



# STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2014 8:45 A.M.

DISTRICT COURTROOM

26 SOUTH B STREET, VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA

## MINUTES

MARSHALL MCBRIDE  
CHAIRMAN

BILL MADDOX  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

LANCE GILMAN  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

BILL SJOVANGEN  
COMMISSIONER

VANESSA STEPHENS  
CLERK-TREASURER

**Roll Call:** Chairman McBride, Vice-Chairman Gilman, Commissioner Sjovangen, District Attorney Bill Maddox, Assistant District Attorney Anne Langer, Deputy Clerk & Treasurer Dore Nevin, County Manager Pat Whitten, Sheriff Gerald Antinoro, Comptroller Hugh Gallagher, Community Services Director Cherie Nevin, Senior Planner/Administrative Office Austin Osborne, Community Services Director Deny Dotson, Communications Director Dave Ballard and Deputy District Attorney Bob Morris.

1. **CALL TO ORDER CLOSED SESSION MEETING at 8:45 A.M.** pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of conferring with county management and legal counsel regarding labor negotiations with the Storey County Sheriff's Office Employee Association/Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3

*Closed session was held pursuant to NRS 288.220.*

2. **CALL TO ORDER CLOSED SESSION MEETING** pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of conferring with county management and legal counsel regarding labor negotiations with the Storey County Employees' Association AFSME Local Union Comstock Chapter.

*Closed session was held pursuant to NRS 288.220.*

3. **CALL TO ORDER AT 10:07 A.M.** The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:07 A.M.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** The Chair led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

5. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of Agenda for July 1, 2014

Commissioner Sjovangen requested that items 12 & 13 be up just for discussion and no action. Chairman McBride moved it to follow the Consent Agenda and before Staff Reports.

**Motion:** Approve agenda for July 1, 2014, **Action:** Approve **Moved** by Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded** by Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

## CONSENT AGENDA

6. For possible action approval of Payroll Check date 06/20/2014 for \$369,507.48 and 6/9/2014 \$3,520.75. Accounts Payable date for 6/13/14 for \$593,663.71, 6/23/14 \$83,181.27 and \$3,851.58
7. For possible approval the Treasurer Report for June 2014
8. For possible action approval to award bid to purchase of new 911 phone system to AT & T as sole response to bid.
9. For possible action approval of Business License First Readings -
  - A. **WIZE SOLUTIONS, INC.-**Contractor/2724 South 3600 West-W Valley City, UT (Contractor)
  - B. **MURPHY BUILT CONST-** 620 Tahoe Street-Reno (Contractor)
  - C. **NETRONIX INTEGRATION, INC.-** 2170 Paragon Drive-San Jose, CA (Contractor)

**Mark Joseph Phillips, Storey County Resident:** Regarding item 7 it is my understanding that the Treasurer Report will be forwarded to you at a future time and is unavailable for today's meeting.

The Chair agreed to continue item 7 to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

## END OF CONSENT AGENDA

**Motion:** Approval of Consent Agenda July 1, 2014 with continuation of item 7. **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION (originally item 12):** Approval of Resolution 14-405 which determines that Storey County does not approve a boundary line adjustment between Storey County and Washoe County pursuant to provisions in Senate Bill (SB) 272 Sections 1 and 2(2). For further clarification, Section 1 of SB 272 pertains to property now situated in Storey County in an area more commonly referred to as "Sunny Hills". This action does not involve the area referenced in Section 1.5 of SB 272 adjacent to the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center. Boundary line resolutions for Section 1.5 were approved by both the Storey County and Washoe County Boards of Commissioners on June 17, 2014 as provided for in Section 2 (3) of SB 272.

**Garrett Gordon, Sunny Hills Representative:** He thanked the commission and everyone involved and gave a presentation. He suggested that a new proposal is called for to include a permanent conservation easement and an internal swap of some Sunny hills property between Washoe and Storey Counties to provide buffer area, conservation easements and fire access, fire protection and restricted access, water, wildlife corridors and other potential revenue opportunities with Washoe County.

- We recommend that we postpone the vote on the Sunny Hills Boundary Line Adjustment. The simple boundary line adjustment of 1200 acres to Washoe should include all these other deal points.
- We ask that you direct staff to work with Washoe County on a new proposal that potentially benefits both counties setting specific benchmarks for progress and creating something ready to go to the legislature in 2015.
- We would ask that you rescind the advisory ballot question as it is no longer relevant.
- Sunny Hills is willing to fund a county wide survey of any new proposal.

**Merilee Miller, River District:** We have 500 homes in the River District and the meeting we had scheduled with Sunny Hills was canceled and so our entire population has not met with them. I am wondering if they are going to present this material to us so we all know what is going on.

Mr. Gordon confirmed that it is something that will happen. He explained that the reason the meeting was canceled was that after three community meetings they realized that their current proposal was no longer relevant and that sweeping changes would have to be made. The cancellation is no reflection on their plans of coming out there and including the River District in discussions.

**Larry Prater, VC Highlands Resident:** He explained his background as a retired civil engineer and his involvement as the “committee of one” to write the argument in favor of this development. He explained that he is not necessarily for the development, but that as they are going to develop the Washoe side with or without a land transfer, we need some means to protect Storey County. He believes some conditions should be placed on any transfer:

- Fence the county line between the development and Storey County and have locked gates at emergency access roads.
- An open space buffer between the development and the Storey county line.
- No ground water use.
- Retention basins for flood prevention
- Dark Skies ordinance should be followed
- Future development should be planned for the Storey County property near the petroglyphs.

Pat Whitten thanked Mr. Prater for his input. He asked for input as to the advisory question to allow voices from the County to speak to the topic. Mr. Prater noted the survey that Mr. Gordon has promised, but Mr. Whitten explained that the survey process is not very easy and feels the ballot may be a better method of getting input.

**Kay Dean, VC Highlands:** She asked how the ballot question and resolutions came up and wondered if it was Mr. Gordon’s idea. Mr. Whitten explained that it absolutely was not. It was a request to staff to put these questions on the agenda – standard business. Ms. Dean asked who initiated the items, and Mr. Whitten said that he did. Commissioner Sjovangen said all the commissioners wanted it placed on the agenda.

County Manager Pat Whitten explained that due to the timeframes and no second meeting scheduled in July, that if no action is taken on resolution 14-406 that it would leave in play 14-397 which placed the advisory question on the ballot. The operative question is whether the commission desires having a potentially irrelevant question on the ballot.

**Motion:** Deny approval of resolution 14-405. **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION (originally item 13):** Approval of Resolution 14-406 rescinding Resolution 14-397 which called for an advisory question to be placed on the November 2014 General Election ballot relative to a possible boundary line adjustment between Storey County and Washoe County in an area more commonly referred to as “Sunny Hills”. If Resolution 14-405 is passed, this action would eliminate any applicability of the results of a General Election advisory question. If approved, this resolution also provides notice to the clerk the ballot question is withdrawn.

Pat Whitten explained the ramifications of approval or denial of this resolution. The commissioners discussed the benefits of the advisory question and the benefits of ballots over surveys.

Garrett Gordon read the language of the ballot question and explained that it would go down because it is not clear or accurate any longer and is simply about the boundary line adjustment with no conservation or fire easement information. They already know that the question will fail and they would rather amend the proposal and the language to get a more valid vote on what is being proposed.

Commissioner Sjovangen feels the ballot question should remain so that they may get a feel for what the people want and is concerned because the people in the Highlands are expecting it. Chairman McBride feels it should be removed as the project it speaks to is no longer in existence.

Mr. Gordon clarified that they have already heard from the community loud and clear in three meetings. They are withdrawing the application as it exists due to that feedback and so they believe the ballot question is not applicable. Mr. Sjovangen asked if it had already been formally withdrawn and Mr. Gordon confirmed that he is doing that today and will follow up in writing if necessary.

**Jim Hindle, VC resident:** As a survey professional and voter, it is his opinion that if a vote is taken, it is a decision where with a survey you get opinions with more robust information. With a vote you only get “yes” or “no” without knowing why, or what the issues are. With a vote, you create prejudice and opinions become formed and solidified. With a survey, you are asking for input and there is still a fluid nature to the opinions and perspectives the public has. A survey can be done scientifically and it is my opinion that it should be done that way.

**Larry Prater, VC Highlands Resident:** Agreed with Mr. Hindle. He feels the survey may also be used as an educational tool to those being surveyed.

**Judy Cohen, VC resident and business owner:** Why not do both?

Pat Whitten gave staff recommendation to approve the resolution.

Bill Maddox mentioned corrections to where the resolution says 14-395 it should be 14-397, and that the last two paragraphs on the first page should be deleted. Mr. Whitten agreed and read those corrections in to the record: The correction will be made from 14-395 to 14-397 and we would be striking, under the resolution the phrases, “Whereas, the Storey County Board of Commissioners are scheduled to consider Resolution 14-405 which would decline to approve the boundary line adjustment referenced above; and, Whereas, approval of Resolution 14-405 would eliminate any applicability of the results of a General Election advisory question.”

**Motion:** Approval of resolution 14-406 with mentioned corrections. **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

The Chair called a 10 minute recess at 11:00am; the Chair called the meeting to order at 11:18am

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Zone Map Amendment 2014-2015.** By Comstock Mining., and Northern Comstock, LLC in Gold Hill, Storey County, Nevada. The applicant requests a Zone Map Amendment in order to change the zoning of fourteen parcels (Assessor Parcel Numbers: 002-122-01, 002-122-02, 002-142-01, 002-142-02, 002-142-03, 002-141-16, 002-141-03, 002-151-01, 002-151-05, 002-151-06, 002-151-02, 002-151-03, 002-151-04 and 002-161-01) from Commercial-Residential (CR) to Special Planning Review (SPR) (*Originally 18*)

### **Planner Dessie Redmond:**

- The applicants and property owners are Comstock Mining, Inc. & Northern Comstock, LLC
- Subject properties are fourteen properties located in the south section of Gold Hill along the State Route 342 corridor.
- The existing zoning is commercial-residential.

- Applicants request a Zone Map Amendment to amend the Official Storey County Zoning Map of fourteen parcels currently zoned Commercial-Residential to the proposed Special Planning Review zone.
- Storey County code states that amendments to the Official County Zoning Map may be initiated by the owner of a lot or parcel in Storey County.
- Ms. Redmond directed the commissioners to page two of the staff report to see a map that shows the vicinity of the properties, page 4 to see the proposed changes, and page 5 for abutting land parcels which are mostly vacant or are vacant BLM land. She noted that there are some mining and residential uses in the surrounding areas.
- The CR (commercial-residential) zone is intended to serve as a community focal point and provide for a center of mixed uses including single and multi-family residential uses to be integrated into the commercial and tourism uses.
- The purpose and intent of the SPR (Special Planning Review) zone is to provide protections to current mining and milling and the historic remnants within American Flat, Gold Hill, and the Virginia City areas. Page 7 outlines the allowed uses of these zones.

**Corrado De Gasperis, President & Chief Executive Officer Comstock Mining Inc.:**

- We feel the request is consistent with the County's diverse economic objectives, historical uses and character, and with some of the new ordinances that Planning and the Commission have worked very hard to establish.
- We feel the proposed map is compatible with all the existing and abutting land uses.
- We felt that the existing zoning was an undesirable example of some of spot zoning that was difficult even for Planning to recall how it originally came up.

Mark Joseph Phillips, Storey County Resident: Made a public records request for the parcels involved. He read a letter into record that he wrote to the Planning Commission:

*Dear Planning Commission, After reviewing the information I received from the office of the county treasurer, that is an attachment, I have reason to believe that this agenda item is all about the money! The FY 2014-2014 property tax bill to Comstock Mining, on these fourteen parcels zoned COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL will be humongous compared to the tax-exemptions they have enjoyed in the past. Please, at least consider this information.*

He is concerned with loss of tax revenue to the County as he believes CR is taxed at a higher rate than what is being proposed. He is also concerned that legal notice of the meeting was not published with the location.

Bill Maddox said that though Mr. Phillips was right about the newspaper notice, there was ample notice given in other ways that he believes satisfied the legal requirements of giving notice for the meeting.

Ms. Redmond read the findings for the motion:

- 6.1.1 The proposed Zone Map Amendment complies with all Federal, Nevada State and Storey County Regulations;
- 6.1.2 The proposed Zone Map Amendment will not impose substantial adverse impacts or safety hazards on the abutting properties;
- 6.1.3 The conditions of approval of the Zone Map Amendment require compliance with the applicable codes;
- 6.1.4 The conditions of approval of the Zone Map Amendment do not conflict with the minimum requirements in SCC Chapter 17.44 Special Planning Review or Chapter 17.03.220 Zone map amendments and zone text amendments;
- 6.1.5 The uses allowed by the new zones do not appear to cause substantial adverse impacts to the uses allowed in the abutting zones;

- 6.1.6 The proposed Zone Map Amendment is in substantial compliance with and supports the goals, objectives and recommendations of the Storey County Master Plan;
- 6.1.7 The proposed Zone Map Amendment will provide for land uses compatible with existing adjacent land uses and will not have detrimental impacts to other properties in the vicinity;
- 6.1.8 The proposed Zone Map Amendment will not cause uses that will negatively impact existing or planned public services or facilities and will not adversely impact the public health, safety and welfare;
- 6.1.9 The proposed Zone Map Amendment will not create any non-conforming conditions, such as non-conforming setback distances or minimum parcel area and width requirements.

**Motion:** In accordance with the recommendation by Staff, and the Storey County Planning Commission (if a recommendation for approval is made at the June 26, 2014 Planning Commission meeting), the Findings of Fact under Section 6.1 of the Staff Report and/or other Findings of Fact deemed appropriate by the Board, and in compliance with all Conditions of Approval, the Storey County Board of County Commissioners hereby approves Zone Map Amendment Number 2014-005. **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Seconded by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** The applicant requests amendments to existing Special Use Permit No. 2000-222-A-3 to modify and expand applicable land area and allowable uses. The amendments apply to mining, processing, mine definition, exploration, and ancillary uses on the subject land in American Flat and Gold Hill. The location of the land subject to this SUP request is located approximately in Township 16 North, Range 20 East, Section 1 and 12; and Township 16 North, Range 21 East, Section 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 (MDB&M) as illustrated in Exhibit A, Project Area Map enclosed herewith. (*Originally 19*)

Austin Osborne, Senior Planner requested continuation of this item until the August 5, 2014 meeting.

**Motion:** Continue this item until the regularly scheduled commission meeting on Tuesday August 5, 2014 **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Seconded by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

#### 10. **DISCUSSION (No Action - No Public Comment):** Committee/Staff Reports

##### **Community Services Director, Deny Dotson:**

- NV Commission on Tourism bartered a deal with the San Francisco Chronical recently for us to do a Nevada section with the Nevada Appeal. It's a two-part section. The first part broke this Sunday. He shared a copy of it with the board. Basically, Virginia City coming together with some lodging partners, the V&T, the Bucket of Blood, Fourth Ward School and some other editorial was able to secure two and a half pages in the SF Chronical not just in print, but online as well. A similar piece will break in late August.
- On 4<sup>th</sup> of July fundraising efforts: Karen Woodmansee has been working with us. The budget is just under \$30k. Right now we are about halfway there.
- Wine walk will be on July 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Rock the Comstock. We've been working with Loren Pursel of the Red Dog on a "battle of the bands" format. For the last month, folks have been voting online for their favorite bands. They select it down to three, and on July 18-20 there will be folks competing here in several bars through town to find a champion on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Hot August Nights comes through Virginia City at the end of July on the 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be reserving parking for them on the East side of Route 341 through Virginia City. We have also organized a raffle prize. For every \$5 that participants spend they will get a chance to win a night's stay at the Cobb Mansion and dinner at the Core Restaurant on us.

##### **Grants and Emergency Management Coordinator, Cherie Nevin:**

- Last Tuesday, Planner Dessie Redmond, Ann Langer, and I went to the petroglyphs on a guided tour with the folks from the Nevada Rock Art Foundation. The staff and volunteers of the NRAF work actively to promote and protect prehistoric rock in Nevada and surrounding areas. Joan Johnson, a long time Virginia City resident is a very active volunteer with them and visits the site once a month and is a steward of the land. We were fortunate to go with this group and learn more than we would have had we gone on our own.
- Bids are due on July 17<sup>th</sup> for the repairs to the courthouse roof and we should be coming to you at the August 5<sup>th</sup> commission meeting with a recommendation.
- After five years of work, we have finally received the grant award for the Six Mile Canyon drainage project. We have a meeting scheduled for July 29<sup>th</sup> to get the project kicked off.
- The VC Senior Center has a couple of fundraising events coming up:
  - August 16 - Indoor Yard Sale
  - October 10 - Annual Lasagna Cook-off
- This morning I received the grant award for the Senior Center Kitchen Improvement Project. It will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
- October 18 - Health Fair at Piper's Opera House
- We continue to work on a solution for once HAWC leaves the community center on July 10<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping to have some services in place by September.

**Dave Ballard, Communications Director:**

- The phone system that was approved today is an upgrade to the old system that was about 14 years old. The old system is no longer supported and we have moved on to the new, which is a voice over IP which gives us much more redundancy and less failures with a lot more tools to work with.
  - One thing is that currently if someone uses a cell phone to call 911, it will give us the cell company, the number, and the tower the call came from and we have to ping them to locate them if they are lost in the hills somewhere. The new system will give us the GPS coordinates.
  - It ties into the mapping and pulls up the residence the call is coming from.
  - It also ties in with everyone else's systems in the region and the state, so that if one of our lines goes down it will automatically default to Carson City instead of the cumbersome method of the old system that required a call and a ticket to get us switched.
  - Because of the voice over ip, the equipment itself is much smaller and less cumbersome too.
  - It is state of the art and for once we are ahead of the surrounding counties in the technology.

Pat Whitten mentioned that the high price tag will pay for itself in maintenance savings. It replaces technology that was purchased shortly after 9/1/01 and was showing age. This should serve us well for many years and allow us to expand as we join efforts to regionalize.

Mr. Ballard added that the current maintenance contract is \$16-\$17k per year, and the new service contract is \$28k-\$35K for five years.

**Marilee Miller, Lockwood Community Center:**

- July 22<sup>nd</sup> - Luncheon - get there by 11:30 - we eat at 11:45.
- Senior Awareness Picnic and Luncheon served over 250 hot dogs and was a great success.
- We've had a lot of requests for a bocce ball court at the park and we are looking into it.
- She asked if reinstating the river walk would fall under the County, or the home owners, or if anyone knew. Mr. Whitten doesn't recall there being county responsibility for that, but suggested getting together with Cherie Nevin to see what it would take to resurrect the walk.
- She is shopping for bookshelves and plans on having them installed for the Luncheon.

**Adam Robello, Mark Twain Community Center:**

- Change in the board - Mark Kuly resigned and was replaced by Marie Babbs.

- June 28<sup>th</sup> had a rummage sale that generated \$216 for the center.
- We had plans for a carnival in August, but they have been put on hold until next year.
- Our next meeting is July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30
- IRS is requiring more information regarding our 501c3
- Ron is developing a new website.

**Sheriff Gerald Antinoro:**

- Senior Awareness was fantastic with a great turnout.
- This past weekend was the VC Highlands road closure. They had one problem and will do better next year.
- August 5 – National Night Out
- Mr. Pat Flanagan “Squid” passed away this Friday.
- Dale Beach is fighting for his life after a health event this past weekend.

The Chair called for a moment of silence in remembrance of Pat Flanagan.

**Pat Whitten, County Manager:**

- We’ve been approached by a large employer in the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, Intellisource, who is the employer for Zulily, who recently announced plans to expand into a new building and will be raising their employment needs from 600 to 1600. They are having trouble procuring space in the industrial park, so we have offered a temporary lease of unused, vacant portions of our fire and public safety station out there. Bill Maddox is working with me on finalizing the lease.
- I’ve been advised by our clerk that the petition to increase our county commissioners from 3 to 5 was filed in time in Friday and she is now going through the validation process.

**Comptroller Hugh Gallagher:**

- Park Fund – Still working on validating the amounts with Dave Thomas and have reached out to Nicole Bard to attempt to get resolution to that. Don’t want to start calculating interest until we know we are starting with a good number and that Mr. Thomas, who has done 100% of the work and the residents are satisfied with it.
- Hot off the press is our unaudited numbers for the FY ending 2014. This is tentative, but our revenues are a little over \$11 million, which was about \$972,000 more than budgeted. Expenditures were a little over \$9.3 million which was about \$1.2 million less than budgeted largely attributed to salary and benefits.
- The audit is underway.

**11. BOARD COMMENT (No Action – No Public Comment)** No board comments made.

*\*Items 12 & 13 discussed after Consent Agenda*

**12. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** *Approval of Resolution 14-405 which determines that Storey County does not approve a boundary line adjustment between Storey County and Washoe County pursuant to provisions in Senate Bill (SB) 272 Sections 1 and 2(2). For further clarification, Section 1 of SB 272 pertains to property now situated in Storey County in an area more commonly referred to as “Sunny Hills”. This action does not involve the area referenced in Section 1.5 of SB 272 adjacent to the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center. Boundary line resolutions for Section 1.5 were approved by both the Storey County and Washoe County Boards of Commissioners on June 17, 2014 as provided for in Section 2 (3) of SB 272.*

**13. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** *Approval of Resolution 14-406 rescinding Resolution 14-397 which called for an advisory question to be placed on the November 2014 General Election ballot relative to a possible boundary line adjustment between Storey County and Washoe County in an area more commonly referred to as “Sunny Hills”. If Resolution 14-405 is passed, this action would eliminate any applicability of the results of a General*



*Election advisory question. If approved, this resolution also provides notice to the clerk the ballot question is withdrawn.*

**14. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approve Resolution 14-404 honoring Jonathan Dockins of Jackson, Missouri as a true Virginia City Hero.

**Pat Whitten:** Told Johathan's story which is submitted to record in Staff summary and read the following resolution into record:

Resolution No. 14-404, a resolution honoring Jonathan Dockins

- Whereas, Jonathan Dockins has, in eight years of life to date, mounted a brave and heroic battle overcoming great challenges; and
- Whereas, Jonathan is an avid fan of trains and railroading; and
- Whereas, Jonathan has long dreamed of running a real train; and
- Whereas, Tom Gray and the fine folks of Make-A Wish Foundation, the Virginia & Truckee Railroad, the West Coast Railroaders Group and Amtrak joined to help Jonathan's dreams come true; and
- Whereas, the Storey County Board of Commissioners congratulate Jonathan for his successful accomplishments of bringing both the Amtrak and Virginia & Truckee trains in on time.
- Therefore it be known to all present that the Board of County Commissioners of Storey County do hereby resolve to commend and honor Jonathan Dockins as a true and honorable Virginia City Hero on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2014.

Mr. Whitten explained that a fancy copy of this resolution will be mailed to Jonathan.

**Motion:** Approval of resolution 14-404 honoring Jonathan Dockins of Jackson, Missouri as a true Virginia City Hero. **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**15. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Resolution 14-393 Approval of Tax Rate Levy

**Pat Whitten:** This is required annually to state on the record what the tax rate is. There are a few internal adjustments, but the bottom line is that the tax rate for the County itself and the County inclusive of School and State remains the same.

**Motion:** Approval of resolution 14-393 Approval of Tax Rate Levy **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**16. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of modification and extension of Collective Bargaining Agreement between Storey County (Employer) and the Storey County Sheriff's Office Employee Association/Operating Engineers Local Union No.3 (Union).

**Senior Planner/Administrative Officer Austin Osborne:** Requested continuation of this item until the August 5<sup>th</sup> commission meeting.

**Motion:** Approval to continue this item until the August 5<sup>th</sup> commission meeting. **Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

**17. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approval of modifications to Articles 46 (Benefits Insurance) and 47 (Retirement) of the existing 2013-2016 Collective Bargaining Agreement between Storey County (Employer) and the Storey County Employees' Association AFSCME Local union Comstock Chapter (Union).

**Senior Planner/Administrative Officer Austin Osborne:** Explained the modifications and amended the language to NOT include article 47.

**Motion:** Approval of modifications to Article 46 of the existing 2013-2016 Collective Bargaining Agreement.  
**Action:** Approve **Moved by** Commissioner Sjovangen **Seconded by** Vice-Chairman Gilman **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes=3)

*\*Items 18 & 19 discussed following items 12 & 13*

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING**

18. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Zone Map Amendment 2014-2015.** *By Comstock Mining, and Northern Comstock, LLC in Gold Hill, Storey County, Nevada. The applicant requests a Zone Map Amendment in order to change the zoning of fourteen parcels (Assessor Parcel Numbers: 002-122-01, 002-122-02, 002-142-01, 002-142-02, 002-142-03, 002-141-16, 002-141-03, 002-151-01, 002-151-05, 002-151-06, 002-151-02, 002-151-03, 002-151-04 and 002-161-01) from Commercial-Residential (CR) to Special Planning Review (SPR)*

19. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** *The applicant requests amendments to existing Special Use Permit No. 2000-222-A-3 to modify and expand applicable land area and allowable uses. The amendments apply to mining, processing, mine definition, exploration, and ancillary uses on the subject land in American Flat and Gold Hill. The location of the land subject to this SUP request is located approximately in Township 16 North, Range 20 East, Section 1 and 12; and Township 16 North, Range 21 East, Section 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 (MDB&M) as illustrated in Exhibit A, Project Area Map enclosed herewith.*

20. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION, LICENSING BOARD SECOND READINGS:** None

21. **CORRESPONDENCE (No Action)**

- a. Denied agenda request from Dale Beach regarding issue of the NACO attendants.

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

**Cynthia Kennedy, 5030 Fandango Pass, Virginia City NV 89440:**

I'm sorry to appear before you today with the news I have to bear. On the weekend of July 21<sup>st</sup>, our home in the Highlands Ranches was vandalized. At first we thought that just our driveway sign had just been "tagged." It's a large porcelain tile sign that I painted & fired in my kiln, approximately 3'x3' with "Smiling Pinto Station" painted on it with our logo, a smiling pinto. With its tin roof, and teal blue surround, it's one of the most attractive signs in the area, and Patrick I spent a lot of time creating and installing it. A large orange target with a bull's eye was spray painted over its entire surface. That was one thing - someone had tagged our sign. Property does get tagged from time-to-time. Soon, though, we realized the vandals' crime did not stop with the sign. Our classic BMW, Ford tractor, Scout snowplow truck and horse trailer had all been damaged. I won't go into details as they might hamper the Sheriff's Dept. Investigation, but it was obvious that whomever did this, wanted us to know we were indeed targeted. We have a business that includes international customers. Are any of these customers enemies? No. We have a lot of friends in the Highlands, Virginia City, and other areas of Nevada and California through our participation in dog agility, the Reno Blues Society and the Republican Party. Are any of them enemies? No. The only conclusion we can draw is that we expressed our opinion about something here in the county, and that infuriated someone so much that they came onto our property and told us in no uncertain terms that we have a target on our backs. I make this presentation to warn others who express opinions in commissioners meetings, support candidates, and write Letters to the Editor, to consider whether expressing an opinion or support in public is worth having your property vandalized in a violent manner? We have lived here for almost 30 years, and during that time we've contributed greatly to this community. We were part of the first crew of reporters and photographers on the "Comstock Chronicle." Since then, we've worked for free, for every newspaper on the Comstock. We

documented and reviewed countless plays, birthdays, graduations and a myriad of events. I don't think anyone's taken more photographs of this area and its residents than Patrick. Our video, "Virginia City and the Comstock Lode: Yesterday & Today" which we produced in 1989, has sold all over the world and promoted like no other. We produced this out of our own pocket, without grants, because we felt it should be done. Over 40k copies of the original program - good will ambassadors, if you will - have been sold since its release. Right now, we're in the middle of producing a new version, again at our own expense, that will further promote this area, its history, its attractions and events. When this vandalism happened, I was the main organizer of the Nevada Republican Party State Central Committee meeting, to be held here August 1-3. On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a Grande Celebration Banquet at Piper's Opera House, honoring 150 years of the Republican Party in Nevada. We expect over 300 people to be in town for this event. But, now that someone has come on our property, painted a bulls eye on our beautiful sign, and severely damaged four of our vehicles, we've had to seriously reconsider our participation and contribution to not just the local party, but to the county at large. It seems the potential of repercussion for this kind of activity makes it just not worth it. Sheriff Antinoro and his deputies have done an excellent job investigating this vandalism. People have raised funds, and there is now a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whomever committed this heinous crime. The reason why I've brought this information to you today, is because I want you all to be aware of what can happen to people who want to make a positive contribution to this community.

Chairman McBride expressed that this behavior is unacceptable and suggested cameras on properties that are in rural areas and somewhat vulnerable for these kinds of crimes. Pat Whitten suggested speaking with Mr. Gallagher about possibly enhancing the reward process.

**Judy Cohen, VC resident and business owner:** Publically acknowledged Chris and Carol from the B Street Bed and Breakfast for initiating the SF Chronical and bringing it to Mr. Dotson's attention.

### 23. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the call of the Chair at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Dore Nevin