

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

FEBRUARY 22, 2022

PRESENT:

Vaughn Hartung, Chair
Alexis Hill, Vice Chair
Kitty Jung, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

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

ABSENT:

Bob Lucey, Commissioner

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, County Clerk Jan Galassini called roll and the Board conducted the following business:

22-0141 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Mr. Robert Beadles provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. He stated he was there to talk about treason and said everyone in the room and the country was robbed of their vote by the Registrar of Voters (ROV). He shared data on registered voters and opined it did not match the number of votes. He said according to the data there were more votes than voters over the past several elections. He expressed frustration about the Registrar, Deanna Spikula, and asked that she be removed. He wondered whether the Board was covering up the fraud. He said Commissioner Herman was the only one fighting for a fair vote.

Ms. Jeanne Herman requested a recess for a legal review of what went on with the elections. She asked for an apology from the County officials and County employees, and for the tv stations to retract what they had said. She stated the resolution she prepared regarding election integrity was supposed to be attached to the agenda as a resolution but believed it was rewritten as a staff report. She said it was important for the people of Washoe County to know who was responsible for this drastic change, which she believed to be an attempt to limit the voice of the people and reduce the potential for an honest and fair election. She said the people had spoken and they needed evidence the Board was listening. She demanded the resolution be returned to the Board for deliberation.

Mr. Joey Gilbert referred to the documents provided by Mr. Beadles. He said the data showed there was a problem with the election system, but it continued to be ignored. He believed the data showed the votes from the last few elections were inaccurate and invalid. He agreed with Mr. Beadles that this was treason. He stated the people had been fighting this issue for two years and they would not go away until the Board ensured fair and free elections. He urged the members of the Board to look at the data and do the right thing.

Mr. Kurt Baumgarten introduced himself as Master Sergeant Baumgarten of the Spanish Springs High School JROTC Cougar Battalion. He said the program provided color guards throughout the County, and almost every weekend the kids would clean up the streets for the Adopt-a-Road program. He shared that the kids worked hard to raise funds to go on trips, but it was not always enough. He thanked Chair Hartung for his donation of \$5,000 to the program, which would help the kids go to California that coming weekend. He mentioned the kids took needy kids from the middle school on a shopping trip for their families during the holidays, with funds the JROTC students had raised themselves. He said there were approximately 2,000 kids across the 11 programs in their district. He noted the mission of the Army JROTC program was to prepare people to be better citizens.

Mr. Bill Neill thanked Commissioner Herman for her commitment to the citizens. He said he was not impressed with the other Board members. He expressed frustration about their actions and inactions. He believed the nation was engaged in a civil war. He said the war was an information war being conducted with the Patriots on one side standing for truth, honor, and integrity, and the other side standing for censorship and silence. He asked the Board which side it stood on. He opined the election was stolen and everyone knew it. He urged the Board to support the election integrity resolution to protect the freedom of the County's citizens.

Ms. Val White believed Washoe County voters were being cheated in their elections. She opined the voter rolls were dirty, the electronic voting system certifications were a sham, the chain of custody for ballots had issues, Nevadans were not guaranteed the chance to serve as observers, and the signature verification process did not work properly. She stated there was no more trust in government or elections. She urged the Board to approve the changes to the election system proposed in the resolution. She believed Ms. Spikula should be fired for incompetence.

Ms. Elisa agreed with Mr. Gilbert and supported his comments.

Ms. Kimberly Clark stated she was involved with the voter integrity committee. She expressed frustration about the election system and said the Board had the responsibility to look into it. She believed the issue would not go away, and she wanted it resolved peacefully.

Ms. Roblyn Williams shared that she and her family had been residents for many years, and she believed the city and the Board to be unrecognizable now. She said

the vote needed to be protected. She reminded the Board members they were voted into office, and they could be voted out if they did not listen to the people. She encouraged them to look at their own district voter rolls and at the data provided in the document from Mr. Beadles. She thanked Commissioner Herman for being brave.

Mr. Tom Lenz echoed what everyone before him had said. He noted after reviewing the data provided by Mr. Beadles, he understood how Governor Sisolak was elected. He voiced concern about the resolution being removed from the agenda and asked what the Board was trying to hide.

Mr. Eugene Gerscovich shared that he was an immigrant from Argentina and had been in the U.S. for about 50 years. He expressed frustration about the removal of item 14 from the agenda and voiced concern about election fraud. He believed elected candidates should represent true legal voters. He wanted the voter rolls cleaned up and the elimination of non-requested mail-in ballots and Dominion voting machines. He supported paper ballots and same-day voting. He noted he would feel safer if the National Guard could monitor voting precincts.

Mr. James M. Benthin referenced an article in *This Is Reno*, written by Bob Conrad and Kristen Hackbarth, published on February 21, 2022. He read from the article, which claimed the resolution proposed by Commissioner Herman was radical and far-right. He said he received an email from Arizona State Senator Wendy Rogers, stating she wanted to eliminate the use of voting machines and would be pushing several election integrity bills. He believed the resolution was practical and legal and urged the Board to bring it back.

Ms. Janet Butcher stated she was a legal resident of Washoe County. She believed it was a fact that people were bused in from other states by those who opposed fair elections. She said she was intimidated by a Democrat attorney at the Sparks Library while she was assigned as a poll watcher. She displayed a document. She expressed disappointment that the resolution was pulled from the agenda and wondered about the reasoning behind it. She reminded the Board that the country was not a democracy, it was a constitutional republic. She said a friend of hers had registered as a Republican but was switched to an Independent, and she was personally placed on an inactive roll.

Ms. Karen Serink thanked Commissioner Herman for her courage and integrity. She said the people knew there were problems with the current election system. She expressed frustration about not being required to prove citizenship when registering to vote. She demanded that the election process be cleaned up.

Ms. Tracey Thomas displayed a document. She believed ballot-counting should be public and continue without adjournment, voters should be provided a leave of absence to vote, and only citizens should be on current voter rolls. She said ballots must be hand-counted and a chain of custody must be maintained at all times. She opined the 2020 election showed voting kiosks were not necessary to conduct elections and wondered about the cost savings for the ROV. She provided an example of historical costs and remarked

that resources could be diverted for a more secure election. She urged members of the Board to consider the resolution and to strike a single item if they did not like it, instead of doing away with the whole resolution.

Mr. Robert (Nick) Martin stated he had been a registered voter in Washoe County for about 42 years. He said he considered himself to be a balanced and open-minded voter and had listened to arguments on both sides regarding the election system. He believed the arguments made to loosen the rules were suspect. He opined that anyone in America who did not have an ID did not want one. He implored the Board to tighten the rules around elections.

Ms. Renee Rezendes said she was there to speak about election integrity and noted that the people wanted an honest and fair election. She said a fair election was encompassed by clarity, integrity, and the ability to be audited. She believed the way to do this was with paper ballots, a strong poll watching force, voter identification, proof of citizenship, tabulation machines, and the elimination of Dominion voting machines. She stated poll watchers should be placed where they could see the ballots. She said if the people did not have confidence in the election system, then they were obligated to ask for an audit.

Ms. Valerie Fiannaca said election integrity was not a Democrat or Republican issue and she believed both parties had cheated. She shared information she received from Secretary of State (SOS) candidate Richard Scotti, who cited Newsweek.com. She said according to the information, 63 percent of the 27 countries within the European Union had banned mail-in ballots except for citizens living abroad, and another 22 percent required proof of photo identification to obtain a mail-in ballot. She noted France banned electronic voting after what happened during the 2020 election in the U.S. She said it was time to realize both sides had cheated, and the people needed to have their faith restored in the election system.

Mr. Doug Jalen agreed with the previous speakers. He read from the voter registration form which noted that giving false information was a felony. He stated the Sheriff's Office was present at the meeting, but they should be out chasing the felons who gave false information. He believed that would go a long way toward ensuring election integrity. He said Nevada should not allow any foreign influence in its elections from other countries or California.

Mr. Tom Daly stated he was a Republican candidate for Nevada Assembly District 26. He explained that the Board had the duty to ensure the voter rolls in Washoe County were accurate. He quoted the Voter Registration Act of 1993, noting all states were required to purge the registration rolls of ineligible voters. He said the Board had the authority to require an audit of the voter rolls, which would be the first step in restoring credibility. He urged the Board to require an audit before the June primary election. He said that as a candidate he did not want people to vote for him or his competitors if they were ineligible.

Ms. Gail Anderson reiterated that she did not think her vote counted during the last election. She opined that the Board and the County Manager were corrupt. She referenced Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 293, stating it did not require the use of voting machines. She believed Channel 2 news reported lies about Agenda Item 14 being removed due to a violation of the open meeting law. She thought the Board had allowed election fraud to occur in Washoe County. She demanded the resolution be brought back to the Board for consideration. She believed the people's voting rights had been violated.

Ms. Teri Bartl was humbled by the speakers before her and wanted her voice to be heard by the Board. She believed the voting system was broken, the County's voter rolls were inaccurate, mail-in ballots were sent to dead people or individuals who no longer lived in Washoe County or the state of Nevada, and voting machines were easily hacked. She demanded paper ballots, oversight of polling places, and cleaned up voter rolls. She urged the Board to do its job and ensure election integrity.

Ms. Janice Jones said she was not surprised the resolution was removed from the agenda. She opined it was removed because it would have made Ms. Spikula look foolish to discuss the lack of election fraud in the same meeting where a resolution was presented on the issue of ensuring election integrity. She believed the removal of the agenda item made Commissioner Herman appear to be inept. She urged the Board to put the resolution back on the agenda. She stated she would be voting for Mr. Marchant for SOS, and she believed he would restore integrity to that office.

Ms. Mary Kilkenny shared that she was a long-term homeowner in Washoe County but had only recently become a full-time resident. She said she had taken election integrity for granted. She noted her children were registered to vote in Colorado, but she received ballots for them in Nevada. She also noted she and her husband had received ballots in Reno and at their old address in California. As a physician, she said she was careful to distinguish between evidence-based medicine and her educated opinion based on 32 years of practice and experience. She stated these were not the same thing, and the history of medicine had many examples of good doctors who had given bad advice. She believed the ballot system, the election machine process, and the voter rolls were corrupt. She said she did not want to put up barriers for eligible voters, and she wanted all American citizens to participate. She believed the evidence and data showed there was a problem with the current voting system. She urged the Board to ensure election integrity.

Mr. Fred V. Dellinger said he did not take freedom of speech for granted, and he appreciated everyone who spoke before him. He shared that he had brothers, nieces, and nephews who had served, and he thought the Pledge of Allegiance was done with compassion. He wished all the children in America would still do the Pledge of Allegiance in their classrooms. He noted he liked the comments about cleaning up the voter rolls. He stated election integrity was important for all parties. He mentioned that Commissioner Jung had offered a free lunch and he would like to take her up on that. He said that like gubernatorial candidate Mr. Joey Gilbert, he was also a constitutionalist who believed in the second amendment. He referenced a proverb made popular by President Reagan, that it was okay to say something, but it needed to be validated.

Mr. Samuel Solace provided a document, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. He voiced concern about the claims of election fraud. He believed individuals who claimed there was mass election fraud had received misinformation. He asked the Board to focus on things that would improve and benefit the communities. He suggested Sierra Vista Park as a topic for future discussion. He thought the park should be officially designated as a conditional off-leash facility. He said animals could be required to be leashed within proximity of sanctioned events at the park to avoid interference. He noted the original public comment on Sierra Vista Park included off-leash use as a recommended activity.

Ms. Susie Howell agreed with many of the speakers before her. She believed Mr. Beadles had provided evidence of election fraud. She opined the Reno Gazette-Journal (RGJ) had printed lies and she urged the Board to request a correction. She asked if the Board members believed in “One nation under God” when they participated in the Pledge of Allegiance. She believed it was telling that only one person had spoken in favor of the current election process.

Mr. Charles Elliott said he had attended many meetings and would continue to do so. He expressed embarrassment about the state, the community, and all the elected representatives. He thanked Mr. Beadles and Mr. Gilbert for stepping up and presenting data. He said the people were there to represent their families, friends, city, state, and country. He noted that he appreciated the freedom of speech and the ability of people to speak regardless of the side they were on. He believed the people were there in support of election integrity because their votes did not count, and they could not elect the individuals they wanted to represent them. He voiced concern about the current voting system and the Board. He opined the Board had known about election fraud and allowed it to occur.

Ms. Penny Brock agreed with Mr. Beadles and urged the Board to do what he asked. She said Democrats put out a press release on February 17 expressing outrage about the resolution. She said the people in attendance were outraged also; they were outraged about the removal of Agenda Item 14, and the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 321 during the 2021 Legislative Session. She stated no Republican in the Nevada Assembly or Senate voted for the bill. She named several organizations, out of Washington, D.C., that had worked in Nevada: All Voting is Local, the Center for Technology and Civic Life, and the Democracy Fund. She provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk.

Mr. Chris Hilen shared that he was the President of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Nevada (UUFNN). He said the UUFNN had served as a polling location for past elections. He noted item 14 had been pulled from the agenda because the District Attorney’s Office said the description in the agenda did not match the resolution. He said he expected the resolution to be on a future agenda for consideration by the Board and he asked that it be rejected in its current form. He shared three points as the basis for this request: the lack of need, the failure to disclose the cost of the changes, and the impact the changes would have on voters. He appreciated the discussions around election integrity, but he opined the court cases that had occurred

across the country since the 2020 election had shown there was no massive voter fraud. He believed there would be increased costs to the County that were not disclosed in the resolution.

Ms. Elisa Reister was called but was not present to speak.

Mr. Charles Albright stated he had been at a previous meeting to request the removal of the Ambrose Dam as a future agenda item. He believed it was a 100-year-old safety hazard. He said the process had to start with the Board then move to the state and federal agencies. He believed the County could receive state and federal funds for the removal so the cost would be minimal.

Ms. Patty Downing played a quote from President Biden. She said she had been reconciling data presented through Edison Research with the data presented by the County. She did not believe the data balanced and said the counties of Clark and Washoe were off by about 9,000. She stated over half of Nevada's votes had come during the middle of the night in one ballot drop from Clark County. She shared that she had seen a sample ballot that could be verified by black light, and she believed it would be a good option for future elections. She said new election processes were needed to restore voter confidence from both parties.

Ms. Janice Flanagan thanked the Board for the job it did and noted it was not an easy one. She stated she was a long-time resident of Nevada, the wife of a veteran, the mother of two veterans, and a consistent voter for over 60 years. She shared that freedom and the rule of law were important to her. She opined that every court in America had said voter fraud did not exist. She thanked the SOS and the ROV for the job they had done, and the Legislature for its extensive hearings on election laws. She said she was looking forward to hearing Agenda Item 5. She thanked the media, especially Mark Robinson for his in-depth reporting in the RGJ and the editorial board of the RGJ. She said she would like to see a fiscal note attached to resolutions when there were potential tax increases to pay for the items. She believed it would be a service to the community to know that nothing was free.

Mr. Bruce Foster believed the people recognized they were in a battle between good and evil. He wanted the media to be present so the public could learn what was really going on in the community. He thought Mr. Beadles and Mr. Gilbert were Patriots and pioneers who were investigating the issue of voter fraud. He thanked Commissioner Herman for her attempt to get the resolution on the agenda. He believed America needed a new generation of pathfinders to lead it back to its roots. He asked for those who believed the Board had integrity to stand up.

Mr. John Davis thanked the Board for his first amendment right to speak and thanked the citizens of Washoe County for their presence at the meeting. He said election integrity was not a partisan issue. He opined the media chose to misrepresent Commissioner Herman's resolution to the public. He believed the agenda was intentionally altered so the resolution could not be heard. He said neither side claimed the voting

machines could not be tampered with or that they were completely accurate. He urged the use of hand-counted paper ballots, with a copy the voter could take home. He implored the Board to make a change.

Ms. Dawn Rickabaugh opined there was significant evidence and data that there was an issue with the election system which needed to be addressed.

Mr. Michael A. Barnes expressed support for Commissioner Herman's resolution. He displayed a document that he believed was proof of massive voter fraud during the last election. He said the people wanted to see the information presented to a jury and be assured of honest elections in the future.

Mr. Tim Stoffel believed at least two groups of data had been presented which appeared to show a problem with the current election system. He urged the Board to bring the resolution back promptly for a vote. He requested that the County bring back in-person voting, use ballots with watermarks, require signature verification and that the whole process be closely monitored. He opined voting machines were not well designed and asked that they be removed from service. He suggested a park or beautification project be deferred to take care of this issue if funding was the problem. He believed fair elections were the most important issue.

Ms. Cindy Martinez provided a document, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. She expressed disappointment about the removal of the resolution from the agenda. She did not believe there was a violation of the open meeting law. She requested the resolution be added to the March 8 agenda for discussion.

Ms. Erin Massengale stated she was surprised when the resolution had made the agenda for the meeting but was not surprised when it was later removed. She hoped the Board would resubmit the resolution for the next meeting. She said the issue was very important to the integrity of the County, the state, and America. Additionally, she requested the Board support a resolution to ban vaccine passports or a verification system.

Mr. Michael Allen displayed a document. He believed a member of the Board had misled the public and should be held accountable. He said the National Guard was in the business of helping communities, not intimidating them. He requested a corrected statement be sent immediately to the RGJ.

Ms. Tara Thorton stated she cared about the children, and she believed people were created to be free humans and not slaves. She shared that the people had real questions and concerns about voter fraud because of the current election process. She requested there be a public records request regarding the vote count for the 2020 election. She urged the Board to bring back the election integrity resolution and asked it to support a resolution to ban vaccine passports.

Ms. Melanie Sutton stated she lived in North Valleys and expressed frustration because four members of the Board had voted for more housing in that area

without making sure the water and the roads were taken care of. She wondered about the removal of the resolution from the agenda and why voter identification was not required.

Ms. Layne Linebaugh stated that if someone had to lie, cheat, and steal to win, it was not the truth. She believed much evidence had been presented of mass voter fraud and election irregularities. She opined that Commissioner Herman had followed the process diligently to place the resolution on the agenda. She demanded the resolution be put back on the agenda or the Board members should be tried for treason. She said election integrity was not a partisan issue.

Ms. Hope Backman displayed a document. She thanked Commissioner Herman. She expressed disappointment with the Board and believed it had failed Nevada. She noted the people needed representatives that would fight for the children and stand up for Nevada. She said the people demanded fair elections.

Ms. Darla Lee stated she had asked about the Heritage Foundation study regarding Nevada's voter integrity scorecard two weeks prior. She said she sent the link to the Board, and she hoped each of its members had taken a look at it. She wondered about the removal of the resolution from the agenda. She expressed disappointment with those who opposed the resolution and believed they were misinformed. She urged the Board to support the resolution.

12:04 p.m. **The Board recessed.**

12:14 p.m. **The Board returned with Vice Chair Hill and Assistant District Attorney Nathan Edwards absent.**

Ms. Cindy Sassenrath voiced concern about the removal of the resolution from the agenda due to a technicality. She expressed frustration for the article in the RGJ and thanked Commissioner Herman for all her work. She requested the County ban vaccine mandates and vaccine passports. She stated she would not support any business that required her to be vaccinated.

12:16 p.m. **Mr. Edwards returned to the meeting.**

Mr. George Lee noted computer integrity was important. He opined that the County was purchased and received money to push the vaccine mandate. He expressed concern that agenda items were added after funds for the items were already received. He remarked that none of the courts had held hearings about election integrity and the Secretary of State's (SOS) Office had not conducted an investigation.

Ms. Joy Trushenski shared data regarding voter statistics during the 2020 election. She believed the data showed mass election fraud had occurred and expressed frustration that an audit of the votes had not occurred. She urged for voter identification, same-day voting, ballots that could be authenticated, no ballot harvesting, and the

elimination of voting machines. She said mail-in ballots could be available upon request. She asked the Board to support voter integrity.

12:22 p.m. Vice Chair Hill returned to the meeting.

Ms. Deborah Mardon requested that voting machines be removed from service and used for evidence to audit the 2020 election. She urged for same-day voting with paper ballots unless an individual was not able to vote in person. She asked that only citizens without a felony record be allowed to vote. She thought voters should be required to provide photo identification and sign a log at the precinct. She noted Governor Sisolak could make election day a holiday to allow Nevada residents a greater opportunity to vote same-day. She urged the Board to take action to ensure the upcoming elections were honest.

Ms. Lisa Fleiner stated that Board members had to hold surety bonds with the state of Nevada which protected them as individuals. She noted that to obtain a bond, the Board member had to sign an oath to uphold the constitution for both the state and the country. She said the Board could affect the lives of the people through the regulations and items it passed or did not pass. She shared that she brought mail-in ballots to the Registrar of Voter's (ROV) Office which were addressed to people who no longer lived at her address. She opined that the ROV did not seem concerned. She urged for voter identification.

Ms. Susan McMurray referenced a Monmouth University poll that stated 80 percent of Americans favored voter identification, and 35 states required photo identification before a person was allowed to vote. She supported Commissioner Herman's resolution. She did not believe her vote counted and said many others felt the same way. She expressed concern for the removal of the resolution from the agenda and wondered about the intentions of the Board.

Mr. Wayne Gordon requested the Board take steps to protect elections. He stated the United States was not a democracy but a constitutional republic. He referenced five sections of the Constitution: Article 15, Article 19, Article 24, Article 26, and Article 14. He stated holding the votes of the people in low regard violated the 14th Amendment. He opined that the perception of fraud was just as bad as fraud. He thought he and other citizens were being ignored and had become disenfranchised.

Mr. Jimmie Bratcher read a quote by Abraham Lincoln about the perpetuation of political institutions. He asked the Board to fix the election process. He said he did not want the next election to be stolen. He thanked the Board for listening.

Ms. Laura Dickey stated she had been a resident of Washoe County for 40 years, and that she was a Patriot and a Mayflower descendant. She said she opposed the resolution. She voiced concern that the opinions of those present during the February 8 meeting were one-sided. She noted that voting was an important issue and was the

foundation of the constitutional republic. She did not believe the 2020 election was stolen and said the SOS had not found any irregularities.

Ms. Betty Thiessen said she was a fourth-generation Nevadan. She thanked Commissioner Herman for her courage. She requested that the Board place the resolution back on the agenda.

Ms. Suze Van Ness prayed for the Board to end corruption. She believed there had been bullying towards women within the County. She opined the 2020 election was not right and the voter rolls needed to be cleaned up. She wondered why the Board had not met with Mr. Beadles. She urged the Board to treat Commissioner Herman with respect.

Ms. Maxine Bradshaw stated she was impressed with Commissioner Herman and all she had done for the constituents. She shared that Washoe County residents had written letters regarding voter integrity and Commissioner Herman was the only member of the Board to address them.

Mr. Donald Fossum said he had shared concerns about election integrity with the Board for five years and believed nothing had been done during that time. He said the country was divided. He expressed frustration about the removal of the resolution from the agenda. He opined the Board had failed to be accountable.

Mr. Isaac Ndalo stated it was his second time at a meeting and he was an immigrant from Kenya. He thanked the Patriots for his ability to speak at the meeting, noting that people in other countries did not have the same opportunity. He said there were not a lot of millennials in attendance, and he would like to change that. He believed youth were the future and Nevada schools being ranked 50th needed to change. He urged for a solution to the election issues. He noted he would be a U.S. citizen soon.

Mr. J.S. McElhinney said he had practiced dentistry in Reno for 40 years and had invested a lot into the community. He stated election integrity was the most important aspect of the voting system, and it was the foundation of the country. He urged the Board to place the resolution back on the agenda soon and vote to approve it. He expressed frustration about the removal of the resolution, noting the language of the resolution should not have been altered. He thought the current Nevada laws regarding voter registration and the voting process were too relaxed. He did not believe the County and the elites listened to the people or represented them fairly and honestly. He opposed same-day registration, automatic Department of Motor Vehicles registration, unsolicited mail-in ballots, ballot harvesting, out-of-state poll workers and watchers, and extended early voting. He supported voter identification and an annual purge of the voter rolls.

Ms. Jan Hilton supported the election resolution. She wondered about the changes made to the original resolution. She believed anyone who thought Washoe County did not have election issues needed to talk with election workers. She hoped the members of the Board had read each of the 12 NRS laws listed in Agenda Item 14. She said the ROV

needed a viable way to implement and enforce all the election laws, to ensure purity and accuracy and revive election integrity in the County.

Ms. Vicky Dunn displayed pictures on her phone. She disagreed with those who believed there was no voter fraud. She said she had worked for the state, County, and city, in every capacity, and she believed she had seen corruption and fraud firsthand.

Ms. Meghan Archambault opposed the resolution and believed it was unoriginal. She thought the resolution was illegal and would result in costly lawsuits for Washoe County. She said a mail-in ballot was a paper ballot. She commended Vice Chair Hill for speaking out against the resolution.

Mr. Mark Leonard wondered about the removal of the resolution at the last minute. He believed language had been changed in the document which caused it to be removed. He questioned who made the changes and why. He opined this eroded trust in the Board, except for Commissioner Herman.

Ms. Christina Sherbrook voiced concern for the election system. She said it was a sacred honor to vote and for the people to have faith in the system and the Board they needed to know their votes counted. She urged the Board to clean up elections.

Ms. Aimee Keys believed many of the comments she heard were motivated by fear. She thought some of the changes to the election system being considered by the County were drastic. She voiced concern about several proposed items. Item 5 would grant the power to enact any other measure that ensured the accuracy, security, and purity of elections. She thought this item seemed to grant an unlimited amount of power with no checks or balances and did not define what purity of elections meant. Item 13 would require the presence of National Guard personnel, which she was not opposed to, but wondered about the reasoning for it. Item 8 would require the use of Certified mail, which was costly. She was not opposed to this item but felt the total cost should be presented to the Board for consideration. Item 18 would require the voter rolls to be purged every five years. She requested additional information on this item to understand which problem it would solve.

Mr. Roger Edwards said there was no point in the National Guard taking part in the elections if the votes of the people did not count. He opined that Nevada's vote was worthless. He shared that he could get volunteers to stand at the polls. He noted that if there was an additional cost to have a true vote, the bill could be sent to him.

Mr. Daniel Abbott opposed the election resolution. He thanked the Board and the previous speakers who participated in the conversation. He agreed that election integrity was vital to a free society, however, he did not believe any of the suggested changes in the proposed resolution would prevent subversions of democracy. He noted voter fraud was already illegal, easily detected, and carried stiff penalties for the offender. He believed allegations of irregularities or inconsistencies should be taken seriously and investigated using systems already in place. He believed the proposed resolution would

place undue obstacles to voter access and would be a step backward in time for the election process.

Mr. Robert Devin thanked the Board for allowing the public to voice their concerns. He expressed frustration about the treatment of Commissioner Herman and the actions of the Board and district attorney who eliminated item 14. He opined the elimination of item 14 was a sleight of hand to change the resolution and invalidate the movement to ensure the integrity of the voter system. He thought a small group of people had been trying to steal elections, the political systems, and the country. He encouraged the Board to be on the right side of the voter integrity issue.

Ms. Tammy Holtstill said she had been before the Board since 2017 and of all the Board members, only Commissioner Herman had treated her with respect. She referenced an email she sent to Chair Hartung asking why residents should pay for a stormwater system when there was too much affluent in the system to begin with. She noted she had not received a response from Chair Hartung. She opined Lemmon Valley was in the same condition it was in 2017. She expressed frustration about the Board approving new development without making sure infrastructure was in place.

Ms. Victoria Myer supported Mr. Beadles and Mr. Gilbert. She said everyone should want fair elections regardless of their political party. She opined the public had a lack of confidence in the election process, and the Board had a duty to represent the people who wanted to see the matter investigated. She asked the Board to act now so there could be free and fair elections at the time of the primaries. She spoke about the trusted news initiative and the global alliance of media.

Mr. Nicholas St. Jon displayed a document, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He said Ms. Spikula spoke to the Board about voter integrity on April 13, 2021. He commented Ms. Spikula said the County would be tied into the national change of address database. He stated his research showed many people moved out of Nevada but remained on the voter rolls. He opined Mr. Beadles had done a good job of investigating the inconsistencies. He requested the Board ask Ms. Spikula to explain how the County had same-day registrations but no provisional ballots.

Mr. Edward Goodrich urged the Board to oppose resolution 22-28. He opined the resolution was voter suppression and restricted the democratic process. He believed it was important to get as many people as possible to vote fairly. He wondered how the resolution had gone as far as it had. He noted he participated as a partisan observer for many years and found Washoe County to be the gold standard for honesty, fairness, and participation. He believed the real issue was the franchise to vote and believed the resolution restricted that.

Mr. Kenji Otto opined there was nothing more important than the right to vote. He wondered why identification was not required to vote when it was needed to do everything else. He believed socialists had taken over the Nevada Democratic Party. He

expressed frustration about previous public commenters talking about race. He believed the country was fighting against Marxism.

Ms. Jeanne Quintana hoped for the future of the children that the Board would discuss Commissioner Herman's resolution. She said Commissioner Herman and a lot of other people worked very hard on it. She opined the Board should look out for the people it represented. She asked that the Board have a conscience and do the right thing for its constituents.

Ms. Kandy Lyons supported Mr. Beadles' resolution and thanked Commissioner Herman for putting it on the agenda. She said she trusted Commissioner Herman but did not trust the rest of the Board. She requested the resolution be put back on an agenda.

Ms. Julie Osburn thanked the Sheriff's Office for providing security at the meeting. She commended the Sheriff's Office for aiding with ice rescue and recovery in California the month before. She said she supported Commissioner Herman because she represented the constituents. She expressed frustration about the treatment of Commissioner Herman by County personnel. She opined most of the public commenters believed there was a problem with election fraud, and she thought the Board needed to address the problem. She requested the Board put the resolution back on the agenda so a public discussion could take place.

Mr. Keith Lockard spoke about his previous government work and time as a poll worker and said he was committed to efficiency and effective government services. In his time as a poll worker, he believed he saw a well-functioning process. Having read many staff reports in his career with the government, he believed the staff report and resolution were poorly written. He referenced an email sent to the Board in which he listed his concerns. He believed what the Board saw in chambers that day was an organized pressure group, and he asked the Board to be critical in its thinking on the matter.

Ms. Karen Benna noted she was not part of any group that came to speak. She wondered how Governor Sisolak won the election. She thought something was wrong and inquired if the Board was elected or installed. She discussed her experience as a poll watcher and believed she had witnessed some suspicious activity. She said she reported the activity to a polling place manager, but nothing was done about it. She opined the country was a banana republic without safe elections. She asked the Board to correct the election system before the 2022 elections.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar expressed displeasure with the Board and claimed she had proof that the Board members had the district attorneys rewrite statutes in their favor. She opined the Board made up its own laws, and all the protections in the codes were for the benefit of County employees. She wondered when the Board would represent the constituents instead of acting for its own personal gain. She was sick of the Board ignoring her and taking away her services. She believed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic

Security Act money was spent remodeling the Board's offices. She commented the Board needed to follow its oath and the laws or she would go after the members' bonds.

Ms. Debbie Hudgens was called but was not present to speak.

Mr. Pablo Nava Duran displayed a document, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He opined there was an attack on the democracy by the Washoe County Republican Party. He spoke about the lawsuit Mr. Adam Laxalt filed against the Supreme Court and the attack on Capitol Hill that Mr. Laxalt and Mr. Joey Gilbert encouraged. He thought the Washoe County Republican Party was now controlled by the far-right. He believed the National Guard should be sent to the Washoe County School District to help fill the buses to increase attendance and make sure students got a world-class education instead of being sent to polling locations.

Mr. Karl Sweder was not surprised the Board pulled Agenda Item 14. He opined the item passed all the necessary steps to be heard but the Board chose to listen to un-American voices, including the Las Vegas democratic socialists. He wondered why Las Vegas democratic socialists had a say in Washoe County business. He believed the Board chose to ignore the will of its constituents by refusing to discuss the unconstitutional mask and vaccine mandates, and by giving the most unproductive group of people \$25 million in tax money. He believed the money should have been used to help the taxpayers affected by the closing of non-essential businesses, as it was intended under the recovery act. He believed if the Board acted on the will of the constituents, then the Board would have no reason to fear them.

Ms. Ann Sweder noted disappointment that Agenda Item 14 was pulled and thought it could have been an opportunity to discuss and resolve the election issues. She said the Board did not want to discuss election issues with the people; however, Vice Chair Hill would discuss a one-sided view on the matter with the Reno Gazette-Journal. She believed Vice Chair Hill's actions were unprofessional and in bad taste. She did not want the voting resolution to be ignored and opined issues could not be resolved if they were not discussed with the citizens. She hoped the Board would reconsider and put the resolution on the next agenda.

Mr. Craig Newton opined this year marked the death of corporate America, and the rebirth of a new nation. He thought the Board would be on the wrong side of history, except for Commissioner Herman. He was excited to see the nation return to the constitutional government it used to be.

Mr. David Chamberlain played a video from 2020 when he canvassed in Northwest Reno on behalf of the Election Integrity Project Nevada. He noted the gentleman in the video filled out an affidavit. He supported Commissioner Herman's resolution, Mr. Beadles, Mr. Gilbert, and all the Patriots in attendance. He offered to share the video and the affidavits with the Board.

Mr. Scott Myer expressed support for the resolution submitted by Commissioner Herman. He believed staff removed or altered the resolution on direction from the Board. He wondered who gave the instructions to staff. He did not appreciate the public commenter who insinuated other public commenters were white supremacists.

2:00 p.m. **The Board recessed.**

2:46 p.m. **The Board reconvened with Vice Chair Hill absent.**

22-0142 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

With regard to Agenda Item 14, County Manager Eric Brown indicated that a paragraph had been omitted as a result of a clerical error. He explained Commissioner Herman provided him with a hard copy of the document that she wanted to be posted, he turned the document over to his staff, but when the document was converted to a PDF for posting a paragraph had been omitted. The error was not identified until after the agenda was posted. He thought the error demonstrated the need to follow normal procedures because this item had not gone through the normal process to accommodate Commissioner Herman's request to have it on this agenda. He assured the public and the Board that only staff from the Manager's Office saw the document before posting and they were the ones responsible for posting it accurately; it was not reviewed by the District Attorney's Office or the other Board members before posting. He apologized to Commissioner Herman stating the error was unacceptable in terms of what the Board had come to expect from the office of the County Manager. He said he would take proper steps to ensure this did not occur again.

2:50 p.m. **Vice Chair Hill returned to the meeting.**

Commissioner Jung observed the sound walls being placed along I-580, where the freeway expansion transitioned to four lanes, was similar to those used in Clark County. She said the view of the Sierras belonged to everyone and she did not want sound walls placed along the freeway. She was aware of the state and federal requirements to perform noise abatement for the benefit of those who were affected by freeway noise, but she knew sound walls were not the only option. She asked for this issue to be included on the ongoing list of items to discuss with the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC). She believed the views of the Sierra Nevadas were important to everyone's well-being. She mentioned she helped Councilmember Dave Aiazzi with the same type of issue when Highway 395 was built, so she offered her input on this issue. Chair Hartung asked for clarification about the section of freeway Commissioner Jung was referring to. Commissioner Jung replied it was from the spaghetti bowl heading south on I-580.

Commissioner Herman thanked Mr. Brown and expressed appreciation for being able to see the document online. She stated election integrity was important.

Vice Chair Hill requested a progress report about the school zone on Plumb Lane and Kietzke Lane. She expressed concern because this issue remained unaddressed,

noting she observed people rushing through the school zone. She was unsure whether RTC was responsible or whether it was the City of Reno, but she wanted an update from staff regarding the issue.

Vice Chair Hill mentioned that the mobility study requested for Incline Village/Crystal Bay would be taking place. She said the County selected Parametrix as the consultant with Ms. Amy Cummings serving as the lead on the study which would examine traffic, parking, and multi-modal concerns. She urged the community to look for opportunities to engage in the process and thanked the Board for supporting the study.

Vice Chair Hill requested an update on the affordable housing trust fund including rules, grants, and any support the Board could offer. She knew the City of Reno was moving forward with its affordable housing concerns and she thought it was important for the County to support those efforts.

Vice Chair Hill asked for an agenda item regarding the rules for Board members to add items to meeting agendas.

Chair Hartung noted that many public commenters spoke about issues such as Assembly Bill 321, which was a legislative issue. He indicated that legislative issues did not appear before the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), although the BCC could try to contribute to resolving those issues. He asked Mr. Brown to work with Commissioner Herman on her agenda item.

Chair Hartung mentioned he submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) for crash data on the advanced signal warning system; he asked for Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data for both Pyramid Way and Mt. Rose Highway. He stated NDOT had not provided any of the requested data. He asked Assistant District Attorney Nathan Edwards whether the County could investigate the issue considering the five-day time period had passed. Mr. Edwards said he would ask the attorney in the District Attorney's Office who worked on the request to contact NDOT to determine the next steps.

Commissioner Herman noted that throughout her seven-year tenure on the BCC there were two ways of putting an item on an agenda: through the Manager's Office or the BCC Chair. She wondered whether the process had changed. Chair Hartung replied no, the process had not changed, and her agenda item was put on the agenda. Commissioner Herman noted the item was then removed from the agenda. Chair Hartung stated that the item was removed from the agenda at the advice of the District Attorney. Mr. Edwards noted Vice Chair Hill asked for this issue to be included on a future agenda, it was not on today's agenda, so he recommended the Board postpone this discussion.

22-0143 **AGENDA ITEM 5** Presentation by Washoe County Registrar Deanna Spikula to provide an overview on Election Administration for the 2022 Election. Discussion may include but not be limited to: Federal and State election laws, election authority of Registrar of Voter, Nevada Legislature's changes from 2019 and 2021 regular legislative sessions as well as the 2021 Special session, key election dates, and offices up for election this cycle and location for filing.

Registrar of Voters Deanna Spikula conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She reviewed slides with the following titles: Election Administration; Levels of Government Election Oversight; Federal Laws; State Laws and Oversight; Local Authority; 2019 Legislative Changes; 2021 Legislative Changes; Special Legislative Changes – November 2021; 2022 Election Timeline; Offices up for Election 2022 (5 slides).

Ms. Spikula stated the Registrar of Voters (ROV) positions for Washoe and Clark counties were created to assume the responsibility of conducting voter registration and election activities. She said it had been decided that populations and duties of administering registration and elections warranted a non-partisan office of the ROV.

Commissioner Herman asked how many people registered for provisional ballots on November 3, 2020. Ms. Spikula said 4,637 provision ballots were cast and 4,179 of those were counted.

Commissioner Herman asked how individuals who did not receive mail at their residence could change their registration to receive ballots at their mailing address. Ms. Spikula said those individuals could change their mailing address by submitting a written request to the ROV.

Commissioner Herman mentioned the many calls she received from constituents throughout the years regarding their negative experiences at polling places. She noted she was almost unable to vote during the prior election because her signature did not match. She read parts of a letter from a constituent who experienced an issue at the 2020 election during which she was unable to see the presidential choices. She said the same constituent noted an address in Maricopa County appeared on her background check. Commissioner Herman stated she was unable to vote during one election in the past because someone else had already voted in her place.

Commissioner Herman asked why out-of-state people were allowed to work at the polls in Washoe County. Ms. Spikula clarified that poll workers were required to be Nevada registered voters, so anyone coming from out of state was probably an observer. She noted that both observers and paid petition gatherers were allowed to gather at polling locations.

Commissioner Herman asked how much money the ROV requested from Mark Zuckerberg's Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL). Ms. Spikula said she did not

have the exact dollar amount, but she could provide it. She said the ROV had received a grant from the CTCL to cover some costs to pay poll workers for the additional requirements for cleaning, sanitizing, and making sure people observed social distancing.

Commissioner Herman asked whether the ROV received funds from any private entities. Ms. Spikula said no, the ROV did not receive money from private entities other than the one-time non-profit contribution.

Chair Hartung asked whether a process was in place for observers who witnessed an issue or impropriety. Ms. Spikula replied that individuals who observed any issues could speak with the polling place manager or assistant manager, who would either provide answers or resolve the issue if possible. She said the polling place manager would call the ROV office to speak with her or Assistant Registrar of Voters Heather Carmen if needed. She stated that law enforcement would be called if ROV staff was unable to resolve the issue.

Chair Hartung asked whether the County could establish some type of a hotline where people could report polling place issues. Ms. Spikula replied a form was available on the ROV website. Chair Hartung said he did not want a form; he wanted a direct way for people to contact the ROV. Ms. Spikula said people could contact Washoe 311 or call the main ROV office phone number if the issue needed to be addressed immediately. She cautioned that phone lines could be very busy around election time, so people could contact Washoe 311 or leave a voicemail.

Chair Hartung asked for confirmation of the distance limits for polling places. Ms. Spikula said the distance limit was one hundred feet from the check-in station for early voting and 100 feet from the entrance of the building on election day. Chair Hartung noted a taco truck was giving away things at one of the polling places. Ms. Spikula stated that was allowed as long as they offered the same thing to everyone.

Chair Hartung asked whether the ROV considered the number of residents at a given address. Ms. Spikula said ROV staff did not actively look for the number of registered voters at an address, but that information was reviewed when they performed voter registration list maintenance projects. In those cases, her staff would send an address confirmation card because prior residents might have moved without changing their address. She noted the ROV registration database was unfortunately a legacy system, so automatic triggers could not be set. She mentioned the ROV would be transitioning to a new registration system in 2023 after the current election cycle. She said the new system would keep all counties in the state more connected and people's voter registration would move more seamlessly between counties. Chair Hartung asked why the database transition would not begin until 2023. Ms. Spikula replied the timeline was determined by a bill; she was uncertain of the bill number.

Chair Hartung asked about the process used to check that addresses were residential; not simply zoned residential but actually including a residence. Ms. Spikula said there were instances when the property did not have a residence, but people lived there

in an RV, a mobile home, or when a homeless person used a specific spot as their address. She said the ROV did have a street range index, but the system was not very robust and could not determine whether a lot was vacant.

Chair Hartung opined there needed to be a better way to clean up the database. Ms. Spikula said the ROV was currently performing two voter list maintenance projects: using the National Change of Address Program and the Electronic Registration Information Center. She stated that several cards were sent out to voters. She offered to provide the number of records that had been acted on as part of the two ongoing projects. Chair Hartung said he wanted a report of the records checked as part of the two projects. He asked whether better software was available to clean up voter rolls more easily. Ms. Spikula said there was sure to be better software considering the original system was purchased in 1991 with a major upgrade in 2004, but there had been no other upgrades in the system since then other than security patches. She said the ROV was currently working with the Secretary of State's Office (SOS) on the conversion process. She indicated the SOS was working on gathering requirements for the new system. She noted her office was part of the working group that was reviewing the requirements with the SOS.

Chair Hartung asked for confirmation that the Dominion voting machines had a paper backup and how often the electronic count was audited. Ms. Spikula said they did have a paper backup. She explained auditing was done through pre-election logic and accuracy testing, which was the voter-verified paper audit trail. She said post-election auditing was also performed by totaling the machine's history and by checking individual ballots. She noted the audit was performed by the Accuracy Certification Board.

Chair Hartung asked whether more robust auditing could be performed because although it would be time-consuming accuracy was paramount. Ms. Spikula replied the risk-limiting audit passed in the Legislature, noting she had been asked to participate in the pilot program. She volunteered the County for participation in the program for both the primary and the general election, so the County would be part of the risk-limiting audit program.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 6A1 THROUGH 6E1

22-0144 **6A1** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioner's regular meeting of January 18, 2022. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)

22-0145 **6B1** Recommendation to 1) approve roll change requests, pursuant to NRS 361.765 and/or NRS 361.768, for errors discovered on the 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 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 \$49,367.95]. Assessor. (Commission Districts 2, 3, 4, 5.)

- 22-0146** **6C1** Recommendation to accept the Regional Street Naming Committee’s recommendation and approve the renaming of Lombardi Lane and an unnamed access easement to Brady Ranch Road located within unincorporated Washoe County between Holcomb Ranch Lane and undeveloped land. Affected parcels are APN 041-130-58, 041-190-06, 041-190-08, 041-190-09, 041-190-10, 041-190-17, 041-190-18, 041-190-19 and 041-190-20. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)
- 22-0147** **6C2** Recommendation to accept the Regional Street Naming Committee’s recommendation and approve the naming of an unnamed easement to Raven Wing and waive the 6-month waiting period. The easement is located within unincorporated Washoe County, west of Red Rock Road in an area referred to as Red Rock Estates. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)
- 22-0148** **6C3** Recommendation to accept the Regional Street Naming Committee’s recommendation and approve the renaming of a portion of Ruddy Way to Neighborhood Way from Goldeneye Parkway to the eastern end of pavement located in unincorporated Washoe County; and, if approved, waive the 6-month waiting period. The proposed name change to Neighborhood Way will reflect an extension of the existing street section and will comply with the Conditions of Approval for the Eagle Canyon Development. Ruddy way is a public roadway adjacent to APNs 530-322-05, 530-332-01 and 532-020-29. Community Services. (Commission District 4.)
- 22-0149** **6D1** Recommendation to approve Commission District Special Fund disbursement pursuant to NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$5,000] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 4 Commissioner Vaughn Hartung recommends a [\$5,000] grant to Washoe County School District, Spanish Springs High School -- a government entity -- for the purpose of supporting the Spanish Springs High School JROTC Cougars Battalion; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary disbursement. Manager's Office. (Commission District 4.)
- 22-0150** **6E1** Recommendation to approve Amendment #1 to the Agreement between Washoe County and Collaborative Safety, LLC., which authorizes an increase in the amount of [\$11,250.00] for a total contract amount not to exceed [\$101,000.00] retroactive for the term of August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 to support the training and establishment of a culture of safety within the Human Services Agency while building a systemic review process using safety science and a nationally recognized proprietary model; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute Amendment #1. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

Vice Chair Hill thanked Chair Hartung for the \$5,000 donation from his Commission District Special Fund to support the Spanish Springs High School JROTC Cougar Battalion.

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

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 6A1 through 6E1 be approved. Any and all Resolutions pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 6A1 through 6E1 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

BLOCK VOTE – 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15

22-0151 **AGENDA ITEM 7** Recommendation to approve a five-year contract with Microgenics Corporation (dba: Thermo Fisher Scientific) for the annual purchase of reagents, calibrators, controls, consumables, maintenance, to include annual user licenses for the Paracelsus™ software, and service charges at an annual cost of [\$164,578.1], or [\$873,767.31] five-year total under a sole source exemption pursuant to NRS 332.115, utilizing existing department budget authority, in support of the mandatory drug and alcohol testing performed by Alternative Sentencing. The contract will supersede and replace the existing five-year contract with Thermo Fisher that was approved on April 23, 2019 (agenda item #12). If approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute all necessary contract documents. Alternative Sentencing. (All Commission Districts.).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be approved and authorized.

22-0152 **AGENDA ITEM 8** Recommendation to award Invitation to Bid (ITB) #3168-22 for Environmental Sample Testing, Data Review and Reporting to Alpha Analytical, Inc., 255 Glendale Avenue, Suite 21, Sparks, NV, the lowest, responsive, responsible and qualified bidder, in an estimated annual amount of \$150,000.00; and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the necessary purchase order over the award period commencing July 1, 2022 through August 30, 2023 for a one (1) term period, with two (2) one-year term renewal options each at \$150,000, at the discretion of Washoe County. This contract is for the required ground water sample testing and analysis which supports the Washoe County Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District (CTMRD) program. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be awarded and authorized.

22-0153 **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to: (1) approve the purchase of nine (9) replacement pieces of heavy equipment from Cashman Equipment Company, 600 W. Glendale Ave, Sparks, NV 89431 [\$2,386,061.00, with a five (5) year guaranteed buyback of \$1,547,500.00], utilizing Sourcewell (a public agency created by the Minnesota legislature) contract #032119-CAT, pursuant to the joinder provision of NRS 332.195; and (2) authorize the Purchasing and Contract Manager to execute the sales agreement with the vendor. The following units are being replaced:

EQ#	Year	Make / Model	Description
7814	2017	CATERPILLAR 140M	Motor Grader
7815	2017	CATERPILLAR 140M	Motor Grader
7816	2017	CATERPILLAR 140M	Motor Grader
7817	2017	CATERPILLAR 950M	3 Yard Wheel Loader
7818	2017	CATERPILLAR 950M	3 Yard Wheel Loader
7867	2017	CATERPILLAR 966M	4 Yard Wheel Loader
7868	2017	CATERPILLAR 430FIT	Backhoe
7869	2017	CATERPILLAR 430FIT	Backhoe
7870	2017	CATERPILLAR 430FIT	Backhoe

Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved and authorized.

22-0154 **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to adopt Resolution R22-26 to temporarily suspend reclaimed water use rates for the 2022 irrigation season to encourage improved management practices of reclaimed water irrigation and reduction of potable water resources through increased use of reclaimed water. [Reductions in reclaim water rate revenues are estimated at \$350,000 in Fiscal Year 22 and \$750,000 in Fiscal Year 23.] Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be adopted.

22-0155 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to retroactively approve purchases not to exceed [\$340,000.00] through the period ending June 30, 2022, from ASM Global in support of the COVID-19 response testing efforts. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Ms. Cindy Martinez noted this agenda item for more COVID-19 (C19) funding was included in a block vote. She opined that using block votes constituted lazy governance and alleged the Board used block votes to obscure actions and expenditures. She believed C19 testing created a false narrative that people needed to get a C19 vaccine. She observed these funds would support C19 testing, and the Board previously approved the repavement of the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, which she believed demonstrated the C19 financial drain. She thought the Board should pull agenda items out of block if constituents provided public comment on that item.

3:38 p.m. **Commissioner Jung left the meeting.**

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved.

3:43 p.m. **Commissioner Jung returned to the meeting.**

22-0156 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to approve an Agreement for Professional Services between Washoe County and Rapid Space doing business as (DBA) Quick Space to provide temporary site services including temporary fencing, portable restrooms, portable handwashing stations, portable office buildings, portable storage containers and other items as needed for the Nevada Cares Campus for an initial sixteen (16) month term [not to exceed \$475,000]; authorize the Purchasing & Contracts Manager to execute the agreement beginning March 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023 with the option to renew for three (3) one-year periods thereafter up to \$400,000 annually. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Mr. Nicholas St. Jon thought the amount allocated to this agenda item seemed extravagant considering the buildings, wash stations, and bathrooms would be portable. He asked why portable services were being used for four or five years. He questioned whether the expenses for the facility could be justified as fiscally responsible.

Ms. Cindy Martinez opined this item needed to be pulled out of the block for discussion because it included public comment. She asked whether this item was related to the collapsed ceiling in the men's shelter at the Cares Campus. She understood the need for a social safety net for unsheltered individuals, but she wanted to know what the money was being used for, why the expenditures were made, and for whom.

Ms. Layne Linebaugh agreed with the concerns expressed by Mr. St. Jon and Ms. Martinez. She asked whether the Cares Campus was intended to house illegal immigrants and whether the portable facilities would be moved around. She noted people asked how the County would be able to afford election reform and opined the funds used for the Cares Campus could be used.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be approved and authorized.

22-0157 **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to retroactively approve allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for purchases exceeding \$100,000 for audio-visual equipment offered by Justice AV Solutions [\$591,489.19] and Innovative Communication Systems [\$451,582.00] for the ARPA-SLFRF Project #21 District Court Courtrooms Audio Visual Upgrade; and retroactively approve purchase of audio-visual equipment offered by Justice AV Solutions [\$135,037.71] for the ARPA-SLFRF Project #14 Sparks Justice Court JAVS Audio Visual Upgrade. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Mr. Nicholas St. Jon expressed concern about COVID-19 recovery funds being used to purchase audio-visual equipment for County courtrooms. He thought those funds should not be used for that purpose. He believed spending almost \$1 million on audio-visual equipment was an extravagant expense.

Ms. Layne Linebaugh agreed with Mr. St. Jon and asked why all of that money needed to be used for courtroom upgrades. She believed the County could afford election reform if it could fund these upgrades.

Commissioner Herman suggested the public might appreciate an explanation of the study performed by staff to determine which expenses were eligible for ARPA and SLFRF funds.

County Manager Eric Brown confirmed these expenses were eligible for ARPA funds. He said the upgrades would address the backlog in the courts that resulted from the pandemic, which was forcing the County to reevaluate and accelerate how hearings, trials, and sessions were conducted. He noted some audio-visual equipment was

available, but it was not sufficient to operate at the level currently needed. He said the audio-visual equipment would be a sustaining feature for future operations for the courts and reiterated the expenses were eligible.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be approved.

22-0158 **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to approve the Lenel to Genetec conversion contract between Washoe County and PowerComm Solutions for the sole source purchase to assist Washoe County Technology Services and Genetec Professional Services in converting existing Lenel On-Guard Access Control and Alarm Monitoring Systems to a Genetec Synergis Enterprise System, not to exceed [\$248,620] and authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of Washoe County. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be approved and authorized.

22-0159 **AGENDA ITEM 16** Public Hearing: Master Plan Amendment Case Number WMPA21-0011 & Regulatory Zone Amendment Case Number WRZA21-0007 (Reno SOI Rollback- Mae Anne Avenue). Recommendation to: (1) Adopt an amendment to the Washoe County Master Plan for the purpose of adopting a Washoe County land use designation of Suburban Residential (SR) on 28 parcels that have been removed from the City of Reno's Sphere of Influence (SOI) and returned to Washoe County's jurisdiction. The subject properties are currently designated by the City of Reno as Large Lot Neighborhood. The 28 parcels include: (APN: 039-131-03, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 039-133-11, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 039-136-02, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 212-121-01 & 02) totaling 33.6 acres; and

(2) Add 26 of the subject 28 parcels to the Verdi Area Plan, a component of the Washoe County Master Plan (APN: 039-131-03, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 039-133-11, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 039-136-02, 04, 05, 06, 07, & 08). 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

(3) Adopt, subject to final approval of the associated master plan amendment and a favorable conformance review by the regional planning authorities, a regulatory zone amendment from the City of Reno's designation of Large Lot Rural-one acre (LLR1) to Washoe County's

regulatory zone of Low Density Suburban/2 (LDS/2) for 3 parcels (APNs: 039-131-03, 7, & 8); and Low Density Suburban (LDS) for 25 parcels (APNs: 039-131-17, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 039-133-11, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 039-136-02, 04, 05, 06, 212-121-01, & 02, 039-131-18 & 26).

The Board of County Commissioners may adopt the proposed amendment, may further modify the proposed amendment and refer the matter back to the Planning Commission for its report in accordance with NRS 278.220(4), or may deny the proposed amendment after the public hearing.

If approved, authorize the Chair to sign the resolutions to that effect. Community Services. (Commission District 1.)

Chair Hartung asked why SOI rollbacks did not revert to the original land use. Planner Julee Olander said it had been decided that the current situation of the parcels would be considered because they previously had planning and zoning applied to them. She explained that reviewing the properties individually made sense because the planning and zoning had been removed in the late 1990s when the County operated under a one-map system that no longer applied.

Chair Hartung asked whether staff was working on the conversion tables in the Regional Plan update. Ms. Olander said the conversion table was primarily for the Cities of Reno and Sparks because they looked at the conversion table when properties were annexed into their jurisdiction. She noted most properties had a master plan over them and the conversion tables were referenced when they were annexed into those jurisdictions.

Chair Hartung asked whether the SOI rollback would affect residents since their property already had an underlying land use designation. Ms. Olander said properties were rolled back to meet zoning needs. She stated the parcels were reviewed individually, so the rollback was more accommodating to the property owners. Chair Hartung asked whether this issue needed to be dealt with regionally. Ms. Olander replied the current process was how the County was conforming to the Regional Plan.

Commissioner Herman asked for confirmation that the intent of this change was not to make more dense development in the area. Ms. Olander understood that property owners contacted the City of Reno because they faced challenges with developing their properties. She said the outcome was that the City of Reno rolled back its sphere of influence on those properties. She stated the properties came back to the County with the master plan zoning that reflected the parcel size and use designation. She noted all of the parcels were residential properties, the rollback would allow them to develop under the County, but most had already been developed.

Chair Hartung thought this item demonstrated some issues concerning the SOI, which he thought would probably need to be resolved through the Legislature.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

22-0160 **AGENDA ITEM 17** Public Hearing: Second reading and possible adoption of an ordinance to amend Washoe County Code section 25.600 to impose a fee to be charged and collected when a passenger car is shared through a peer-to-peer car sharing program, as authorized by NRS 244A.810, to become effective April 1, 2022. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Janis Galassini, County Clerk, read the title for Ordinance No. 1683, Bill No. 1872.

Government Affairs Liaison Jamie Rodriguez mentioned a question that had been asked during the first reading regarding the exemption of this tax for rental vehicles. She said there was an exclusion for residents who rented a vehicle as a replacement when their vehicle was being repaired or lost due to an accident. She indicated that residents would not have to pay the tax for a rental car in that situation.

Chair Hartung asked for confirmation that this money would go back to an agreement signed some years in the past for the repayment of the Aces Stadium. Ms. Rodriguez confirmed this ordinance was part of the bond repayment for the stadium.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Vice Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Lucey absent, it was ordered that Ordinance No. 1683, Bill No. 1872, be adopted, approved, and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

22-0161 **AGENDA ITEM 18** Public Comment.

Ms. Tracey Thomas stated she had not received a response to the email she submitted to the Board last year regarding things she witnessed during her time as a poll worker. She commented that she had institutional knowledge due to her 20 years of work in elections and her employment with the County in technology services. She had brought many solutions to the Board and believed the County's transparency would be improved by locating central accounting operations at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. She noted the venue was well prepared to provide 100 booths for receiving, sorting, and processing ballots.

Ms. Cindy Martinez supported Ms. Thomas' plan and noted Ms. Thomas had been at meetings to speak to the Board for the past year. She appreciated the

explanation about the money for the court operation backlog and said it confirmed that the pandemic and unlawful edicts by the governor impacted the constitutional rights of the citizens. She opined the citizens who were charged had their amendment rights violated and had no way to redress their grievances because they were unable to attend Board of County Commissioner meetings. She said Assistant District Attorney Nathan Edwards was honorable and had the support of the citizens. She believed he saw wrongdoing and stood up for the people. She commented election integrity was about doing what was right for the citizenry and was an issue everyone should be concerned about regardless of their affiliations or beliefs.

Ms. Karen Serink asked the Board to respect those who followed the law to become naturalized citizens, and the Republicans and Democrats whose votes meant nothing without fair elections. She requested the Board conduct an honest discussion about election integrity and Commissioner Herman's resolution. She believed prior public comments which referred to those in favor of election integrity as racists and Nazis were unfair and uncalled for. She said election integrity was about respecting the Constitution, and it was not a racial or political issue.

Ms. Layne Linebaugh agreed with the solutions presented by Ms. Thomas, the Republican Women of Reno, and Mr. Beadles. She believed many solutions were legal. She felt the Board had disrespected the public commenters and Commissioner Herman. She believed voter reform was an American issue and not a racial or political issue.

Ms. Hope Backman believed Reno turned out to be a horrible place to live. She asked the Board to step down from their positions if they did not care about honesty or the future of the children. She noted something had gone wrong in the state and asked the Board to do what was right. She believed the Board ignored the community's most prized assets. She said the state had the worst schools and gas prices in the nation. She mentioned many Californians came to the area and took up the last of the housing.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar said she was tired of the Board members' lies and wondered who paid them off. She questioned how those accused of crimes could face their accusers when the court used Zoom calls. She noted the Board's bonds were paid by the taxpayers, but each Board member was supposed to buy their own bond. She opined there was never a pandemic, and the Board knew the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test did not work. She believed the Board was personally liable for any damage incurred by people who took the PCR test.

Ms. Betty Thiessen thanked Commissioner Herman for everything she did for the County. She asked the Board to put Commissioner Herman's resolution on an agenda as soon as possible. In her canvass work with Mr. Robert Beadles, she saw that hundreds of people were registered to vote at business addresses. She asked the Board to work for its constituents.

Ms. Suze Van Ness said she had canvassed all over and had meetings, which she recorded, with Washoe County Registrar of Voters (ROV) Deanna Spikula. She

commented that what Ms. Spikula said in these meetings was not what she had said in the Board meeting. She said some deceased veterans had not been removed from the voter roll. She requested the Board look at the database Mr. Beadles put together.

Ms. Maxine Bradshaw, Ms. Vicky Dunn, and Mr. Nicholas St. Jon were called but were not present to speak.

Ms. Janet Butcher thought Ms. Thomas presented a commonsense solution to the problem. She said a lack of voter fraud convictions did not prove it did not exist.

Ms. Val White hoped the Board considered Ms. Thomas' ideas. She opined the election process was filled with activities, equipment, and processes that did not instill trust in the community. She commented there was no way for the citizens to see evidence of the trustworthiness of the workers, the machines, and the voter rolls. She questioned the unexplained stoppages in the counting process that occurred in the 2020 election. She asked that the Board implement the recommended election improvements to allow the citizens to verify all portions of the election. She opined any honorable elected representative would have no disagreement with the resolution items and would vote to approve it.

Mr. Roger Edwards asked the Board to listen to Ms. Thomas. He opined Ms. Spikula's presentation was done too fast to read, and he expressed his disappointment in the insufficient questions from the Board about the presentation. He noted Ms. Spikula's mention of an Accuracy Certification Board and wondered who the board members were and who was certifying them. Regarding the conversion process Ms. Spikula spoke about, he asked that she explain the intricacies of the process so the public could understand it.

Mr. Robert Beadles thought Commissioner Herman was owed an apology from the Board members who made negative remarks to the media regarding her resolution. He expressed frustration that the Board did not ask Ms. Spikula any challenging questions, such as why the votes were off by 40,000. He opined the votes in Washoe County did not count and the issue had been occurring for a long time. He said the data was impossible to dispute because it came from the County's information. He wondered why the ROV's budget did not specify what the money went to and noted larger communities spent less money. He said the County hiring temporary workers out of Las Vegas for the election was not fair when there were plenty of people in Washoe County to perform the work. He mentioned observers coming from other states made it difficult for Nevadans to observe the process. He opined Ms. Spikula needed to be replaced.

Ms. Roblyn Williams said she took offense to the earlier comments claiming she was part of a racist group trying to suppress voters. She wanted safety measures to be put in place to ensure there was only one vote for each qualified voter. She commented that she opposed the use of any privately funded, non-profit money being accepted by the County for the election. She was dismayed that the same Board member who had the resolution removed from the agenda also spoke to the media. She hoped the public did not put much truth in the media.

Ms. Victoria Myer did not like the public comments labeling those seeking election integrity as racists. She thought the arguments against the resolution were weak, and she noted she saw through them. She opined the country was verging on the edge of tyranny. She talked about the Center for Disease Control removing people from their homes against their will. She asked if Chair Hartung would meet with her to discuss these issues.

Mr. Donald Fossum said the country was divided, partly because of the election integrity issue. He opined those who did not question election integrity were angry at those who did. He said he wanted action and he would hold the Board accountable.

Mr. Scott Myer asked if the Board was willing to meet with Mr. Beadles. Commissioner Jung said she would meet with anyone and that she had attempted to meet with Mr. Beadles. Mr. Scott Myer noted that he saw Mr. Beadles' presentation and found it enlightening. He requested the Board see the presentation and try to prove Mr. Beadles wrong. He asked if Chair Hartung and Vice Chair Hill would meet with Mr. Beadles. Chair Hartung stated he would meet with Mr. Beadles. Mr. Scott Myer noted Commissioner Herman had already met with Mr. Beadles.

Ms. Janice Jones mentioned she saw Ms. Spikula's presentation at a Sparks Republican Women's dinner. She opined Ms. Spikula was a fast talker who was used to covering things up with an appropriate answer. She said if the Board was truly interested in getting answers, then it needed to meet with people like Mr. Beadles and Ms. Thomas. She said Mr. Jim Marchant, who was a candidate for Secretary of State, found the fraud, and she asked the Board to talk to Mr. Marchant about the Dominion software and the Electronic Registration Information Center program. She commented the Board needed to talk to people who were going to provide more than canned answers and slides.

22-0162 AGENDA ITEM 19 Announcements/Reports.

Assistant District Attorney Nathan Edwards said he respected County Manager Eric Brown before this meeting, but he respected him more after his statement acknowledging what transpired with the agenda item discussed earlier in the meeting. He thanked Ms. Cindy Martinez for her comments about him, but he wanted her to know the public did not see everything that takes place behind the scenes. He said he was able to do what he did because he had the support of his boss, but he appreciated her comments.

Commissioner Jung apologized to Chair Hartung, the Board, and the public for interjecting during public comment. She said she would return to Board rules which did not allow discussion or response to public comment.

Commissioner Herman suggested Chair Hartung take on the responsibility of bringing back the agenda item that was pulled from the meeting. Chair Hartung said he would like Commissioner Herman to work with Mr. Brown to ensure the Board had the correct document because he knew there were different iterations of it. He indicated he

would have conversations with Commissioner Herman to ensure the item was exactly what she wanted before agendizing the item.

Commissioner Herman asked whether it would be possible to have the item agendized for the next meeting. Chair Hartung replied he would need to defer to staff because he did not know what items were on the upcoming agenda.

Commissioner Herman said the item was written as she wanted it to be. Chair Hartung stated they were getting into deliberations, but he would take the responsibility for agendizing the item. He noted he had not seen the agenda item she submitted to Mr. Brown versus the posted item.

Commissioner Herman said she would email the item to Chair Hartung. She asked for an explanation of which open meeting law was violated. Mr. Edwards stated the District Attorney's Office (DA) did not oppose the item being on the agenda nor were they for the item. He said attorneys were not in the position to make those decisions because that was not their role, they reviewed items for legal form and compliance. He indicated the item was pulled for open meeting law compliance. He said the DA would provide whatever legal assessment of its provisions necessary at the appropriate time if the item was brought back to the Board. He said the DA always worked with any Board member to help them with legal guidance; he made himself available around the clock to each Board member and he viewed them as equals and as separately elected members of the County Commission. He noted he reviewed the language of Agenda Item 14 and determined the item violated the open meeting law. He said the item indicated it was an election resolution to "direct the Registrar of Voters to implement procedures enforcing policies by the 2022 primary election." He noted the item did not specify what the procedures or policies were, what their scope was, or their content; it would have been a violation of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 241.020 which requires that agenda items be clear and complete statements of topics to be discussed and acted on at a meeting. He stated the Nevada Supreme Court had rejected a broad interpretation of the rule in Sandoval versus Board of Regents of the University 119 Nevada 148, and the Attorney General's Office (AGO) did likewise in enforcement actions under NRS 241.037 and NRS 241.039 and confirmed it in the Open Meeting Law Manual. He stated the agenda item also lacked clarity on the action to be taken, whether the Board would approve the resolution, simply acknowledge that it put forth a list of concerns, or something else. He reiterated vagueness was not compatible with the law's rule that an item be a clear and complete statement. He mentioned that an effort was made to rush the item onto the agenda for this meeting, so the item had not gone through the ordinary review process before it was agendized. He said the DA's Office pointed out the inadequacy under the open meeting law once the item was assessed, noting the item was free to be agendized at a future meeting. He stated, had the item been approved during this meeting, any opponents of the item would have been capable of having it immediately voided under open meeting law. Actions taken in violation of the open meeting law were void under NRS 241.036. He said the AGO and private individuals were empowered to institute legal proceedings to have actions declared void under the open meeting law, NRS 241.037, and NRS 241.039. He noted the Board would have been left

with a resolution that was void and the Board of County Commissioners would have violated open meeting law.

Chair Hartung asked Mr. Brown to acquire the information provided by Mr. Robert Beadles about the number of people who voted versus the number of people who registered to vote. He requested Mr. Brown have staff schedule a meeting for him with Mr. Beadles.

* * * * *

5:06 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

VAUGHN HARTUNG, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by:
Carolina Stickle, Evonne Strickland, & Lauren Morris Deputy County Clerks*