



STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

MARCH 2, 2021 10:00 A.M.

DISTRICT COURTROOM

26 SOUTH B STREET, VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA

MEETING MINUTES

JAY CARMONA
CHAIRMAN

ANNE LANGER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CLAY MITCHELL
VICE-CHAIRMAN

LANCE GILMAN
COMMISSIONER

VANESSA STEPHENS
CLERK-TREASURER

Roll Call: Chairman Carmona, Vice-Chairman Mitchell, County Manager Austin Osborne, Clerk & Treasurer Vanessa Stephens, Deputy District Attorney Keith Loomis, Fire Chief Jeremy Loncar, Sheriff Antinoro, Senior Planner Kathy Canfield, Community Relations Lara Mather, Emergency Management Director Joe Curtis, District Attorney Anne Langer, IT Director James Deane, Employee Relations Jeanne Greene, Human Relations Tobi Whitten, Comptroller Jennifer McCain, Public Works Director Jason Wiezrbicki, Tourism Director Deny Dotson, Assessor Jana Seddon, Recorder Marney Hansen-Martinez, Community Chest Executive Director Erik Schoen, Community Development Director and Fire Marshall Martin Azevedo

Absent: Commissioner Gilman

1. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING AT 10:00 A.M.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Carmona at 10:00 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Carmona led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of Agenda for March 2, 2021.

County Manager Osborne requested Item 11 be continued to March 16, 2021. Commissioner Gilman is absent today due to an emergency conflict.

Public Comment:

Nate Helton, Regional Representative/Senator Jackie Rosen's Reno District Office: He is joining the meeting today to introduce himself to the those he has not met and to say hello to those he has.

Mr. Helton said to consider him as resource for any information related to (inaudible) rescue plan legislation, or any other concerns or questions.

Chief Loncar: On item 16 there appears to be two cover letters. Ignore the one that reads Storey County - proceed with the one that reads Storey County Fire Commissioners.

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve today's Agenda with staff's noted adjustments to postpone item #11, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of Minutes for January 19, 2021.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the Minutes as submitted, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

5. CONSENT AGENDA

I For possible action, approval of claims in the amount of \$1,511,013.20.

II For possible action, approval of Business License First Readings

A. Rini Insurance Agency Inc. - General/198 N C St. Unit B, Virginia City, NV

B. TR Coffee - Out of County/1849 Matteoni Dr., Sparks, Nv

C. GeoStrata - Out of County/14425 S. Center Pointe Way, Bluffdale, UT

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the Consent Agenda for today's meeting, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action):

Alexia Sober, Virginia City resident: On behalf of the community - to let everyone know, StinkE passed away today. Funds are being raised for his burial in the Virginia City Cemetery.

7. DISCUSSION ONLY (No Action): Updates and discussion from county lobbyists and staff regarding upcoming bills and legislative action affecting Storey County.

Austin Osborne, on behalf of lobbyist Mary Walker: As a team they are working on about 45 different Bills. Ms. Walker, along with elected officials, department heads, himself, and others are monitoring and providing comments on these Bills. It is early at this point, not a lot has happened.

Two big Bills he continuously updates are SB98 and AB90.

- SB98 - Carson Water Subconservancy Bill: This has gone through a first hearing in Committee. This is a non-regulatory water and conservation district that (the County) would potentially join. This will cause no tax or any other fee increases to Storey County residents.
- AB90 - The Impacts Bill: Any development in Storey County, as well as other places, would have to go through a regional planning evaluation to determine the impacts of a development on neighboring jurisdictions. Not only would this affect Storey County, but other counties with similar situations where something occurring in one county may or may not affect neighbors. This does not appear to be getting much traction but is being taken seriously. A fiscal impact study that was submitted indicates this would cost Storey County about \$4.7 million a year in impact to services (the County) would have to provide to make it work. This would stop development completely, not only in Storey County, but in northern Nevada.

8. DISCUSSION ONLY (No Action - No Public Comment): Committee/Staff Reports

Sheriff Antinoro:

- Reno Police Department will be holding a training exercise tomorrow on Five Mile Flat. No "live" fire or anything like that.

Fire Chief Loncar:

- Thank you to those who helped with Battalion Chief testing on Saturday: Becky (Parsons) from Dispatch, Joe Curtis - Emergency Management, and Tobi Whitten - HR.

Jason Weizrbicki, on behalf of Mike Northan, Project Manager:

- The tower conduit project on USA Parkway site is "full steam ahead".

Becky Parsons, Dispatch Manager:

- Everything is still on track for the new dispatch center opening on April 19th.

Joe Curtis, Emergency Management Director:

- There is a total 78 Covid cases since March 1st 2020 - with 5 active. One new case in the last 14 days. The Quad-County total is 11, 253 - with active numbers down about 400 cases. Recoveries are up.
- Storey County's positivity rate is 1.75 cumulative cases per 100,000 population (which we don't have).
- On May 1st, the Governor plans to transition to local entities. The County will meet with local business leaders, including from TRI, for their thoughts and input. The Governor will have some sort of guideline providing information on what we can do, how we go about it.

Lara Mather, Community Relations Director:

- The number of people testing is declining - hours for testing are decreased from 3 per test site to 1 1/2 hours. Community testing dates for March will be the 10th and 24th from 10 to 11:30 AM.

- Questions regarding vaccinations or anything Covid related, can be directed to the Statewide Covid Hotline at 1-800-401-0946 - 7 days per week, 8AM to 8PM.
- They are working closely with Carson City Health & Human Services and the Quad-County Health Coalition in this process.
- Information directly related to the Quad-Counties - go to Carson City Get Healthy.org. This is a very informative website and includes how to make an appointment for vaccination.
- On February 22nd, local pharmacies began vaccinating people 65 and over. Information is on the Carson City Get Healthy.org website.
- Counties are moving through this at different speeds. Some are doing different age groups.

Deny Dotson, VCTC Director:

- The V&T Railway Commission workshop has been re-scheduled to tomorrow at 11AM. Anyone with any interest regarding the long-line and impacts on Virginia City, are encouraged to call in.
- The Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry is sold out. This event was limited to pre-registered with 400 tickets sold. This will not be the normal congested event and is completely within the Covid guidelines working within the occupancy limits of each private business.
- This has been a tough year. He looks forward to working with community leaders to get back to normal.

Austin Osborne, on behalf of Mike Nevin:

- Gold Hill Sewer plant: The slab is being put in along with conduit. There have been some delays with manufacture of the building, but it should be here soon and is pretty much on schedule.
- Hillside Tanks: The tank needs to soak in water for about 5 days. It will be drained and re-filled - and then it's ready to go on-line. The old tank will be taken down and grading will begin for the second tank.

Jennifer McCain, Comptroller:

- They are "deep" in budgets.
- The Capital Improvement Plan is "nailed down" for the next fiscal year. They are moving forward with the next three years. The Plan spans all areas of the County and includes Capital Project, Infrastructure, Equipment Acquisition Funds - as well as projects for several departments.
- All department budgets have been submitted and are currently being reviewed with department heads with details being worked out.

James Deane, IT Director:

- The USA Parkway site project will allow us to finally get VHF radio equipment into that site. Thank you to Mike Northan for his work on this project.
- The vendor on the sewer tower project in Virginia City has requested a soil test. Mr. Northan has been asked to help through this process. The soil analysis will include engineering on the

tower footing. There are a lot of mine tailings around the site - we need to make sure it will not move on us.

Erik Schoen, Community Chest Director:

- They are slowly re-opening some services.
- The library should be set up by the end of this month. People can make appointments to come in. Curb-side pick-up will also be available.

Chairman Carmona:

As previously mentioned, StinkE has passed. He was a long-time staple on the boardwalk - he will be missed.

9. BOARD COMMENT (No Action – No Public Comment)

None

10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Provide direction to county staff and lobbyists representing Storey County regarding potential legislation related to Innovation Zones and other properly related matters.

County Manager Osborne explained the Governor presented a bill draft review (BDR) to the Legislature. The draft is posted on-line. Elements known at this time are being looked at. One is the residential element, including a substantial housing development in Painted Rock, an urban residential center of several thousand residences with mixed use. These are elements supported by the 2016 Master Plan as long as they are at the Painted Rock area and would not be allowed within the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center boundaries. A rendition has been provided for an urban design or "smart city" element, showing things such as stainless steel, high-rises, a lot of glass - very modern type of designs. This is very high density - a "generation Z" type of mixed use, commercial environment. We believe this is also supported by the 2016 Master Plan for the Painted Rock area.

Mr. Osborne continued:

- There is a technology component which would be integrated into every element that is developed out there. Those are good things, the future of our world. The County is all about creating the future. We would just like to see this is done within the oversight of the State and the framework as created by agencies like Taxation, State Recorder's offices, Clerk's offices, and other locals involved in this type of technology uses.
- A fourth element - a separate government element. Proposed in the draft is approximately 50,000 acres as an "innovation zone" that has the above elements but creates a phased separation from Storey County creating a separate, local government - with its own separate elected and appointed offices, staff, services, etc. At this point, we feel there is not a way to create the foregoing and it's not necessary. The impact to Storey County as understood so far: it would carve out a part of Storey County and create another county; (Storey County) would have no say in the governance that occurs in this new area but is still expected to provide government services to the area - police, fire, management, Clerk, Recorder - everything

would be provided to this area for up to 75 years. This is an unpredictable environment for staffing, capital improvements, etc., that we would be providing. (The County) would go from 150 staff to 6,000 to 9,000 people to provide services to this area.

- Looking at the I-Zone area, and the various uses out there, there could be 48 - 60 million dollars in future lost revenue to Storey County as these revenues, under the model proposed, would be pushed into the Innovation Zone. Yet, (the County) would still be responsible to provide services to this area, and even outside this area, as the rest of County continues to grow.
- There is nothing in the Bill saying the Innovation Zone will stay - as it is proposed - over time. What's to say they will not purchase land - all vacant parcels in Lockwood, the Highlands, Mark Twain, even Virginia City - potentially taking the whole county. These are unknowns at this point.
- Services to be provided could include a Board of Supervisors - would (the County) have to provide salaries for these people? They're appointed by the Governor, have no relation to (the County), and do not answer to the taxpayers and voters of Storey County - a concern. How do we assure what goes on is in the interests of the people of Storey County?
- There is concern that when there are 100 residents, they would create their own elected Board.
- What if this doesn't work, who takes back over? What if it's a super-fund? What if it's not finished? There are places across the United States - old malls built - where hundreds of millions of dollars are put in the properties to make them feasible and the local jurisdictions are stuck with the properties.
- There are no details in the plan for these things. At this point, it is just conceptual. We just want to bring the concerns forward.
- Importantly, we do not believe it is necessary to create a separate, local type of government.
- There is no place in Nevada that has fast permitting, permitting flexibility, nimbleness that Storey County does. (The County) is well known for this all over the United States, as well as locally. The TRI Development Agreement stands to protect business uses and future of the industrial center. There's the TRI General Improvement District - it is managed properly and with the right leadership.
- (The County) has very generous zoning - both inside and outside TRIC - making it easier to build.
- The Master Plan spells out the neo-traditional plans supported by the County and is very easy to read and understand.
- Look at all the moving parts for the tax improvement area for the effluent line.
- The County has never obstructed and has always been able to make things happen.
- We want to do the same for Blockchains and the people who want to build out there. We tell them how to do it - follow Title 17, follow Title 16. Necessary adjustments were made immediately to Title 16 (within 30 days) when a developer came to us and said it wasn't going to work. This is an example of how quick we make things happen but still be done right.
- We would love to see the stainless steel, the high-rise, the modern stuff, that sort of thing - out in that area. There's already elements in the planned unit development process for that. A potential town could be created for a local antimony and development. A development agreement could be looked at.

Mr. Osborne: Staff recommends directing staff and lobbyists as follows:

- 1) Support and work with the Legislature and applicable elected officials, to explore Blockchains crypto-currency, and other such currencies;
- 2) Continue to support the 2016 Master Plan as applicable to neo-traditional, newer (inaudible) design otherwise as presented by the Blockchain "smart city" rendition and is supported by the Master Plan;
- 3) To oppose separatist, governing control and carving up of Storey County;
- 4) To consider government outreach for meaningful, causative discussions allowing for proper planning, proper oversight, and within existing frameworks of Nevada Law, or the Master Plan, or local ordinance;
- 5) To provide periodic up-dates to this Board as more is known, and potentially to make amendments to the foregoing as things come our way.

Public Comment:

Eileen Gay, Painted Rock resident: Thanked the Commission for vigilance in tracking the direction of the Innovation Zone Bill. This would affect a large portion of Storey County at Painted Rock. A lot of (people) will be watching and will want to be involved in the process once a development is proposed. The way this looks, the Innovation Bill would extract a large portion of Storey County at Painted Rock. She looks forward to having active and focused discussions about concerns as this moves forward - once there is a draft Bill proposed and looking at the development that comes up - whether it's part of an innovation zone or part of Storey County.

Nicole Barde, Storey County resident: Asked Mr. Osborne if he said, as part of (the County's) accommodation for what Blockchains wants to do, we would accept bitcoin as currency?

Mr. Osborne: More broadly, look at all the legislation being proposed that has anything to do with those sorts of currencies and technologies. To learn and listen, and to work with the electric folks in other state agencies that manage them. If this is proven to be the way Nevada is going, to embrace that sort of thing. This is a technologically advanced county - and we would go along with that pursuant to the Board's direction.

Sheriff Antinoro: Has a few concerns as this innovation zone creates forward momentum. Until, and unless, they take over law enforcement - it would fall to the Sheriff's Office to provide services. If they create ordinances not similar to what (Storey County) has, (the Sheriff) will have to deal with a different "ball of wax", as well as cost of patrolling and enforcement. As (Ms. Barde) mentioned, are we going to have to accept "monopoly money" as payment - or will there be something in place to pay for services we have to provide. As Ms. Gay brought up, there are already issues with patrolling and providing services in the County due to the geographic split between north and south. Some of the businesses already in the Painted Rock area of the industrial center, become islands unto themselves surrounded by what is envisioned as this "innovation zone" - creating more issues with patrolling and such.

As a Storey County resident, there are procedures in place for creation of new jurisdictions. It was attempted in southern Nevada for creation of Bullfrog County - it didn't work out well. The people of the counties affected and of the State, had the ability to provide input. So far, this bill draft verbiage basically empowers the economic development board to say "yay" or "nay" as to whether new governments are created across the State. Of concern is the Legislature abdicating responsibility and the Governor's "hand-picked" Board deciding who gets carved out and how.

Jennifer Agnew: Is glad the Commission, Mr. Osborne, and other people, are working to find out what this all means. "Ditto" to all of the concerns heard in the last few minutes. There are huge questions. The draft bill leaves a lot to be desired to answer even half the questions. Please stay on top of it - thank you. The additional concern is, in the "smart city" build out vision - having somewhere in the neighborhood of 10 to 15,000 new residents in this portion of Storey County -we already complain about I-80. The impact of that number of residents - even if they are in their own "smart city", and we know that's not the case - we do not have the infrastructure for the residents there now. They have fought other residential possibilities of several hundred to 1 or 2,000. 10,000+ residents impacting (the area), is an additional concern on top of the other concerns they have. Ms. Agnew appreciates all the work and asked to please stay on top of this.

Vice Chairman Mitchell: This is a big idea - for a little place, there are a lot of big things going on. He hoped there would be an official bill draft to review at this point and doesn't feel we can wait any longer to "make our voices heard" (**inaudible**) that has ramifications as significant as this one. He spent the last month gathering feedback from constituents and stakeholders, and listening to the presentation by Blockchains and their team. He appreciates the time and thought from Mr. Osborne, staff, and those who have taken the time to weigh-in on this. In particular, Ms. Gay whose family is more likely than anyone to be affected by this - being a resident adjacent to the area.

He does not believe one assertion in the draft language that should go unchallenged - it says, "that the traditional local government model is inadequate alone to provide what building resource is conducive to making the State a leader in attracting and retaining new forms and types of business, and posturing economic development, emerging technology, and innovative industry". He does not find this assertion has merit. Not speaking for them, but he thinks Google, Switch, Tesla, and some of the other innovative companies that are in the County today would differ as well. These emerging technologies and innovative industries have found a way to work within our local government. We often take heat for being too flexible or moving too fast. He contends that Storey County is probably better equipped to work at the speed of innovation than just about anyone else.

Vice Chairman Mitchell wants to see Blockchains be very successful in their endeavors. They invest substantially in the County and he would like to see (the County) contribute to their success but does not feel this proposal allows (the County) to do that - it appears that it tries to by-pass (the County) completely. Blockchains having the duties and responsibilities of a local government would be counter-productive and lessen their chances of achieving positive changes in the world. They would embark on the massive task of guiding the development of a smart city and research park - then be

saddled with duties of a new twist on local government. He does not see this as the most effective way to go. He supports staff's recommendation.

Vice Chairman Mitchell pointed out Bill SB39, introduced by the State Treasurer, laying the framework for State agencies and local agencies(?) to accept stable coin for contracts and that type of thing. He would like to see the County support this - not sure if this is a separate item or pertains to the Innovation Zone. The self-governing piece is a non-starter for the reasons mentioned. He thinks (the County) is equipped to provide the support that is needed.

Vice Chairman Mitchell would like to make sure staff is instructed to reach out and engage in good faith discussion on both sides and how we can work together, how to facilitate ideas, and make sure they are good for the County. He has thought of a several ways (the County) would be able to give a level of autonomy or flexibility to accomplish some of the stated goals of the Innovation Zone. We can explore and maybe partner with other jurisdictions, the Governor - to identify more acceptable ways to foster economic development and emerging technology.

Chairman Carmona: Shares a lot of the thoughts mentioned by the Vice Chair and others. While we have been known for a historical, mining background - the success of the business park speaks volumes about what Storey County is capable of handling. From everything seen, the majority of what (Blockchains) wants to do is good by the County. There are issues that are a "no go" - separating itself from Storey County and also putting residential within the limits of the park. The benefit of the industrial park is that there is no residential which can create delays for approval for businesses - it's an "all welcome" business park. Any sort of technology is encouraged. With the presence of Google, Switch, Tesla, and other companies - all believe in Storey County, and Storey County is very capable of serving the needs of Blockchains going forward. (Blockchains) is a large landowner in the industrial park - we would love to see that area developed with other businesses and technologies. A "hard sell" is breaking away from Storey County - creating a ton of issues; and, residential within the park could be a hindrance for future businesses that intend to come here. Staff is on the right path and I feel comfortable with the direction we are going to take.

Chairman Carmona said he would have liked to see an official Bill Draft. That is why he thought holding off until there was something official was the best move. But time is wasting, and it's time to give direction to staff. This is probably the closest to an official Bill Draft. We will work with this, if things change, we will assess and maybe come back for more direction.

Chairman Carmona asked for additional Public Comment.

None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to adopt the staff recommendation that have been presented, namely: (read by Mr. Osborne) #1 - Support and work with the Legislature and applicable elected officials to explore Blockchains, crypto currency, stable coin, and other such currencies; #2 - to continue support of the 2016 Master Plan as applicable to neo-traditional, new urbanistic, and other such design prepared and shown by the Blockchains smart city concept; #3 - oppose separatist,

governing control and carving up of Storey County; #4 - consider Governor outreach for meaningful and authentic discussions that are allowing for proper planning, proper oversight, within the existing framework as provided NRS, local Master Plan, etc.; #5 - to periodically update the Board of County Commissioners and seek their direction as more information comes, and potentially, the final Bill arrives; Commissioner Mitchell added: to direct staff to engage in meaningful, good faith conversations with Blockchains to discuss ways to facilitate **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

11. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration of letters of interest for appointment of a planning commissioner to serve a term representing Precinct 1 Virginia City District on the Storey County Planning Commission.

Continued to 03/16/2021

12. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of File 2021-07 Temporary Turnaround Easement Relocation by applicants Storey County Public Works and Thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions, Inc. The applicants request to relocate an existing temporary turnaround easement from one portion of the parcel to another location on the same parcel. The temporary turnaround easement is located at 75 Germany Circle, within the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, Storey County, NV and has Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 005-061-50 (formerly a portion of APN 005-061-36).

Senior Planner, Kathy Canfield explained there is an existing temporary turn-around for Germany Circle where construction is not finished. The applicant wants to construct their building - the temporary turn-around easement does not fit their design. The Planning Department, Public Works, Fire Department, and the building department, have gone over this to see what turn-around would work. The solution was the proposed easement with a new configuration. Staff recommends approval.

Public Comment: None

Vice Chairman Mitchell: Would like to confirm there is no impact to accommodate the build the property owner wants to do.

Ms. Canfield: This helps facilitate their design.

Motion: In accordance with the staff recommendation, I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the relocation of the existing, temporary turn-around easement from one portion on a parcel to another location on the same parcel. The temporary turn-around easement is located at 75 Germany Circle, within the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, Storey County, NV and has Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 005-061-50 (formerly a portion of APN 005-061-36), **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:**

Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

13. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of Rule 9 Line Extension Agreement between Storey County and Sierra Pacific Power Company (dba NV Energy) to extend 24 KVA of service to the Gold Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant for an estimated cost of \$20,000 but remaining within the awarded contingency bid amount for said project

Mr. Osborne, on behalf of Mike Nevin, Project Manager. The Gold Hill sewer treatment plant needs three-phase power - currently three-phase power does not come farther north than Devils Gate. This is an agreement to extend three-phase power from that point to the Gold Hill sewer treatment plant at an overall cost of about \$48,000. There is about \$20,000 in credits coming back - so the overall cost is roughly about \$20,000. This project is well under contingency, which is about \$166,000, for unexpected things. Potentially modifying the plant and using one-phase power was looked at, but all the converters needed over time would actually cost more.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the Rule 9 Line Extension Agreement between Storey County and Sierra Pacific Power Company dba NV Energy to extend 24 KVA of service to the Gold Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant for an estimated cost of \$20,000 but remaining within the awarded contingency bid amount for said project, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona

Vice Chairman Mitchell said his family owns industrial property in Gold Hill - it has equipment in it that's designed to run on three-phase power. He asked if this creates a conflict on what - if he were to approve - in essence is bringing three-phase power closer to his property.

Deputy District Attorney Loomis explained a recent order from the Magistrate Court which emphasizes elected officials are there to represent their clientele and, yes, there may be situations where you have a monetary interest, but it is presumed you do not have a conflict of interest unless it is pretty significant - so he would say you do not have a conflict that would prevent voting on it.

Vice Chairman Mitchell disclosed that he is a partial owner, his family owns property approximately 1/4 to 1/2 mile up the hill from this and does not believe that it presents a conflict for him to vote in the best interests of the (inaudible).

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

14. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Storey County, Nevada, and the Storey County Sheriff's Office Employees' Association/Nevada Association of Police & Sheriff's Officers (NAPSO) dated March 2, 2021.

Tobi Whitten, Human Resource Director, this Memorandum adjusts the probation period of new-hire employees in the Sheriff's Office from 12 to 18 months. The definition of "new-hire" is clarified, changes are made to compensation practices, and to uniform allowances that apply to the new hire position. 18 months is found to be the standard probationary amount for law enforcement. The Union has agreed to this change. This will apply to anyone hired from the time of approval - forward. Current Sheriff's Office employees will continue to serve 12 month probation.

Public Comment: None

Sheriff Antinoro: He came up with the idea initially because of structural changes at the Sheriff's Office. With the amount of field and police academy training, there was a very short window where performance "out in the world" could be seen. This allows for a year probation and to get all the training in within the probationary period.

Motion: Based on the recommendation by staff, I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Storey County, Nevada, and the Storey County Sheriff's Office Employees' Association/Nevada Association of Police & Sheriff's Officers (NAPSO) dated March 2, 2021, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

15. RECESS TO CONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

16. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the District Fire Chief to enter into an Agreement for fuels reduction with NVEnergy.

Chief Loncar explained this Agreement contains grant funding to help with multiple functions throughout the County, including working with NVEnergy in fuels reduction. This will help to provide additional staffing, some heavy equipment, and it will help on "red flag" warning days, or days a fire gets extremely dangerous in the area - staff can be sent out at no cost to the District. This will mean additional staffing for the Fire District. Five people, with equipment, will be covered under NVEnergy. This will be a 3-year grant.

Public Comment: None

Vice Chairman Mitchell: This sounds like an efficient opportunity to gain some resource. Looking forward, can this be extended? What are the contingencies if the grant no longer exists?

Chief Loncar: This is something they worry about - especially when it is people's livelihood under 3 years of grant money. He does not see this funding going away any time soon. But we need to be

cognizant that it is a 3-year grant. He would like to have the person leading this seek alternative funding to keep us going if that fails. All staff will be advised this is 3 years - but we will try our best to do more.

Chairman Carmona: After three years, all that equipment will be paid for - correct?

Chief Loncar: That is correct. The price of the equipment is actually worked-off by doing NV Energy's fuels - bought and paid for during that time. There is no cost to us, but we need to perform the work. We are held to standards in performing the work. When the three years is up, the equipment is free and clear title to the Storey County Fire Protection District.

Chairman Carmona: We would only have to worry about the five people hired on to do the work. Worst case, we lose the contract, and they can apply for a job with us or go elsewhere.

Chief Loncar: That is correct. We will try everything in our power to make sure they are retained as long as we possibly can.

Chairman Carmona: If you do better than the workers out there now, you will go longer than three years!

Chief Loncar said he has addressed some of those issues. There will be some follow-up from Storey County Fire staff.

Vice Chairman Mitchell: With the fuels reduction, if we wanted some sort of a program where we stockpiled firewood to provide for limited income, indigent - those kind of things. Is that something we would have the flexibility to look into?

Chief Loncar: Absolutely. He had not considered this. They do take in a lot of fuels and there's multiple ways to get rid of fuels, i.e.- pile burning. It would not be much additional work to do something like that. They could work with the Senior Center, Community Chest, to provide that.

Vice Chairman Mitchell: Not suggesting that be included but wanted to make sure the door is open for that in the future.

Motion: I, Fire Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve to authorize the District Fire Chief to enter into an agreement for fuels reduction with NV Energy as outlined in the agenda item, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

17. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of Resolution 21-603, revised Pay Resolution for Fire District staff.

Chief Loncar: This is an accompanying document to the NVEnergy contract. The Fire District will be hiring five people that are grant funded - specifically for fuels reduction.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Fire Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve Resolution No. 21-603, establishing salaries for non-represented employees to be hired under grant funding for fuel reduction and wildland fire mitigation, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

18. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of changes to Policy#64 Battalion Chiefs Compensation.

Chief Loncar: This falls in line with recent changes to the Storey County Firefighters CBA, providing an incentive to all Battalion Chiefs who are still operational. He wants to include them in the physical fitness incentive, which means they have to work for it.

There is also (a change) to "bereavement leave" - insuring once they are hired-on, they are provided with bereavement.

Public Comment: None

Vice Chairman Mitchell asked Chief Loncar to review the "taking of compensatory time".

Chief Loncar: They are the only ones who get holiday pay. Versus holiday pay, this will allow them to take compensatory time.

Motion: I, Fire Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve changes to the Battalion Chief Policy #64, to provides for physical fitness incentives, bereavement leave, and compensatory time in lieu of overtime for holidays, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

19. RECESS TO RECONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

20. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of business license Second Readings:

- A. Western Pacific Electric Inc. - Contractor/1091 Frazer Ave, Sparks, NV
- B. Averill Consulting Group, Inc - Out of County/5355 Canyon River Dr., Ada, MI
- C. Pita and Plantains - Food Truck/60 Lily Ct, Reno, NV
- D. Corestone Engineering, Inc - Out of County/1345 Capital Blvd. Ste B, Reno, NV
- E. Energy Erectors, Inc. - Contractor/2958 N. Commerce St, N Las Vegas, NV
- F. OS Construction Services, Inc. - Contractor/6465 W Sahara Ave., Ste 101, Las Vegas

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the second reading of business licenses as outlined in the agenda, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Mitchell, **Seconded by:** Chairman Carmona, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

21. PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action)

None

22. ADJOURNMENT of all active and recessed Boards on the Agenda

Chairman Carmona adjourned the meeting at 11:27 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____
Vanessa Stephens Clerk-Treasurer