

## **Draft MINUTES**

Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission

April 6, 2021

The Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission met in a scheduled session on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, in the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada.

No members of the public were allowed in the Commission Chambers due to concerns for public safety resulting from the COVID-19 emergency and pursuant to the Governor of Nevada's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006 Section 1 which suspends the requirement in NRS 241.023(1)(b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate. This meeting was held by teleconference only.

The meeting was televised live and replayed on Washoe Channel at:

<https://www.washoecounty.us/mgrsoff/Communications/wctv-live.php> also on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/WashoeCountyTV>

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Commissioner Chen called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

### **1. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Doug Doolittle, Chris Nenzel, Jennifer Oliver, Stephanie Chen, Thomas Guinn, Heidi Anderson, Greg Shorts

**Staff Present:** Colleen Wallace-Barnum, Denise Evans, Jennifer Penland, Sophia Kirschenman, Eric Crump, Lindsay Liddell

**Absent:** Darla Lee

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge was recited

### **3. Public Comments**

No Public Comments

### **4. Approval of the Agenda for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of April 6, 2021.**

Motion by Commissioner Doolittle to approve the Agenda for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of April 6, 2021. Second by Commissioner Shorts. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Approval of the Minutes for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of March 2, 2021.**

Lindsay Liddell, Deputy District Attorney recommended public comment before voting on action items. Motion by Commissioner Doolittle to approve the minutes. Second by Commissioner Oliver. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Acknowledgement and recognition of Park Operations staff for their outstanding service and contributions to Washoe County**

No items

**7. Eagle Scout Presentation**

No items

**8. Presentation, discussion and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to approve a lease agreement between Washoe County and Great Basin Institute for the leave of the residence at Galena Creek Regional Park for consideration of in-kind services (in the approximate value of \$28,400) to the Community Services Department and for a term of 36 months commencing April 13, 2021 through April 12, 2024. (For Possible Action)**

Colleen Wallace Barnum, Park Operations Superintendent gave background. Galena Creek Visitor Center is on federal land and opened in 2008. In 2008, during the recession, staff recommended the agreement with Great Basin Institute in which the Great Basin Institute manages the visitor center in lieu of rent. Colleen said the agreement with the Great Basin Institute has met all terms of agreement as well as brings visitors to the park.

In response to Commissioner Shorts' question if there have been inspections on the property, Colleen said there has.

Commissioner Guinn moved to approve a lease agreement between Washoe County and Great Basin Institute for the leave of the residence at Galena Creek Regional Park for consideration of in-kind services (in the approximate value of \$28,400) to the Community Services Department and for a term of 36 months commencing April 13, 2021 through April 12, 2024. Second by Commissioner Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

**9. Presentation, discussion and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to execute an amended easement agreement and amended easement deed between Washoe County and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority to change an existing access and water facilities easement from ±11,802 square feet to ±20,425 square feet, and to amend the terms of a temporary easement totaling ±23,588 square feet to allow for the construction, installation and maintenance of a temporary belowground waterline on APN 534-521-01, part of Sugarloaf Peak Open Space [at the additional appraised value of \$1,485.00]. (For Possible Action)**

Presentation by Sophia Kirschenmann, Park Planner, on Sugarloaf Peak Open Space. Amanda Duncan from Truckee Meadows Water Authority was available on the line to answer questions.

No public comments.

Commissioner Doolittle motioned to approve to execute an amended easement agreement and amended easement deed between Washoe County and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority to change an existing access and water facilities easement from ±11,802 square feet to ±20,425 square feet, and to amend the terms of a temporary easement totaling ±23,588 square feet to allow for the construction, installation and maintenance of a temporary belowground waterline on APN 534-521-01, part of Sugarloaf Peak Open Space [at the additional appraised value of \$1,485.00]. Second by Commissioner Oliver. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **10. Presentation on SB 73 of Nevada's 81st Legislative Session by Jaime Schroeder, Director, City of Reno Parks and Recreation**

Jaime Schroeder, Director, City of Reno Parks and Recreation, and Calli Wilsey, Legislative Affairs Manager gave a presentation.

In response to Commissioner Doolittle asking if City of Reno has analyzed how it would compare if city and county agencies combines their facilities, Jamie said that they had not but plan to do that research with the City of Sparks and Washoe County

In response to Commissioner Doolittle asking if City of Reno has looked into repurposing some of their lesser used facilities, Jamie said they have in some instances, and gave the example of Reno Tennis Center expanding into tennis and pickleball courts.

In response to Commissioner Doolittle asking if Washoe County has been involved with the bill, Calli is aware and has had multiple conversations but has expressed no interest in joining in on this bill.

In response to Commissioner Shorts asking about committee breakdown, Calli said it is important to have stakeholders that are more critical, and heavily impacted. The City of Reno wants to ensure the committee serves as a voice if it reaches ballot. Commissioner Doolittle added that committee makeup will provide more advocacy before the voters.

Eric Crump, Operations Division Director, and Commissioner Doolittle would like to have further conversation about Washoe County combining resources with the City of Reno. Jamie said they will set up a meeting.

In response to Eric Crump asking if the service areas in the presentation with gaps are only City of Reno, Jaime said yes but will get the information on City of Sparks and Washoe County. Eric said the county can provide their information from master plans.

In response to Eric Crump asking if there has been any discussion with staff and city or elected officials of impacts of areas that were annexed in recent years, Jamie said there has been.

In response to Colleen Wallace-Barnum, Park Operations Superintendent, asking about ongoing capital project needs and the \$1.5 million that is available annually, Jamie said that it is a standing item, priorities are vetted based on that amount and that they are trying to increase the amount annually.

In response to Commissioner Shorts asking the last time any Parks and Recreation, city or county, has taken anything to voters, Colleen Wallace-Barnum said that it was in 2000 with the parks and libraries bond.

Commissioner Doolittle congratulated City of Reno on Cyan Park for being highly used and looking great. Colleen thanked Jamie and Calli for their informative presentation.

#### **11. Presentation on Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful's mission, impact, and partnership with Washoe County Parks by Matt Webber, KTMB Adopt-A-Spot Coordinator**

Matt Webber, Adopt-A-Spot Coordinator, gave a presentation on KTMB. Commissioner Chen thanked Matt for his presentation and everything KTMB does for community.

No commissioner questions or comments.

#### **12. Program/Park of the Month – Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden education programming presented by Laura Fraser, AmeriCorps volunteer**

Laura Fraser, Arboretum Educator, gave a presentation on past and upcoming arboretum & garden programs. Commissioners Chen and Doolittle thanked Laura for her presentation and work in the community.

No commissioner questions or comments.

Commissioner Doolittle left at 3:47pm.

#### **13. Parks Reports**

Colleen Wallace-Barnum, Park Operations Superintendent, said that capacity increased to 50% capacity as of March 15<sup>th</sup> for facilities and parks staff is ensuring that everyone is following guidelines. Requests and reservations have increased, parks is hiring for seasonal staff, and has turned on water for irrigation.

No commissioner questions or comments.

#### **14. Director's Report to include updates on Board of County Commissioners actions, future meeting locations/Commissioner field trips, community sponsorship requests, department updates and community partnerships.**

Dave Solaro, Assistant County Manager, reported that in March the Board of County Commissioners approved sponsorship at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park for ArtTown. The Board of County

Commissioners also approved the sale of water rights to Great Basin Land and Water on behalf of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. The Board of County Commissioners is hearing golf agreements this month.

**15. Commissioner's Comments: (This item limited to announcements or topics/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas.)**

No commissioner comments.

**16. Public Comments**

No public comments

**17. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:51 pm

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Penland, Office Assistant III.