

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

MARCH 8, 2022

PRESENT:

Vaughn Hartung, Chair
Alexis Hill, Vice Chair
Bob Lucey, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

Janis Galassini, County Clerk
Eric Brown, County Manager
Mary Kandaras, Deputy District Attorney

ABSENT:

Kitty Jung, 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:

Chair Hartung spoke about a celebration of life for Deputy Jaret Oroszi that was held on March 4 and expressed that his passing was a great loss to the community.

22-0165 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Mr. Robert Beadles opined that the Registrar of Voters (ROV) and the Board, except for Commissioner Herman, wanted corrupt elections. He questioned why the election integrity resolution was not back on the agenda. He believed Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11 were requests for additional funding which would lead to voter fraud in the upcoming primary elections. He wondered if the Board only voted yes for items, without a budget or financial oversight, that it would benefit from directly. He said the people wanted fair elections for all legal citizens. He implored the Board to do the right thing. He wondered about the drives from District 3 that he believed went missing during the last election. He stated he was still waiting for meetings with Commissioner Jung and Chair Hartung. He urged the Board to vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11.

Ms. Melanie Sutton shared that she was a candidate for the School Board in District C. She opposed the County allocating any funds for the election until the election integrity issue was straightened out. She said she heard the County had already allocated funds for the use of Dominion voting machines. She did not believe the County's spending was analyzed properly. She requested that poll workers be hired from within the community. She thanked Commissioner Jung for the lunch they had last week. She agreed with the comments made by Mr. Beadles.

Ms. Val White asked the members of the Board to remember when they were ten years old. She wondered if they recalled what it had felt like when they saw a wrong that had been made right. She wondered about their current moral compass. She opined that the issue would be simple to solve. She urged the Board to ensure fair elections.

Mr. David Chamberlain expressed disappointment that the election integrity resolution was not on the agenda. He said he had volunteered to be an election worker and observer but had not received a response from the County. He wondered about the farming out of these positions to people from out-of-state. He thanked Commissioner Herman for staying strong.

Mr. Jim Bratcher opined that Commissioner Herman was the only member of the Board who listened to the people. He wondered about the farming out of election staff and services. He questioned why the resolution was not on the agenda. He thought the Board did not believe in a fair election for Washoe County.

Ms. Janice Jones stated she wore black to mourn the loss of voter integrity. She wondered if the Board would ever address the issue. She urged the Board to vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11 and not to hire people from outside Washoe County to work the election. She wanted to see each member of the Board replaced, except for Commissioner Herman.

Ms. Darci Fletcher expressed appreciation for Mr. Beadles and the work he had done. She said she no longer trusted the voting process. She remarked that people were in attendance because they wanted the Board to do the right thing. She urged the Board to ensure the election problems were rectified.

Ms. Tracey Hilton Thomas provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. She quoted Luke 16:10 from the Bible. She said Mr. St. Jon provided data during the last meeting and wondered if the Board had investigated it. She shared that she had contacted Mr. Beadles to obtain data from the ROV and the Secretary of State (SOS) regarding the number of registered voters for early voting and election day. She opined that a number of provisional ballots should not have been cast. She believed it reinforced the need to verify information on registration applications before they were entered into any database.

Ms. Janet Butcher said a lot of information had been presented to the Board and she wondered why it had not taken the time to meet with Mr. Beadles. She expressed frustration that she and her husband had been interviewed to serve as poll workers but were not selected. She stated just because only one person had been convicted of voter fraud did not mean the problem did not exist.

Ms. Rosemary Jones said there was an ultimate question and there was a judgment day. She remarked that God would separate the goats and the sheep.

Mr. Steve Leddy provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. He shared that he was the President of the Field Creek Homeowner's Association and explained he was there to talk about the Arrowcreek Parkway sound wall located on Washoe County property. He said the wall was constructed with substandard materials that had deteriorated to the point of failure. The failure had been documented for about 15 years and he noted the County had been aware of the issue for no less than 12 years but had not taken any action. He believed the wall was a safety hazard and a community security issue. He said the wall should have had a life span of at least 50 years. He urged the Board to add this item to an agenda for discussion and resolution so the wall could be repaired or replaced.

Ms. Penny Brock provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. She agreed with the remarks made by Mr. Beadles. She said she spent eight hours reviewing Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11. She believed locals were not being hired to work the election. She wondered about the panel of subject matter experts who reviewed the responses to the Request for Proposal (RFP).

Ms. Susie Howell stated she had applied twice to be a poll worker and watcher but had not heard from the ROV. She read from a 1997 Department of Justice response to a Freedom of Information Act request. She shared that according to the document, executive orders and proclamations of the president normally had no direct effect on private persons. She opined that the Board had knowledge of fraud.

Ms. Cindy Martinez shared that she attended a Constitution class every Wednesday afternoon. She read from the textbook for her class, noting five ways the people could petition the government for a redress of grievances. She asserted that the Board was in constant violation of the people's First Amendment rights. She stated Commissioner Herman was the only member of the Board to respond to her emails.

Ms. Christina Sherbrook remarked that she worked hard to become a naturalized citizen of the United States. She said she no longer believed her vote counted. She wondered when the election integrity resolution would be placed on an agenda. She expressed frustration with mail-in balloting, the current voter rolls, voting machines, same-day registration, and no requirement for voter identification. She urged the Board to vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11 and hire election workers from within the community. She wondered whether the voter rolls had been cleaned up.

Mr. Charles Stockford stated he was there to represent the people of Quartz Lane and thanked the Board for their cooperation and assistance in the clean-up.

Mr. George Lee believed the Board placed items 9, 10, and 11 on the agenda to stay on schedule. He thought the bid process to hire temporary election workers had started in December. He wondered about the hiring of local workers. He understood that a timeline needed to be followed.

Mr. James Benthin urged the Board to vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11. He requested corrections be made to the election system that would be more transparent and a better use of the people's money. He wondered why the election integrity resolution was not on the agenda. He expressed frustration that the original resolution had been amended and then removed from a previous agenda. He believed voting machines were unreliable and could be hacked or manipulated. He shared that Arizona State Senator Wendy Rogers had spoken out against corrupt voting machines. He demanded the election integrity resolution return to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Donald Fossum believed the Board was under the influence of people who perpetuated violence. He opined that Registrar of Voters Deanna Spikula had not told the truth during her presentation at the last meeting. He demanded the County hire poll workers locally and that ballots be printed locally. He implored the Board to vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11 and to adopt the election integrity resolution presented by Commissioner Herman.

Ms. Debbie Mardon requested the Board vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11, and wondered when the election integrity resolution would be considered. She believed the people wanted paper ballots, voter identification, signature verification, same-day in-person voting, and the elimination of voting machines. She referenced the president's speech that morning and opined that he did not tell the truth. She urged the Board to add the election integrity resolution to an upcoming agenda.

Mr. Eugene Gerscovich provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. He said he and his wife had applied to work as volunteers for the election but had not heard from the ROV. He wondered who the Board represented. He voiced concern that Commissioner Herman's election integrity resolution had not been brought back to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Nicholas St. Jon displayed a document from the SOS, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. He explained that the document showed data from a survey regarding same-day registrations, provisional voting ballots, and absentee ballots. He opined that the numbers did not match those provided by Washoe County.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar provided documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. She read from one of the documents and quoted Justice Brandeis. She believed the people were the experts and the Board had abused its authority. She opined that mandates only applied to government employees. She expressed frustration with the Board and the District Attorney's Office.

Ms. Erika Minaberry stated she was there on behalf of an organization called Care in Action, a non-profit organization that amplified the voices of women of color, especially domestic workers. She believed most of the individuals in attendance had never experienced voter suppression and she opposed Commissioner Herman's resolution.

Ms. Hope Backman voiced concern for the fourth-grade sex education curriculum at Jessie Beck Elementary School. She believed the Department of Motor Vehicles was switching voter registrations from Republican to Independent. She urged everyone in attendance to check their voter registration. She remarked that out-of-state companies should not be hired to run elections in Nevada. She expressed frustration with the current Board members.

Mr. Wayne Gordon stated he was there to talk about voter integrity. He wondered how much fraud was too much fraud. He believed one improper vote was too many. He read the Fourteenth Amendment to the Board. He opposed bulk mailing and same-day registration. He urged for changes to be made to the election system before the primary election in June. He did not believe the Board was doing its duty.

Mr. Oscar Williams provided a document, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. He noted that the document contained the full results of a survey previously referenced by Mr. St. Jon. He highlighted the total number of mail-in ballots, noting how many were not returned, which he believed was a waste of money. He shared the number of ballots that were taken to a polling place on election day and believed this showed the people overwhelmingly rejected mail-in ballots. He wondered about the term “status unknown” regarding ballots and said he had not received a response to this from the ROV. He urged for an increase in polling locations.

Ms. Patricia Toone said that for the last year and a half the people had demanded an end to the emergency declaration. She stated the people were now asking for the election integrity resolution to be placed on an agenda. She reminded the Board members that Mr. Beadles had offered to meet with them and opined maybe they were too busy. She referenced the Open Meeting Law and said it did not expressly prohibit the Board from responding to individuals providing public comment.

Mr. Tim Stoffel believed many of the people in attendance were conservative Republicans being accused of voter oppression. He wondered why the Board had not listened to Mr. Beadles. He implored the Board to listen to the people. He requested the implementation of voter identification.

Ms. Erin Massengale was not present when called to speak.

Mr. Kenji Otto displayed documents, copies of which were placed on file with the Clerk. He stated the documents were a proposal for an ROV database upgrade. He believed the database should be split into two categories, active and inactive and that it would be an inexpensive solution. He suggested the inactive database would not allow records to be removed, so it could act as an audit trail. He thought this solution would protect the County from lawsuits. He shared a story about a house where three individuals were listed as residents but only one person lived there.

Mr. Roger Edwards said he brought 67 of his volunteers with him, and if the County needed people to count ballots, he could bring 200 retired veterans to do the

job. He urged the Board to read the survey from the SOS. He shared that the Golden Valley water recharge program had been turned off for five or six years, but the County was still collecting fees. He said he stopped paying the fee and told his neighbors to do the same. He requested the Board suspend the monthly service charge. He said his commissioner and the County Manager were responsive, but the Board as a whole was not.

Ms. Linda Shipley shared voter registration and ballot numbers from the 2020, 2018, 2016, and 2012 elections. She believed voting was a sacred duty and was excited when she was finally able to vote. She said when she found out many Americans did not vote she was shocked and was told it was because they did not believe their votes counted. She urged the Board to clean up the voter rolls and ensure the votes of the people counted.

Ms. Bev Stenehjerm wondered about the removal of the resolution from the agenda. She did not believe voter suppression occurred, noting that ballots were provided in other languages and outreach for registration was done in many communities. She demanded the resolution be added to an agenda for consideration by the Board and urged the use of voter identification and paper ballots. She wished there was a way the Board could communicate with the community. She shared that she applied to be a poll worker but did not receive a response. She urged the Board to vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11. She voiced concern about Washoe County's proposed sex education curriculum.

County Clerk Jan Galassini stated emails were received from Ms. Heather Carpenter, Ms. Heather Kamami, Ms. Elise Weatherly, and Mr. Robert Abbott, which were placed on file.

Ms. Kimberly Clark wondered about the outsourcing of poll workers. She said she and many others had applied to volunteer but had not heard from the ROV. She believed voting to approve Agenda Items 10 and 11 was fiscally irresponsible. She asked the Board to place the voter integrity resolution back on the agenda before spending funds she felt were unnecessary. She urged the Board to look into the issue of election integrity and let the people know the result of that investigation.

Ms. Susan Hansen shared that her parents immigrated to America in 1958, and she became a U.S. citizen 50 years later so she could vote. She wondered where the election integrity resolution was and voiced concern about the hiring of non-local poll workers. She said her husband had applied to be a poll worker and answered questions by phone once but had not heard from the ROV since. She opined that mail-in ballots caused problems. She believed over 1,000 people had voted from one address during the last election, and the address was an empty lot. She urged the Board to vote no on Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11. She thought her vote was being suppressed.

Mr. Marc Colosimo believed the people who had shared their support for the resolution had stated false allegations about the accuracy of the election system. He did not think they wanted fair and equal elections. He voiced concern that one member of the

Board wanted to approve a resolution based on accusations he believed were false and misdirected. He said the people needed to reflect on their actions.

Mr. Bill Neill wondered if those who supported Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11 were uninformed. He urged the Board to meet with Mr. Beadles. He expressed frustration with the altering and removal of the election integrity resolution. He opined the last election was stolen, and the people knew it. He stated patriotism was about more than just loving this country. He did not believe the Board represented the people.

County Clerk Jan Galassini stated an email was received from Ms. Carole Fineberg, which was placed on file.

22-0166 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

County Manager Eric Brown reported that the resolution Commissioner Herman requested was intended to be heard at the meeting on March 22. He noted it was having reviews conducted on the legal and financial aspects. He stated the reviews were not able to be completed in time to be on the current agenda. He explained that item 9 on the agenda if approved, would allow the temporary firms to hire local residents to work the polls. For the people waiting for a call back to work the polls, this was the process to get that moving and he noted local people would be hired, not people from outside of Nevada. He knew the Registrar of Voters would have more about this later in the meeting.

Vice Chair Hill informed the West Truckee Meadows Verdi Township Community Advisory Board members about a meeting on March 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the newly renovated Northwest Library. She expressed excitement and mentioned the possibility of the option for Zoom.

Commissioner Herman thanked everyone who spoke. She stated that in America people were allowed their voice and their vote. She believed in what the people said and listened very carefully. She announced that some form of resolution would be on the agenda in two weeks.

Commissioner Herman asked for information related to the Golden Valley recharge project and thought people should not have to pay for a service they were no longer provided. The charges for the recharge project should have stopped when the project was shut down.

Commissioner Herman asked for a forensic audit of the last election because many people were concerned about the outcome.

Commissioner Herman spoke about Job Corps accepting young people who needed to learn a trade. She stated there was a new person, Leslie Mix, and she would be happy to share her phone number with anyone interested. She noted that the program had been reduced during COVID-19. She thought more youth could get beneficial training.

Commissioner Lucey asked Manager Brown about Mr. Leddy who spoke about the Arrowcreek sound wall failure. He noted he forwarded this to staff some time ago and wanted information brought back to the Board about this issue.

Chair Hartung explained to Mr. Edwards that staff was conducting some public meetings as per the agreement with the original recharge program. He believed that if the recharge was shut off, fees should not be collected. He asked staff to bring this back to the Board.

Chair Hartung spoke about the Nevada Department of Transportation pulling the advanced systems warning signal on Pyramid Highway and wondered the reasoning behind it since there was no data reported that stated any harm had occurred due to these lights.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 5A THROUGH 5H1

County Manager Eric Brown stated Agenda Item 5C1 was being pulled from the agenda.

22-0167 **5A1** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioner's regular meeting of January 25, 2022 and special meeting of January 26, 2022. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)

22-0168 **5B1** Recommendation to approve the First Amendment to Joint Funding Agreement extending administration of the Truckee River Operating Agreement, retroactive to October 1, 2021, for a 3-year term [in an amount not to exceed \$60,317.66 for fiscal year 2022] with possible increases for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 pending Federal Water Master determination. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

22-0169 **5B2** Recommendation to approve a CC-213 Recertification form for the Community Rating System Annual Recertification Submittal to the National Flood Insurance Program for a continued reduction in required flood insurance policy premiums for unincorporated Washoe County residents located within designated special flood hazard areas. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

22-0170 **5B3** Recommendation to approve Non-Exclusive Easement Amendment II to amend the existing non-exclusive easement between Washoe County and the State of Nevada, acting through the Nevada Division of State Lands, for a pedestrian footbridge across the Truckee River connecting two parcels (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 009-030-51 and 039-290-24) that are part of Dorostkar Park, [increasing the annual rental fee from \$275.00 to \$800.00] and the late payment fee from \$25.00 to \$40.00, to comply with the five-year fee analysis imposed by the Nevada Division of State Lands. Community Services Department. (Commission District 1.)

- 22-0171** **5D1** Recommendation to approve an increase to the salary range for the vacant Deputy Chief Medical Examiner classification (pay grade C0002) from \$233,875.20 - \$317,907.20 to \$251,097.60 - \$324,958.40, and the Assistant Medical Examiner classification (pay grade C0001) from \$193,086.40 - \$257,462.40 to \$222,102.40 - \$287,435.20, as reviewed by Korn Ferry and authorize Human Resources to make the necessary changes. This request is being brought forward to address the recruitment and retention challenges resulting from an extremely competitive market demand for the physician positions within the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office. [Total fiscal impact \$87,899.00] Human Resources/Medical Examiner's Office. (All Commission Districts.)
- 22-0172** **5E1** Recommendation to accept a sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$99,591.00; no county match] in Federal Adoption Incentive funds retroactive from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, to support foster care and adoption recruitment and training efforts, non-county employee travel expenses to facilitate adoptive placements, recognition/appreciation activities for foster and adoptive parents, food and mementos for foster families, and safe and stable placements for all children in care; and authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute retroactively the sub-grant award and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 22-0173** **5E2** Recommendation to accept a Child Abuse and Neglect State Grant (CANS) sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$30,950.00; no county match], retroactive from December 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 to support continuous quality improvement and data driven decision-making for child welfare; and authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to execute retroactively the sub-grant award; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 22-0174** **5E3** Recommendation to approve the Fifth Amendment to the Child Welfare Collaborative Agreement with Casey Family Programs in the amount of [\$67,000.00; no County match] retroactive from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 to facilitate family reunification and permanency for children and reduce foster care reentries; and authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute Agreement documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

- 22-0175** **5E4** Recommendation to accept the Continuum of Care - Transitional Age Youth Program Grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in the amount of [\$40,224.00; \$10,056.00 county match] to provide housing and supportive services for homeless youth age 18-24 and/or youth aging out of the foster care system retroactive for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant agreement; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 22-0176** **5F1** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$1,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 1 Commissioner Alexis Hill recommends a [\$1,000.00] grant to the Nevada Interfaith Association --a non-profit organization-- to support the 2022-2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Memorial Celebration; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 1.)
- 22-0177** **5F2** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$5,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 1 Commissioner Alexis Hill recommends a [\$5,000.00] grant to Our Story, Inc. --a non-profit organization-- to support organizational capacity, advance on-going preservation, increase leadership personnel/activity, docent training (programming and interpretation), and marketing surrounding the creation of Northern Nevada African American Firefighter Museum; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 1.)
- 22-0178** **5F3** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$15,100.00] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 1 Commissioner Alexis Hill recommends a [\$15,100.00] grant to the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) --a government entity-- to support staffing costs for a Deputy District Manager and efforts in advancing transportation development, including regional revenue; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 1.)
- 22-0179** **5F4** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$34,752.00] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 2 Commissioner Bob Lucey recommends a [\$34,752.00] grant to the Washoe County Roads Fund to support the purchase of two cattle/horse guard to be installed at the end of Toll Road/Ravazza Road area to assist in keeping the Virginia Range Horses out

of the neighborhood and off of the Washoe County roadways; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget appropriation transfers. Manager's Office. (Commission District 2.)

22-0180

5F5 Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$60,448.00] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 2 Commissioner Bob Lucey recommends a [\$5,700.00] grant to Awaken -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- for the purpose of eradicating commercial sexual exploitation; a [\$5,700.00] grant to Mustangs Wrestling Club -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes - to support area youth in efforts to teach discipline, self-confidence and inner strength to overcome obstacles; a [\$5,700.00] grant to Boy Scouts of America Nevada Area Council -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- to support its mission of preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes; a [\$5,700.00] grant to Forever14 -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- for the purpose of supporting outreach and programs focusing on preventing teen suicide through activities that support self-confidence and resiliency; a [\$5,700.00] grant to the Adopt A Vet Dental Program -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- to provide free critical and life-saving dental care to impoverished veterans in Nevada; a [\$5,748.00] grant to the Nevada Department of Veterans Services' Capitol Hill Clinic -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- to support housing assistance for U.S. military veterans; a [\$10,000.00] grant to Eddy House -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- to support transitional housing to homeless and at-risk youth as they transition into permanent housing and become self-sufficient; a [\$10,000.00] grant to The Greater Reno Community Ice Skating Association -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- to support scholarships for youth who show an interest in learning ice sports but demonstrate a financial hardship that would otherwise prevent them from participating; a [\$500.00] grant to the Human Services Agency of Washoe County -- a government entity -- to purchase items for an instant photo booth including a camera, printing paper and ink, for the visitors to the Family Resource Center to create memories as they work on reunification; and a [\$5,700.00] grant to Friends of Washoe County Library -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- for use to improve the library as a destination for the entire family from youth to senior citizens; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds and net zero cross fund and/or cross

function budget appropriation transfers. Manager's Office. (Commission District 2.)

- 22-0181** **5F6** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$24,780.00] for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [\$14,780.00] grant to Awaken -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- for the purpose of eradicating commercial sexual exploitation; and a [\$10,000.00] grant to The Salvation Army -- a nonprofit organization created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes -- to support its human trafficking survivor program; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 5.)
- 22-0182** **5F7** Acknowledge receipt of the audit completed for the Public Guardian's Office from the Internal Audit Division. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)
- 22-0183** **5G1** Recommendation to accept supplemental funding [additional funding of \$13,000.00, for a total of \$39,600.00, no match required] from the USDA Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest for overtime costs incurred while involved in the Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement #21-LE-11041700-005 for the period date signed - December 31, 2024; and if approved, direct Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize Sheriff Balaam to execute Modification #002 of grant award documents. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 22-0184** **5G2** Recommendation to retroactively Award Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 3163-22, for Consolidated Detainee Communication Services at the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Regional Consolidated Adult Detention Facility and Jan Evans Juvenile Detention Facility to the most responsive and qualified bidder, Smart Communications Holding, Inc. 10491 72nd Street Seminole, FL 33777 and to authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute a contract allowing for communication services to continue to be provided to prisoners and to continue to have the fees charged to prisoners and others for use of the service to pay for the cost of providing the service. The County bears no fiscal responsibility for this service. The term of the bid award shall be January 1, 2022, for three (3) years with two (2) two-year renewal terms. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 22-0185** **5G3** Recommendation to approve the changes of part-time benefited Washoe County Sheriff's Office Detention Chaplain Assistant (position number 70010606) and part-time benefited Detention Library Aide (position number 70010607) to full-time (40 hour/1.0 FTE); and authorize Human Resources to make the necessary changes. No fiscal impact to

Washoe County. Increase in cost to the Inmate Commissary Trust Fund of approximately \$58,600.00 annually. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

22-0186 **5G4** Recommendation to accept a Justice Assistance Grant award, project number 19-JAG-37, [amount not to exceed \$29,000.00, no County match required] as administered through the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety Office, Office of Criminal Justice Assistance, to cover the cost of communications supplies for the Special Operations Division, for the retroactive grant period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 and if approved, direct Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

22-0187 **5H1** Recommendation to accept Treasurer's status report for the period ending February 28, 2022, of payment of refunds and interest since last update in the amount of \$2,175,952.13 on certain property tax overpayments for residential properties at Incline Village/Crystal Bay, in compliance with the October 21, 2019 Order issued by the District Court in Village League to Save Incline Assets, Inc., et.al. vs. State of Nevada, et.al., Case No. CV03-06922, as modified and clarified by the settlement agreement regarding the processing of refunds. Treasurer. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hartung thanked Vice Chair Hill for her contributions: \$1,000 to Nevada Interfaith Associations to support the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Memorial Celebration; \$5,000 to Our Story for the Black Springs Fire Department Museum; and \$15,100 to the Tahoe Transportation District.

Vice Chair Hill thanked Commissioner Lucey for his contributions: \$34,752 for two cattle guards; \$5,700 to Awaken for the eradication of commercial sexual exploitation; \$5,700 to the Mustang Wrestling Club for area youth to teach discipline, self-confidence, and inner strength to overcome obstacles; \$5,700 to the Boy Scouts of America for preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes; \$5,700 to Forever14 for the support of outreach and programs that focus on preventing teen suicide; \$5,700 to the Adopt A Vet Dental Program for critical care to veterans; \$5,748 to the Nevada Department of Veterans Services to support housing assistance; \$10,000 to the Eddy House to support transitional housing to homeless and at-risk youth; \$10,000 to the Greater Reno Community Ice Skating Association to support scholarships for youth who were interested in learning ice sports; \$500 to the Human Services Agency for a photo booth for the family engagement center; and \$5,700 to the Friends of Washoe County Library to improve the library as a destination for the entire family.

Vice Chair Hill thanked Commissioner Herman for her contributions: \$14,780 to Awaken for the eradication of commercial sexual exploitation; and \$10,000 to the Salvation Army to support its human trafficking survivor program.

Awaken Program Director Jessica Cisneros and Co-founder and Youth Intervention Director Jen Robinson thanked the Board for the generous support and involvement in the community with the women and children they served. This was the third time in the past three months they received donations from Washoe County, and they were happy to spread awareness. They thought the work was important and hoped people in the community listened to what they did.

Chair Hartung mentioned that both Commissioners Herman and Lucey had to deplete their discretionary funds due to it being an election year.

Deputy District Attorney Mary Kandaras stated each member of the Board received discretionary funds to put towards certain projects. She noted that during an election year the County did not want the appearance of impropriety or favoritism, so all discretionary monies had to be expended by the end of the fiscal year.

Commissioner Herman asked about Agenda Item 5B1 and wondered whether splitting the recertification of flood insurance would lessen the protection. Division Director of Engineering and Capital Projects Dwayne Smith stated every year the County brought forward the recertification for the community rating program. He said this was a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program that Washoe County participated in by incorporating education, information, and data based on elevation certificates, noting the County did a variety of things to educate and protect the community. The philosophy was that through education, citizens could be armed to make the best decisions for the protection of their private property and help the County make good decisions about flood protection projects. He said that with those processes, FEMA lowered the annual insurance cost for people located within FEMA flood plains. He explained it educated and provided guidance for residents resulting in increased protection. He indicated the County had been working with this program for more than 15 years with significant cost savings to homeowners. He stated that people were more than welcome to contact the Engineering Department with questions.

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 Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5H1, except 5C1, be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5H1, except 5C1, are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

12:05 p.m. **The Board recessed**

12:45 p.m. **The Board reconvened with Commissioner Jung absent.**

BLOCK VOTE – 6 THROUGH 8

22-0188 **AGENDA ITEM 6** Recommendation to approve budget amendments totaling an increase of [\$155,535.00; \$16,434.40 county match] in both revenue and expense to the FY22 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Assistant Secretary for Preparedness Response (ASPR) Public Health Preparedness Carryover Program Grant Subaward retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved and directed.

22-0189 **AGENDA ITEM 7** Recommendation to accept a subaward Amendment #1 from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Licensing in the amount of [\$590,395.00; no county match] retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 to provide child care licensing and monitoring within Washoe County as well as providing training/technical assistance and support provider quality, capacity and assist with pandemic-related supplies; and authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the subaward and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

Vice Chair Hill expressed appreciation to the staff working with the Human Services Agency and County Manager Eric Brown for this grant for childcare providers that would assist with technical support and help them purchase supplies. She noted this would help with capacity issues in the County.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

22-0190 **AGENDA ITEM 8** Recommendation to approve amendment to contract with Allied Universal Security for armed and unarmed professional security services, retroactive to January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022. Estimated expenditures are anticipated as [\$1,755,406.00]. If approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the agreement. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hartung wondered why the County was using a security service instead of Deputy Sheriffs. County Manager Eric Brown stated it was due to the cost. Commissioner Lucey explained that Allied Universal Security was used at all facilities and noted that including benefits for Deputies significantly increased the cost.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

22-0191 **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to award Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 3162-22 for the Registrar of Voter's Temporary Employment Services for the 2022 elections to two (2) responsive and responsible bidders, My Next Career Path Staffing, LLC. and A&A Associates, in a total amount not to exceed [\$322,000.00; \$161,000.00 for the FY22 Primary Election and \$161,000.00 for the FY23 General Election], and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the contract. Registrar of Voters. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hartung requested to open Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11 together, but stated separate votes would be taken on each item. Deputy District Attorney Mary Kandaras indicated that was fine as long as separate votes were taken.

Registrar of Voters Deanna Spikula stated the first item was the temporary services contract. She indicated that a Request for Proposal (RFP) was put out and these were the only two agencies who responded to the request. She said they had other local agencies they used for staffing, although there was a cap on how much could be spent with them because they did not have a contract. Chair Hartung asked about using temporary employment services that were not local. Ms. Spikula reiterated that there were some local agencies they worked with but they could be in violation with purchasing if those agencies were used too much.

Commissioner Lucey wondered whether these vendors had been utilized previously. Ms. Spikula replied they had used My Next Career Path previously, but A & A Associates was new to them. Commissioner Lucey asked about only two vendors responding to the RFP and wondered about the decision to split the contract between the two respondents. Ms. Spikula said she was not sure and would have to get that information. Commissioner Lucey stated the vendor packet for A & A Associates did not specifically discuss all aspects as My Next Career Path did and wondered about the separation of each contract. Ms. Spikula stated that both companies had job duties included in their packets detailing what candidates would be doing. She indicated they never knew before an election how many people they would need to hire, and which agency could provide enough people to work in the office. She said that was the reason the contract was split to ensure they could accommodate the number of staff needed for the office.

Chair Hartung said it was suggested that the County would utilize labor from outside of Nevada. Ms. Spikula stated that employees were required to be registered voters and live in the state of Nevada to work in the office. People from outside the area would not be hired unless they moved to Nevada and became a resident. Chair Hartung clarified it was not just Washoe County, but employees could work anywhere in Nevada. Ms. Spikula confirmed saying it was in statute. Ms. Kandarar stated that was required by statute. She pointed out that RFPs were awarded and vetted by the Purchasing Department, a process that was also created by statute.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Robert Beadles wondered about the RFPs sent out to printing companies. He opined none of the local printing companies were aware of the RFPs but could get the job done. He expressed frustration with the Registrar of Voters (ROV) and believed she lied about the difficulty of finding temporary workers. He thought there were thousands of people who would work the polls for free. He opined if the voter rolls were cleaned, half of the registered voters would be gone.

Ms. Tracey Hilton Thomas read Proverbs 13:20 from the Bible. She noted that the staff report claimed item 9 was vetted by a panel of subject matter experts and wondered who determined they were experts. She said it would have been helpful to have the RFP attached to the agenda. She demanded that Washoe County residents be considered first to serve as temporary poll workers. She urged the Board to vote no on item 9.

Ms. Penny Brock wondered why the contract could not be reset. She stated she knew the power the Board had. She voiced concern about the location of the company that was hired.

Ms. Cindy Martinez expressed disappointment with the ROV. She shared that she was asked to be a poll manager during the last election but was unable to do so because she was working on Trump's campaign. Because she had applied to be a temporary worker, she believed her personal information would be shared with a third-party company because of the RFP and she did not give her consent. She wondered why the County would not be printing its own ballots.

Mr. Roger Edwards opined that someone off the street could put more effort into finding vendors that could save the County money and would do the same job or better.

Mr. George Lee noted that putting out an RFP was common practice, but he wondered about the criteria for the vendors. He expressed frustration that local companies were not hired to do the job. He believed the Board had the power to investigate this and should work to keep tax dollars within the County.

Ms. Kimberly Clark was not present when called to speak.

Mr. James Benthin thought the County should work harder to save money and use local resources. He supported the comments made by the other speakers.

Ms. Hope Backman said during the last presidential election she received two mail-in ballots at her house, and she voted in person. She opined mail-in ballots did not work and urged the Board to listen to Mr. Beadles.

Mr. Tim Stoffel believed ample evidence had been presented to the Board and urged it to do something about the issue. He also voiced concern with items 10 and 11. He urged the Board to look at the resolution presented by Commissioner Herman, noting money could be saved with the elimination of mail-in ballots.

Mr. Doug Jalen opposed item 9. He urged the Board to hire local companies and requested that poll workers be required to be residents of Washoe County.

Mr. Kenji Otto opposed item 9 because the companies were not local. He suggested the Board adopt a resolution that required the County to hire local companies or justify why it was not using local companies. He believed there were plenty of people who would volunteer to work the election and would not ask to be paid for performing their civic duty. He said hiring volunteers would have less impact on the County budget. He thought that whoever conducted the RFP process should have been the one to present this agenda item.

Mr. Nicholas St. Jon shared that he had reached out to the ROV and asked how many applications were received for election workers. He was told that 4,000 were received, but only 500 individuals were needed for early voting and 600 for same-day voting. He opined that people would be discouraged from applying if they were required to work 12 to 14 hours. He thought there were plenty of volunteers to be able to schedule split shifts. He believed the RFP was crafted in a way to disqualify companies other than the ones the County wanted to hire.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar did not believe the companies hired through the RFP should receive any funds until all the election integrity issues were sorted out. She did not want to see her property taxes increase because of this contract. She expressed frustration with the Board and believed it did not represent its constituents.

Ms. Val White said she had questions regarding the vendors mentioned in item 9. She agreed with the comments made by Mr. St. Jon. She wondered if temporary workers would be from all political parties. She believed background checks needed to be performed and the contract should be amended to hire local workers for the upcoming election. She urged the Board not to approve items 9, 10, and 11 until the election integrity issue was addressed. She demanded that an amended RFP be sent to local companies.

Ms. Janet Butcher wondered about the relationship between the vendors and the hiring authorities. She inquired about the posting and distribution of the RFP. She urged for the hiring of local companies and workers. She supported the comments of the other speakers.

Ms. Susan Hansen requested the County hire local companies and workers.

Commissioner Lucey asked whether all RFPs went through the Comptroller's Office. Comptroller Cathy Hill stated they did. She explained the process saying when a department put out an RFP, qualifications had to be met for pricing and services needed. She noted the state of Nevada did not have an agreement the County could joiner onto, therefore it was required to perform the RFP process. She explained the County could joiner onto a contract the state of Nevada had completed an RFP for with the same scope of work. She said it could be faster to use existing vendors. An RFP included all the information about the scope of work, minimum qualifications to perform the job, licensing requirements, and the requirements to receive federal funding if applicable. She indicated RFPs were posted in paper form in the Purchasing Department and electronically on Demand Star and were available for anyone to read and respond to accordingly. Once the deadline passed, the proposals were opened in a public forum and the appropriate committee reviewed the RFPs individually and rated them, then submitted individual scores back to the Purchasing Department to see which responsive bidder had the highest score. Commissioner Lucey recapped that Ms. Spikula provided information about what she needed then the Comptroller Department put out the RFP, received, evaluated, and scored responses, then provided the information back to the manager for procurement. Ms. Hill stated the Registrar of Voters' Office would be part of the process being the subject matter expert, and the Comptroller's Office aided to ensure a clean RFP. Commissioner Lucey thought RFPs were put out to the public, but the County did not advertise them. Ms. Hill stated they could push RFPs to local vendors who requested the information. Commissioner Lucey noted some companies were not in the state of Nevada and he understood there were local temporary staffing companies that might not have the capacity for the type of recruitment needed by the County. Ms. Hill stated that was correct but said the vendors would hire local residents to fulfill the needed capability and they adhered to the hourly rate within their contract. Commissioner Lucey indicated he was not pleased with the response from A & A Associates and thought My Next Career Path provided detailed reports in response to the RFP. He thought the security issues brought up by public commenters were challenging because the RFP was for temporary employment and those hired would be employed for a significant amount of time to work the elections. He said the RFP indicated work would start in April and would go through November. It would include overtime hours, mid-May to October, primary election, and equipment work. He wondered whether the work would be consistent from April through November. Ms. Hill said the work would be sporadic in nature and would not be continuous for that entire period of time.

Chair Hartung asked about the ability to direct staff to only use one staffing agency. Ms. Hill replied they had the ability to do that, but it would limit temporary employment to the capacity of the agency.

Commissioner Lucey wondered whether a second RFP could be expedited and pushed to local staffing agencies. Ms. Hill stated the RFP process was six to eight weeks. She said vendors needed to request that the County include them in the RFP notification, otherwise the Purchasing Department would be picking and choosing who it was being pushed to, which was not allowable.

Vice Chair Hill pointed out this process would ensure a well-run election and followed the law for the bid process, but staff thought there was a need for two qualified staffing agencies. She expressed concern that using one agency and asking staff to send the RFP back out to bid would create difficulty with a very important election. There were specific timelines to be met and she thought it was important that the County stick to running a good election and said that was what staff was presenting to the Board. She believed the Board should approve the qualified vendor bids because specific timelines needed to be met to run a good election.

Chair Hartung asked County Manager Eric Brown about the repercussions of not approving this item at this meeting. Mr. Brown stated it was 98 days from the primary election and postponing approval for this item would put the County in a bad situation.

Chair Hartung remarked he was a proponent of using local businesses but was vexed about this situation. Vice Chair Hill stated the County needed to use firms that had the capacity to fulfill the needs of the upcoming election. She agreed with staff on the decision to utilize these vendors and noted that the RFP process could be worked on in the future. She asserted it was important to ensure a well-run election with the proper staffing.

Commissioner Lucey commented that people who were hired would need to be residents of the area as they would be required to work for many months. He wondered whether a blanket outreach could be made to local firms to attempt to facilitate the needs for staffing if a decision was made to only select one of the vendors to provide staffing. Ms. Hill stated that local firms would be required to respond to RFPs as the other vendors did to ensure there was no favoritism. She noted the County could concentrate more on the vendor that the Board felt more comfortable with. Commissioner Lucey asserted the County had to be unbiased with this process. He noted this was recruitment for a period of almost a year to fulfill the needs of the County for the primary and general elections. He stated it would not change the outcome of the elections as these people would be working in the ROV Office, not as poll workers.

Ms. Kandaras stated Chapter 332 outlined the purchasing process to advertise the RFPs, noting responsible bidders applied, and the lowest responsive responsible bidder was awarded the contract. She stressed that the firms that were awarded the contract were not precluded from hiring local people. Ms. Hill confirmed that was correct.

Commissioner Lucey thought A & A Associates lacked the substance and detail that My Next Career Path provided. He agreed with the timeline constraints and thought no changes should be made at this time. He asked for outreach to be done for future contracts for more staffing.

County Manager Eric Brown said the County used temporary firms in a variety of departments and asserted it was a tough market for temporary labor even before the impact of the pandemic. He believed having two staffing companies was to the

County's advantage and said if one was not performing there was the flexibility to make the best of that situation. He said in the two years he had been in Washoe County he saw comparisons on the procurement policies versus other jurisdictions and stated the County bought locally wherever it was feasible to do so. He noted that in this case, the local response was not present, and it was important to move forward or risk operationally jeopardizing the election.

Commissioner Lucey agreed with Manager Brown and noted that many local staffing agencies were used throughout the County departments. He stated that companies that were registered with Demand Star would receive notices of RFPs.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 3-1 vote with Commissioner Herman voting no and Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved and authorized.

22-0192 **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to award Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 3165-22 for Mail-In Ballot On-Demand Printing and Mailing Services for the 2022 Primary and General elections to the most responsive and responsible bidder, K&H Integrated Print Solutions, in an amount not to exceed [\$800,000.00 total; \$400,000.00 for the FY22 Primary Election and \$400,000.00 for the FY23 General Election], and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the contract. Registrar of Voters. (All Commission Districts.)

Registrar of Voters Deanna Spikula said this was a vendor they had done business with since 2006. She stated that the vendor printed, packaged, and mailed the ballots.

Chair Hartung wondered why a local company was not used. Ms. Spikula explained that the Request for Proposal (RFP) went out and only two responses were received, one from Arizona and one from K & H. She indicated K & H was selected because the ROV already had a relationship with the company and trusted it. Chair Hartung asked for the process from paper to ballot. Ms. Spikula stated K & H's plant was in Washington where they printed, packaged, and prepared to mail the ballots. She noted the ballots were trucked to the local Reno post office to be mailed. She would receive a file from K & H with all voter ID numbers and information about when ballots were packaged and mailed. A completed ballot could be brought to a polling location, mailed in, dropped off at a drop-box, or people could choose to vote in person. She noted that a person could opt-out of receiving a ballot. Chair Hartung wondered whether this was all in statute. Ms. Spikula confirmed it was. She asserted that Assembly Bill (AB) 321 required ballots to be mailed to every registered voter within the County.

Commissioner Herman brought up that in January funds were approved for \$1.6 million. Of that, \$557,000 was for printing and postage and she wondered about the additional funds being requested. Ms. Spikula indicated there were not enough funds in the original printing budget to cover all the costs and more funds were needed to be compliant

with Nevada Revised Statutes. Commissioner Herman thought it was unclear where the funds were going.

Commissioner Lucey asked about processing and mailing of the mail-in ballots and believed that in the past election cycle the State contributed through grant funding for those costs. Ms. Spikula thought that could occur again and when she had the information, she would forward it to the Board. Commissioner Lucey wondered about the amount and when the funds would be received.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Robert Beadles opined if the voter rolls were cleaned up, half of the registered voters listed would be removed. He voiced concern about the amount of money requested for the agenda item. He believed there were many local companies that would do the job and at least 4,000 people who would serve as temporary workers. He said he would support the Board if it did the right thing.

Ms. Tracey Hilton Thomas referenced 1 Corinthians 15:33 from the Bible. She believed the Registrar of Voters (ROV) reported that only 31 percent of mail-in ballots were counted in the 2020 general election, therefore they were a waste of money. She wondered why provisional ballots were excluded from the RFP. She voiced concern about the electronic processing of provisional ballots. She believed there was no intent to verify same-day registration. She urged the Board to send the agenda item back to the ROV and request information on the cost of paper ballots.

Ms. Penny Brock expressed frustration with item 10 and believed it was worded poorly. She noted that two proposals were received to print and mail the mail-in ballots. She thought the proposal selected did not include mailing in the bid and violated the RFP. She said the Board approved funds for the 2022 election on previous agendas. She wondered about how much would be paid for postage.

Ms. Cindy Martinez noted that although she did not support item 10, she understood it was a product of government processes, and the process moved slowly. She said the government and the people needed to meet in the middle. She opined the community was falling apart. She did not like how much the election was going to cost and urged the Board to find funds from the COVID-19 money to pay for it and alleviate the burden on taxpayers.

Mr. Roger Edwards thought there was time to rethink item 10 and urged the Board to vote no.

Mr. George Lee implored the Board to table items 10 and 11 until after it considered Commissioner Herman's resolution. He believed the resolution was intended to start the discussion on election integrity. He said every election was important. He wondered about on-demand printing for same-day voting from an out-of-state company, if the ballots were certified, and whether the chain of custody would be traceable. He stated chain of custody was necessary to maintain integrity.

Mr. Doug Jalen opined it did not make sense to print ballots until the voter rolls had been cleaned up. He said if the County was going to spend money foolishly it should at least do it locally.

Mr. Kenji Otto said the election needed to be run well but not rushed. He believed the planning should have begun a long time ago and the County did things at the last minute. He opposed item 10 and reminded the Board that he provided a proposal on how to clean up the voter rolls. He urged the County to spend its money wisely.

Mr. Nicholas St. Jon wondered about on-demand printing and requested a definition and an explanation of how it would be used in the election. He noted that mail-in balloting was required because of the pandemic but reminded the Board it voted to end the State of Emergency in December. He urged that mail-in balloting not be considered after FY2022.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar voiced concern about the hiring of non-local election workers and vendors. She opined there were additional ways to contact vendors in the County besides a website. She thought RFPs used to be posted in the newspaper and suggested they could be advertised on the local news broadcast. She expressed frustration with the spending of CARES Act funds.

Ms. Janet Butcher wondered about the printing of mail-in ballots when people opted out of that option. She opined that Commissioner Herman's resolution was tabled so the Board could hear items 9, 10, and 11 before it was presented.

Mr. Wayne Gordon wondered about a company providing Washoe County with ballots when the terms of the election had not yet been set. He urged the Board to consider Commissioner Herman's resolution. He believed an accurate election was more important than staying on track with a timeline. He demanded the Board decide what to do for the election and to do what was right.

Ms. Val White said she had studied election integrity for years. She noted AB 321 was passed because of the pandemic and was now State law. She remarked that the people had to live with mail-in ballots until the legislators who voted for the bill were removed from office. She urged the Board to consider the resolution and give the people a fair election.

Chair Hartung asked how the chain of custody for ballots worked. Ms. Spikula stated a file was sent to the vendor of active registered voters who would receive a ballot for the election. A ballot ID number was coded onto each envelope with the name, address, and precinct number, which was then packaged with the ballot and shipped to the local post office to be delivered to voters. She said voters could return the ballot by mail, drop it at a ballot drop-off location, or they could vote in person. When ballots were received in the ROV Office they were scanned as received and the signature was verified. She said ballots were tracked from receipt in the ROV Office and an audit was performed to ensure the number of ballots from a precinct matched the number of ballots received.

Audits were required by law and had to be performed before ballots could be tallied. Chair Hartung asked about on-demand ballots. Ms. Spikula stated that on-demand ballots meant a list would be sent daily to the vendor to print ballots for newly registered voters to be mailed. Chair Hartung wondered about timing and what would happen if this item was not approved at this meeting. Ms. Spikula stated that the paper supply chain issue could delay ballots being printed and prepared for the election on time.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 3-1 vote with Commissioner Herman voting no and Commissioner Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved and authorized.

22-0193 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to revise the February 8, 2022 Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 3166-22 for Sample Ballot Mailing Services for the 2022 elections to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Metro Mailing Service Inc., to change the amount from [\$500,000.00] to not to exceed [\$150,000.00]. Registrar of Voters. (All Commission Districts.)

Registrar of Voters Deanna Spikula stated this item was for part of the sample ballot services. She indicated the other part would be to stitch the ballots together, address them, and mail them, and noted that item would come before the Board in the next month for approval.

Chair Hartung said he would personally rather see sample ballots online.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Tracey Hilton Thomas referenced Proverbs 29:25 from the Bible. She requested an explanation of the costs in item 11. She expressed frustration with the request for funding for Dominion voting machines.

Ms. Penny Brock wondered about the postage costs for mail-in and sample ballots. She expressed confusion about the costs listed in the bids. She urged the Board to deny additional funding.

Mr. Roger Edwards was not present when called to speak.

Mr. George Lee stated he knew Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) required sample ballots to be sent out and urged the Board to clean up the voter rolls to reduce the costs. He believed it would increase the people's trust in the election system. He suggested that everyone be required to re-register to vote and that they be able to do so on the Secretary of State's website.

2:44 p.m. **Commissioner Lucey left the meeting.**

Mr. Doug Jalen urged the Board to vote no on item 11.

Mr. Robert Beadles wondered about a financial review on items 9, 10, and 11. He opined millions of dollars worth of items had been approved so far this year without financial review. He urged the Board to amend the contract and hire local vendors. He expressed frustration that nothing had been done regarding the issue of election integrity.

Mr. Kenji Otto reminded the Board about his proposal to fix the voter roll database and divide voter registrations into active and inactive. He opined it would be an inexpensive solution. He believed he had proof of individuals who voted in the 2020 election but did not live in Nevada. He thought Commissioner Herman was the only member of the Board who tried to do the right thing.

Mr. Nicholas St. Jon remarked that he wished he understood this agenda item better. He said he did not know what would happen if the Board did not approve it today. He wondered about the NRS code that stated sample ballots must be sent out. He believed there were people who would volunteer to fix the volunteer rolls. He urged the Board to vote no on item 11.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar expressed frustration with the removal of the election integrity resolution from a previous agenda. She opined that the election would be unconstitutional because the voter rolls had not been cleaned up. She did not believe the Board listened to the people.

Ms. Janet Butcher noted that when she said she was a legal resident it meant she was a legal voter and lived in a residence. She voiced concern about the amount of money being spent on items 9, 10, and 11. She wondered about the voter rolls and urged the Board to clean them up.

Mr. Wayne Gordon chose not to speak when called.

Chair Hartung stated that a few years prior, he had Ira Hansen carry Assembly Bill 93 to eliminate paper sample ballots and put them online. The benefits were that anyone could print them, and they could be in any language. The bill passed but it did not allow the elimination of printed sample ballots. Ms. Kandaras confirmed that printed sample ballots were required by NRS.

Chair Hartung restated that the agenda was asking for an additional \$150,000 and said \$500,000 was previously approved. Manager Brown confirmed that was correct.

On motion by Vice Chair Hill, seconded by Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 2-1 vote with Commissioner Herman voting no and Commissioners Lucey and Jung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be revised.

22-0194 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Public Comment.

Mr. Marc Colosimo was not present when called to speak.

Ms. Tracey Hilton Thomas referenced Matthew 5:10 from the Bible. She believed those in attendance who had spoken out against the resolution and improvements to the election process were naïve and misguided. She expressed frustration with some of the statements that had been made and with an article in the Reno Gazette-Journal. She thought those in opposition to the resolution were out of touch with the current election processes.

Mr. Robert Beadles opined he had irrefutable proof of fraud, manipulation, and corruption. He voiced concern about those in attendance who had spoken out against the resolution. He stated voter identification was required to get into the Democratic National Convention, which he believed was hypocritical. He thought everything on the resolution was legal and said people would be back on March 22.

Mr. Nicholas St. Jon wondered if the election integrity resolution would be added to the March 22 agenda. He demanded the Board add the following items to an upcoming agenda: banning vaccine passports, and discussion regarding the establishment of Washoe County as a Second Amendment sanctuary county. He noted that over 2,100 people had already signed a petition in support of the latter.

Mr. Wayne Gordon expressed frustration with comments made by a few of the speakers. He thought they were trying to prevent everyone else from speaking. He referenced World War II and the Nuremberg Trials. He urged for voter identification, the elimination of mail-in ballots, and the use of paper ballots with serial numbers that would allow the voter to log on to the Registrar of Voters' website and view their vote after the election. He thought the Board did not like Mr. Beadles' proposal because it would cost money, and he believed the Board should be more concerned with ensuring a fair, free, and open election.

Ms. Janet Butcher thanked Chair Hartung for fighting for the signal warning lights on Pyramid Highway but voiced concern that he voted in favor of Agenda Items 9, 10, and 11. She believed that those who spoke in support of fair elections with legal votes were not bad people, they were honest.

Mr. Kenji Otto expressed frustration about a couple of the speakers who opposed the resolution. He shared that he was born in Japan and his whole family was biracial. He said he did not look at people by their skin color, but by who they were, their personalities, and their cultures. He remarked that if people did not like this country they could leave.

Ms. Cindy Martinez urged the Board to place the following items on a future agenda for discussion: banning mask mandates; banning mandatory vaccinations for employment, travel, entry, and engaging in commerce in public places; banning vaccine passports or any means or method of verifying or using a person's medical status to obtain employment or engage in commerce; and prohibiting businesses and employers from any related action to discriminate or segregate citizens based on medical status. She expressed

remarked that Nevada had been in the State of Emergency for 726 days. She attended the Sparks Republican Women’s dinner on February 15 and said the attendees were not allowed to record the Deputy Secretary of Elections or the Registrar of Voters, who both spoke at the event. She thought this was unacceptable. She also voiced concern that temporary workers were used to count ballots during the last election.

Mr. George Lee spoke about Agenda Item 7, noting he disagreed with increasing licensing and monitoring fees for childcare providers. He wondered who this benefitted and who was being protected. He believed it would raise childcare costs for individuals who already struggled to afford it. He urged the Board to get rid of Dominion voting machines.

Ms. Val White shared a story about a man who lived in Washoe County on a street with 28 houses. She said he found four registrations for himself with four different registration numbers. She demanded the Board do the job it was elected to do. She urged the Board to spend money to clean up the voter rolls and hire bipartisan workers for the task. She wondered how anyone could claim the election was honest.

Ms. Nonamay Price shared a few items she wanted the Board to place on a future agenda: reading emailed public comments at meetings, starting the clock after the speakers introduce themselves, and stopping the clock when the Board members were not paying attention.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar referenced comments made by Ms. Howell regarding presidential executive orders. She noted that in Nevada there were governor mandates and she opined they did not apply to her, only to the Board. She wondered about the security outside chambers. She believed it was unconstitutional that she had to be searched before attending a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. She expressed frustration at the elimination of rural fire departments.

County Clerk Jan Galassini stated an email was received from Mr. Andrew Hill, which was placed on file.

22-0195 AGENDA ITEM 13 Announcements/Reports.

Vice Chair Hill asked for a regional fire plan discussion with the Cities of Reno and Sparks to identify next steps.

Chair Hartung stated he looked forward to understanding the process of voter rolls.

Commissioner Herman spoke about her heritage.

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3:33 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:
Doni Gassaway & Lauren Morris, Deputy County Clerks*