

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY 19, 2008

PRESENT:

Bob Larkin, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairperson
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
David Humke, Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Commissioner

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Singlaub, County Manager
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel

The Board met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

08-150 AGENDA ITEM 3 – PRESENTATION OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Agenda Subject: "Presentation of Excellence in Public Service Certificates honoring Washoe County employees who have completed essential employee development courses."

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, recognized the following employees for successful completion of the Excellence in Public Service Certificate Programs administered by the Human Resources Department:

Essentials of Support Staff

Carol Smith, Office Support Specialist
Cheryl Phay, Office Assistant II

Essentials of High Performing Teams

Margot Jordan, Infection Control Quality Manager Coordinator

Essentials of Train the Trainer

Deborah Chicago, Community Health Aide

08-151 AGENDA ITEM 4 – PUBLIC COMMENT

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, stated: "The Chairman and Board of County Commissioners intend that their proceedings should demonstrate the highest levels of decorum, civic responsibility, efficiency and mutual respect between citizens and their

government. The Board respects the right of citizens to present differing opinions and views, even criticism, but our democracy cannot function effectively in an environment of personal attacks, slander, threats of violence, and willful disruption. To that end, the Nevada Open Meeting Law provides the authority for the Chair of a public body to maintain the decorum and to declare a recess if needed to remove any person who is disrupting the meeting, and notice is hereby provided of the intent of this body to preserve the decorum and remove anyone who disrupts the proceedings."

Kimberly Rhodemyre presented a petition in support of the Truckee River Flood Management Flood project, which was placed on file with the Clerk. She stated she supported a "living river plan" designated for flood volume detention.

Guy Felton expressed his opinion concerning the Ballardini Ranch, County voting machines and the *Reno Gazette Journal*.

Tina Nappe urged the Board to consider a ballot question for the November election concerning, "Limiting the Development of Washoe County to the Water Available in Washoe County." Ms. Nappe read her letter regarding the ballot question, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Joe Harrelson spoke about problems he experienced with several neighbors in Sun Valley.

Sam Dehne expressed his displeasure with the County's voting machines.

Gary Schmidt supported Ms. Nappe, but had several amendments to the ballot initiative proposal. He discussed options for citizens to participate in the regulation and control of County government.

Chairman Larkin requested that audience members refrain from unsolicited clapping while sitting in the Chambers. Mr. Felton continued to clap. Chairman Larkin issued Mr. Felton a warning that if the behavior continued he would be removed from the Chambers. Mr. Felton spoke from the audience which produced a second warning from Chairman Larkin. Mr. Felton continued to yell from the audience and Chairman Larkin stated, "if you do not cease your indiscriminate outbursts you will be removed from the Commission Chambers." Mr. Felton continued.

2:24 p.m. The Board recessed to have Mr. Felton removed from the Commission Chambers by deputies from the Washoe County Sheriff's Department.

2:28 p.m. The Board reconvened.

Patty Bowling stated she supported the proposal submitted by Ms. Nappe and expressed her concerns regarding the water supply.

Erik Holland discussed sensible growth and submitted a *National Geographic* news article, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Doug Smith and Marilyn Melton did not wish to speak, but submitted a written statement that supported Ms. Nappe and the proposed ballot question, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

08-152 AGENDA ITEM 5 –ANNOUNCEMENTS

Agenda Subject: "Commissioners'/Manager's Announcements, Requests for Information, Topics for Future Agendas and Statements Relating to Items Not on the Agenda. (No discussion among Commissioners will take place on this item.)"

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said Item 6G(1), Authorize Issuance of Invitation to Bid for Homemaker Services, would be pulled from the consent agenda because the County could work under a State bid initiating a savings of approximately \$50,000.

Commissioner Humke responded to correspondence regarding the sustainable growth water initiative and requested a future agenda item to consider the ballot question. He stated discussion was needed with Citizen Advisory Boards (CAB's), Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NAB's), service clubs and community organizations to determine whether this question should be on the November ballot. Commissioner Humke asked staff to confer with the Cities of Reno and Sparks, the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) as to whether they agreed with the proposed question. He requested staff seek answers to legal issues in order to perform a legal analysis. Commissioner Humke submitted a letter that contained the official language of the ballot question, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Commissioner Weber commented she held a "Coffee with your Commissioner" meeting and discussed code enforcement issues with the County and the City of Reno. She stated she spoke to the individuals involved with the Sierra Nevada Teen Ranch and was attempting to schedule an April 19, 2008 meeting for the parties to discuss issues and concerns. Commissioner Weber requested before April 19th an agenda item for a presentation from Community Development to fully explain the 27 conditions placed on the Special Use Permit for the Teen Ranch.

Chairman Larkin reported on a lawsuit that had been filed against him and the Board. He stated the case was heard before Judge Jerry Polaha who made the following summation: "in reply to defendants, no action was taken in violation of the Open Meeting Law. Plaintiff could have submitted written comments on the agenda item, plaintiff was not foreclosed in having his voice heard on this issue if he so chose. The Court finds, as noted above, no violation of the Open Meeting Law was found. Plus, the action taken by the Board will not be voided, and those include the actions empowered by the Open Meeting Law, of the Chair of the body, and this is the chair of any publically elected body or any body that meets subject to the Open Meeting Law, that the chair of a committee of a

body that meets under the law of the Open Meeting Law, may adjourn that meeting for the purposes of excluding an individual that is being disruptive.” Chairman Larkin stated this was a business meeting that needed to be conducted in an appropriate, logical manner.

Commissioner Galloway requested an agenda item to discuss basic wording for the water ballot question. He also requested an agenda item for March 11, 2008 for discussion and possible action to seek reversal of a decision made by the Regional Planning Commission on an approval of a Master Plan Amendment that gave imprecise non-specific classification to 28,000 acres, including 6,000 acres of open space and 20, 000 acres of general rural zoned property.

Commissioner Jung passed on condolences to the Denison family after the recent discovery of Brianna Denison’s body. She remarked this was a terrible moment for the community and encouraged citizens to show their respect and support for the family by wearing blue. Commissioner Jung requested an agenda item to discuss the water initiative ballot question and believed healthy dialogue concerning water issues in the Truckee Meadows was important.

08-153 AGENDA ITEM 6A – INTERNAL AUDIT

Agenda Subject: "Acknowledge Investment Controls Audit Report from the Internal Audit Division."

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6A be acknowledged.

08-154 AGENDA ITEM 6B – PUBLIC WORKS

Agenda Subject: "Authorize Public Works Department to bid the Middle Rosewood Creek Stream Environmental Zone Restoration – Area F."

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6B be authorized.

08-155 AGENDA ITEM 6C – SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Agenda Subject: "Accept cash donations [\$7,044.15] and Juror Fee Donations [\$3,480] and cash donations for the Construction of the Kids Campus Activity Center [\$7,912.42]; and if accepted, authorize Department of Social Services to expend funds

to benefit children in care and families who are clients and direct Finance to make appropriate budget adjustments for Fiscal Year 2007/08"

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Galloway thanked the donors for their generous donations.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6C be accepted, authorized and directed.

08-156 AGENDA ITEM 6D(1) – ASSESSOR’S OFFICE

Agenda Subject: "Approve roll change requests, pursuant to NRS 361.768 and NRS 361.765, for errors discovered for the 2007/08, 2006/07, 2005/06 secured and unsecured tax rolls as outlined in Exhibits A and B; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute orders and direct Washoe County Treasurer to correct the errors [cumulative amount of reduction \$3,442.77] - parcels are in various districts as outlined in the Exhibits."

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6D(1) be approved, authorized, executed and directed.

08-157 AGENDA ITEM 6D(2) – ASSESSOR’S OFFICE

Agenda Subject: "Approve roll change request, pursuant to NRS 361.765, for error discovered for the 2007/2008 secured tax roll for Assessor’s Parcel Number 071-120-01, also known as 215 - 2nd Street, Empire Nevada, owned by United States Gypsum Corp. [amount of increase \$62,122.87]; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute Order. (Commission District 5.)"

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6D(2) be approved, authorized and executed.

08-158 AGENDA ITEM 6E(1) - FINANCE

Agenda Subject: "Approve Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between NevadaWorks and Washoe County to amend the current Agreement for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008 for general administrative services; and if approved,

authorize Chairman to execute Memorandum of Understanding Agreement. (All Commission Districts.)"

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6E(1) be approved, authorized and executed.

08-159 AGENDA ITEM 6E(2) - FINANCE

Agenda Subject: "Approval of Agreement between NevadaWorks and Washoe County for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, for general administrative services, with the option to renew annually up to June 30, 2013; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute the Agreement. (All Commission Districts.)"

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6E(2) be approved, authorized and executed.

08-160 AGENDA ITEM 6E(3) - FINANCE

Agenda Subject: "Approve and authorize Chairman to execute Resolution creating the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District Special Revenue Fund as a Special Revenue fund within Washoe County and direct Finance, Treasurer and Human Resources Departments to make appropriate adjustments to move the funding and positions budgeted in Fiscal Year 2008/2009 from the Water Resources Fund to the Special Revenue Fund for the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District Fund."

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Katy Singlaub, County Manager, replied this was being recreated as a Special Revenue Fund within Washoe County.

John Sherman, Finance Director, explained it was an application of accounting rules that accounted for transactions in a Special Revenue Fund. He said these specific funds were already separately accounted for within the Water Resources Department, but for transparency and a better application of accounting rules needed to be in different funds, which would be audited independently.

Chairman Larkin indicated he would like the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) to be audited independently.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6E(3) be approved, authorized and executed. The Resolution for same is attached hereto and made apart of the minutes thereof.

08-161 AGENDA ITEM 6E(4) - FINANCE

Agenda Subject: "Approve and authorize the Chairman to execute Resolution creating the Western Regional Water Commission Agency Fund as an Agency Fund within Washoe County and direct Finance and Treasurer make appropriate adjustments to move the assets, liabilities, 1.5 percent surcharge and operating expenditures to the Western Regional Water Commission Agency Fund, effective April 1, 2008, from the Water Resources Fund."

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Katy Singlaub, County Manager, clarified the funds, which were previously under the purview of the County Commission and being transferred to the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC), were segregated as a new agency fund.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6E(4) be approved, authorized, directed and executed. The Resolution for same is attached hereto and made apart of the minutes thereof.

08-162 AGENDA ITEM 6F – MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Agenda Subject: "Appoint Chris Ferrari to the Organizational Effectiveness Committee as a representative of District 3, with term to begin February 19, 2008 and expire December 31, 2010"

Commissioner Jung remarked Chris Ferrari would be an excellent addition to the Organizational Effectiveness Committee and was pleased he was being appointed.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Chris Ferrari be appointed to the Organizational Effectiveness Committee as a representative of District 3, with a term beginning February 19, 2008 and ending December 31, 2010.

08-163 AGENDA ITEM 6G(2) – SENIOR SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Agenda Subject: "Accept grant award from the Nevada Law Foundation for the Senior Law Project [\$30,000 - \$15,000 retroactively for the period January 1 2008

through June 30, 2008 and \$15,000 for the period July 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 - no County match]; and if accepted, direct Finance Department to make appropriate budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts.)"

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6G(2) be accepted and directed.

08-164 AGENDA ITEM 6H(1) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Agenda Subject: "Accept donations [\$5,000 from Sierra Pacific Resources and \$7,600 from various Associated General Contractors’ Members] to the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office Regional Aviation Enforcement Unit (RAVEN) Program to assist with retrofitting the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office HH-1H Huey Helicopter for fire suppression purposes; and if accepted, direct Finance to make appropriate budget adjustments.(All Commission Districts.)"

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Galloway thanked the donors for their generous donations.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6H(1) be accepted and directed.

08-165 AGENDA ITEM 6H(2) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Agenda Subject: "Approve creation of a Laboratory Director position, eliminate two Forensic Technician Positions; and if approved, direct Finance to make necessary budget adjustments and Human Resources to make necessary staffing adjustments. (All Commission Districts.)"

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne stated he did not support the approval of new positions.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6H(2) be approved and directed.

08-166 AGENDA ITEM 6H(3) – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Agenda Subject: "Accept donations [\$4,000] to Washoe County Sheriff’s Incline K9 Program to be used to provide K-9 training and certification for Incline’s K-9 Deputy

Hamilton and K-9 Cartouche; and if approved, authorize Finance to make necessary budget adjustments. (Commission District 1.)"

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Galloway thanked the donors for their generous donations.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 6H(3) be accepted, and authorized.

08-167 AGENDA ITEM 7 – FINANCE

Agenda Subject: "Update and possible direction to staff on Fiscal Year 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 Budgets. (All Commission Districts.)"

Melanie Purcell, Budget Manager, conducted a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the FY 2007/08 Adjusted General Fund Budget Revenues by Source, Retail Sales and Housing Prices National Housing Wealth Effects, Consolidated Tax, Taxable Sales by Sector, FY 2007/08 Budget Impact Issues, FY 2007/08 Sources and Uses, FY 2007/08 Action Plan, FY 2008/09 Sources and Uses, FY 2008/09 Action Plan and Ideas, Initiatives and Strategies, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Chairman Larkin asked if the County went below the 6.5 percent reserve what would happen to the bond rating. Ms. Purcell replied that would depend on how fast the bond rating agencies reacted.

Commissioner Galloway commented there was \$2.5 million in public safety reductions and asked if those reductions deferred the purchase of new vehicles or pertained to staff service reductions. Ms. Purcell replied it was left to the departments, and noted all departments developed a reduction plan.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, clarified these were proposals and had not yet been received back from departments. She said departments would be asked for a reduction plan on how they would approach the requested reductions and, should there be an economic recovery, a prioritized plan for what they would restore.

Commissioner Jung commended staff for ideas of general efficiency, questions to ponder, and the next steps. She said that was a very creative approach to a very serious problem. She reiterated the most important responsibilities of the Board was public safety. Commissioner Jung said she wanted to see in the matrix the effect to citizen service and how citizens would feel the effect.

Commissioner Humke asked if police and fire suppression was protected at the 2.5 percent reduction when setting priorities for the proposed reduction and how was

the estimation prioritized. Ms. Singlaub explained the criteria were adopted by the “Charting Our Course Committee” as the conceptual framework. She said the County was guided in general and grouped departments based on findings of that Committee. Ms. Singlaub said various mathematical calculations were conducted and it was certain the County would not achieve the proposed deductions for some departments.

Commissioner Humke asked what would happen to the projections if the State took an additional \$20 million. Ms. Singlaub replied if any revenue was re-directed from the County that would be a matter of grave concern. She clarified the Fire Districts were not out of the County’s General Fund and these were only the General Fund and Transfer Funded entities.

In response to Commissioner Weber, Ms. Singlaub replied departments would bring information forward concerning percentages during their budget presentations and show a clear impact to services or functions being eliminated. Commissioner Weber remarked she did not agree with the percentage that was being asked of the Senior Services Department and felt it should be lower than the proposed 10 percent because that population could not afford to have severe cuts in programs. She suggested programs and departments review volunteer efforts and utilize those resources.

Ms. Singlaub agreed with utilizing volunteers. She said she met with eight employee associations prior to the meeting to enable them to attend and ask questions. Ms. Singlaub said employees were suggesting ideas to help in the reduction plans and commented in was an encouraging response from Washoe County employees.

Chairman Larkin asked if there were any department heads who wished to address the Board.

Richard Gammick, District Attorney, complimented the County Manager and all the divisions for their work and dedication on this very difficult project; however, he tended to disagree with certain aspects and classifications of the District Attorney’s (DA’s) Office. He explained by statute the DA’s Office was defined as a law enforcement agency and so he had difficulty with the DA’s Office being placed in the Judicial, Health and Social Division. Mr. Gammick said the DA’s Office was a separate branch of government. He requested the DA’s Office be removed from the Judicial, Health, and Social Division and be placed within the Public Safety Division along with the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO). He commented the DA’s Office represented 68 to 70 law enforcement agencies in court per year and were the “triage unit” for crime. Mr. Gammick stated his office was looking at a proposed \$1 million reduction, and noted approximately 90 percent of their budget was personnel.

Mr. Gammick indicated due to the order that was issued by the Nevada Supreme Court the Public Defender’s Office had stopped participating in the Early Case Resolution (ECR) Program. He explained the program began 14 years ago and was a combined effort of the DA’s Office, the Public Defender’s Office, the WCSO and the courts. Mr. Gammick stated by losing the ECR Program a savings of approximately \$1.2

million per year had been lost, and about 38 percent of the case load would be placed back with other cases. He remarked by losing ECR essentially everything accomplished in the County to reduce the jail population would be reversed. He said this Order would cause a 20-year step backward in the criminal justice system.

Mr. Gammick explained the only way the DA's Office could arrive at an additional \$1 million reduction was to initiate layoffs, which could include a reduction of 10 attorneys or one-third of the prosecutors; in essence almost the entire civil division. He said decisions needed to be made and emphasized public safety concerns.

Commissioner Humke asked what the split was between the criminal and civil function of the DA's Office. Mr. Gammick replied currently the civil division was engaged with tax issues in Incline Village, the Ballardini Ranch issue and water and flood concerns, which could be estimated in the millions of dollars. Commissioner Humke said if the DA's Office showed a savings by participating in the ECR Program the Public Defenders Office should also show a savings in their operation. Mr. Gammick explained in the Indigent Defense Rule signed by the Nevada Supreme Court there were specific conditions that provided a complete independent and thorough investigation of a case regardless of the client's wishes before a recommendation was made to the disposition of the case. He indicated after lengthy discussions, Jeremy Bosler, Public Defender, felt ethically the ECR Program could not continue and meet the new rule by the Nevada Supreme Court. Commissioner Humke asked if the Washoe County Public Defender was being punished for the Clark County Public Defenders System. Mr. Gammick stated that was the theory. He said on behalf of the DA's Office and public safety, he urged the Board to make the tough choices and ensure that public safety did not get reduced to the point of being ineffective.

Commissioner Galloway said there seemed to be an inconsistency in this approach since there had not been any safety margins placed into the reduction and revenue so the proposed percentages of reduction would match the estimated total in revenue. He asked if it would have been better if the County started with more than \$20 million as a goal so that there would have been something to absorb the inability to reach different percentages from different departments. Ms. Purcell said staff wanted to place the magnitude of the issue before the Board with the understanding that it did not preclude staff from attempting to find other opportunities and ways to supplement, but it was imperative that departments and the Board be aware of the magnitude of the situation.

Mr. Gammick said in the DA's Office there were open positions, spending had been cut, and forfeiture funds had been used to purchase General Fund items. He said efficiencies were reviewed and reiterated losing the ECR Program was a major setback to the system.

Ms. Singlaub commented the County recognized that the full spending reduction plan from departmental operating budgets would not be received. She said staff was attempting to not be overly cautious or conservative about what the needed reduction may be because without positions being affected the County would not be able to locate

\$20 million in savings. She commented to close the gap for the 2007/08 budget it was proposed to take \$1 million from the Rainy Day Fund.

Mike Haley, Sheriff, said there was a definitive nexus between the work effort that was produced and the subsequent impact on the DA's Office, which was a major concern. He acknowledged that the WCSO understood the condition the County was facing and noted, at the present time, they had 32 positions held vacant for a \$1.5 million savings. He remarked the WCSO met on a weekly basis with the Finance Department to micromanage efforts to save money; however, explained the WCSO needed to make the decisions where their cuts could be afforded. Sheriff Haley explained in public safety there was a "tipping point" where the actual reductions in savings realized in the frontend were absolutely compounded on the backend. He acknowledged the challenge was identifying efficiencies and provide those to the County to redistribute or take some of those funds. He remarked this was a supportive comment and added the WCSO was engaged in the process.

Chairman Larkin remarked Sheriff Haley would present the fee structure of the Forensic Lab including the DNA portion at the budget hearings. Sheriff Haley indicated there was a great deal of work to be completed regarding review of the lab and the fee structure.

Commissioner Humke asked what the effect would be for other law enforcement agencies in the community. Sheriff Haley replied there were two venues where that was discussed; the User Committee and Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC). He said anytime an issue was not addressed people who engage in criminal activities became embolden and repeated the crimes. For example, if an area were not saturated where several burglaries had occurred, criminals would be embolden to burglarize more and it could escalate from there. He said it required law enforcement to use multipliers to act as if there were more people then there really were and expand through volunteer resources, but through any length of time that was not sustainable.

Sandy Marz, Law Library Director, said she understood the budget difficulties and planned to contribute the best way the Law Library could in reductions. She asked that the Law Library be re-classified from the Cultural Education division to the Judicial, Health, and Social Division. She said in all other matters the Law Library was considered part of the judicial function. Ms. Marz stated Washoe County Code 10.010(2) recognized that the Law Library was an important part of the judicial function and a letter from Judge David Hardy stating that the Law Library was an important adjunct to the judicial function, was read and placed on file with the Clerk.

Josh Wilson, Assessor, complimented the County Manager and the Finance Department for working with the Assessor's Office. He was concerned about the blanket 10 percent reduction and remarked to reduce 10 percent from the Assessor's Office current budget could mean staff reductions. He said technology had allowed his office to value property more efficiently; however, they were mandated through the Nevada Tax Commission and the Department of Taxation to migrate towards the annual reappraisal of

all property. Mr. Wilson said they could do more with less, but they were at the breaking point and stated he would discuss that further during budget presentations.

Darin Conforti, Reno Justice Court Administrator, commented the Reno Justice Court had a long tradition of providing the best possible services while asking for the least amount of resources. He said the challenge was continuing to find efficiencies and provide the services already being completed, which were mandated. Mr. Conforti explained in the past year Court Clerks had been placed in the courtrooms, bailiffs were providing full-fledged security functions and revenues had increased by imposing fees. He said there needed to be a balanced systematic approach to determine the deduction levels.

Ms. Singlaub said staff was committed to making informed decisions and asked that direction be given to come back with a balanced systematic approach and balance the "Charting our Course" citizen priorities as the analysis to work with all departments through the reduction plans and the remaining deductions that would be needed for the remaining 2007/08 year.

In response to Chairman Larkin, John Sherman, Finance Director, replied the \$308.8 million anticipated expenditures did not include any cost of living increases or any capitol projects funded by the General Fund. He said it had some minimal contractual obligation increases, but was bare-bones. Chairman Larkin asked if the contingency transfer of \$1 million were accepted what would that leave in the contingency fund. Mr. Sherman replied that was an annual appropriation. Chairman Larkin asked what would occur if there was not an ending fund balance of 6.5 percent, but an ending fund balance of 5 percent. Mr. Sherman remarked in his opinion the County would run into a cash flow problem and strongly recommended the County not go below the 6.5 percent ending fund balance. Chairman Larkin asked if staff were talking to vendors to negotiate another payment stream. Mr. Sherman said that could be done. He explained to receive certain discounts the County paid at the maximum allotted time. Chairman Larkin requested that alternative be evaluated and reviewed and discuss with vendors other payment streams as an option.

Commissioner Weber inquired if these cuts would affect the retiree health benefits. Mr. Sherman replied those benefits were subject to collective bargaining and had to be addressed in a collective bargaining environment. He said based on existing benefits there needed to be a liability in the future for those existing contracted benefits and it would be prudent to start pre-funding those liabilities. He recommended reducing a certain amount of what the County was funding to pre-fund those benefits.

In response to the call for public comment, Sam Dehne spoke on the current budget situation and agreed volunteerism should be utilized. Gary Schmidt said the budget situation was caused by unwarranted, unwanted, and unreasonable growth, which derogated the quality of life without the proper impact fees. Chairman Larkin asked Mr. Schmidt to confine his comments to the budget. Mr. Schmidt said the budget deficit was caused by the failure to charge proper impact fees and the ineptness and negligence to plan for the bursting of the housing bubble. He said the present budget dilemma would rely

upon the same management that led the County into this mess to lead the County out. Chairman Larkin issued a warning to Mr. Schmidt to return to comments on the budget. Mr. Schmidt remarked he was on the subject matter. Chairman Larkin asked if Mr. Schmidt was complete with his comments on the budget and asked him to take his seat.

Chairman Larkin requested the Manager's Office identify prosecutors engaged on the civil side and those on the criminal side, the impact that reductions would have on the DA's Office, and if the criminal prosecutors were involved in public safety.

Commissioner Humke said out of no disrespect to the Law Library, the acquisition of materials was not a judicial function. He said it was adjunct and important, but not a judicial function. Commissioner Humke remarked the DA's Office was a public safety and law enforcement function and the Board needed to consider that reclassification. He said there had to be respect for law and order. Commissioner Humke said the Board and citizens needed to know where certain fees and percentages came from and asked for the categorization of the civil functions separated from the criminal functions. In regard to the Sheriff's Office, he asked if some duties performed by sworn personnel could be converted to civilian personnel, which could represent a tremendous savings.

Chairman Larkin agreed that criminal investigators were a law enforcement function; however, there was some grey area on the civil side and he would make his determination after he received the requested information from the Manager's Office.

Commissioner Weber stated the number one priority had to be public safety. She said there was some good discussion and once the requested information was presented then the different divisions could be fully reviewed and discussed.

Commissioner Galloway said, other than having different percentage cuts, portions of the departments that integrated needed to be reviewed and have a target for that portion of each department.

Commissioner Jung reiterated the most important function of the County Commissioners was public safety and should consider some of what the DA had proposed.

Chairman Larkin said the Board was styled for two motions and suggested taking them separately with the first being the transfer of \$1 million from the stabilization fund.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that the transfer of \$1 million from the Budget Stabilization (Rainy Day) Fund to the General Fund be approved. It was further ordered that the General Fund transfer would reduce the pre-funded retiree health benefits fund by \$1 million.

Ms. Singlaub remarked the Rainy Day Fund had \$3.25 million, and removing \$1 million would reduce that by one-third, which was a serious action.

Chairman Larkin asked if there was a question about the direction given to staff, and if another motion was needed.

Commissioner Galloway commented if management was comfortable he did not feel an additional motion was in order to proceed; however, if there were a motion he would suggest not by department, but by department function.

Chairman Larkin suggested moving forward with the general direction, plus the comments heard. Commissioner Humke agreed and added that in the 5 percent reduction group there were certain budget categories not discussed and stated there was an argument that Social Services, Child Protective Services, the Public Defender and the Alternate Public Defender were public safety as well. He asked that those departments not be pushed into the 10 percent reduction category.

Ms. Singlaub asked for direction to proceed forward with the "spirit" of the plan. She said there was a difficult job ahead and sought direction to implement or to bring back to the Board recommendations reflective of the concept since a plan had to be before the Board for \$20.6 million in reductions. Chairman Larkin commented the direction was to proceed along with the comments heard. He said departments would bring what was needed to be incorporated to the budget hearings.

08-168 AGENDA ITEM 8 – APPEARANCE - HAY GROUP, INC.

Agenda Subject: "Final report by the Hay Group pursuant to their contract with Washoe County to audit the County's classification and compensation plan established and adopted by Washoe County and its employee associations in 2000 (this will include their findings and the recommendations resulting from the salary survey undertaken by Hay for the County in 2007)."

Neville Kenning, HayGroup, Inc., conducted a PowerPoint presentation that gave an overview of a Classification and Compensation Program Audit, which included Audit Methodology, Summary of Findings, Audit Program Steps, Job Evaluation Program, Compensation, Overall Classification and Compensation System, Job Content, Base Salary Scattergram, Salary Policy Scattergram, and Washoe County Versus Market Program, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Commissioner Galloway asked had there been a significant reduction of appeals for reclassifications since this study. Mr. Kenning stated he could not comment on the number of appeals prior to the Hay Study; however, explained when the Job Evaluation Committee made a decision there could be a request for review that would be sent to the Hay Group as the final arbitrator on that job evaluation process. He said he did not have an exact number, but had gone months without receiving a request for review.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8 report be accepted.

08-169 AGENDA ITEM 9 – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Agenda Subject: "Recommendation to accept donations [up to \$200,000] to provide funding for processing and quality assurance review of the current backlog of DNA samples from convicted offenders; and if accepted, direct Finance to make necessary budget adjustments as donations are received. (All Commission Districts.)"

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Larkin thanked the community for their outpouring of support and their generous contributions.

There was no public comment on this item.

On a motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 9 be accepted and directed.

**08-170 AGENDA ITEM 10 – 2008 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS –
MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

Agenda Subject: "Recommendation to consider a request for sponsorship of 2008 4th of July celebrations: Reno Celebrates America (at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park) - \$14,370, Star Spangled Sparks (at the Sparks Marina) - Sparks Chamber of Commerce - \$5,390 for day activities and City of Sparks on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department - \$10,775 for costs associated with production of Star Spangled Sparks and Red, White & Tahoe Blue (at Incline Village and Crystal Bay) - \$3,590 for costs associated with production of the three day event Red, White and Tahoe Blue; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute Resolutions necessary for same, Agreement for services between the County of Washoe and Reno Celebrates America and Agreement between the County of Washoe and Sparks Chamber of Commerce. (All Commission Districts.)"

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said the County regularly received requests for sponsorship for Fourth of July celebrations. She said given the current situation staff did not feel empowered to give the Board a recommendation. Ms. Singlaub stated this was a request to consider the sponsorship of the 2008 Fourth of July celebrations.

Chairman Larkin asked if these funds were coming out of FY 2007/08. Ms. Singlaub replied the funds came from the existing budget and were all funds from the General Fund. She explained the funding was in the budget before the deductions were proposed for the Manager’s Office. She indicated the total funding would be \$34,125 and was available in the Community Support Program Payments to Other Agencies account.

Commissioner Jung asked if other governing entities paid for this as well, and how the programs would be impacted for this year and future years.

Julie Skow, Program Assistant, replied she had not spoken to the other agencies on their contributions. Commissioner Jung asked to inquire on the proposed budget cuts from the Incline Village General Improvement District, and the Cities of Reno and Sparks and how it would affect these programs.

Commissioner Weber said that would be a shame to not fund these events this year, because it was a great opportunity for every citizen of Washoe County to enjoy.

Commissioner Humke stated in 2003 there were no contributions made; however, the \$2,000 park fee was waived and felt that due to the current situation it would be appropriate to respectfully decline the requests.

Commissioner Galloway said since it was budgeted there was an expectation; however, he suggested to reduce the contribution proportionally this year and next year request the groups look for alternatives in funding.

There was no public comment on this item.

On a motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke voting "no", it was ordered that the funding for the events, based on the reduction, in the staff report be approved. It was noted alternative funding be reviewed for next year.

08-171 AGENDA ITEM 11 - FINANCE

Agenda Subject: "Request to acknowledge receipt by the Budget Division of the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for Fiscal Year 2007/08. (All Commission Districts.)"

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, presented the Budget Division of the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for Fiscal Year 2007/08 to Melanie Purcell, Budget Manager. Ms. Purcell thanked the Board and applauded the budget staff of the Finance Department.

There was no public comment on this item.

On a motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Chairman Larkin, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 11 be acknowledged.

Agenda Subject: "Reports/updates from County Commission members concerning various boards/commissions they may be a member of or liaison to (these may include, but not be limited to, Regional Transportation Commission, Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority, Debt Management Commission, District Board of Health, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Organizational Effectiveness Committee, Investment Management Committee, Citizen Advisor Boards.)"

Commissioner Humke said he attended the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Blue Ribbon Committee meeting where discussions were held to find funding to solve transportation problems and forge a ballot question. He said he would be attending a certain court action mediation settlement and explained the Mediator at a court system required a Commissioner to be present, but without any authority.

Commissioner Weber said she would attend the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) Board meeting on February 22, 2008.

Chairman Larkin said he would be in attendance for the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) meeting on February 20, 2008.

Commissioner Galloway stated the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) had a two-day meeting scheduled for February 27 and 28, 2008. He announced he would serve as a representative for the Regional Planning Governing Board on the RTC Joint Committee on Governments.

Commissioner Jung reminded the public that the groundbreaking for SK Baseball would be February 25, 2008.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, remarked that Indigent Defense Issues would come before the Board during the February 26, 2008 Commission meeting with a full explanation and assessment and an update on Early Case Resolution (ECR).

* * * * *

5:11 p.m. There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that the meeting be adjourned.

ROBERT M. LARKIN, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

Minutes Prepared by:
Catherine Patterson, Deputy Clerk
Stacy Gonzales, Deputy Clerk

A RESOLUTION CREATING THE
WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION AGENCY FUND

WHEREAS, Washoe County Ordinance 935, bill no. 1110 imposed a 1.5 percent fee on water billings for water planning; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 487 established a regional governing board to oversee water resources planning in Washoe County; and

WHEREAS, the 1.5 percent fee on water billings will fund the activities of the regional governing board; and

WHEREAS, the resources and disbursements relative to the regional governing board activities need to be separated from other County financial activities in a separate agency fund; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF WASHOE, IN THE STATE OF NEVADA:

Section 1. That the Western Regional Water Commission Fund is hereby created as an agency fund, effective April 1, 2008.

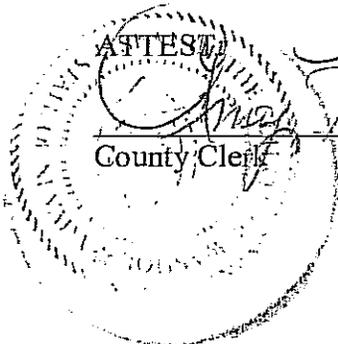
Section 2. That the Finance Department is hereby directed to establish said funds on the official books and records of Washoe County for the purposes of accounting for the Western Regional Water Commission funds and interest earnings on the assets of each fund and expenditures and disbursements from the funds.

Section 4. This Resolution shall be effective on passage and approval.

Section 5. The County Clerk is hereby directed to disburse executed copies of the Resolution to the Department of Taxation, the Comptroller, the Department of Water Resources and the Budget Division within 30 days.

ADOPTED this 14th day of February, 2008

Robert M. Lark
Chairman, Washoe County Commission



08-161

6160

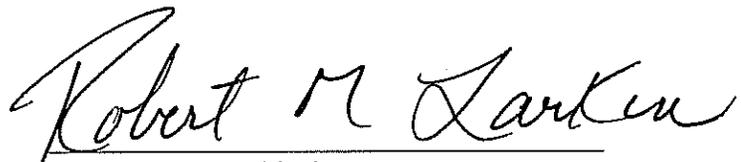
RESOLUTION--Authorizing the Grant of Public Money for the 2008 4th of July Celebration in Incline Village and Crystal Bay.

WHEREAS, NRS 244.1505 provides that a board of county commissioners may expend money for any purpose which will provide a substantial benefit to the inhabitants of the county and that a board may make a grant of money to a private organization, not for profit, or to a governmental entity, to be expended for a selected purpose; and

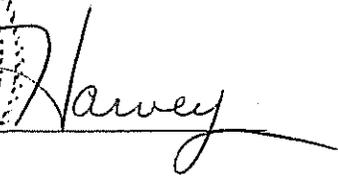
WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of Washoe County has determined that a certain amount of money is available in Fiscal Year 2007/2008, to make a grant of money to Red, White and Tahoe Blue in Incline Village and Crystal Bay - \$3,590 for day activities; and for costs associated with production of Red, White and Tahoe Blue, and that by providing this grant of money a substantial benefit will be provided to the inhabitants of Washoe County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Washoe County that the Board hereby grants to Red, White and Tahoe Blue - \$3,590 for day activities; and for costs associated with production of Red, White and Tahoe Blue, a grant for Fiscal Year 2007/2008 in the amount of \$3,590.

Adopted this 19th day of February 2008.


Chairman

08-170

 ATTEST

County Clerk

A RESOLUTION CREATING THE CENTRAL TRUCKEE MEADOWS REMEDIATION DISTRICT (CTMRD) SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

WHEREAS, Washoe County Ordinance 1165 implemented a remediation fee rate structure; and

WHEREAS, the resources and disbursements relative to the funding for the remediation district needs to be separated from other County financial activity; and

WHEREAS, the resources and disbursements relative to the operations should be in a Special Revenue fund; and

WHEREAS, the County will annually budget resources and disbursements to fund the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF WASHOE, IN THE STATE OF NEVADA:

Section 1. That the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District Fund is hereby created as a special revenue fund subject to Local Government Budget Act contained in NRS 354, effective July 1, 2008.

Section 2. That the Finance Department is hereby directed to establish said fund on the official books and records of Washoe County for the purposes of accounting for the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District funds and interest earnings on the assets of the fund and expenditures and disbursement from the fund, effective July 1, 2008.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be effective on passage and approval.

Section 4. The County Clerk is hereby directed to disburse executed copies of the Resolution to the Department of Taxation, the Comptroller, the Department of Water Resources and the Budget Division within 30 days.

ADOPTED this 19th day of February, 2008

Robert M. Larkin
Chairman, Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:
Imy Harvey
County Clerk

08-160

6E(3)

RESOLUTION--Authorizing the Grant of Public Money for a 2008 4th of July Celebration in Washoe County.

WHEREAS, NRS 244.1505 provides that a board of county commissioners may expend money for any purpose which will provide a substantial benefit to the inhabitants of the county and that a board may make a grant of money to a private organization, not for profit, or to a governmental entity, to be expended for a selected purpose; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of Washoe County has determined that a certain amount of money is available in Fiscal Year 2007/2008, to make a grant of money to the City of Sparks on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department - \$10,775 for costs associated with production of Star Spangled Sparks, and that by providing this grant of money a substantial benefit will be provided to the inhabitants of Washoe County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Washoe County that the Board hereby grants to the City of Sparks on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department - \$10,775 for costs associated with production of Star Spangled Sparks, a grant for Fiscal Year 2007/2008 in the amount of \$10,775.

Adopted this 19th day of February 2008.

Robert M. Larkin
Chairman

08-17D

ATTEST
STATE SEAL OF THE COUNTY
Harvey
COUNTY CLERK