

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

AUGUST 17, 2021

PRESENT:

Bob Lucey, Chair
Vaughn Hartung, Vice Chair
Alexis Hill, Commissioner (via Zoom)
Kitty Jung, Commissioner (via telephone)
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

Janis Galassini, County Clerk
Eric Brown, County Manager
Nathan Edwards, Assistant District Attorney

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:00 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:

21-0602 **AGENDA ITEM 3** Appearance by Mr. Zach Conine, Nevada State Treasurer, to provide a presentation regarding the State of Nevada's plans to utilize fiscal recovery funds from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Nevada State Treasurer Zach Conine conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: American Rescue Plan Act; unprecedented opportunity; Background; Nevada's Share; Types of Aid; Every Nevadan Recovery Framework (2 slides); Timeline; Listening Tour; Things to Remember; Additional Resources; and Questions.

Mr. Conine said the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) would be the largest influx of federal funds received by the State at one time. He stated ARPA funds would provide the opportunity to resolve long-term systemic issues throughout the state. He noted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act processes occurred quickly so there were instances where expenditures overlapped or areas of need were missed. He said the goal for ARPA funds was to avoid some of those issues. He indicated the complexity of the various programs was overwhelming; there were more programs and more sources of money than ever before. He noted Nevada had historically not done a good job matching federal funds with potential uses.

Mr. Conine reviewed the chart on the Known Funding slide. He explained there were two relatively flexible funds: \$2.7 billion for the State and \$1.4 billion distributed to local entities. The other 103 programmatic funding areas totaled approximately \$2.9 billion. He said the \$3.7 billion in stimulus payments, child tax care

credits, exchange costs for people buying insurance, and additional unemployment payments were not included in these figures. He explained the ARPA funds would be distributed in three types of aid, with the quasi-discretionary funds allowing some choices and the discretionary aid providing more choices. He stated the discretionary aid was constrained by a complex set of rules.

Mr. Conine explained the Every Nevadan Recovery Framework (ENRF) presented a difficult decision about dealing with immediate needs as well as long-term systemic needs. He said the focus was to provide a sandbox large enough to accommodate needed projects while keeping them constrained within the guidance. He stated Senate Bill 461 codified the list of priorities so that moneys could be decided through the interim finance committee. He indicated the statewide listening tour would encompass 75 events in 75 days, during which Nevadans would provide feedback to help build a better Nevada. He said a survey at www.nevadarecovers.com would provide the qualitative information needed to inform the legislature and the governor. The website also had a form that could be used to outline solutions for community issues. He noted all suggestions, both detailed and vague, would be compiled and released publicly so they could be tracked. Tracking the use of funds was not only in accordance with best practices, but also part of the treasury guidance and direction from the White House. He explained the second step would be to compile all resident input and group ideas into areas of subject matter so resources could be obtained. He noted resource availability would differ between counties and cities throughout the state. He said the legislature would then help establish one statewide plan for each subject area, which would avoid duplication of funds. He expected the first step would take 75 days, but the second step would take more time. Some ideas would address obvious needs while others would require more time to be solidified.

Mr. Conine mentioned ARPA funds could be supplemented by other funding sources. The infrastructure bill, which had been passed by the Senate, would provide approximately \$3 billion if it passed through the House in its current form. The reconciliation bill, which was expected to pass, would provide another \$5 to \$7 billion to the State of Nevada. In addition, general fund dollars and Nevada's State Infrastructure Bank (NSIB) provided funding sources, so different pools of capital were available. The goal of the ENRF was to compile all needs, identify resources, and create a plan so the State would be ready when future dollars were received. He summarized the ARPA funds provided an opportunity to affect significant generational change if the process was done correctly.

Vice Chair Hartung asked Mr. Conine to define state infrastructure. Mr. Conine replied the State thought of infrastructure broadly but within the category of capital assets. He mentioned a bill to expand the NSIB had passed during the last legislative session. The NSIB was created in 2017 to help with some state-level planning for projects that were not necessarily in the State's purview. He said infrastructure in the traditional sense included bridges and roads, but it also included telecom which people needed for work and housing. He said the ability to build and support housing was needed. He indicated the work done at the State level was mostly done through private activity bonds and the Board of Finance, so it included conduit issuances and public/private partnerships.

He thought of infrastructure pretty broadly because it was time that Nevada invested in itself.

Vice Chair Hartung observed that southern Nevada, specifically Clark County, had received the bulk of funds from similar programs in the past. He asked whether the other counties throughout the state could expect a more even distribution of funds. He noted the need for broadband infrastructure in rural counties was significant, and wastewater presented the biggest challenge because of aging infrastructure throughout the state. He believed water was the state's most precious resource, and being able to deliver Class A+ water was important.

Mr. Conine responded southern Nevada had technology that made the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Southern Nevada Water District into some of the world leaders in water treatment. Putting that technology in place required a significant capital investment. He thought those programs should be evaluated for possible implementation in other areas of the state. He said money for water, wastewater, and broadband were set aside within ARPA, so he suggested those types of projects should be part of the conversation. He explained two considerations would determine where investment of funds would be allocated: population size and COVID-19 (C19) impact. He noted 73 percent of the state's population lived in Clark County, so it would be reasonable to expect that 73 percent of funds would be spent there. The impact of C19 would be determined by a review of counties, census tracts, individual areas, and community level impacts. He said the funds became less restricted when they were invested in qualified census tracts or areas where C19 exacerbated long-term issues. He suggested northern Nevada had overreached over the past 30 years when it came to capital spending, particularly in transportation. He thought the process for investing these funds would include providing broadband for every person in Nevada. He acknowledged the project would be more expensive in rural counties, but the resources and direction were available to fix this issue for everyone.

Vice Chair Hartung opined some funds needed to be invested in research, such as that being performed by the Nevada Water Innovation Institute at the University of Nevada, Reno. He recommended investments in both universities for research which might help solve some issues. Mr. Conine agreed with Vice Chair Hartung's suggestion about research being part of the process in defining a plan. The goal was to deal with immediate, mid-term, and long-term needs including technology and research. The work would involve balancing all of the state's needs at the same time, while making sure to use all available federal dollars effectively.

Commissioner Hill mentioned she attended one of the engagement sessions the prior week. She believed the community engagement efforts were important and she looked forward to the County implementing similar outreach efforts. She said staff was working to compile a list of capital improvement plan projects the County could possibly complete by partnering with the State. She noted the Board had taken an active role on the Nevada Housing Coalition's task force for housing. One of the things they would recommend was supportive housing projects. She said permanent housing support for

people who were unable to live on their own had been identified as a need by all experts in the community. Mr. Conine expressed hope that the County would share its findings with the State. He thought this process would create a significant data sharing opportunity between the State, counties, and cities.

Commissioner Jung thought smoke-filled summers had unfortunately become typical. She inquired about options for improving indoor air quality for State, County, and City buildings including the jail. She mentioned using some ARPA funds to retrofit or rebuild buildings, as well as to hold California accountable for the fires and the smoke coming into the valley. She noted there currently was no accountability, and many staff hours went into writing letters asking for forgiveness when Environmental Protection Agency air quality standards were not met. She acknowledged the outdoor air quality would require a significant amount of legal, financial, and political work. She reiterated her primary concern was the unhealthy indoor air quality of government buildings, which correlated with higher levels of C19.

Commissioner Jung mentioned the issues faced during the pandemic by parents of children in kindergarten through eighth grade (K-8) who relied on the education system to provide adult supervision so they could work. She noted the County transferred library staff to help with contact tracing so schools could stay open, allowing parents to work. She expressed a desire to see something transformative in the K-8 education system, possibly year-round, which would provide reliable adult supervision. Mr. Conine said approximately \$330 million had been designated specifically for childcare. He indicated Nevada had a different issue than other states because of the lack of childcare providers and facilities, so the State could not simply give people childcare vouchers. He thought seeking innovative solutions made sense and he looked forward to receiving childcare suggestions through the outreach process. In response to Commissioner Jung's questions about air quality, he said the use of funds to retrofit buildings to improve air quality would have a direct correlation to the pandemic. Other states were considering similar projects, so he looked forward to receiving those suggestions.

Commissioner Jung commended Mr. Conine for his ability to present abstract information in an interesting and concrete manner. Chair Lucey thanked Mr. Conine for the presentation and said the discussion had been phenomenal. He stated he would stay in contact with Mr. Conine and his staff throughout the ARPA process as Washoe County's challenges were identified.

21-0603 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Public Comment.

Ms. Patricia Toone mentioned her grandson was present in Chambers for a lesson about government because September 17 was Constitution Day. She expressed surprise about the general lack of knowledge of Constitution Day. She opined restoring the solid political and economic principles of the Constitution could restore nearly every problem in America. She said she sent the commissioners an email on August 9 regarding Constitution Day but had not yet received a response. She believed Constitution Day could provide an opportunity to unite the community.

Ms. Darla Lee expressed dismay that many people blindly obeyed Dr. Anthony Fauci's belief that Americans should forgo some liberties and get a COVID-19 (C19) shot for the good of all. She noted many people blamed non-vaxxers for the rise of the delta variant, but vaccinated people had also contracted it. She noted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended pregnant women and nursing mothers receive the shot despite not participating in the testing. She spoke about vaccine passports, open borders, inflation, and Afghanistan.

Ms. Val White paraphrased from an article about the Nuremberg Code. She asked why the government was spending millions of taxpayer dollars to coerce people to take the C19 shot, which she asserted was illegal. She said the Board was breaking the Nuremberg Code, contributing to the division of the nation, and being dismissive of the risks of the vaccine. She asked whether the commissioners experienced concern about the violation of constitutional rights.

County Clerk Jan Galassini distributed a document submitted by Mr. James M. Benthin to the Board and placed a copy on file. Mr. Benthin stated he opposed the slow erosion of citizens' rights. He stated there were laws to protect people from assumptions and generalizations. He asserted mandates were against the law unless individuals were a direct threat to the health, safety, and welfare of others. He said the assumption that anyone who did not cover their face or receive a C19 shot was a direct health threat was against the law. He read the legal definition of direct threat.

Ms. Janet Butcher said she sent an email regarding street drugs to each commissioner but only received an automated response. She believed the crisis at the borders with drug cartels should be a concern for county, city, and state governments. She inquired why the Board had not demanded the current administration put a stop to the open border policy in light of the drug and human trafficking crises and the spread of C19's delta variant. She noted August 31 was National Drug Awareness Day.

Mr. Kenji Otto displayed his hat on the projector, an image of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He said the United States had entered a new era with a Marxist agenda and a lack of representation, and it had been disgraced a second time in Afghanistan. He spoke about the Constitution and the U.S. flag. He believed the country was in an era of government lawlessness with millions of people coming across the border illegally. He believed people who wore masks subscribed to the Marxist agenda.

Ms. Diane Craig read an article by Wayne Allyn Root in which Mr. Root drew parallels between the 1938 gestapo and current mandates and vaccine requirements.

Ms. Galassini distributed a document submitted by Ms. Pam Roberts to the Board. Ms. Roberts said she followed Board meetings related to restructuring or expanding the role of citizen advisory boards (CABs), adding she had provided public comments in support of expanding the issues CABs could consider. She expressed confusion about Agenda Items 9 and 10 and concern about circumventing Open Meeting Law. She inquired

who would ensure developers fulfilled their responsibilities in good faith. She noted the lack of community member involvement in items regarding the CAB program.

Mr. Kelby Peeler encouraged the Board to contact the most vulnerable in the community when considering how American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds would be spent. He thanked Commissioner Hill for scheduling a homelessness solutions meeting on August 19. He believed having more forums with those most affected was a necessary step to ensure the County addressed critical needs. He thought affordable housing and wraparound services needed to be considered when addressing homelessness in the region. He looked forward to more opportunities for community dialogue.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar displayed a document, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She said nothing in the mandates would allow the Board to tell the general public to wear a mask. She noted nurses only wore masks for 15 minutes before getting new ones. She believed the number of C19 cases did not matter because none of those cases turned into deaths or hospitalizations. She asserted the C19 variant cases were individuals who had received the C19 shot.

Mr. Benjamin Mendez-Plancarte said he was the Policy Director for Faith in Action Nevada, an organization that advocated for racial, social, and economic justice. He encouraged the Board to seek community input so ARPA funds would be invested to improve the community beyond pre-C19 conditions. He believed keeping people housed was a priority. He mentioned Assembly Bill 486 provided a mediation program for individuals facing eviction, but the program required a \$71 filing fee. He hoped the County could use ARPA funds to provide waivers for individuals at risk of eviction.

Ms. Betty Bishop said the volunteers of the St. Vincent De Paul Society witnessed the hardships and devastation caused by the C19 pandemic, such as increases in unemployment and homelessness. She stated the input of local non-profit organizations included the need for additional affordable housing, reliable transportation, and improved mental health services. She urged the County to consider the Nevada Housing Coalition's recommendations for identifying multi-family development, permanent supportive housing, the preservation of existing housing, and incentives for homeownership.

Ms. Megan Hall asserted mask mandates caused the disenfranchisement of residents' choice to medical freedom. Vulnerable individuals could continue to wear masks, get shots, and protect themselves. She believed scientific data about mask efficiency rates and the effects of long-term social distancing had not been taken into account. She acknowledged individuals had the responsibility to stay home when they were sick but expressed concern about companies that mandated vaccination for all employees. She asked the Board to help the medical system better prepare for situations like C19.

Ms. Valerie Fiannaca thanked the Board for the proclamation regarding overdose awareness. She said her son died of an intentional heroin overdose. She believed the County needed to address the issues at the root of homelessness, including mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction. In her experience, many individuals were not aware

of their illness until they became sober. She asserted homeless individuals needed appropriate treatment before they were housed because providing housing without treatment would be ineffective.

Mr. Bruce Foster displayed a document, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He mentioned his ancestor fought in the Revolutionary War against a tyrannical government and opined current government mandates were similarly tyrannical. He spoke about the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. He encouraged the commissioners to read an email he had sent with the testimony of Dr. Stock.

Ms. Galassini advised the Board she received emailed public comments from Ms. Elise Weatherly and Ms. Barbara Mathers, which she placed on the record.

11:15 a.m. **The Board recessed.**

11:31 a.m. **The Board reconvened with all commissioners present.**

21-0604 **AGENDA ITEM 5** Announcements/Reports.

County Manager Eric Brown highlighted Consent Agenda Item 8H1, which provided the first summary of the Incline Village/Crystal Bay settlement payments. He noted the County had an agreement to share that information. He said he would work with County Treasurer Tammi Davis to provide any supplementary information the Board might request.

Mr. Brown noted the proposal for Agenda Item 9, which would address the citizen advisory boards (CABs), had been developed after staff sought community input. He said he personally engaged in multiple meetings with many CAB presidents and non-CAB community members to seek that input. In response to public comments regarding this item, he assured the Board staff had sought community input.

Commissioner Hill stated she was not attending the meeting in person because she anticipated the public would not comply with Governor Steve Sisolak's directive to wear masks indoors. She disclosed she was pregnant and, although she was vaccinated, she had elected not to place herself at risk. She hoped the Board could reconsider having the community participate in the meetings via Zoom given the levels of COVID-19 community spread with the delta variant. This would allow members of the public to provide input even if they felt uncomfortable attending meetings in person or if they lived in more remote areas of the county.

Commissioner Herman suggested moving Agenda Items 9 and 10 to a future meeting. She received messages and listened to public commenters' concerns regarding the two items, and suggested waiting until connections were made with all CAB members before addressing those items.

Vice Chair Hartung noted the County received a road safety audit for Pyramid Highway from the Nevada Department of Transportation. He stated the traffic on Pyramid Highway had been severe for some time. He looked forward to receiving recommendations from County staff and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. He hoped the State could be persuaded to advance this issue's priority. He expressed frustration about the amount of funds allocated to southern Nevada compared to northern Nevada. He asserted the issue would have been fixed years prior if the condition existed in southern Nevada.

Vice Chair Hartung thanked staff for their work on getting stop signs and speed bumps installed on many residential streets, which would greatly contribute to the safety of those neighborhoods. He listed the various intersections at which stop signs and stop lights had been installed. He noted he would continue to work on having a stop light installed on Egyptian Drive and Sunset Springs Lane, which he asserted was a dangerous intersection.

DONATIONS

- 21-0605** **6A1** Recommendation to accept the donation of a Smallpond software license including 5 years of support and 50 RapidHIT ID Investigator sample cartridges from Thermo Fisher Scientific [total estimated value of \$105,000.00] to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division (WCSO-FSD). This donation will allow the laboratory to process portions of crime scene samples with high amounts of DNA on the RapidHIT ID and then search them against the offender DNA collection using the Smallpond software. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0606** **6B1** Recommendation to accept a donation of [\$120.36] retroactive to June 30, 2021 from the David Hamilton Trust Account to fund the ongoing operations of the Washoe County Law Library and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0607** **6C1** Recommendation to: (1) acknowledge and accept various items donated totaling an estimated market value of [\$19,664.50]; and (2) accept donations to the Human Services Agency - Senior Services Fund to support operations of the Washoe County Senior Centers in the amount of [\$1,788.00] retroactive for the period March 21, 2021 through June 30, 2021; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0608** **6C2** Recommendation to: (1) acknowledge and accept various items donated totaling an estimated market value of [\$3,461.50]; (2) accept donations from various donors to Washoe County Human Services Agency Child Protective Services Fund to support welfare activities in the amount of [\$800.00] retroactive for the period May 21, 2021 through June 30, 2021;

and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Jung said Washoe County could not do everything it did without the donations of its residents, adding their generosity during her 14-year tenure had been outstanding. She noted many items donated by residents were nice but not necessarily things the County could include in its budget. She thanked residents who made donations.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Items 6A1 through 6C2 be accepted.

PROCLAMATIONS

21-0609 **7A1** Proclaim August 31, 2021 as International Overdose Awareness Day.

Vice Chair Hartung mentioned Ms. Valerie Fiannaca, who had been gracious enough to speak about her family's experience. He noted Ms. Fiannaca's son attended school with his children, and he expressed gratitude for people like Ms. Fiannaca who shared their experiences to inform others.

Vice Chair Hartung read the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Britany Wiele, Program Manager at Join Together Northern Nevada. Ms. Wiele said her organization worked on promoting awareness about substance use in the community, so she really appreciated the Board's support.

Vice Chair Hartung asked Ms. Fiannaca to say a word about her experience. Ms. Fiannaca thought the numbers of suicides and overdoses were incorrect because the two overlapped. She said many people who had addictions committed suicide. She asserted the issue of homelessness would never be resolved if addiction, alcoholism, and mental illness were not addressed. She brought up her son, who had been an excellent student until he dropped out of high school two months before he graduated. She said nobody recognized he was in distress. She stated many individuals with addiction issues were unable to recognize their illness until they got sober. She spoke about the Nevada Mental Health Institute, where individuals who were arrested were sent to receive treatment, but that was no longer an option. She believed not having forced treatment was a mistake. She said her son had gotten sober several times, but he always relapsed because long-term treatment was not available in the county. Her son had committed suicide by intentional overdose when he saw the hopelessness of the lack of treatment options. She asserted more treatment options were needed in the Washoe County.

21-0610 **7B1** Proclaim September 2021 as National Preparedness Month.

Vice Chair Hartung read the proclamation. There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Items 7A1 and 7B1 be approved.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 8A1 THROUGH 8H1

21-0611 **8A1** Acknowledge the communications and reports received by the Clerk on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, including the following category: Budgets. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0612 **8B1** Recommendation to approve the Second Modification of Parking License Agreement between Washoe County and the City of Reno Redevelopment Agency (Agency), retroactive to August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2024, for the county to pay the Agency to provide for the use of up to 100 parking spaces for the county’s benefit within the Parking Gallery located at 135 North Sierra Street [not to exceed \$57,228 annually]. Community Services. (Commission District 3.)

21-0613 **8B2** Recommendation to approve a Quitclaim Deed authorized by the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) to accept a land donation of + 1.12 acres, APN: 008-382-01, [Assessed Value of \$105,000], located at 1905 E. 4th Street, Reno, NV 89512, adjacent to the Cares Campus and authorize the Chair to act on behalf of Washoe County to execute and deliver any and all documents as may be necessary or appropriate to accomplish the acceptance of this land donation. If approved, this item would result in ownership of the parcel being transferred from TMWA to Washoe County. The intended use is for a Northern Nevada Hopes clinic to serve the Cares Campus and surrounding area. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

21-0614 **8C1** Authorize contracted temporary service employees to drive Washoe County vehicles while conducting COVID-19 Response and Vaccination Operations for the Washoe County Health District, all Divisions. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0615 **8D1** Recommendation to approve a reclassification of a vacant Administrative Assistant II, pay grade L in the Community Services Department to a Community Outreach Coordinator, pay grade N as approved by the Job Evaluation Committee on August 12, 2021, and move the position and assigned budget into the Manager’s Office - Communications Division to provide additional support to the

Commissioner Engagement Program; and new job evaluations for the Chief Alternative Sentencing Officer, increase from pay grade R to T, and Alternative Sentencing Sergeant, increase from pay grade O to P as reviewed and evaluated by Korn Ferry; authorize Human Resources to make the necessary changes effective August 17, 2021; and direct the Comptroller's Office to process a net zero cross-function budget appropriation transfer. [Net fiscal impact \$39,057] Human Resources. (All Commission Districts.)

- 21-0616** **8E1** Recommendation to approve Interlocal Contract Between Public Agencies between the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) and Washoe County to provide psychiatric care to children in care in accordance with established policy, professional training, experience and community standards conducted by Fellows in the UNR Department of Psychiatry in an amount not to exceed [\$15,485.60]; effective upon approval through September 30, 2022; and if approved, authorize Chair to execute the Contract. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0617** **8E2** Recommendation to accept a subaward from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child & Family Services in the amount of [\$35,000; no County match] retroactively from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 to provide public awareness and education on infant safe sleep habits; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subaward and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0618** **8F1** Recommendation to accept a Specialty Court General Fund Allocation from the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada to the Sparks Justice Court [\$31,550 for FY22, no match required], paid in quarterly installments retroactive to July 1, 2021, grant end date June 30, 2022; and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget amendments. Sparks Justice Court. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0619** **8G1** Recommendation to adopt Washoe County Brand and Social Media Policies. If adopted, this policy would include use of the county logo and related insignia, website content on county webpages, social media including parameters on comments posted by the general public, video including operation of WCTV and print management concerning the use of vendors for production of county communications. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0620** **8G2** Recommendation to approve a 2021 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Mid-Cycle grant from State of Nevada SERC for

[\$7,770.00, no county match required]; Grant Term: Retroactive from June 23, 2021 through September 30, 2021; If approved, authorize the Chairperson to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or his designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreement between Washoe County and the Reno Police Department (RPD) per NRS 244.1505, in the amount of \$7,770.00 for HAZWOPER Training and Train the Trainer Courses: approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0621 **8G3** Recommendation to accept a 2022 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment (OPTE) grant for [\$29,000.00, no County match required] including funds to be used for food purchases. Grant Term is retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. If approved, authorize the Chairperson to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or his designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreement between Washoe County and the Reno Fire Department (RFD), on behalf of TRIAD HazMat Team, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of \$15,000.00 for a toxic vapor analyzer: approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0622 **8G4** Recommendation to accept a 2022 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), United We Stand (UWS) grant for [\$32,000.00, no County match required]. Grant Term is retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. If approved, authorize the Chairperson to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or his designee, to sign and approve the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements between Washoe County and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA), per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of \$15,122.50 for ballistic helmets, and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD), per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of \$15,122.50 for ballistic plates: approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0623 **8G5** Recommendation to approve Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$25,000] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 1 Commissioner Alexis Hill recommends a [\$25,000] grant to the Downtown Reno Partnership through the Community Foundation of Western Nevada as a restricted grant designated to support the funding of a van for the Downtown Reno Partnership Ambassadors; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 1.)

21-0624 **8G6** Recommendation to approve Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$1,000] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 1 Commissioner Alexis Hill recommends a [\$1,000] grant to Local Food Network to support the Reno Local Food Faire event production expenses, including insurance, marketing, and equipment rental; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 1.)

21-0625 **8H1** Recommendation to accept Treasurer's status report for the period ending July 30, 2021, of payment of refunds on certain property tax overpayments for residential properties at Incline Village/Crystal Bay, in compliance with the October 21, 2019 Order issued by the District Court in Village League to Save Incline Assets, Inc., et.al. vs. State of Nevada, et.al., Case No. CV03-06922, as modified and clarified by the settlement agreement regarding the processing of refunds. Treasurer. (All Commission Districts.)

Regarding Consent Agenda Item 8G5, Commissioner Hill said she was making a donation from her discretionary funds to the Downtown Reno Partnership (DRP). She disclosed she had a position on the DRP board, but she had no pecuniary interest on that board. She reported her donation would provide funds for a van that would be used to provide transportation to the most vulnerable population downtown. Vice Chair Hartung thanked Commissioner Hill for her support of the DRP.

Chair Lucey noted Commissioner Hill was also making a \$1,000 donation from her discretionary funds to the Local Food Network to support the Reno Local Food Faire event. He thanked her for those disbursements into the community.

There was no response to the call for public comment on the Consent Agenda Items listed above.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 8A1 through 8H1 be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 8A1 through 8H1 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

BLOCK VOTE – 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24

21-0626 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to retroactively accept and acknowledge the grant award from the State of Nevada, Administrative Office of the Courts to the Second Judicial District Court, in the amount of [\$1,068,889] (no match required), to support the Specialty Court programs, effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0627 **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to retroactively accept and acknowledge the grant award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to the Second Judicial District Court, in the amount of \$367,453, (no match required) to support the Specialty Court programs, effective retroactively May 31, 2021 through May 30, 2022, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be accepted, acknowledged, and directed.

21-0628 **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to approve purchases in the approximate amount of [\$150,000.00] from Merck Sharp & Dohme Corporation for vaccine in support of clinic operations on behalf of the Community and Clinical Health Services Division of the Washoe County Health District. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0629 **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to approve a Sole Source waiver to establish an emergency agreement with Well Care Services of Reno (Well Care) for Well Care to provide housing, property management and supportive services to the Crossroads Program, a Washoe County Human Services Agency (HSA) lead initiative providing a tiered/modified housing first approach, through effective programming services and community collaboration; the program has operated since 2011 and provides supportive housing and other services to men within the community's indigent population. If approved, the agreement would support the pilot program between Washoe County and Well Care Services of Reno retroactive June 14, 2021 through September 30, 2022 at a cost to the county of [\$1,815,439]. And if approved, further authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Agreement. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0630 **AGENDA ITEM 17** Recommendation to approve Amendment #1 to the Agreement between Washoe County and Well Care Services Reno to support the pilot program for supportive housing of persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities or mental health conditions that impede their ability to live with complete independence retroactive August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 for [\$612,000] to be funded with Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as allowable; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute Amendment #1; direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary cross-fund, cross-function budget appropriation transfers. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0631 **AGENDA ITEM 19** Recommendation to award Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 3153-21 for the Continuity of Operations (COOP) Planning and Training Vendor to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Risk Solutions International, in the amount of \$155,000 and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the contract. The continuity of operations plan is being drafted for possible implementation by local governments and emergency service providers during a variety of emergencies or disaster events and is part of the 2020 State Homeland Security Continuity of Operations Grant for Sustainment. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 19 be awarded, approved, and authorized.

21-0632 **AGENDA ITEM 20** Recommendation to approve a FFY21 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Letter of Intent stating the State of Nevada, Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) awarding [\$253,502.00 (\$253,502.00 County match required)] for FFY 2021 including funds to be used for travel; retroactive from October 1, 2020

through September 30, 2022; If approved authorize the County Manager or his designee to sign the grant award documents when received; and direct the Comptroller's Office to reimburse the General Fund through transfer for the expense of \$82,545.22 incurred in FY 21 and to make the necessary budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 20 be approved, authorized, and directed.

21-0633 **AGENDA ITEM 22** Recommendation to approve agreement between Washoe County and Alpine County for forensic pathology services by the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office on an as needed basis according to a set fee schedule for a variety of services for a period of up to three years effective retroactively on July 1, 2020. Regional Medical Examiner. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 22 be approved. The Interlocal Contract for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

21-0634 **AGENDA ITEM 23** Recommendation to approve agreement between Washoe County and Tehama County for forensic pathology services by the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office on an as needed basis according to a set fee schedule for a variety of services for a period of up to three years effective on October 1, 2021. Regional Medical Examiner. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 23 be approved. The Interlocal Contract for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

21-0635 **AGENDA ITEM 24** Recommendation to approve sole source purchase from NorCal Battery Company of DC power systems and batteries for the Washoe County Regional Communication System at the following communication sites: Slide Mountain, Mt. Rose, Marble Bluff and Snowflake Lodge for a cost not to exceed [\$160,000]; as recommended by the 800 MHz Joint Operating Committee on July 30, 2021. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 24 be approved.

21-0636 **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation and possible action to direct staff to: (1) implement an improved development review process in lieu of the formal Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) program, the current role of which is limited to providing input and recommendations to Washoe County staff, the Board of Adjustment, the Planning Commission and the Washoe County Commission on proposed planning and development projects; and if approved (2) adopt the following Resolutions to dissolve the existing CABs as required by Washoe County Code 5.435: R21-025 East Truckee Canyon CAB, R21-026, Gerlach/Empire CAB, R21-027 Incline/Crystal Bay CAB, R21-028 North Valleys CAB, R21-029 Spanish Springs CAB, R21-030 South Truckee Meadows/Washoe Valley CAB, R21-031 Sun Valley CAB, R21-032 Warm Springs/Rural CAB, and R21-033 West Truckee Meadows/Verdi CAB. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

AGENDA ITEM 10 Recommendation and possible action to adopt Resolutions to create Citizen Advisory Boards (CABs) for the specific purpose of developing the commissioner support program, to be implemented within the Office of the County Manager, as funded on July 1, 2021 within the FY 22 operating budget. The Board may choose to create all or some of the CABs for the purpose stated, possible resolutions to create CABs include: R21-037 East Truckee Canyon CAB, R21-038 Gerlach/Empire CAB, R21-039 Incline/Crystal Bay CAB, R21-040 North Valleys CAB, R21-041 Spanish Springs CAB, R21-042 South Truckee Meadows/Washoe Valley CAB, R21-043 Sun Valley CAB, R21-044 Warm Springs/Rural CAB, and R21-045 West Truckee Meadows/Verdi CAB. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: CAB Review Track 2; Request from Commissioners; Summary; Background (2 slides); Track 2 Proposal (5 slides); In Simple Terms; Possible Motion; Track 1 Request; Summary; Where we are; Engagement Opportunities; and Possible Motion.

Mr. Solaro noted the topic of CABs had a long history of both successes and potential failures as the County tried to gain input from the community. He said many attempts at getting things right had occurred over the years. Staff had reviewed best practices across the nation, incorporated input from the Board, and created two programs for the Board's consideration. He stated the first program aimed at getting the development component correct. He noted the County struggled by using CABs to obtain input from citizens for development, but the process was too lengthy and did not produce results

community members sought. The current process did not bridge the gap between good development, community input, and quality decision making by the required boards. He said expectations varied between citizens and staff. He stated Washoe County was behind in implementing a better way to accomplish development review.

Mr. Solaro said the feedback most commonly heard from CABs indicated community members felt they were not heard by staff or the developers. He observed the timing was not optimal for gathering input early enough to make a solid difference. The proposed process would allow staff to know about projects in their infancy, provide tools to the project proponent to meet with the affected community, and gather meaningful input early enough so it could be incorporated into the project. This process would give projects a better chance to balance neighborhood input and owner needs. He said the process would build on the knowledge that both property owners and neighborhoods had rights. The goal was to increase the amount of time during which the neighborhood, staff, and maybe the Board could provide input on a project. He stated informal meetings would allow for more fluid communication and prevent potential Open Meeting Law (OML) violations. The process would provide meeting expectations and requirements to the applicant including format, required information, timing, and how results would be reported to County staff. He thought informing the commissioners of pending projects in their districts before the project was submitted would be one of the biggest benefits of the new process. The process would require the applicant to speak with technical experts within Washoe County when they had an idea about a project. This would allow them to verify whether the project would even have a chance of making it through the development code process. Staff and the Board would know about a project before the application was submitted, and staff would help the developer gather appropriate input from the neighborhood.

Mr. Solaro reiterated the CABs currently only served to provide input on the development process, but they had not performed that function well. He said CABs held quarterly meetings in some areas, but the timing did not always align with project applications. He said the application process could not be delayed once it was started, so CAB meetings could be missed. He noted staff often heard that the developer promised something at a community meeting, but they were not aware of the meeting or what was promised. The new process outlined the requirements for a community meeting so staff would be aware of what was discussed, and they would have the necessary information if a requirement needed to be made a condition of approval. He said staff recommended the Board pick from the existing CABs because the boundaries were known and some current CAB members were still active. He acknowledged some commissioners felt the CAB structure was very important, as was training citizens appropriately about OML and being good stewards of the citizen process.

Vice Chair Hartung mentioned his involvement with CABs started in the early 1990s. He asked about the noticing process, pointing out that a noticing requirement based on feet might only include one or two parcels depending on the size of those parcels. He asked whether the noticing requirements in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) needed to be changed to require developers to issue notices more broadly. He stated noticing issues could potentially become contentious.

Mr. Solaro agreed there was a fine line when noticing affected neighborhoods, and proposals defaulted to the minimum requirements per NRS. He said the new program would allow the Board to define noticing parameters because it was a program by Washoe County for Washoe County. He said having neighborhood ambassadors was another piece of this program. Staff thought utilizing existing CAB members to assist during the infancy of this program would help to involve the right neighborhoods for the right effect on developments. He said the other consideration was noticing too broadly, because that could involve people who would not be impacted by the development but who might not want any development to occur in the area. He suggested defining a distance from the affected parcel or a certain number of parcels. He said the current requirements included a certain distance and a minimum number of notifications.

Vice Chair Hartung asked whether promises made by a developer during a community meeting could be made into conditions of approval, providing the example of a stormwater utility built by a developer in Spanish Springs. Mr. Solaro acknowledged some aspects of a development project were out of the realm of immediate goals. He said the goal was to keep within the realm of what was currently available within the development code. He noted things like a promise of a park within a development would be captured, then either made into a condition of approval or a part of the application process. He said staff would have a recording of the meetings and a synopsis provided by the developer; these would be captured as staff worked through the application with the developer. He summarized some things would be captured in the development process and made part of the project while other things might potentially require a development agreement to make them happen.

Vice Chair Hartung said the developer had to go to the CABs two times in the past. He asked whether the new process would only require them to hold one meeting. Mr. Solaro replied the new process would not include a second step with an approval board unless a second step was developed through the Commissioner Support Program, whereby the application would be presented for informational purposes. Obtaining community input first would streamline the process and resolve many issues.

Commissioner Herman said she had tried to bring CABs back to their former status for the past 10 years, believing they worked the way they were in the past. She believed CABs no longer provided a forum to hear the people's voice. She stated she had been promised the freedom to develop a CAB format for her district. She believed the voice, vote, and the OML had been taken away from residents. She observed a significant amount of work and expense would be allocated to making changes she felt were not necessary.

Mr. Solaro said Agenda Item 10 would allow commissioners the opportunity to develop CABs with their vision for their district. The current format for the CABs did not work because they were focused on development, so staff would provide an avenue for the creation of each commissioner's vision, which would include regular meetings with a board that could take action. The level of action the CAB boards would be able to take needed to be defined. He acknowledged the two items encompassed a

significant amount of information and work. He said these changes had to be performed in multiple steps. He mentioned the CAB program had been reduced during the downturn in the economy in 2008 and 2009. He said the County was now in a position to put some funds back into community outreach and support.

Vice Chair Hartung noted there had been a time in the 1990s when the OML had not been strictly followed. He observed the OML had a tendency to hobble conversations because items not listed on agendas could not be discussed, and he expressed frustration because of those limitations.

Commissioner Jung said she would support whatever the other commissioners wanted to do in terms of community engagement and outreach. She noted she did not face the same issues because her district was constrained by the other municipalities. She reserved the right to have a budget authority should she need to address an emerging issue in her district.

Commissioner Hill applauded the positive aspects of Mr. Solaro's presentation. She thought getting early feedback from affected neighborhoods and requiring that feedback be incorporated in the development plan was important. She noted her CAB was very active unlike CABs described in the staff report. Her CAB members enjoyed giving feedback on development in Incline Village and Crystal Bay, but their feedback was not incorporated in the development plan because of timing issues with the approval process. She offered to provide detailed feedback on the timing for noticing, the difficulty of holding meetings within two miles of the development site, and the logistics of holding meetings. She expressed excitement about reforming the CABs. She stated she preferred having open meetings because they were posted, had official agendas, and included public comment. She wanted to see her CAB continue to hold open meetings. She spoke about the Incline Village Mobility Hub, which would eventually be reviewed by the Board and require development entitlements. She wanted to ensure that the CAB had a forum to provide official feedback. She said some members of her CAB told her they had not been contacted about this process. She asked whether additional feedback could be sought if the CABs were reformed at this meeting, and whether different resolutions for a particular CAB could be presented at a future meeting. She thought the issue was headed in the right direction, but she wanted to see more community feedback.

Mr. Solaro said he understood that both Commissioners Herman and Hill wanted to have a formal board with agendas and monthly meetings to discuss certain things within their community. He stated the next step would be to take input from the CABs and use that to define the CABs associated with this new program. Staff had written some resolutions to cover the legal aspects, such as area plans, which would require some CABs to review certain development projects in the interim period. He observed staff sought feedback from CAB members and commissioners about moving forward to the next CAB program, which would potentially hold regular monthly meetings with formal agendas to hear about community issues.

Chair Lucey acknowledged the commissioners' concerns. He agreed the CABs had been neutered over the past seven years and members had been disenfranchised. He acknowledged he initially thought it was more important to just deal with development issues and that had led to a lack of attendance and frustration with the CABs. He understood Commissioners Hill and Herman felt a structured open meeting was important. He mentioned he once learned about a development project in his district through community members who had received notices, but he did not hear about it from staff. He noted his district was large but only had one CAB; in contrast, Commissioner Herman's district had several CABs for specific geographical regions. He mentioned dynamic noticing for different development projects. He thought it was important for each commissioner to define a program for their district. He wanted the option to request broader noticing for projects that would affect more community members. He agreed with having the minimum be a standard but wanted to have the ability to ensure there was better outreach.

Chair Lucey thought each commission district had specific needs and they needed the flexibility to address those needs. He observed that developers attended meetings and presented to CAB boards but there was no true dialogue. He agreed with Vice Chair Hartung's comment about the flexibility of meetings 20 years prior. He said the rigid structure of open meetings presented greater liability and removed the opportunity for discussion. He thought there were benefits to both ways of holding meetings, and he wanted to make sure the structure would be commission district specific. He believed the focus needed to be on doing better outreach with the community to ensure residents knew, understood, and were involved in what was happening in their community. He reiterated the importance of having a dialogue rather than presentations. He wanted to ensure the format for District 2 was different in that he wanted the ability to have the sheriff talk about public safety, the fire chief discuss fire safety, and other things of that nature.

Vice Chair Hartung summarized the intent was to have the applicant hold community meetings not constrained by OML, and those conversations would be captured. There would then be an open meeting with agenda items to review the community discussions and OML would apply. Mr. Solaro replied that could be one outcome. He said the intent of track 2 was to facilitate dialogue between the applicant and the neighborhood. He stated that dialogue did not currently take place, so this new process would force it to occur. He said community members, boards, and commissions had all expressed the need for those discussions. He noted the Planning Commission, the Board of Adjustment, and any approving boards would know that community dialogue had taken place before the developer presented a project to them. He said the second part of track 1 was intended to help define what community engagement opportunities each commissioner would need in their district so staff could create programs for each district.

Vice Chair Hartung noted the Sheriff's Office (SO) and fire chief had community liaisons in the past, but he was unsure whether the current budget allowed for that additional staff. He mentioned CABs used to have the ability to include agenda items giving the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), and other agencies the opportunity to answer questions.

Chair Lucey mentioned NDOT would often turn down invitations to attend meetings because they did not want to participate in open meetings or put something on the record for which they would be held accountable. He conjectured those agencies might want to participate in more flexible meetings if that became an option.

Commissioner Herman said the SO, the fire chief, and the RTC would sometimes participate in CAB meetings. They were not always scheduled to speak but they would do so if they had public information to share. She believed having them involved could work.

Chair Lucey said commissioners relied on CAB chairs to ask the various agencies to attend meetings in the past, but the current technology and various conduits for information allowed commissioners to anticipate the needs of the community. He noted the civic engagement platform Zencity provided insight into what people wanted to discuss, so it eliminated the time spent waiting for information. He said the needs of citizens could be better addressed by anticipating their needs.

Commissioner Hill agreed with the comments about the need for flexibility. She asked for confirmation that commissioners would be able to reform their CABs and give feedback about the structure of the new CAB. She said she preferred to hold public meetings, but she would not dictate that to her CAB. She asked whether the issue would be brought back to the Board if any resolutions or changes were needed. She inquired whether Agenda Item 10 provided enough flexibility. Mr. Solaro confirmed staff believed Agenda Item 10 provided the necessary flexibility as it created CABs for the specific purpose of holding meetings to gather input from the community. The input would then potentially either translate to another resolution reforming the CAB in the future or dissolving that CAB and recreating something else. He stated the districts would end up with a board potentially governed by OML.

Commissioner Hill mentioned this issue could not be discussed in the current CAB meetings because CABs were only able to discuss development projects. She thought reforming the CABs and getting some direction from CAB members was a great opportunity to learn and to better serve the community.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Maeve Susan Ambrose asked whether she would be allowed to speak for three minutes on each item for a total of six minutes. Chair Lucey replied the items were consolidated and she would be allotted three minutes to speak. Ms. Ambrose found the recommendations for Agenda Item 10 to be more bullet points rather than examples, and she wished for more detailed information. She expressed disappointment because the pre-planning committee had not consulted former CAB members who had recently termed out. She hoped the right technology tools would be found so seniors who had difficulty with new technology would still be able to participate in meetings. She thought the County needed to record CAB meetings.

Ms. Pam Roberts requested an opinion from Assistant District Attorney Nathan Edwards on whether public commenters could be allotted six minutes to speak. Mr.

Edwards said the agenda stated that agenda items could be combined with other items. He indicated the combined items were essentially now one item being considered by the Board. He believed limiting public comment on the combined items to three minutes per speaker was up to the Chair's discretion. He said this was common practice and he was not aware of any legal restriction against this time limit.

Ms. Roberts agreed providing community input earlier in the development review process could be helpful to the developer, though she felt former CAB members and other interested community members should help determine the details of the review process. Regarding Agenda Item 10, she questioned whether creating a CAB to assist with the development of the Commissioner Support Program was the right option because some people wanted the restrictions of OML and some did not. She said she would support providing CABs the ability to discuss issues besides development projects.

Mr. Dave Snelgrove stated he ran a neighborhood meeting the prior week regarding a development project because the Sun Valley CAB only met four times per year, which did not work well with the development process. He wondered whether CAB meetings could be run in part as workshops which might not need to follow the public meeting element. He spoke about noticing requirements and expressed concern about meetings involving small projects.

Mr. Kenji Otto disagreed with dissolving the CABs and asked that the Cold Springs Valley CAB be reinstated. He said that community was large and had special needs which community members needed to be able to discuss. He suggested that developers, particularly those from outside Washoe County, be required to have meeting of a minimum size. He said some community members provided misinformation and community centers were difficult to reserve. He thought neighborhood meetings needed to be encouraged.

Mr. Roger M. Edwards said he had been involved in CABs for 20 years. He stated the CABs had not failed; they were silenced. He believed CABs needed to deal with a variety of issues, not just development projects, and this proposal was a complicated solution. He said CABs need to be put back the way they used to be. As a planning commissioner, he relied on CABs because they talked with local people.

County Clerk Jan Galassini advised the Board she received two emailed public comments from Ms. Kathie Julian and Ms. Diane Becker, which she placed on the record.

Vice Chair Hartung asked what would happen if the Board chose not to make a decision at this time. Mr. Solaro replied CABs would remain the same, with CAB meetings being held for development purposes only. Vice Chair Hartung stated CABs were the first step in the development process when they started in the 1990s; other components of CAB meetings were added later.

Chair Lucey mentioned several public commenters said they had not been included in the CAB review process. He asked for information about outreach efforts. Mr.

Solaro replied staff had contacted the CAB chairs and vice chairs during the prior week to explain the two agenda items. He said staff had listened to public comments at various meetings and contacted the planning commissioners. He stated the Board had provided direction through the strategic planning process. He noted library staff was one of the best resources for understanding feedback from community members, and the public could review the different engagement opportunities listed on the presentation. He assured the Board that staff had contacted the CABs regarding this issue.

Chair Lucey asked whether there would be discussions about the new construct of the CABs if these items were approved. He said each commissioner's understanding of a CAB was different and asked whether there was a way to provide a foundational understanding of a hybrid model which would allow some flexibility. Mr. Solaro responded Agenda Item 10 provided the flexibility. He said each commissioner would define what they were looking for through the budgeting process with the help of staff who had been hired to deal specifically with this.

County Manager Eric Brown said staff had heard the concerns of the commissioners and the CAB leadership, which he observed was different for each district. He reiterated CABs would not go away; they would operate under a different format. He summarized the desire for CAB agendas to be broader than just development items and to have a CAB configuration which might be unique by district or community. He said the new program would give commissioners the ability to have a more direct conversation with each community about the format for meetings and establish unique CAB configurations based on future conversations. He stated the Board had provided the staffing to execute these changes whereas the County did not previously have the capability to make them. He committed to monitoring this issue, speaking with each commissioner individually, and attending community meetings to make sure he listened to community members' concerns. He thought this was one of the most important things the County could do to improve responsiveness to its constituents. He understood some commissioners were interested in having structured agendas and minutes while others wanted more informal meetings; the new program would provide the desired structure for each commissioner.

Commissioner Hill said she supported these items. She observed the process needed to begin so staff and the commissioners could obtain feedback from the CABs about what they would like to see in the future. She noted the current CAB format did not allow for this type of public meeting. She believed the new staff was ready to work through this process and that the community development staff was capable of trying this new way of getting community input. She said she would be willing to try this new process to give her CAB more of a voice and more opportunities to be involved.

Vice Chair Hartung asked whether the Board needed to define each resolution or all resolutions. Mr. Solaro responded the intent of this item was to allow each commissioner to determine whether the currently defined CABs would be useful moving forward. He said a commissioner might not want to create a CAB if the structure was not working for their district. He said the CABs were defined by areas with which the

commissioners were familiar, but staff wanted to leave the decision of whether to reinstate them or a portion of them to the commissioners.

1:30 p.m. Commissioner Jung was disconnected from the meeting.

Vice Chair Hartung asked whether a commissioner could add a CAB. Chair Lucey replied that any additions would be done through the process. He said all existing CABs would stay as they currently were, but there might be opportunities for each commissioner to add or reduce their CABs as needed for involvement within their district.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be directed and adopted. The resolutions for same are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be adopted. The resolutions for same are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

1:35 p.m. The Board recessed.

1:45 p.m. The Board reconvened with Commissioner Jung absent.

BLOCK VOTE – 11, 16

21-0637 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve a resolution transferring Washoe County’s 2021 pro-rata share of the State of Nevada’s Private Activity Bonding Authority (\$6,154,447.40) to the Director of the State of Nevada Department of Building and Industry to support the construction of “The Ridge at Sun Valley” at 5100 W. 1st Avenue, Sun Valley, Nevada, which is a multifamily project of approximately 200 affordable housing units rent restricted to 60% of Area Median Income or below, and to authorize the chair to sign the resolution. (APN: 085-820-31, Applicant: Ulysses Development Group. Project property owner Sun Valley Ridge, L.P.) Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved and authorized. The Resolution for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

21-0638

AGENDA ITEM 16 Recommendation to (1) accept the FY22 sub-grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) in the amount of [\$114,268.00; no county match] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 to provide behavioral health services for clients with substance use issues; (2) approve Amendment #4 to the contract currently awarded to Alta Vista Mental Health, LLC (awarded Request for Proposal (RFP) #3087-19) for Operator of Women’s and Families Supportive Community on and off of the campus of Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS) to: (a) authorize an increase in the amount of [\$114,268.00] to support increased staffing needs, for a total payment amount of [\$635,912.20] retroactive for the term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; (b) authorizes an increase in the amount of [\$114,268.00] to support increased staffing needs, for a total payment amount of [\$635,912.20] to the remaining two (2) renewal periods; (c) if approved authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Amendment and revise the Purchase Order; (3) authorize Director of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant and related documents; and direct the Comptroller’s office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 16 be accepted, approved, authorized, and directed.

21-0639

AGENDA ITEM 18 Recommendation to appoint two (2) candidates to fill two open positions for wildlife representation on the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, with a term effective August 17, 2021 through August 1, 2024. The applicants are Matt Melarkey, Coby Rowe and Rob Pierce. Appointments would be pursuant to NRS chapter 501.265. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Lucey mentioned the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife worked directly with the Nevada Department of Wildlife and was very active in state discussions. He said three applicants were under consideration. He recommended appointing Mr. Melarkey and Mr. Rowe, a motion seconded by Commissioner Hill.

Commissioner Herman said she would recommend Mr. Melarkey and Mr. Pierce. Chair Lucey acknowledged her recommendation but noted Mr. Rowe had been nominated by a member of the wildlife organization.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chair Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Coby Rowe and Matt Melarkey be appointed to the open positions for wildlife representation on the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, with a term effective August 17, 2021 through August 1, 2024.

21-0640 **AGENDA ITEM 21** Recommendation and possible action to adopt Washoe County 2021 Commission Election Districting criteria and guiding principles in accordance with applicable law including NRS 244.014 and NRS 244.018. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Mr. Brown conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: Redistricting Project Team Overview; Washoe County Redistricting Project Team; Proposed Redistricting Guidelines (3 slides); and Redistricting Project Timeline.

County Manager Eric Brown said the guidelines were consistent with those adopted by the Board of County Commissioners after the last census in 2011. He stated the existing districts would be the benchmarks and the information would be uploaded. He noted the timeline for the project would be tight because of the timing of the Census Bureau's release of information; all information would be provided to Registrar of Voters (ROV) Deanna Spikula by October 1, allowing her the time she needed to work with the other jurisdictions.

Vice Chair Hartung asked whether the Board would provide feedback on the wards for the two cities or whether they would only provide feedback for the commission districts. Mr. Brown said the Board would only work on the commission districts, and the ROV would work with the cities on their districting program.

Chair Lucey asked whether Mr. Brown had received the State's timeline for their Senate and Assembly districts. Mr. Brown said he had not received that information but expected to get it in early September.

Commissioner Hill asked whether a definition of compactness had been provided. She observed the commissioners had very differently sized districts. Mr. Brown replied he did not have a definition, but he could obtain clarification. Commissioner Hill said she wanted clarification because, through her research, she found compactness should be the lowest priority if it was required; it could interfere with goals such as keeping communities of similar demographics together.

Commissioner Hill observed the timeline would not provide much time to obtain public feedback. She asked whether proposed maps would be available online with district level demographics for the public to view and make comment on before they were presented to the Board. Mr. Brown replied they could be made available online if the Board desired, although there would not be a lot of time for the public to provide feedback.

Commissioner Hill thought that would be helpful. She believed this needed to be an open public process as much as possible, and the public should be given time to make comments so the Board could review them and respond if necessary.

Vice Chair Hartung asked whether it would be possible for the Board to add a commission district. Chair Lucey replied no, the population would first need to reach 700,000 per Nevada Revised Statutes.

21-0641 **AGENDA ITEM 25** Presentation by Washoe County COVID-19 response Incident Commander Dave Solaro on COVID-19 Delta variant data and information in Washoe County to include an update on impacts, vaccination status, State Directives in place, and general information for the community. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: What we will cover; Objectives; Current COVID by the numbers (3 slides); Current Vaccination status in our community; What does Directive 047 mean to us?; What are our businesses saying?; Tips for our community; How to use the COVID Risk Meter; and Questions.

Mr. Solaro said providing relevant information to the Board and citizens was a good idea in light of the current COVID-19 (C19) surge and the new State directives. One objective in ongoing C19 operations was to provide good information to the community so the public could make informed decisions related to their behavior. He said the best source of current information was the covid19washoe.com website. He noted C19 cases in the community had started increasing at a fairly rapid rate. Numbers started to increase in Clark County about four weeks prior, and Washoe County historically followed four weeks behind Clark County. He noted the County had a test positivity rate of just below 5 percent in July, but that rate had increased to 18.4 percent as of August 16.

Mr. Solaro spoke about the information tracked in the COVID Risk Meter, noting the meter had jumped from moderate to very high. He stated the sewer study showed increasing concentrations of C19 markers within the sewer sheds for the past three weeks. He noted the County had 293 confirmed and 56 suspected C19 hospitalizations on December 24, 2020, which was at the height of the last surge. Currently there were 133 confirmed and suspected hospitalizations. He stated one concern of the Incident Management Team (IMT) was the inability to adequately staff hospitals. He noted staff might not be available even if the beds were. He said this concern was an issue across the country and it included traveling nurses. He conjectured the staffing issue could be a result of C19 burnout.

Mr. Solaro indicated the demand for the C19 vaccine had been significant early in the pandemic when the supply was lower, but the demand waned as the supply became more abundant. He said community vaccination progress had been slow over the past couple of months, but vaccination rates continued to increase gradually. He noted the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provided guidance for a third C19 shot for immunocompromised individuals; those individuals could contact Walgreens or CVS to receive a third shot. He said the Washoe County Health District (WCHD) was working through the second guidance provided by the CDC, and staff would provide information to the Board and the community through the regional information center.

Mr. Solaro spoke about Directive 047 related to masking, one of the three latest directives provided by Governor Steve Sisolak. He acknowledged several public commenters had opined about the effectiveness of wearing masks. He reiterated the directive was issued by the governor, not implemented by Washoe County, but the County was following the guidelines within the community. The question most often asked by community members, he noted, was about the requirements for discontinuing masks. He noted school masking requirements were covered under Directive 048. He stated the desire to stay open and provide services was the prevailing sentiment amongst the business community. Business owners wanted patrons to follow the mask signage as posted and they asked for patience. He noted contact tracers were hearing about people going out into the community while they waited for their test results. He said the test result turnaround time was currently approximately 24 hours, but it could take up to 36 hours. He urged community members to use the COVID Risk Meter to make decisions.

Chair Lucey said he disliked wearing a mask and felt better able to breathe without one. He expressed frustration because the burden for mask enforcement fell on businesses, and the issue required a larger discussion with stakeholders and hospitals. He believed the intent had always been to ensure hospitals were able to treat individuals, not to completely stop the spread. He thought stopping the spread of a virus had never been possible because viruses mutated and changed. He was unsure of whether the County was doing everything possible to mitigate the spread of C19. He believed a discussion about managing hospitals appropriately was important. He noted CDC guidelines included having 200 tests per 100,000 residents. He feared individuals were leaving their home while waiting for test results. He believed individuals had access to at-home rapid tests and those cases were not captured. He said no one was denying there was an increase in cases, but he wondered about the implications for the population of 500,000 residents.

Chair Lucey said the IMT had done a phenomenal job with vaccination efforts, though he acknowledged vaccines had medical repercussions. He believed more discussions with the community and stakeholders should have taken place prior to the implementation of mandates because of the various impacts across the three jurisdictions. He stated work on the COVID Risk Meter, vaccines, and the sewer study each played an important role. He asserted the County needed to increase testing and decrease positivity rates or the current cycle would continue. He understood the governor retained the option to issue a mask mandate through his emergency directives, but he thought a discussion with local authorities was needed because it was difficult to enforce an unanticipated rule. He wanted to continue to reduce the turnaround time for test results. He asked about outreach efforts and community feedback for the unwillingness to get vaccinated.

Mr. Solaro said the biggest comment received by the IMT was the ease of getting the vaccine. He stated most vaccines were currently being administered by primary care physicians and pharmacies. The pod was administering a smaller percentage of vaccines than it had in the past, but that could change if the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provided direction on booster shots. He said staff had been working to improve access and make it more convenient for people to get the vaccine. The IMT had tried different venues to increase access, and recently business owners had started discussing the possibility of hosting clinics at their locations.

Vice Chair Hartung agreed businesses should not have to police masking, but he also did not want businesses to close. He believed methodologies used to keep some businesses open could have been applied to other businesses. He expressed concern about the lack of communication, noting the commissioners had not been included in the governor's press conferences. He indicated the County had been asked to produce a local authority plan, which he believed had been circumvented by Directive 047. He asked whether the County had hit the triggers in the local plan prior to the implementation of Directive 047, to which Mr. Solaro replied they had not.

Vice Chair Hartung asked why the local authority plan had been developed, stating hundreds of hours from stakeholders had gone into producing the plan. He noted the mandates were not initiated by the local authorities and clarified he believed he was not in a position to direct mandates because he was not a medical professional. He asked for confirmation that the County was administering 185 tests per 100,000 residents per day. Mr. Solaro said the current data indicated 192 tests per 100,000 residents were being performed daily. Vice Chair Hartung observed a relatively small number of individuals were tested daily. He felt the Board had not been consulted and he questioned what the local authority plan had really meant.

Commissioner Hill stated the booster shot was a concern for many people in her district. She asked whether Mr. Solaro had information about the process for the booster shot and about how individuals would be contacted. She knew many lessons had been learned during the initial vaccination push, so she wanted to know how that would affect the next round of shots. Mr. Solaro responded the first step was for the FDA to authorize the booster, and he understood the president suggested moving in that direction. He said more testing was needed for the booster shot. He noted any immunocompromised individuals could receive the third shot by contacting Walgreens or CVS. The WCHD pod would begin administering the third shot later that day. He stated up-to-date information would be communicated to the community through the regional information center. He noted the County also needed to receive guidance from the State to ensure shots were administered appropriately.

Chair Lucey asked Mr. Solaro to provide bi-weekly updates about vaccines and testing to the Board as long as the County remained in a high transmission designation based on the CDC guidance. He understood the IMT maintained a website and tried to disseminate as much information as possible, but he wanted updates during meetings to help the Board make informed decisions about policy and outreach.

Mr. Solaro asked whether the information provided on this item had been sufficient or whether any additional information needed to be included in future updates. Chair Lucey said identifying vaccinations per district would be helpful. He wanted to see the weekly report from the Nevada Hospital Association (NHA), though he acknowledged they reported on Wednesdays so the Board would not receive the most up-to-date information.

Vice Chair Hartung said knowing hospitalization rates was important because not everyone who had C19 became very ill. The number of hospitalizations would be helpful in understanding how pervasive C19 was in the community. He believed having historical data about hospitalizations before C19 would also be helpful. Mr. Solaro said the NHA indicated the data tracked before C19 was not the same as the data currently tracked; it would potentially take more time to gather that information.

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

21-0642 **AGENDA ITEM 26** Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

21-0643 **AGENDA ITEM 27** Announcements/Reports.

There were no announcements or reports.

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2:39 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

BOB LUCEY, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

JANIS GALASSINI, County Clerk and
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

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