



# Warm Springs Rural 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 Warm Springs Citizen Advisory Board held January 13, 2014 at the Regional Shooting Facility at 21555 Pyramid Highway, Warm Springs, Nevada

**1.\* CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** – Larry Chesney called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Larry Chesney, Chair, Jeanne Herman, Thomas Prentice. and Glenn Roseberg arrived at 6:01 p.m..

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Hoppie Machado, excused

**2. \*PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Larry Chesney led the salute to the Flag.

**3. \*PUBLIC COMMENT** – *Limited to no more than three (3) minutes. Anyone may speak pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda. Additionally, during action items [those not marked by an asterisk (\*)], public comment will be heard on that particular item before action is taken. The public is requested to submit a “Request to Speak” form to the Board Chairman. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole.*

- Sharon Spencer stated that as far as remedying shooting rights, Warm Springs and Palomino Valleys are open range and not congested areas. Shooting of fire arms can only be prohibited in congested areas so the laws are unenforceable.
- Larry Chesney stated that Commissioner Bonnie Weber should have updated information on what progress has been made regarding the shooting of firearms and congested areas issue.
- Katherine Snedigar stated that the purpose of 5902092 which was created by Washoe County in 1965, was to regulate the discharge of firearms in the unincorporated and within defined congested areas. NRS 50 defines where those congested areas are. In 1972, one line was added that made the shooting apply to any place in the unincorporated areas of the county. Palomino Valley is a non-conforming area and not a congested area. The error in the wording in the invalid ordinance needs to be repealed and leave Palomino Valley out of it. Ms. Snedigar stated that she is writing the demand that the language be removed.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2014. MOTION:** Jeanne Herman moved to approve the January 13, 2014 agenda as posted. Thomas Prentice seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR** – Elections were held to elect the Vice Chair to serve for the 2013 – 2014 term of office. **MOTION:** Jeanne Herman moved to elect Thomas Prentice to serve as Vice Chair for the 2014 term of office. Glenn Roseberg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Bonnie Weber appointed Larry Chesney to serve as Chair, which will be effective through June 30, 2016 or until a successor is elected.

**6.\* PUBLIC OFFICIAL REPORTS**

Washoe County Commissioner Bonnie Weber thanked everyone for serving on the new WSCAB. Commissioner Weber asked which start time everyone would prefer for the CAB meetings. Commissioner Weber announced that John Slaughter is now the County Manager and Kevin Schiller has been named as Assistant County Manager. Following her presentation, Commissioner Weber was available to address questions and concerns from the CAB and audience including:

- a. Commissioner Weber reported that AB-46 died without a decision by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). Washoe County will offer to work with the School District including the use of the BCC Chamber for the School District meetings.

- b. Commissioner Weber provided an update on the shooting rights in Warm Springs and Palomino Valleys. Another meeting of the District Attorney Gammick and the Sheriff Haley will be held in February. Commissioner Weber stated that it does not sound promising at this time regarding a change to the congested area designation.

**Comments and Concerns**

- Katherine Snedigar stated that the BCC needs to recognize that the wording on the ordinance needs to be corrected not rewritten. The wording was changed to read unincorporated or within defined congested areas. The Commission intended for the wording to read unincorporated and within defined congested areas.
  - Wanda Wright stated that the Board of County Commissioners need to leave Warm Springs and Palomino Valley alone and keep government out of the peoples business. Stop raising our taxes and walking all over our rights.
  - Sharon Spencer stated that you can not have duplicity in the law and the ambiguity is not enforceable. Ms. Spencer stated that the ordinance is invalid and not enforceable.
  - Hugh Ezzell stated concern whether the Sheriff's Office has an interest in the shooting issues since they do not respond the reports of people shooting adjacent to Winnamucca Ranch Road.
  - Bruce Cote stated that he left messages for Commissioner Weber with no response. Mr. Cote stated that he helped design the range for the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and he was responsible for the local range. The ordinance is valid because of the shooting distance as well as the noise ordinance. Mr. Cote stated that he has investigated shootings in the local area where people were hit by stray bullets. Mr. Cote stated that shooting needs to be done safely. Mr. Cote stated that he is interested in the meetings prior to and at the BCC to address the ordinance. Commissioner Weber stated that she would contact Mr. Cote with dates and times for the next meetings.
- c. Discuss issues with online access to Washoe County. Sharon Spencer stated that the Washoe County on-line information access often lists "The site is not fully installed. Ms. Spencer stated concern that Open Meeting Law makes is difficult to send a message to all of the Commissioners. Ms. Spencer stated that she had difficulty getting contact information for county personnel. Commissioner Weber stated that Sarah Tone is off on maternity leave and they are short staffed right now. Nancy Leuenhagen and Andrea Tavener is handling much of the CAB tasks.

Contact Commissioner Weber at (775) 328-2005. (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

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

**A.\*Washoe County Sheriff's Department (WCSO)** – A representative from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office was not available (unless on a call for service) to address public safety questions and concerns. For more information call (775) 328-33357 or via the webpage at [www.washoesherriff.com](http://www.washoesherriff.com) (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

**B.\*Palomino Valley Volunteer Fire Department. Update** - James Thomason, Station Representative for the new Palomino Valley Volunteer Fire Department introduced himself and presented information on the unmanned station. The Logistics Division will do mutual aide to help with supplies and other assistance during emergency wildland fire events. The Operation Division consists of eleven persons. They will operate three rigs out of that station. They will operate out of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. The firefighters meet on Monday nights at the fire station. They expect to be operating in April of this year. The department will work with SPCA to provide trailers to transport horses to safety during wildfire events. Mr. Thomason stated that there is a 4000 gallon water tender apparatus to assist in any type of situation. (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

**Comments and Concerns**

- In response to questions raised, citizens can complete a mutual aide agreement to help assist with wildland fire emergencies.
  - Several people commented that they are glad to have the Volunteer Fire Department back.
- C.\*Water Exportation in the Palomino Valley and Warm Springs Valley.** – Larry Chesney reported that this agenda item is not about exporting water out of the basin. Commissioner Bonnie Weber reported on the intermountain water project and the possibility of Washoe County purchasing water rights at a proposed cost of nine or ten million dollars. The water can not be put into the Vidler pipeline.

Commissioner Weber stated that there is a proposed merger of Washoe County and the Intermountain Water Project. Commissioner Weber stated that she looks at the water as an asset for Warm Springs and Palomino Valleys and she has no intention of having the water taken out of the Valley. Bob Marshall, Intermountain Water Project stated that he purchased his property in 1973 and an 1867 map shows water rights on his property. Mr. Marshall reported on the background of project to transport some ranch water into Lemmon Valley. Washoe County purchased the surface water rights in Dry Valley. Mr. Marshall stated that the intent is to sell the water rights to Washoe County for future use. This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

#### **Comments and Concerns**

- In response to questions raised, Mr. Marshall stated that these water rights are all permitted water rights and they have nothing to do with the water rights on his ranch.
- In response to questions raised, Mr. Marshall stated that a municipality can hold the water rights indefinitely without having to prove beneficial use. The municipality is subject to the statutes.
- Hugh Ezzell stated that holders of water permits have to do something and they can not just sit on the permits. Mr. Ezzell asked what is the value of the water rights that Washoe County owns to Washoe County unless the water is delivered? Mr. Ezzell stated concern regarding when Washoe County would get a return on the investment for the water rights.
- Mr. Marshall stated that they have already addressed the inter-basin transfer through the State Engineers Office.
- Commissioner Bonnie Weber stated that discussion will be scheduled on a BCC agenda and will not be put in for a block vote.
- Wanda Wright stated that if Washoe County purchases the water rights, who will trust the county or any other government to leave the water local and not ship it out of the valley?
- Commissioner Weber stated that Washoe County auctioned some water rights for \$30,000 up to \$47,000 an acre foot. Washoe County has no ability to put this water into the pipeline to the North Valleys. Only Vidler water will go into their pipeline. It is now \$33,000 an acre foot to bring water into Lemmon Valley. Water rights is a commodity and an asset to Washoe County.

**8. DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS** - All development project applications are available online at [www.washoecounty.us/comdev/da/da\\_index.htm](http://www.washoecounty.us/comdev/da/da_index.htm). Staff may not be available to attend, but please call if you have any process questions. For information preview the application online at [http://www.washoecounty.us/comdev/da/da\\_index.htm](http://www.washoecounty.us/comdev/da/da_index.htm) or <http://www.washoecounty.us/comdev>, call 775.328.6100.

**A. Amendment of Conditions Case No. AC13-012 (Palomino Valley General Improvement District) –**

Larry Chesney introduced the request to amend condition 1i of Special Use Permit Case Number SB10-011 to extend for one additional year, the timeframe for the re-vegetation to achieve a 50% minimum vegetative coverage to the graded areas of the Palomino Valley General Improvement District facility. The 42.53 acre parcel is located at 5105 Wayside Road in the Warm Spring Area, Assessor's Parcel No. 077-350-02. The Master Plan Category is Rural and the Regulatory Zone is General Rural.

**MOTION:** Jeanne Herman moved to recommend denial of AC13-012 Palomino Valley General Improvement District as presented and that the requirement be eliminated. Thomas Prentice seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Staff Representative, Trevor Lloyd, Senior Planner Washoe County Community Services Department. 775-328-3620. e-mail: [tlloyd@washoecounty.us](mailto:tlloyd@washoecounty.us)  
Meeting Date: February 6, Board of Adjustment.

#### **Comments and Concerns**

- Katherine Snedigar stated that staff set a boundary for GRR when it was GR which includes the GID facility. It is a waste of 'our' GID money to try to grow landscape for a year when the original landscape did not grow.
- Larry Chesney stated that planting landscape in Palomino Valley to make the GID look pretty is kinda ridiculous. Any money spent on landscape is money that would not be spent on roadways.
- Meeting conditions of the permit takes funds away from maintaining roadways.
- There were no comments in support of the proposed amendment.

**9.\*CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS** - This item is limited to announcements by CAB members of topics/issues posed for future workshops/agendas.

- Jeanne Herman asked for an official CAB meeting in February to address current issues including the water rights and to address making the CAB's permanent so there are not more hiatuses.

- **Next Agenda items** - Discuss Ickley and agenda 21, Deceleration lane onto Ironwood, Make the CAB program permanent to eliminate any hiatus's.

**10.\*PUBLIC COMMENT** – Limited to no more than three (3) minutes. Anyone may speak pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda. The public are requested to submit a "Request to Speak" form to the Board chairman. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole.

- Fred Hayden provided copies of a news item from the American Free Press out of Washington DC stating that the EPA is trying to take over all of the water in the United States.
- Larry Chesney asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this agenda item.

**11. ADJOURNMENT MOTION:** Glenn Roseberg moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Thomas Prentice seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Allayne Donnelly-Everett, Recording Secretary

Barry Bouchard, Nevadatrends.com video taped portions of this meeting.

Attendance: 16 audience, 5 members of the board, 2 fire fighters and 2 Administrative Recorder services reps.