

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

PRESENT:

Marsha Berkbigler, Chair
Kitty Jung, Vice Chair
Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner
Bob Lucey, Commissioner

Nancy Parent, County Clerk
John Slaughter, County Manager
David Watts-Vial, Legal Counsel

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:00 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

Chair Berkbigler stated it was the Principal for a Day event and introduced Tammy Hart, Principal of Spanish Springs High School; Larry Kuper, Principal of Alice Maxwell Elementary School; and David Keller, Principal of Glenn Duncan Elementary School. She indicated Commissioner Hartung was paired with Ms. Hart and Commissioner Herman was paired with Mr. Kuper for the day.

15-0792 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the placement of a medical marijuana establishment (MME) on Mount Rose Highway: Steve Pelzer, Adam Michelin, Joe Trimarchi, Elizabeth Liddiard, Michael Liddiard, Ken Lutz, Bob Ackerman, Doug Melson, Ed Lapelusa, Meghan DiRocco, Bari Caine, Keith Finkelstein, Tracy Pickett, and David Jones.

The above individuals' concerns included: the specific location of the MME, enforcement of the medical marijuana regulations, the ease of access to marijuana, the negative impact on property values, the increased traffic level on Mount Rose Highway, traffic safety, an increase in crime, an increase in fire danger, an increase in impaired driving, impacts to community safety, the public not being consulted on the MME sites, the lack of impact studies and outreach, the need for proper assessment of MME locations, MMEs located in neighborhoods and near children, the MME's negative effects on tourism, and the potential for medical marijuana to result in recreational use.

The above individuals' requests included: A thorough traffic study, for the MME to be relocated, and for medical marijuana and MME impact studies.

10:44 a.m. Commissioner Hartung left.

Kristopher Dahir spoke about the Nevada Veterans Memorial Plaza fundraising dinner on September 25, 2015. He stated it would be educational and he invited the Commissioners to attend.

15-0793 **AGENDA ITEM 7** Commissioners'/Manager's announcements.

Commissioner Herman apologized to the citizens in opposition to the medical marijuana establishment (MME) on Mount Rose Highway. She stated the Board should have taken action to regulate MME locations.

Commissioner Lucey thanked the citizens in opposition to the MME on Mount Rose Highway for voicing their opinions. He stated he read the emails sent to him regarding the MME location. He denied any personal or financial involvement with the MME. He said he would work with staff to initiate a public forum to discuss the citizens' concerns.

Chair Berkbigler stated the Board listened to the citizens' MME concerns and was working diligently to address them. She mentioned the next Board meeting would include an MME agenda item.

Commissioner Jung apologized to the citizens in opposition to the MME on Mount Rose Highway. She stated she had concerns about the MME and would try to encourage the developer to relocate. She felt staff did not provide enough information to the public regarding the MME. She believed the County's frequently asked questions (FAQs), on the website, related to MMEs needed to include pictures to help explain what a MME was. She thought there should be a countywide policy to provide the facts about potentially controversial issues.

Later in the meeting, Chair Berkbigler revisited the Principal for a Day topic and stated Commissioner Lucey would be paired with Matt Burak, Principal of the Marvin Picollo School. She added John Slaughter, County Manager, already visited Glenn Duncan Elementary School.

Commissioner Jung noted her Principal for a Day experience at Echo Loder Elementary School was postponed.

Chair Berkbigler mentioned staff created a more comprehensive fact sheet on medical marijuana that was available on the County's website.

Commissioner Lucey spoke about his Washington, DC business trip with the Regional Transportation Commission's executive director and public relations manager. He stated they met with Senator Dean Heller, Congressman Mark Amodei, Congressman Dina Titus, Congressman Joe Heck, Congressman Crescent Hardy, and the transportation lobbyist to discuss the funding needs for federal roadways in Northern Nevada.

15-0794 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Presentation of Excellence in Public Service Certificates honoring the following Washoe County employees who have completed essential employee development courses. Human Resources.

John Slaughter, County Manager, recognized the following employees for successful completion of the Excellence in Public Service Certificate Programs administered by the Human Resources Department:

Promote Yourself!

Bonnie Ingram, Community Service
Jeremiah McCauley, Sheriff's Office

PROCLAMATIONS

15-0795 **5A** Proclamation -- September 2015 as Hunger Action Month.

Commissioner Jung read and presented the Proclamation to Laura Helen and Melissa Davis of the Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN).

Ms. Helen thanked the Board. She stated 30,000 children woke up each morning not knowing if they would have something to eat. She invited the Commissioners to a FBNN event on September 25, 2015.

Ms. Davis also thanked the Board for its continued partnership to raise awareness for hunger insecurity in the community.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Hartung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 5A be adopted.

15-0796 **5B** Proclamation -- October 2015 as Community Planning Month.

Commissioner Lucey read and presented the Proclamation to Bill Whitney, Director of the Planning and Development Division, and Dave Solaro, Director of the Community Services Department.

Mr. Whitney thanked the Board for recognizing the service of the Planning Commission's and Board of Adjustment's members. He noted the Planning and Development Division was an interesting place to work. He mentioned his staff handled a diverse workload, which included code enforcement and the analyzation of the environmental impact to sage grouse.

Mr. Solaro echoed Mr. Whitney's comments and said his department was getting busier. He also thanked the Board.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Hartung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 5B be adopted.

DONATIONS

15-0797 **6A** Accept a donation [\$1,203.25] from the Northern Nevada DUI Task Force (NNDUITF) to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office for the Sheriff's Office Operations Bureau for the purchase of Portable Breath Testers (PBTs) for the Victim Impact Panel and, if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make appropriate budget adjustments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

15-0798 **6B** Approve donation of miscellaneous lab equipment and supplies [approximate value \$300] to the University of Nevada, Reno from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no public comment on the donations listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Hartung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Items 6A to 6B be accepted and approved.

15-0799 **AGENDA ITEM 8** Possible Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations with Washoe County, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and/or Sierra Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220.

There was no closed session.

15-0800 **AGENDA ITEM 10** Public Comment.

Steve Pelzer submitted aerial images of the proposed medical marijuana establishment location on Mount Rose Highway, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He asked the Commissioners to spend time in the area to observe the traffic. He wanted

to know if legal counsel had commented on the issue of the County's liability related to the medical marijuana establishment (MME).

Bob Ackerman stated he did not receive any information from the County about the MME on Mount Rose Highway until a recent Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) meeting. Prior to the CAB meeting, the information he received was only by word-of-mouth.

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11:26 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Hartung absent, the meeting was adjourned.

MARSHA BERKBIGLER, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

NANCY PARENT, County Clerk and
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

*Minutes Prepared by:
Michael Siva, Deputy County Clerk*