

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

MAY 26, 2020

PRESENT:

**Bob Lucey, Chair**  
**Marsha Berkbigler, Vice Chair**  
**Kitty Jung, Commissioner (via telephone)**  
**Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner (via telephone)**  
**Jeanne Herman, Commissioner**

**Nancy Parent, County Clerk**  
**Eric Brown, County Manager**  
**David Watts-Vial, Assistant District Attorney (via Zoom)**

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:04 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:

**20-0342      AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.**

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**20-0343      AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.**

Chair Lucey mentioned Agenda Items 18 and 19 would be pulled from the agenda. He said corrections were needed before the items could be heard by the Board.

County Manager Eric Brown noted the upcoming Board meeting would be cancelled because of the elections scheduled for June 9. He said staff would provide an update to the Board about Lemmon Valley on June 16. He mentioned the update had been delayed because of agenda adjustments due to COVID-19 (C19). He stated County offices would start reopening on June 1, adding the County continued to conduct business during the C19 crisis. He thanked County employees who quickly embraced telework wherever possible and appropriate. He mentioned public-facing departments had conducted business using modified operations to keep employees safe. He awaited the Governor's announcements later in the day, but the plan was for County employees to begin the transition back to the office in phases. He noted the County would continue to embrace telework wherever possible, even after C19. He said allowing employees to work from home under the appropriate conditions could be very productive. He stated social distancing and wearing masks would be observed as employees returned to the workplace. The County would require all visitors to wear masks and have temperature scans.

In regard to the presentation from Waste Management (WM) on the agenda, Mr. Brown said he sent a letter to WM as requested by the Board. The letter was dated April 10, about one week after WM announced a rate increase. He requested the rate increase be delayed because of the C19 crisis and the reduced WM services caused by it. He was anxious to hear from WM about future operations to improve conditions for County residents.

Commissioner Herman read the County's mission statement and core values. She noted one of the County's strategic goals was to identify and triage the most vulnerable populations as identified by community need, and to work together cross-departmentally and regionally to provide adequate resources and support. She mentioned a constituent pointed out the large expenditures on the agenda totaled approximately \$16 million as compared to the proposed \$15,000 for maintaining Swan Lake.

Commissioner Hartung asked for clarification on whether Chambers would be included in the reopening of County offices or whether Chambers would remain closed based on the Governor's recommendations. He looked forward to reopening Chambers. He requested an agenda item to explain the hierarchy of the Washoe County Health District (WCHD) and the purview of the Board as it related to the WCHD. He said he received several calls from residents who expressed frustration with WCHD operations, and he wanted to clarify that the Board had no authority over those operations.

Vice Chair Berkbigler recognized a WCHD employee, Environmental Health Specialist Scott Strickler, who performed annual inspections at restaurants. Mr. Strickler performed an inspection at Campo, and she received phone calls from three people thanking the Board for sending someone so knowledgeable and gracious. She praised the WCHD and thanked Mr. Strickler.

Commissioner Jung announced the Governor's address was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. and it would be on all local news channels and social media. She noted everyone would know more about reopening after the Governor's announcements. She stated that, although the WCHD was called the Washoe County Health District, nothing happened without the Governor's approval. The County was not a home rule county, nor was the State.

In reference to expenditures on the agenda, Commissioner Jung said she wanted to know whether the funds were from the current fiscal year or the upcoming year's budget. She thought the Board should consider removing the expenditure items from the agenda if they were for the next fiscal year's budget to determine whether the contracts could be renegotiated or postponed. She thought the County would be allowed to use funds for emergency items because of the current emergency situation.

Chair Lucey hoped everyone had a safe Memorial Day weekend. He said people often forgot the purpose of Memorial Day was to honor those who served in the armed forces. He thanked those who made the ultimate sacrifice to serve this country and offered condolences to their families. He echoed the Commissioners who said the Governor

would provide recommendations about moving into Phase 2 of reopening. He hoped casinos would reopen on June 4. He reiterated Commissioner Herman's reminder of the County's mission statement to provide a safe, secure, and healthy community, noting everyone needed to continue to be vigilant by abiding by the C19 recommendations. He acknowledged face coverings and other recommendations were not mandatory but people were asked to wear them to protect the people around them, the vulnerable populations, children, and families. He asserted everyone needed to continue working together and being mindful of those around them, though he acknowledged the inconvenience of following the recommendations. He expressed dismay by an incident he witnessed where a store patron became extremely angry when asked to follow store guidelines. He urged people to be conscientious of the families who lost someone during this pandemic and those who had been ill.

**20-0344**      **AGENDA ITEM 5** Appearance and presentation by Greg Martinelli, Area Manager, Public Sector Solutions, Waste Management, for an update on Waste Management operations in Washoe County through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Waste Management (WM) Area Manager Greg Martinelli conducted a PowerPoint presentation via Zoom, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: WM's Response to Support Washoe County; Serving & Protecting Our Employees; Solutions Focused on Service; Solutions Focused on Communications; Next Steps – Working Together.

Mr. Martinelli noted solid waste disposal was deemed an essential service and WM tried to adhere to guidance from a host of agencies. He reported only one employee had contracted COVID-19 (C19) and medical benefits were enhanced to ensure all related expenses were covered. He said the recycling facility was closed for a short time because social distancing guidance could not be accommodated. As a result of employee suggestions, proper protection was adopted so the facility had reopened and was operational. He mentioned many commercial customers wanted to go to on-call service when the announcement to suspend service went out. He contacted the Health Department for clarification of requirements for closed businesses and WM's services were adjusted to meet the requirements of each commercial customer. Services for commercial customers would be adjusted according to service need as businesses reopened. He noted the Washoe County extra bag program would take place throughout June.

Chair Lucey thanked Mr. Martinelli for the presentation. He said the Commissioners received questions and concerns during the C19 pandemic. He stated the item was for discussion only, but the Commissioners would provide feedback based on feedback from constituents.

Vice Chair Berkgigler expressed approval that services would recommence and the extra bags would be picked up beginning June 1. She asked for confirmation that trash collection was considered an essential service by the Governor. Mr. Martinelli said it was. Vice Chair Berkgigler sought confirmation that employees on WM trucks already

wore gloves and were provided personal protective equipment (PPE). Mr. Martinelli said employees received PPE, though they were required to wear it as part of their job duties regardless of whether C19 was present or not. Vice Chair Berkbigler expressed concern about bags not being picked up because they included pinecones and pine needles which created a fire danger during the year. She asked WM to collect all garbage bags which had accumulated in the interim when it restarted the extra bag program. She understood the importance of protecting employees and making sure they followed precautions to protect themselves from C19, but the community also needed to be protected from fire danger.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked whether pine needles were not collected because there was a national requirement to stop picking them up. She inquired why WM employees picked up waste from bear boxes, which required getting out of the truck. She noted employees had to wear PPE and gloves when collecting garbage from bear boxes and asked how that was different from collecting extra garbage bags from residences. She said residents of Incline Village, Caughlin Ranch, and other mountain areas had posed this question to her because they were accustomed to having pine needles picked up. Mr. Martinelli recognized the conundrum of WM collecting bear boxes but not bags of pine needles. He asserted the intent was to delay bag collection, not to cancel the service. He noted the transfer station was open so customers could drop off pine needles free of charge because curbside pickup had not commenced.

Vice Chair Berkbigler appreciated the opening of the transfer station but noted WM had not put a large trash can in front of the building. When she called WM, she was told a dumpster for pine needle collection was not provided outside of the transfer station to prevent indiscriminate garbage drop off. She noted dropping off pine needles inside the transfer station presented a challenge for people who were elderly or had underlying health conditions because the building was dusty and full of moving equipment. She thanked Mr. Martinelli for what WM had done but wished the company had done more. She stated the goal was to protect the residents of the County, not just WM or County employees. She thought WM had not protected residents effectively. She asked WM to collect all accumulated garbage bags as quickly as possible without imposing a limit for each customer because an extremely dangerous fire season was approaching.

Commissioner Herman mentioned she voted against the contract with WM because the company's actions during the prior contract term were unacceptable. She thought WM's performance had not improved much. She said she regularly received calls from District 5 residents for the same issues they encountered in the past. She and the residents in her district awaited WM's improved performance because they found it lacking. Chair Lucey asked whether Mr. Martinelli wished to respond. Mr. Martinelli said he recalled Commissioner Herman's position and reasoning.

Commissioner Jung asked whether WM received federal funds as part of the three stimulus packages. Mr. Martinelli replied he was not aware of receiving any federal funds. Commissioner Jung asked him to confirm whether WM received funds and, if so, how much. Mr. Martinelli believed WM had not applied for federal funds. She requested verification and asked how many days WM could stay open and pay bills. She

also requested information about WM's investment portfolios, including how much money the company had and how much was reinvested or put into foundations of pure cash. She said she did not want to discuss the past, which could not be changed. She thought performance was affected by a lack of experience in dealing with a situation like the C19 pandemic. She acknowledged the pandemic moved quickly and there were mixed messages about responding to this public health emergency. She requested a written plan for responding to a future infectious disease situation. She asked for an explanation of how the C19 situation would inform WM's operations and address the complaints presented by the Commissioners. She noted the information she requested needed to be presented to the Board before August 1.

Commissioner Jung acknowledged WM and the County had incurred many unprecedented expenses, but she asserted the personal budgets of County residents were in worse condition. She noted the State of Nevada had the highest unemployment rates, which were higher than during the depression. She asked why WM proceeded with the rate increase and why they had not responded to the letter from the Board. She wanted there to be no additional rate increases and requested this increase be postponed until January 1, at which time the full impact on customers might be ascertained. She clarified she spoke about the Washoe County franchise because the Cities of Reno and Sparks were not part of the County's purview. She stated many County residents had financial difficulties prior to C19. She inquired what WM would do to fix the situation. She noted WM was a corporation and the County was local government with limited resources. She believed fixing the situation was the right thing to do, but proceeding with a rate increase was imperceptive and made her feel as though WM and the County were not partners.

Commissioner Hartung recognized the Commissioners were airing a lot of grievances about WM but he also received many calls about the rate increase. He commended WM for not removing service for customers who were unable to pay, but he agreed with concerns about raising rates during the current crisis. He noted fuel prices were the lowest they had been in decades, which had to translate to WM's bottom line. He expressed disappointment because WM proceeded with the rate increase when even the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) delayed a previously approved increase. He understood the cost for additional PPE and telecommuting arrangements for employees, but those were the same expenditures all businesses had to incur during this extraordinary time. He said he called WM and asked about the rate increase and was told it was due to a loss in revenue because so many businesses closed. He noted unincorporated Washoe County had far fewer commercial customers, which was why the rates were already higher. He was unsure of the solution but thought the Board might need a deeper conversation about what to do going forward.

Chair Lucey mentioned the County's operating agreement with WM had been troubled in some areas and successful in others. He acknowledged the unincorporated County was diverse; it encompassed a large area, had different types of roads, and included a variety of customers. He recognized the C19 pandemic was a challenge for many companies because there was no playbook for how to keep employees safe while maintaining services. He thought it was especially difficult for a utility service such as

WM. He asserted the situation did not eliminate WM's ability to respond to the needs of the individuals in the community who faced difficult times. He agreed with the concerns expressed by the other Commissioners regarding a rate change during the current crisis, particularly since certain services were reduced. He noted transfer stations and recycling drop-off areas were closed, the extra bag collection was postponed, and the spring excess waste collection was not honored, yet fees had increased. He stated he disliked partnering with companies who did business in this manner.

Chair Lucey said the agreement with WM was made with the understanding that WM would work with the County and customers in unincorporated areas. The Board knew WM was aware of the challenges in servicing the unincorporated County. He stated the Board would need to reconsider how to proceed if the County became just another corporate statistic for WM. He thought of it as poor business and it was not how the County operated in the past. He said WM Corporate should have taken a different stance with regards to billing, and better communication with the community was needed well before changes were made. He agreed it was time to have a more prudent discussion about the County's agreement with WM and facilitating some of the wrongs which transpired during C19. He hoped Mr. Martinelli would work with WM's executive team to quickly develop viable solutions for unincorporated residents.

Referencing Mr. Martinelli's mention of the Health Department, Commissioner Jung clarified the Washoe County Health Department received direction from the Governor and the State Board of Health, as did the Board. They did not take any action without the State's direction.

Mr. Martinelli retorted Chair Lucey and Commissioner Jung's claims that he did not respond to the County were disingenuous. He said he had several conversations with County Manager Eric Brown and offered to meet with each Commissioner to answer questions. He explained WM's reasons for the rate increase when he spoke with Mr. Brown and thought those reasons were valid. He indicated the increase would result in more than \$1 million in their revenue run rate and they were not willing to absorb that financial impact along with absorbing late fees, non-payment for services, and failures to cancel service. He said the run rate in Washoe County was approximately \$30,000 per quarter and they expected it to increase to \$40,000 to \$50,000 per quarter. He understood the Board's position and respected the Commissioners' rights to have an opinion, but he asserted WM had reasons for the rate increase. He expressed frustration about the Board's judgement of a business decision for a business in which they were not fully versed. He noted the Board made decisions which not everyone would accept. He expressed displeasure that the Commissioners said WM had not responded but he asserted he had.

Chair Lucey said he and Commissioner Jung received service from the City of Reno, not from the unincorporated County. He stated he represented over 100,000 people and his comments about not receiving a response from WM were meant to convey that the entire community felt like they had not received communication from them. The Commissioners worked to convey to WM the discontent of the citizens in the unincorporated area. Mr. Martinelli replied he understood the discussion was not personal.

Chair Lucey said he would willingly speak to anyone in WM's upper management if needed. He reiterated this community had not performed business in this way previously.

Commissioner Jung clarified she expected a prompt written reply, not a phone call, to the letter written by Mr. Brown based on direction from the Board. She asserted the Board had not received a written response. She expressed displeasure about being told she was disingenuous. She said the Board asked Mr. Brown to do something because the Commissioners heard from many constituents. She stated she had not spoken with Mr. Martinelli and apologized if she missed an email, but summarized the Board wanted a written response for the contract.

Commissioner Hartung appreciated the losses WM incurred. He noted every business had substantive losses, but WM was a worldwide business with billions of dollars in profit every year. He expressed consternation about the focus on the \$1 million WM lost, pointing out that TMWA had \$1.3 million in losses but they delayed their rate increase until the community overcame the C19 crisis. He understood Mr. Martinelli had a business to run, but he emphasized these were tough times for everyone. He stated many people would be unable to pay bills and all of the utilities had to navigate the situation. He remarked Mr. Martinelli said WM had not been able to provide certain services because of a lack of manpower. He expressed frustration about the rate increase.

Vice Chair Berkbigler said Mr. Martinelli had her personal phone number and address and could have reached her if he wanted to speak about this issue. She agreed the Commissioners were expressing the concerns of their constituents. She emphasized the citizens of the community had the right to expect WM to live up to the terms of their agreement, which WM had not done. However, the citizens had to pay for the County to fulfill the terms of their agreement with WM by covering the rate increase. She asserted WM gave the impression of not caring for the citizens of the community. She said the County had lost much more than \$1 million during this crisis. She expressed disappointment in Mr. Martinelli as she expected him as the manager to have better control of his team. She expressed displeasure at Mr. Martinelli, saying he thought the Commissioners were disingenuous. She repeated her request for WM to clean up all of the accumulated garbage bags which had not been collected because the company decided not to live up to its terms of the agreement. She noted many of her constituents lived in the unincorporated County and they expected to have their extra garbage bags collected through the month of May, but they had not received that service even though their rates increased. She agreed with Commissioner Hartung and Chair Lucey in saying the County expected more from its partners and she considered WM a partner.

Chair Lucey said the Commissioner comments provided a good sense of the Board's frustrations. He asked whether Mr. Martinelli had any final comments. Mr. Martinelli said he did not. He wished everyone well and hoped they stayed safe. Chair Lucey thanked Mr. Martinelli and said he would call him soon.

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

**20-0345**      **AGENDA ITEM 6** Appearance and presentation by Washoe County District Health Officer Kevin Dick to update the Board on COVID-19 emergency response, the impact of COVID-19 on Washoe County and local emergency services, including impacts on hospitals and hospital capacity, and the availability and status of COVID - 19 testing and antibody testing.

Using the Zoom app, District Health Officer Kevin Dick reported Washoe County had 1,405 COVID-19 (C19) cases as of May 25. He expressed regret because there were two additional deaths, bringing the total number of deaths in the County up to 54. He mentioned Chair Lucey's comments about the importance of everyone doing their part to try to prevent the spread of C19 in the community. The 54 deaths since March were tragedies that impacted the community. He noted the average number of deaths during the last few flu seasons was 16. He expressed admiration for the collaboration of the Washoe County Health District (WCHD), the National Guard, County employees from various departments, and regional partners on the C19 response. He stressed the need for everyone in the community to work together to keep everyone safe while reopening efforts continued. He spoke about a grocery store patron not wearing a mask and coughing into his hand, then using that same hand to return an item to the shelf. He stated that kind of inattention could have serious effects in the spread of the disease. He reminded everyone to behave responsibly and cooperate so the economy could continue to reopen. He said the highest number of new Washoe County cases in one day was reported on May 17. He noted an outbreak at Arbors Memory Care impacted that number. He stressed there were still a significant number of cases, so people needed to exercise their best judgement and behavior.

Mr. Dick reported hospitals had good capacity with 66 percent of short-term acute beds, 45 percent of intensive care unit beds, and 12 percent of ventilators in use. He mentioned Dr. Anthony Slonim, President and Chief Executive Officer for Renown Health, said the additional 700-bed build-out would be left in place in case it was needed in future. He noted the WCHD had been performing testing and contact tracing. There was a call center system and a website portal for screening and test scheduling available in both English and Spanish. Work was underway to get an automated system to help reduce staffing workload with respect to scheduling and calling negative cases. He said there were a large number of people involved in contact tracing for positive cases; they called anyone who might have been exposed and worked with them to isolate and monitor for symptoms for the 14-day incubation period. He reported there were currently 559 active cases and each of those individuals had a person assigned to them. He said it was a significant workload and the WCHD was fortunate to have the National Guard deployed through June 24. The County received 30 additional National Guard members in the past few weeks. He noted a work plan for the paycheck protection program was under development. The program would provide approximately \$10 million in federal funding to the WCHD to support testing and contact tracing work moving forward.

Mr. Dick said the WCHD had performed mobile testing at different facilities for high-risk populations. He noted they encountered an issue with a commercial lab contracted by the Incident Management Team early in the process to ensure sufficient



testing capacity; the contract was for 5,000 tests with a 72-hour processing time, but the lab failed to perform tests within that timeframe. He mentioned the WCHD just received results for samples collected on May 15 from the shelter population at the Reno Events Center. There were some positive results for asymptomatic individuals but the results were received too late to use them for an intervention within that population. He said they would work with the State Public Health Lab (SPHL) to increase testing capacity. The SPHL had increased their capacity by utilizing additional equipment. He noted the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) had provided additional collection kits through the SPHL. As of May 26, the WCHD had results for 20,566 people whose specimens were collected, or about 4.3 percent of the population.

Mr. Dick mentioned Environmental Health Specialist Trainee Erick Lamun, who handled operations for the drive-through testing post, had been recognized as ‘Hero of the Day’ by the Governor’s Office the prior week. He expressed pride for Mr. Lamun’s recognition and for the work performed by the entire team. He announced the testing post would be open during the week of June 1 for anyone who wanted to be tested. Individuals could contact the WCHD by phone at 328-2427 or through the C19 website to be scheduled for testing. He mentioned University of Nevada, Reno epidemiology researchers and WCHD epidemiology staff started work on a seroprevalence study. They would use the State lab’s antibody testing capability to identify what percent of the population had been exposed to C19. He explained the tests needed to be representative of the County, so they were randomly selected. He said there were 173 census tracts used to select households and letters were sent to just over 1,100 residents. He hoped to receive a good response to the letters. The deadline was set for May 26 at 5:00 p.m. He stated a response rate of approximately 25 percent was needed for the study, which would require a blood draw from one of the adults in the household; that was scheduled for June 9 through June 11.

Chair Lucey thanked Mr. Dick and acknowledged there were multiple components to the C19 response with things changing from minute to minute. He opined there were three parts to the pandemic response, the first of which was sanitation and safety. He asserted the public had to adhere to the guidance about social distancing and wearing masks, which had been the most effective in combating C19. The second part involved identifying confirmed or potentially positive individuals and providing them with resources such as hospitalization and contact tracing. The third step was to help positive symptomatic cases access treatment. He stated one of the Board’s initiatives was to protect the most vulnerable populations. He noted the County built the Edison Housing Project (EHP), which provided 300 beds for individuals who were positive or presumed positive but unable to quarantine. He pointed out nobody had been placed in those housing units as of May 26. He expressed frustration because the number of positive cases continued to increase without progress on isolating influencing factors. He knew moving certain populations presented a challenge but he thought something different needed to be done to identify and quarantine positive cases.

Chair Lucey confirmed testing would be available for asymptomatic individuals starting June 1. Mr. Dick replied testing would be available during the week of June 1 through June 6 for anyone who wanted to be tested.

Chair Lucey suggested establishing a testing post at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center for residents in the southern part of the county if there was enough testing capacity and sufficient workforce. He thought the location was highly functional with the closure of the casinos and open-air malls surrounding it. He said he could help organize the project. He asked whether increasing the number of tests would cause a delay in receiving results. He assumed the current processing time was 24 to 48 hours. Mr. Dick said the added testing during the week of June 1 would also serve as a stress test to see whether the 24-hour turnaround time could be maintained. He expected lower positivity rates when the criteria for testing were expanded. He said he would work with the SPHL and the Department of Emergency Management on managing the available testing capacity. He stated the SPHL should provide the necessary capacity based on the population of Washoe County in relation to other counties. He anticipated sufficient testing capacity for over 1,000 tests per day. He stressed the importance of testing vulnerable populations and high-risk personnel such as first responders, health care workers, and long-term senior living center workers, who needed to be tested repeatedly and would consume some of the testing capacity.

Chair Lucey noted the Governor suggested the possibility of reopening the gaming industry on June 4, which would mean many individuals would return to work. He said consumer confidence was important and some of the casino properties worked with commercial vendors to test their employees. He noted the need to provide testing for family members and secondary business, such as laundry services and food delivery which would facilitate the reopening of gaming establishments. He thought testing would be crucial. It was similar to what Clark County was currently doing. He wanted to work with Mr. Dick and County Manager Eric Brown to develop a plan to facilitate testing for the reopening of gaming.

In response to Chair Lucey's mention of the EHP, Commissioner Hartung said he was contacted by several people interested in using the facility. He suggested a codified process for use of the facility would be helpful. He asked about the rules and regulations for using the facility. He noted people were under the impression they could come and go when staying in those units. He wondered whether it was a 24-hour a day, 7-day quarantine. He expressed gratitude for the expanded testing. He mentioned he was recently contacted by a family needing testing and all eight family members tested positive. He said it was unfortunate they were unable to receive testing through the WCHD. He liked the idea of providing testing in the south and thought it would be a good idea to provide testing in the North Valleys and Spanish Springs if there was enough manpower and testing kits. He suggested using high schools, which would be closed for the summer.

Commissioner Hartung asked about the accuracy of antibody tests. Mr. Dick replied validation was performed on the Abbott antibody test used by the SPHL and it had 100 percent sensitivity and 99.6 percent specificity, so it was very reliable. He was aware of commercially developed antibody tests, but the WCHD would not recommend those tests because of concerns about reliability.

Commissioner Hartung mentioned some emergency room doctors questioned the reliability of antibody tests. He asked whether the antibody test used a finger prick blood sampling. Mr. Dick responded the antibody test used by the SPHL required a blood draw. It was not as easy as a finger prick sampling but provided reliable results.

Commissioner Hartung asked how long it would take to receive results for the antibody tests. Mr. Dick said he was not sure because the SPHL reserved their capacity for population studies such as the one the WCHD developed. He understood the SPHL had capacity to perform 500 antibody tests a day, so he anticipated a 24-hour turnaround for results.

Vice Chair Berkgigler said she would like a testing post in Incline Village (IV) if the WCHD expanded testing locations. There were elderly residents in IV who had difficulty driving down to the valley for testing. She noted IV was a small enclosed community with many visitors from California, so she thought testing would be beneficial there. Mr. Dick mentioned there were several census tracts randomly selected for the seroprevalence study who lived in IV and Crystal Bay. He said the North Lake Tahoe Fire Department (NLTFD) agreed to do the serology blood draws for individuals who participated in the study. He expressed appreciation for the assistance offered by the NLTFD.

In response to Commissioner Hartung and Vice Chair Berkgigler's suggestions about expanded testing locations, Chair Lucey mentioned the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) had a calendar of their testing locations. He suggested the WCHD could mimic what the SNHD did if testing could be mobile and moved throughout the community.

Mr. Dick said additional sites could be considered for mobile testing, but efficiency would be lost if testing was moved to different locations. He recognized the southern Nevada areas mentioned by Chair Lucey were more remote and acknowledged the comment about testing in IV, but Washoe County was not as big as Clark County. He said there needed to be a balance to ensure the necessary testing was performed for the community. He noted \$10 million sounded like a large sum of money but it would not provide an infinite number of tests. He mentioned Renown Health would increase their in-house testing capacity; they had worked with local casinos to perform tests which were sent out to commercial labs, but the added in-house capacity would be an additional resource for the region.

Chair Lucey said he spoke with Dr. Slonim the prior day and was told Renown Health would validate their Thermo Fisher diagnostic tests on May 26.

Commissioner Jung thanked Mr. Dick for the update. She asked for flu statistics, both for the State and nationwide. She said people mentioned different numbers when speaking about the flu. She wanted access to statistics for a normal flu season, seeking a recommendation for a resource where she could obtain real-time data.

Commissioner Jung said prior experience with identifying and funding vulnerable populations showed that working concentrically out from places on bus lines was most effective; people not on bus lines had demonstrated their own mobility. She acknowledged some people would be excluded, but it was the best way to target and prevent public disease outbreaks. She understood the WCHD had limited resources which had to be used in the most effective manner. She remarked Chair Lucey had been one of the largest funders of zip code investigation for preventable diseases. She said those efforts were effective because Chair Lucey knew how to get the best return on investment. She understood and supported Vice Chair Berkbigler's and Commissioner Hartung's hopes for mobile testing, but the WCHD had to be strategic.

In response to Commissioner Hartung's earlier statement, Commissioner Jung asked for information about the oversight for the Health District Officer. She asked who made up that board and whether any changes were required. She requested the information be provided at the next Board meeting. She inquired how much each entity contributed, including the general fund transfers from the County. She thought the County provided about 1/3 of the WCHD's budget. She noted Washoe County citizens paid for over 50 percent of the WCHD's budget in the past but only had the representation of one elected official. She referenced her well-known opinion about boards comprised of non-elected individuals making the decisions of an elected official.

Commissioner Jung said she understood taking a person's temperature was only about 65 percent effective in screening for C19 because 35 percent of people who could spread the disease were asymptomatic. She asked for verification of whether those statistics were correct. She noted people who had their temperature checked when going into public establishments might not realize 35 percent of those screened could spread C19.

Commissioner Jung thought using the word elderly was ambiguous when discussing C19. She stated age, specifically 65 and older, was the biggest predictor of complications and death from C19. Other pre-existing conditions were high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and other diseases related to obesity.

Commissioner Jung asked staff involved in emergency control to look at prevention for groups of people who had to live together, such as those in nursing homes. She wanted staff to use data from agencies that tested adequately as guides for developing new standard operating procedures so outbreaks could be prevented in any future emergency. She asked for an update from staff at the next Board meeting about the EHP. She inquired about restrictions and the use of federal money. She reiterated Commissioner Hartung's queries about the criteria for use, the expected behavior, and rules. She understood it was a significant FEMA resource and the County could not afford to forgo reimbursement. She wanted to ensure guidelines were followed and cost centers would be ready.

In response to Commissioner Jung's comments regarding the EHP, Mr. Dick suggested Emergency Management Administrator Aaron Kenneston should be included in the update for the Board. He said it was still a regional response matter and the

WCHD was not the lead on some of the issues, but he thought it was important to provide the Board with the information. He said Commissioner Jung was correct about there being constraints because of FEMA and agreed it was important to avoid anything at the EHP that would negate the potential for federal reimbursement. He expressed appreciation for the Commissioners' comments and their support.

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

**20-0346**      **AGENDA ITEM 7** Appearance and presentation by Washoe County Assistant County Manager, David Solaro to update the Board on Washoe County processes for enforcement of the Governor's COVID-19 Directives concerning businesses and business operating guidelines, discussion by the Board, and possible action including but not limited to direction to staff to modify current enforcement processes, expand current enforcement processes, or curtail current enforcement processes.

Chair Lucey noted he requested this agenda item because he thought it would be prudent to discuss enforcement measures while moving into the next reopening phases based on the Governor's directives. He wanted a report from staff about enforcement and feedback from Washoe311 as the County continued striving for safety.

Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro conducted a PowerPoint presentation via Zoom, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: Regional collaboration for guidelines; Phase 1 Guidelines and Guidance & Enforcement contact information; Specific for Unincorporated Washoe County; and Additional actions related to business (2 slides).

Mr. Solaro mentioned a regional group was formed by the Washoe County Health District (WCHD), the County, and the Cities of Sparks and Reno when businesses were closed due to COVID-19 (C19). The goal of the group was to ensure there was consistency across all jurisdictions because citizens might live in one jurisdiction and shop in a different one. The group thought providing regional guidelines was imperative. He said the information would be updated when guidelines became available for the next reopening phases. He stressed the information was intended for both consumers and business owners.

Mr. Solaro outlined the enforcement process that was initiated by calls to Washoe311. He said businesses became compliant once a County Code compliance officer visited the location and reviewed the guidelines with the business owner. He stated no complaints of non-compliance had been forwarded to the Sheriff's Office to date. He noted business owners wanted to be open, so they followed the necessary guidance. He reported there were no open complaints in unincorporated Washoe County as of May 22. He thought providing information to business owners specific to their operations played a significant role. He stressed the importance of everyone doing their part as a community when going to businesses. Some businesses required facial coverings while others did not, and the County would not police that component. He noted community members had a choice

whether to frequent businesses if they were concerned about other patrons not wearing facial coverings.

Mr. Solaro reviewed business license actions for the months of April, May, and June. He mentioned he spoke with the Nevada Resort Association (NRA) about when they would reopen and how that might be achieved. He planned to make a presentation during a future meeting about a potential payment plan for gaming tax. He noted some of the gaming taxes were important for other entities including the Cities of Sparks and Reno, the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, and the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, so the County's fees needed to work in conjunction with those fees.

Chair Lucey confirmed the Nevada Gaming Control Board (NGCB) would convene a special meeting on May 26 to discuss gaming revenue tax collection statewide. Mr. Solaro said he was not aware of the meeting, but he knew the NRA would meet the following week to discuss the gaming tax in Washoe County specifically. He acknowledged there were larger tax implications throughout the state. Chair Lucey said he knew the NGCB would meet but was not sure what time of day the meeting would be held.

Mr. Solaro mentioned late penalties were suspended for utility services, but delinquent notices were mailed out for accounts that were delinquent through the end of February. He noted County Planning and Building Services performed permit field inspections virtually when appropriate. He thought virtual inspections would be helpful in future operations. He reiterated businesses had been very responsive when visited by compliance officers. Some businesses were on the edge of whether they were in phase 1 or phase 2, and guidance provided by staff dictated they should remain closed if there was any ambiguity. He believed the process of providing individualized guidance to businesses had been well received by the community. He knew the Cities of Sparks and Reno had similar processes of notification and education before escalation to law enforcement.

Chair Lucey mentioned the Local Empowerment Advisory Panel discussed clarification for businesses not specifically addressed in the phase 1 regulations. He thought much of the language would be revised in the phase 2 directives.

Commissioner Jung asked what percentage of the budget the gaming tax comprised. Mr. Solaro said he would need to look up that information, though he knew it was a fairly small amount. Commissioner Jung asked for the exact amount as a percentage, not a dollar amount. She requested all amounts provided by staff in the future be in percentages.

Commissioner Jung voiced concern about swimming pools reopening. She noted NRA pools had a different use than other pools because alcohol was served, which limited the ability to make executive decisions. She thought pools for swim lessons, apartment pools, and public pools involved behavior that was easier to control. She hoped the WCHD, County Manager Eric Brown, and Chair Lucey would advocate at that level of specificity. She understood the Board might not have authority to make decisions, but she wanted the message to get through to those who did. She advocated for hair, nail, and

massage businesses to open later because those providers would not know how to deal with public health concerns. Unlike those businesses, providers of body decoration services like piercing, tattoos, and gauging had been combating HIV and were on the alert for any level of illness. She asked for a review of data rather than hearing from only the most vocal people.

Commissioner Hartung thanked Commissioner Jung for mentioning the body art industry. They had dealt with blood-borne pathogens for a long time and they operated as if every client had one. He agreed body art businesses were prepared to open. The only additional measure would be for employees to wear masks, and he had not heard opposition to that requirement. He hoped that industry would be opened. He inquired about the number of home-based businesses in the area and the possibility of giving them a free business license for one year. They would still need to apply to the Nevada Department of Taxation or go through the State's Silver Flume process, but they would be given the local business license at no cost. He requested information about the percentage of home-based businesses in the unincorporated County.

Chair Lucey summarized that Mr. Solaro had some direction from the Commissioners about enforcement. He thought being flexible, clear, and concise with business owners was important while the County moved through the next phases of reopening. He mentioned youth sports relied on County and high school parks and facilities, and he wanted to discuss that use when youth sports recommenced.

Assistant District Attorney David Watts-Vial noted Agenda Item 7 was an action item, so Chair Lucey needed to call for public comment. There was no public comment or action taken on this item.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 8A THROUGH 8F3**

- 20-0347**      **8A** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioners' regular meetings of April 14, 2020 and April 21, 2020. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0348**      **8B1** Proclaim May 17 - 23, 2020 as National Public Works Week.
- 20-0349**      **8B2** Proclaim May 2020 as International Internal Audit Awareness Month.
- 20-0350**      **8B3** Proclaim May 2020 as Older Americans Month.
- 20-0351**      **8B4** Proclaim May 2020 as Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month.
- 20-0352**      **8B5** Proclaim July 2020 as Lake Tahoe Wildfire Awareness Month.
- 20-0353**      **8C** Recommendation to 1) approve roll change requests, pursuant to NRS 361.765 and/or NRS 361.768, for errors discovered on the 2017/2018, 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 secured and unsecured tax rolls 2) authorize

Chair to execute the changes described in Exhibits A and B and 3) direct the Washoe County Treasurer to correct the error(s). [cumulative amount of decrease to all taxing entities \$19,839.31]. Assessor. (All Commission Districts.)

- 20-0354**      **8D1** Recommendation to approve a Grant of Easement for Water Meters between Washoe County and Truckee Meadows Water Authority, for a permanent, non-exclusive easement totaling 285± square feet on APN 142-011-02, as a necessary easement to install water meters associated with the construction of the Community Ice Rink under an approved Development Agreement and Ground Lease with the Greater Reno Community Ice Skating Association [at a value of \$0.00]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)
- 20-0355**      **8D2** Recommendation to approve the Recorded Amendment to Nonrevocable Agreement to Restrict Property between Washoe County and the State of Nevada; and possible action to approve a side agreement titled Nonrevocable Agreement to Restrict Property between Washoe County and the State of Nevada. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)
- 20-0356**      **8E1** Recommendation to accept a Grant Award from the Dave and Cheryl Duffield Foundation in the amount of [\$1,500.00; no County match] retroactively from March 3, 2020 to support staff travel and training; to authorize the Director of Animal Services [Shyanne Schull] to sign the grant agreement; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary budget amendments. Animal Services. (All Commission Districts)
- 20-0357**      **8E2** Recommendation to accept a Grant Award from the Dave and Cheryl Duffield Foundation in the amount of [\$5,833.00; no County match] retroactive from April 15, 2020 through June 30, 2020, to support free pet food distribution service for pet owners experiencing hardship due to COVID-19; retroactively authorize the Director of Animal Services [Shyanne Schull] to sign the Award; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary budget amendments. Animal Services. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0358**      **8E3** Recommendation to accept donations to Washoe County Regional Animal Services in the amount of [\$12,283.72] retroactive for the period January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020, to be used for the humane care and treatment of sick and/or injured, stray, abandoned, or at-risk animals received; express appreciation for these thoughtful contributions; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Animal Services. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0359**      **8F1** Recommendation to approve a supplemental award for the FY20 Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP) grant from the State Aging



and Disability Services Division (ADSD) to support food costs for senior congregate and home delivered meals in the amount of [\$82,979; no county match] retroactive from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant documents, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

**20-0360** **8F2** Recommendation to accept a grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public & Behavioral Health, Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention in the amount of [\$25,000; no County match] retroactive from March 15, 2020 through June 30, 2020 to develop an orientation manual for the Women's Crossroads Sober Living Program; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

**20-0361** **8F3** Recommendation to approve the FY20 Federal Title IV-B Subpart 2 Caseworker Visits subaward from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services to support caseworker visits in the amount of [\$35,588; \$12,504 county match] retroactive to October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

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

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 8A through 8F3 be approved.

### **BLOCK VOTE – 9 THROUGH 17**

**20-0362** **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to approve Amendment #3 to the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement Regarding November 2000 Parks, Trails and Open Space Bonds-Golden Eagle Regional Park Little League Parking Lot between Washoe County and the City of Sparks to extend the term to June 30, 2021; and authorize Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro to execute all current or future time extension amendments and all appropriate City of Sparks related agreements and documents. Community Services. (Commission District 4.)

Commissioner Hartung thanked the Board for supporting the updated agreement with the City of Sparks. He stated Golden Eagle Regional Park was used and loved by many people throughout the region.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved and authorized. The amendment for the Interlocal Contract for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

**20-0363**      **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to approve an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and Stantec Consulting Services Inc., to provide final design engineering services for the Steamboat Lift Station Improvements project within the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility service territory [\$1,177,395]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved.

**20-0364**      **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to award a bid and approve the Agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Sparks Justice Court HVAC Replacement Project [staff recommends Simerson Construction, LLC., in the amount of \$248,690.00]; approve bid alternates 1 thru 5 totaling \$151,605.00 and approve a separate \$10,000 contingency fund [for a total project amount of \$410,295.00]; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary cross-fund, cross-functional appropriation transfers [net impact to County budget is zero]. Community Services. (Commission District 4.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be awarded, approved, and directed.

**20-0365**      **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to authorize an increase of funds to the existing purchase orders for emergency agreements and construction contracts for the continued operation of the 2019 mitigation and response measures associated with both the Lemmon Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant for seepage, bypass, and backup pumping systems associated with the treatment plant and collection system [not to exceed \$15,000], and for the continuation of the rental, operation, and maintenance of the pumping system around Swan Lake to mitigate flood and storm waters [not to exceed \$200,000]. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be authorized.

**20-0366**      **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to approve an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services for the Huffaker Hills Effluent Storage Reservoir Phase 3 Liner Expansion between Washoe County and NewFields [in the amount of \$451,865.00]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be approved.

**20-0367**      **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to authorize MWH Constructors and KG Walters Construction (MWH&KGW), a joint venture, as the Construction-Manager-At-Risk (CMAR) for the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility 2020 Expansion Project and approve the initial Project Owner-CMAR Construction Agreement between Washoe County and MWH&KGW, for Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) #1 in the amount of [\$10,997,549]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be authorized and approved.

**20-0368**      **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to approve an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services for Construction Management Services between Washoe County and HDR Engineering, Inc., in support of the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility 2020 Expansion Project [in the amount of \$5,305,577.27]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be approved.

**20-0369**      **AGENDA ITEM 16** Recommendation to amend the contract currently awarded to Elier North America dba Valley Services, Inc. in support of the Washoe County Human Services Agency Senior Nutrition Program, to add a program to provide meals to the Our Place Women’s Shelter, for the amendment term of June 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, with the provision for four (4) one (1) year renewals, in an amount not to exceed [\$270,000]; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contract Manager to execute the contract amendment and any future renewals. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 16 be amended and authorized.

**20-0370**      **AGENDA ITEM 17** Recommendation to approve Fiscal Year 2020/2021 renewal of contracts and service agreements above \$100,000 to be approved as a group by the Board of County Commissioners and authorization for the Purchasing Contracts Manager to sign the contract renewals, as they come due, with approval from the District Attorney or Risk Management when necessary as follows:

General Fund

- Thomson Reuters, not to exceed [\$300,000] - Software maintenance agreement for the Treasurer’s Tax System support.
- Rimini Street Inc, not to exceed [\$160,000] - Renewal of software maintenance support for SAP.
- ESSVR, LLC, not to exceed [\$110,000] - Software Maintenance Agreement for the DIMS voter registration system.

Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Jung requested clarification of the fiscal year for Agenda Items 9 through 17. County Manager Eric Brown replied all expenditures were for the

current fiscal year with the exception of Item 17. Commissioner Jung said she supported the block vote agenda items but indicated she would ask questions at every future meeting.

Mr. Brown noted the Financial Investment Review Committee (FIRC) was instituted at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The FIRC met weekly to review all spending requests of \$10,000 or more. He said the FIRC prioritized projects that would cost the County more money if they were postponed, and it suspended non-essential expenditures for the new fiscal year. He stated the items before the Board had gone through the FIRC's review process. Commissioner Jung thanked Mr. Brown for the information.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkgigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 17 be approved and authorized.

**20-0371**      **AGENDA ITEM 19** Public Hearing for the second reading and possible adoption of an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1535, revising the Washoe County requirements and schedule of rates and charges for reclaimed water service within Washoe County by temporarily reducing reclaim water use rates by 50 percent for the 2020 irrigation season with retroactive effect; by adding a provision to temporarily reduce future reclaim water use rates by Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners; by changing the physical address of the County's operating office, and other matters properly relating thereto. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

The Chair opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said ordinance. There being no response, the hearing was closed. He said the item would be agendaized for a second reading and possible adoption in June. There was no action taken on this item.

**20-0372**      **AGENDA ITEM 20** Public Hearing: Master Plan Amendment Case Number WMPA20-0002 (Woodland Village) to adopt an amendment to the Cold Springs Area Plan, a component of the Washoe County Master Plan, to change the master plan designation on 71% of a ±4.2-acre parcel (APN: 556-390-05) from Suburban Residential (SR) to Commercial (C) with 29% (1.2 acres) currently SR to remain SR. This proposal, if approved, would result in 71% of the parcel being designated Commercial and the remaining 29% designated Suburban Residential for owners WVC Recreation LLC. If adopted, the master plan amendment will take effect after a determination of conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan by the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission.  
AND  
Regulatory Zone Amendment Case Number WRZA20-0002 (Woodland Village) to adopt, subject to final approval of the associated master plan

amendment and a favorable conformance review by the regional planning authorities, an amendment to the Cold Springs Regulatory Zone Map, a component of the Cold Springs Area Plan, to change the Regulatory Zone on 71% of a ±4.2-acre parcel (APN: 556-390-05) from Public & Semi Public Facilities (PSP) to Neighborhood Commercial (NC). The remaining 29% (1.2 acres) of the parcel, which has a zoning designation of PSP will keep the PSP designation for owners WVC Recreation LLC.

AND

If approved, authorize the Chair to sign the resolutions to that effect. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

Commissioner Hartung noted this item was commonplace. It had been approved by the Washoe County Planning Commission and needed approval from the Board before it went to the Regional Planning Commission for a conformance review.

Chair Lucey mentioned this item appeared before the District 5 Citizen Advisory Board in Cold Springs and the Washoe County Planning Commission; it passed both bodies unanimously.

A voicemail from Mr. Daniel Cox was played in Chambers wherein he adamantly opposed the amendment, stating the area zoning needed to be left as it was.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 20 be adopted and authorized. The resolutions for same are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

**20-0373**      **AGENDA ITEM 21** Possible Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations with Washoe County and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220.

County Manager Eric Brown indicated there was no need for a closed session.

**20-0374**      **AGENDA ITEM 22** Public Comment.

A voicemail from Ms. Annemarie Grant was played. She provided a list of Reno police officers and Washoe County Sheriff deputies whom she alleged hogtied and asphyxiated her brother Thomas Purdy. She mentioned recent photos taken inside the detention center in which only two of the ten deputies wore face masks, asking whether masks were required for deputies as part of Sheriff Darin Balaam's COVID-19 (C19) prevention measures. She conjectured inmates would not be allowed to wear masks and deputies should therefore be required to wear masks at all times. She said Agenda Item 6 from the May 19 meeting stated Sheriff Balaam would provide a C19 update but did not make it clear that he would present his report as mandated by Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 211.020. She spoke about officer-involved shootings in Washoe County and the

families waiting for answers about those incidents. She urged to Board to improve transparency and accountability for elected officials.

County Clerk Nancy Parent read an email from Ms. Rosine Bena, a copy of which she placed on the record and read aloud. Ms. Bena asked the Board to make wearing masks mandatory for everyone entering public establishments. She asserted masks should not be optional for the safety of the community.

A voicemail from Mr. Daniel Purdy was played. In it, he alleged his brother Thomas Purdy was murdered by Reno Police officers and Washoe County Sheriff deputies on October 4, 2015. He hoped the Board would help members of the community who lost loved ones in officer-involved shootings by aiding their efforts to view body cam footage of the incidents. He stated no observable changes had been made since he lost his brother. He thought the Commissioners were irresponsible and urged them to take their jobs as elected officials more seriously.

As read by Ms. Parent, Ms. Ronda Tycer thanked the Board for authorizing the Incline Village Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) to address issues of importance to the community. She said limiting the scope of the CAB contradicted NRS 269.0242. She mentioned Vice Chair Berkbigler and Commissioner Jung supported making changes to the CAB during the November 19, 2019 Board of County Commissioners' meeting, and Vice Chair Berkbigler requested an agenda item about CABs. She requested the Board address the issue during the current meeting. A copy of Ms. Tycer's email was placed on the record.

**20-0375      AGENDA ITEM 23 Announcements/Reports.**

County Manager Eric Brown noted gaming taxes were .54 percent of Washoe County's General Fund budget.

Commissioner Hartung thought it was prudent to agendize a further discussion item with Waste Management (WM) to look at the franchise agreement. He said it was unfortunate citizens of Washoe County had no other option for trash removal than doing it themselves, so he thought a conversation regarding WM was needed. He suggested WM might demonstrate good faith by putting out dumpsters throughout the community. He knew there were a number of places where people would clean up illegal dumping if dumpsters were made available by WM.

Commissioner Jung requested a presentation about the Financial Investment Review Committee (FIRC) mentioned by Mr. Brown. She wanted to know the composition of the committee and what their decision points were. While she wanted expenditures to be fully vetted, she believed only the Board could make decisions about expenses. She wanted to know who was on the FIRC and what their charge order was.

Chair Lucey mentioned churches and places of worship were deemed essential businesses by the current presidential administration and were submitted to the

Governor's Office in the reopening recommendations. He reminded everyone the Governor had a press conference later in the day.

Chair Lucey requested an agenda item regarding Reindeer Lodge on Mount Rose Highway. He said the property was half demolished and presented a hazard. He noted insulation and demolition debris was scattered to neighboring properties in heavy winds. He wanted the property considered a public nuisance and health hazard and asked for the owner of the property to come before the Board to discuss how it would be rectified.

Chair Lucey wished his son a happy 6th birthday, which he celebrated during the COVID-19 pandemic the prior day.

\* \* \* \* \*

**12:24 p.m.** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**BOB LUCEY**, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by:  
Carolina Stickley, Deputy County Clerk*