



STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020 10:00 A.M.

DISTRICT COURTROOM
26 SOUTH B STREET, VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA

MINUTES

MARSHALL MCBRIDE
CHAIRMAN

ANNE LANGER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JAY CARMONA
VICE-CHAIRMAN

LANCE GILMAN
COMMISSIONER

VANESSA STEPHENS
CLERK-TREASURER

ROLL CALL via zoom: Chairman McBride, Vice Chairman Carmona, Commissioner Gilman, County Manager Austin Osborne, District Attorney Anne Langer, Clerk-Treasurer Vanessa Stephens, Sheriff Gerald Antinoro, Fire Chief Jeff Nevin, Tourism Director Deny Dotson, Interim Comptroller Jennifer McCain, HR/Administrative Officer Jen Chapman, Emergency Management Director Joe Curtis, Community Relations Director Lara Mather, Labor Relations Manager Jeanne Greene, Senior Planner Kathy Canfield, Communications Director Dave Ballard

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

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman McBride led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of Agenda for May 19, 2020.

County Manager Osborne asked to move items 7 and 8 after item 26.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I move to approve the Agenda for May 19, 2020, with the noted modifications, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3

5. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of the Minutes for April 9, 2020.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I move to approve the Minutes for April 9, 2020, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

I. For possible action, approval of claims in the amount of \$1,180,411.14.

II. For possible action, approval of business license first readings:

A. Bergelectric - Helix JV II - Contractor/3182 Lionshead Ave., Carlsbad, CA

III. For possible action, approval of the update to Storey County Administrative Policies and Procedures 610 - Emergency Conditions/Disaster Leave, 503-Overtime Compensation.

IV. For possible action, approval of Assessor's Recommended Corrections to the Unsecured Tax Roll

Public Comment: None

Motion: I move to approve today's Consent Agenda, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

9. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION : Approval of modification and extension of 2017-2020 Collective Bargaining Agreement between Storey County (employer) and Storey County Sheriff's Office Employees' Association of Police and Sheriff Officers (NAPSO).

County Manager Osborne said bargaining has been taking place between since February to renew the existing contract. A tentative agreement has been reached subject to approval by the County Commissioners and the Union Board. This is a three-year contract with a one-time 5% increase. Mr. Osborne reviewed additional changes to the contract. There are no changes to the health benefits plan. There are conditions regarding uniforms, catastrophic and family leave, as well as other elements.

Jennifer McCain said the fiscal change for the first year is about 3.8%. Other than the initial movement on the chart for each employee, it will be ordinary merit increases.

Public Comment: None

Mr. Osborne: Elko, Churchill, Humbolt, Douglas, Carson City, and Lyon counties were used as comparable counties.

Motion: In accordance with the recommendation by staff and tentative agreement between Storey County and the Storey County Sheriff's Office Employees, Nevada Association of Police and Sheriff Officers (NAPSO), I, Jay Carmona, motion to approve the successor 2020-2023 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION : Regarding Resolution No. 20-570 Granting the Historic Fourth Ward School Museum, a non-profit entity, a sum not to exceed \$120,000.00 for the purpose of preserving the Historic Fourth Ward School, a County owned building and for the purpose of preserving the Fourth Ward School Building and for promoting the history of the Comstock and Storey County.

Deputy District Attorney Keith Loomis said he prepared the forms, however Community Development Director Lara Mather suggested the amount.

Mr. Loomis explained why separate Resolutions are done for the non-profits rather than the way it was done in the past. NRS requires approval by Resolution, which (the County) has done that last two years.

Chair McBride said this “cleans up” budget items and provides more transparency.

Ms. Mather had nothing to add but can answer any questions. Each organization sends a letter justifying the amount being requested, how it will be used, and so forth.

Commissioner Gilman asked how (the numbers) compare to last year’s budget.

Ms. Mather: There is no increase for 4th Ward School.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve Resolution No. 20-570 Granting the Historic Fourth Ward School Museum, a sum not to exceed \$120,000.00 for the purpose of preserving the Historic Fourth Ward School, a County owned building and supporting history, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

11. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Regarding Resolution No. 20-571 Granting the Community Chest, Inc. the sum of \$259,500.00 for specific purpose of funding health and human services programs.

Ms. Mather said there is a \$15,000 increase for this request. The great job Community Chest does is well known - the slight increase of \$15,000 speaks well for their due diligence.

Community Chest Director Erik Schoen: This is really three separate budgets. Community Health Nurse budget pays for Nevada Health Center providing the health clinic and telehealth - that budget remains the same. The Library budget is increased \$5,000. The higher increase is for the Community Center and other support services.

Commissioner Gilman thanked Mr. Schoen for being very active in all the communities during this Covid 19 situation. Being able to keep the budget within a \$15,000 increase is commendable.

Public Comment: None

Chair McBride thanked Community Chest. \$259,000+ is a lot of money. However, Storey County gets a “lot of bang for its buck”. If the County had to provide all the services the Community Chest does, it couldn’t be done for that amount. During the recession, Storey County had to close the County Library - which cost the County over \$100,000 per year. With the help of Community Chest, everything was revived. It would cost the County twice as much to provide the services of Community Chest.

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve Resolution No. 20-571 Granting the Community Chest, Inc. the sum of \$259,500.00 for specific purpose of funding health and human services programs, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

12. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Regarding Resolution No. 20-572 granting the St. Mary's Art Center, a non-profit entity, a sum not to exceed \$100,000.00 for the purpose of preserving St. Mary's Art Center, a County-owned building and supporting arts and culture through education and cultural offerings.

Ms. Mather explained this request includes an increase of \$20,000. The increase to be used for the building itself. There are substantial plumbing and structural issues. A grant request has been submitted to SHPO - this will probably be in question based on the current economy.

Public Comment: None

Chair McBride said St. Mary's Art Center is a terrific non-profit with visitors coming from all over the world. They do a great job maintaining the old building - it takes a lot of work.

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve Resolution 20-572 granting the St. Mary's Art Center, a sum not to exceed \$100,000.00 for the purpose of preserving St. Mary's Art Center, a County-owned building and supporting arts and culture through education and cultural offerings.

Action: Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

13. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Regarding Resolution No. 20-573 granting the Storey County Senior Citizens Center the sum of \$386,240.00 for the purpose of maintaining the Storey County Senior Center and for providing programs and services to seniors to promote independent and healthy lifestyles.

Ms. Mather: This is an increase of \$106,000 - for both the Virginia City and Lockwood Senior Centers. Requests for their services have increased dramatically during this event. They are doing an amazing job.

Senior Center Director Stacey York: Thank you for the increase in funds. Number have gone up at both locations - over 250% in Virginia City, and 100% in Lockwood.

Commissioner Gilman: Assumes there is also coverage for the Mark Twain program, and that there is an element of the corona virus in that a lot more services are being provided.

Ms. York: Virginia City services Virginia City Highlands, Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Mark Twain. Yes, the corona virus has caused an increase in the budget.

Chair McBride: This is un-precedented times - providing more services at the senior centers than ever utilized or anticipated in the past. They are doing a terrific job at all three locations.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve, Resolution No. 20-573 granting the Storey County Senior Citizens Center the sum of \$386,240.00 for the purpose of maintaining the Storey County Senior Center and for providing programs and services to seniors to promote independent and healthy lifestyles, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

14. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Regarding Resolution No. 20-574 granting the Mark Twain Community Center a sum not to exceed \$25,000.00 for the purpose of preserving the Mark Twain Community Center and for community outreach and improvement.

Ms. Mather: No increase in the request for the Mark Twain Community Center. Stacey York works closely with them and provides food for their food pantry.

Commissioner Gilman said this funding was started last year- it is very helpful, especially right now.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve Resolution No. 20-574 granting the Mark Twain Community Center a sum not to exceed \$25,000.00 for the purpose of preserving the Mark Twain Community Center and for community outreach and improvement, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

15. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Regarding Resolution No. 20-575 granting Liberty Engine Company No. 1 Inc. a sum not to exceed \$10,000.00 for the purpose of preserving the Comstock Fireman's Museum and its historic contents.

Ms. Mather: No increase on this item.

Joe Curtis reviewed the history of the Comstock Fireman's Museum which opened in 1979 and is maintained by the volunteer fire department. For years, they have thought about expanding onto adjacent property that the Museum owns. The funds go to the maintenance of the historic structure which is County-owned.

Chairman McBride commented the building was the first one in town to have a fire sprinkler system. County funds went to the installation of that system.

Commissioner Gilman asked Mr. Curtis if the improvement/expansion of the building is included in the new CIP.

Mr. Curtis does not think it's included. There's a lot of equipment in storage that they would like to put in there.

Mr. Gilman thinks this under-taking should be looked at.

Public Comment:

Lara Mather: As former Director of the Fourth Ward School, thank you to the County for supporting these historic buildings. They are very old - St. Mary's and Fourth Ward are big buildings taking a huge amount of funds to restore and keep up.

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve Resolution No. 20-575 granting Liberty Engine Company No. 1 Inc. a sum not to exceed \$10,000.00 for the purpose of preserving the Comstock Fireman's Museum and its historic contents, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

16. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Regarding Resolution No. 20-576 granting the Storey County Jeep Posse the sum of \$10,000.00 for the purpose of renovating the historic Ice House on Toll Road in Virginia City, Nevada and for providing assistance to sick and injured persons in the community in need of such financial assistance.

Vice Chairman Carmona recused himself from discussion and vote on this item as his daughter is receiving a scholarship from the Jeep Posse.

Mr. Loomis explained the amount for the Jeep Posse has not changed. Funds are used for renovation of the Ice House and to provide social services to members of the community including student scholarships.

Chair McBride: This is another County-owned building. It's called the Ice House - it sits next to the reservoir where, in early days, ice was cut out of the reservoir to be used by most of the businesses, and has been in this location over 50 years.

Mr. Osborne reviewed items being worked on including a walk-in refrigerator replacement, drainage improvements - there is water coming in the building, maybe from the Divide Reservoir or possibly area drainage. This could cost \$10,000 to \$30,000. In addition to scholarships, \$2,500 was provided to a student to go to Washington DC for a project, and \$1,000 each to two other students.

Public Comment:

Nicole Barde, Virginia City Highlands resident: The information Mr. Osborne provided about what the Jeep Posse is doing is not included in the packet. Is possible to have access to last year's audited financials to find out what was done with last year's money? Every other organizations receiving funds from the County have publicly available financials. The Posse's information wasn't in the packet so the public does not know what they do with that money.

Chairman McBride said she would have to ask the Jeep Posse for access to their financials. He has never seen a financial from the Jeep Posse and does not know if one has ever been submitted.

Ms. Barde: The County doesn't ask for financials or accountability from organizations our tax dollars are given to?

Mr. Loomis: The County has established that the Jeep Posse is a recognized, non-profit organization. To his knowledge, an audited financial statement has never been requested as to what was done with the money. He is not aware of any statute requiring that they have to provide that. It could be requested if the County wants to.

Mr. Osborne said he would be happy to reach out to the Jeep Posse asking if they would like to provide information regarding projects they have planned.

Motion: I move to approve Resolution No. 20-576, granting the Storey County Jeep Posse the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of renovating the historic Ice House on Toll Road in Virginia City, Nevada and for providing financial assistance **Moved by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Seconded by:** Chairman McBride, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=2)

17. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of Bill No. 120, Ordinance 20-309, providing for whistleblower protections as required by AB 274 of the 2019 Legislative Session.

Mr. Loomis explained the last Legislative session requires the County to provide whistleblower protection equal to what is provided to State employees. This proposed ordinance does that. The ordinance also provides for a hearing officer in case where there appears to be retaliation against a whistleblower.

Public Comment: None

Mr. Loomis read the title: An ordinance enacting procedures to provide protection to officers and employees of Storey County against reprisals and retaliation for the disclosure of improper governmental actions providing other matters properly related thereto.

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve the first reading of Bill No. 120, Ordinance 20-309, establishing greater whistleblower protections, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

18. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Enter into Interlocal Agreement between Storey County and Storey County School District for the use and maintenance of Miner's Park Baseball Field, amendment to water meter at Virginia City High School, and termination of existing Land Plot Lease Agreement between the parties for use and maintenance of Miner's Park Baseball Field.

Mr. Osborne: The School District currently has a lease agreement from the County for use and maintenance of Miner's Park Baseball Field. The School District has reached out to the County to allow the School District to focus on education and other needs rather than the need to maintain the park. The Interlocal Agreement provides:

- Storey County School District will install security cameras throughout Miners Park, the swimming pool, and baseball field areas. The County and School District will have access to the cameras for security purposes.
- The County will take over maintenance of the adjacent baseball field - staff is already managing Miners Park.
- The County will take over irrigation of the park resulting in savings as the County already has staff there.
- The baseball field and Miners Park will be merged through these agreements.
- The School District will have first right of refusal for the baseball field up to 24 months ahead of time.
- The "Boosters" will have first right of refusal for the "snack shack" and will not be impacted by this agreement.
- An electronic scheduling system will be used. When the public wants to use the park, the available days can be seen allowing scheduling around School District needs.
- A commercial water meter at the High School will be moved and tied into the main building to be metered there.

Public Comment: None

Chairman McBride said this is a great idea, especially the calendar system. The School District has made great improvements to the baseball field. This will be a good relationship between the School District and the County.

Motion: In accordance with the recommendation by staff, I, Jay Carmona, move to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Storey County and Storey County School District for the use and maintenance of Miner's Park Baseball Field, amendment to water meter at Virginia City High School, and termination of existing Land Plot Lease Agreement between the parties for use and maintenance of Miner's Park Baseball Field, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona **Seconded** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

19. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Amendments to Interlocal Agreement between Storey County and the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway (Railway) regarding fund creation and management, budgeting, accounting, processing, and related staffing practices and responsibilities to manage funds of the Railway by Storey County, and other properly related matters.

Mr. Osborne thanked Deny Dotson, Vanessa Stephens, Jen Chapman, and Keith Loomis for their involvement in this agreement. (The County) currently has an agreement with the Rail Commission to perform various accounting and budgeting services. Prior to the existing Board, the V&T Rail Commission reached out to the County asking for this service in order to keep good books and to focus attention on the success of the railroad. The amendments are for a staff person in the Comptroller's Office to be paid for by the Railway for hours spent on railway accounting, etc. - up to two years. At that point, 50% of the Administrative Assistant II in the Comptroller's Office, will be paid by the Railway regardless of County hours.

Commissioner Gilman: Is there fiscal impact amount attributed to this?

Mr. Osborne: There is. In the existing contract, (the County) provides \$125,000 for track maintenance - this number is increased to \$250,000.

Chair McBride: Does this includes the sharing of the person in the Comptroller's Office.

Ms. McCain: Believes the \$250,000 is what (the County) gives them for track maintenance. In turn, they will pay (the County) for administrative services. 50% of the Admin II salary is about \$38,000 a year. Given the current situation, we will keep track of hours and they will pay by the hour for the time being.

Commissioner Gilman: The County's commitment is \$250,000 per year - focused on track maintenance. Correct?

Chair McBride: It will come out of the V&T (1/4 cent) sales tax collection. It does not impact the County's general budget.

Mr. Osborne read the section referring to the agreement from 2010 regarding the refund of sales tax collected by the Commission where the County would annually contribute \$125,000, now \$250,000, from proceeds of the tax in the V&T Railway fund for the operation and maintenance of the railroad within Storey County.

Commissioner Gilman asked Chair McBride, who has been involved with the railway for years, if this is seen as a positive for the County.

Chair McBride said funds requested in turn for maintenance of the track are funds collected specifically on sales tax for rail projects. Under the MOU with the Railway Commission, if they have a shortfall, they can request Storey County for some of those funds for maintenance and operation costs. There will be a shortfall this year - the Railway most likely will not be able to operate due to the Covid 19 situation. There is no impact on (the County's) budget.

Mr. Osborne said this agreement is beneficial to both parties. It costs the County nothing as staff time is reimbursed per this agreement - currently on an hourly basis. There are adjustments due to Covid 19. When the train returns to normal operations, this contract will default to 50/50, - estimated to be the time an Admin II in the Comptroller's Office will be spending on this contract.

Chair McBride said we have a very professional staff running the railroad in the Comptroller's Office. The new accounting system will make it a lot smoother for the Railway Commission to track revenue and expenses as well.

Public Comment: None

Motion: In accordance with the recommendation by staff, I, Jay Carmona, motion to approve the amendments to the Interlocal Agreement between Storey County and the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway regarding fund creation and management, budgeting, accounting, processing and related staffing practices and responsibilities to manage funds of the Railway by Storey County, and other properly related matters, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

20. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and possible approval of the 2020-2021 Storey County Final Budget for submission to the Department of Taxation.

Comptroller McCain reiterated there are no major changes due to Covid19. When things level out, the County will be able to resume business as usual. During the current situation, Department Heads need to get approval before spending \$1,000.

Ms. McCain reviewed major changes in the budget, including:

- Decrease in the entire health insurance package. There was a budgeted increase of 12% **for all departments, however the overall increase was 6 ½%.**
- Increase for park and pool with the addition of the ballpark water meter.
- Correction to Public Works departments shared-employee percentages.
- New Sheriff's Union Employees contract necessitating changes to wages and benefits. There is also correction to the payroll calculation sheet. The total adjustment is \$243,000.
- Transfer to Pipers Opera House changed from \$80,000 to \$109,000.
- Additional \$80,000 to the Community Services budget:
 - \$25,000 for updates to Lockwood Community Center building and \$35,000 for a new vehicle.
 - Commissioner Gilman requested an additional \$20,000 for grants, if possible, to be given to seniors in need of trash service collection.

Mr. Osborne: The County has a new Franchise Agreement with Waste Management. Canyon GID also has a Waste Management Agreement. There is some legality going on between the two agreements about the County providing services in Lockwood when there is already an agreement in place. Waste Management has suggested re-opening the Canyon GID agreement. He is not in favor of this, nor are the residents in Lockwood - and they shouldn't have to. The County wants to provide senior and low-income discounts for Lockwood. The challenge is they pay into a "pool" which goes to the GID.

Chairman McBride suggested (the County) purchase "free dump day" vouchers for the residents.

Mr. Osborne: In addition to the normal senior discount, we could give the equivalent in "free dump" vouchers which the County will pay for. Another option may be an equivalent number of meals, or other service, provided at the Lockwood Senior Center. He is confident something will be worked out that is equivalent to the benefit received by the rest of the county.

Ms. McCain: With adjustments, General Fund expenses will increase by \$200,000 and will reduce the tentative ending-fund balance by 2%.

- Revenue has increased significantly in the capital project fund due to a transfer from the USDA fund for the Gold Hill sewer plant and the two water projects. This will affect the expenses in the capital project fund.
- Other on-going projects include the radio project, structural items and graveling the parking lot at the V&T Depot, the Highlands community center, and historic stairs on Taylor Street.
- The Justice Court project has been moved to the infrastructure fund. Waiting for approval from the District Attorney.
- The budget will include paving the parking lot at Lockwood Senior Center - requested by Commissioner Gilman. Estimated cost is \$35,000.
- 2020-21 CIP have been included in Capital Projects laying out capital projects for all funds.
- CIP's for future years are being worked on.
-

Mr. Osborne: Included as part of the CIP - Cartwright Road in the Highlands is budgeted \$130,00 for shoulder maintenance and cape seal, or something like that. \$35,000 for Lousetown Road for patch work that has already begun. The Virginia City Highlands Community Center - a fully self-contained community center with all fire apparatus moved to separate building.

Ms. McCain reviewed other budgeted items including the Infrastructure Fund, the USDA Fund, the Roads budget, the Justice Court, the VC Rail Project fund. And, the Grant Fund needed work - which Ms. McCain, along with Lara Mather, have done.

VCTC and Pipers budgets have been the hardest hit as a result of the Covid pandemic. Revenues have been decreased by 43%; expenses by 27%. This difference will allow planning of future events even though attendance may be low - with a positive attitude that events can be held sooner than later. Mr. Dotson has decided to not fill a part-time position, reducing wages and benefits.

Vice Chairman Carmona said he appreciates the efforts by the Comptroller and County Manager who have been working hard on the budget. He is comfortable with where it is at.

Commissioner Gilman: Great job.

Public Comment: None

Chairman McBride thanked the whole team who worked on the budget. All department heads and elected officials did a terrific job. He reminded the taxpayers - a lot of items are put in the budgets, however if revenues fall short there are some capital improvement projects that could be delayed - as well as hiring freezes, no promotions, and such. We are going to be fiscally responsible not knowing what is in store going forward. If things are kept shut down, we will have to be very diligent.

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve the filing of 2020-21 Storey County Final Budget to the Department of Taxation, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

21. RECESS TO CONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD

22. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Discussion and possible approval of the 2020-2021 474 Fire District Final Budget for submission to the Department of Taxation.

Comptroller McCain said it has been agreed the Fire District will retain the original budget, with a few changes. The same processes will be implemented with a \$1,000 spending cap. This budget, as well as all others, will be watched closely each month.

The changes include up-dated revenue figures for ambulance subscriptions, accident recovery, and ground EM transport - totaling \$133,000.

With a correction, the actual Fire General Fund ending fund balance is estimated at \$151,000.

The only expense adjustment is retiree insurance added in the amount of \$36,800. Health insurance was reduced as the increase was budgeted at 12% but was actually 7%.

There were no changes to Emergency or Mutual Funds. The Capital Project Fund was reduced by \$50,000 - with re-fabricating an old ladder truck being held off.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve the filing of 2020-2021 474 Fire District Final Budget for submission to the Department of Taxation, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes= 3)

23. RECESS TO RECONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY WATER/SEWER BOARD

24. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and possible approval of the 2020-2021 Water/Sewer Final Budget for submission to the Department of Taxation.

Ms. McCain: Sewer Department - with the projected completion of the Gold Hill Sewer Project mid-year, budgeting the USDA loan payments is necessary beginning approximately February 2021, with a total of \$4,356 being transferred into the USDA fund for payment processing. There was also an increase in retiree insurance. An over-statement was found in health insurance - this has been corrected dropping the health insurance of \$41,844 to \$22,568.

Ms. McCain: All department heads were asked to process 3% and 10% reductions which will be kept as a supplemental budget to be referred to as long as we are in the current situation. This is a step to keep in line with essential spending only.

Mr. Osborne: Ms. McCain is right, all departments are a 3 to 5% budget cut. Having the money doesn't mean we're going to spend it. Department heads are receiving a letter stating anything over \$1,000 has to be approved by Ms. McCain; anything over \$2,500 by both Ms. McCain and myself. There will be a freeze on new hiring, with certain exceptions; a freeze on capital improvement spending, with exception of those projects already up and running. This will not affect "merits", current collective bargaining agreements, and there will be no layoffs. The letter supports Ms. Cain decision's slow down spending and let it go into 2021 fiscal year, and to have the supplementary budget with lower numbers to make sure we are okay next year.

Vice Chairman Carmona asked when, and how much, the increase will take effect for water/sewer customers.

Ms. McCain: Between 2 and 3%. She understands the increase will go into effect at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Jay Carmona, move to approve the filing of the 2020-2021 Water/Sewer Final Budget for submission to the Department of Taxation, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

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

26. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION : Approval of business license second readings:

Mr. Osborne: Community Development recommends approval of all licenses A through D.

- A. Dispatch Health - Professional/85 Kirkman Ave ~ Reno, NV
- B. Global Industrial Systems Inc. - Out of County/3403 Ridgecrest Dr. ~ Reno, NV
- C. GNOVA Ventures LLC - Out of County/3403 Ridgecrest Dr. ~ Reno, NV
- D. Mitchell Labs - Out of County/7707 Bequette Ave./Pico Rivera, CA

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Carmona, move to approve the second reading of Business Licenses A through D, **Moved by:** Vice Chairman Carmona, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote, **(Summary:** Yes=3)

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

Erik Schoen, Community Chest Director:

- The Early Childhood Education has opened with enrollment at 50%. They are excited, but cautious, to be at this step. This begins the process of slowly re-opening other programs
- The week of June 1st, Nevada Health Center should re-open the clinic with in-person days on Mondays.
- The summer youth program will open the week of June 8th with 50% enrollment at 30. Additional protocol will be in place to limit spread of any Covid 19.

Stacey York, Senior Center Director:

- They are receiving a grant for over \$51,000 which will allow the transportation program for Lockwood. In addition, the Senior Center will receive a \$25,000 Homemaker grant - for housecleaning for seniors.

Deny Dotson, Tourism Director:

- Expects to see everyone for the "car cruise" to be held this Saturday at noon - a Memorial Day tribute.

Joe Curtis, Emergency Management Director:

- There have been 145 Covid cases in the Quad County - 40 active; 102 recovered; 3 deaths. Storey County had one case which is now a recovery.
- 1,798 Covid tests have been done in the Quad County - all negative results except for one.
- The Quad County Emergency Operations Center is closing - shifting to Carson City Health & Human Services.
- We maintain contact with the EOC several times a week.
- All PPE provided by the State have been issued out. The County is now having to purchase its own protective equipment. The County is in pretty good shape with equipment.

- We're looking into putting hand sanitizers on C Street - 3 to a block for a total of 18. Maybe we could have dispensers made locally.

Chair McBride said he heard that medical facilities in the Las Vegas area were going to start testing for antibodies. He asked Mr. Curtis to let the Board know when they start testing in our area.

Mr. Curtis: Absolutely. Testing involving vulnerable populations is being looked at. He will let the Board know when this happens.

Dave Ballard, Communications Director:

- He is in the process of the radio project and moving forward with re-locating the Dispatch Center. Logistically the "old bank building" would be the best move. Some electrical work and a little modification is all that is needed. Hopefully, they will be up and running by August.

Jennifer McCain, Comptroller thanked everyone for their cooperation in the budget process.

Kathy Canfield, Senior Planner:

- The County has completed the FEMA CRS audit and has retained a Class 8 Community Rating. This means the County maintains a National Flood Insurance 10% discount for residents who have flood insurance. There is an audit every five years - the criteria is constantly changing.

Chair McBride asked if 8 was high on a 1 to 10 scale.

Ms. Canfield said 1 is the best - there is probably no one the country with that rating. A lot of work goes into obtaining programs that would have to be implemented - Storey County is not set up for a lot of what would be needed, including regulatory and public works programs - costly items. We are happy with the 8.

Vice Chairman Carmona asked if this information would be passed on to the Lockwood community.

Ms. Canfield said they will be notified. This should be done through insurance companies - and there should not be a change as the County retained the rating it already had. However, it is anticipated that insurance rates are going to change as FEMA is looking at different ways to calculate rates. This may affect rates in the future.

County Manager Austin Osborne reported on behalf of Jason Weirzbicki, Public Works Director:

- Public Works is 80% finished with road shoulder mowing throughout the County;
- With the opening of asphalt plants, road crews will be up and running throughout the County. The first street to be done in town will be Silver Street.
- It has been a wonderful experience working the Jennifer McCain, and her group, on the budget. It is appreciated.
- Waste Management is still under Covid 19 restrictions. Only 3 bags, or equivalent, can be accepted at the transfer station. Recycling is pretty much unlimited. There is no cost - they do not want to handle money. Free dump vouchers are being accepted.
- The green Waste Management dumpsters on C Street are temporary until Covid 19 is over.
- We are looking at a system to manage public record requests. A system where the requests could be consolidated to departments and insure compliance with NRS. Thank you to Jen Chapman for her hard work in keeping us compliant with these requests and for creating a program for the future.

Vanessa Stephens, County Clerk:

- Reminder: Get those ballots in the mail - there has been about a 15% return of ballots.
- There is no update on when DMV is going to open. There have been a lot of calls - it is up to the State.

8. BOARD COMMENT (No Action - No Public Comment)

Commissioner Gilman:

- As a relative newcomer of 20 years, he has watched 20 years of budgets - the budget put together this year is the most visionary, professional, well-thought out budget that he has seen. Including the comments from department heads, line item budgeting, fiscal responsibility, and watching (the County's) bottom line. Storey County is in better fiscal shape today than any other county in the State. It's clean, readable, and a lot of thought went into it. Thank you everyone immensely.

Vice Chairman Carmona: Echoes what Commissioner Gilman said.

Chairman McBride:

- The budget team did a terrific job - along with department heads and elected officials.
- Echoing Commissioner Gilman regarding the shutdown of the economy in Nevada - those who have a concern should write or call the Governor's office and ask him to be a little bit more visible and encourage him to open the State. Until last Friday, he hadn't been seen for 15 days. A lot of people are having difficult financial times - this will turn into a financial crisis.

27. PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action) None

28. ADJOURNMENT OF ALL ACTIVE AND RECESSED BOARDS ON THE AGENDA

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 12:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____
Vanessa Stephens Clerk-Treasurer