

SUMMARY: Amends Washoe County Code by amending provisions thereof relating to citizens advisory boards.

BILL NO. 993

ORDINANCE NO. 818

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WASHOE COUNTY CODE BY AMENDING THE PROVISIONS THEREOF RELATING TO CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARDS; AND PROVIDING OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATING THERETO.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF WASHOE DO ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. Section 5.425 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

5.425 Purpose. The purpose of sections 5.425 to 5.435, inclusive, is to establish citizens advisory boards covering designated geographical areas of Washoe County and to set forth procedures by which they function. Citizens advisory boards are established to assist the board of county commissioners with issues of concern in the designated geographical areas. Citizens advisory boards are advisory only and the creation of advisory boards does not diminish or alter in any way the statutory and constitutional authority of the board of county commissioners of Washoe County.

SECTION 2. Section 5.427 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

5.427 Establishment of boards. The board of county commissioners may establish by resolution citizens advisory boards. The resolution by which a citizens advisory board is created shall specify the specific purposes for its creation, the number of members of the board, the categories of membership on the board and the board's geographical area of responsibility.

SECTION 3. Section 5.429 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

5.429 Advisory Boards: Membership.

1. Membership. In determining the number of members on a citizens advisory board and the categories of membership, the board of county commissioners shall ensure that the advisory board consists of a representative cross-section of persons residing within the advisory board's geographical area of responsibility.

2. Appointment. When applications are needed for an advisory board, the board of county commissioners shall cause an advertisement seeking applications from interested citizens to be placed in a newspaper of general

circulation in the county. Applications received in response to the advertisement shall be kept on file and remain valid for a period of 1 year from the date of receipt thereof. The board shall select a person to fill the vacancy from the applications received.

3. Officers. Citizens advisory boards shall select their own officers from among their members. Each advisory board shall have at least a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary-treasurer.

4. Term of office. Members of citizens advisory boards serve 2-year terms commencing on July 1 and ending June 30. When a new citizens advisory board is created, one-half of the members thereof shall be appointed for an initial 1-year term and the remaining members shall be appointed for an initial 2-year term. Although members are appointed to specific terms of office, members serve at the pleasure of the board of county commissioners. A member may be reappointed by the board of county commissioners at the end of his term for not to exceed one additional term.

5. Vacancies. A vacancy occurring on a citizens advisory board shall be filled by the board of county commissioners for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the unexpired term is less than 1 year, the person appointed to fill the vacancy may be appointed to serve not more than two additional 2-year terms. Except as provided in subsection 7, if a member of an advisory board misses three consecutive meetings of the board without just cause as determined by the chairman of the advisory board, a vacancy in that member's position automatically occurs and the board of county commissioners shall fill the vacancy as set forth in this subsection.

6. Alternates. A member may designate an alternate with the same membership qualifications as the member to be his representative at any citizens advisory board meeting. No designation is effective until the person selected as an alternate is approved by the board of county commissioners. In the regular member's absence, an alternate has the same authority to act on the advisory board as the regular member, but may not act as an officer of the advisory board. Except as provided in subsection 7, an alternate may not act at more than two consecutive meetings.

7. Elective public office. A member of a citizens advisory board must take a leave of absence from the board during any period of time in which he is a candidate for an elective office. A leave of absence does not constitute absence without cause as a member of the board and the alternate designated by that member may act in his place and stead until the member is no longer a candidate. Election or appointment of a member to an elective public office will result in automatic termination of membership on the advisory board.

SECTION 4. Section 5.431 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

5.431 Bylaws.

1. Each citizens advisory board may adopt bylaws to govern the conduct of its affairs. The bylaws become effective upon approval by the board of county commissioners.

2. If a citizens advisory board is unable to adopt bylaws to govern the conduct of its affairs, the board of county commissioners will adopt bylaws on behalf of the advisory board.

3. Bylaws of a citizens advisory board may be amended at any time. Amendments to the bylaws become effective upon approval of the board of county commissioners.

SECTION 5. Section 5.433 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

5.433 Budget and compensation. The board of county commissioners shall establish an annual budget to meet the operating expenses of each citizens advisory board. Members of advisory boards shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for their necessary expenses.

SECTION 6. Section 5.435 of the Washoe County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

5.435 Advisory boards: Dissolution. The board of county commissioners, by resolution, may dissolve a citizens advisory board if the board of county commissioners determines that the board is no longer needed to meet the purposes for which it was established.

Proposed on the 12th day of February, 1991.
Proposed by Commissioners Cornwall.
Passed on the 19th day of March, 1991.

Vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: Beck, Cornwall, Lillard, McDowell, and Reid.
Nays: Commissioners: None.
Absent: Commissioners: None.

James C. Lillard
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

[Signature]
County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the 1st day of April, 1991.