



# STOREY COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 2:00P.M.

DISTRICT COURTROOM

26 SOUTH B STREET, VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA

## MINUTES

BILL SJOVANGEN  
CHAIRMAN

BILL MADDOX  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MARSHALL MCBRIDE  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

LANCE GILMAN  
COMMISSIONER

VANESSA DU FRESNE  
CLERK-TREASURER

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**Roll Call:** Chairman Sjovangen, Vice-Chairman McBride, Commissioner Gilman, District Attorney Maddox, Clerk and Treasurer Vanessa DuFresne, County Manager Pat Whitten, Administrative Office/Senior Planner Austin Osborne, Comptroller Hugh Gallagher, Assistant Emergency Management Director/Grants Administrator Cherie Nevin, Sheriff Antinoro, Fire Chief Gary Hames, Public Works Director Mike Nevin and Community Development Director Dean Haymore.

**1. CALL TO ORDER AT 2:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Sjovangen called for a moment of silence in honor of those injured and killed in the training accident in Hawthorne yesterday.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Chair led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

**3. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of Agenda for March 19, 2013**

Mark Joseph Phillips addressed items 4, 5 and 6. He stated that a special meeting was held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and the minutes have not been agenzized for approval. He submitted a request that the minutes be placed on the next agenda for approval.

Chairman Sjovangen stated that prior to Committee/Staff Reports the presentation from Ron Radil will be heard. Additionally he requested the following items be continued:

**ADJOURN TO CONVENE AS STOREY COUNTY WATER AND SEWER BOARD**

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Contract with Comstock Mining, Inc. for sale of untreated and unused water at reduced rate and other related matters.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of Business Impact Statement for License Fee Increase to be submitted to the Department of Taxation for approval

**Motion:** Approve agenda for March 19, 2013 with changes as requested, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

4. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of Amended Minutes for January 7, 2013

Mark Joseph Phillips stated that he believes this is from his request that he submitted on February 25, 2013. Also unclear is how Vice-Chairman McBride could or should be appointed for a four year term, it has never been clear in the minutes. Mr. Phillips stated that after years and years of never having this clear he would like the appointment to be made for a four year term. He submitted to the Clerk 4 pages adding he hopes that the Board spends more time in making the appointment clear.

**Motion:** Approve amended minutes for January 7, 2013, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

5. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of Minutes for January 15, 2013

**Motion:** Approve minutes for January 15, 2013, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

6. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of Minutes for February 19, 2013

**Motion:** Approve minutes for February 19, 2013, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action)**

Darren McKay, Youth Development and Prevention Coordinator with Community Chest, addressed the Board regarding a petition for a skate park in Mark Twain that is being circulated. He will come back once a higher number of signatures have been obtained. Vice-Chairman McBride asked how the response was. Mr. McKay responded that it has been good with lots of positive support. The kids are telling him something similar to the old ramps in Virginia City would be good.

Dale Beach stated in regards to Darren Mckay, Mark Twain is receptive to everything. Commissioner Gilman is getting a committee together and should be able to hold the first meeting in April. Mr. Beach asked that the county make a new ordinance; he received a document for the Comptroller regarding unearned pension credits on our employees. He doesn't criticize any employee for taking the credit, he would have done so himself. However he doesn't see a need in our county to do that when we have so many crying needs in his neighborhood for quality of life issues. He's got four street lights, two at the fire station across the road and two more at his house; those are the sole street lights in Mark Twain. Chairman Sjovangen asked him if his lights met the county code. Mr. Beach responded that he meets all the codes including a special dispensation on his fence. He stated that he had some misgivings about this document because maybe some employees don't know what is being spent on unearned credits. Mr. Beach read some of the figures from the sheet he submitted to the board: Kathy Weeks \$71,000.00, Annette Daniels \$23,000.00, Richard Bacus \$68,000.00, Marilou Walling \$67,000.00 and Pat Whitten \$43,000.00. Mr. Beach commented on the severance paid to Cindy Wiley in the amount of \$54,659.16. Chairman Sjovangen asked that he submit all this in writing and allow the Board time to look at it. Mr. Beach responded that he assumed that when the Comptroller gives him something he would spread it out the Board as well. He publicly apologized to all the people living in our county for his lack of interest in last twelve years, he got really selfish and he let along of things go by the he should have never let go by. It is going to take a lot of work to get everything corrected but they are going to correct it. Mr. Beach stated that when he started hearing rumors about money flying in from TRI he didn't believe it. But then the money started coming in and he was asleep and should have been up here helping.

Mark Joseph Phillips in regards to one of the most important responsibilities, the commissioners of this county are required by law to publish quarterly financial reports. As of the end of this month the Board will be delinquent in the second quarter of this year. Chairman Sjovangen responded that he has told them this so many times they aren't going to listen to it again. Mr. Phillips questioned how many times he has to bring this up. This is a responsibility of the commissioners and the commissioners alone.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

(All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered routine, and may be acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners with one action, and without an extensive hearing. Any member of the Board or any citizen may request that an item be taken from the consent agenda, discussed, and acted upon separately during this meeting. The Commission Chair reserves the right to limit the time allotted for each individual to speak. )

8. Claims - For possible action approval of Payroll Check date 02/15/2013 for \$347,166.50, date 02/22/2013 for \$4,975.20, date 03/01/2013 for \$444,465.78, date 03/04/2013 for \$22,302.93 and Accounts Payable date 02/22/2013 for \$623,129.76 and date 03/08/2013 for \$656,905.97
9. For possible action approval of correction to tax roll regarding APN 003-182-11
10. For possible action approval of the February 2013 Treasurer Report

11. For possible action approval of Licensing Board First Reading:
  - a. Reliable Handyman Service, LLC - General/3635 Green Acres Dr., Carson City
  - b. Almighty Electric - Contractor/2927 Mooseridge Dr., Reno
  - c. Radcliffe Painting, Inc. - Contractor/4100 Mira Loma Dr., Reno
  - d. A Falcon on the Rescue - Contractor/5245 Canyon Rim Court, Sparks
  - e. Onstar, LLC. - General/3100 Cumberland Blvd., Atlanta, GA
  - f. CSK Auto Inc. dba O'Reilly Auto Parts - General/1715 N. Carson St., Carson City
  - g. Hadlock Mechanical Services, LLC - Contractor/9425 Benedict Dr., Sparks

#### SHERIFF'S OFFICE LICENSING

12. For possible approval of first reading for home business application for Firing Pen located at 4210 Overland Rd., VC Highlands
13. For possible approval first reading for liquor and cabaret license application for Comstock Corner Cafe located at 190 S. C Street, Virginia City
14. For possible approval first reading for business license application for G4S Secure Solutions located at 1575 Delucchi Lane #116, Reno, NV

#### END OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Sjovangen questioned what the business Firing Pen is, listed under Sheriff's Office Licensing. Sheriff Antinoro stated that the gentleman is teaching concealed carrying course, classroom instruction.

**Motion:** Approve consent agenda, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride  
**Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

15. **DISCUSSION ONLY (No Action):** Ron Radil, Executive Director of the Western Nevada Development District - Update activities and programs.

Ron Radil, Executive Director of the Western Nevada Development District (WNDD), provided the Board with an update of some of the projects and activities that the group has been working on. Humboldt and Washoe Counties have been added to the district, resulting in a total of nine counties. NxLevel classes were funded throughout the state by WNDD including a class in Virginia City with 15 attendees. The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) has been establishing using funds from a USDA rural business enterprise grant, fund balance is \$21,000.00. Loan policies were adopted by the WNDD Board and a loan review committee has been appointed. Mr. Radil explained the loans will range from \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 for equipment with initial marketing to NxLevel attendees. WNDD is involved in a project with the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency that will provide a much better handle on the type of business we have throughout the region and where the clusters are. This kind of information can be used for bringing in other firms and for "thick local" and "buy local." A project recently completed is the Stronger Economies Together (SET) Program. SET was implemented in February 2012 ending November 2012 and identifies the following regional goals in an 11 month process, with

over 200 participants, multiple federal, state and local partners and 12 meetings across the nine counties of the WNDD region: access to capital, communication and networking, infrastructure improvement, workforce development, agribusiness, energy, manufacturing, tourism and transportation/logistics. The workgroups established during the process are still working. Some of the goals do have cross connections. Mr. Osborne and Mr. Haymore participated in the SET Program.

Mr. Haymore stated he has been on the Board for 26 years and this is the organization that we ran the money for the V&T project through, under the Build America Bond.

#### 16. **DISCUSSION (No Action):** Committee/Staff Reports

Deputy Justice Court Clerk Tami Migan:

1. The office is currently updating the information available to the public and law offices via the website and at the counter.
2. Recently instituted proper record retention policies which allowed them to free up much needed space in the office.
3. Annette Daniels has returned to the courtroom as a Senior Judge. Chairman Sjovangen complimented her on the reorganization of the office.

Public works Director Mike Nevin:

1. Reported that the vacant mechanics position has been filled by Joe Parle.
2. Yesterday the vacant custodial position closed, 19 applications were received, will probably start interviewing in the next week or so.
3. Last week his department attended the Nevada Rural Water Conference, this is attend yearly for continuing education. Mr. Nevin was elected to serve on the board of directors, which he feels is a high honor.
4. He has been watching, with county lobbyist, a couple of bills before the Legislature. AB18, if passed, would shift to the county responsibility of C Street and the intersection at the bridge on Waltham Way. There are upgrades that would need to be done prior to the taking over the roads. He is not sure where the bill is going but any trades will be fair. SB217 is associated with general contractors, making it mandatory for any project in excess of \$25,000 to go to bid and be awarded a contract. Mr. Nevin explained this will have a huge impact on the smaller counties. Commissioner Gilman commented this would cripple some counties. Bum and Mary Walker will keep on top of it. Commissioner Gilman stated there is a lot going on down there that would have a huge impact on our county. Mr. Nevin added he is very impressed with Mary walker and what she does.
5. The department is continuing to work on crack sealing in Mark Twain with 5 miles completed. There is a lot more to do including shoulder work and a bus stop area that needs some work. They will begin to do an overlay when it warms up.
6. Recently completed certification to NDOT for county road mileage, we lost a little when they decided to do an audit in the fall of 2012. The ones we lost where Ophir Grade Road and Lockwood Drive that no one could find.

Assistant Emergency Management Director/Grant Administrator Cherie Nevin:

1. Obtained a CDBG grant last year for an upgrade project at the swimming pool, to bring the pool ADA compliant. Bids were received last Thursday, only one bid was submitted. The bid came in much higher than anticipated. The grant closes at the end of June, she is currently reviewing to see if we need to go back out to bid or work with the bid we received, looking to see if we can negotiate the bid.
2. Ms. Nevin attended the Commission on Cultural Affairs meeting. Letters of intent were heard for funding; currently the commission does not have any funding and will not know the status of their funds until the close of the Legislature. Storey County submitted a letter of intent for funding to continue the electrical upgrades for the Courthouse.
3. She will be attending a CDBG grant hearing for the grants going forward. At the meeting Ms. Nevin will be presenting two projects that we are sponsoring; street repairs for the CGID and a transportation program for the RSVP.
4. The Courthouse electrical project is now in its second phase and is moving forward. She thanked everyone for their patience while the work is completed.

Commissioner Gilman thanked Ms. Nevin for all of her work, stated she is doing an incredible job for this community.

Fire Department Administrative Assistant Patty Blakely:

1. Mrs. Blakely stated this is the 4<sup>th</sup> year in which the Living with Fire Program has proposed a statewide resolution supporting wildfire awareness week. The Living with Fire Program has asked that the proclamation be signed by the Commissioners. Mrs. Blakely read resolution 13-370. Mr. Whitten clarified that the Board will take formal action on the resolution later in the meeting.

Fire Protection District Chief Gary Hames:

1. Chief Hames reported the loss of another staff position. This is a firefighter/paramedic position; the individual has gone to the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. Fortunately there is a hiring list in place and the position has been backfilled, the new staff member will be coming on April 1<sup>st</sup>. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> position since last June that we have lost to other agencies.
2. Been very busy with so many staff member losses, trying to keep everything moving forward. He is happy to announce that we have promoted Pat Walsh and Shane Dixon to the position of Fire Captain. Testing for the current Battalion Chief vacancy will take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> of this month, with completion of the process and job offers by mid-April.
3. Bringing back in the EMS billing position that was previously a contract position, for a net no change in expenses. The position will be interviewed for this Friday.
4. Received a \$250,000.00 grant from the US Forest Service that is delivered to the State, the State administers it on behalf of the US Forest Service. It will fund things like pulling the shoulders of all of the roads, updating our Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans, fuel crews for fuel reduction, improve fire break roads on the Divide and the purchase of a chipper.
5. Still waiting to get our equipment delivered from an OTS grant. This is the fourth set of a four year cycle for extrication tools for the Mark Twain Station.
6. Thanked Ms. Nevin for her help with work through a SERT grant to complete the last of the narrow banding of the radios.
7. It is time to start gearing up for fire season. Looking at BLM and Truckee Meadows agreements. On today's agenda is the approval of the agreement with Central Lyon County,

this will allow for the transition to begin from the Mark Twain Station to the Lyon County Fire Station, freeing up the building to be used for other things.

8. The International Association of Fire Chiefs, which we are members of, issued a social media policy. He vetted the policy through the union and the volunteer firefighter groups. He is happy to announce that the Fire Department has adopted the policy with a couple minor modifications.
9. Working towards an Every 15 Program. This is a partnership that touches almost every department in the County as well as the School District. The theme of it is that in this country every 15 minutes we lose someone under the age of 18 to a drug or alcohol related car crash. We simulate a car accident with an over 18 year old student who was intoxicated with a fatality in it. This branches of to the legal side with a court hearing and a funeral. Over the two days we pull a student out of the classroom every 15 minutes. The student is dressed in black with their face painted white and placed back in the classroom. They are not allowed to talk to anyone for the remainder of the two days. Chief Hames explained that this has a tremendous impact on the students and the departments involved.
10. Continuing to do a bunch of training and have partnered with Lyon County for a technical rescue team, as neither of the departments is large enough for individual teams. Next week they will be doing trench rescue, high angle rescue is complete. There are three more disciplines that will need to be completed prior to the team starting.
11. He is very happy to announce that four volunteers will be completing the structural firefighter I at the end of this month. This is a tremendous accomplishment for those four individuals.
12. There was a structure fire in Virginia City two weeks ago. The crews performed extremely well in this case. They are hopeful the damage can be repaired and the residents can return to the home in the next 30 days.

Vice-Chairman McBride asked how many fireman have we lost in the last year. Chief Hames stated "seven." Vice-Chairman McBride said that at this time it would be good point to bring up that the pay for these firemen, which gets criticism and posted in the newspaper, is what we have to do in order to compete directly with the surrounding communities, not Hawthorne and Battle Mountain. We can go back to a volunteer fire department instead of professional paid firemen, that's where we are. Chief Hames added that we have lost 50 years of institutional knowledge, these weren't first and second year firemen.

Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

1. Completed the first blush of the 2013/2014 budget, it is a living and heavily breathing document that is going to continue to change depending upon several factors. One being the revenue structure the other is what unfunded mandates the legislature is going to hand down to us. Between the tentative and the final there will be a lot of work being done.
2. There is the need to have several meetings with the Department of Taxation; one meeting will be for the approval of the proposed business licenses fee structure. The other meeting will be for a proposed plan for infrastructure reimbursements that will require Taxation approval. The last item is a road map for July 2014 for documenting and approving those items that will take a special revenue fund and separate local government.

Commissioner Gilman commented that he is starting to have a growing concern over the quarterly filing of our financial status. He understands that there is a NRS statute that requires that we do

that and we are missing two quarters now. Mr. Gallagher replied that it is probably more than that; he doesn't think it has ever been done. He referenced this by going to the Department of Taxation, they have only received one report and this was five or six years ago. The Department of Taxation was to supply us with a format, which they did not. Mr. Gallagher went down to our outside computer programmer to have a format developed. The format has been submitted to Taxation for approval. He apologized to Mark; we have been working on this for a long time. He doesn't want to provide the report and then the Department of Taxation come back and say "we don't like that." There is not even an NAC or any documentation on how to comply. He is fairly sure that we should have this by the next meeting in April.

Administrative Officer/Senior Planner Austin Osborne:

1. The Truckee River Flood Project, whose primary purpose and job is to create a flood project along the Truckee River between Verdi and Pyramid Lake that mitigates flooding in Reno, Sparks and Washoe County. Part of the project is that they may not raise or cause any base level flooding in Storey County. In other words, any water that they channel of prevent from flooding upstream they cannot send downstream without mitigation, wherever that is. The new plan is for a 100 year flood plan. They are proposing to send down more water into Storey County, so they will be looking at Rainbow Bend and Lockwood for mitigation should a flood occur. He will be working with them very closely to ensure that the proper guidelines are followed during this complex project. A presentation will be given on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Rainbow Bend Club House regarding the project. A Planning Commission meeting will be done at the same time. Mr. Osborne provided a quick overview of the 3 basic concepts they are proposing.
2. At the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting Mr. Osborne will be conducting a master plan workshop. This will include an overall and where we want to go as a County. Will mirror what has happened here, in Virginia City to this point, with additional meetings in Mark Twain, Painted Rock and the Virginia City Highlands.

Commissioner Gilman asked, "From a layman's perspective, when we are redoing our Master Plan for Storey County we already have a zoning plan, so pretty much everybody in our county/community knows what their zoning is and what the planned uses are for that land. So we are doing a master plan that overlays, that follows and coordinates the zoning that already exists, we are not rezoning or changing the uses, would that be fair?"

Mr. Osborne responded that he was correct and the master plan really has two parts to it, the first being the text which is a narrative discussion of where the county is going and the variety of things that falls under that. The second part is the maps; we currently do not have master plan maps. Mr. Osborne explained what those maps will look like upon completion. Commissioner Gilman clarified again that this will not be changing any of the zoning.

Mr. Haymore, from the audience, commented that when we get these big developers coming in and they want to put a CordeVista in, the master plan supports us in saying that is not what our vision is. Helps us to win those cases, this is our 25 year vision of where we want to see the county go. Commissioner Gilman stated that he is familiar with, in other communities; they develop the master plan first followed by the zoning. In this case we zoned and then developed the master plan.



Mr. Whitten added that in reality we are not master planning, we are updating the current master plan.

3. Mr. Osborne reported that we were awarded the funds for noxious weed abatement. We will be working the Dayton Valley Conservation District to have the crew come up and spray for weeds. He thanked Mike and the Conservation District; they have been great in working with us.

Sheriff Gerald Antinoro:

1. Last week was the open house at substation in Lockwood. He thanked all of those who attended. Very good turn out and very positive attitude towards it, especially in light of the monies that are being saved.
2. Recently there was some active shooter training done with the county staff and there training in the works with the schools, most likely at the beginning of next year.
3. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is coming up down in the River District on March 30<sup>th</sup>. This will be the fourth year for the event, really looking forward to it.
4. He has started advertising for the Citizens Volunteers, starting to get some interest and folks bringing applications in. In light of our first blush with the tentative budget he may have to take a page from Sheriff Arpaio's book and start deputizing some of them so he can provide some coverage in the county.
5. He asked that we start thinking about Jail Fund considerations. There seems to be a lot of controversy over what to do with it. If things are going to move forward as they currently look he recommended abolishing the fund and rolling it into the general.
6. For informational purposes, if anyone is going into the back country, Lagomarsino Canyon, the roads are extremely nasty.

Community Development Director Dean Haymore:

1. He clarified that the Wagon Wheel project in Mark Twain is due to a woman who contacted his office that is running a daycare on that road. Her neighbor is running a trucking business and is pulling out with a large load that is pounding down the road. She has students that are special needs that get off the bus there. He met with Mike and the Sheriff at the location, it was recommended that a bus stop be put in.
2. Mr. Haymore recently returned from a three day trip to Washington D.C. He received some good response and action. Addressed the funding for US Parkway and the new land bill. He has to get some easement clarifications together for Mark Amodei.
3. Very busy right now working on new businesses coming into the TRI area. Plus new projects in Virginia City and the Highlands.
4. Stacey Bucchianeri will be living tomorrow. Her mother is on the last stage of stage 4 cancer and she will be going to take care of her for the next week or so.

District Attorney Bill Maddox:

1. He is currently working on the response to the last filing from the CRA versus Storey County and Comstock Mining, a briefing from arbitration for the Sheriff's Office and the condemnation of the Highlands Fire Station.
2. Tried to add to my work by having externs here. Tim Treffinger is doing most of the criminal right now. Renee Hemmasi is working on all of the agreements that are coming out of the office. They are both doing a good job, but they will be leaving soon. When he presents his

budget he will be asking for a Deputy District Attorney starting in January. The question is do you think that just one attorney alone meet the legal needs of this county.

County Manager Pat Whitten:

1. Mr. Whitten reported on behalf of the Government Affairs Director Bum Hess, who is at the Legislature today. Here are several, but not all, of the things that are being addressed; a special use fuel tax that we are confident will be amended to our advantage, SB 217 is moving it from a \$25,000 bid minimum to a \$100,000 minimum along with that and a couple others we are working to get population minimums set on, a bill to require 2/3 or super majority vote of the people before a county would be allowed to incur any debt, which doesn't sound too unappealing to many very conservative people. This county uses debt on a very moderate base. However we have gone to medium term debt financing for brush trucks for the fire protection district and Tunnel 6. Even more freighting are some discussions of how this would act against our current debt. The last one is SB 272 which is a greedy private developer land grab. There is a chunk of land that is owned by a land developer off of the Hidden Valley area of Reno which in essences wants to just move the boundary lines. There is a provision that the grab would have to be approved by the county boards of both counties. Mr. Whitten's current direction to Bum is to fight or kill the bill at all costs.
2. He stated that he thinks it is important for so many of us to attend the May 16<sup>th</sup> flood presentation. To see what these guys have up there sleeve, remember we are not a voting member of this Board.
3. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> the Commission meeting will start at 9:00 am that day, this is the tentative budget hearing. Hugh and Jessie have done an outstanding job putting the budget together.
4. He commented on Mr. Haymore's mention of the land bill introduced by Congressman Amodei. This is a streamline bill that takes the clouded title of most of the BLM properties in Virginia City and Gold Hill, excluding as much commercial mining property as possible and in essence delivers title to Storey County. The goal is to develop a simplified process so that folks have full unclouded title to their property.
5. When he was back in Washington D.C. about three weeks ago they started the sales tax issue again. Marshall and Bill's efforts have paid off and are approaching it at a State and Federal level. He cautioned the Board that we have been working on this for about fourteen years.

Chairman Sjovangen called for a recess at 3:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 3:42 p.m.

- 17. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Presentation by Onetta Fanlo of A and H Insurance regarding possible renewal of Storey County employees' benefits plan, including medical, dental, vision and life insurance. Discussion will also include an update on changes to taxes, fees and related policies imposed by the State of Nevada for the upcoming year.

Onetta Fanlo was present to provide the Board with an update on the insurance renewal for the 2014 year. From 2008-2011 Storey County was with St. Mary's health First, then we were hit with a pretty substantial rate hit and switched to Anthem Blue Cross for one year, we then received a substantial rate increase from Blue Anthem and moved back to St. Mary's. When the renewal was prepared in 2011 there was an \$800,000 claim that was paid on one individual. When St. Mary's processes a renewal they look back 24 months and capture the claims from that period.

When the renewal was prepared for this year luckily underwriting only picked up two large claims, one for \$150,000 and \$80,000, resulting in a much better claims loss ratio. Ms. Fanlo further explained that our claims experience from May 2012 to October 2012 was 82.4% to that they add state premium taxes and administration which is approximately 16%. That brings is up to 98.4% for our claims loss ratio. The initial renewal we received from St. Mary's for the ensuing year was 18%, 12% of which is medical trend, Obama Care added 1% for men's and women's sterilization and contraception. St. Mary's will know be offering their own contraception plans at 100% using Unified Life. There is an additional 2% for other mandates, such as unlimited life time maximums, dependent children can now be covered to age 26 and wellness is covered at 100% once a year. The rest of the renewal takes into account ongoing claims and prescriptions and claims paid over the last two years. She was able to negotiate a 9.9% rate increase on the County's behalf, which is almost a 50% reduction from the originally proposed increase. Currently there are three plans offered to employees. The most popular is the base PPO plan. There is a high deductible plan offered with only two participants currently. The third is a HMO with no participants. We did not go out to bid this year. With industry trends and a major claim in the past a signal digit rate increase is a good deal. We will recertify the employees that have their dependents covered and there will be no changes in the plans. Last week Ms. Fanlo was informed that as a part of Obama care the insurance companies have received permission to begin charging employer groups the fees and taxes associated with the new law. Beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> of this year \$1.00 per member per a year will be charged to the group for the patient centers outcome institutes. There is also an insurer fee that 1.5% of the premium, this fee is levied on all health insurance companies. There is also a reinsurance fee that is \$5.25 per month per member insured. The states are permit to increase the fees as needed. She will let Mr. Whitten and Mr. Osborne know once she receives the final breakdown of the fees that are being passed to the employer. Received a rate pass on the vision and life insurance and a small increase of \$2.96 per member per year on the dental. The benefits fair is scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Sjovangen commented that this affordable care stuff is getting a little pricey.

Mr. Whitten thanked Ms. Fanlo, she was thrown a curve ball with our changing or HR Directors as we were seeking new rates. We hesitated to go through the whole process and changing plans for all the employees. We did try to get even lower than the 9.9% rate change. Ms. Fanlo did a great job. Mr. Whitten is confident that any additional changes are accounted for as we projected an increase for 10%. The ray of hope is that two of our three collective bargaining groups will have to provide the certification for dependent coverage.

Commissioner Gilman asked if we are being asked to approve the contract today. He stated that he is really uncomfortable voting for something that he has never read.

Vice-Chairman McBride stated it is in the handbook we all received. Commissioner Gilman responded he missed it as he waived county coverage. His first thought is to continue this item.

Mr. Whitten stated the plan runs May 1<sup>st</sup> thru April 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Fanlo agreed that we could hold off to the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Janet Houts asked how much will the premium increase on that base and why not go out bid.

Mr. Whitten stated that Ms. Fanlo's presentation was crystal clear; the increase will be 9.9% plus fees.

**Motion:** Continue to the April 2, 2013 meeting, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

18. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Cheryl Couch representing the United States Department of Agriculture- Rural Development Office regarding acceptance of the USDA Rural Development Letter of Conditions to provide for funding of the Virginia City Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$5.3 million dollars in construction loan and grant funds and authorizing the Chairman or designated official to sign all related obligating documents at the present time or no later than March 25, 2013 consisting of the "Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions" and Form RD 1940-1 "Request for Obligation of Funds"

Cherie Nevin provided a brief overview of the project. In 2009 Storey County contacted Farr West Engineering regarding the need to perform major capital improvements to the Virginia City and Gold Hill Sanitary Sewer Treatment Plant and Collection System. The majority of the equipment was installed more than 30 years ago and since that time the plant has exceeded its capabilities leading to the discharge of poorly treated sewage into Six Mile Canyon Creek. The US Army Core of Engineering has provided us with funding in the amount of 75% for the design and approval phases of this project. The approval phase is nearly complete; Farr West Engineering has found that replacement is needed of all of the sewer lines. Additionally the waste water treatment plant must be replaced. Farr West has broken the replacement project down into five phases. The Core of Engineers does not currently have any funding to pursue to construction of the plant, therefore we have looked at other sources of funding. It was determined that the USDA was the most suitable option. Ms. Nevin explained that the loan is for \$3,002,000 with an interest rate of 2.5% for a period of 40 years.

Cheryl Couch from the USDA Rural Development reviewed the letter of conditions with the Board. She explained that currently there are no funds; however they have submitted a request for the funds. She explained should the Board approve this today it would lock in a 2.5% interest rate and reserve the funds once they become available. One of the benefits of the program is the interest rate will never go up. The letter outlines the conditions the county has to comply with to authorize the funding. She has worked very closely with staff, if the rate goes down in the future we will be automatically be given the lower rate. Ms. Couch explained that the goal is to minimize the impact to the users as much as possible, because they know over the longer term it is going to be costly. She noted item 20 on page 10 regarding the programmatic agreement, they are proposing an amendment listing the rural Utility Service (RUS) as the lead agency in place of Core of Engineers. Ms. Couch covered the documents that will need to be approved and signed in order to move forward with the project.

Commissioner Gilman stated that in regarding the documents he is comfortable that in all of the funding, meaning the grant and loan, could only be applied to the improvement on the

sewer plant and any money unspent money would be returned. Ms. Couch clarified, that any unspent funds would be carried over to next phase of the project; any funds turned back would be grant dollars. Commissioner Gilman referred to closing instructions; it reads that the group may modify the closing instructions. If we are going to modify the terms of the contract prior to closing, will the Board have the opportunity to review the changes. Ms. Couch explained we do not modify the construction contract at all; we may have to modify the conditions in the letter of conditions. She reviewed possible unlikely scenarios that may require a change in the agreement. Should any of the conditions have to change they will be presented to the Board.

Mr. Whitten explained that he and Mr. Maddox have been endeavoring to ensure that all contracts and agreements are approved and adopted by the proper boards. In this case during the interim we will be working to make sure that future documents appear with the appropriate board. He thanked Jim Baker and several others for their assistants in getting this project so far along.

Mr. Nevin added that we have been working on since prior to him being hired. We received \$66,000 from the CDBG to do the preliminary report on this project; which came back with bad news. We see it daily and it is badly needed. The process is lengthy but eventually someday we will get there and everything will be replaced.

Mr. Phillips referring to page 5 subsections 7, he asked Mr. Nevin if we are meeting the number of users listed in the agreement. Mr. Nevin responded that the numbers in the agreement and the current number of system users.

Janet Houts asked how the repayment would be made. Mr. Whitten the obligation will be tagged to the rate payers of this system.

**Motion:** Approve acceptance authorizing the Chairman or designated official to sign all related obligating documents at the present time or no later than March 25, 2013 consisting of the "Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions" and Form RD 1940-1 "Request for Obligation of Funds" and the condition be attached that this document be brought back to the Commission should the closing instructions modify the terms of the contract, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

19. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of resolution 13-370 in support of Nevada Wildfire Awareness week May 4 – May 11, 2013

Mr. Whitten stated that Mrs. Blakely has already spoken to this item. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

**Motion:** Approve resolution 13-370 in support of Nevada Wildfire Awareness week May 4 – May 11, 2013, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

20. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of claim in the amount of \$4500.00 to Bucket of Blood, Inc. check number 74388 dated January 11, 2013 (continued from February 5, 2013)

Mr. Whitten stated this is quarterly payment to the Bucket of Blood, please keep in mind that we moved this from the consent agenda to the regular agenda. He clarified this is a family held interest not personal. He commented on some "voodoo" economics that have been going around. Less than three years ago we assessed a similar parcel in Virginia City and the parcel appraised for \$175,000.00, which was not improved or in such a prime spot as this parking lot.

Mr. Phillips commented that this is housekeeping and asked if the check has already been cashed.

Mr. Whitten stated that as of the end of February the check has not been cashed.

**Motion:** Approve claim in the amount of \$4,500.00 to Bucket of Blood, Inc. check number 74388 dated January 11, 2013, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Chairman Sjovangen

Vice-Chairman McBride stated the property in question is owned by the family business, he does not personally have the lease and it was signed by prior commission. He abstained from the vote and added the check has not been cashed.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=2) Vice-Chairman McBride abstained.

21. **RECESS TO CONVENE AS THE 474 FIRE DISTRICT BOARD**

The Board of County Commissioners was recessed to convene as the 474 Fire District Board by the call of the Chair at 4:27 p.m.

22. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of updated Storey County Fire Department and Central Lyon County Fire Protection District Interlocal Agreement for merger/automatic aid

Chief Hames advised the Board that is the agreement that has been updated to allow us to cohabitate with Central Lyon County Fire Protection District in their fire station #38, thereby freeing up our fire station #73 in Mark Twain, which will allow the County to have access and use for whatever purpose or function they see fit.

Commissioner Gilman acknowledges the work that Chief Hames has done on this project. He has really helped the County and helped our budgeting and costs.

Mr. Whitten thanked Commissioner Gilman. Sometimes you are in the middle of the forest so deeply you can't really see all of the trees. What started out as multiple hour meeting and tour between Chief Hames and Commissioner Gilman with a simple question really fostered a better opportunity to better serve our residents in Mark Twain.

Commissioner Gilman stated that it is his understanding it is the intent to set Mark Twain up with a community center. However this is not included in the agreement, Chief Hames deferred to District Attorney Maddox. District Attorney Maddox explained that we have been working to call ourselves by one name. When this came up he thought it would be a good idea to see who the name is on all of the deeds of the fire stations. Currently we are not able to locate a deed for the Mark Twain Station; he will have to file a petition for quiet title. We can move forward with it at this time without an agreement.

Mr. Whitten added that we are basically going through secure that the county is the owner of record. He recommended formulating a community group that helps in establishing the use and direction of the building, minus the section that will be used to store fire equipment.

Chief Hames clarified that the paramedic level services will still be coming from Virginia City.

Ms. Houts said she understands that the fire department will still use part of the fire station in Mark Twain. She asked how much of the building will be available.

Chief Hames explained that the proposal is to use the apparatus bays only. Everything else will be available for a community center. It is essential to have the redundant equipment properly stored.

Ms. Houts asked what the yearly estimated cost is for maintenance on the equipment stored down there. Chief Hames asked her to send the question in an email as he will need to review the budget to provide accurate numbers.

**Motion:** Approve updated Storey County Fire Department and Central Lyon County Fire Protection District Interlocal Agreement for merger/automatic aid, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**23. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of the 2013/2014 Storey County Fire Protection District declared rates for personnel, rolling stock and equipment

Chief Hames, this is something that is done with the 045 Mutual Aid Fund and has been going on for years, it is requirement that we all have declared rates. He explained how the numbers are reached and what each column includes.

Commissioner Gilman asked for some clarification on the rates. Are these part of the 2013/2014 budget that we are currently working on. Chief Hames explained that when we bill for services we bill for the actual hourly rates. But we have to put something in our annual operating agreements. These are the numbers that we are going to charge for out of area support, automatic aid.

**Motion:** Approve the 2013/2014 Storey County Fire Protection District declared rates for personnel, rolling stock and equipment, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**24. ADJOURN TO RECONVENE AS STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The 474 Fire District Board was adjourned to convene as the Board of County Commissioners by the call of the Chair at 4:43 p.m.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING**

**25. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Acceptance of a Non-Exclusive Bridge Easement and conditions for grant of the easement from the Nevada Division of State Lands for both the Washoe County and Storey County side if the USA Parkway Bridge.

Mr. Haymore addressed the Board to explain that when the County embarked with NDOT to build the USA Parkway interchange it was required with the developers and with the county, that the county accepts the bridge. We had to provide a letter stating that up front, with that NDOT gave the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center the easements where the bridge crosses the river. State lands has come to the District Attorney's Office, it is our responsibility to get an easement from high water mark to high water mark of the land that sits beneath the bridge. The annual fee has been waived.

Mr. Whitten clarified that this was required by NDOT and not the developer, it is his opinion that Commissioner Gilman doesn't have "any dog in the hunt." Mr. Haymore agreed this is not a requirement of the developer. Further discussion was held explaining the purpose of the easement.

**Motion:** Approve Acceptance of a Non-Exclusive Bridge Easement and conditions for grant of the easement from the Nevada Division of State Lands for both the Washoe County and Storey County side if the USA Parkway Bridge, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**26. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Second reading of Ordinance No.13-247 amending Storey County Code Chapter 17.38 I-S Special Industrial Zone to update the chapter by adding allowed uses, to make changes consistent with title 17, and providing for other properly related matters.

Mr. Osborne explained that last year we did a comprehensive update on Title 17. This zone was set aside to do some additional work on this zone. This is a performance type zone. This particular item will not be adopted by TRI, the zone will apply in the other IS uses in the county. He reviewed some of the updates to the zone.

Mr. Osborne read the following findings of fact into the record:

1. Comply with the purpose and intent of existing SCC Title 17 and the regulatory zones within.



2. Be consistent with the goals, objectives and provision of the existing county master plan
3. Comply with and not violate any provision of the federal, state or county regulations.
4. Be consistent with NRS 384 for development within the Comstock Historic District
5. Not impose substantial adverse impacts or safety hazards on abutting properties and the surrounding area.
6. Promote the health and general welfare of the citizens of the county
7. Be adopted with reasonable consideration, among other things, to the character of the area and its peculiar suitability for particular uses and with a view to conserving the value of buildings and encouraging the most appropriate use of land throughout the county.
8. Promote systems which use solar, wind and other renewable energy systems.
9. Ensures the protection of existing neighborhoods and communities
10. Provides for mixed use development where appropriate
11. Protects open spaces and natural resources in the county
12. The approval includes the changes to the text which were made at this meeting as advisable by the District Attorney

**Motion:** Approve Second reading of Ordinance No.13-247 amending Storey County Code Chapter 17.38 I-S Special Industrial Zone to update the chapter by adding allowed uses as read into the record, to make changes consistent with title 17, and providing for other properly related matters, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**27. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION, LICENSING BOARD SECOND READINGS:**

- a. Biale Construction, LLC - Contractor/1733 Hymer Avenue, Reno
- b. California Drilling & Blasting - Contractor/4144 Arden Dr., El Monte, CA
- c. Liquid Blue Events, LLC - General/748 South Meadows Parkway, Reno
- d. Double Down Heavy Repair, LLC - General/45 North Gobi Circle, Sparks
- e. GBT CAD Services, LLC - Home Business/4470 Victoria Rd., VC Highlands

Mr. Haymore requested that all second readings be approved.

**Motion:** Approve second readings items a - e, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**BOARD COMMENT**

Commissioner Gilman stated this was a great meeting and thanked everyone for their time.

Vice-Chairman McBride reported that at the beginning of this month he attend a conference in Washington DC. They had great meetings with Reid and Heller, addressing multiple concerns. One thing that came across his plate, Storey County currently participates in the NACO Prescription Program, a similar program is being offered for dental services. He will be asking Storey County to join the program and offer the benefits to our residents.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by the call of the Chair at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Vanessa DuFresne, Clerk-Treasurer