump and material stacker. He added that screened material will only need to be fed into the equipment to take the oversized material away, which process will eliminate the need for another machine operator. A broom attachment for chip jobs can also be used as a sweeper, thus eliminating further costs. Equipment storage is becoming important to get the equipment out of the weather; the sun really takes a toll on the equipment.

#### **RTC (Regional Transportation Commission)**

Director Frances cited this earlier as also being a tax interest generated fund. Director Calderwood advised that there are increases totaling \$270,000 to cover us using the oil, mag chloride, and chip products on the road. Contract Services were increase triplefold; he explained that the City did the Murry St. project, but didn't complete it. They want to slurry it plus some of the road west of Mill St., in order to protect the roads that are still in good condition. The County wants to do the same thing in Lund, he added. Commissioner Steve Stork asked about the City's portion on Murry St.; Director Calderwood clarified that they would go forward from where they left off. He continued that the RTC had awarded the funds to do the project but they chose not to spend that money so it went back into the fund. He is confident that the City will select the roads where it would be needed. Commissioner Shane Bybee pointed out that most of that street sits 3-4" higher than the gutters, it has chuck holes and "is a heaved-up mess." He wants to see something more cost effective, perhaps to grind it down. Director Calderwood explained the history of the work on that road, namely the portion that was completed; he added that City Employee Russell Merritt does a great job for the City. Commissioner Stork noted that he just doesn't want to see us waste money having to redo roads.

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

### **Parks**

Director Frances cited her references earlier regarding seasonal employees' wages. There is a new request for 624 hours to allow the seasonal workers to assist with the ball fields. Director Calderwood clarified that breaks down into 12 hours/week for 6 months; this was denied by the Commission last year, and he noted we have been doing a "terrible job maintaining our ball fields" because crews just can't get to them, with all the other work needing to be done. He advised of other budget item increases being requested: For Equipment Under \$5,000, a scoreboard needs to be replaced on Little League Field #3; that will cost \$3,700. He noted that the County picks up garbage at all the County sites except for Ruth Town and the Senior Center. The cost to include those—namely the dumpsters—would be \$3,900. He is also asking for extra Auto Gas/Oil to help cover the additional mileage to take care of those areas' garbage. He did note this is part of the reduction in the Electrical line item he advised the Board of earlier. Commissioner Steve Stork asked what it would cost just to have Ely Disposal take care of those areas? Director Calderwood advised that former Commissioner Carol McKenzie had requested that 2 years ago, and at that time it would cost more than double for what we would pay to do it ourselves. Chairman Richard Howe asked if a scoreboard would be an absolute necessity; Director Calderwood explained that the County contracts with WPHS, for both the Little League fields and Marich Field. Having a scoreboard is one of the requirements for High School baseball. There are additional requirements as to what must be posted on the scoreboard, as he related to the Board. Chairman Howe felt the \$3,700 was too expensive. Commissioner Shane Bybee noted that he has a connection with someone working out of Heber City and perhaps we could get our dumpsters for a cheaper rate in bulk. He will get in touch with this person and let Director Calderwood know. Director Calderwood added that he has retained the Travel budget so we could still go down to Las Vegas and make our case to SNPLMA for our projects.

### **Ag. District 13**

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances noted there are a few changes in this budget; she met with Commissioner Travis Godon and Public Works Director Bill Calderwood to discuss the Horse Races and the County Fair. She will be making some adjustments to accommodate the support we anticipate from the General Fund. Director Calderwood advised this budget went up somewhat due to the Fairground Host, who must have service to the internet in order to reserve the Fairgrounds, etc. Contract Services also went up for the Secretary taking minutes of the Ag. District 13 meetings; that advisory board felt their Secretary could also be taking meeting minutes of the Horse Race Committee. Equipment Over \$5,000 was increased to replace a mower with a bagger to do the mowing up the hill from the Fairgrounds; the old one is 10-11 years old. They are also requesting funds for weed trimmers, shovels, etc. for maintenance tools for the Fairgrounds. Their Capital Improvements went up quite a bit to \$186,000; he cited their priority list, which the Ag. District 13 board approved and prioritized the projects in the way they wish them to be done. Ag. District 13 Chairman Bill Panagopoulos asked about the seasonal person; Director Calderwood advised they are requesting an additional seasonal temp for up to 500 hours at \$14.00/hr. He noted the Fairgrounds Host is under 1,039 hours, so he currently isn't eligible for PERS. They are looking to bring the Maintenance worker that they do have up to a higher amount of hours. Chairman Panagopoulos explained that the Maintenance Dept. is a bottleneck; we are always asking them to do more than they can do, they're adding to the facilities all the time, and it's hard for them to be able to do that. He continued that their board feels they have extra room in their budget to take on some of that needed work. He added that he appreciated Commissioner Bybee's comments earlier, that we are trying to provide for the community and bring people in, and cited that's always been the Ag. District 13 board's focus. He continued that they are trying to be responsible with their funding and be able to plan for some big purchases over the next few years. In reply to a query from Commissioner Stork regarding the requested mower, it was noted that piece of equipment would not only take care of the terrace leading to the Fairgrounds but also the 4-H area and a new park that has just been put in; they're always adding grass. Commissioner Travis Godon confirmed there are about 5 different lawns, as "he used to mow it"

### **Camp Success**

Director Frances advised these revenues are generated program revenues; line items have been moved around to provide better accountability as needed. Director Calderwood advised that the 10K is accurate with respect to the revenues coming in. Lead Maintenance Supervisor Tim Norton reviewed the current rate schedule for Camp Success. Commissioner Steve Stork felt we should be charging more for people to use the Camp. Director Calderwood noted that after every renter they have to go up and maintain, monitor, etc. the area as well as bring up the fuel. Commissioner Shane Bybee felt a price increase wouldn't be detrimental; folks are lined up to use it and are being turned away. Director Calderwood noted that once in awhile a renter opts out at the last minute that that frees up the spot for the next person on the waiting list. Commissioner Bybee felt we could stick with the current rate schedule for this summer and then raise the rates for everyone new coming in; he noted that nearly everyone returns that has reserved a weekend, and the "first right of refusal" has very seldom been exercised. Director Calderwood will present an agenda item on raising the rates, and he will also bring in a comparison with Lamoille's campground rates.

### Aquatics Center

Director Frances advised this is also a special revenue fund; there is a ¼ cent sales tax dedicated to these facilities, which should be generating \$600,000, although that also depends on the activities going on in the County. She noted there is also some interest generated from the fund balance. Aquatic Facilities Director Kristy Rozich advised that for her budget, she's generally kept things status quo or has dropped the figures somewhat. She is requesting an increase due to extra usage this year, and that would allow for a slight cushion as well. That increase is in the Repair/- Maintenance line item as the pool has been utilized more in recent months. She is just getting things updated; the basic pool needs have to be addressed on a regular basis, as she explained. For Capital Improvements she is requesting some monies back; things were planned for but not initiated due to the many issues that needed to be done first before adding any extra items. A dryer went down and the unit costs \$1,100 to fix/replace it. A roof unit will cost \$1,700 to fix. The McGill diving board needs to have a pillar replaced for safety reasons, and she wants to ensure the monies will be available for that. Director Frances advised that the Master Insurance and Central Services will be updated once we have actual figures to work with. This budget covers both this and the McGill facility, she noted. Director Calderwood advised we're starting to see some 5-year needs surface; he wants to increase the Facility Repair fund. Director Rozich felt a fence should also be done but that alone will cost \$16,000; she explained how kids are doing things behind the dumpsters and this needs to be halted, and a fence would be one barrier. The fence could come out of this year's budget, she noted, while another more expensive project could be done next year. Commissioner Steve Stork advised a camera should be done commensurate with the fence; the Board agreed with this. Director Rozich will bring back more information on some of these items; she did note another line item was added, Fire Extinguisher Inspection, for \$2,000, by request of the Maintenance Dept.

### McGill Swimming Pool

Director Frances indicated this fund has been absorbed into the Aquatics Center.

### Golf Course

Director Frances advised that some figures appear to be missing or zeroed out; she felt some weren't brought forward, and she will meet with Golf Professional Randy Long about these. On the revenue side, Professional Long noted \$4,600 is coming in from the fee increases. Increasing other fees would also bring in more revenue. At this point he read a message from his voicemail into the record. Pertaining to a rental of space for cellphone coverage at the Golf Course, the Board felt that was something he could pursue. He did have a question regarding insurance; if there is an issue such as if someone breaks a leg on the Golf Course, how would our policy cover that? He felt we could do a waiver or something stating the County wouldn't be liable for such accidents. Director Frances recommended he contact our insurance with those concerns and find out how our coverage would apply in those cases. She did note that having to sign waivers might put people off every time they want to play a round of golf. Professional Long asked about the possibility of an "oxy tax;" Commissioner Shane Bybee wants to revisit when the Tourism & Recreation Board went to the City to obtain the ½% that was supposed to be earmarked for the Golf Course. The only way they would approve it is if it was available to other recreational facilities, and not specifically tied to the Golf Course; however, the Golf Course never received any of it. He wants to see the Ordinance changed so that the County can earmark that portion for the Golf Course. He did note that this could result in repercussions from the Tourism & Recreation Board that might affect any future requests. Following some discussion Commissioner Bybee suggested doing a room tax Ordinance with a percentage for the County like is being done in the City; we would receive at least some revenue for the Golf Course, and the occupancy tax would then be standard countywide. Director Frances indicated this should all be taken back to the District Attorney to amend the Ordinance as suggested and to earmark the amount that's already included in there. Updated revenue figures will also be forthcoming, it was noted.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO GIVE DIRECTION TO THE FINANCE DIRECTOR REGARDING ITEMS HEARD DURING THE BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Commissioner Ian Bullis would like a summary showing our total projected revenues, what the expected surplus will be, and the total requests made, as well as what the balance would be as a result of these projections.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.



**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to adjourn at 12:38 p.m. 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