

## DECEMBER 7, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Shayla Hudson, Chairwoman. Those present were Larry Rackley and Carol Shank, Commissioners; Bryce Shields, District Attorney; Karen Wesner, Administrative Assistant; Sarah Renfroe, Deputy Clerk; and Justin Abbott, IT.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the October 5, 2022 minutes as submitted, noting that the minutes are over the 45 day deadline. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** Jennifer Hill read a letter that she had written. The letter expressed the lack of upkeep at the Community Center, and that she would like her deposit refunded. She stated that when she rented it for a baby shower she cleaned the bathrooms, took out the garbage, vacuumed and replaced the paper towels herself. Mrs. Hill stated that Ms. Munden or Mr. McKinney never showed.

**REVIEW OF ALL AGENDA ITEMS TO DETERMINE IF ANY DO OR DO NOT IMPOSE A DIRECT AND SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC BURDEN ON A BUSINESS OR DIRECTLY RESTRICT THE FORMATION, OPERATION OR EXPANSION OF A BUSINESS:** Mrs. Shank made a motion that no agenda items impose a burden or restrict a business. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

### UNCLASSIFIED DEPARTMENTS:

ROAD DEPARTMENT – Dan Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that he will be down two employees; one on medical leave and another on a six week leave for ankle surgery. Bruce Medeiros took Mine Safety and Health Administration training in Winnemucca. Mr. Hill reported that the crew finished the culvert project that was mentioned in the last meeting. They also put more culverts in in the Grass Valley area. Mr. Hill stated that they are always trying to keep the blade work going. They finished Fencemaker, worked on Coal Canyon Road, part of Grass Valley Road, Porter Springs, Cow Creek, Black Canyon, Stonehouse, the backside of Rye Patch Road, and the Anderson Ranch. Mr. Hill also reported that he met with a mining group that wants to move a county road in Spring Valley. The group is to make a presentation to the Board soon. Mr. Hill met with NDOT for winter training. Mr. Hill reported that they hauled gravel to Jungo and Rye Patch. Mr. Hill stated that most of his crew will complete CPR training.

LANDFILL & RECYCLING– Mr. Hill was present.

Mr. Hill reported that they hired a new employee, Chris Moepono-Wood.

**SALARY RESOLUTION, C. MOEPOONO-WOOD:** Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution, hiring Mr. Moepono-Wood at an advanced step of 24-6. Mrs. Shank seconded the motion and was approved.

SENIOR CENTER / VOLUNTEER COORDNATOR – Christina Larson was present.

Ms. Larson reported the Senior Center held a Christmas Tree and Wreath Auction making over \$400.00. The Center is collecting can goods, unperishable items, and cash donations this month for the food bank. Ms. Larson stated that they will be having a Christmas Dinner on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. She also reported she will be conducting interviews on December 16<sup>th</sup> for the cook position.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – John Handka was present.

Mr. Handka reported that they have been very busy working on maintaining the heaters in the buildings, putting up Christmas lights, erecting the Christmas Tree and getting the leaves under control.

Mrs. Shank asked about being down a maintenance person. Mr. Handka responded that he just hired someone. Mrs. Shank asked for a solution on the complaints and issues with the Community

Center. Mr. Handka replied that he is trying to get a person to help with the cleaning. Mrs. Shank and Mrs. Hudson replied that they are looking forward to finding a solution to the problem.

Mr. Handka reported that all the alarms and panic buttons are being programmed to cell service.

*Approval to purchase two more benches for the Veteran's Memorial location in the amount of \$2,715.31:* Mr. Rackley stated red, white, and blue benches would look very nice. Mrs. Shank asked for clarification on where the funding would come from. Mrs. Childs replied that the money would come out of the Buildings & Grounds Small Equipment Account.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve purchasing two more benches for the Veteran's Memorial Location. Mr. Rackley seconded the motion and passed.

*Lover's Aloft Balloon Races request for use of McDougal Sports Complex for Annual event to be held on February 9-13, 2023:* Jordan McKinney stated that she is present to answer any questions about the event.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the use of McDougal Sports Complex for the balloon race. Mr. Rackley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

PERSHING COUNTY FIRE/AMBULANCE –

*AMBULANCE REPORT:* Marti Nolan was present via Zoom. She reported that since the last meeting they have had over 30 calls with 3 transfers. Five people tested and passed a EMR (Emergency Medical Responder) course. Mrs. Nolan stated that she will be out for six weeks, in the meantime she will be catching up on all reports.

*GRASS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT:* Mr. Rackley told the Board that Sean Burke told him the Commissioners need to take a 4-hour G402 class. The date will be set after January.

COMMUNITY CENTER – Mrs. Hudson expressed that she is frustrated with the lack of accountability of cleaning and scheduling. She feels that the meetings are not working and there needs to be more steps taken.

IT DEPARTMENT – Justin Abbott was present. Mr. Abbott has been out on family leave. He will have a report next meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mrs. Hudson reported that everything is going well.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Mrs. Hudson reported that Mayra Madrigal is transferring therefore an open position will be available. An approval to advertise will be on the next agenda.

*Presentation by the Nevada Department of Transportation regarding the county consultation process, NDOT annual work program within the county and the One Nevada process:* Darren Tedford was present.

Mr. Tedford presented the Board with a detailed Power-Point Presentation explaining the NDOT annual work program. He explained how projects get prioritized within the State for each County. He stated that they use the criteria safety, mobility, and maintenance. Mrs. Shank asked about our bridge on I-80. Mr. Tedford replied that they will be replacing it within the next two years.

*Public Hearing regarding an Ordinance providing for Pershing County's participation in the Central Nevada Health District and other matters relating thereto:* There was no public comment at the time.

*Interlocal Agreement between Central Nevada Health District and Pershing County:* Mrs. Shank explained that they are looking to join Churchill, Mineral and Eureka counties for a community health program. It has already been approved by the State.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to adopt Ordinance #353, establishing the Central Nevada Health District. Mr. Rackley seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

**ELECTED DEPARTMENTS:**

CLERK-TREASURER – Sarah Renfroe was present.

She presented the Board with a correction to the tax roll. Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the corrections on the tax roll. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

*Landfill Assessment Appeal, Donald A. Moore:* Mrs. Hudson stated that all landfill appeals will be denied. Mrs. Hill stated that he was already denied. She said that there needs to be a protocol in place, so the landowner is notified. After discussion the Clerk-Treasurer's office will be sending out letters of notification.

RECORDER – Rene Childs was present.

Mrs. Childs presented the Board with the monthly budget report. She stated that the audit is complete, and the Auditors will be at the next meeting to make their presentation. Mrs. Childs said that the Auditors told her that it is crucial to make sure the money is coming out of the correct fund and budgeted correctly. She said regarding the Veteran's benches the money needs to come out of the small equipment fund.

ASSESSOR – *Resolution directing the County Assessor to take certain actions regarding the secured tax roll pursuant to NRS 361.300:* Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve Resolution #22-1216, Directing the Assessor to take certain actions regarding the secured tax roll. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

*Renewal of Contract with Mark Stafford, Real Estate Appraiser, to assist with upcoming projects in Pershing County, including Mountain Energy/Star Peak Geothermal/West Coast Salmon and future Solar projects, not to exceed \$20,000.00 per year:* Mrs. Shank asked Mrs. Childs if there is funding available. Mrs. Childs replied that it was already in the budget.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the contract with Mark Stafford, to assist with upcoming projects in Pershing County, not to exceed \$20,000.00 per year. Mrs. Shank seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**MUSEUM BOARD:** Kelly Thompson, Administrative Staff, and Museum Board members Frank Fisk and Jack Hursh were present.

Mr. Hursh told the Board a bit about himself and his love for Lovelock history.

Ms. Thompson reported they sent out four boxes of brochures, street maps, and all the things about Lovelock to get the word out. She said they will continue to do so. She said they got a letter back from the Fourth Ward School. Mr. Hursh added that they have a great relationship with the Sparks Museum.

Mr. Hursh, also a member of the Jesse Lee Reno Clamper Chapter, reported that they raised \$1,100.00 and 1,800 lbs. of food for the Lovelock Food Bank. The Clampers are also working on a toy drive for Lovelock.

Ms. Thompson stated that The Marzen House has a 1949 American Flag that came from the Paiute School and a quilt donated by the Bendure family. The Museum is in the process of enclosing them in a case.

Ms. Thompson reported that in the month of October the museum collected \$130.00 and in November \$281.00 from its donation box.

Ms. Thompson reported that since the Ghost Adventure episode aired, they have given lots of tours. In the month of November, they gave 29 tours, with 35 people. The farthest away being from Chicago.

Mr. Fisk reported that they are planning to turn one of the bathrooms into a gift shop.

Ms. Thompson reported that the Museums' commercial aired on Channel 2. It was also posted on their website and posted on their Facebook page. On the website there has been 1,500 views, and on Facebook 154 reactions and 29 shares.

Ms. Thompson stated that the Museum Board approved a security system bid from NNIS. They will need to get it on the agenda to be approved at the Commissioners meeting.

Mr. Hursh reported that they received a donation check for \$10,000.00 from Patricia Cafferata. Her donation will provide a new roof and siding on the railroad shed.

**SAM SANDERS, UPRISE FIBER:** Mr. Sanders gave an update via Zoom on the Fiber projects in Pershing County. He reported that USDA will be visiting within the next week. He stated that there will be more information after the visit.

**PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT/ IMLAY WATER SYSTEM/ PERSHING ELECTRIC:** James Evans was present.

Mr. Evans presented the Board with the end of month report. He stated that he is keeping busy with inspections, doing quarterly billing, and issuing business licenses. He stated that he and Mrs. Hudson met with the new team from Far West about the Imlay water project.

*Discuss and possibly implement recommendation made by the Pershing County Planning Commission for certain parcel maps submitted for approval in Pershing County:* The Planning Commission recommends not to have less than 40 acre parcels in Grass Valley to keep the water from depleting.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the recommendations by the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

**ELECTED DEPARTMENTS, CONT.D:**

**SHERIFF** – Undersheriff Eric Blondheim was present.

Sheriff Allen sent a text to Mr. Rackley stating that he had two deputies resign in the past week. Undersheriff Blondheim confirmed that Deputy Gonzalez and Deputy Noble have resigned. Undersheriff Blondheim reported that they are sending three deputies to the academy at Lovelock Correctional Center, and have hired a new deputy as well. He stated that the jail is full.

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CENTRAL NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT AND PERSHING COUNTY:** Mrs. Shank stated, with the District Attorney's recommendation, she will make a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Rackley second the motion and the motion passed.

**DERBY FIELD AIRPORT:** Mr. Rackley was present.

Mr. Rackley reported that they replaced the keypad at the gate. Unfortunately, the gate has failed, and they had to order two parts. Mrs. Childs stated that the snow blades will not be covered in the Airport Grants because they are not American made. The cameras that were purchased are covered under the American made stipulation. Mrs. Childs stated that those purchases are worth \$10,000.00. Mr. Rackley reported that there needs to be better maintenance there.

**MOU BETWEEN PERSHING COUNTY AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED SAGE-GROUSE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT:** Mrs. Hudson stated that Joe Crim investigated it, and the plan looks good, and nothing has changed.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the MOU between Pershing County and the Bureau of Land Management regarding development of the Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendment. Mr. Rackley seconded the motion and it passed.

**APPROVAL TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLOUD SEEDING WITH DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR FY 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,750.00:** Mr. Rackley asked for clarification on where the money came from last year. Mrs. Childs replied that it came out of the Miscellaneous Fund. Mrs. Hudson stated that the report said that the precipitation was 15% more.

Mr. Rackley made a motion to approve the contribution to the Cloud Seeding with Desert Research Institute for FY 2023 in the amount of \$1,750.00. Mrs. Shank seconded the motion, and the motion was passed.

**UPDATE FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RELATING TO THE COVID-19: LIST FOR PROPOSED PROJECTS, PRIORTIZING AND CHANGING/AMENDING THE PROJECTS FOR ALLOCATION OF THE COVID-19 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING FOR PERSHING COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,306,252.00:** Mr. Rackley stated that there is nothing new to report.

The meeting recessed at 11: 38 a.m. for a Litigation meeting and reconvened at 10:41 a.m.

**REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL:** Mr. Shields reported that the Land Bill failed. He advised The Board to contact their congressman, and urge them to reintroduce the Bill. He also advised The Board to buy up the checkerboard lands that the government is selling. Mrs. Hudson asked if it was Railroad land. Mr. Shields replied that some used to be. Mrs. Hudson asked about the benefit to Pershing County. He replied that the County could collect the taxes on the land. Mr. Shields stated that there is a housing crisis in the County. He feels that there needs to be a plan through the Planning Commission.

**REPORT FROM ADMINSTRATIVE ASSISTANT/HR REP.- COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE:** Karen Wesner was present.

Mrs. Wesner reported that she has been spending a lot of time with Pool/Pact answering questions. She has turned in all the necessary paperwork to them. She stated that the Commissioners will need to do a two-hour training in January.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:** Mrs. Hudson asked Mr. Abbott about the microphones. He replied that he is on it, but they are not a high priority.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS; BOARD LIAISON REPORTS:** Mrs. Hudson reported that she has a water meeting on Friday.

Mr. Rackley asked Mr. Shields if there is an expiration date on the three approved silver projects that have permits. He stated that two out of the three have not made any progress. Mr. Shields replied that they are 3-year permits. He believes that to keep the permit there must be progress/construction. Mr. Rackley will have to get with Mr. Evans to clarify what the progress entails.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:** Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the vouchers except for a voucher for Vendor #521, BSL Electric. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed.

Mrs. Shank made a motion to approve the voucher for Vendor #521, BSL Electric. Motion seconded by Mr. Rackley. Mrs. Hudson abstained. Motion Carried.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Approved 01/18/23: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/  
Joe Crim, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/  
Lacey Donaldson, Clerk