

**WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSION
RENO CITY COUNCIL
SPARKS CITY COUNCIL**

JOINT MEETING

FRIDAY

8:30 A.M.

OCTOBER 22, 2004

PRESENT:

Jim Shaw, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Washoe County Commissioner, Vice Chairman
Jim Galloway, Washoe County Commissioner
David Humke, Washoe County Commissioner
Pete Sferrazza, Washoe County Commissioner

Robert A. Cashell, City of Reno, Mayor
Dwight Dortch, Reno City Councilmember
Toni Harsh, Reno City Councilmember*
Pierre Hascheff, Reno City Councilmember*
Jessica Sferrazza, Reno City Councilmember
Sharon Zadra, Reno City Councilmember

Tony Armstrong, City of Sparks, Mayor
Mike Carrigan, Sparks City Councilmember
Geno Martini, Sparks City Councilmember
John Mayer, Sparks City Councilmember
Phil Salerno, Sparks City Councilmember
Ron Schmitt, Sparks City Councilmember*

ABSENT:

Dave Aiazzi, Reno City Councilmember

The Board and Councils met in joint session in the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, with Sparks Mayor Tony Armstrong presiding. Also present were Washoe County Manager Katy Singlaub, Deputy District Attorney Paul Lipparelli, County Clerk Amy Harvey, Reno City Chief of Staff Leann McElroy, Reno City Attorney Patricia Lynch, Reno City Clerk Lynnette Jones, Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey, Sparks City Attorney David Clarkman, and Sparks Deputy City Clerk Lenda Ulrich. It was noted that Gene Brockman, Incline Village General Improvement District, and Jonnie Pullman, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees President and, after Ms. Pullman left, Anne Loring, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member were invited to sit at the table as non-voting participants. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerks called the roll for their respective entities, and the Commission and Councils conducted the following business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Pennington, Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce, provided an update on the activities of the Truckee Meadows Community partnership that is comprised of business, environmental, social services, and government entities, which was formed to look at growth in the Truckee Meadows.

Jonnie Pullman, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees President, requested the School District be invited to sit at the table at joint meetings and be provided copies of the staff reports because the School District is directly impacted by the decisions made at these meetings. Mayor Armstrong invited the School District to join them at the table.

Sam Dehne, Reno resident, expressed how he felt about campaign ads and Nevada Secretary of State Dean Heller. He recommended everyone go out and vote.

Al Hesson, Reno resident, expressed his opinion of President Bush's role in the flu vaccine shortage.

*** 8:50 a.m.** Councilmember Schmitt arrived during public comment.

Robin Palmer, South West Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) member, spoke about the pervasive blasé attitude of the CAB members towards items to be decided by the Reno City Council.

Stephen Peek, Nugget representative, spoke about the issues involved in the proliferation of neighborhood casinos, and he asserted this is a regional issue.

*** 8:57 a.m.** Councilmember Harsh arrived during public comment.

04-1083 AGENDA

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Mayor Armstrong, seconded by Chairman Shaw, which motion duly carried with Councilmembers Aiazzi and Hascheff absent, Mayor Cashell ordered that the agenda for the joint meeting of October 22, 2004 be approved.

04-1084 MINUTES

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Mayor Armstrong, which motion duly carried with Councilmembers Aiazzi and Hascheff absent, Mayor Cashell ordered that the minutes of the joint meetings of February 4, February 18, and April 30, 2004 be approved.

04-1085 JOINT MEETING FREQUENCY

Sam Dehne, local resident, said joint meetings should be held more frequently, and he felt citizens should be allowed to place items on the agenda.

Commissioner Weber said she felt joint meetings should be held more often, discussions should take as long as needed, and there should be no predefined time limit for the meetings.

Councilmember Harsh agreed suggesting monthly meetings. She also agreed that setting time limits rushes discussions, and the meetings should take all day if needed.

Commissioner Sferrazza said he supported monthly meetings, and he suggested including the School Board at the table; but he felt changing the meeting schedule should wait until after the election so the new members could set it.

Chairman Shaw stated if the current schedule was continued, everyone needed to make a concerted effort to remain until all necessary business was conducted. He said, otherwise, he would be in favor of more frequent meetings.

Commissioner Weber said she felt it was important to pick a date for the meetings today. She said the public perception is that the City Councils and the Board of County Commissioners do not work together, so why not prove that is not true.

Commissioner Humke said staff needed to be considered when discussing the frequency of the meetings because of the effort required to coordinate schedules, and he did not feel this meeting was the time to schedule the next meeting. He said the joint meetings went to a quarterly schedule because of the lack of quorums. Commissioner Humke said, with the addition of General Improvement Districts and the School District, a better location might be needed before revising the schedule. He suggested the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) should also be invited to sit at the table for joint meetings as non-voting participant.

Mayor Armstrong said he felt the quarterly meetings worked, and it would be difficult to devote a full day to meetings once a month because of other commitments. He stated it takes extensive staff time to prepare for joint meetings plus the time required to attend the meetings.

Councilmember Schmitt said he had no problem including the School District or the GID's at the table, but at some point there might be too many people at the table to get anything accomplished. Commissioner Sferrazza said he would like the Indian Tribes included.

Paul Lipparelli, Deputy District Attorney, said he was concerned that broadening the discussion to include membership in the joint meetings could possibly be beyond the notice. Mayor Cashell said direction was being given to staff.

Shaun Carey, Sparks City Manager, suggested the inclusion of other entities be referred to the managers so the current rules could be evaluated and alternatives provided for a process where other entities review the agenda items and make a determination whether they want to be included so proper noticing can be done. He said this item could be added to the next agenda.

Mayor Armstrong said if all of these entities are invited there is not enough room in the County Chambers for everyone to sit at the table. He asked if the other entities would be voting members or not. Councilmember Dortch said invitations could be sent out to any non-voting entity, and they could attend if an agenda item was important to them.

After discussing the history of the meetings, Councilmember Harsh said why the meetings are being held needs to be looked at, which will help decide who needs to attend.

For the City of Sparks, on motion by Councilmember Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Mayer, for the County, on motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, and for the City of Reno, on motion by Councilmember Sferrazza, seconded by Councilmember Zadra with Councilmembers Aiazzi and Hascheff absent, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the joint meeting be scheduled on a still to be determined specific date every other month. It was further ordered that staff put together a list of entities to be included.

Commissioner Weber requested that staff be directed to schedule an overnight retreat in January 2005. Mayor Cashell said staff could discuss holding a retreat in February 2005.

**04-1086 WASHOE COUNTY ASSESSOR'S PROPERTY ASSESSMENT
PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS**

Robert McGowan, Washoe County Assessor, said Nevada real estate is valued at a taxable value. The land is valued at market or full cash value and the buildings or improvements at replacement cost as determined by Marshall Swift with 1-1/2 percent depreciation applied for each year of the improvement. He then discussed tax notices and reasons for appeal.

*** 9:25 a.m.** Councilmember Hascheff arrived.

Commissioner Galloway said he had received complaints that Washoe County does things differently than other counties. Mr. McGowan replied the State sets how the Assessors do their job. He said the ratio study was changed from two to every

three years to save money, but he preferred it be done every year. He stated studies have always held that Washoe County was doing the job correctly. Mr. McGowan stated all appraisers in the Assessor's Office have 180 hours of training and 36 hours yearly of continuing education. He stated many County appraisers exceed these requirements.

In response to Councilmember Schmitt, Mr. McGowan said the County was in the process of switching to yearly appraisals. He said this was the first year the County was costing all structures every year. He said if costing the structures goes smoothly then costing the land every year might be achieved in fourteen months to two years.

Commissioner Sferrazza said he had requested a ratio study by County but he got one by District. He would also like included in the study the last time the area was reappraised. Mr. McGowan replied the study could be done because most of the data was in the system and it was just a matter of extracting it. He said the areas just reappraised would have values closer to where the taxable value should be, and those done four years ago would be further away even though factors were applied. He said if these values were frozen they would be out of sync, and the legislature would have to address the issue.

Commissioner Galloway asked about the Nevada Tax Commission hearings and the rule changes. Mr. McGowan said the new rules have to be followed unless they were challenged in Court and subsequently changed.

04-1087 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO CAP PROPERTY TAX

John Sherman, Washoe County Finance Director, discussed the property tax cap proposal by Mark Schofield, Clark County Assessor, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He said an analysis, based on individual parcels, to project what the impact of the cap would be on next year's tax bill was being done in conjunction with the Nevada Association of Counties. He said currently there was only preliminary information available for Clark County with Washoe County information available shortly. He went on to discuss the shift from a progressive tax to a regressive tax, and the cap's affect on redevelopment agencies.

Mr. Sherman said the objective of the proposal was to mitigate increases in property tax value, which actually mitigates increases in property tax bills and the ability to pay; and he outlined other ways he felt this objective could be met. He also discussed the map of the Southern Washoe County reappraisal areas, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Commissioner Sferrazza asked if the proposal had a provision to equalize all of the properties. Mr. Sherman said an iteration of the proposal for those counties on the five-year reappraisal cycle has a capping mechanism factored in for the non-reappraised areas, but when those areas are reappraised, the base is set bringing them in line with everyone else. He said there would be a four-year gap until all areas are reappraised.

Commissioner Sferrazza said he felt the same rate as the depreciation rate used now should be given to residents based on how many years they have been a County taxpayer, not the age of the house. Mr. Sherman said there is a Constitutional provision as it relates to equal taxation. He said the value of the land, not the house, is driving the big spike in increases.

Commissioner Humke asked if it was possible to have a statute that involves population cutoffs, and Mr. Sherman said he had always been told the Constitutional provision precluded it. In response to Commissioner Humke, Mr. Sherman provided a more detailed explanation of regressive and progressive property taxes. He said the County physically reappraises only one District each year, but having factors applied essentially reappraises the other four Districts.

Councilmember Sferrazza asked how California's Proposition 13 compared to the proposed cap. Mr. Sherman replied only to the extent it limits an increase in value, whereas Proposition 13 limits increases in value until the property is sold. He said that would not happen with this proposal, but a change in use would trigger an increase to full market value.

Commissioner Galloway requested that staff look at the consequences of this proposal when overlaid with rebasing after the sale of a home.

Councilmember Carrigan asked if this proposal would pass the test of all taxpayers being treated equally. Mr. Sherman said he has been informed that the Counsel for the Legislative Counsel Bureau believes it is Constitutional.

Jonnie Pullman, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees President, said she did not believe the State would make up the dollars the School District would lose even for the operating fund. She said this cap would have a substantial impact on bonds, especially the rollover bond. Ms. Pullman said until the analysis Mr. Sherman mentioned was completed the exact impact on the School District would not be known.

Mayor Armstrong asked if the condition of buildings on a property is taken into account when the property is assessed. Mr. Sherman said there is no correlation between the condition of the house and its value; the only correlation is between its footprint and its replacement cost.

Maryanne Ingemanson, Village League, said some appraisers from the Assessor's Office have stated they have no intention of using the new rules passed on August 4, 2004, and she had affidavits to that effect. She said any appraiser who refused to follow the rules was guilty of malfeasance in office. Ms. Ingemanson said the Tax Commission was stunned when presented with information on how skewed Incline Village was in regards to the rest of the County. She said the County would need to appeal to the Tax Commission for approval to reappraise every year, which was what

Clark County did. Ms. Ingemanson said when there is inequality between or within counties, a reappraisal must be done with the County bearing half of the reappraisal cost.

Sam Dehne, local resident, said casinos had received drastic reductions on their property taxes because of downtown blight in Reno. He said his neighborhood had also suffered blight due to cancerous growth, and he would like to have his property taxes reduced similarly to the casinos. Mr. Dehne said he favored the cap.

Ted Harris, Incline Village resident, said over the last 15 years the increase in value on his home has been compounded annually at over 13 percent. He said with the recent demand for housing, Incline Village is going up eight percent with other areas that were reappraised or factored going up 22 to 26 percent. He said this increase in taxes has driven a number of people out of their homes. Mr. Harris said he supports the proposal to cap increases at six percent, and he believes Mr. Schofield when he states the six percent will bring revenue neutrality to the counties. He stated he believed the main point of the cap was predictability, which should be set at the lesser of six percent or inflation.

Gary Schmidt, local resident, said because of inequitable appraisals throughout the State, any freeze now would freeze those inequities. He spoke on the Board of Equalization hearings, his recommendations to change the timeframe during which appeals are heard, and noticing requirements.

Commissioner Galloway said he supports the concept of a cap because he felt people should not be taxed out of their homes, but the equity issue and other details need to be worked out.

Anne Loring, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member, said one third of the 75 cents of property tax earmarked for schools is part of the Nevada Plan that would impact the State. She said the other two thirds goes directly to the School District and would have an impact similar to the impact of the cap on the County. Ms. Loring said it is believed the biggest impact would be on the capital budget because Washoe County can only build schools from revenue received from property taxes; there is no other option for school construction. She said with increasing population more schools would be needed, which is emphasized by the addition of over 1,600 students this year compared to last year. Ms. Loring said this is equivalent to one and two thirds middle schools.

Mr. Paul Dugan, Interim Superintendent, said the bond rollover was not believed to be adequate to meet the building needs of Washoe County in the next ten years. He agreed with Ms. Pullman that the State would not be able to make up the difference if a part of the burden was shifted to the State.

Commissioner Galloway said the School District has a problem even without the cap. He said Washoe County needs an impact fee for schools, like other counties have. Mr. Dugan replied he did not believe that would be enough to offset the

problem, especially with the cap. He stated the School Board is considering discussion, during a future Legislative Session, on getting a transfer tax for Washoe County like Clark County is afforded. Mr. Dugan said an additional bond issue is not an option because of promises to the voters and the lack of money in the cap; and that is why additional sources of revenue must be examined.

Mayor Armstrong asked what affect Ballot Questions 1 and 2 would have on funding in conjunction with the six percent cap. Mr. Dugan said he did not see a relationship between Questions 1 and 2 and the cap. Regarding Question 1, Mr. Dugan suggested funding education first might put it at a disadvantage for any additional funding identified later in the session. He personally feels Question 1 may not benefit the School District. Regarding Question 2, Mr. Dugan said there is debate on what is the national average, and increasing funding to that level is a significant increase for the State.

Commissioner Humke said plans should be made outside of the Legislative session to contact and educate new Legislators on what life is like in Washoe County, and he would be happy to participate. Councilmember Hascheff agreed and said all of the information should be obtained before deciding what to do.

Commissioner Sferrazza spoke about past proposals and the two factors that make today's system unequal: depreciation and the five-year reappraisal cycle. He suggested the systems used in Hawaii and Alaska be examined for alternatives. Commissioner Sferrazza stated he supported the six percent cap, but he felt the equalization of the base should be done before imposing the cap.

Mr. Harris requested County citizens be granted equal time to debate the proposal before a decision is made. Commissioner Humke said this issue appears to necessitate holding a nighttime joint meeting. Chairman Shaw, Mayor Cashell, and Commissioner Galloway agreed.

Commissioner Galloway said the analysis should be completed before the meeting is held. Councilmember Schmitt said three studies were being done on this issue and they should start to be available in 60-90 days. He suggested the meeting be set up for late December or early January. Commissioner Weber suggested another location for the meeting and the School Board of Trustees be invited to sit at the table.

10:45 a.m. The meeting was briefly recessed.

10:55 a.m. The meeting reconvened without Councilmember Dortch.

04-1088 UNLIMITED GAMING LICENSES

Margaret Powell, City of Sparks Planner, said the Sparks City Council wanted to bring to a regional forum the issues of the portability of gaming licenses and land use concerns regarding neighborhood casinos without hotel rooms. She discussed

what the Cities of Reno and Sparks have done, and the lack of vacant Tourist Commercial land in Washoe County.

Mayor Armstrong stated he wanted to know the intent of the Legislative Counsel Bureau when they passed the law because moving the licenses around affects the region. Mayor Armstrong said he would like to see Washoe County and the City of Reno join with the City of Sparks on this issue. He stated the City of Sparks moratorium ends in February and suggested the time should be extended because that may not be enough time to study this regionally.

Councilmember Sferrazza said the Reno City Council has looked at joining the City of Sparks in a moratorium, but she felt there were gaps and loopholes in existing ordinances that should be looked at, and she cited an example.

Councilmember Salerno said right now the issue was a City of Sparks issue. Mayor Cashell replied it is a regional problem. He said he did not want to change the City of Reno's master plan, but zoning should be worked on cooperatively along with other issues. He went on to discuss what actions the City of Reno had taken.

Mayor Armstrong said the same rules should apply for the Cities and the unincorporated areas under County jurisdiction. He also discussed entitlements and asked what State law contained regarding them. Mayor Armstrong said, even though it is now an issue for the City of Sparks, it might become an issue for the City of Reno or the County. He believes all three entities should work together to address the issue.

Councilmember Zadra agreed this is a regional issue and that consensus is needed to regulate where casinos can be built.

Councilmember Harsh said she has always supported vigorous and open discussion regarding this issue contrary to what has been reported. In response to Councilmember Harsh, Commissioner Sferrazza said the redline was changed in the late 1970's or early 1980's. He said it used to be every parcel that was zoned commercial in the City of Reno was eligible for a casino, but the City Council eliminated hotel-casinos as a permitted use from any zone but those zoned for hotel-casinos. He said after a compromise arising from litigation they were permitted downtown, by the convention center, by the airport, and by existing uses such as the Peppermill and the Atlantis.

Councilmember Schmitt said he felt it was important to have the Indian Tribes from the surrounding area sitting at the table during any discussions and in cooperative agreement. Mayor Cashell said he agreed, but the Indian Tribes can build anywhere they want.

Gary Schmidt said the region needs to look beyond gaming to build tourism, and he does not want to spend any taxpayer dollars to prop up the gaming industry. He suggested a State lottery to support schools.

Susan Haven, City of Sparks resident, said this is a regional issue and she is concerned for the safety of school children navigating Pyramid Highway near the proposed casino.

Sam Dehne, local resident, said he believes neighborhoods should decide if a casino should be located in their neighborhood or not.

Vallea Rose, Spanish Springs resident, stated she hoped there would be an opportunity for discussion on the proposed casino and 200-room hotel on the next Sparks City Council agenda. She agreed this is a regional issue.

Stephen Peek, Nugget representative, read Nevada Revised Statute 463.3072 regarding neighborhood casinos. He said casinos should be concentrated in the areas where they are most appropriate and would benefit tourism. He said he supports it being dealt with as a regional issue. Lyle Haven, City of Sparks resident, agreed.

Anne Loring, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees Member, volunteered the Board of Trustees and School Board staff to take part in the study.

Commissioner Sferrazza said many of these issues had been litigated before, and he felt some of these old cases needed to be looked at. He said hotel/casinos were indicated as being projects of regional significance in the Regional Plan. He does not see why portability is an issue because the license should not be used where it is not properly zoned and rezoning for that purpose should not be forced.

After further discussion and advice by Legal Counsel, for the City of Reno, on motion by Councilmember Sferrazza, seconded by Councilmember Harsh, which motion duly carried with Councilmembers Aiazzi and Dortch absent, it was ordered that the City of Reno participate in a regional study that includes participation by the City of Sparks, Washoe County, and the Indian Tribes to look at the issues regarding unlimited gaming licenses. It was further ordered that a moratorium similar to the unlimited gaming license moratorium by the City of Sparks be brought back as a future agenda item for the Reno City Council.

In response to Mayor Armstrong, Shaun Carey, Sparks City Manager, replied that he did not believe the City of Sparks should address extending the moratorium, but staff should be directed to participate in the regional study with the other jurisdictions.

In response to Councilmember Mayer, Katy Singlaub, County Manager, replied the City of Sparks and County staffs were working on what the survey of the County residents around Pyramid would entail.

For the City of Sparks, on motion by Councilmember Mayer, seconded by Councilmember Martini, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the City of Sparks participate in a regional study that includes participation by the City of Reno,

Washoe County, and the Indian Tribes to look at the issues regarding unlimited gaming licenses.

Commissioner Humke asked if the Legislative Counsel Bureau should be involved in this study because of the impact on State Statutes. Commissioner Sferrazza said most of the property in Washoe County could not be converted by the Indian Tribes to gaming without the Governor's permission. Commissioner Humke disagreed saying it has happened elsewhere. Mayor Cashell said if the Tribes buy land outside of their tribal area, they have to get approval from Washington, D.C. and the State to go into gaming on that land.

For Washoe County, on motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Washoe County participate in a regional study that includes participation by the Cities of Sparks and Reno, Indian Tribes, and the State to look at the issues regarding unlimited gaming licenses. It was further ordered that a moratorium similar to the unlimited gaming license moratorium by the City of Sparks be brought back as a future agenda item for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners.

**04-1089 CONSOLIDATION OF JUSTICE AND MUNICIPAL COURTS –
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, discussed the status report, specifically mentioning the City of Sparks was not interested in pursuing this. She said, since there is no desire to include prosecution in the joint study, the District Attorney's Office will not be a participant except as legal counsel to advise the process. Councilmember Carrigan said this came from the judges not the Sparks City Council.

Mayor Armstrong said the City of Sparks was interested in collocating services, but not Court consolidation.

Councilmember Sferrazza thanked the committee and expressed the desire to pass the Resolution to be presented to the Legislature by 2005 or 2007.

**04-1090 BID AWARD AND CONSTRUCTION – REGIONAL ANIMAL
SERVICES CENTER**

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, thanked all of the entities for their participation and for their attendance at the groundbreaking. She noted that all three logos would be on the shelter. Councilmember Sferrazza said she was glad to see an indication that the City of Reno was a partner in the shelter as there was none during the groundbreaking.

Mayor Armstrong said the manager of the Kmart Distribution Center had indicated the center would donate dog food that is in damaged bags if the shelter would pick it up. Ms. Singlaub said he would be contacted.

Commissioner Sferrazza requested the names of the City Councils and Commission members be on the building.

Chairman Shaw read a letter of appreciation to Mayor Cashell and the Reno City Council regarding the consolidation of animal services and the development of the shelter.

Gary Schmidt stated that bricks engraved with a pet's name be made available for a minimum donation at the combined shelter as a way of raising additional funds.

11:50 a.m. Sparks Mayor Armstrong and City Councilmembers Martini and Salerno left.

04-1089 CONSOLIDATION OF RENO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Gary Schmidt, local resident, spoke about the breakdown in any effort by officials to control or regulate traffic during the Andrew Lane fire and the overload of 911 during the fire. He felt there should be an investigation and study of these problems prior to any serious consideration on consolidation of law enforcement.

Steve Watson, Washoe County Labor Relations Manager, stated due to direction received at the last joint meeting, Labor Relations went back to the Labor Associations to determine what type of governance model they were looking at and found out they support different models. He said because of this it is virtually impossible to define a mutual labor agreement between the Associations.

Councilmember Sferrazza proposed going to the voters in 2006 to ask how they feel about consolidating law enforcement.

Commissioner Sferrazza suggested the City of Reno and Washoe County take a joint position during negotiation of the contract. Mr. Watson replied the challenge the committee faced was trying to do a labor agreement that would be lower cost than under a statutory consolidation. He said if the Associations refuse to forge an agreement, then the statutory guidance would provide an opportunity.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said not only is the statutory framework an option, it is a mandate. She said currently the only way to consolidate the patrol and detective activities is under the metro model for a County of this size. Ms. Singlaub said the only way to change it at the Legislature is if everyone, including the Associations, is behind the change. Commissioner Sferrazza said he would like for the City of Reno and the County to put together a package that would save money and take it to the Legislature if the bargaining units agree to it. He said if they do not agree at least a good faith effort was made. Ms. Singlaub said it was not only the labor agreement, but also the difference

in governing models. She said the Associations have different preferences as to who would be in charge and what would be consolidated. She said this is where the County and the City of Reno would need to be together to go to the Legislature. Ms. Singlaub said if there was a preference on which model to use, staff could certainly work on the labor agreement.

Councilmember Sferrazza said there are pros and cons to all of the models and they should all be proposed. She said she would like to see the models come back to the Commission and Council for direction.

Mr. Watson said he believes since the Associations are so diametrically opposed, it is in essence direction to look at a statutory consolidation, and that type of labor agreement can be put together. He said this is contrary to direction previously received.

Councilmember Sferrazza asked if there was an estimated cost for mandated agreement if the cherry-picking provision is invoked. She said she had never seen that model that shows the differences and where there is and is not parity. Ms. Singlaub said those details have been provided four times through the City Manager's Office, but staff will provide them again with updates for the County's recently approved contract. She said it does not account for any savings that could be specified; there are only general conceptual discussions of savings but nothing that has been adopted.

Mayor Cashell said he had received a letter from the Sheriff's Association indicating they are interested in consolidation and one from the Reno Police Association that they are not.

Councilmember Hascheff said consolidation should continue to be pursued. He suggested arranging a joint meeting with the entities, Labor Relations, and the collective bargaining units to go over the impasse items to see if they can be fixed. Commissioner Sferrazza said it should be a closed joint Labor Relations session. Mayor Cashell said staff should be given direction to look at it and Legal Counsel should come back with what can and cannot be done.

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Councilmember Sferrazza thanked Councilmember Harsh for her contributions during her term on the Reno City Council, which Councilmember Harsh graciously accepted.

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There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

JAMES M. SHAW, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

AMY HARVEY, County Clerk
and Clerk of the Board of
County Commissioners

ATTEST:

ROBERT A. CASHELL, Mayor
City of Reno

LYNNETTE R. JONES, City Clerk
City of Reno

ATTEST:

TONY ARMSTRONG, Mayor
City of Sparks

DEBORINE J. DOLAN, City Clerk
City of Sparks

*Minutes Prepared by
Jan Frazzetta
Deputy County Clerk*