

WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSION
RENO CITY COUNCIL
SPARKS CITY COUNCIL
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

JOINT MEETING

MONDAY

8:30 A.M.

FEBRUARY 11, 2008

PRESENT:

Bob Larkin, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Washoe County Commissioner, Vice Chairman
Jim Galloway, Washoe County Commissioner*
David Humke, Washoe County Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Washoe County Commissioner

Robert A. Cashell, City of Reno, Mayor
Dave Aiazzi, Reno City Councilmember
Dan Gustin, Reno City Councilmember
Pierre Hascheff, Reno City Councilmember
Dwight Dortch, Reno City Councilmember*
Sharon Zadra, Reno City Councilmember

Geno Martini, City of Sparks, Mayor
John Mayer, Sparks City Councilmember
Phil Salerno, Sparks City Councilmember
Mike Carrigan, Sparks City Councilmember
Ron Smith, Sparks City Councilmember

Barbara Price, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees, President
Barbara Clark, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees, Vice President
Jody Ruggiero, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member
Dan Carne, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member
Lezlie Porter, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member
Jonnie Pullman, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member
Nancy Hollinger, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member

ABSENT:

Jessica Sferrazza, Reno City Councilmember
Ron Schmitt, Sparks City Councilmember

The Commission, Board, and Councils met in joint session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, with Washoe County Commission Chairman Robert Larkin presiding. Also present were Washoe County Manager Katy Singlaub, Assistant District Attorney Melanie Foster, County Clerk Amy Harvey, Reno City Manager Charles McNeely, Reno

City Attorney John Kadlic, Reno City Clerk Lynnette Jones, Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey, Sparks City Attorney Chet Adams, and Sparks City Clerk Linda Patterson. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerks called the roll for their respective entities, and the Commission, Councils, and Board conducted the following business:

08-84 AGENDA ITEM 4

Agenda Subject: “Approval of the agenda for the Reno and Sparks City Councils, the Washoe County School District and the Washoe County Commission Joint Meeting of February 11, 2008.”

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne applauded the entities for approving the agenda.

For Washoe County, on motion by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Galloway absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 4 be approved.

For the City of Reno, on motion by Councilmember Zadra, seconded by Councilmember Hascheff, which motion duly carried with Councilmembers Dortch and Sferrazza absent, Mayor Cashell ordered that Agenda Item 4 be approved.

For the City of Sparks, on motion by Councilmember Carrigan, seconded by Councilmember Mayer, which motion duly carried with Councilmember Schmitt absent, Mayor Martini ordered that Agenda Item 4 be approved.

For the Washoe County School District, on motion by Trustee Pullman, seconded by Trustee Porter, which motion duly carried, President Price ordered that Agenda Item 4 be approved.

08-85 AGENDA ITEM 5

Agenda Subject: “Public Comment (three-minute time limit per person) – (Additional Public Comment on specific agenda items will be limited to three-minute time limit per person after each agenda item and must be related to the specific agenda item.) Comments to be addressed to the Chair of the meeting and to the Reno and Sparks City Councils, Washoe County School District, and the Washoe County Commission as a whole.”

***8:40 a.m.** Reno Councilmember Dortch arrived.

Sam Dehne addressed the Boards and the Councils.

08-86 **AGENDA ITEM 6**

Agenda Subject: “Approval of the minutes for the Joint Meeting of September 10, 2007, between the Washoe County Commission, Reno City Council, Sparks City Council and Washoe County School District Board of Trustees.”

For Washoe County, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Galloway absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved.

For the City of Reno, on motion by Councilmember Hascheff, seconded by Councilmember Aiazzi, which motion duly carried with Councilmember Sferrazza absent, Mayor Cashell ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved.

For the City of Sparks, on motion by Councilmember Mayer, seconded by Councilmember Salerno, which motion duly carried with Councilmember Schmitt absent, Mayor Martini ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved.

For the Washoe County School District, on motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Porter, which motion duly carried, President Price ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved.

08-87 **AGENDA ITEM 7**

Agenda Subject: “Update on the activities of the Washoe County Schools’ Construction and Revitalization Advisory Committee and possible action to staff regarding same. (Washoe County School District)”

Mark Stanton, Washoe County School District Capitol Projects and Facilities Manager, conducted a PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk, updating the Washoe County School Construction and Revitalization Committee and membership, meetings the Committee had and currently had scheduled, cost summary, the next step and concerns such as renewal of rollover bonds, competing initiatives and identification of fund sources to match needs.

***8:45 a.m.** Commissioner Galloway arrived.

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Mr. Stanton replied staff was directed to recognize the needs for older schools and explained older schools needed to be brought to an equitable level. Mr. Stanton indicated the Board of Trustees was in the process of identifying the methodology by which any amount of funding received would be prioritized. He said the Board of Trustees would return to the Committee to discuss and prioritize the expenditures.

Trustee Pullman commented the focus would be on the “Fit and Finish” of classrooms to ensure modernization was completed.

Chairman Larkin inquired on the cost summary and education specialization enhancements. Mr. Stanton replied those enhancements had not been presented to the Committee, but would be in the near future. He said once renewed, the rollover bond would be an estimate of provided proceeds over the next 10 years; however, that estimate had not yet been developed.

Councilmember Carrigan asked if potential revenue sources had been discussed. Mr. Stanton replied they had not.

President Price invited the County Commission and the City Councils to schedule presentations during their respective meetings to fully discuss the initiatives. Mr. Stanton remarked the Legislative Council Bureau (LCB) would attend the next Committee meeting to discuss available options for additional revenue sources and how those funding sources worked.

Councilmember Aiazzi asked if the rollover bond was permanent and the School Board was given a fixed source of property tax funds, would the amount come off the proposed cost summary or be in addition to. Mr. Stanton said as of 2008 that money would go toward for the proposed needs. Councilmember Aiazzi stated if voters had the choice to make this rollover permanent, approximately \$300 million of additional taxes could be eliminated.

Councilmember Hascheff said the Oversight Committee had discussed potential revenue sources, and asked if there was an opportunity to suggest those sources to the Committee. Mr. Stanton remarked he was unsure how those suggestions would be accepted by the Committee.

Councilmember Aiazzi asked what would happen if the Committee did not arrive at a consensus. Mr. Stanton anticipated that the School District would go to the 2009 Legislative Session with a plea to identify revenue sources that addressed their needs. Councilmember Aiazzi asked if there was anything in the Legislature that precluded the School Board from going out to find those funds. Chairman Larkin commented the law was specific, and if the panel did not come to a conclusion, the Board of Trustees could move forward with their own proposal. Randy Drake, School District Lead General Counsel, explained legislation applied to the Committee and did not preclude the Board of Trustees.

Councilmember Gustin asked how the funds would be prioritized. Mr. Stanton commented seats and portable classrooms were a high priority as was capital revitalization, classroom renewal and education delivery enhancements through technology. He said nine additional schools would be needed by 2014 and the Committee wanted to make sure the language was written so monies could be used for the identified needs.

Councilmember Aiazzi stated as an elected body the School Board deserved to have a stable source of funding. He commented it would help the Committee and the voters if other elected bodies that shared in property taxes took a stance or adopted a proclamation stating that funding would be supported.

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne spoke on citizen involvement. Gary Schmidt stated his opinion on impact fees.

There was no action taken on this item.

08-88 AGENDA ITEM 8

Agenda Subject: “Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding draft Interlocal Agreement between the County of Washoe, City of Reno, City of Sparks and the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County for indexed portion of fuel taxes and alternatives for consideration of provision of road and street maintenance; and if approved, authorize each entity to place the final Interlocal Agreement on their respective agendas for execution. (Washoe County)”

Dan St. John, Washoe County Public Works Director, explained staff was seeking discussion on a proposal to create an interlocal agreement to combine the indexed portion of fuel taxes into a single fund administered by the Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) for the improved maintenance of local and regional streets within the communities. He said it was the vision that this money be spent at the highest and best use areas within the communities. He distributed a chart that summarized the condition of regional roads versus non-regional roads in Washoe County, which was placed on file with the Clerk. Mr. St. John reviewed the background of the proposed interlocal agreement as stated in the staff report.

Neil Mann, City of Reno Public Works Director, commented the interlocal agreement had been presented to the Reno City Council, but the discussion was deferred to today’s meeting. He said previously there had been Bill Draft Requests (BDR’s) to review how fuel tax was distributed at the County level and he explained that distribution. He stated the major concern in the City of Reno was the condition of the roads as identified in the distributed chart. Mr. Mann remarked as called for in the proposed agreement, if the City of Reno donated \$600,000 of tier two fuel tax distribution it would slurry seal regional roads within the system for priorities within the Cities of Reno and Sparks. Therefore, in essence the County would contribute their gas tax to regional roads for slurry sealing within Reno and Sparks for the first three years, which was the term of the proposed agreement. However, that would obligate the City of Reno to spend \$600,000 in a way that was not being spent at the present time.

Pete Etchart, City of Sparks Engineer, indicated 19 million square feet of roads in the City of Sparks had a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) below 40 and explained the higher the PCI number the worse the condition of the road.

Chairman Larkin asked if there was a benefit to studying a collaborative effort or was there continued strength in separate road departments. Mr. Mann replied from his personal perspective the different agencies wanted to keep what they had, improve what they were doing and be responsive to their constituents rather than generalize or regionalize a service approach.

Commissioner Galloway commented there had been discussions of a Weight Distance Tax on heavy trucks in a Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) study completed several years ago. He asked if there had been any discussions about making financial resources larger to maintain the roads. Mr. Mann said historically amongst the Public Works Departments of the three agencies there had been discussions on a BDR expanding the financial resources.

Chairman Larkin said in terms of allocation of the Index Fuel Tax he understood that would fall back to the completed paver studies. He asked how pooling the monies would favor any one particular entity and would it not flow to a project with the highest need for the region. Mr. St. John said the projections for FY 2009 indicated about \$656,000 would be available for the City of Reno, \$251,000 for the City of Sparks, and approximately \$1 million for Washoe County. He said staff had been articulate about local road needs and according to the chart, the City of Reno's non-regional roads had the greatest need. He said it was likely during the first years the agreement percentage would exceed for the Cities of Reno and Sparks, but fall short for Washoe County. Chairman Larkin stated it would require a modification of the authorization from the Board of County Commissioners because the charge was to regional roads, not non-regional roads.

Mayor Cashell felt the whole picture was not being reviewed. He suggested taking the whole fuel tax distribution and work with RTC.

Councilmember Dortch asked if Washoe County had an interlocal agreement with RTC where the County contributed their portion to the RTC. Mr. St. John replied the County did not. Councilmember Dortch thought the County had entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the RTC independent of the Cities of Reno and Sparks to start contributing money to the RTC. He commented there was a firm commitment from the Chairman of the Board that if that agreement was put forward the Chair would sign. Councilmember Dortch said to his knowledge that had not happened. Mr. St. John replied he had heard that comment and explained staff listened to the tapes of that meeting and attempted to dissect the intent of the Board. Mr. St. John said it was the opinion of staff that the motion directed staff to negotiate the agreement assuming that the Cities would also contribute. Councilmember Dortch said the Chairman made it clear the intent was not to include the Cities of Reno and Sparks. Mr. St. John reiterated the direction from the Board was not interpreted that way and after reviewing the minutes and the audio tapes it was felt that the Board's motion was to go back and work with the Cities for their contribution.

Councilmember Mayer said it was nice to go back and reread a motion then read intent into the motion. He said the County moved to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Cities of Reno and Sparks to put the index of the Fuel Tax to RTC for a program specific in the City limits. He felt by reading intent into the motion was renegeing on an agreement, and added the City of Sparks still had not received money from the County for roads.

Commissioner Weber apologized and said the intent of the Board was not to renege on any agreement. She stated the Board needed to fulfill their obligation.

Councilmember Hascheff said he reviewed the staff report prepared by the County and the consensus addressed the Cities' need confirmed that the roads with the greatest needs were located within the Cities and indicated that a majority of the funding would go toward the Cities.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, commented staff reviewed the discussion in detail and would be happy to provide transcripts for clarification. She said the question was if the Index Fuel Tax allowed for investment in local roads, and if that investment was legal. She felt that challenge had been met and to give the funds to the highest priority roads.

Commissioner Galloway did not feel that the County was renegeing on an agreement and indicated he did not vote on anything that was unilateral.

Councilmember Aiazzi felt staff had done what the motion stated. He asked what amount had the County spent in the Cities of Reno and Sparks on road maintenance. Mr. St. John replied there was a complex formula which involved four statutes that dealt with the Fuel Tax and stated population as well as road miles was a factor and it had not been determined as to who paid what. Councilmember Aiazzi asked if 50 percent of taxes the County received were from residents of the Cities of Reno and Sparks. Mr. St. John said he could not make that claim. Councilmember Aiazzi explained the impetus was the Board wanted to help the Cities and put some of that money back, but the County did not feel comfortable giving the money to the Cities directly so it was concluded the money would be given to RTC for regional roads. He indicated during the last RTC budget hearing it was discovered this had not taken place. He was concerned with a joint agreement that allowed an exit with only a 30 days written notice. He asked the Board to return to the original intent for regional roads within the Cities of Reno and Sparks.

Mayor Cashell found it hard to believe that from all the tax money received none had been spent in the Cities of Reno and Sparks. He believed the County had agreed to put up this money three years ago; however, it still had not been completed and asked why some of the money was not being spent within the Cities.

Commissioner Galloway remarked the Cities did not spend money on unincorporated roads or regional parks. He said if judged on percentages Fuel Tax

revenues and taxes traditionally had been levied by the Cities. He said the County was spending more than 75 percent of the money within the City limits, but the County did not get all of the revenues. He suggested a more efficient way was needed where everything went to the greatest need and indicated going through RTC had the traceability for the funds. Commissioner Galloway recommended modifying the agreement to include local roads.

Mr. St. John commented this was the first time staff had heard from the three entities together. He pointed out that the RTC Rehab and Reconstruction projects, which was different funding, was still Fuel Tax money being spent in the County; however, between 1994 and 2006 about 60 percent of the Rehab and Reconstruction projects had been in the City of Reno. He commented that number rose to about 68 percent in the last two years. Mr. St. John reiterated the discussion for the Index Fuel Tax was solely for regional roads, but it became obvious that was not the need of the Cities.

In response to Councilmember Zadra, Charles McNeely, Reno City Manager, explained staff had met on an on-going basis on this issue. He said there was a misunderstanding or perception in terms of the long-term direction. He was concerned about the agreement as currently being discussed because of the impact on non-regional roads in the City of Reno. He requested clear direction on how the funding should be allocated and included a possible interest at looking at fees or other taxes.

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne commented on the discussion and the condition of city roads. Gary Schmidt spoke on fuel taxes, impact fees and growth development.

Commissioner Weber moved to approve the draft of the interlocal agreement between Washoe County and the RTC for the index portion of Washoe County Fuel Taxes for prioritized road projects countywide.

Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel, stated the agenda was styled to give direction to staff and to place this on a future County Commission agenda. Chairman Larkin remarked this would also include regional and non-regional road segments.

Commissioner Galloway asked if this motion was for a unilateral contribution only from Washoe County without requirement of contributions from the Cities of Reno and Sparks. Chairman Larkin replied this was the index portion of the Fuel Tax that came to Washoe County. Commissioner Galloway stated he could not support the motion.

On motion by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Chairman Larkin, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Galloway voting “no,” it was ordered that the draft interlocal agreement between Washoe County and the RTC for the index portion of Washoe County’s Fuel Tax for prioritized road projects countywide, both regional and non-regional, be agendaized for a future Board of County Commission meeting.

Commissioner Galloway moved to direct staff to mutually pursue with the Cities of Reno and Sparks alternative sources of revenue, in addition to the index portion, for the maintenance for local roads.

Councilmember Mayer commented the Blue Ribbon Task Force established at the RTC was reviewing alternative funding sources for maintenance and improvement of capacity of roads.

Commissioner Humke said he would decline to second the motion since it may confuse the marketplace of ideas of political questions placed on the ballot.

Due to a lack of a second, the motion failed.

Mayor Cashell and Councilmember Mayer commended the Board on taking this action.

There was no further action taken on this item.

08-89 AGENDA ITEM 9

Agenda Subject: “Discussion and possible execution of an Interlocal Agreement between the State of Nevada (Department of Transportation), City of Sparks, City of Reno and the County of Washoe for Web-based program for Graffiti Analysis (Graffiti Tracking System). (City of Sparks)”

Mike Biselli, City of Sparks, Maintenance Manager, stated the Secret Witness Program brought the Graffiti Tracker System (GTS) to other agencies and recognized that the Washoe County School District had already been using GTS. He explained GTS was an innovative program that joined government agencies together to contend with the serious vandalism of graffiti that occurred in communities. Mr. Biselli stated, as the master contractor, the City of Sparks would purchase the entire subscription with reimbursement from the other agencies. He commented the School District was already contracting with GTS and was not currently included within the interlocal agreement, but in the future would be. He explained the benefits the GTS offered and recommended the GTS interlocal agreement, which had been reviewed by legal staff, be approved.

Trustee Pullman commented this was a wonderful opportunity and example of how the entities could work together and stated this agreement was a mechanism for the subscription portion. She said it was important that the entities work together to combat this problem.

In response to Councilmember Hascheff, Mr. Biselli replied although the School District was not part of the interlocal agreement, when GTS began each jurisdiction could observe graffiti in the other agencies and stated the School District would be involved. Councilmember Hascheff asked if the School District would be

folded in as part of the analysis when the implementation stage was reached. Mr. Biselli remarked that was correct.

10:00 a.m. Trustee Ruggiero left the meeting.

Commissioner Humke asked if the interlocal agreement provided for investigation of graffiti crimes on public property. Mr. Bisselli remarked the City of Sparks photographed and documented graffiti for public and private property.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

For Washoe County, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be executed.

For the City of Reno, on motion by Councilmember Dortch, seconded by Councilmember Zadra, which motion duly carried with Councilmember Sferrazza absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be executed.

For the City of Sparks, on motion by Councilmember Mayer, seconded by Councilmember Salerno, which motion duly carried with Councilmember Schmitt absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be executed.

08-90 AGENDA ITEM 10

Agenda Subject: “Review and possible approval of the Truckee Meadows Wireless Consortium Strategic Plan and authorize staff to move forward on the Strategic Plan’s action items. (City of Reno)”

Rick Vandenberg, City of Reno Communications and Technology Director, summarized the strategic plan for pursuing a broadband wireless network for the Truckee Meadows as stated in the staff report. He requested a wireless consortium be formalized to allow the Information Technology Managers to develop a set of standards for the region to identify key locations for initial deployment of wireless technology. He suggested working together in a consorted group to review the building of an infrastructure and share that infrastructure for the greater good of residents in the region.

10:30 a.m. Councilmember Salerno left the meeting.

In response to Trustee Pullman, Mr. Vandenberg clarified the 800 MHz was the public safety radio environment that allowed public safety agencies to intercommunicate on a voice level.

Commissioner Galloway asked if there were security issues and if the consortium would develop uniform defense security standards. Mr. Vandenberg explained standards would be developed and noted a key standard would be security.

10:39 a.m. Mayor Cashell left the meeting.

Commissioner Jung supported the proposal and hoped that wireless and internet access would be provided for low-income families. She commented entities such as Sierra Pacific Power Company, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), the casinos, and Systems Computing Services should be part of the consortium.

In response to the call for public comment, Gary Schmidt supported the planning and wireless plan sponsored by the government. He distributed a letter concerning citizen participation, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

10:47 a.m. Councilmember Zadra left the meeting.

For Washoe County, on motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved and authorized.

For the City of Reno, on motion by Councilmember Hascheff, seconded by Councilmember Gustin, which motion duly carried with Mayor Cashell, and Councilmembers Zadra and Sferrazza absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved and authorized.

For the City of Sparks, on motion by Councilmember Carrigan, seconded by Councilmember Smith, which motion duly carried with Councilmembers Salerno and Schmitt absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved and authorized.

For Washoe County School District, on motion by Trustee Carne, seconded by Trustee Porter, which motion duly carried with Trustee Ruggiero absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved and authorized.

08-91 AGENDA ITEM 11

Agenda Subject: “Update on Regional Open Space and Natural Resource Management Plan and possible direction to staff regarding same. (Washoe County)”

Bill Whitney, Washoe County Senior Planner, conducted a PowerPoint presentation on the Washoe County Regional Open Space and Natural Resource Management Plan update, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Chairman Larkin asked if the plan would go before the Regional Planning Commission before it went to the Regional Planning Governing Board. Mr. Whitney explained this would go before the County Commission and City Councils of Reno and Sparks for endorsement of adoption and then to the Regional Planning Commission for a finding of conformance.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

There was no action on this item.

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11:04 am. There being no further business to come before the joint bodies, the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

ROBERT M. LARKIN, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

AMY HARVEY, County Clerk
and Clerk of the Board of
County Commissioners

ATTEST:

ROBERT A. CASHELL, Mayor
City of Reno

LYNNETTE R. JONES, City Clerk
City of Reno

ATTEST:

GENO MARTINI, Mayor
City of Sparks

LINDA K. PATTERSON, Deputy
City Clerk, City of Sparks

ATTEST:

BARBARA PRICE, Board of Trustees
President, Washoe County School District

JONNIE PULLMAN, Clerk
Washoe County School District

*Minutes Prepared by Stacy Gonzales,
Washoe County Deputy Clerk*