

# South Truckee Meadows/Washoe Valley Citizen Advisory Board

**DRAFT:** Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are

approved by the CAB. Minutes of the regular meeting of the South Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board held January 8, 2015 at the South Valleys Library at 15650A Wedge Parkway, Reno, Nevada

**1.** \*CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM – The meeting was called to order at **6:06pm** by Chair person, Patricia Phillips.

## **Member Present:**

Patricia Phillips, Chair, At-Large, Jim Rummings, At-Large, Eric Scheetz, Vice Chair, Brad Stanley, At-Large, Thomas Daly, At-Large. A quorum was determined.

**Member Absent:** Dennis Wilson, At-Large, Steven Miles, At-Large Alternate, Kimberly Rossiter At-Large Alternate, Kathie Roberts, At-Large.

Excused Absent: Thomas Judy, At-Large, Patrick Ty Whitaker, At-Large Alternate

2. \*PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Patricia led the pledge.

## 3. \*PUBLIC COMMENT -

Marilyn Naylor said she is a board member of the Washoe County Alliance. She said she opposes the Summit Sierra Mall Sign. It's a 72 foot tall structure that flashes with brightly colored images. It will negatively impact the home buyers, views of the area and the dark skies.

John Hara said he opposes the Summit Mall Sign. He spoke about the scenic nature of the location. He said the outdoor advertising is active, aggressive and changing the natural assets with advertising. Reno planning staff said that The Summit heard about staff's concerns and there was a back door deal. All these concerns weren't changed. John said we want the community to deny approval.

Lori Wray said Scenic Nevada had appealed the sign. The mall's attorney asked to put off the hearing for the mall sign. The hearing is February 11, 6pm. The Summit Sierra Mall already has signs on their property. The mall is requesting one digital sign and other non-digital signs. Lori said they want a strict sign control enforced to protect the scenic area. She said they aren't appealing the non-digital signs. The digital sign is noncompatible with scenic area. There is a moratorium on digital signs in Reno. It will be intrusive and a permanent scar.

Cliff Lowe said there was an effort made for this specific issue to get on the agenda. Washoe County has no jurisdiction over this sign at the Summit Mall. The Summit Mall is in City of Reno. Reno approved it, and appeal is being made in City of Reno. He said because of the proximity to unincorporated area and those affected by the sign, it's important that our views are heard so the Commissioners can communicate to the Reno Council. The sign was in the paper on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cliff said there will be no more dark skies with this sign, and that will affect viewing astronomy in the area.

Garry Houk spoke about the biomass collection facility and the grant from Nevada Fire. He said he would like Waste Management to come up with something to address yard waste disposal. He said there would be improved fire safety if people can get rid of their brush. He said he would also like to see the County come through with bike lanes, especially in East Washoe Valley. Additionally, he said he would like the speed limit at changed at Mt. Rose and East Lake Blvd.

Jane Countryman said she lives in West Washoe Valley, and there are many citizens who oppose the digital sign (At the Summit Mall), and the people need resolve this issue.

Tom Daly, member of the CAB, said he requested this item (Digital Sign at Summit Sierra) to be on the agenda. He said Cliff Lowe wanted it on the Board of County Commissioner's agenda, and Commissioner Weber requested it as well. The published agenda doesn't have this item. Tom said we need to have a special meeting, to hear everyone's views, prior to the 27<sup>th</sup> agenda deadline. He said we are trapped by time constraints. He said will ask for a special meeting for this CAB for this Monday, as a single agenda item and discuss the pros and cons. The applicant has the right for the sign, but the size is a nuisance and not safe for motorist. The County needs to tell the City that the sign is inappropriate.

Brad Stanley asked if this has gone before Cooperative Planning. Patricia said because it's a City of Reno issue, it's complicated to have on our agenda. Eric Scheetz said we do have an item to discuss the sign ordinance, and we can encourage our neighbors to decline this sign.

Jim Rummings said he said the Planning Commission and City of Reno have been through a lot of details. He said Tom made a good comment about hearing both sides. It's Reno that makes the decision. There should be some organizations where all parties involved can be briefed. There can be a common meeting. This is a significant issue on both sides. The Summit Mall employs over 1000 people; it's a major business in Reno. He asked if the sign has to be as large as requested. He said they aren't hearing the whole story. He said we should recommend to the City of Reno that we want to represent our community in this issue.

Dr. Pat Colletti from the Virginia Range Sanctuary spoke about the horses. He said back in 1989 when they were making zoning changes to the Damonte Ranch area, the developers reassured them that they would mitigate any horse issues. The wild horse issues have only escalated. They have been removed or injured. The developers haven't stepped forward to mitigate the horse issue. He recommends the non-profits work with the local governments to get better control of the range. We recommend looking for solutions.

Kelly Hyatt thanked the WCC for signing the proclamation for the wild horses. She said she looks forward to working with the Commission. She said they are trying to get the horses safe and walk them out of the neighborhoods. She works with horses so they don't go to slaughter. She said the upcoming wild horse campaigns and advocates program will be wonderful. She thanked Washoe County for coming on board and working together. She said the horses are a tourism asset. Tourism brings in the money. Public and horse safety is important.

Chief Charles Moore from the Truckee Meadow Fire Protection District reviewed a few items. He said 279 Christmas trees were recycled at the fire stations. Chief Moore talked about the captain's goat herd. The goats are good for creating defensible space; if you need some defensible space, you can rent the goats. He reported that a failure of an extension cord on a space heater caused a tragic fire of a disabled man. He reminded everyone the importance of smoke detectors. He said they have smoke detectors, please contact them, and they will install it at no charge. He said they are having a lot of fires from electrical sources. Please be careful with electrical sources.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2015 –** Brad Stanley made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting of January 8, 2015; Tom Daly seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously

# 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 2014 – APPROVAL HAS BEEN DELAYED UNTIL THE FEBRUARY MEETING.

# 6.\* COUNTY UPDATE

**A. \*Washoe County Commissioner Update –** Washoe County Commissioner Bob Lucey, District 2, gave an update on neighborhood issues in District 2. Commissioner Lucey can be reached: visit www.washoecounty.us/bcc, email: blucey@washoecounty.us, or call (775) 328-2005.

Commissioner Lucey gave an update in regards to District 2. The community brought him a significant amount of issues:

- Fire and services negotiations will continue with the City of Reno.
- He is available for you, as well as the County Manager's Office is here to help. He said they will work to be a voice for you. He asked the audience if they have any issues.

Patricia said the CAB members represent different neighborhoods, and requested each board member to summarize the current issue in their neighborhood.

Eric Scheetz said he is in Galena Forest area (Callahan Ranch to government lots area). He said the biggest issue has been the wells. The production wells are drawing

down. He said they have come to an agreement, but it has been a major issue. Eric said he lost a well himself. He said the Galena Forest area is a fire danger area. He said we have bears issues with poor waste management.

Patricia said her neighborhood is the Damonte, Lakeside, Thomas Creek, Foothill area. She said there are two main issues: They want to maintain being rural, and don't want to be sub-divided. The second concern is water rights. She said they are concerned that TMWA (Truckee Meadows Water Authority) will deplete their wells.

Tom Daly said he lives at the Estates at Mt. Rose. He said his concern was with REMSA's response time in the corridor. He said it is not acceptable. He said his neighbor had some incidences, and they didn't respond within 15 minutes. Truckee Meadow Fire is the secondary response. He said we need better data and transparency.

Brad Stanley said he is in the Damonte Ranch High School area. He is concerned about the traffic around the high school, bad traffic and safety situations. He wants to know more about what is being done with cooperative planning. There has been a reduction in rural community. It's the issue between defining what is rural and what is city.

Jim Rummings said he would represent the concerns of those citizens living in the Washoe Valley, East Side/West side and Pleasant Valley area up to Mt. Rose. His concerns are with quality of life with development, water/sewer, fire services, and EMT services. He said they fought hard over losing the bowers mansion fire station. There are still a lot of concerns about the paramedic services.

Bob Lucey said he is working with Truckee Meadow Fire and Chief Moore, and said they have been pleased with Truckee Meadow Fire Protection. Mr. Lucey addressed Tom's comment about REMSA, and said they have spoken about transparency and enforced that going forward. Mr. Lucey said they have talked about working with the School District. He said he is optimistic and will try to accommodate everyone and the best interest of Washoe County. He said Washoe County is in a good position as a County, fiscally. He said Sarah Tone is available if he is not available.

Eric said other board members who aren't here have issues in their area as well. He mentioned the South East Connector. He said they are concerned for loss of quality of life and flooding impacts.

Mr. Lucey said there is an upcoming meeting scheduled to discuss these issues. He asked that everyone be patient and optimistic. He said they are here to work for you. He spoke in regards to the agenda item for the digital sign that didn't make it on for the Tuesday meeting. He said they are working on our ordinance, and they would like to wait to see how the City of Reno and developers will move forward. Washoe County has no jurisdiction but would like to be involved and don't want to intrude into their business. He said he is aware and working on it, and if anyone has any issues, please contact Sarah and Kevin Schiller, and they can forward information to Bob Lucey.

**B.** \***County Update –** Sarah Tone, Office of the County Manager provided an update on County services. Sarah can be contacted at stone@washoecounty.us or (775) 328-2721. To sign up to receive email updates from the County visit <u>www.washoecounty.us/cmail</u>

- Reno Justice Court: You can pay unpaid tickets and you won't be arrested.
- Finalized Truckee Meadow Water Authority merger on January 1<sup>st</sup>
- There are 3 upcoming County meetings in a row: Friday is a strategic meeting. Monday is the concurrent meeting (all jurisdictions in the region). Tuesday is the Board of County Commissioners meeting. All are at different locations:
- 9am, Friday RSVCA building
- 8:30am, Monday County Chambers
- 10am, Tuesday BCC Chambers
- Liane Lee can address legislative topics
- Washoe County Staff is working on reviewing the Jones Creek Trail which is impeding on private property. Staff would like to present on this topic.
- Horses issue was discussed at the Board of County Commissioners meeting on December 11, 2014. The resolution is on the Washoe County website.
- Please feel to contact us at (775)328-2000 (District 2: (775)832-2012) County Commissioners.

# 7.\* PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY REPORTS/UPDATES

**A.\* Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO)** – No Washoe County Sherriff available For more information regarding safety questions and concerns, call (775) 328-3001 or via the webpage at www.washoesheriff.com.

Chief Moore from the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District gave an update:

He spoke about Sierra Fire and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the inefficiency with having two fire districts. He said if they dissolve the Sierra Fire, they can reduce duplication of efforts. They will have to consider the tax abatements in Sierra Fire service area. The governmental affairs and lobbyist will meet to discuss and address this.

Eric asked about service to the Sierra Fire residents. Chief Moore said the service would be the same, and every fire station has paramedic capability. Chief Moore said it would eliminate Sierra Fire as a district and create one single district. Eric said he recalls when NDF switched to Sierra Fire. He asked if there are any concerns from that switch over that we should address now. Chief said he hasn't been here long enough, but any issues have already been vetted out. Chief said it's inefficient to have Sierra Fire.

#### **8. WASHOE COUNTY TRASH AND RECYCLING FRANCHISE AGREEMENT –** Washoe County Assistant County Manager, Kevin Schiller and a representative from

Waste Management will provide information on trash and recycling services in unincorporated Washoe County including: the franchise agreement, next steps on the proposed single stream recycling integration, and information on how to stay informed. The presenters will be available to answer questions from the board and audience. For additional information, please contact the Washoe County, Office of the County Manager at (775) 328-2000.

Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager gave a brief introduction:

- City of Reno implemented single stream recycling.
- Current franchise agreement will remain in effect and will be reviewed and opened up, and they want to hear from the community with input. Create models and proposals with feedback from the community and lessons learned from Reno.
- Target date: Proposed models will be brought in front of the Board in March.

Greg Martinelli with Waste Management gave a slide presentation and requested feedback:

- Franchise agreement has been in place since 2000. Expires at the end of this year (December 12, 2015)
- 5% franchise fee paid; \$409,094. Free services to County facilities.

Desired results:

- Modify agreement to eliminate the basket system and replace with single stream recycling carts.
- Fleet to become CNG powered trucks
- Make transfer station and ecocenter available for County customers
- Eliminate cubic yard and customer can service and provide all customers with wheeled carts.
- Amortize the agreement over 10 year

City of Reno participation:

• 90% participation rate in some neighborhood; Average is 80% participation

Showed pictures of current county waste management and potential model:

- Types of recyclables collected graph
- Access to the transfer station 4 free trips a year.
- Discounted senior rate and free yard service for handicapped customers we are looking into smaller containers.
- Current customer mix: 25,150 are currently using the 96 gallon cart for recycling.
- CNG fueling station will become permanent.
- There are 23 CNG trucks out of the 110 trucks. Greg said it's a gradual transition to new trucks.

Brad Stanley asked for a brief overview of recycling. Greg said it's a struggle because there are not a lot of domestic markets. He said our recycling ends up in China.

Tom Daly said he has the new recycling carts but his neighbors haven't been given the new containers. Greg said they said they will look into it. Greg said there were too many choices to everyone for the City of Reno. Washoe County needs to decide the appropriate size containers for the County. He said we need to learn from mistakes made in the Reno with the wrong container size.

Eric Scheetz said he appreciated how Greg mentioned the bear totes. He personally recommends the bear sheds. Greg said it's expensive, but it's the best way to go. Pat Phillips asked about when they will start recycling plastic bags. Greg said Walmart and other big stores do that. It creates havoc for them and it's a challenge.

Art O' Connor spoke about the different containers Reno has; 96 gallon tote and 64 gallon tote, which is a down size. He said they have changed a lot of things. The recycling was being sorted, and it's not being sorted anymore. They mix it at the curb, and don't bother keeping it separated. He said he is concerned for his 96 gallon tote being downsized and raising rates for keeping the 96 gallon tote. He said he wants to keep the 96 gallons at the same rate.

Greg said Reno wanted a bunch of different choices and they let the public choose. If you have a larger parcel, you would have to pay more. The commissioners may decide to do something different.

Debbie Shelltra said she they haven't heard about this. She asked about yard waste and plastic bags. Greg said they made a recommendation to Reno that in the fall, Waste Management would pick up all the bags of leaves during a 6 week period. Debbie said she would have a problem if they won't pick up all the bags. Debbie said these proposals and discussions need to go before Board of County Commissioners.

Cliff Lowe said he shared the same concerns as Debbie. This presentation needs to be brought to all the individual CABs. He said there is greater diversity in the unincorporated in regards to the lot sizes and specific needs compared to the City of Reno. The County Commissioners need to recognize a one-size-fits-all won't work for the unincorporated parts of the County. The current system allows for one big tote and a specific number of bags. The use of transfer stations, once a quarter, free dump days, it would be beneficial to get rid of their bulk items when they want, and not wait until the weekend.

Eric Scheetz said he agreed with Gary Houk. Eric said he appreciated the biomass collection facility to take care of the leaves, pine needles, etc. He said maybe we can work with Waste Management to get a grant to get a biomass facility to reduce the brush and defensible space. Eric said he wants that to be considered and he would help to look into this possibility.

Bob Lucey said Waste Management is trying to work with us and create a proposal. He said they will take your input into consideration. He said there is no new enforcement, and that this is just the beginning of the conversation. It has been successful in Reno. Mr. Lucey said they are working on it, and to please be patient.

Maureen O'Brien asked if we they will still be able to put our own trash can out. Greg said they will consider eliminating it. She said she was concerned about her budget and doesn't want a change in service or to pay more. She said she doesn't care if a house has 6 containers or cans. She said she is not for paying for more and getting less.

Marilyn Naylor said in other cities, they use recyclable bags for the leaves.

Art O'Connor said Waste Management has changed the way they pick up your trash. There use to be two men who would dump the trash. Now there is a mechanical arm that will dump the tote. That is why they want to get rid of the bags and personal containers. He said if you have a bunch of special containers, they guy has to do it by hand. They want to cut down on their labor costs, and by doing so, they will shrink the size of the container. He said they are hiding information. You will have to pay for additional totes.

Cliff Lowe said he has been involved in a local nonprofit, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful. KTMB has been working on green waste disposal. He said it's difficult to compare us with other areas because situations are different: locations, processing, etc. He said Scenic Nevada is concerned about the beauty of this area. He said we need to maintain an affordable way to dispose of waste. He asked that input is taken into consideration so objections are reached.

**9. UPDATE ON WILD HORSE ISSUES ON THE VIRGINIA RANGE –** Shannon Windle, from the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign, will give a brief presentation regarding their efforts to address wild horse issues on the Virginia Range. This issue was previously noted during public comment at the September and November 2014 Citizen Advisory Board meetings. For additional information on the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign call (650) 248-4489 or visit www.wildhorsepreservation.org.

Shannon Windle thanked the Board for being on the agenda. She said she appreciates support and encouragement. 2014 was year of the horse and 2015 will be the year of the wild horse. She said she will come back to give updates at the CAB meetings.

She said there is a cooperative agreement working with Department of Agriculture to provide humane management of Virginia Range and Fertility Control. The volunteers on the range work on feeding, public safety, relocation of horses instead of removal. They are working on extensive fencing; they want to do the entire Virginia Range to ensure public safety which is first and foremost. The parties involved are the Department of Agriculture, Corey Hunt in the Governor's Office, and national partners such as the National Horse Preservation, as well as local organizations, Wild Horse Let 'em Run

Foundation, and Wild Horse Preservation. She said they are working on public education and safety with hands on activities. Washoe County Commission signed the resolution of interlocal agreement to protect wild horses and burros. Wild horses are under the State jurisdiction. Lyon County supported the resolution of humane management with non-profit and private agencies. Storey County is working on it as well to support this agreement. The law enforcement in Storey County supports the implementation of this agreement. They see it as positive plan and it will reduce public safety hazards.

Shannon said the Palisades development was brought up at the Reno Planning Commission meeting where concerns were voiced about this development. The development was postponed. Shannon said we need to have wild horses taken into consideration before any development. She said the Toll Brothers developers have been good to work with. She spoke with Bill Whitney to incorporate wild horses into code. It should be become part of our development. We want to ensure everyone is safe.

Kelly Hyatt talked about the Hidden Valley Wild Horse Protection Fund. She has been involved with large animal rescue. During wild fires, they are able to assist with the removal of large animals to safe places.

Art O'Connor said wild horses are misnomer. They are invasive species. In the Virginia range, they were roaming or lose horse. They were decedents of owned horses. In 2008, people would turn their horses wild which increased the horse population. Invasive species displaced the prong horns. The horses drove the deer out. They talk about tourist attraction, but the prong horns are much more of an attraction. When the horses eat, they kill off the grass. You have to think about losing the native species. He said don't focus on something that isn't native.

Dr. Colletti said the gentleman isn't speaking on a scientific basis. Horses have existed here. Virginia Range Foundation is producing informational videos.

Eric Scheetz said he spoke with Corey Hunt and Corey appreciates everyone working together and everyone is all on the same page and volunteering. He applauds everyone for their hard work.

Dana Reeser said there are no horses in her area, but she involved with protecting horse. She said it doesn't matter if they are native or nonnative species. Virginia Range horses aren't federally protected because herd management. They are wild horses, and it doesn't matter how they got here. They are valuable for our tourists industry. She said we need to accommodate them.

**10. WASHOE COUNTY SIGN CODE ORDINANCE –** A staff representatives from Washoe County Community Services Department, Planning and Development Division will provide an update an overview of the Washoe County Sign Code Ordinance update and process. Staff will be available to address questions from the board and audience.

Additional information on the sign code is available online at www.washoecounty.us/comdev/hot\_topics/signs.htm , by emailing planning@washoecounty.us, or calling (775) 328 - 3600.

Trevor Lloyd gave an update on the highlights of the draft of Washoe County Sign Code Ordinance:

- Washoe County has been working with an outside working group, Scenic Nevada, whose members include Jim Rummings, the Wrays and John Hara.
- They are compiling input to create a code that is reasonable.

Trevor reviewed some highlights in the draft code:

- He said they have an existing code and want to create a code in plain English.
- Article 502 and 504 merged into Article 505.
- Direction from County Commissioners is to be content neutral
- For those inquiring about permanent signs, he directs them to Table (505-9) for permanent signs regulations.
- For electronic message displays (EMD), a special use permits is required.
- He said they have seen a trend to reduce the inventory of billboards. They have been reduced over the years and that trend will continue.
- He said they have been given direction from Board of County Commissioners to allow larger signs in certain locations.
- They are developing simpler language for temporary signs.
- They are trying to reducing clutter. Vertical sales signs and dancing blow-up guys will be prohibited.
- The allowable space on store windows is not to exceed 25% of window space
- Real estate signs
- Making the standards for mobile signs more restrictive
- Making enforcement of signs easier for staff and those who want to place a sign on their property.
- On January 29, there will be a community workshop, 5-6:30pm at the Washoe County offices. Trevor said they will get input and take the final draft to the County Commissioners in March.

Eric Scheetz asked if elections signs are considered a temporary sign. Trevor said elections signs are exempt, not considered temporary. Trevor was asked about what is considered a large sign and what are the electronic message display (EMD) specifics. Trevor said the Board of County Commissioners will provide recommendation on size. Trevor said EMDs would require a special use permit and the case will go directly to the Board of County Commissioners and will not be presented to the Board of Adjustments. Eric said it should go through all the same steps as any other special use permit. Trevor said they will propose to regulate the size of the sign based on uses and not zoning.

Eric Scheetz asked a hypothetical question regarding the Summit Sierra sign. Trevor said the proposed electronic sign would have a 648 square feet surface, and approximately 70 feet tall. Trevor said if that display was within Washoe County, he

would limit the size to 200 square feet. Eric said this is 6 to 7 times larger than what the County would allow. Trevor said they would prohibit EMDs on the scenic corridor. Eric asked if there was a way, as citizens, to ask the City of Reno to be good neighbors and follow Washoe County code. Trevor said he hopes the City of Reno uses Washoe County Sign ordinance as a model. He said Washoe County followed the City of Sparks sign ordinance and made improvements and made it easier to understand. Trevor said they have tightened the illumination standards.

Tom Daly asked if the Sign Code Ordinance has been agenized. Trevor said they want to take it to Planning Commission in early March.

Brad Stanley asked about if there has been any federal or state research made on the electronic message displays. Trevor said yes, there have been studies and recommendations. Many groups have done studies and provided recommendations on spacing, hold times, illumination. Trevor said everyone is concerned with safety issues, and we have incorporated that.

Patricia Phillips said this is going to be a City versus County issue. She asked if this can this go to the State Legislature to protect the surrounding areas. She asked if the County could consider inserting a bill into state legislator. Kevin Schiller said the deadline to submit bill has passed. He said often times bills get inserted into an existing bills. He said he wanted echo that we are trying to utilize this process to be transparent; it's a very controversial issue. He said they are investing a lot of time with the community to create a code to propose to the Board. The recommendations will be based on the input received over the years.

Patricia said she was involved with legislative development and should look into introducing this at the legislative level. Jim Rumming said we would probably lose at the State legislature because of Clark County use of EMD. We need to keep it local. It was difficult to draft up a draft code that we are all happy with. Trevor said this is better than what Reno has. Jim said he recommends staying away from the State Legislature. Trevor doesn't want to compare the draft ordinance with Reno's ordinance, but would rather compare with Washoe County's old code.

#### Public Comment:

Mark Wray said he is the pro bono counsel for Scenic Nevada. He said there has been one voice for a long time, and that has been Scenic Nevada. He said his wife is an expert on this topic, and she knows all about the different ordinances. He said Commissioner Vaughn Hartung helped Norm Dianda get a sign for his motorcycle park. They made an exception into the code, and now you have to make an exception for everyone. He said please listen to his wife when she has her comments.

Lori Wray said she is a board member of Scenic Nevada. She said she is concerned about billboards and digital signs. She said this draft is way better than previous drafts. She said they were persistent with their concerns. She said they asked to refuse EMDs being on scenic corridors. She said they are concerned about two major things: 1. Concerned about 505-14 item 40 C4 – allowing a sign to be placed on an adjacent property.

2. Concerned about the 3 foot candle lighting. She said they have a better way to limit brightness levels.

Marilyn Naylor talked about reporting abandoned signs; she said she didn't see clear guidelines about citizens reporting of abandoned or vandalized billboards and expected response times.

Cliff Lowe said he personally believes business should not have unlimited freedoms that affect the quality of life of others. It affects the attractiveness of the area and could look like another Las Vegas. He said there should be a section on public/utility property; should be on 505-60. He said this isn't a complete draft.

Lori Wray asked about Eric Scheetz's hypothetical question mentioned earlier in the meeting. She asked Trevor what would be the standards if the Summit Sierra Mall electronic message display sign was in Washoe County. Trevor said it would be limited to 6 feet tall, 120 feet surface, 50% would be EMD. Lori asked about large recreational areas. Mark Wray asked about Mark Dianda's special use permit and who received notice. Trevor said 30 of the closest neighbors received notices. Lori asked about Norm's digital board. Trevor said they will clarify that after the meeting.

Debbie Shellta said she use to own a food king store. She said they had windows as tall as the walls; they used the windows to advertise and they didn't clutter the parking lot. She asked for clarification about the limit on window advertising. Trevor said you are restricted and can't cover the windows with advertisements. He said 25% of the window area can be used for advertising. Debbie asked if they got input from the businesses. Trevor said they adopted this from City of Sparks. Debbie said Sparks isn't a major metropolitan area like Washoe County. Debbie said 25% of advertising can't be seen from the road. She said she would ask for an exemption. She said consider each case specifically.

Eric Scheetz asked to consider revising the standard for the windows and ask for specific special use permits. Trevor said they can consider that. Eric said if people can't advertise one way, they are forced to advertise another way. Trevor said we have allowed a leniency in size of signs as well as free standing signs and they want to avoid the constant clutter. Patricia said she is concerned about the window ratio of 25%.

Trevor announced the community workshop is January 29<sup>th</sup> and invited everyone to come and bring your comments.

**11. UPDATE REGARDING REGIONAL IMPACTS AND FUTURE GROWTH –** City of Reno, City of Sparks and Washoe County elected officials discussed the regional impacts of accelerated economic development (specifically Tesla) at the December 8, 2014 concurrent meeting. Please review the concurrent meeting video online for

additional information at

http://washoenv.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\_id=6&clip\_id=1539, email planning@washoecounty.us,or call (775) 328 - 3600.

Bill Whitney, Washoe County Planning and Development Director gave a brief update and asked for questions:

Tesla is coming to the area, which is a good thing because it will pull us out of recession. He said there is a lot happening in our region.

Eric Scheetz thanked Bill Whitney for coming. Eric said he is excited for Tesla coming, but there are so many other businesses coming. He said sometimes we don't hear about these issues. Eric asked Bill about the number of units.

Bill Whitney handed out a packet. He said you can watch the joint meeting online from when all 3 jurisdictions met: Reno, Sparks, Washoe County. The information is from Kim Robinson's presentation.

Bill reviewed the handout:

- There is a consensus forecast produced every 2 years for a 20-year planning horizon for population and employment growth.
- He discussed the pie charts and statistics: Approximately 127,000 additional people by 2034 and 81,000 additional jobs in that 20 year timeframe.
- Age group distribution: 4% growth in retired by 2034
- Approved future housing units: 64,000 total approved future units.
- 9,000 tentative map units, which don't need much approval.
- 54,000 Planned Units Developments; the unincorporated County doesn't have a lot of these, but the City of Reno does (63%).

Jim Rummings said the Washoe County residents will have a problem with Reno growing and spill into unincorporated Washoe County. Bill said they can annex property during major development. It's creature of state law. Bill said he didn't have an answer regarding where the annex would happen. Jim said it doesn't matter if we don't want to. Bill whitney said he can't speak for Reno or Sparks, and during the big boom, Reno grew north. The south voiced their concern which stopped Reno from going into Washoe Valley. Bill said it's the elected politicians that are making decisions from Reno. Bill suggested to tell them what you think and what you like and don't like.

Jim Rummings asked about the direction of growth. Bill Whitney said go online from the jurisdiction meeting, and there is a map where these are proposed planned development units. All future development focus is in the Truckee Meadow Service Area.

Patricia Phillips said she was concerned about water, annexing property with detrimental results to the neighbors and schools. The Brown School is over populated

and no schools are being built. She said it's the developer's responsibility to invest into the schools so the district doesn't have to foot the bill.

Bill Whitney said at the joint meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>, the elected officials said they wanted to hear from the School District and RTC. He said the School District is paying attention and strategically planning for future education. They will be at the legislature to get in front of their needs. Patricia Phillips said if the developers front the loan, then it wouldn't fall on the tax payers.

Brad Stanley asked about the discussion about bringing the Tesla area into the County. Bill Whitney said he hasn't heard about it. He said there was a swap of land by the Truckee River out east. He said Sunny Hills, the land on Virginia Range, east of Damonte Ranch High School in Storey County, will be swapped with Washoe County. Nothing will happen with Sunny Hills property.

Brad asked about cooperative planning with Reno and Washoe County. Bill Whitney said in 2002 the regional planning and cooperative planning idea was born. Bill said every jurisdiction has a map, they are obligated to let Washoe County know what they plan on doing and we can make a comment on it. It's up to the cities to notify Washoe County of the proposed planning before approval. Bill said they have to sharpen their game in the County and have to stay alert for those cooperative planning submissions. Bill gave an instance of a subdivision in Reno. He said Washoe County submitted their input and it helped with the planning of the subdivision. He said Verdi had residential and commercial development plans, and Washoe County gave them some analysis, and there were great improvements to the subdivision that came out of the cooperative planning.

Brad Stanley asked how the citizens can help. Bill Whitney said through the CAB involvement. Bill suggested inviting the developer to the CAB meetings, even if the development is in the City of Reno.

Eric Scheetz asked about The Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) capacity and how do we move forward. Bill advised Eric to watch the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting video. Bill said Neil Kertz has plans with the TMWRF with nitrogen levels and all the options. Bill said it is a good presentation with engineering involved.

Kelly Hyatt asked about the blue Planned Development Units of 53,000 in the handouts. Bill Whitney said the Planned Development Units have gone through the master plan process. There is still input to be made on those. They are approved un-builts, such as Sunny Hills. There is no planned infrastructure planned for that area yet. Storey County people aren't too happy about that proposed development. Bill Whitney advised everyone to always read the small posted yellow notice signs when posted in their neighborhood. Bill Naylor asked about the Truckee Meadow Water Authority merger and Truckee Meadow Service Area with the proposed future growth. Bill Whitney answered his questions.

Debbie Shellta said the School District is not ready to absorb additional kids. She said the Sacramento area passed legislation that the builders have to pay \$9,000 a year in fees. The schools were built as the houses were going up. Bill said this is out of his expertise, but he knows the school district is trying to get adequate funding.

Art O'Connor said California has a school impact fee on housing. The developers should pay their way. He said existing taxpayers shouldn't have to pay on those new people coming in. He said there is already a road impact fee and there should be a school impact fee. Debbie asked about the taxes from a subdivision. Bill Whitney said it depends on who does the study. As the subdivision gets older, it costs a lot to keep it up. The Builders Association of America would say they pay for themselves. Residential areas don't pay for themselves over the long run, but commercial/industrial areas do.

Pat thanked everyone for being patient and courteous and brief.

**12.** \*CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS/NEXT AGENDA ITEMS – This item is limited to announcements by CAB members and topics/issues posed for future workshops/agendas.

- Tom Daly requested an item in regards to Washoe County Sheriff law enforcement coverage at the Summit Mall. Is there a reimbursement to the Sherriff?
- Tom Daly also requested an item in regards to the Forensic Lab operations and costs.
- Tom Daly made a motion, Pat clarified the motion. MOTION: To request for a special meeting, to be held on the closest date possible (to meet Opening Meeting Law requirements), to bring both sides, Washoe County and City of Reno, to encourage them to do cooperative planning on the summit mall electronic message display sign. Brad Stanley seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.
- Bill Whitney recommended that the CAB ask the City Council to postpone ruling on this sign until hearing from the community. Bill encouraged the CAB to invite them out to hear the concerns. Brad Stanley recommended hosting a charrette meeting. Bill Whitney said it's a way to have a focus meeting in a small amount of time. Bill said Trevor recommended having an open house or workshop where you can ask and answer questions. Bill said it doesn't matter what you call it, the City is going to say no. He said the CAB can try to invite them. Jim Rummings asked about requesting Reno to defer their decision. Bill Whitney told the CAB to speak with Sarah Tone for the best way to approach this.

• Brad Stanley suggested inviting the Palisades developer to speak at a future CAB meeting.

### 13. \*PUBLIC COMMENT - No public comment

**14.** \***ADJOURNMENT –** Chairperson, Patricia Phillips, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:02pm.

Number of CAB members present: 5 Number of Public Present: 45 Presence of Elected Officials: 1 Number of staff present: 3

Submitted By: Misty Moga