

STOREY COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL2nd, 2013 9:00A.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

Roll Call: Chairman Sjovangen, Vice-Chairman McBride, Commissioner Gilman, District Attorney Maddox, Clerk & Treasurer Vanessa DuFresne, County Manager Pat Whitten, Assessor Jana Seddon, Recorder Jen Chapman, Communications Director Dave Ballard, Public Works Director Mike Nevin, Fire Chief Gary Hames, Government Affairs Director Greg "Bum" Hess, Administrative Officer Austin Osborne, Management Analyst Jessie Fain, Chief Deputy Tad Fletcher, Community Services Director Deny Dotson, Emergency Management Cherie Nevin and Sheriff Gerald Antinoro.

1. CALL TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:00 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chair led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

3. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of Agenda for April 2, 2013

Mark Joseph Phillips commented that listed under the consent agenda are items 8 and 9, two resolutions that are worthy of some discussion before they are approved. Additionally, item 15, the appointments of a Mark Twain Community Advisory Board, this is the first he has heard of this and suggests that it be continued until there is some kind of notice of this Board and their function.

Chairman Sjovangen added that item #38, **"DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Special Use Permit No. 2013-004 by the Nature Conservancy (McCarran) Applicant is requesting a special use permit in APN 004-092-62, 004-091-77 and 004-091-78 (appox. T20N, R22E, Sections 28, 39, 32 and 33 MDBM)(39° 33'38"N, 119°32'11"NAD) to alter portions of the existing Truckee River channel and abutting floodplain environment to facilitate flood management, water quality improvement, biodiversity and habitat improvement, noxious weed eradication and recreation", will be continued. Mr. Osborne stated the continuation is to the next meeting and the applicant

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is agreeable to the continuation. Mr. Whitten stated the next meeting is April 16, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

Motion: Approve agenda for April 2, 2013 with continuation of item #38 to April 16, 2013 and removal of items 8 and 9 to the regular agenda, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

4. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of Minutes for January 23, 2013 Mr. Phillips requested the spelling of his name be corrected on page 2.

Motion: Approve minutes for January 23, 2013 with noted corrections, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

5. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of Minutes for February 5, 2013

Motion: Approve minutes for February 5, 2013, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action)

Dale Beach commented that at a previous meeting the Chairman had him thrown out by the Sheriff, which there is probably an incident report for. He continued that the other day he was at a meeting in Carson City, as was Chairman Sjovangen, when people made comments others applauded and it was allowed, here it's not. Mr. Beach continued with issues he has with the budget, in Mineral County there is a guy by the name of Greg Nixon. His classification is Fire Chief and he makes a total of \$45,000.85 per year, which is their total fire budget for labor, wages and benefits. Mr. Beach stated that he has heard from high-up officials in our county that you can't judge one county against another one. He has a general obligation debt comparison made by the State Tax Department. It rated Lander, Lincoln, Mineral, Pershing, Storey and White Pine Counties. Chairman Sjovangen stated that the Board is not interested in any of that and asked him to have a seat.

Mr. Phillips, Virginia City resident, stated that on the 28th of March at 10:00 am the Nevada Mining Oversight and Accountability Commission meet in Carson City with video conference to Las Vegas. Mr. Phillips explained that on the agenda was information regarding the possible degradation of Virginia City as a national historic landmark as a result of mining operations. For the record Chairman Sjovangen spoke under public comment and also present at the meeting was lobbyist Greg "Bum" Hess. Towards the end of the meeting Steven Horsford realized there was not representation from the agency. Chairman Sjovangen stated that was it told Mr. Phillips to sit down. Mr. Phillips submitted the agenda for the meeting to the Clerk. Chairman Sjovangen explained that this Board has no control over those meetings and it is not a topic for

discussion. Mr. Phillips stated there was no one there to represent the public. Chairman Sjovangen repeatedly told Mr. Phillips to leave. Mr. Phillips was escorted from the room by a Sheriff's Deputy.

Chairman Sjovangen asked that the meeting be placed into recess at 9:11 am.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:12 am.

Nicole Barde, Virginia City Highlands resident, addressed the Board stating Mark Phillips may be a pest to you but what Mark brings up is not wrong. How he does it may be wrong but when you throw him out it is an insult to every resident of this county, we have a right to be heard. She continued that you are elected to listen to us, you cannot rule by force. Chairman Sjovangen asked her to sit down, she stated she would not. Ms. Barde added these comments are on record and this is not right, we should not be treated this way.

Chairman Sjovangen stated that Mr. Phillips was removed because he was not in compliance with the law. He is talking about something this Board has no authority over. It has nothing to do with this Commission or this County. It is a waste of time and that is why he is not allowed to speak. General public comment is for disseminating general information.

Dale Beach commented on how the people are being ran over by County Management, the county looks like it is set up to serve and manage 150 people instead of 4,030. We want to be treated just like everyone; there is no easy way to do business with Storey County. Now he has a new friend, the Comptroller and he sends him documents, he writes to Commissioner Gilman and gets nothing back. He wants to know why Jana Seddon is getting \$1,000.00 more than other people that are supposed to be set by State. Chairman Sjovangen responded that the question will probably be answered once we get into the budget portion of the meeting. Mr. Beach asked that he be told when to ask his questions. He can't hear sitting anywhere out there. Chairman Sjovangen commented that we recognize that the acoustics are not the best in here. Mr. Beach asked if he could bring Mr. Phillips back into the meeting. Chairman Sjovangen replied that he does not want him in here. His whole intent is to create a public spectacle. Mr. Beach added we all want to be treated fair.

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.)

- 7. Claims For possible action approval of Payroll Check date 03/15/13 for \$333,304.34 03/22/13 for \$10,489.34 and Accounts Payable date 03/22/13 for \$149,903.95
- 8. Possible approval of Resolution 13-369 to protect and defend the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms

- 9. Possible approval of Resolution 13-371 supporting Congressman Mark Amodei's bill before the Unites States Congress (H.R. 1167), also known as the Restoring Storey County Act which conveys surface rights to approximately 1745 acres of land potentially claimed by the United States Government.
- 10. For possible action approval of Licensing Board First Reading:
 - a. Associated Crane and Oil Field Log General/235 London TRI
 - b. Thompson Electric Contractor/7782 Cerritos Circle, Sparks
 - c. Rainbow Restoration Contractor/1285 Marietta Way, Sparks
 - d. H2O4U General/305 Sugar Hill Drive, Sparks
 - e. The House Charmers General/405 Aspen Drive, Dayton
 - f. The Butchers Choice of Nevada General/2555 Dickerson Rd, Reno

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Approve Consents Agenda, Action: Approve Moved by Vice-Chairman McBride Seconded by Commissioner Gilman

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

Item 8 from Consent Agenda: Possible approval of Resolution 13-369 to protect and defend the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

Mr. Whitten stated that this item was put on at the request of Nevada Assemblyman Jim Wheeler and former Assemblyman Tom Grady. There is a bill before the Nevada Legislature that once again confirms the core the rights that Nevadans believe in, the constitutional right to bear arms. If approved copies will be sent to the various people listed within the resolution.

Motion: Approve Resolution 13-369 to protect and defend the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms James, **Action:** Approve **Moved by Vice-**Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

Item 9 from Consent Agenda: Possible approval of Resolution 13-371 supporting Congressman Mark Amodei's bill before the Unites States Congress (H.R. 1167), also known as the Restoring Storey County Act which conveys surface rights to approximately 1745 acres of land potentially claimed by the United States Government.

Mr. Whitten stated that late last fall Congressman Amodei introduced a bill that was known as the Restoring Storey County Act, it simplicity and elegantly attempted to solve title cloud issues in Virginia City, Gold Hill and a small portion of Mark Twain. BLM has historically asserted some type of surface interest in the previous listed areas. Working with Congressman Amodei's staff and former Commissioner Hess we were able to carve out a very narrow piece of land in the Gold Hill area, attempting to avoid as many of the controversial issues, such as mining, as we may have and encompassed Virginia City and 6 parcels in Mark Twain. That bill went nowhere; Congressman Amodei's staff asked if we wanted to reintroduce it, our answer was yes. Mr. Whitten explained that in essence right now any property owner wishing to clear these title clouds with BLM would need to individually seek out an act of congress conveying the property from the federal government to the individual. This bill gives those lands, if passed by Congress, to Storey County and it would be the County's attempt to covey the titles out to the individual land owners. He has been working with Jana Seddon and Jen Chapman to develop a streamline procedure to allow the title to be properly transferred into the property owner's name. Mr. Whitten has been asked what the cost will be for individual land owners to buy their land back, at this stage in the game his best answer is \$14.00, the recording fee. This resolution is supporting Congressman Amodei's efforts to help us.

Commissioner Gilman asked if the title would pass to Storey County for the properties listed in the bill. Mr. Whitten explained that individual owners already have some interest; this would take any interest that BLM claims away. Any reported interest by the federal government would be deeded over to Storey County, followed by a deed to the current property owner. Commissioner Gilman asked if maps with parcel numbers have been produced. Mr. Whitten responded that we have, however are not in a format yet to be made public. It is currently being cleaned up by GIS. Commissioner Gilman asked if it would be prudent to wait until the final map is available. Mr. Whitten responded respectfully no, this is a tool that Congressman Amodei's needs to get the bill passed. The zone has been negotiated months ago. Commissioner Gilman added that he is generally in favor of this motion however he is concerned that there has not been a map provided.

Chairman Sjovangen stated that right now Congressman Amodei needs all the help he can get. This is the second attempt to get the bill passed. Commissioner Gilman commented that we still do not have maps, to which Chairman Sjovangen responded that we do. Mr. Whitten explained that we do have maps, but he is not confident down to the individual parcel level, we know the target area. The maps themselves are in the provided public packet. Commissioner Gilman stated this is an important clean-up for our community; he would be more comfortable with a map or listing of the properties in question.

Assessor Jana Seddon addressed Commissioner Gilman's concerns regarding the map. She explained that she has been working with GIS for almost two years trying to get our parcel data updated. The issue with the current map is that it is lacking the current updates to parcel numbers and owners. By next week the complete map should be available.

Commissioner Gilman asked if a parcel list will be attached to Congressman Amodei's bill or is it presented as "parcels to be determined." Mr. Whitten explained yes and no, we have identified them as township, range and sections, not the individual parcels. Chairman Sjovangen added that BLM has reviewed the current map and is comfortable with boundaries submitted.

Motion: Approve Resolution 13-371 supporting Congressman Mark Amodei's bill before the United States Congress (H.R. 1167), also known as the Restoring Storey County Act, **Action:** Approve **Moved by Vice-**Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

11. DISCUSSION (No Action): Committee/Staff Reports

Assessor Jana Seddon:

- 1. Reported that her office has been actively working with GIS to get the map previously discussed updated and ready to go. It is a very important issue for the County. Working on having another pictorial fly done for the county, has been a huge success.
- 2. Getting ready to do new construction appraisals.

Commissioner Gilman asked if the maps submitted for Congressman Amodei's are primarily for Virginia City and Mark Twain or are there other areas that have been identified. Ms. Seddon explained the maps cover Virginia City, portions of Gold Hill and 6 parcels in Mark Twain. Commissioner Gilman commented that in TRI and other areas there are many strips between parcels that BLM claims, there is a broader cleanup plan that could be implemented. Mr. Whitten responded that initially we attempted to include much more property in this bill, everything owned by the federal government. We were repeatedly told no, Congressman Amodei wants to keep this very simple, land bills can take years to get through Congress. Once this bill is passed we have the option to go back for a second bill and include the property referred to by Commissioner Gilman. We will go back for round two after we get round one done.

Emergency Management Director Joe Curtis:

- 1. Comstock Community Television will soon be providing emergency notifications to the subscribers due to participation in a FEMA supported grant. The system is continuing to evolve and make significant process.
- 2. On May 4th there will be four counties, Carson, Lyon, Douglas and Storey, emergency exercises in conjunction with the Comstock Mining Company, Inc. The scenario will involve a cyanide leak. A grant was obtained from the state to fund the exercise.

Communications Director Dave Ballard:

1. Obtained a grant to purchase software for our computer added dispatch system. Working with GIS to get some of the mapping up and running. This will allow dispatch to push information out to first responders and allow them to see what the dispatchers are seeing. Should be up and running in the next month. The department is getting ready for the summer season.

Fire Protection District Chief Gary Hames:

1. Stated that he has heard Mineral County compared to us several times now and would be happy to answer that in the depth should this Board like. There are a couple of similarities that have never been brought out. Hawthorne is the primary area within Mineral County; Hawthorne has a large military presence and a separate fire department. That separate department is run by Day and Zimmerman; they have probably a third more staff than we do. So when you look at the global picture with how Mineral County is composed it is important to compare apples to apples. He would be happy to sit down with Mr. Beach anytime and discuss this. It's not really fair when you include Day and Zimmerman who serves the army base.

- 2. Thanked Vice-Chairman McBride for sitting on the Battalion Chief hiring board late last week. Commissioner Gilman will be sitting in on the interview panels next week. It has been narrowed down to two candidates; Chief Hames feels we can't go wrong with either candidate.
- 3. The EMS billing position has been filled by Darcy McMillin, she will be starting next week and is going to be very, very busy as call volumes are starting to pick up for the season.
- 4. Seasonal advertising is done, we received about 20 applications and will be interviewing in the next couple of weeks, with a tentative start date of May 1st.
- 5. Received a grant for \$250,000.00 from the Division of Forestry for a 3 person crew. The crew will be falling dead trees over the winter, trail clearances, assist with Community Clean-Up Week and clear around 40 residences in the Mark Twain area, 12 being vacant nuisance issues. The funding includes the purchase of a chipper; our grant match is \$140,000.00 in in-kind labor.
- 6. We are moving forward with the consolidation of the Station 73 in Mark Twain into Lyon County Station 38.
- 7. The Every 15 Minute Program is moving along extremely well. Department Head and School District participation has been phenomenal.

Public Works Director Mike Nevin:

- 1. At the last meeting the Board approved the letter of intent with the USDA for proposed funding for the waste water treatment facility in Virginia City. Late Friday afternoon the local office in Carson City received notification that the funds have been released and we are going to move forward.
- 2. Had interviews for the custodial maintenance position, have narrowed it down to two individuals. He hopes to have a decision by the end of the day and have the person online in the next couple of weeks.
- 3. There was some vandalism at the Mark Twain Park last week, someone shot up the slide at the park. Will be making some minor repairs to keep it in use.

Community Development Director Dean Haymore:

- 1. He informed the Board that Stacey lost her mother last week and Diane is taking care of her mother. He thanked Pat for lending Susan and Donna is coming in to help. Our condolences go out Stacey from her Storey County family.
- 2. They have started repairs in Gold Hill on the road through an agreement between Comstock Mining, Inc. and NDOT.
- 3. Yesterday the company he has been working with out of Chicago closed escrow on 700 USA Parkway. He also received plans for the grading and the property, which is scheduled to being within 40 days. Plans went out for contractors to bid on a 450,000 square foot logistics facility.
- 4. MARS is taking the Dell Building and will be converting it over to a logistics center. Several additional companies are moving with one expanding their pit modular system.
- 5. He has been working with Comstock Mining, Inc. to do some expansions.

Commissioner Gilman thanked him for the reports that have been coming out of his department on the current activity within Storey County. Mr. Haymore added that we are working to sublease space in the county owned building in TRI. The Royal Sierra building may be undergoing expansion and improvements as well. Commissioner Gilman added that the big news is that the market is starting to pick up.

Administrative Officer/Senior Planner Austin Osborne:

- 1. The master plan workshops are moving forward may be looking at establishing a subcommittee to hold micro workshops. Updating the existing plan not gutting the current plan, to bring it current.
- 2. On May 16th in Lockwood there will be a meeting of the Planning Commission at which time a presentation will be given on the Truckee River Flood Management Project. Mr. Osborne will follow the meeting with a master plan workshop.
- 3. Hugh Roy Marshall will be issued an underground mining permit for a small operation at the Sutro Tunnel.

Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

1. The quarterly financial statement format was approved by the Department of Taxation and the first and second quarters are on the website. The third should shortly follow.

County Manager Pat Whitten:

- 1. It is required by NRS that the final budget hearing be held on May 20th, he was advised this morning by our Clerk that there is the potential for a jury trial to commence on the same day. We are planning consolidate the budget hearing with the normal commission business, and look at holding the meeting at Piper's Opera House.
- 2. Expanding the county family by two people and they are not related to anyone on staff in any way that he can tell.
- 3. Free Dump Day is scheduled for May 4th. Jeff Wood stepped up the plate for community clean up.
- 4. For decades many of us have dreamed about getting natural gas, we have resident here in town that would like to be our utilities analyst. Paul Kvam has many years working with the Public Utilities Commission and is extremely well versed in the process. Looks like the most viable route would be through 6 Mile Canyon.
- 12. **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.

Ms. Fanlo gave a brief overview of the presentation she provided the Board at the previous meeting. She was able to negotiate a 9.9% rate increase for the county with the same 3 plans being offered as the year before. There are benefit fairs scheduled for tomorrow and Thursday to cover the plans with the employees and address any concerns.

Vice-Chairman McBride asked if next year, with the Affordable Health Care Act changes, will the current plans still be available to us or are we going to be forced into something else. Ms. Fanlo explained that due to the county being considered a large employer we will have a lot more options available to us, including the ones we currently have. **Motion:** Approve the acceptance of the insurance renewal as presented by Ms. Fanlo, **Action:** Approve **Moved by Vice-**Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

13. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Authorize the County Manager to execute documents required to enroll in and provide benefits as provided for under the National Association of Counties (NACo) Dental Discount Program.

Mr. Whitten stated that this looks to be a great program that caught all of our attention while we were at the Legislative Conference in Washington DC last month, particularly Vice-Chairman McBride.

Vice-Chairman McBride explained that the program is being offered by the National Associate of Counties (NACo). We currently participate in the prescription program that is offered by NACo, they are now offering a dental program. Unlike the prescription program the dental program does charge a fee to those that are enrolled. The fees are very low and afford you the ability to visit the dentists that are participating in the program and receive a 20%-50% discount for services rendered. Vice-Chairman McBride explained that we will work with Community Chest and the senior centers to provide the program for those who do not have currently have dental insurance. This does not cost the county anything to participate as we are members of NACo. He explained this isn't insurance it is a discount program. Mr. Beach and Mr. Prosser, from the audience, asked questions regarding the program. It was explained that all Storey County residents are eligible to participate.

Mr. Whitten added that it takes approximately 2 months for all the material to be made available and the program become active in Storey County.

Motion: Approve to authorize the County Manager to execute documents required to enroll in and provide benefits as provided for under the National Association of Counties (NACo) Dental Discount Program, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

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

14. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Direction to staff regarding legislation or legislative issues proposed by legislators, by Storey County or by other entities permitted by the Nevada State Legislature to submit bill draft requests, or such legislative issues as may be deeded by the Chair or the Board to be of critical significance to Storey County. Specific legislation will include but not necessarily be limited to S.B. 272 where an official position of either opposition or neutrality will be requested based on possible text amendment.

Mr. Whitten informed the Board that the generic nature of this item is that we are frequently asked to express how the county may feel about various bills before the state legislature. Historically those have generally been left up to himself or senior staff. On this particular bill there are a number of issues and things to be determined. As early as tomorrow we may be

asked by the legislature where we stand on this item. The areas involved are the Sunny Hills within Storey County and

Mr. Hess provided an overview of SB 272, the bill refers to a land swap that we can do with Washoe County. There are reciprocal caveats to the bill; one being that the boards of both county commissions must approve any transactions. The primary areas involved are the Sunny Hills project, 1,100 acres within Storey County and TRI property that lies between the river and I80. Basically the committee is looking for one of three positions; neutral, oppose or approve. There are still a few things that the bill needs. We have had some changes and amendments to the bill. The bill still needs an amendment stating that each property can be swapped individually, not all properties have to go at once. The bill is scheduled to be heard tomorrow morning.

Chairman Sjovangen commented that going back to the whole Corde Vista thing this would be roughly west of that area, just on the north side of the Highlands. His opinion is that at this point we would probably want to go in neutral until we get all the Highlands folks together. Looking at the map it appears that the Sunny Hills Subdivision would come pretty close to Lousetown Road, it doesn't take a lot of imagination to see that the people will be in the Highlands on their quads riding around. On the other end of this is the River District and they may want to weigh in on it also. Mr. Hess added that the 300 acres that we would want is currently in Washoe County, with all of infrastructure right there. Regarding the 1,100 acres that abuts the Corde Vista project, we have told the developers that it is your sell to the Highlands residents. It has to take reciprocal votes from both Boards.

Ms. Barde, Highlands resident, asked the Board that wasn't one of the issues with Corde Vista water. She asked that if we swap land with Washoe County isn't water still going to be an issue. Chairman Sjovangen explained that they will have to bring in their own water. Ms. Barde added that there are always two issues with the Highlands, one being people coming in on our property and the major issue, water. She doesn't know that the Highlands are going to go for this. Mr. Hess stated that the developers know that they are coming up against the Highlands folks and it's going to be a tough sale. Mr. Hess explained that in the past we have attempted to do this without the legislature being involved.

Mr. Whitten commented that it is sad that the property on I80 would go undeveloped. We would love to see it developed in Storey County as it is in a prime location.

Commissioner Gilman excused himself from the table and the item as he is a principal in the TRI properties, he feels it is inappropriate from him to take a position or participate in the vote.

Mr. Hess stated that we are working with Vince Griffith to insure that the surveyed locations in the bill match the surveys on file with the Recorder. He reiterated that there is language that still needs to be added in the bill and should be included in the vote today. Mr. Whitten added a position of opposition at this stage would kill the bill, he would advocate for either a position of neutrality or a third option that was recently presented, no position. There is too much that still needs to be determined. He still has some concerns regarding a change in the definition to Washoe County but not to Storey County. He would like to meet with the LCB to bring some clarification to the issue. At this time he would recommend no position. Mr. Hess commented that if the appropriate language is not added to the bill than we would want to oppose it because at that point it becomes an anti-Storey County bill.

Mr. Garret Gordon addressed the Board. He represents Sunny Hills in this project; he is a land use/zoning lobbyist and attorney. Mr. Gordon stated the bill does currently include both properties and to give enabling authority to the counties. On behalf of Sunny Hills he is aware that he has a lot of work to do. A technical amendment should be ready tomorrow stating that both properties don't have to go, it doesn't have to be all or nothing. Mr. Gordon stated he looks forward to working with this commission and the Highlands residents.

Ms. Barde asked what the next step is in this. Meaning will the public have a voice or a vote in what happens next. Chairman Sjovangen stated that this is moving the bill forward in the legislature. Ms. Barde asked if there was a timeline for this. Mr. Gordon added that the bill just gives the commissions the ability to make the swap if they choose. There is a date in the bill of June 30, 2015, if nothing happens by this date than the ability to swap land terminates. Ms. Barde asked if there are milestones now and between the 2015 date to keep it moving. Mr. Gordon explained the process through the legislature; nothing will change until this board approves a resolution. Ms. Barde asked that this item be put on a ballot for all of the citizens to vote on and to see how this affects our master plan. Mr. Hess stated that there will be plenty of public hearings held on this, very similar to Blake Smith's deal. Mr. Whitten added that an advisory question is a great idea; the latest a question can be put on the ballot is September 2014.

Commissioner Sjovangen stated that this is the first time this bill has been exposed to the public and this is the beginning of a long process. Additional discussion was held regarding the needed amendments and process through the legislature. Mr. Gordon stated that Washoe County took no position on the bill at their meeting, but subject to having the language put in there that it is either or. He and Mr. Hess are willing to add that at tomorrow's hearing. Mr. Whitten added that subject to verification from LCB staff that the TRI properties are included as well. Ms. Barde clarified that the two pieces are not yoked in any way. Mr. Gordon responded that he completely understands that one deal may happen without the other, it is a guarantee that the bill will read that way.

Mr. Whitten stated that this item can remain on the agenda throughout the legislative session to allow the Board to discuss the changes and progression of the bill with Staff at future meetings.

Motion: Approve a position of neutrality with a vote of opposition if the language separating the two parcels is not included in an amendment to the bill **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Chairman Sjovangen

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=2) Commissioner Gilman abstained.

Chairman Sjovangen called a recess at 10:43 am.

Chairman Sjovangen called the meeting to order at 10:58 am.

15. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approve appointment of Ron Engelbrecht, Denise I. Thrower-Victorine, Adam James Robello, Laura Kekule and Ray Herbert to the Mark Twain Community Center Advisory Board.

Mr. Whitten stated that later today in the agenda we will have the opportunity to finalize all decisions pertinent to our fire service in the Mark Twain area and free up the majority of the space in the station, with exceptions of the bays. He credited Commissioner Gilman with seeing a diamond in the rough and it is through his efforts that we are establishing a community board to get the center up and running.

Commissioner Gilman stated that Chief Hames is really the man who deserves credit here, the relationships and cooperative agreements that he has established are incredible. He is excited to say that we have established a board and the fire station will be established as a community center similar to the one in the Lockwood area. Commissioner Gilman introduced each of the board members to the commission.

Merilee Miller offered her assistance to the new board.

Motion: Approve the appointment of the 5 members listed to the Mark Twain Community Center Advisory Board, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

- 16. **RECESS TO CONVENE AS STOREY COUNTY WATER AND SEWER BOARD** The Water and Sewer Board was convened at 11:03 a.m.
- 17. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Contract with Comstock Mining, Inc. for sale of untreated and unused water at reduced rate and other related matters.

Mr. Whitten recognized Scott Jolcover as being present and here to speak if needed. Comstock Mining, Inc. has previously obtained the water rights to pump water, however in an effort to help our water system here in Virginia City be healthy they have opted purchase untreated water from the water system. Through this agreement we can begin time to make much of the needed improvements to our system and ensure that we are using the water that is allocated to us by the State. This is not a conveyance of any rights, simply a purchase of untreated water.

Mr. Nevin added that this agreement is nothing new, just a renegotiation of the rate. We have been selling water to this mining location since the 1980's. Through this agreement they have agreed to purchase 80 acre feet of our annual allocation. We have negotiated a rate of \$2.30 per thousand with a base fee for the meter. In addition Comstock Mining will be making improvements to their facility at their cost. We may look at jointly making improvements to the 5 Mile Reservoir in the future. Mr. Nevin gave a brief history of the water system and the role mining played in getting the water to Virginia City/Gold Hill.

Mr. Beach asked if this was different issue than the sewer plant we are going to replace. Chairman Sjovangen confirmed this is a separate issue.

Commissioner Gilman thanked Mr. Nevin for all of his work on this contract and for continuing from the last meeting to allow him the opportunity to review the contract.

Motion: Approve the Contract with Comstock Mining, Inc. for sale of untreated and unused water at reduced rate and other related matters, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

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

18. **RECESS TO RECONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY BOARD OFCOMMISSIONERS** The Water and Sewer Board was convened at 11:12 a.m.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE LICENSING

19. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of second reading for home business application for Firing Pen located at 4210 Overland Rd., VC Highlands

Chief Deputy Fletcher requested approval of all three applications. Vice-Chairman McBride confirmed that Firing Pen is for concealed weapon permits.

- 20. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of second reading for liquor and cabaret license application for Comstock Corner Cafe located at 190 S. C Street, Virginia City
- 21. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of second reading for business license application for G4S Secure Solutions located at 1575 Delucchi Lane #116, Reno, NV

Motion: Approve items 19, 20 and 21, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Gilman **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman McBride

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

22. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Tentative Budget Hearings for FYE2013/14

Comptroller Hugh Gallagher stated this has been a living breathing document with meetings held with all of the department heads. Property taxes ad valorem are going to be down this year from the previous year by 6%, this is due to net assessed value decreasing 2%. If you take that from a base year of 2010 we are down 27% this is due to a lot of factors on the assessment of real and personal property. Sales tax we believe will be up about 1% which is a hopeful indicator. Mr. Gallagher continued that on the global expense side for the county salaries will increase about 3%. With an additional increase in PERS of 3%, this has grown dramatically over the years and must be paid by the county per legislature. Mr. Gallagher is looking into the possibility of changing from a 100% employer funded program. Our PACT insurance will probably increase 6.5% but we do not have a solid number yet. Health insurance has been budgeted for a possible increase of 4.2%. Additionally gas and diesel will be increased 15.5% from the prior year. This is something that we

all need to look at and be concerned about. This year salaries and wages will be approached differently; overtime will now be a budgeted item with an explanation from the department head for each pay period as to why the overtime was incurred. There are a lot of this that go along with this, there is call back pay and holiday pay that contractually we have to pay, along with annual and sick leave. He would like to examine between now and the final budget to see if we can eliminate the overtime associated with employees taking annual leave. He understands that it is very hard from some to take their annual leave when there are budget constraints he is hoping that we can reach some center ground. The general fund consists of revenue departments excluding public safety, Mr. Nevin's 5 departments and a couple of special revenue funds that will be addressed at the end.

Clerk and Treasurer Vanessa DuFresne:

Ms. DuFresne provided an overview of the functions of her office; there are no significant changes from the prior year. Commissioner Gilman thanked her for her report; all of the departments this year have turned these in. While it adds for a lot more to read it also allows a lot of understanding of what happens in the departments. We are focusing on zero base line budgeting this year. Commissioner Gilman stated that in this case Ms. DuFresne has really examined the budget and he thanked her for the extra work. He looks forward to line item management; there is not a more important function for this Board than managing the county's finances. He encourages everybody to go back and look at every dollar again. Mr. Gallagher stated that salaries, benefits and COLA will be increasing for all departments. We are also working to reassign costs to the individual departments. Postage for the Clerk-Treasurer department has been moved to the appropriate budget along with the bank service fees.

Ms. DuFresne explained that the District Court and Clerk-Treasurer are listed as two separate departments. She questioned why the two departments can't be one as the court is a function of the clerk. She will be looking at this with Mr. Gallagher to see if we can consolidate. Ms. DuFresne stated that the genetic marker fee is imposed by the court, the fees collected can be used for court improvements when the Judges see appropriate with a portion of the budget being passed on to Washoe County as they do the testing. Additionally under the Clerk-Treasurer budget is Drug Court. The revenue for this account is from fees imposed by the Judge at sentencing, currently the fund has no expenses.

Recorder Jen Chapman:

Ms. Chapman stated that as with the previous department an overview of her budget was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Every dollar was considered in developing this budget, with an overall increase from the prior year of \$397.00. She strives to manage county money and resources on a professional and extremely hardworking level. Ms. Chapman added that a postage account has been added to her budget and some additional breakdown of accounts to allow for better tracking.

Commissioner Gilman commented that her report is excellent and well written. It is his understanding that Ms. Chapman previously requested an additional employee but has decided to utilize the part-time floater that is available. Ms. Chapman responded that we will work with whatever we have got and step up to the plate when we need. Technological tools and a great staff are ensuring that we are getting everything done.

Assessor Jana Seddon:

Ms. Seddon stated that her budget for the last two years and including this year has stayed stagnate. The state continues to reduce the properties they are assessing and passing them to the county for assessment. Ms. Seddon stated that 75% of the people that come to her office for DMV services are from out of county. She explained the duties and deadlines that affect her office and the outside factors contributing to the workload placed on the staff. Her office currently consists of three people; she is requesting a full time less than part time person in the 2014 budget. She has been so graciously allotted a small amount of money for an intermittent part time person. Ms. Seddon explained that she would be doing the county a disservice if the she didn't request a full time part time person for her office. Currently the 2013/2014 payroll budget for the office is \$296,962 with benefits; an intermittent person would raise the budget to \$304,190 a full time less than part time person would add an additional \$12,720 to her budget. She commented that her budget has basically stayed the same. There are classes and certifications that have to maintained and updated. Ms. Seddon is waiting on the Legislature to make a decision on the publication of the tax roll which could potentially result in a budget reduction.

Commissioner Gilman stated that one of the values in zero based budgeting is not just grinding numbers to the bone but actually analyzing your department and in some cases there will be increases. There may be increased needs or cost, as he goes down the budget for the Assessor he sees "no change." Commissioner Gilman continued that he would think that as you down the budget he would be happy to see possible increases, for training and other items. He suggested to all departments that zero based budgeting doesn't mean you are trying to take it to the lowest common denominator; it is about what it is going to take to run the department on an affective basis. Ms. Seddon explained the professional services portion of her budget request and the use of an outside appraiser. Commissioner Gilman asked if there is a way to do additional out sourcing to help the office rather than hiring another employee. Ms. Seddon explained that you do not receive the same benefits as a person in the office. Commissioner Gilman added that she gave a nice explanation of the outside appraiser; it would have been helpful to have that in the budget report. Ms. Seddon added that with the DMV office we do get compensated for providing the services, approximately \$15,000 in the last 10 months. Vice-Chairman McBride asked her if DMV was a full time position for as minimal compensation as she suggests. She explained that it does vary from day to day, out of a full time person 75% of their time is spent dealing with DMV. He asked if the possibility of a kiosk had been proposed to DMV. Ms. Seddon has approached the DMV regarding a kiosk and was told Storey County does not have the population to support the kiosk. It is surprising how busy they are with the options that are available online. She does not see as many Storey County residents as we did in the past utilizing the DMV services, most are from out of county. We are not required to offer DMV; Storey County is one of four county Assessor Offices' in the state that offers this service. Commissioner Gilman asked what percentage is from out of county residents. She responded 70-75%. Mr. Gallagher stated he has included in the Assessor budget the funding for an intermittent part time position. It is his recommendation that we continue down this path for the upcoming session with Ms. Seddon documenting where all the holes may be. Chairman Sjovangen commented that this office is a little different in that it is mandated by NRS to open but time is also required to be spent out in the field doing appraisals.

Ms. Seddon addressed the Technology Fund and explained the origination of the 2% fee and the allowed uses. In previous years the fund has been used to help purchase servers, flown the

county for photography and other various projects. She explained to the Board what GIS is and the benefits of pictometry.

Mr. Whitten added that as the budgets have reduced and needs have increased Ms. Seddon has been the consummate team player. He provided an overview of the role Ms. Seddon and the Technology play within the county and the benefit to other departments and the residents.

Buildings and Grounds Mike Nevin:

Mr. Nevin stated the total request for the 2013/2014 year is \$429,676.00. Different this year he has decided to categorize utilities allowing for better tracking of the expenses, in the past it was lumped into one location labeled "Courthouse". We provide utility expense for multiple locations. New this year is increases to the street light expense being transferred to Buildings and Grounds. Additionally the budget of Virginia City and Gold Hill will be eliminated. Mr. Nevin added that this year is the Mark Twain Community Center utilities will be included in this budget along with the continuation of the cultural affairs and historic preservation grant fund matches. The grant matches help with the Courthouse restoration. He has budgeted for continued work on the Courthouse and the possibility of installing some new carpet in the common areas of the Courthouse under the general government line items. The carpet was recently cleaned which did help quite a bit. The county building at B St. and Taylor St. is in need of stabilization, he is requesting \$5,000 for the improvements. There is a line item in the amount of \$10,000 for work to be performed on C St. sidewalks. The funds would provide for the materials needed for the work. Mr. Nevin continued with the county owned building in Mark Twain. He has requested \$6,000 for the new community center building. The funds will provide a fire and smoke detection system and a barrier surrounding the stored equipment. The Virginia City Senior Center has a budget of \$6,000 there are currently no requests, safe to have it in reserve should it be needed. A security gate will be installed at the Public Works yard. The Fire Museum belong to the county as well, repointing of the brick work will continue when the weather improves, \$5,000 has been allocated to allow the work to continue. The North County Senior Center has a budget of \$6,000, the building is in need of paint and other repairs as needed. There are no anticipated projects for the TRI building; funds may be used to purchase materials for continued improvements within the building that may be performed by a tenant. The St. Mary's Art Center is budget for \$6,000 possibly to help with an upcoming boiler project. Mr. Nevin stated that the county building on South C St. has been allocated \$1,000 should a need arise in the future. The rest stop has a request for \$2,500 to allow for continued work on the grounds. There are two positions and a portion of his salary that come from this budget.

Commissioner Gilman asked if he would consider developing a budget for the bathrooms and lights for the Lockwood area. Mr. Nevin replied that he will work with Mr. Gallagher on which fund this should fall under. Mr. Gallagher stated he is working to consolidate the cost of the parks so that it is not broke out over various departments.

Chairman Sjovangen called a recess at 12:22 p.m.

Chairman Sjovangen called the meeting to order at 12:36 am.

Swimming Pool and Parks Mike Nevin:

Mr. Nevin addressed the budget for swimming pool and parks, with a total request of \$120,536. This is a reduction from the current allocation due to the fact that there is no grant match budgeted this year. A portion of the Public Works Director and administrative support staffs salaries are allocated to this budget. The budget provides for one seasonal grounds keeper who is responsible for the Virginia City and Mark Twain parks. The Peri Park is maintained through a joint agreement with the school district.

Commissioner Gilman asked Mr. Nevin to explain how the joint agreement works. Mr. Nevin stated the school is supposed to maintain the grounds down there, however there is some contentious debate on whether or nor it is the grounds or just the mowing of the grass. His department has done the sprinkler repairs and replaced the vacuum pressure system; there is a written agreement which he will provide to Commissioner Gilman.

Mr. Nevin continued with the budget overview. There is an increase in chemical cost to treat the water at the pool. A pool manager and up to five lifeguards will be hired for June through August. Under general government he has provided for much needed improvements to the Peri Park, including the bathrooms and lighting. Commissioner Gilman commented that there are products that can be used that are not as easily destructible.

Service Mike Nevin:

Mr. Nevin continued with the budget for the Service Department, the budget request is \$266,008. This is basically a zero growth budget. There are two mechanics that provide service for about 175 pieces of rolling stock that is owned by the various county departments. When he was appointed as director the shop had been closed for a number of years with the needed work being outsourced. The bills were mounting and mounting, eating into budgets heavier than it is today. Those two mechanics never stop, some of the vehicles that are suffering from neglect with some not seen in the shop for over a year. He would like to take the salary savings from the retirement of a senior employee and request the hiring of an intermittent employee at \$20.00 per hour without benefits. He believes this would be a great benefit to the department. Chairman Sjovangen asked if he wanted a county employee or to bring someone in on contract. Mr. Nevin stated we would hire a county employee who can work up to 1,039 hours a year.

Commissioner Gilman clarified that this is basically an in house service department for the county fleet. Mr. Nevin explained that the major individual expenses are applied to the individual departments; the labor portion is not billed out. Chairman Sjovangen added that in the past he ran a federal motor pool of 90 vehicles. He had 14 people to run the pool and they still contracted out. Mr. Nevin added we are fortunate that we do have a vendor, NC Auto, which will deliver the parts to Virginia City, sometimes multiple trips a day. Mr. Gallagher stated that he would like to see, for the upcoming period, the number of hours spent on labor on a particular department's vehicle. Mr. Nevin agreed to develop a tool to allow the tracking of hours to a specific department.

Roads Mike Nevin:

The total budget request is for \$1,105,607, he provided a sheet of the projects that need to be done with a total cost of \$1,900,000. Mr. Nevin explained that there is a total of 3 full time employees plus 2 intermittent employees and 2 seasonal employees that are brought on for the summer

months. There is no ad valorem funding for this department. We do the best we can for what we have to work with. Additionally \$25,000 expense for the winter sand and salt, that NDOT is no longer subsidizing, has been included.

Mr. Whitten stated that roads have typically been in the situation where the dedicated funding sources have never been enough. We have been lobbying at the legislature for an option that would give the county more autonomy in raising fuel taxes. His would allow for an increase in diesel separate from gasoline. Chairman Sjovangen added that at the last NACO meeting he went to this was a huge topic of discussion, specifically if we could split gasoline and diesel. The small counties are very interested in seeing some improvements, some thinking outside of the box. Mr. Nevin commented that he recently testified on a bill that would have set a \$25,000 minimum on projects that would have to go out to bid. Chairman Sjovangen stated that the bill received zero support from NACO and is currently being amended. Mr. Nevin added that he typically tries to run his expenses in the revenues that are allocated without having to dip into the beginning or ending fund balance. It is nice to have a cushion there for some of the unknowns. There is a medium term financing item in this budget that has a year and half left. We will work within the frame work that we have. Once the roads in the Industrial Park need to be worked on, it's going to be significant; most of the work will be contract work. Right now to micro seal a portion of USA Parkway it is a \$400,000 or \$500,000 project. Mr. Nevin commented that anything we can do on the revenue side to get a little more in there will benefit everybody.

Mr. Gallagher would like to look at giving the fund a consistent funding stream replacing the transfers from various funds. At some point he would like to see that Mr. Nevin can look to other areas for guaranteed funding and not depend on these transfer that have been relied upon in the past.

Chairman Sjovangen asked what the total number of paved lane miles is county wide. Mr. Nevin explained that it is broke down by road miles; there are 77 road miles within the county that are certifies to the Department of Taxation. In the Industrial Park there are 34 road miles, but 93 lane miles. There may be 10 miles of gravel roads included in the number reported to the State.

Chairman Sjovangen called for public comment on the departments that have been addressed at this point in the meeting.

Mr. Beach stated he has some overall views of the budget, where he sees the county's short comings. He stated that the Assessor has a special position in her budget for an Office Manager who receives \$67,000 per year. There is a position in the Comptroller's Office who is making the same salary, it seems like when these people get up to the top in the union scale someone is feeling so sorry for them they find them a raise. Regarding Mark Stafford, we would do well to contract out as much of the work as possible, cut the high costs of benefits. We ought to be in there trying to get the same conditions as the State has for their employees. They can negotiate for certain things but cannot negotiate for wages and benefits. If we could cut this cost down, we can't have the fox watching the chicken coop like the fireman are watching the Fire Department. We should look at Battle Mountain and Lander County; they have a total volunteer fire department. The question should be put on the ballot, just like the five county commissioners. The management just sits up here and gives away whatever people want. Mr. Beach asked why there is a need for

an Office Manager in the Assessor Office, isn't she the Assessor the Office Manager. We are spending a lot of money we don't need to spend at the fire department. He doesn't feel unsafe at night because he doesn't have a fireman across the street, however he does feel unsafe when he doesn't know where the cops are, the county is trying to beat up the Sheriff's Office. Vice-Chairman McBride asked Mr. Beach who shot up his slide. Mr. Beach said he doesn't know who did it. He didn't hear the gunshots go off.

Gunther Prosser, River District resident, stated he will be talking about the swimming pool and parks. Nobody really knows who is in charge of what or where. He commented that he can only address Mr. Nevin's budget at this time and indicted that Mr. Dotson was not present. In the budget it shows he has \$120,500 for the swimming pool and the parks. It shows that \$66,000 of that is for salaries. That leaves the kids and the public \$54,000 for repairs and things. In the letter that is in the budget it states there has been some questioning from the public and the amount requested has been increased to \$6,000.00 from \$5,000. Mr. Prosser stated that in the past the budget has been up to \$20,000 per park. His questions are that in the recent two years that park was budget at \$5,000 and it shows that you didn't even spend the \$5,000.00 that was allocated for the parks; however you are increasing it to \$6,000.00. Again, if would have just gotten the amount budgeted we would have been happy, but we will take the increase. He is glad to see that the board is addressing the lights and fixing up the restrooms. He has tried for the last three years to get a maintenance program; Mr. Nevin says that it is the school districts responsibility to maintain that park. Mr. Prosser was on the PTO for multiple years as the Treasurer, they were the ones who had the grass put in. The agreement he recalls was verbal and it was agreed that the school district will take care of the mowing of the lawn. The other issue with the Lockwood Park is that it has received grants, he welcomes any of you to come down there take a look at the park and tell him where \$32,000 has been spent. Mr. Prosser added that several resolutions have been passed regarding the budget approval for the VCTC, the most recent stating the budget will be approved by this board. He wanted to make you aware of that as he unsure if the board will be hearing that budget today.

John Miller, the coordinator for the River District Neighborhood watch, stated that along with Mr. Prosser he has seen nothing done with the parks. Sheriff Antinoro was fed up with us telling him that we didn't like what was going on at the park, so he got a bunch volunteers together and they planted 30 trees and 20 lilac bushes. Since then the lilac bushes have been run over by a mower, they were screened. He does not know who did it. His big concern is the lights, there are three telephone poles across the street from the park, and placing lights on those poles would light up the school, park and senior center without bothering anybody in the neighborhood. This would ensure that there would be less vandalism and provide light for students walking to school. Would like to know who is in charge of the park, is it the county or the school district. He has spoken with a couple of commissioners regarding the park.

Janet Houts asked what the guidelines are for the things we talked about. Mr. Whitten listed the budgets that have so far been addressed by the Board. Ms. Houts stated that on the general funds she was a bit surprised to see that the sheriff department was cut but the fire department is essentially the same. Her question is why is the Fire Department not being cut and the Sheriff's Office is being cut so much. Vice-Chairman McBride informed her that those departments have not been addressed yet. She addressed the cost for copier maintenance and leases, stating that it

seems like a lot. She questioned how many units the county has and what the cost for maintenance is. Ms. Houts said there is also an equipment maintenance line item and she questioned if there is double dipping. Vice-Chairman McBride stated that they are being itemized across the different departments. Ms. Houts stated that when you buy something in one lump you get a better cost. She said when she looks at it and seems like the county is double dipping. The Recorder Department has very high traveling expenses; there is only the recorder and deputy how can there be so much traveling. Ms. Houts address the ADS software, asking why it is being charged to the recorder not technology. She continued with the cost allocation in the Assessor budget asking if something is being hidden. Under the technology budget she asked how many softwares are being acquired. It seems that when she looks at the budget every department has a cost too. Ms. Houts addressed the purchase of new computers and the life span of a unit; she believes that the county's computers can last longer than they are currently being utilized for.

23. RECESS TO CONVENE AS STOREY COUNTY WATER AND SEWER BOARD

The Water and Sewer Board was convened at 1:28 p.m.

24. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Tentative Budget Hearings for FYE 2013/14 for the Water and Sewer services in Virginia City, Gold Hill and Silver City.

Water Mike Nevin:

Mr. Nevin stated the total request is \$680,234 in addition there is a request for \$273,800 for infrastructure improvements. He has provided an overview in the budget packet. The customer base is in Virginia City, Gold Hill and Silver City. The revenues that run the system are from the rate payers. The significant considerations for this budget include the request for an additional full time operator at \$85,000 including salary and benefits. Currently there are only two certified operators, he being one of them, the amount of work and responsibility can become rather taxing at times. He understands if we can't afford to do it, but it would be nice to provide an additional person. We are required to have someone available 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Mr. Nevin informed the board that there is some work that needs to happen out on the pipeline and with the syphon. One of the issues identified last year was two significant failures, with one taking place on Street Vibration weekends. Because it has to be babysat and treated with kit gloves we didn't see water flowing back into the five mile tank for two and a half days, which was a little concerning. Mr. Nevin explained that there is roughly 16 miles of pipe, by the way of road. He asked the engineer to look at what is causing these significant failures other than age. One of the things we discovered is that if we were able to install some automated air releases on the syphon it would buy us some time. To replace the pipeline it would cost millions and millions of dollars. If the pipeline should fail we do not have an additional source of water. Chairman Sjovangen mentioned the five mile reservoir. Mr. Nevin stated that repair to the reservoir is a request as well, that would allow for an additional five and a half million gallons of water in reserve.

Chairman Sjovangen asked if the issue from SHIPO on repairing any of the old original line has been resolved. Mr. Nevin responded that there were some programs that the state had; currently there is no funding in them. We continue to look and work diligently for grant funding to replace the syphon and pipeline. Did a water master plan in 2010; the plan has some real good information and identified the projects that need to be addressed. He believes that if we can put in these vacuum pressure automated assemblies it will help. He explained that once the syphon goes down it sends an alarm, allowing for immediate reaction. Any work that we are doing now is really a band aid. Continue to do what we can do to look and see how we can make improvements. If we can buy sometime by including some of these requests it will make life a little bit easier for us.

Mr. Gallagher stated that in October 2000 there was a plan for infrastructure that included \$1,000,000 for water line replacement. He thinks that as of this date there is only \$125,000 of it left. We have to make a new plan for infrastructure and the water line is going to have to be a part of it. Mr. Nevin added that the contract approved this morning with CMI will net about \$42,000.00, a portion of which can be used to help with some of these costs as well. He does want to get all the Commissioners involved in a tour of the water system. Chairman Sjovangen commented on the physics of the system, if you ever have a good air bubble from a water hammer, there she goes. Mr. Nevin commented that when it goes under the highway maybe you will see some action; it's never going to go away and will continue to get worse. Commissioner Gilman stated that the one thing we miss in the community is how much of a thank you we owe you. He has been concerned with the age of the system. One of the things that people don't relies is that Mr. Nevin doesn't make extra money for the time he gives up or being there every other weekend to make sure the water is on. Mr. Nevin stated the other thing in the water is the fact that we did a rate analysis four years ago. The water rates haven't been raised in 12 years to keep up with the expenses; we were falling behind in revenue versus expenses. The prior commission embarked on a five year rate increase program. In July we hope to get your approval for the third portion of the program. We will be coming before you sometime in June for a resolution on rate adjustments on water and sewer. Mr. Gallagher asked if the new operator for the water would be certified on the sewer side. Mr. Nevin stated that he certainly hopes so. Currently there just aren't any funds on the sewer side. He and the other operator John DuFresne are working to obtain all of the required certifications on the sewer side in addition to their current water certifications.

Sewer Mike Nevin:

Mr. Nevin shared a story involving approximately 80 feet of sewer line near the bank that was recently replaced. The total request is for \$414,460 it is similar to that water in that the revenues are not general funded they are user fees. As part of the rate increase analysis that was done several years back it was decided the rate increase needed to be done over three years rather than five. We will be before you in June for the third go around on that increase. Did an analysis of what it would take for that repayment of the loan; it amounts to about \$12 per month per user, which he doesn't feel is too bad. Thankfully we did have the Core money for the rehabilitation of the entire system in Virginia City and Gold Hill including the treatment plant. We will be embarking on phase one in fall. There has been a few adjustments to the budget, specifically postage and lab fees. One thing to mention on the expense side, for the grant match we need to reduce that from \$141,000 to \$93,000. He asked that capital outlay be eliminated from the original \$25,000. Mr. Nevin does not feel we will need the capital outlay expense due to the new sewer plant. Those adjustments will put us back in the black. The other small increases are contract with SPB, who is the certified operator of the plant. Mr. Nevin recently spoke with Mitch from the Canyon GID; they were able to find a retired operator who has the certifications that are necessary. He asked Mitch if he minded that he get

ahold of the guy and see if he would be willing to be our certified operator of record. This would allow us to eliminate SPB and reduce the costs. Mr. Gallagher added that we do need to protect the ending fund balance because it has been eroded for the last two or three years. Mr. Nevin stated that part of the reason for that eroding ending fund balance was the USACE match, which had to be a cash match.

Ms. Houts stated that Mr. Nevin has explained to her about the \$141,000 grant match. Her question is do we spend the cash. Mr. Whitten answer yes that they are costs for engineering and design. Farr West did the design, billed us for it, we paid it and the Army Core of Engineers reimburses it. Mr. Whitten explained that we are reimbursed for 75%, the expense is in the sewer budget however the reimbursement is in the grant budget. Ms. Houts questioned the capital outlay for the water, is it an expense that can be categorized as an asset. Mr. Nevin explained that is the infrastructure that will be later converted to an asset. Mr. Gallagher explained that it has to be on a budget item, under capital outlay. Ms. Houts argued that it was not the appropriate way to account for the purchase. Vice-Chairman McBride explained that non-governmental accounting is different from governmental accounting. He stated this is not an argumentative session, the questions can be submitted in writing. Ms. Houts asked about the \$3,000,000 loan and where is the principal allocation and are we going to pay any interest on that loan. Ms. Houts stated that she is not arguing she just wants to get some clarification.

Motion: Approve the Tentative Budget for FYE 2013/14 for the Water and Sewer services in Virginia City, Gold Hill and Silver City, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

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

25. ADJOURN TO RECONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS The Board of County Commissioner was reconvened at 2:04 p.m.

Chairman Sjovangen called a recess at 2:04 p.m.

Chairman Sjovangen called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm.

26. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Tentative Budget Hearings for FYE 2013/14

Community Development Dean Haymore:

Mr. Haymore provided an overview of his responsibilities. He is requesting a budget of \$406,593 for the 2014 year. His explanation has been included in the budget packet. The request includes the necessary salary increases and benefits. New to his budget this year as with many others is a line item for postage and equipment lease. He is one of the only ones left that rents his office space, which is split with the planning department. The building is owned by the water department, which is who the rent is paid to. Under his budget there are three employees, he explained that he does all aspects of everything. Because he is salaried he tries to do all of the inspections that would be requiring overtime. Mr. Haymore stated that under capital outlay he has requested \$2,500 for software upgrades and a replacement laptop. He is seeing that we are going to be out in the Industrial Park more. People do not really understand the amount of time

and effort it takes to bring a new company. We don't work 8-5 we work when the contractors are working, providing inspections as needed. He did originally request the replacement of his county vehicle; he has withdrawn that request and will hold of for another year or two.

Vice-Chairman McBride complemented him on a very well outlined budget and thanked him for his regular updates. Mr. Whitten added that the department runs on three full time employees, which really illustrates the idea of "Team Storey."

District Attorney Bill Maddox:

Mr. Maddox stated that his comments are provided in his budget narrative and outline. There are two corrections; one being that the original request under capital outlay is no longer needed and he does need a training budget. The training budget allows for his required ongoing education additionally he wants to start training his assistants. Mr. Maddox explained that the savings came about because Dawn Puhlman retired who has not been replaced. Beginning in January 2014 he will have a Deputy District Attorney for half of the year. In July he would like to hire a part time secretary who will not get benefits. Mr. Maddox recommends that the staff from the office be comprised of the District Attorney, a part time deputy districts attorney, full time administrative assistant/paralegal and a part time assistant. Neither of the part time positions is to receive benefits. The reason he is going to be under by \$100,000.00 on his budget that both of the positions that left were senior positions. Mr. Maddox added that the other thing of significance in his budget is \$60,000 in professional services. He wants to continue to use Bob Morris to rewrite our county ordinances. He would like to as much as he can before he leaves is getting the county ordinances updated. Mr. Maddox stated that we need to provide in somebody's budget a law library. He thinks it will cost around \$5,000; his proposal is that it would be housed in Shaun Griffin's building; it will be comprised of books and a computer terminal with internet access.

Commissioner Gilman stated that he has before him a line item budget and a narrative that addresses each of the items. It is well crafted and easy to understand. One of the things we did differently this year is asked for a line item budget moving towards zero based budgeting. He takes the position that managing the community money is the most important task they have and he takes it very seriously. This allows for an effective management tool, he suggests that as we move towards the final budget that everyone go back and revisits their budgets again. Mr. Maddox credited James Dean for providing the format for his budget report.

Mr. Whitten commented that Mr. Maddox is phenomenal to work with and is a breath of fresh air. We are making such great progress in cleaning up the ordinances, we couldn't do this without Mr. Maddox providing funding from his professional services. He added that it is Mr. Maddox's budget that allows for the use of Charlie Cockerill during labor negotiations.

Mr. Maddox complimented the externs on their work; Scott Walker, Tim Treffinger and Rene Hemmasi. He has been able to submit legal services by using externs, who receive school credit for working in his office. Mr. Whitten added that the District Attorney is striving to establish consistency in the board titles that are used throughout the county.

Justice of the Peace Eileen Herrington:

Judge Herrington presented the budget for Justice Court. She question if an incentive pay had been included in one of her clerks salary. It is 2.5% increase and would be retroactive to February. The operation expenses are affected by the distribution of postage cost. She has decreased supplies and is looking at a way to decrease warrant requests. Judge Herrington explained the warrant process to the board. She went through her budget addressing each individual line item; her budget narrative was included in the budget packet. She will be utilizing Senior Judges and doesn't see the need for continued pro-tem training. Professional services include the cost of providing an interpreter. She has received a recommendation for the IT Department to upgrade and replace the computers in the office. She would like to pay for that from the special Justice Court fund. Chairman Sjovangen commented that it does look like there is a need for some new computers in there. Judge Herrington added that she has been working on developing a self-help center which would tie in with a library. She believes that something is needed here in Virginia City and in the north part of the county. She explained that the upgraded CourtView program that will be implemented in the courts; the upgrade is three to four years out.

Justice Court Fund Eileen Herrington:

Mr. Gallagher asked her to explain the fund and the difference in the revenue versus expenditures. He asked what the budget expense of \$15,000 is for. Judge Herington explained it will provide for the purchase of the new computer equipment.

Communications Dave Ballard:

Mr. Ballard explained the role of his department and its function. The department is staffed with six full time employees and himself. Under the advisement of Mr. Gallagher we are looking at taking a part time position to help alleviate the overtime hours. Mr. Ballard explained that he has dropped office supplies and increased the telephone line item. Travel has been removed from the budget; equipment maintenance has been reduced as well. Mr. Ballard stated that there is a typo in his budget under equipment maintenance and he will have the corrected budget submitted tomorrow. Communications line item is used to purchase and replace headsets, the budget will remain the same for the upcoming year. Training has increased by \$500; Mr. Ballard covered the multiple training opportunities he and his staff participate in. He continued with the additional items within his budget as listed in his narrative. He will be replacing two printers that are heavily used by the department. Mr. Ballard explained the 911 service and what is included in the \$27,000 budget line item, the money is paid to AT&T. Global connect receives a small portion of the funds to cover the reverse 911 notification system.

Mr. Gallagher commented that he is working with Mr. Ballard on security issues at the county owned building in TRI. He was informed this morning that items have gone missing and he would like to find a way to secure the building. Chairman Sjovangen asked how access was being obtained to the building. Mr. Ballard stated that we do not know. Commissioner Gilman asked what types of items are missing from the building. Mr. Ballard explained it is smaller items such as tools. Chief Hames stated the missing items include tools and computer equipment, additionally there have been people going in late at night and making long distances phone calls, to the point that he has had the phones have been locked up. He explained that it is a combination lock to the building, may not be the best locks possible. The theft has been taking place over time.

IT presented by Pat Whitten:

Mr. Whitten told a brief story about a Chief Police in Southern Nevada that abused the national criminal justice database, emphasizing the importance of proper training and use. He moved on the IT budget. James Deane had prior obligations and was unfortunately unable to make the meeting, Mr. Whitten will be presenting on his behalf. The budget has an increase of 10% from the prior year, there are a number of factors involved, and they have been provided in Mr. Deane's narrative. He explained that they are working with an outside vendor to facilitate a small change in the website structure that will allow the county to host the website. This will allow for easier updates and quicker posting. Mr. Whitten continued with the individual line items. He stated that we do make every effort to extend and use the full life of our computer equipment. Unlike at our homes, these machines are on five days a week eight hours a day. Working with the Comptroller we are moving towards distributing the actual cost to the appropriate department. Communications have increased in anticipation of hosting our own website. Mr. Deane did provided a breakdown of the software and licensing costs. A portion of the GIS expense is included in the IT budget and he has been asked to delay replacing one of the servers by a year.

Commissioner Gilman stated that we have discussed in the past that we know we have a responsibility for posting public documents on the website. He asked if Mr. Deane will be taking that on under this budget proposal. Mr. Whitten explained that with the internalization of Mr. Shropshire the answer is absolutely yes and discussions are currently being held regarding this.

Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

Mr. Gallagher stated the Comptroller's office is tasked with weekly submittals of payroll and voucher disbursement requests. Each of these applications is audited for completeness and proper account classification. Once the process has been completed a posting to the General Ledger takes place which culminates in unaudited financial stalemates at the end of each month. In addition all correspondence and report processing to the various federal and state agencies is prepared through this office. In addition all requests for audits within the county and separate local governments are initiated and processed through this office. We accomplish all these tasks and many more with one forty hour fulltime equivalent and one thirty five hour senior administrative assistant. Mr. Gallagher continued with a line item breakdown which has been provided in his budget narrative in the meeting packet. He addressed the ongoing zip code issued and will be auditing Sierra Pacific and AT&T. Commissioner Gilman thanked him for all of his work on this budget.

Emergency Management Joe Curtis:

Mr. Curtis gave an overview of the department and where the office is located. This department is involved in the strategic planning of manmade and natural disasters and major incidents in Storey County. The department encompasses two individuals, him and Cherie Nevin. He is a less then part time position; Ms. Nevin is a full time employee. She is now overseeing the grants in general for the county. He believes that you will find in the future that you will be very happy with the quality of grant management she provides. Mr. Curtis explained the various boards and meetings he and Ms. Nevin attend. It has always been his goal that the voice of the rural counties be heard at the State level. We are consistently planning and preparing for natural and manmade disasters. The department obtains a good portion of their operating dollars through state and federal grants. Mr. Curtis addressed the individual line items as illustrated in his budget narrative. He discussed an emergency preparedness brochure that was printed several years ago; they would like to update the pamphlet this coming year. He continued with the individual line items of the budget. He does the vast majority of the fire investigations for the Fire Department and provides backup to Chief Hames wherever he can. In addition he and the Fire Chief alternate weeks as acting Duty Chief. The total budget request as presented is for \$139,082 this will be reduced by \$1,000. An option has been provided that half of Ms. Nevin's salary may be transferred over to the administrative side being that she is doing the county wide grants now. Mr. Whitten stated that relative to the option that has been offered while a portion of the salary may be appropriate 50% is not accurate. When Ms. Kiechler had the duties it constituted about 20% of her over all work load. It his recommendation that over the next year, under Ms. Nevin's tracking we look at how much time is truly spent on non-emergency management grants.

Emergency Mitigation Fund Joe Curtis:

Mr. Curtis explained that several years ago this fund was established to provide money should a major event should take place. This year \$5,000 was spent on flood control. They are requesting a reimbursement to bring the fund balance back to \$100,000.

Chairman Sjovangen called a recess at 3:47 p.m.

Chairman Sjovangen called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

Chairman Sjovangen called for public comment on the departments that have been discussed at this point of the meeting. There was no public comment.

27. RECESS TO CONVENE AS THE NRS 473 STOREY COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD

The NRS 473 Fire Board was convened at 4:02 p.m.

28. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of the Storey County Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Nevada Division of Forestry, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District. This interlocal agreement allows Storey County, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District to begin transitioning wild land fire responsibilities amongst all three parties.

Chief Hames explained that this essentially allows the organizations involved to enter into one agreement that directly ties into item 29, which allows the responsibilities of the 473 Fire Protection District to transfer over to Storey County general government. Mr. Whitten added that the team from NDF has been phenomenal to work with. This is all pending legislation and signature by the Governor. We have been asking for this for years.

Motion: Approve the Storey County Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Nevada Division of Forestry, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

29. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**: Approval of Storey County WFPP Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Nevada Division of Forestry. This interlocal agreement is for Storey County to become a participatory member of the state-wide wild land fire protection program (WFPP), and it provides an annual work plan for the parties.

Chief Hames stated this is the first step to the dissolution of the 473 Storey County Fire Protection District. He will bring forward the actual dissolution paperwork in May. Mr. Whitten thanked NDF for their flexibility with this agreement. We have started advertising for seasonal employees and will be using the reaming NDF funds for the current year.

Ms. Houts asked what the benefit is to the people. Chief Hames replied that the benefits are that it transitions the seasonal employees to all risk employees which in turn bolsters our daily coverage. Additionally with the WFPP program it will allows us to do initial attack responses to wild land fires anything past the initial response, such as hot shot crews or inmate crews will now be covered by the Division of Forestry. Once we sign and become partners we can also use some of their resources for other events such as flood control and search and rescue at no cost. Ms. Houts asked what the relationship is between the property tax we pay to NDF versus to the Fire Department. Chief Hames explained that the tax rate funds the seasonal employees and needed equipment.

Motion: Approve Storey County WFPP Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Nevada Division of Forestry, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

30. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Tentative Budget Hearings for FYE 2013/14for the NRS 473 Fire Protection District.

Mr. Whitten explained that this is done as a redundant approval, assuming that the WFPP program is approved by the Governor this will be a moot point. Should the State not fund the program we will have to turn to NDF and continue to receive wild land fire protection. Consider this duplicative to the budget the Chief will present under general government.

Motion: Approve the tentative Budget for FYE 2013/14 for the NRS 473 Fire Protection District, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

- 31. ADJOURN TO RECONVENE AS STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS The Board of County Commissioner was reconvened at 4:15p.m.
- 32. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of the Storey County Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Nevada Division of Forestry, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District. This interlocal agreement allows Storey County, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District to begin transitioning wildland fire responsibilities amongst all three parties.

Chief Hames stated this identical to the prior approval. He explained that the Board of County Commissioners also serves as the 473 Fire Board and 474 Fire Board.

Motion: Approve the Storey County Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Nevada Division of Forestry, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

33. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of Storey County WFPP Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Nevada Division of Forestry. This interlocal agreement is for Storey County to become a participatory member of the state-wide Wildland Fire Protection Program (WFPP), and it provides an annual work plan for the parties.

Motion: Approve Storey County WFPP Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Nevada Division of Forestry, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

34. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Tentative Budget Hearings for FYE 2013/14

Mr. Whitten stressed that the Board will not be approving the VCTC budget. The latest resolution was done at the direction of the Department of Taxation and it is their opinion that the Commission's approval of the budget is not appropriate.

Park Fund Deny Dotson:

Mr. Dotson provided a history of the park fund and the separate of the parks into independent accounts. There are still some questions as to what the balance is of each park. Mr. Gallagher has this under control and final numbers should be available shortly. Mr. Dotson explained the funding source and improvements performed in previous years. He clarified that these funds are to only be spent on park improvements not utilities. Mr. Gallagher added that statute on fund use is very specific and he believes we are in good shape.

Community Services Deny Dotson:

Mr. Dotson provided an overview of duties to the Board. The budget presented is basically flat to last year. He provided a breakdown of the budget as outlined in his prepared narrative. Mr. Dotson addressed the multiple organizations that fall within community support. He recommends that support to various groups remains the same as the previous year. He added that there is a \$6,000 request for the new group in Mark Twain for the community center. With the library out, comparing apples to apples, the budget is flat.

Mr. Whitten added that the community support item is for last minute or surprise requests. This year a portion will be spent on the Every 15 Minute Program.

Commissioner Gilman commented that he is assuming that you are sitting with our Comptroller and analyzing these numbers while preparing the budget. Mr. Dotson stated that he is and he attends the board meetings of the organizations when he can. This keeps him up to date and aware of what is going on. Chairman Sjovangen added that he sits on many of these boards and reviews their financial statements. It is important to support these boards and the county buildings they preserve. Mr. Dotson added that over the past three years they have been cut by 25%. Additional conversation was held regarding the 501.c3 organization and the formation of a board in Mark Twain. Mr. Gallagher added that he will assist the new groups in establishing 501.c3 status. This will allow them to qualify for grant funding.

Shaun Griffin presented the Community Chest budget. He provided an overview of the request as outlined in the narrative. He addressed the request to provide programing at the Lockwood and Mart Twain community centers. Mr. Griffin continued with the request for the library. He cannot go out and raise money or bring the library back to life without the county's blessing and fiscal support. He outlined the access that can be provided to the residents, we are the only county in Nevada that doesn't have library. His proposal is based all on volunteer work, we can make this happen and make it a vital and multi-use facility. He is requesting \$50,000 to get this up and running or any portion thereof that the county is willing to approve. Commissioner Gilman clarified that the \$1,500 is for electronic access to the media. All the electronic media that is in the state of Nevada system would be at our access by partnering with Carson City. Mr. Griffin explained electronic media and the access. Mr. Maddox added that internet access will be needed to comply with the NAC for the law library. He is currently in the process of purchasing some of the necessary publications; however they will need to be kept up to date. Mr. Griffin stated that we are more than willing to help out. Mr. Gallagher stated he will gather the costs from Mr. Griffin and put some numbers together for the commission.

Merilee Miller, president of the advisory board for the Lockwood Community Center, asked if she heard it correct that Mark Twain was getting \$6,000 for maintenance. Mr. Dotson indicated that was correct. She asked if Lockwood would be getting the same thing as they have furniture that needs to be replaced. She stated that Mr. Griffin does send someone down once a week to the community center. She just wanted those things cleared up; she has not asked to replace those broken items. Commissioner Gilman responded that he believes that there is a total of \$12,000 ear marked for Mark Twain. Ms. Miller stated they have been very frugal with the money they received and have always used anything they were given 100%.

Gunther Prosser commented that as a perception that when the Community Services Director stated that the Virginia City Senior Center is getting \$130,000, Lockwood is getting \$25,000 and Mark Twain is getting \$6,000 it is the same as with the park fund. He just wants the Commissioners to be aware of the perception factor. Mr. Whitten commented that the county's investment in Lockwood is not limited to the \$25,000, which is a misrepresentation. Unlike the Virginia City Senior Center, the county provides to part time employees to the Lockwood Community Center.

Sheriff Gerald Antinoro:

Sheriff Antinoro offered Ms. Miller some chairs that are currently being held in storage at his building. Ms. Miller stated she will take them. Sheriff Antinoro commented that in regards to the

library he agrees with Mr. Maddox and Judge Herrington that the law library services need to be provided the entire county, there are options. Sheriff Antinoro stated that he isn't really sure where to start with his budget so he will begin with the things that are not an issue. He addressed operational expenses first; we have been holding them steady and continually review and tweak where needed. Items such as utilities, vehicle maintenance and fuel are encompassed under operational expenses. General expenses are down significantly partially due to the decision to put capital improvement projects on hold. This is an issue that he has some concerns with; he has provided a letter to the board outlining his concerns. Additionally under general expenses are leases, enforcement and investigative supplies and capital outlay. Interest, principal payments, and insurance deductibles are included under the miscellaneous portion of his budget. Sheriff Antinoro addressed the wages and benefits portion of his budget request. This is the biggest portion of the budget and where his biggest concerns are. Just to provide some background we had a remediation process several meetings ago because an over expenditure in his current budget. When the budget process started again this year there was an idea in place to fix the issue and to control overtime. In reality you are never going to get away from the overtime cost, this office can't not just close up shop at the end of the day. There are arrest and courts that are going to happen that we cannot control. We can control staffing coverage, but to do that you have to have In his original budget proposal he provided for the appropriate resourses. resources. Understanding that times are tight and in conversations with the Comptroller that has been cut back. It has now been cut back to the point that he is left believing that he can't even fill his current vacancies. Going in to the new budget year he does not have enough resources to provided 24 hour coverage. He would have to close down his programs and the investigation unit. There have been additional conversations with the comptroller and we may have come to a happy medium. He explained his concerns and the programs he provides to the community. His second concern is having the resources to keep his people safe while they are out there trying to keep the community safe. His proposal is to fill his two vacancies that he currently has plus one additional. With some scheduling realignments and these three bodies he can provide the coverage that the citizens deserve.

Mr. Gallagher asked Sheriff Antinoro where the three new people would be hired on to. He responded they would be brought on at the jail as correction officers and the three current jailers would go out on to the street to fill the vacant patrol positions. This would create a new classification in the jail that would cost less than the deputy positions. Chairman Sjovangen commented that he likes the idea. He asked how you would transition into that, would that be done over a period of time. Sheriff Antinoro explained that the training process takes time but he would hopefully transfer over as quickly as possible. If we approve this in the budget he can start the process in July, with possibly beginning recruitment prior to the end of the fiscal year. The need is there now in the patrol division to provide additional resources, we are generating overtime right now.

Commissioner Gilman stated that he is sensitive to his comments that overtime is difficult to deal with and plan for. In 2010 we had \$320,000 in overtime, in 2011 it was \$385,000 and in 2012 it was \$581,000. He can see that in January of this year it was \$72,000, we are going to have high overtime numbers for this year as well. Sheriff Antinoro commented that Commissioner Gilman is correct, he has two vacancies and as of January of this year he had two people out on medical leave. Commissioner Gilman stated that overall overtime needs to be looked at and maybe brought

before the Board monthly. He continued with his reasons for zero based budgeting and the importance of the narrative. As he goes through the budget it looks like he doesn't really have a current tentative budget for the Sheriff's Office. He has a letter with a negotiating position but as he sits here today he doesn't really have a line item zero based budget to look at and he hasn't seen a narrative that oversights it. From the chair he sits in it actually looks like there are three budgets. There is a baseline budget for basic law enforcement budget and there is a significant community outreach program that has been developed over the last couple of years. It would be easier to start with the baseline law enforcement budget and build from there, which would be his recommendation. From where he sits he doesn't really have a budget to review that is broke down by line item. Sheriff Antinoro stated that he doesn't know what the Board has in front of them and he appreciates the insight on how to run a law enforcement agency. However, he did submit a line item budget for this meeting and there are only two budgets. As for community outreach you can take the salary for the two deputies that do that and that is the cost. Everything that we do that is outreach has been paid out of his own pocket, Deputy Mendoza's pocket, donations from the other deputies or community donations. The only cost for the county is the wages for the two deputies involved. He is working with the Comptroller to reach a middle ground. Commissioner Gilman replied that he does have the original tentative budget but not the middle ground numbers that are being referred to. Sheriff Antinoro explained that the middle ground is having the needed staffing to provide services, not the operation expenses or general expenses. His only concern right now is staffing. The numbers in the letter are based on the numbers that he and the comptroller came up with. Continued discussion was held regarding the wages for the two deputies that are involved in the community outreach. Mr. Gallagher added that he and the Sheriff will continue to meet until all of this is satisfied and will review options for the cost accounting of the community outreach programs. They will go back to the board as many times as needed to provide the proper coverage and proper budget presentation. Commissioner Gilman commented that we need to differentiate between the cost of pure basic law enforcement and the community outreach programs. Sheriff Antinoro explained that prevention is just as much a part of law enforcement as going out there and writing a ticket and throwing someone on jail. Mr. Whitten added that the school resource program is so vital to the school district that the school superintendent has verbally offered to help offset some of the costs. A breakdown of cost by deputy will be supplied to the Board.

Sheriff Antinoro stated that of the individuals that choice to speak they speak on their own behalf and not as a representative of the Sheriff's Department.

Eric Kern, Storey County resident and Storey County Deputy Sheriff, he believes it is the best place in the world to live and work. His concern is to have the ability to perform his job safely with the proper backup coverage. It makes it tough not having one extra person that can flip flop back and forth when needed. He asks that as a Commission you review that and consider that we can use a little more help. Regarding the community programs he believes they are important and have better a lot of resident's way of life. He would ask that those programs be left in place.

Frank Valdez addressed the Board explain that he is not just an employee of the Sheriff's Office but an employee of Storey County and he is very proud of that. He understands the need for belt tightening but as line guys they feel the pinch up close and personal. He has been in situations that have been life threating and had to rely on back up on coming from a neighboring county. To have an extra body is invaluable; he asks that you consider that. The support from the Commissioners in the eyes of the deputies is great for support. We are all a part of the community support programs and we all have each other's backs.

John Michael Mendoza has been serving Storey County for a number of years, he is proud to be heading the community outreach program and it is very dear to him. Out of respect he cannot speak in much detail what he does for the citizens that are assisted by the program. But as a result of his efforts he has been able to make a difference in the community and wants to continue to do so. Just ask around and you will see that the program does work.

Terry Croxton stated that when she first moved to Lockwood there was little no law enforcement presences. After Sheriff Antinoro was elected the presence of deputies in the Lockwood area was evident. The substation is now like a mobile home, which is great. The deputies' attitude in the community has changed. The Sheriff's Office has been supportive of our neighborhood watch program and has increased overall community pride. Ms. Croxton covered the multiple programs that the River District is involved in with the Sheriff's Office. She asked that as the budget is balanced the board will reward the good child.

Merilee Miller, representing the residents of the River District, she stated that we are next to Interstate 80 and we need a 24 hour a day presences. She explained that we no longer have security through the homeowner's association but now have patrol. Ms. Miller added that she does not mean to offend anyone but she is certain there sole purpose is to make sure the asphalt sticks to the road, because that is all they do. They can no longer check our homes why we are gone or come on our property. If they see something they call the Sheriff. It is important that we have the protection from the deputies; they are there taking care of us. Wellness checks are performed by the deputies when needed and there constant presences has made or community safer. She has never gone out of her house and not felt totally comfortable. Ms. Miller stated that the Sheriff saved some money by moving the substation out of the high priced rent district. She asked that the Board not allow any strange ideas to cloud their judgment regarding what is best for the county.

Ms. Houts asked the Board which is more important, the Sheriff or the Fire Department. She stated that the Sheriff protects us 24/7 and the fire is only seasonal, in the summer time. When she looks at the cost basis the fire department has a larger budget and more employees, isn't there something wrong with this basis. Chairman Sjovangen stated that he believes something is wrong with her math. The Fire Chief disagrees with her facts. Commissioner Gilman added that 80% of the fire departments calls are medicals with the other 20% being fires and that is all year. Ms. Houts asked if they are telling her that the majority of the salary and costs are for medicals and not fires, the Board responded yes. Ms. Houts continued to speak regarding the salaries and her analysis. Chairman Sjovangen advised her that the upcoming budget is the Fire Chief and maybe that will answer some of her questions.

Jail Fund Sheriff Antinoro:

He explained that a budget narrative has been provided to the Board. Sheriff Antinoro went through the individual categories of expenses within the budget. He explained that the biggest problem with the jail is the Jail Fund. Several people have been involved in researching the

purpose and establishment of the fund. To date any research has been unsuccessful. Vice-Chairman McBride stated that he has spoken with Bob Del Carlo who was the sheriff at the time and the jail fund was specifically created to run the jail itself. Sheriff Antinoro has been able to put together to pay for the construction of the jail, but it did have a sunset to it. The sunset may have been late 1990's early 2000's. Somewhere around the sunset it was allowed to carry on with some tweaking do to some concerns regarding the way the fund was initially set up. The mechanism that puts the money in the fund is not adequate to run the jail. Chairman Sjovangen commented that it sounds like we can pretty much do carte blanche with the jail fund. The question is how the community best is served, so we keep it or role it into the general fund. Sheriff Antinoro was informed by the Department of Taxation that if we can't find anything one of the solutions would be to issue a new resolution that details what the fund is for and what the funding source is, an adequate funding source needs to be identified for the fund. Mr. Gallagher stated that at present there is a negative ending fund balance that needs to be corrected. Further discussion was held regarding the future of the jail fund and the possible scenarios including the housing of prisoners from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Sheriff Antinoro stated that he would not be opposed to dissolving the fund and rolling it back into the general with the option of reestablishing the fund should the need arise. Mr. Gallagher stated that the jail does separate distinctly from the Sheriff, understanding that we are embarking on the potential changing of personnel to category 3 personnel it does make the fund a little more viable. However a funding source has to be identified. Sheriff Antinoro explained the financing of the construction of the jail. Mr. Maddox added that he has done some research as well and has not been able to locate a jail bond. There was a company that would construct and finance jails which may be the route the county took at the time. Mr. Gallagher will continue to work at identifying the funding source and clarify the use of the funds. Additional sources of income was reviewed and options to fill vacant beds in the jail.

Chairman Sjovangen called a recess at 6:05 p.m.

Chairman Sjovangen called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm.

Wildland Fire Protection Gary Hames:

Mr. Whitten stated this would be if the Legislature and Governor approve the Wildland Fire Protection District plan that is currently before them. This budget would go into effect along with the agreements approved earlier in today's meeting.

Chief Hames clarified that this is a function that was previously performed by the Nevada Division of Forestry. The funding comes from the ad valorem tax rate. Chief Hames provided a breakdown of the line items that are included in his budget request. His narrative has been provided in the budget packet. The grand total requested is \$585,454.71, with a portion coming from the ending fund balance. Mr. Gallagher stated that the ending fund balance is healthy. Vice-Chairman McBride added that Chief Hames has explained this on individual level during the district wide tours he has provided to the Commissioners. There will be savings as a result of bring this in as an in house operation versus NDF providing the coverage. Discussion was held regarding the proper accounting of the costs associated with the purchase and replacement of personal protection equipment. Mr. Whitten stated that the tentative is just that, a tentative and there will be some minor tweaking between now and the final approval. Chief Hames explained that there isn't really any legislation it is the budget that needs to be approved. He has been to

multiple hearing and there doesn't seem to be any red flags. Mr. Whitten stated that an agreement has been worked out with NDF should the Governor not sign the budget. Chairman Sjovangen commented that NACO is in full support of this program. Limited equipment and training will be purchased until July 1st.

- 35. ADJOURN TO CONVENE AS THE 474 FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD The 474 Fire Protection District Board was reconvened at 6:31p.m.
- 36. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Tentative Budget Hearings for FYE 2013/14for the NRS 474 Fire Protection District.

Fire Protection District Chief Gary Hames:

Chief Hames stated this is truly a zero balance budget and that is why at the end of this you are going to see that there isn't enough revenue. He provided a little background on the creation and purpose of the 474 Fire Protection District. He reviewed his budget and narrative as presented in the budget packet. He stressed the impact of not having a hospital in the county and the volume of time spent on transporting patients. Ambulances are continually shifted to cover all the calls and provide necessary coverage. The staff is crossed trained to operate on all apparatus that a call may require. Commissioner Gilman asked if the possibility of outsourcing ambulance service has been looked at. Chief Hames stated that it has been looked at over the years; the problem is that it would be far more expensive because of the way we staff. We would be double staffed, with fireman on duty that would only provide fire protection. Standby coverage is provided by the surrounding counties as needed. Cross staffing is really the most cost effective system. Chief Hames continued with his budget overview explain the revenue sources for the fund. The ending fund balances are being eroded to a critical point. He has provided a chart illustrating the revenues over the past five years. He explained the measures taken to find additional revenue sources and reduce cost wherever possible. The total budget request for 2014 is \$3,461,818, this includes the TRI payback. Chief Hames discussed the numerous unfunded mandates that have been passed down that are out of our control. The current staffing pattern is tight; a reduction in staffing would result in the closing of an ambulance. He addressed the various options to balance the budget request. Mr. Gallagher asked what the increase would be from the additional ad valorem he mentioned. Chief Hames responded \$75,000. Mr. Gallagher disagreed stating that it would \$60,000. Chief Hames stated that is the difference between abated and unabated. Mr. Gallagher addressed the ending fund balances and unanticipated expenses that may be decreased. Once the legislative session is over we will contract with Mary walker to walk through the process of making the fire district a separate local government. This would provide more control over the tax rate. Commissioner Gilman believes that we need to look elsewhere; he is not comfortable with having a discussion regarding raising taxes.

Fire Emergency Chief Gary Hames:

Chief Hames stated this is an interesting fund that has been 100% supported by its own funding source; it is a pass through account. We are not anticipating spending these but needs to be budgeted should they be needed. Ideally we would not need to spend anything from the

fund. Mr. Gallagher stated that we will have two more months of activity prior to approving the final budget, allowing for additional clarification.

Chief Hames addressed the overtime issues that he is facing. If the fireman has a fever they cannot be on the ambulance, creating a position that needs to be back filled. He does the best to back fill from the reserve program.

Mutual Aid Chief Gary Hames:

Chief Hames explained the purpose of the fund. Mr. Gallagher explained that any expense from this fund will be reimbursed. It is for incidents that occur outside of the county that we supply assistants to. This is a revenue building fund; funds can currently be transferred to the Fire District fund. He would like to see a fund balance prior to any transfers. Chief Hames stated that we always get dinged in the budget due to the lapse in time of billing and payment. Any transfer will need to be approved by the Fire Board and Commissioners. There is a standing rule with the dozers that they will either cost the county nothing or make money.

Motion: Approve the tentative budget for FYE 2013/14 for the NRS 473 Fire Protection District, Fire Emergency Fund and Mutual Aid Fund **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

37. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of the Storey County Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Nevada Division of Forestry, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District. This interlocal agreement allows Storey County, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District to begin transitioning wildland fire responsibilities amongst all three parties.

Mr. Whitten explained that is the same agreement that has been approved previously in the meeting.

Motion: Approve the Storey County Interlocal Agreement between Storey County, the State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Nevada Division of Forestry, the Storey County 474 Fire Protection District, and the Storey County 473 Fire Protection District **Action**: Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

38. ADJOURN TO RECONVENE AS STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS The Storey County Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 7:05p.m.

39. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Tentative Budget Hearings for FYE 2013/14

Equipment Acquisition Chief Gary Hames:

Chief Hames presented the budget for the equipment acquisition budget. He is requesting to refurbish three water tenders. He explained the issues they are encountering with the current tenders. The chassis are falling apart and need to be replaced. A full breakdown of his request is included in the budget packet. The total request from the Fire Department is for \$159,534.85. Mr. Whitten stated that additionally we also make transfers from this fund to the road fund to

cover payments are previously purchased equipment. This is a multi-agency fund. Chief Hames additionally requested permission to go out to seek bids to replace three Type 1 Structure Engines. The bids would be brought back to the Board with short term financing options. This is permission for bids only; the costs are needed before he can move forward. Mr. Gallagher added that he would like to see a list of what they think the expenditures are going to be and when replacement will be necessary. Chief Hames stated that once the engines are ordered it takes a minimum of year to see delivery.

Commissioners Budget County Manager Pat Whitten:

Mr. Whitten reviewed that budget that has been presented. His full narrative has been provided in the budget packet. There is no longer any longevity in the budget for the Commissioners. He provided a breakdown of the salaries and their distributions throughout the various departments. The office is making an effort to go paperless. He covered the line items within the budget explaining each use and purpose. The total budget request is \$534,497.

Administrative Budget County Manager Pat Whitten:

Mr. Whitten has provided a full narrative of the budget request. He reviewed each of line items with the Board. This budget is used to cover costs that are spread out over the entire county. He and Mr. Gallagher continue to work to allocate costs to individual departments where possible. They were able to make great strides with this for the upcoming year. Mr. Whitten continued with the individual line items and strides that are being taken to reduce costs. He addressed the various unfunded mandates, insurance and other programs this budget supports. Mr. Whitten explained the process in budgeting for the TRI payback transfer and the transfer to roads. The total budget request is \$2,010,295. Commissioner Gilman asked if the transfer would have commission oversight. Mr. Whitten explained that all though the transfers are both handled differently they do have commissioner oversight.

Health & Human Services County Manager Pat Whitten:

Mr. Whitten explained this is a result of the last legislative session, and has been referred to as the shift and the shaft. We are very cautious with the use of this fund. As the down economy continues to persist this fund continues to get harder and harder. We are keeping a close eye on the legislative process to ensure that this does not go up again.

Administrative Officer and Senior Planner Austin Osborne:

Mr. Osborne presented an overview of the duties of the Senior Planner. He provided examples of the type of work he performs under this role and the size of the projects he handles. Mr. Osborne covered a variety of the projects that are currently before him and the work involved. He has prepared a narrative of budget that is included in the budget packet. He reviewed the narrative with the Board. Mr. Osborne explained the changes in staffing model he is anticipating over the next year. Total budget request for salary and direct expenses is \$147,338; total for operational expenses is \$31,800. Commissioner Gilman complemented him on his wonderful report and professionals.

Indigent Medical County Manager Pat Whitten:

Mr. Whitten stated these are long standing legislative mandates. The fund receives its revenue from ad valorem. This fund provides for residents who experience a catastrophic medical

event and may not have insurance or may be under insured. Mr. Osborne and Susan Breylinger are providing oversight of the fund and negotiating costs. We typically have been able to run this at one eighth of the authorized tax rate. The balance is being depleted and there may come a time that we need to revisit the rate.

Indigent Accident County Manager Pat Whitten:

Mr. Whitten stated this one that runs very close each year and is specific to accidents that happen within the county. We are currently tracking right where we thought we would be at this point in the year. Once again this is for unanticipated accidents.

Mr. Whitten complemented all of those who have been involved in this budget process.

Capital Projects Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

Mr. Gallagher stated this is used for items that can't be handled by equipment acquisition or an individual department's budget. Pre binding costs there was a healthy fund balance. We are hoping that it builds back up as it has no revenue source.

Infrastructure Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

Mr. Gallagher provided a history of this fund and the appropriate uses. Currently a new plan is being developed for disbursements of the remaining funds. The plan will need to be approved prior to a new ordinance being drafted and approved. The NRS has been opened and the funds can now be used for several purposes. We should have a new plan in place before the final budget is approved.

Stabilization Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

Mr. Gallagher stated this fund is provided for under NRS and the funds are only to be used should the general fund fall short. It is basically our rainy day fund and remains stoic until the time it is needed.

Town of Gold Hill and Virginia City Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

Mr. Gallagher recommends that both of these funds be eliminated due to the fact that the revenue sources are now being sent to the VCTC and the expenses have been transferred to Mr. Nevins's budget.

TRI Payback Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

Mr. Gallagher explained this was established in 2009 with the intent to never having to go into any other fund to pay off our debt to our public/private partner. At this time all of the prior year audits have been completed and we will have a true idea of what is owed and we will move forward from the point.

Virginia City Rail Project Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:

Mr. Gallagher stated this is the fund used to pay for the bonds. He applauded everyone who was involved in the project that decided it was best to hold off until a less expensive approach could be worked out.

Federal/State Grants Cherie Nevin:

Ms. Nevin stated that you have a grant budget in front of you; it is a very dynamic fund. With the recent cuts at the federal level remain unsure as to what funding will come down. She provided a brief overview by department of the grants that are anticipated. Her budget narrative is included in the budget packet.

Ms. Houts stated she was looking at the support from the non-profit organizations, she sees that Piper's has not filed the documents to qualify as a non-profit. She asked if we are checking to see that these organizations are filing appropriately. Mr. Whitten stated that our payments go to the School District not the Piper's Board. She said she is looking at the Commissioners budget and with the new Commissioners the budget seems to be higher. With the new Commissioners there seems to be more expenses. She commented on the IT budget and stated she has been using her computer for the last eight years like crazy. She addressed the infrastructure budget noting a \$6,000 difference. Ms. Houts questioned a difference in a transfer for the Rail Project. She asked where the project fund is located and where is the funding.

Motion: Approve Tentative Budget for FYE2013/14, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

40. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION, LICENSING BOARD SECOND READINGS:

- a. Reliable Handyman Service, LLC General/3635 Green Acres Dr., Carson City
- b. Almight 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

Mr. Osborne requested that all the second readings be approved.

Motion: Approve second reading of business licenses, **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman McBride **Seconded by** Commissioner Gilman

BOARD COMMENT

Commissioner Gilman applauded everyone that stuck it out all day. This has been a wonderful experience.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 8:31p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

By

Vanessa DuFresne, Clerk-Treasurer