Notice of Meeting and Agenda

**Gerlach/Empire**

**Citizens Advisory Board**

Meeting Agenda

October 9, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

 Gerlach Community Center, 410 Cottonwood, Gerlach, NV 89412

ZOOM available: <https://washoecounty-gov.zoom.us/j/96953286090>

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| **NOTE:** Items on this agenda may be taken out of order, combined with other items, discussed or voted on as a block, removed from the agenda, or moved to another agenda of another later meeting at the discretion of the Chair.**Accessibility**. The meeting location is accessible to the disabled. If you require special arrangements for the meeting, call the Commission Support Team, (775) 328-2003, two working days prior to the meeting. |
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| **Public comment and time limits**. Public comments are welcomed during the General Public Comment period for all matters, whether listed on the agenda or not, and are limited to three minutes per person. Additionally, public comment will be heard during individually numbered action items on the agenda. Persons not attending in person, including anyone attending via online option, are invited to submit comments in writing on agenda items to be included in the written record/minutes from the meeting, or attend and make verbal public comment on that item at the Citizens Advisory Board meeting. Public comment, letters, etc. submitted will not be read aloud. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers.**Responses to Public Comments**. The Citizens Advisory Board can deliberate or take action only if a matter has been listed on an agenda properly posted prior to the meeting. During the public comment period, speakers may address matters listed or not listed on the published agenda. The Open Meeting Law does not expressly prohibit responses to public comments by the CAB members. However, responses from CAB members to unlisted public comment topics could become deliberation on a matter without notice to the public. On the advice of legal counsel and to ensure the public has notice of all matters the Citizens Advisory Board will consider, CAB members may choose not to respond to public comments, except to correct factual inaccuracies, ask for County staff clarification, or to ask that a matter be addressed on a future agenda. CAB members may do this either during the public comment item or during the following item "CHAIR/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS"**Forum Restrictions and Orderly Conduct of Business**. The Citizens Advisory Board is an advisory body providing community comments and recommendations to Washoe County advisory and governing boards. The presiding officer may order the removal of any person whose statement or other conduct disrupts the orderly, efficient or safe conduct of the meeting. Warning against disruptive conduct may or may not be given prior to removal. The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place and manner of speech. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks which antagonize or incite others are examples of speech that may be reasonably limited.**Posting Locations.** Pursuant to NRS 241.020(4)(a), this notice has been posted online at [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov) and [www.washoecounty.gov/cabs](http://www.washoecounty.gov/cabs) **Support Documentation**. Support documentation for the items on the agenda, provided to the CAB is available to members of the public by emailing the Commission Support Team at CAB@washoecounty.gov. |

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –** Comment heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the agenda. The Citizens Advisory Board will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to three minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Board as a whole. [Non Action Item]

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS OF** [September 11, 2025](https://www.washoecounty.gov/CABS/GE_CAB/2025/files/GE_CAB_Minutes_September_Draft1.docx). [Non Action Item]

**5. PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATES –** A Washoe County Sheriff’s Deputy and/or member from Royal Ambulance may be available to provide a general community update on public safety [Non Action Item]

**6.** **COMMUNITY UPDATE ON FIRE SERVICE TO GERLACH/EMPIRE** – Russell Bierle, acting in the capacity of a member of the Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department, will provide the most recent update on fire service to the Gerlach/Empire community, and surrounding areas. [Non Action Item]

**7.** **COMMUNITY INPUT ON MICROGRID FUNDRAISING** - Washoe County Sustainability Manager Brian Beffort seeks community input and CAB guidance for the Gerlach Microgrid project fundraising efforts, to include proposed spending of allocated funds and possible promotional activity meant to increase donations for the project. [For Possible Action]

**8. HIGH DESERT DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT (DCA) –** Bowman Consulting Group Planning Team Lead, David Snelgrove, to present on the High Desert Development Code Amendment and receive community feedback on the proposed amendment. This would amend Article 206 (High Desert Area) of Washoe County Development Codes, specifically Section 110.206.10 (General Rural Regulatory Zone Area Modifier) to allow for additional company town, bunk house, and employee housing beyond the standard allowed housing density of 1/40 acres. [For Discussion Only]

**9. NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT HUB & OTHER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES –** Staff to announce any upcoming neighborhood development meetings, as provided on the online [HUB](https://neighborhood-washoe.hub.arcgis.com/), and any board & commission vacancies with application details, as provided on the [openings page](https://www.washoecounty.gov/citizens/board_opportunities.php). The new input portal will be introduced and shared. Specific questions and feedback will be brought back to the appropriate staff for potential announcement at the next CAB meeting. [Non-Action Item]

**10. REPORT ON REQUESTS FOR SERVICE FROM PREVIOUS CAB MEETINGS** – CAB Chair will provide a report to the community outlining requests that were made of the County during the previous CAB meeting, and their resolution. [Non-Action Item]

**11. COMMISSIONER AND BOARD MEMBER ITEMS** — This item is limited to announcements and/or requests for future agenda items by CAB members and potential general announcements from the county commissioner and county manager. [Non Action Item]

**12. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – Comment heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the agenda. The public is encouraged to submit a “Request to Speak” form to the Board chairman. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole. [Non Action Item]

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Comments? Ideas?** Washoe County wants to hear from Gerlach/Empire residents on relevant matters important to them. Let's work together to identify topics, ideas, and questions to help make the quality of life in Gerlach/Empire the best it can be. Community engagement is important, and the feedback you provide will help your County Commissioner and Washoe County share information at Gerlach/Empire CAB meetings and through other communications channels to keep you better informed. Scan the QR code below, or visit this [website](https://washoe-county-nv.civilspace.io/en/projects/spanish-springs).

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