



Humboldt County Board of Commissioners
May 3, 2021 at 8:33 AM
Meeting Minutes

Those present were Chairman Ron Cerri, Commissioners Jim French, Jesse Hill and Tom Hoss, Deputy District Attorney Wendy Maddox, County Manager Dave Mendiola and Clerk of the Board Tami Rae Spero (via Teams). Commissioner Ken Tipton was not in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Cerri called the regular meeting to order in the regular place of meeting at the County Meeting Room #201, Courthouse, Winnemucca, Nevada.

STAFF REPORT: See attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman Cerri asked for public comment; none offered.

JUSTICE COURT: Justice of the Peace Jim Loveless appeared before the Commission.

REQUEST TO UTILIZE COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM FOR JURY TRIALS: Consideration, discussion, and possible approval of a request from Justice of the Peace Jim Loveless to utilize the Humboldt County Commissioners' Meeting Room for jury trials due to the large number of trials that are backlogged due to COVID-19, and the requirement to offer jury trials for domestic violence cases. Justice of the Peace Loveless reviewed the request to use the meeting room on those dates when the District Court also has a trial set; he reviewed the number of the trials on calendar. Discussion ensued regarding the manner in which the room would be used. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To approve the use of this room as needed by the Justice Court.

CONTINUED PUBLIC COMMENT: District Judge Michael Montero appeared before the Commission and invited the Commission to an event to recognize National Drug Court Month next Monday at the Convention Center and commented on Mental Health Month which is also occurring in the community in May.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Discussion and action on correction/approval of minutes for March 28-29, 2016; January 17, 2017 (Joint); February 6, 2017 (Special); March 6, 2017; March 20, 2017; March 27, 2017 (Budget Hearing); April 3, 2017; May 1, 2017 (Joint); May 15, 2017; June 5, 2017; June 19, 2017; July 10,

2017; August 7, 2017 (Joint); August 21, 2017; December 11, 2017 (Joint); January 16, 2018; January 29, 2018 (Retreat); February 5, 2018 ; February 20, 2018; March 5, 2018; April 2, 2018 (Budget Hearing); April 9, 2018; August 6, 2018; August 20, 2018; September 17, 2018; October 1, 2018; October 15, 2018; March 18, 2019, March 25 (Budget Hearings); April 1, 2019; May 6, 2019; May 20, 2019; June 3, 2019; June 25, 2019 (Special); August 5, 2019; August 19, 2019; September 16, 2019; October 21, 2019; November 4, 2019; January 6, 2020; January 21, 2020 (Combined Regular and Retreat); January 30, 2020; February 3, 2020, February 18, 2020; March 2, 2020; March 19, 2020; April 6, 2020; April 14, 2020; April 23, 2020 (Special); May 4, 2020; July 20, 2020; August 17, 2020; August 20, 2020 (Special); September 8, 2020; September 21, 2020; September 30, 2020; October 5, 2020 (Special Joint); November 9, 2020, November 13, 2020 (Special Canvass); November 23, 2020; December 10, 2020, December 14, 2020; January 4, 2021, January 19, 2021, January 25, 2021 (Special), February 8, 2021, February 22, 2021 (Special Joint); February 22, 2021; March 8, 2021; March 22, 2021; March 29-30, 2021; April 8, 2021 (Special), and April 19, 2021. Chairman Cerri asked for corrections for the minutes of March 16, 2021; none offered. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the minutes for March 16, 2021 as presented.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES FOR HUMBOLDT COUNTY FOR APRIL 19, 2021 THROUGH MAY 3, 2021: The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the expenditures from April 19, 2021 through May 3, 2021 as presented.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

1) Other information and upcoming meetings: Chairman Cerri noted the following upcoming meetings: May 10, 2021 Regional Airport Board Meeting, May 13, 2021 Regional Planning Commission and May 17, 2021 Humboldt County Commission Meeting.

2) Reports from Commissioners regarding other Boards and Committees on which they serve: Commissioner Hill commented on his attendance at the Humboldt Development Authority meeting and the Health Board meeting and noted an upcoming Paradise Valley Conservation District Meeting. Commissioner Hoss reported on his attendance at the Landfill meeting and the Health Board meeting. Commissioner French noted that he is providing a bill tracking list for what is upcoming with the 2021

Legislature and discussed items being considered; he continued discussing a Public Lands Steering Committee meeting at which a number of items were discussed including critical habitat and the reintroduction of the California Condor which may create concerns in the future. Chairman Cerri reported on a WCVA meeting and a Thacker Pass Concerned Citizens Group meeting; he noted a proposal for the Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Oregon Department of Fish & Game to purchase the Disaster Peak Ranch which would take a working ranch off the tax rolls for Humboldt County and he noted his concern with these entities keeping up on maintenance related to the location.

CONSENT AGENDA (ANY ITEM APPEARING ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CAN BE PULLED DOWN AND DISCUSSED IN DETAIL):

A) A Tax Roll Adjustment refund of \$1.56 and credit of 139.74 for Montes, Martin O for FY 20-21. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the consent agenda as presented.

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER: Manager Mendiola read the nomination for Colleen Cox of the Assessor's Office for Employee of the Quarter. Chairman Cerri offered his congratulations to Colleen and presented her with a plaque.

COMPTROLLER: Comptroller Gina Rackley appeared before the Commission.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Humboldt County Comptroller Gina Rackley will provide an overview of current conditions with respect to Humboldt County revenues and expenditures for fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021), including possible impacts of the COVID-19 response in the county and an update on the Coronavirus Relief Funds from the State of Nevada. Comptroller Rackley reviewed the workman's comp rates that were just received and February's CTX. Discussion ensued regarding the potential fiscal impacts of the solar project for the County. Comptroller Rackley commented on the tax auction and how those funds are handled.

TREASURER: Treasurer Rhona Lecumberry appeared before the Commission.

QUARTERTLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 3/31/21: Consideration, discussion, and possible action to accept the 3rd quarter fiscal year 2020-21 investment report from Humboldt County Treasurer Rhona Lecumberry. A copy of the Quarterly Investment/Financial Report was included on the on-line agenda for review. Treasurer Lecumberry reviewed the report for the Commission.

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10:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING - CDBG-CV2 GRANT AWARD: Consideration, discussion, and possible action to select an application for award from nonprofit businesses in need of funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. Activities must meet at least one of the following criteria: 1. Benefit to low-moderate income households or persons; 2. Elimination of slums and blight; 3. Meets urgent community needs. Grant award not to exceed \$57, 850. A copy of information on the CDBG Program and the Food Distribution Expansion Program proposal were included on the on-line agenda for review. Chairman Cerri called the public hearing to order at 10:00 a.m. and read the title of the item set to public hearing. Grants Coordinator Rachelle Piquet and Boys & Girls Club-Winnemucca Executive Director Chad Peters appeared before the Commission. Coordinator Piquet reviewed the request for the Commission. Manager Mendiola noted that the only application received was from the local Boys & Girls Club. Director Peters reviewed the Food Distribution Expansion Program information for the Commission. Commissioner Hoss asked about the ability to fund the next year's program given that the current year is in the negative. Director Peters responded. Chairman Cerri asked for public comment; none offered. After discussion the following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the CDBG-CV2 Grant application from the Boys & Girls Club in the amount of \$57,850.00 and approving that grant moving on to the State.

AG 3 DISTRICT UPDATE ON NEW STALLS: Kim Petersen will provide an update to the Board regarding the progress of the stalls that are being built. Due to some delays and COVID-19, costs have increased \$4,000 above the original approved amount of \$98,000. WCVA Director Kim Petersen appeared before the Commission and reviewed the item for the Commission and the impact of the cost of lumber and the demand for lumber for the project. Discussion ensued regarding the stalls. Discussion ensued regarding the high school rodeo, what is planned for the upcoming Ranch Hand Rodeo and what the actual original amount was for the stall project.

RURAL NEVADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PRESENTATION: A presentation by Mary Kerner, CEO for Rural Nevada Development Corporation, to provide background information on programs it provides and its partnerships with private and governmental agencies. Ms. Kerner appeared before the Commission and gave an overview of the Rural Nevada Development Corporation related to the programs they administer including their lending programs. Discussion ensued regarding the types of loans and how those loans are administered, the weatherization program and the contributions to Humboldt County

AGREEMENT FOR MEDICAID MATCH FUNDING WITH DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY (DHCFP): Consideration, discussion and possible approval of an amendment to the current agreement (date July 1, 2019) with the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP). This is the first amendment to the revenue interlocal contract to provide administrative services necessary to operate the Medicaid County Match Program. The counties provide the nonfederal share for medical and Medicaid administrative services. This amendment increases the total maximum contract amount from \$691,171.51 to \$950,261.87. This agreement is in effect until June 30, 2021. A copy of the proposed amended agreement was included on the on-line agenda for review. Manager Mendiola reviewed the request for the Commission including what has occurred to result in the increase to the contract amount. Erica Bronder, Melissa Laufer Lewis and Nima Rezaie with Nevada Department of Health and Human Services appeared before the Commission via Teams. Ms. Bronder reviewed the program for the Commission including a summary of the costs from fiscal year 2018 to 2021 including the county costs and the removal by the Legislature of the cap on the 142-155% population; she noted the 8-cent cap limitation and explained it. Ms. Bronder stated that they are requesting this amendment due to a general overall increase in the number of patients and the increase of medical costs. Commissioner French asked if it had appeared to the State that the removal of the cap would result in these types of increases and can we expect them in the future as well. Ms. Bronder responded explaining that she had only entered into this position just prior to the Covid situation and so could not answer as to what was expected but that if the projected caseload for Humboldt County remains at the current levels they are projecting an approximate cost of \$500,000 but that is subject to any change with the population, the impact of the economy on that population and with what the federal match is. Commissioner French questioned the administration cost increase. Ms. Bronder explained that the figure noted is actually the increase in medical services costs not what they are charging to administer the program. Ms. Bronder reviewed the State Fiscal Year Projections for the county share of institutionalized and waiver populations for 2021, 2022 and 2023. Based on a question from Chairman Cerri, Comptroller Rackley explained that the funding for this program is part of the property tax rates but that the County is not charging the full 8-cents at this point, the rate of 1.5-cents is what is currently leveed and that has been able to be maintained due to strong Net Proceeds and the refund of IAF funds over the last two years; she reviewed the balances of the 201 and the 211 Funds and noted that it would be necessary to augment this budget to cover this cost as it was not expected. Commissioner French asked if any Covid Relief funds could be used to offset these costs as it does seem that Covid is responsible for some of this increase. Comptroller Rackley responded that no direction has been received for those funds as of yet

but that could be explored when that direction is received. Discussion ensued regarding some of the larger costs for a couple of months and what caused that, that another contract will be submitted for the next biennium soon, the amounts generated by the 1.5-cents currently and if the full 8-cents were charged that the amount would still not be covered unless the net proceeds funds were included. Manager Mendiola noted that the County does have the funds to cover this at this point but that this is an alarming trend and perhaps legislative action should be sought. Clerk Spero noted that the amended contract has been reviewed by legal counsel. Commissioner Hill asked if we have proof that the costs have increased. Human Services Coordinator Niki Linn commented via Teams on the comparison she had done of the patient counts and services provided which shows an increase. Manager Mendiola noted there is also an increase in medical costs and concerns that there may have been delayed medical billing which is being looked at. Commissioner French noted his concern with the ability to create a budget when this type of increase can occur and what happens when the Counties get to the point where they say they don't have the funding, so that is discussion that needs to occur as the only other option is to go back to the taxpayer and say we need more money; he observed that the removal of the cap was a very big deal. Commissioner Hill agreed noting that he is not comfortable with approving this at this time and that he is not comfortable going to the tax payers for additional funds. Comptroller Rackley commented that with property tax caps the necessary funds would not necessarily be generated even if the full 8-cents was leveled. Commissioner Hoss asked what would occur with a private contractor, would we just accept an amendment of this amount when we just don't have the funds. Commissioner French noted the difference with the State creating legislative authority for the County and suggested that he does not believe we have legal grounds to deny; he commented on the effect of the cap removal and his issues with that. Commissioner French asked legal counsel if the County has the legal authority to refuse this increase. Deputy District Attorney Maddox voiced her concern that the result of that would be that the County would need to foot the entire cost for the future if we say no now. Commissioner Cerri asked if there is any ability to negotiate this increase with the State. Manager Mendiola suggested yes but that would be through legislative action. Ms. Laufer-Lewis noted that these amounts are projected and could come in less but that would not be known until the final numbers are received. Commissioner French stated for the record that he is reluctantly voting in favor of this as he feels they have a gun to our head but that he wants to have a conversation with the Legislature regarding this monster they created to provide additional services as it is resulting in the need for the County to pull money from other county programs and services. Commissioner Hill agreed reluctantly as he does not want to have to foot the entire bill. Commissioner French noted that the other counties are saying the same thing. After discussion the following motion

was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French and Hill voting aye, Commissioner Hoss voting nay and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To approve the first amendment to the revenue interlocal contract for the Medicaid County Match Program taking the maximum contract amount from \$691,171.51 to \$950,261.87.

LIBRARY: Library Director Jessica Anderson appeared before the Commission.

REQUEST PERMISSION TO HIRE FOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT POSITION: Consideration, discussion and possible approval of a request from Library Director Jessica Anderson to hire to fill the position of Library Assistant. This position has been open for 120-days and is needed to return to pre-COVID-services for the public. A copy of the Staff Report from Library Director Anderson was included on the on-line agenda for review. Director Anderson spoke in support of the request. Per questions from the Commission, Director Anderson explained that this is an entry level position, the status of the salary budget and its ability to cover this cost and the amounts trimmed from where the budget was in the past and that this position is included in the current budget. Deputy District Attorney Maddox clarified that this is not a waiver of the attrition policy as that period has passed, this would just be permission to fill the position. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To approve the request from the Library Director Jessica Anderson to hire to fill the position of Library Assistant as requested.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Human Resources Director Abel del Real-Nava appeared before the Commission.

APPROVAL OF JOB DESCRIPTION FOR EMERGENCY MANAGER POSITION: Consideration of, discussion, and possible action on a new job description for the position of Emergency Manager. This position will be responsible for planning, organizing, administering, coordinating, communicating and directing the development and implementation of a County-wide emergency planning and response program in accordance with NRS 414.090. A copy of the proposed job description for Emergency Manager Position was included on the on-line agenda for review. Director del Real-Nava reviewed the request for Commission. Chairman Cerri noted his concern with the number of duties for a part-time position. Director del Real-Nava responded noting if there was ever a determination that the number of hours

would need to be increased that would be brought back before the Commission. Commissioner Hoss stated his concern with this position serving at the pleasure of the County Manager as he does not believe it is appropriate as this position needs to be turned loose to do what is necessary; that he doesn't like to see this position answering to the County Manager and/or Assistant County Manager as they have enough to do. Commissioner French questioned if the County Manager/Assistant County Manager are not the ones who handle supervisory control who would. Commissioner Hoss suggested that ultimately the Commission would and noted currently the Health Board has kept an eye on the position. Commissioner French noted his concern with the day to day supervision such as leave approval and the ability of the Commission to do the employment evaluation for an independent position which would be unlike how all other positions are handled. Commissioner Hoss responded noting the guidelines that are available but offered if the position has to be under the County Manager/Assistant Manager why bother having a separate position. Commissioner French noted that all Department Heads report to the County Manager and if this position is made independent with no direct supervision how do you deal with any issues. Chairman Cerri asked about the language of the statute. Director del Real-Nava read the language of the statute which indicated that the position would be under the direction of the Commission or the Executive Director or in Humboldt's case the County Manager. Deputy District Attorney Maddox noted the language of the Code for appointment of the position. Commissioner French questioned what mechanism would be used if this position did not report to the County Manager or the Board. Director del Real-Nava commented on what occurs with the appointed officials at this point. Chairman Cerri noted the risk if there is no supervision over this position. Manager Mendiola noted his agreement with his office having a lot on their plate. Commissioner Hoss explained his concerns. Director del Real-Nava noted that all of the duties included in the description are not immediately needed nor do all of them occur all of the time. Deputy District Attorney Maddox observed that the duties of the Health Board do not cover the supervision of the Emergency Manager, that those duties lie more with the Local Emergency Management Committee. Director del Real-Nava commented on his concerns with performance supervision and those type of issues involving the Commission and how the open meeting law impacts that. Commissioner French asked where supervision lies for this position with other counties. Director del Real-Nava responded. Manager Mendiola noted the need to monitor the day to day activity for such things as payroll, the need in the smaller counties to share duties and the offered assistance of Captain Wilkin with bringing this individual up to speed. Director del Real-Nava explained the current language of the advertisement which is occurring. Commissioner Hill asked about the term "serving at the pleasure of the County Manager". Director del Real-Nava explained that is standard language for "at will" positions.

Commissioner Hill noted his agreement with Commissioner Hoss as to where this position reports to but, as he has not heard a better solution today, he is in support of approving the job description. Commissioner Hoss asked if any discussion had been held with the Sheriff's Office to see if they would be interested in continuing as the Emergency Manager with compensation. Chairman Cerri stated it seemed pretty clear that they were not interested. Commissioner French agreed. Commissioner Hill agreed that it would make more sense for this position to lie in the Sheriff's Office but he understands the issues. Manager Mendiola noted discussions that he had with the Sheriff and Captain Wilkin and that they are not interested in continuing in this position. Commissioner Hill asked if the requirement to serve on the LEPC Board is included in the proposed job description. Deputy District Attorney Maddox agreed that the description could be approved with that amendment. Chairman Cerri asked what the alternative would be for Commissioner Hoss if he does not support this position answering to the County Manager. Commissioner Hoss responded noting concerns that to comply with the State requirements it would be creating another 80 to 90 thousand-dollar position. Chairman Cerri offered that he does not support creating a position for that amount and that statute is specific that the position's supervision lies with the Commission or Manager. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

*To accept from Human Resources and make an approval of the job description for
Emergency Manager as presented with the inclusion of the responsibility to sit on
LEPC.*

Deputy District Attorney Maddox suggested an item be placed on the next agenda to nominate a board member to serve on the interview committee.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING LIST OF CERTIFIED APPRAISERS PER HUMBOLDT COUNTY CODE (HHC) 2.42 AND TO HIRE JOHN S. WRIGHT & ASSOCIATES TO CONDUCT REAPPRAISALS: Consideration, discussion and possible approval to adopt a resolution to accept the list of certified appraisers in northern Nevada. In addition, possible approval of a proposal from John S. Wright & Associates to conduct 3 appraisals of communication sites within Winnemucca in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.

A.) Resolution to accept Humboldt County List of Appraisers: Manager Mendiola reviewed the request for the Commission noting the statutory and code requirements and the number of queries sent resulting

in only one appraiser responding; he noted that they will continue to work on obtaining other options for the appraiser list. Chairman Cerri asked about the ability to use the Assessor's Office. Manager Mendiola responded that statute is very specific plus this is a very specialized type of appraisal but that he could look into this. Deputy District Attorney Maddox noted that this is the method that is required by statute. Assessor Heiser offered comment via Teams and explained that this is a different type of appraisal license. Deputy District Attorney Maddox commented on the language of the resolution and that this is something that would need to be done annually. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the Resolution for the Humboldt County List of Appraisers.

(Resolution No. 05-03-21)

B.) Consideration, discussion and possible approval of an agreement with John Wright & Associates to perform appraisals of communication sites at Winnemucca Mountain, Rose Creek Road, and the Winnemucca Sports Complex in an amount not to exceed \$8,000. Copies of the proposed Agreement for Professional Valuation Services were included on the on-line agenda for review. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To approve an agreement with John Wright & Associates to perform appraisals

of communication sites at Winnemucca Mountain, Rose Creek Road and the

Winnemucca Sports Complex in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Public Works Director Don Kalkoske appeared before the Commission via Teams.

WATER PERMIT RENEWAL REQUEST: Consideration, discussion and possible approval to renew Water Permit 77287 with the State Water Engineer, which was permitting for the purpose of providing a water source at the landfill. The well has never been drilled and this renewal would simply continue to provide an option for a well for a period of 2 years at a cost of \$247.80. Director Kalkoske reviewed the request for the Commission. Chairman Cerri commented on the importance of keeping permits as you won't get them back. Commissioner Hoss noted the amount already spent for maintaining this permit through the years. Discussion ensued regarding the permit costs and the cost of putting a well in at the site.

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Commissioner French questioned whether the Covid funding could be used for this and suggested that be looked at. Commissioner Hill agreed that the permit should be maintained but questioned how long it made sense to maintain the permit without drilling the well; he noted the benefit of having a well at this site for fire suppression as the current source is private. Discussion ensued regarding the ability of transferring the point of diversion for this permit. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To approve the application to renew water permit 77827 with the State

Water Engineer for the purpose of providing water source at the landfill

at a cost of \$247.80.

GENERAL ROAD PROJECTS: A presentation by Humboldt County Public Works Director Don Kalkoske to update the Board on Road projects within Humboldt County, however, no action may be taken on a matter raised until the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Director Kalkoske reported on the upcoming dust control project including the road preparation, road work on Jungo Road, upcoming work on Sand Pass Road, road work in the Grass Valley/Tycana area, road work on Jones, Old Jungo, Leonard Creek, Woodward and Big Creek, cattle guard cleaning, a request from the Sheldon Wildlife Refuge to install cattle guards on Summit Lake Road and his concern with said request, road work on Midas Road, Kings River Road and the Owyhee/Greeley Crossing due to the moisture received. Commissioner Hoss noted compliments received for road work done in the Bird Lane area. Director Kalkoske informed the Board that the railroad crossings are being adjusted again by the railroad but it is unknown at this time if this will affect the crossing out by Herschell. Commissioner Hill asked if we have an agreement with Hycroft on Jungo Road. Director Kalkoske confirmed that there is an agreement but that it is due to expire so it will be reviewed; he noted an area that is “no man’s land” that is not addressed and explained how they are sharing the duties on that section. Commissioner Hill asked if the new agreement will address how often Hycroft must work on their section or how many miles they must address. Director Kalkoske responded that he could look at that but he noted that they have been pretty good; he commented on questions about the 100-foot area per the BLM and the need to include that in the agreement. Commissioner Hill asked that the issue of how often the section is maintained be considered for the benefit of the community members.

Chairman Cerri recessed the meeting at 12:14 p.m. reconvening at 12:20 p.m.

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LETTER OF PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN WNDD: Consideration, discussion and possible approval of a letter requesting membership in Western Nevada Development District (WNDD). Membership in WNDD supports the county's goals to support economic development like workforce development, affordable housing efforts and general infrastructure. A copy of the proposed letter was included on the on-line agenda for review. The following motion was made by Commissioner Hill and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To approve the letter as written requesting membership in the Western Nevada

Development District.

SET TO PUBLIC HEARING: FIRST READING OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HUMBOLDT COUNTY CODE (THEREINAFTER "HCC") 2.44 "COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE" AND FILE AMENDMENT WITH CLERK: Consideration, discussion and possible action to set proposed amendments to HCC, Title 2, Chapter 2.44 entitled "County Public Defender's Office" to public hearing, file proposed amendments with County Clerk and the first reading of proposed amendments by title pursuant to NRS 2.44.100 . The Amendments to HCC 2.44, "County Public Defender's Office" are as follow: altering the responsibilities of the Public Defender to include representation of individuals in specialty court programs and removing that responsibility from the Alternate Public Defender, and by adding to the responsibilities of the Alternate Public Defender the representation of those individuals in misdemeanor proceedings, pretrial custody status hearings, arraignments, seventy two (72) hour hearings in justice court, and other matters properly related thereto. A copy of the proposed ordinance was included on the on-line agenda for review. Public Defender Matt Stermitz appeared before the Commission and reviewed the request for the Commission. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To grant a set to for public hearing for a proposed amendment to the Humboldt

County Code 2.44 "County Public Defender's Office" and file amendment with Clerk.

CONSIDERATION TO MOVE COMMISSION MEETINGS TO AN EARLIER TIME: Consideration, discussion and possible action to begin commission regular meetings at 8:30 a.m. Discussion ensued. After discussion the following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To start at 8:30 a.m.

BUDGET REVIEW CONTINUED FROM MARCH 29-30, 2021: Consideration, discussion and possible action regarding several key department budgets that were asked to return with possible reductions including Sheriff's Patrol and Detention, Computer Systems, Road, Regional Transportation Commission and Capital Projects Funds.

Sheriff Mike Allen and Captain Chris Lininger appeared before the Commission. Sheriff Allen reviewed the reductions in the Patrol budget (030). Comptroller Rackley commented on an additional reduction related to workmen's comp which reduces the prior request by \$127,213.00 for a total of \$4,456,047.00. Sheriff Allen reviewed what was removed including the requested new position and the moving of the shredder to the current budget. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To approve the patrol budget as requested tentatively.

Sheriff Allen reviewed the Detention Budget with a reduction of \$18,000.00 to \$3,350,670.00 but requested that the item in the amount of \$35,000.00 be removed for the detention center nurse as a grant may be available for this position but he would like to come back for the position if need be. Comptroller Rackley commented on the benefit of the nurse's position and asked that, if the grant is ultimately approved, that the cost savings be tracked with having the nurse as compared to hospital bills to support the position in the future; she noted the cost savings due to staffing shortages; the final amount with the removal of that position and the worker's comp savings would be \$3,306,220.00. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the Detention Budget as presented tentatively.

Chairman Cerri thanked the Sheriff for the adjustments.

Communications Director Ric Grantham and IT Director Tim Henigin appeared before the Commission. Director Grantham noted a reduction of \$90,000.00 due to the removal of equipment on machinery side and \$50,000.00 in computer items from the IT budget. Comptroller Rackley noted that she has not heard from this department on the cuts proposed so they will need to get with her to input the data. Manager Mendiola noted the change of the practice to put all of software costs to the IT budget as opposed to the individual departments' budgets as well as computer costs. Director Grantham

commented on the licensing costs and increases associated with those. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of charging some costs to the 9-1-1 Fund if it is determined that is an approved cost for that Fund. Chairman Cerri asked about the possibility of postponing some of the projects. Director Henigin noted that some of these funds are worse case scenarios and explained. Manager Mendiola commented on what is included in the budget and how these departments rarely spend what is included. Chairman Cerri commented on his concerns with the level of the overage for the budget and while he understands that we rarely spend it all, if it is approved it is easier to spend. Manager Mendiola noted that anything over \$5,000.00 has to come back before it can be done for further consideration and explained. Chairman Cerri again noted his concerns observing that the Commissioners are not elected to approve a non-realistic budget and an eight million plus overage is not realistic. Commissioner French commented on Chairman Cerri's concerns. Comptroller Rackley noted that the end of the month will show the amounts associated with Net Proceeds as well as the end of Legislature and what is done to Net Proceeds by the Legislature; she further noted concern about changes with Nevada Gold Mines and how that could impact future Net Proceeds. Discussion ensued about the budget concerns. Director Henigin commented on the status of the department's projects and the upcoming needs. Commissioner Hill stated his support of the Comptroller's judgement at this point and suggested that perhaps further review is needed for the Communications/IT budget; he continued suggesting the need to look at the capital projects budgeted but he supports moving forward for the departments. Chairman Cerri noted that as more IT is needed it becomes more expensive but, as that is what government depends on to function, he believes that at some point we will need to look at IT as we look at capital projects and set aside money to plan for future projects. Director Henigin offered that he could try for the future to show projected savings; that his hope is that we would not be looking at this type of increase next year; that he can put some off for a year but there is a risk if that is done. Director Grantham commented on the software costs. Chairman Cerri asked about the ability to look at putting off some of the projects at this time and weighing the risk of that. Director Grantham voiced his concern with weighing risk. Commissioner French noted the need to develop a contingency budget given the concern with net proceeds. Director Grantham commented on the need for additional positions for the departments. Comptroller Rackley noted the time line for budget approval. Commissioner Hoss observed that with the new technology being brought on there is no determination of the cost to maintain and how it impacts the IT Department. Commissioner French asked for detail on the identified cuts. Director Grantham responded. Manager Mendiola suggested that the items in the budget be better identified as to what their purposes are and, if cuts are offered, what risks could result; he noted the proposal for a back-up to the system for security purposes. Chairman Cerri

asked for a consensus. Commissioner French stated that he believes the Commission has to approve as the process is right down to the wire but he hopes that there is a contingency plan as things could get to that point. Chairman Cerri stated that he would like to see significant back up for any future requests. Director Grantham responded that that any member of the Commission can come over and they would be happy to go through the budget item by item with them. Director Henigin noted how they try and address everything they can without spending additional funds; he commented that they try to be as conservative as possible even if the numbers don't seem to reflect it. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To tentatively approve the budget cuts as presented today and that those cuts be provided to the Comptroller.

Chairman Cerri recessed the meeting at 2:00 p.m. reconvening at 2:05 p.m.

Public Works Director Kalkoske appeared before the Commission via Teams and reviewed items removed from Capital and those items transferred to the RTC Fund. Comptroller Rackley noted an additional savings related to workman's comp which results in a budget of \$4,279,170.25. The following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the Regional Transportation and Road Department changes as presented tentatively.

Buildings & Grounds Director Enoc Gaitan and Chief Building Engineer Jeff Tindall appeared before the Commission. Director Gaitan reviewed items cut from services and supplies per the request of the Commission. Comptroller Rackley noted this department would also have workman's comp savings. After discussion the following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To accept the changes that were presented with a total drop of 12.77% or \$69,000.00 tentatively.

Comptroller Rackley identified the following items recommended to be removed from the Buildings & Grounds budget including the Buildings & Grounds building (to Building Reserve), Detention

Center showers and Library roof/ramp (Capital Projects) and offered suggestions for the courtroom improvements to be a shared expense between the District Court, the Justice Court and the General Fund. Manager Mendiola discussed the time line for the court room renovations noting that could not be done in a single fiscal year; the time frame for the entry way and options for the Buildings & Grounds building. Commissioner Hoss offered a suggestion to use an area by the Road Department buildings for the Buildings & Grounds building. Discussion ensued. Chairman Cerri suggested putting off the ramp entrance for a year. Commissioner Hill suggested that the ramp be done first as it is a smaller amount and it might be better to have that in place prior to the courtroom improvement project beginning; he observed that the cost for the Buildings & Grounds building seems high so perhaps it should be explored further. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of another comparable building. Comptroller Rackley indicated that what she is hearing is to remove the \$1,500,000.00 for the Buildings & Grounds building from Capital Projects and place it in the Building Reserve, cut the courtroom project amount in half to \$1,500,000.00 which places the Capital Projects Fund at \$2,779,000.00. Discussion ensued about where to put the Library room/ramp project. After discussion the following motion was made by Commissioner French and passed with Chairman Cerri and Commissioners French, Hill and Hoss voting aye and Commissioner Tipton being absent:

To tentatively approve the \$2,779,000.00 plan as discussed for the Capital Improvement Fund and the \$1,500,000.00 to Building Reserve.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Commissioner French asked for an update on the insect control program including mosquitos, black flies and Mormon crickets. Manager Mendiola noted an item for selecting a Commissioner to sit on the Emergency Manager recruitment committee. Commissioner French asked for an update on the Covid funding and the need to appointment a Commission member to serve on the museum board.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman Cerri asked for public comment; none offered.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Cerri adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

ATTEST: U Sperso Clerk APPROVED: Ron Cerri Chairman

(Minutes approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman on 5-17-2021)