

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 16, 2018

PRESENT:

**Marsha Berkbigler, Chair**

**Kitty Jung, Vice Chair**

**Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner**

**Jeanne Herman, Commissioner**

**Bob Lucey, Commissioner**

**Nancy Parent, County Clerk**

**John Slaughter, County Manager**

**David Watts-Vial, Deputy District Attorney**

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:19 a.m. 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:

**18-0039      AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.**

Ms. Tammy Holt-Still expressed frustration with the response to the flooding in Lemmon Valley, claiming the County did not respond for two months after the initial flooding, it did not hold monthly meetings with the Swan Lake Recovery Committee, and it had not yet completed the installation of power poles. She said she would continue to speak until issues in the valley were addressed. She presented cupcakes to the Board.

Ms. Donna Robinson spoke about her property flooding twice and said repairs had cost \$80,000 because her flood insurance had not paid anything. She stated she moved back into her house on December 16th since her housing was going to end January 1st. She implored the Board do something about Swan Lake to save other residents the heartache she experienced.

Mr. Sam Dehne spoke about the new high school at Wildcreek Golf Course, former City Manager Andrew Clinger, *The Reno Gazette-Journal*, and Open Meeting Law.

Ms. Elise Weatherly spoke about truth and hypocrisy, law enforcement and the larger judicial system, and expressed the need to support the community.

Mr. Danny Cleous expressed frustration about the condition of Lemmon Valley and mentioned the speeding issues he raised had not been addressed. He stated

Commissioner Herman requested the topic be put on an agenda but it had not yet been heard. He said the area was threatened by flooding every time it rained.

**18-0040**      **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

County Manager John Slaughter read an update on the Reindeer Lodge on Mt. Rose Highway, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He stated Chair Berkbigler's concerns about structural integrity and fire risk were founded and the County was actively working on the situation.

Commissioner Jung recommended working with regional partners on a master plan for homelessness which would lay out strategic goals. She felt people working on the problem were not working together and felt it would be prudent for the region to create a master plan.

Commissioner Herman thanked the Lemmon Valley residents for the cupcakes. She mentioned a project previously discussed at a flood meeting about man camp trailers and she noted there needed to be more planning regarding sewage and garbage.

Commissioner Hartung clarified Commissioner Jung had requested that the Flood Management Authority consider a 45,000 square foot parcel on Mill Street for transitional housing. This would target people who were in programs to get themselves out of homelessness. He agreed more research needed to be done about the structures to see whether they were self-contained. He indicated the Flood Management Authority was willing to allow the property to be used on an interim basis and staff was continuing discussions to initiate the program. He added the issue of homelessness was pandemic and solutions were not easy.

Commissioner Lucey requested a follow-up discussion about Waste Management (WM) concerns. He wanted a meeting with the ombudsman to find out WM's plan to handle customer service calls, noting he wanted to see them handled locally. He requested a discussion about dispatch and the fiscal equity thereof. He felt dispatch should be run as a business; an entity should pay for the services it received. He requested a report about the efficacy of dispatch that outlined what different agencies were paying for their services. He indicated Washoe County hosted the 2018 USA Cycling Cyclo-Cross Nationals at Rancho San Rafael Park. As Chair of the Reno Sparks Convention and Visitor's Authority he wanted to see more sporting events to change the perception of the community's events. He noted 6,000 people attended the event and praised the County Parks staff for the work they did.

Chair Berkbigler requested a presentation to the Board on Special Assessment Districts, including how and why they were set up and what they covered.

**18-0041**      **AGENDA ITEM 5** Introduction of new Washoe County Employees.

John Slaughter, County Manager, asked the following employees to introduce themselves to the Board:

Pamela Mann, Comptroller  
Susana Contreras, CCHS  
Jacqueline Early, Human Services Agency

There was no public comment or action taken on this item.

**18-0042**      **AGENDA ITEM 6** Presentation of Excellence in Public Service Certificates honoring the following Washoe County employees who have completed essential employee development courses.

County Manager John Slaughter remarked earning certificates involved a significant time commitment and he thanked the employees, as well as their supervisors and department heads.

John Slaughter, County Manager, recognized the following employees:

**Promote Yourself! Mini Certificate Program**

Suzanne McMann, Library  
Jean-Marie Naylor, Library

**Essentials of Management Development**

Angela Penny, Health Department  
Ted Qualls, Sheriff's Office

**Essentials of Personal Effectiveness**

Patricia Morrow, District Attorney's Office  
Jean-Marie Naylor, Library

Chair Berkgigler praised the recipients and said they were the reason the County worked as well as it did.

There was no public comment or action taken on this item.

**18-0043**      **AGENDA ITEM 7**      Washoe County Safety Committee - Safety Recognition Award - Jeremy Wilson. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

County Manager John Slaughter indicated this was a new way to recognize employees and Jeremy Wilson was the inaugural recipient. He praised Mr. Wilson for offering to provide defensive driving training outside of his normal duties. Mr. Wilson thanked the Manager.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be approved.

### **DONATIONS**

**18-0044**      **8A** Accept cash donations to Senior Services in the amount of [\$3,121.02] for the period July 1, 2017 to November 30, 2017 and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

**18-0045**      **8B** Accept a donation of a vehicle [estimated value is \$1,454, no charge to the County] from Mona Mae Cain to be utilized for auto extrication and live fire training benefiting Gerlach. Manager. (Commission District 5.)

**18-0046**      **8C1** Accept a donation [\$1,800.00] from Nevada Bighorns Unlimited Reno to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office for the Sheriff's Office Deputy Reserve Program, including funds to be used for food purchases and travel, and, if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make appropriate budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

**18-0047**      **8C2** Accept a donation of [\$300.00] from Fire Shows West to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office for the Citizen Corps Program (CCP), including funds to be used for food purchases, and, if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make appropriate budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no public comment on the donations listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Items 8A to 8C2 be accepted, directed, and authorized.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

**18-0048**      **9A** Proclaim January 2018 as National Radon Action Month. Manager.  
(All Commission District.)

County Clerk Nancy Parent noted she was given packets with information and radon kits for the Commissioners.

Commissioner Jung read and presented the Proclamation to Susan Howe.

Ms. Howe thanked the Board for its support and stressed the importance of radon testing. A map was shown on the overhead, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She mentioned the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension was offering free radon test kits from January 1 until February 28 at 4955 Energy Way and noted the Sun Valley General Improvement District (GID) was partnering with the program. She indicated 21 percent of the homes in Washoe County that had been tested were above the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action level. She reviewed some statistics from a packet, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk, but stressed each house was different so map statistics did not give a clear indication what level of radon any one house would encounter. She stated only 6 percent of housing units in Washoe County had been tested and 31 percent of the homes that needed mitigation had received mitigation. She promoted five upcoming presentations where residents could get kits.

Ms. Howe indicated the 2018 international building code would be voted on in each northern Nevada county and in the cities of Reno and Sparks. She indicated she would be on the committee and hoped to encourage radon-resistant construction in all new homes being built.

Commissioner Hartung asked what to do with a kit after testing, to which Ms. Howe replied all test kits came with a postage-paid mailer which would be processed in Carrollton Texas. She confirmed Commissioner Hartung's assumption that her agency recommended enacting development laws to prevent radon, noting 33 states in the nation had some similar laws but Nevada did not. When asked about the cost increases to a home, Ms. Howe estimated it would be less than \$1,000 to include a functioning radio system, less for a passive system without a fan.

There was no public comment on the Proclamations listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9A be adopted.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 10A THROUGH 10A5**

- 18-0049**      **10A1** Confirm selection of Chair of the Washoe County Board of Commissioners from Board of County Commissioners meeting dated January 9, 2018.
- 18-0050**      **10A2** Confirm selection of Vice-Chair of the Washoe County Board of Commissioners from Board of County Commissioners meeting dated January 9, 2018.
- 18-0051**      **10A3** Confirm selection to fix the term of office of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board from Board of County Commissioners meeting dated January 9, 2018.
- 18-0052**      **10A4** Approve to appoint Ms. Jamie Krahn as an alternate member to serve on the Washoe County Board of Equalization with term to expire June 30, 2019. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)
- 18-0053**      **10A5** Approve Commission District Special Fund disbursement [in the amount of \$7,500] for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; District 3 Commissioner Kitty Jung recommends [\$2,500] grant to the Eddy House to support their objective to end youth homelessness in Reno, Nevada, [\$2,500] grant to the Reno Bike Project to support Bike Valet during the Reno Earth Day Event 2018, [\$1,250] grant to the Northern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society (NNBCAS) to support their mission of developing and promoting black cultural awareness throughout the Truckee Meadows and [\$1,250] grant to the Friends of Washoe County Library to support the Summer/Winter Reading Program 2018, approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursements of funds. Manager. (Commission District 3.)

There was no public comment on the Consent Agenda Items listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 10A1 through 10A5 be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5x are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

**18-0054**      **AGENDA ITEM 11**    Discussion and possible action to approve the policy of the Use of 911 Surcharge Funds for the Body Camera Mandate set forth in Nevada Senate Bill 176. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

County Manager John Slaughter said the County was engaged in a series of meetings to implement funding that was allowed through Senate Bill (SB) 176. He indicated they would utilize some of the middle meetings each month to stay on track in this process.

Jamie Rodriguez, Management Analyst, said they were presenting the policy based on conversations held since the end of the legislative session. She explained SB 176 required all uniformed officers to wear body-worn cameras when interacting with the public and it allowed funding to be raised using the E911 surcharge. During the session there was discussion that the surcharge was optional and at the discretion of the county commissions of each county but the mandate was required. It was discussed that the surcharge might not cover all the costs of implementation of the cameras. She read several recommendations from the policy included in the staff report. She said it was the District Attorney's (DA) belief that personnel costs were not allowable through the E911 surcharges.

Ms. Rodriguez confirmed Commissioner Hartung's assertion that any costs for the personnel required to assemble, keep control of, or protect the data would come at the expense of each agency. She agreed it could be a huge cost. She noted previous Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) related to the E911 surcharge stated personnel costs and education were allowed. She explained the additions to the bill did not reference personnel costs and there was only one brief comment made during the legislative discussions about them. She reiterated the DA felt if the bill's drafters wanted personnel costs to be included in the bill, they could have copied from prior language.

Commissioner Hartung asked about equipment and Ms. Rodriguez confirmed the surcharge could be used for the purchase, maintenance, and storage of equipment and data. She acknowledged it could be a large expense but noted other agencies had not seen substantial need for new personnel to implement the cameras. She indicated training of personnel was included in the purchase of equipment.

When asked by Commissioner Hartung about ancillary personnel using cameras, Ms. Rodriguez stated the legislation specifically stated cameras were required to be worn by uniformed police officers; detectives not in uniform did not have that requirement. The policy the County presented allowed leniency amongst jurisdictions and she mentioned Sparks was asking for a camera for all officers since detectives occasionally wore uniforms to special events. Commissioner Hartung felt detectives needed to interact with citizens on a consistent basis, though Ms. Rodriguez pointed out plainclothes officers requested during session not to wear cameras as they were not easily concealable. Jurisdictions were able to make special requests in those situations.

Mr. Slaughter noted he requested a legal opinion from the DA. One

concern raised was if fees were being used for things not allowable in statute and they were challenged, the Board could be responsible for repayment of those fees. He commented both the City Managers of Reno and Sparks disagreed with the County DA's opinion and the City of Reno might seek an opinion from the Legislative Council Bureau (LCB) for clarification.

When asked by Chair Berkgigler what would happen if the LCB disagreed with the DA's opinion, Deputy District Attorney David Watts-Vial answered the LCB's opinion would be persuasive but it would not be binding. Commissioner Hartung asked whether the County could seek an opinion from the Attorney General (AG), to which Mr. Watts-Vial replied they could, though the AG's opinion would also be persuasive but not binding in any court.

Commissioner Hartung asked how Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) would factor into the policy, claiming VOIP circumvented taxes placed on home-line carriers. Cell phones had to pay fees for each line while VOIP did not. Ms. Rodriguez said VOIP counted as a trunk line, which was equivalent to 10 lines; the surcharge for a typical line was \$.25 a month so a trunk line would be \$2.50. She stated this equivalency was specified in the legislation. Commissioner Hartung expressed concern about the circumvention of fees since he felt the E911 surcharge would not be enough to pay ongoing costs. Ms. Rodriguez pointed out that could only be addressed legislatively.

Ms. Rodriguez advised the E911 Advisory Board was meeting on January 18 to possibly approve the master plan. Staff hoped to bring the master plan to the Board at the February 20, 2018 meeting for approval. The plan was to bring the business impact for first and second readings in March, and if all deadlines were met surcharges could be collected starting on May 1.

Mr. Slaughter stated it was his intention to bring a thoughtful recommendation to the Board on the amount of the fee to be charged. He stated consultants were helping the E911 Board prepare a master plan, which would consider requirements for body cameras as well as for the 911 system. He expected that recommendation would follow Ms. Rodriguez' timeline.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Elise Weatherly stated the data from the cameras could be used to prove facts in court. While she expressed concern about the possible costs, she supported the idea as a way to protect officers and establish the truth.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved.

**18-0055**      **AGENDA ITEM 12** Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**18-0056**      **AGENDA ITEM 13** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Hartung requested a report on the homes purchased in Lemmon Valley as well as a list of homes that were flooded versus parcels that experienced flooding but could still support people living there. He requested to see it in list form and as a map.

Commissioner Jung added a request for a breakdown of the amounts expended for each parcel and property owner, delineated by what was paid by the County, the State, and the Federal Government.

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**11:31 a.m.**    There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

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**MARSHA BERKBIGLER**, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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**NANCY PARENT**, County Clerk and  
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

*Minutes Prepared by:  
Derek Sonderfan, Deputy County Clerk*

**RESOLUTION** – Authorizing the Grant of Public Monies to a Nonprofit Organization Created for Religious, Charitable or Educational Purposes

**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 nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes or to a governmental entity to be expended for a selected purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County upon the recommendation of Commissioner Kitty Jung for District 3, has determined that \$2,500 will be granted to the Eddy House to support their objective to end youth homelessness in Reno, Nevada; and

**WHEREAS**, The mission of the Eddy House is to promote self-sufficiency and empowerment to homeless, runaway, foster, and other at-risk youth, ages 12-24, in an individualized, relationship-based, trusting environment by offering safety, basic needs, and access to community resources in Northern Nevada; and

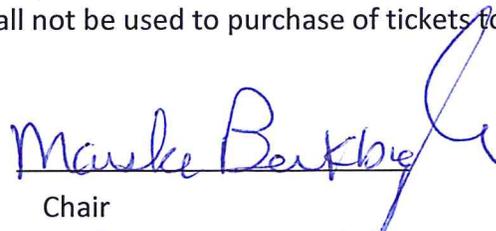
**WHEREAS**, The Eddy House is the central intake and assessment facility for homeless youth, ages 12-24, in Northern Nevada and provided essential services such as showers, clothing, food, and safety to over 769 homeless, non-system youth; and

**WHEREAS**, The Eddy House provides an essential service to Washoe County and Northern Nevada as the youth at Eddy House are non-system, are not connected to other agencies or programs, and do not receive much-needed services necessary for survival; now, therefore, be it

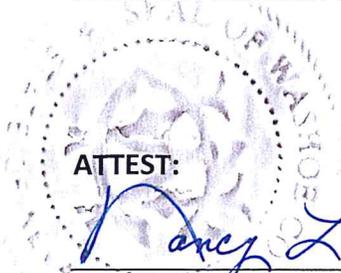
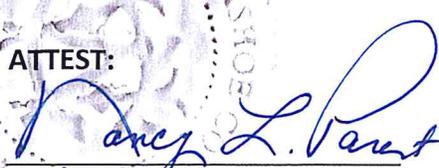
**RESOLVED**, By the Board of Commissioners of Washoe County that:

1. The Board hereby grants to the Eddy House, a grant for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$2,500.
2. The Board finds that in making this grant a substantial benefit will be provided to the residents in Washoe County by supporting the Eddy House.
3. The maximum allowable expended for this effort within Commission District Special Funding Accounts is \$2,500 and funds shall not be used to purchase of tickets to special events.

**ADOPTED** this 16th day of January, 2018.

  
Chair  
Washoe County Commission

**ATTEST:**

  
  
County Clerk

18-00533

**RESOLUTION** – Authorizing the Grant of Public Monies to a Nonprofit Organization Created for Religious, Charitable or Educational Purposes

**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 nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes or to a governmental entity to be expended for a selected purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County upon the recommendation of Commissioner Kitty Jung for District 3, has determined that \$1,250 will be granted to the Friends of Washoe County Library to support the Summer/Winter Reading Program 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the Friends of Washoe County Library is a non-profit organization dedicated to advocating, fundraising, and providing support for Washoe County Library System ; and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Washoe County Library System is to connect people with information, ideas and experiences to support an enriched and engaged community, one person at a time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washoe County Library System runs the Summer/Winter Reading Program to encourage youth reading; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, By the Board of Commissioners of Washoe County that:

1. The Board hereby grants to the Friends of Washoe County Library, a grant for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$1,250.
2. The Board finds that in making this grant a substantial benefit will be provided to the youth in Washoe County by supporting the Summer/Winter Reading Program.
3. The maximum allowable expended for this effort within Commission District Special Funding Accounts is \$1,250 and funds shall not be used to purchase of tickets to special events.

**ADOPTED** this 16th day of January, 2018.

  
Chair  
Washoe County Commission

**ATTEST:**

  
  
County Clerk

**RESOLUTION** – Authorizing the Grant of Public Monies to a Nonprofit Organization Created for Religious, Charitable or Educational Purposes

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**WHEREAS**, The Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County upon the recommendation of Commissioner Kitty Jung for District 3, has determined that \$1,250 will be granted to the Northern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society to support their mission through the Youth Mentoring Program; and

**WHEREAS**, The mission of Northern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society is to develop and promote black cultural awareness throughout the Truckee Meadows; and

**WHEREAS**, The Youth Mentoring Program strives to build community around students with help of professionals by supporting them in their educational journey and guiding students looking for their future career path; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, By the Board of Commissioners of Washoe County that:

1. The Board hereby grants to the Northern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society, a grant for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$1,250.
2. The Board finds that in making this grant a substantial benefit will be provided to the residents in Washoe County by supporting the Youth Mentoring Program.
3. The maximum allowable expended for this effort within Commission District Special Funding Accounts is \$1,250 and funds shall not be used to purchase of tickets to special events.

**ADOPTED** this 16th day of January, 2018.

  
Chair  
Washoe County Commission

**ATTEST:**

  
County Clerk



**RESOLUTION** – Authorizing the Grant of Public Monies to a Nonprofit Organization Created for Religious, Charitable or Educational Purposes

**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 nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes or to a governmental entity to be expended for a selected purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County upon the recommendation of Commissioner Kitty Jung for District 3, has determined that \$2,500 will be granted to the Reno Bike Project to support Bike Valet during the Reno Earth Day Event 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, The Reno Bike Project hosts events to raise awareness for cycling, provides educational programming to the public, and implements programs to get bikes in the hands of people who need them the most; and

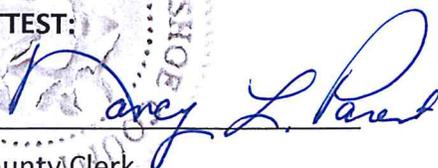
**WHEREAS**, The Reno Bike Project offers a complimentary Bike Valet service during the Reno Earth Day Event 2018 to encourage riding by providing a secure parking space, and in some cases, repairing bikes during the event; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, By the Board of Commissioners of Washoe County that:

1. The Board hereby grants to the Reno Bike Project, a grant for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$2,500.
2. The Board finds that in making this grant a substantial benefit will be provided to the residents in Washoe County by supporting the Bike Valet service during the Reno Earth Day Event 2018.
3. The maximum allowable expended for this effort within Commission District Special Funding Accounts is \$2,500 and funds shall not be used to purchase of tickets to special events.

**ADOPTED** this 16th day of January, 2018.

  
Chair  
Washoe County Commission

  
**ATTEST:**  
  
County Clerk