



STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022 10:00 A.M.

**DISTRICT COURTROOM
26 SOUTH B STREET, VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA**

MEETING MINUTES

JAY CARMONA
CHAIRMAN

ANNE LANGER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CLAY MITCHELL
VICE-CHAIRMAN

LANCE GILMAN
COMMISSIONER

DOREAYNE NEVIN
CLERK-TREASURER

Roll Call: Chairman Jay Carmona, Vice-Chairman Clay Mitchell, Commissioner Lance Gilman, County Manager Austin Osborne, Clerk/Treasurer Doreayne Nevin, Deputy District Attorney Keith Loomis, Sheriff Gerald Antinoro, Recorder Marney Hansen-Martinez, Project Manager Mike Northan, District Attorney Anne Langer, Communications Manager Becky Parsons, Public Works Director Jason Wierzbicki, IT Director James Deane, Assessor Jana Seddon, Senior Planner Kathy Canfield, Emergency Management Director Lara Mather, Honey Menefee, Community Relations Coordinator, Senior Center Director Stacy York, Acting Human Resources Director Jeannie Green, Comptroller Jennifer McCain, Community Development Director Pete Renaud, Chief Deputy Tony Dosen, Hugo Laintri, Kris Thompson, Donnie Gilman

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

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Carmona at 10:01 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Carmona led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the Agenda for July 19, 2022.

County Manager Austin Osborne requested moving item #25 to item #11. This is the Interstate 80 item.

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve today's Agenda with the one noted change moving item #25 to item #11. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the minutes for the July 5, 2022, meeting.

Commissioner Mitchell – Two clerical corrections, Item 21 there is a misspelling on Mike Northan's last name, and Item #23 is listed as Item #21 again.

Commissioner Carmona – Another error is in the Public Comment with Sam Toll, he was praising, not president.

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell move to approve the minutes from July 5, 2022, meeting with noted changes. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- I For possible action, approval of business license first readings:
 - A. Bluth Development LLC – Contractor / PO Box 18983 ~ Reno, NV
 - B. CASS NV, LLC – General / 2455 Peru ~ Sparks, NV
 - C. Joe Kelley Construction Co. – Contractor / 12550 Lake Station Place ~ Louisville, KY
 - D. NV Energy – Contractor / 6100 Neil Rd. ~ Reno, NV
 - E. Rutter Construction, LLC – Contractor / 3355 Palms Center Dr. ~ Las Vegas, NV
 - F. The Paper Chaser – Home Business / 21435 Saddleback Rd. ~ Reno, NV
 - G. Walker Cellular, Inc. – Contractor / 150 Flocchini Cir. ~ Lincoln, CA
 - H. Wire Me Electric, Inc. – Contractor / 1380 Greg St. Ste. 237 ~ Sparks, NV
- II Consideration and possible approval of claims in the amount \$4,268,607.77.
- III Consideration and possible approval of the Justice Court Quarterly Report.

Commissioner Mitchell had a question on a claim but said maybe it is something that can wait until we get to the quarterly update, because it has to do with a budget amount. I'll hold that comment until then.

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT: (No action) Travis Stransky. I am the Noble Grand Humbug of the local chapter of E Clampus Vitus, Julia C. Bulette. I know the big discussion is if the Clampers are a drinking historical society or a history drinking society. Well, I don't know.

What we do every year is put up an annual plaque. Throughout the decades, sometimes placements get knocked down, places change owners, and we lose our plaques. This year, thanks to Austin Osborne, he found one of our plaques for the American City here in this courthouse. Thank you, Austin. I also wanted to thank you guys on behalf of the entire chapter for the grant you guys had given us in order to make sure that the plaque, along with another one, was able to get back where it needed to be. Thank you guys very much on behalf of the Julia C. Bulette chapter here in Virginia City.

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

Fire Chief Jeremy Loncar

- One fire truck is in California, and two firefighters are on a helicopter in Texas. They are expected back in a week or so. Fires are breaking out all over, we are getting more requests, but we make sure we are covered at home base first and keep enough resources here.
- On the ambulance subscription program, we are going through a lot of renewals. history behind program is voluntary, but we offer it to our community because we know it can save folks thousands of dollars. In a rate increase we did last year we went from \$40 to \$75 per person, and where you used to tack on additional rates per person, we just set a flat rate of \$125 to help match our partners, people we share this program with. Even though this is ours, we do share the program with others. We do honor the ones out of Lyon County, Carson City, both North and Central Lyon County. Rates are increasing because the cost of business is going up. Those are things that we had to do, so we are getting a lot of calls about the rate increase. That did go into effect a year ago. One reason this program is monitored by Medicare. It's called GCMT Transport. We receive quite a bit of money from them to help us subsidize our ambulance program. These are things that are required by Medicare, so it is really important that we stay in line with their requirements. We don't want to jeopardize that kind of money. It is very important for us. It is open now, come and subscribe. It is \$75 per person, \$125 for the full year. And you will never get a bill from Storey County ambulance. It could save people thousands of dollars. It's important to keep up the numbers and keep this program doing.

Commissioner Gilman congratulated the fire chief on being able to send assistance all around the West. Chief Loncar said before I came here, I always had Storey County there with me.

Public Works Director Jason Wierzbicki

- Item later in the agenda, the horse signs. We finally got some traction on that, with assistance from Austin to work with NDOT to get horse signs on Highway 341 at Five Mile Flat. He said they are in process of submitting information for the third time since 2019
- Started working on 2023 road rehab planning for Electric Avenue.
- Currently shouldering Six Mile.
- When we put a water line in where Collins is building, we found five old, abandoned water lines between 8 and 16 inches before we finally found our active line.
- Looking at a couple swing set ideas lower to the ground for the Highlands' park.

Commissioner Carmona said regarding the horse signs, we should be pros at this. Mr. Wierzbicki said that three years for the horse signs is a record for NDOT, this is the eighth employee working on this. Commissioner Carmona also was happy about the swing sets in the Highlands' park. Mr. Wierzbicki said materials are hard to find now but it is in the works.

Projects Coordinator Mike Northan

- Courthouse pavers will be finished, and all cleaned up by next week.
- Lockwood substation, working with Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Office, Planning and Buildings and Grounds and will have options for the board to consider.
- Highlands community center plans are still out for rebid. Have a few responses. Bid openings on August 2nd.
- Lockwood Tower Road, the retaining wall repair project was completed without change orders.

Emergency Management Director Lara Mather

- Desert Research Institute is installing a 2nd smoke detector at the fire station in the Highlands. The sensor at Divide reservoir has a few bugs, they are getting that taken care of. This will provide data help to people with breathing problems plan their day.

Business Development Officer Lara Mather

- This will be long, as it is a new position and I want to go over how I have tackled this position, creating a knowledge base and networking base to make this a useful resource for all businesses in Storey County.
- Working on creating an office in TRI. Thanked everyone for their assistance.
- Had informative tour of TRI with Kris Thompson and Donnie Gilman to develop her knowledge of the industrial park.
- Met with Farr West on water system at TRI.
- Has tour scheduled with UNR Small Business Development Center, to work closely with them on businesses in Virginia City.
- Reached out to the Western Nevada College's applied technology program to see what relationship with businesses in TRI.
- Meeting scheduled with officials from area counties to develop relationships.
- Scheduled tours with companies in TRI, especially on safety management.
- Met with the executive director and development director with NNDA and worked on how we could all work together. They will create quarterly meetings for Storey, Lyon, and Douglas Counties and Carson City.
- Been in contact with several companies that have made decisions to move to TRI. Told them salary ranges and wage information and hooked them up with resources to help with moving companies.
- Developing resource list to help businesses with any questions they might have.
- Want to work on branding of TRI in Storey County. Oct. 20, 2021, news article segmented in different communities. Small, medium, and large. The article talked about Reno, Storey not mentioned once, but all the businesses were in Storey County. Want to create a branding so folks know companies are in Storey County.

- Part of that rebranding is to address rumors, rather misconceptions, that the retention pond was created to water the wild horses. It's fenced, so it is not for horses, it is for business. Another misconception is residences. One of misconceptions is we are not allowing residences, which is correct, but rumor was that travel trailer park was permanent residences. We told of 28-day maximum stay. People with specialties, they can stay at the existing hotel, and the new hotel going up. Make sure how we are benefiting area is clear.
- Biz in Storey County is my focus. Met with Linda Ritter. She is working on marketing campaign for business to come in for company retreats and conferences in Virginia City, and for those looking to locate in region.
- Started attending Nevada Main Street program, to see how it can help the main street of Virginia City.
- Nevada tourism has created destination tourism program. It will launch a program makes funding available to help create a destination program. Being part of this program will be a great opportunity for the historic district.
- Looking at this as a holistic position to help all of Storey County.

Commissioner Gilman said Mather has hit the ground running and is winning the race.

Community Relations Director Honey Menefee

- Community projects grant open again for this year. \$10,000 is available for each area designated for community, Lockwood, Mustang, Painted rock, Lagomarsino and the Highlands, Virginia City/Gold Hill and Mark Twain. If anyone needs help filling out applications call 775-847-0986 or email, hmenefee@storeycounty.org. Aug. 19 is the deadline.

VCTC Acting Director Linda Ritter

- Hot August Nights will be July 29-30, Friday and Saturday. It will bring 400 classic cars and a lot of people. The C Street closure will be from Sutton to Flowery. One lane will be open on Friday for residential traffic to get to the Sheriff's Office and post office. There will be no parking on C Street starting the morning of the 29th. We will be out on Thursday posting signs.
- Planning for Camel Races and seeing big response. Ticket sales are 37 percent higher than 2019, the last normal year.

IT Director James Deane

- Working a pilot project with Comptroller regarding questions in Tyler contract. This will streamline our purchasing system.
- With IT supply shortages we will order a lot of the budget early in the year, with lead times of 3-6-9 months. We will be top-heavy on the budget.

Ashley Mead for Community Development

- Plan review is down to a 7-day window, usually had 30-day window. Had 3 incidents of dry wells in Highlands and Mark Twain.

Commissioner Carmona asked how many were in the Highlands. Ms. Mead said 1 was in the Highlands and 2 were in Mark Twain.

8. BOARD COMMENT (No Action – No Public Comment):

Commissioner Carmona reported that a character in Virginia City's parades, who went by the moniker "Trump Barbie" had passed away.

- 9. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** Consideration and possible approval of a Parcel Map request 2022-21 by applicants John & Crystal Batcabe and Joel & Anne Marie Yusim request to merge three existing approximate 10-acre parcels, Lots 497, 505 and 506, into one, then immediately re-subdivide them to create two approximate 15 acre parcels. The properties are located at 4970, 5050 & 5060 Dry Gulch Road, Highland Ranches neighborhood of Storey County, Nevada, Assessor's Parcel Numbers 003-412-02, 10 & 11.

Planning Manager Kathy Canfield said this is a parcel map of merger and re-subdivision of three existing parcels in the 10-acre Highland Ranches subdivision. They are zoned Estate. Each parcel is 10 acres in size. The middle will be split so that there will be 2 parcels, 15 acres in size. One parcel has a single-family residence, others are vacant. Once the split is done, both parcels will comply with Storey County code. No comments received from the public. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Public Comment: (None)

- (1) This approval is for a Parcel Map to merge three existing approximate 10 acre parcels, Lots 497, 505 and 506, into one, then immediately re-subdivide them to create two approximate 15 acre parcels. The properties are located at 4970, 5050 & 5060 Dry Gulch Road, Highland Ranches neighborhood of Storey County, Nevada, Assessor's Parcel Numbers 003-412-02, 10 & 11.
- (2) The Parcel Map complies with NRS 278.461 through 278.469 relating to Parcel Maps and Chapter 16.30 of the Storey County Code, including the specific criteria outlined in Section 2.D of this staff report.
- (3) The Parcel Map complies with all Federal, State, and County regulations pertaining to Parcel Maps.
- (4) The Parcel Map will not impose substantial adverse impacts or safety hazards on the abutting properties or the surrounding vicinity.
- (5) The Parcel Map will not cause the public to be materially injured.
- (6) The conditions of approval for the requested Parcel Map do not conflict with the minimum requirements in Storey County Code Chapters 17.40 E Estates zone or any other Federal, State, or County regulations.

Motion: In accordance with the recommendation by the Planning Commission and staff, the Findings under section 3.A of the Staff Report, and in compliance with all Conditions of Approval, I Commissioner Mitchell, hereby waive the requirement for a Tentative Map and move to approve a Parcel Map to merge three existing approximate 10 acre parcels, Lots 497, 505 and 506, into one, then immediately re-subdivide them to create two approximately 15 acre parcels. The properties are located at 4970, 5050 & 5060 Dry Gulch Road, Highland Ranches neighborhood of Storey County, Nevada, Assessor's Parcel Numbers 003-412-02, 10 & 11. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

10. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of a Special Use Permit 2022-20 request by applicant Brimstone Energy, Inc. to construct a cement research and manufacturing plant at 105 Silicon Drive, Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 005-021-16.

Planning Manager Kathy Canfield said this was a special use permit request by cement research and manufacturing plant that is located within the TRI center and is zoned Heavy Industrial. It is 5 acres and accessed from Wild Horse Canyon Drive or Megabyte Drive. It has a 10,000 square foot research lab and office building, 50,000 square foot plant for manufacturing. No written comments, though an adjacent property owner had questions on the traffic to the site and air emissions. The applicant was able to answer, and the property owner didn't come back. The Planning Commission recommended approval of this project.

Commissioner Mitchell said it's a bit unusual to for us to have cement research, curious if the applicant can tell us what kind of research will be a part of this.

Hugo Leandri, co-founder of Brimstone Energy told the commissioners I appreciate the opportunity to come before this body today and present our special use application and answer any questions you may have. Our environmental permits for the entire project are being handled by McGinley and Associates. Wallace is doing the engineering for the site drilling. We specifically chose both firms due to the respective expertise with TRIC and the Reno area, as well as Storey County. My commercial real estate broker is here, as well as our attorney. I want to give you a little more history on Brimstone. We cofounded this company about three years ago with the mission to eliminate carbon emissions from cement production. Cement is one of the biggest polluters in the world today. It pollutes more than India. It is around a trillion-dollar market. We are the only company that we are aware of that has a solution to fully de-carbonize cement as well as be cheaper. For being cheaper, we wanted to see after building this pilot plant our research and manufacturing facility. I don't have a crystal ball, so far it's just modeling data that tell me that. Once we have built something and have product, we'll be able to have a better idea. We are currently based out of Oakland, and we would love to make Storey County our home. We have had conversations with a lot of companies here, especially executives at Weber Materials and they search counties across the States for the development of such technologies and they said hands down Storey County was the place to be. I also did my own research and I'm very pleased and very excited to potentially be working with you guys here. The state of our company today is it is still early, and we have received lots of money so far; we raised \$55 million from Bill Gates and other ventures funds in order to build this plant in Storey County. In

closing, one form of agreement would be culpability and compliance in item 2 of the staff report, and we will comply with all conditions noted in section 4.

Commissioner Mitchell said he was very excited that Storey County has a chance to be home to this type of development.

Public Comment: (None)

Approved

- (1) This approval is for a Special Use Permit 2022-20, a request by the applicant Brimstone Energy, Inc. to construct a cement research and manufacturing plant at 105 Silicon Drive, Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 005-021-16.
- (2) The Special Use Permit conforms to the 2016 Storey County Master Plan for the McCarran planning area in which the subject property is located. A discussion supporting this finding for the Special Use Permit is provided in Section 2.E of this staff report and the contents thereof are cited in an approval of this Special Use Permit.
- (3) The subject property is located within an existing industrial neighborhood in the McCarran area of Storey County. The zoning is based on the 1999 Storey County Zoning Ordinance which identifies this property as I-2 Heavy Industrial. The proposed cement manufacturing requires a Special Use Permit.
- (4) Granting of the Special Use Permit, with the conditions of approval listed in Section 4 of this report, will not under the circumstances of the particular case adversely affect to a material degree the health or safety of persons/property in the neighborhood of the subject property. The project is expected to meet the safety and health requirements for the subject area. The use will also be subject to building and fire plan review in order to ensure compliance with federal, state and other codes.
- (5) The Special Use Permit will not impose substantial adverse impacts or safety hazards on the abutting properties or the surrounding area, and it will comply with all federal, state and county regulations.
- (6) The conditions under the Special Use Permit do not conflict with the minimum requirements in the 1999 Storey County Zoning Ordinance Sections 17.37 I-2 Heavy Industrial and 17.62 Special Uses.
- (7) Granting of the Special Use Permit will not, under the circumstances of the particular case, adversely affect to a material degree the health or safety of persons working in the neighborhood or area of the subject

property and will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or materially injurious to property improvements in the neighborhood or area of the subject property.

Motion: In accordance with the recommendation by the Planning Commission and staff, the Findings of Fact under Section 3.A of this report, and other findings deemed appropriate by the Board of County Commissioners, and in compliance with the conditions of approval, I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve Special Use Permit 2022-20, a request by the applicant Brimstone Energy, Inc. to construct a cement research and manufacturing plant at 105 Silicon Drive, Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 005-021-16. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman. **Vote:** Motion passes unanimously.

11. (25) **DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** Consideration and possible approval per Commissioner Gilman's request, of Resolution No. 22-657 authorizing the County Manager to engage a lobbyist(s) to draft a bill for the 2023 legislative session regarding certain items related to traffic safety on Interstate-80 between Reno/Sparks and Fernley.

Mr. Osborne, really this is an item what was brought forth by Commissioner Gilman, per his request. I'll be happy to answer any questions, discuss what we're doing, working with NDOT, and other matter. But I would like to ask that we pass the torch over to Commissioner Gilman. Commissioner Gilman I am seeking the support of my fellow commissioners here, addressing the traffic safety and the impacts that are currently happening on our northern boundary. Storey County shares the boundary with the I80 Corridor. I am reminded that there is a philosophy that runs in business and personal life and basically it says if you are not getting the results that you're seeking, that perhaps you should change your approach. Over the last 10 years, our approach here from Storey County is to repeatedly request the support of our federal representatives, our state representatives, our NDOT representatives. We've had many meetings here; NDOT has explained the priorities that they are looking at and how they are going to approach and address the I80 corridor. Specifically, we have been looking for help at our Lockwood Interchange which is unreasonably dangerous. There are other far-reaching consequences by not addressing a safety corridor on I80. I am reminded that for so many years it's been discussed that if there were a major hazmat accident on that highway there are no escape routes. Traffic could be tied up for hours, or days. The highway carries a burden for safety for the entire northern region. The concept here is that we will ask Storey County to submit for a bill in the next legislative session. That bill will specifically be focused on creating a safety corridor. I have been to Washington DC twice to meet with officials on how to widen the Highway; how to get more lanes; how to improve the infrastructure along I80 and typically we find that finances are at issue, the money available to create more lanes, the challenge of grading and adding lanes along the I80 canyon, have been at issue. The other delay is an NEPA permit, that if a federal highway is going to be improved, you are going to have to go get the permits from all the environmental sides. Those can take six, 8, 10 years to acquire. Those have not been filed for. Getting any relief on that I80 corridor is certainly long-term in the future. That being the case some commonsense traffic safety elements could be added on the highway and would dramatically increase the safety and the coordination of the traffic that flows on that corridor.

The corridor starts out in the Fernley area at Wadsworth and runs into Vista/I80. The speed limits along there are 70 mph; 65 mph as you get closer to Reno. The highway carries a tremendous amount of traffic. Not just our residents moving back and forth to the various jobs along the corridor, but so much highway traffic with the trucking and the busing and the large vehicle concepts. If you visualize it, you have a corridor that is two lanes each way, with a speed limit about 70 mph and most traffic runs 10 mph over the posted speed limit to 80 mph along the way. You will find a lot of large rigs of various kinds competing for the two lanes and passing each other. We drive that corridor every day. I have another rock chip on my windshield this morning. It is not unusual for those of us who travel that corridor to replace two or more windows in our automobiles. Things that you would find in this resolution that we're suggesting are utilized in other communities. It is not something unusual that we're suggesting but all heavy traffic, three axles or more could be restricted to the right-hand lanes at a 50-mph speed limit from Wadsworth into Reno. That would control all the heavy traffic under control on the right-hand side and free-flowing traffic like automobiles and lighter vehicles in the left-hand lane. The 55-mph speed limit certainly will give us a safety parameter to the speeds that are being traveled. We are seeing out there a lack, a verifiable lack, of policing, of the enforcement of traffic, even of the regulations that are already in place. For example, in Nevada you don't haul loads of rock or sand unless they are covered. Yet you see very few covered loads out there. It's not unusual to see wind blowing in the I80 canyon and sand blowing all over other cars who are trying to pass the truck. Speed limit is an issue, maintaining a single lane for the heavy rigs that are coming through would be important, and then, a lot of frustration of the drivers. It almost seems when you are out there driving, that it is a video game for a lot of folks who are kamikaze drivers. They have a posted speed limit, they can run 70 or 80 mph, and often you see speeds exceeding that, and they are playing video games with the traffic that is on the highway. You could have a mix of trucks trying to pass each other and busses running and trying to pass each other, and the cars, late for work running up right lanes, darting in between in close proximity. It's has become, and is today, a very dangerous traffic corridor. We are seeing more in the way of wrecks, often when the traffic is tied up for hours. We have had some deaths on the highway. We have substandard interchanges out there that we have seen death on regularly over the past two years and it is increasing. It is our belief that by going to the legislature in 2023 and asking them to identify this corridor as a safety corridor and implement some of the regulations and address how we are going to fund it. It is my understanding that the Nevada Highway Patrol does not have the budget nor the personnel to enforce the laws along that corridor. You rarely see traffic enforcement. We have met with the sheriff of Washoe County, and they have an ongoing drug enforcement that is out there working. But they will readily agree that the traffic enforcement is not taking place. By enforcing the traffic and amending the rules of the road to make it a safe corridor to travel, we can save lives. We can make the merging of those substandard interchanges much safer. Rather than our friends and family trying to enter a highway at speeds of 70 or 80 mph, they can get on a 50-mph track and have an opportunity to merge onto a safer freeway. I believe it is our responsibility as a county. We have also reached out to other county officials and have yet to find anyone who is negative on doing something positive.

Commissioner Mitchell – Austin shared with us a statistic from NDOT that the corridor accounts for their rate of accidents for rural interstates. Given the history and other potential ways to address this are so far out, it makes sense for us to look at other ways to get some action to address the immediate issue while those longer term solutions are worked on as well. I'm

supportive. If I have a hesitation the only one I have is we have a limited number, and it may be one, of bill draft requests that can come directly from the county per session. While I am supportive, I want to make sure that we vet out and make sure that we don't have other compelling needs that are not other ways to address. If we are going to commit that bill draft request to this. We do have opportunities through other organizations that we are a part of to have them introduce a bill for us if there was a need for that, potentially through our elected officials who have multiple bill draft requests. I want to make sure that we have done our planning and make sure that we will not have another need for a request for action from the Legislature.

Commissioner Carmona – I support this wholeheartedly. It's been an issue for as long as I've been around. I think it is only a matter of time before one of our own residents down in Lockwood gets injured. I would like to see this as the highest priority.

Public Comment: Kris Thompson, project manager for Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, here's why I think this proposed BDR ought to be the number one priority of Storey County. The county has been so patient over the years with NDOT. And NDOT has admittedly done a great job with USA Parkway. That is well-kept, well-maintained, they're doing a great job there. By the same token, most of the traffic and the traffic issues go through this safety corridor. What makes this year the most important is our rate of growth. Right now, there is 4 million to 5 million square feet, under roof, in construction right now in the park. Between Redwood Materials and Nanotech Energy are 3,000 new jobs coming in on those two campuses alone. Will send our job county from 25,000 to 30,000 in the foreseeable future. We know from the Tesla reports that 80 percent of the workers in TRI live north of the I80 in Reno and Sparks and go down this very corridor. The other thing I like about this BDR is that it doesn't force the state to have to spend money or force the Legislature to commit millions of dollars to this. This is simply regulation of traffic flow. Just like the lights that go on when you go on an onramp to an interstate, that is all this BDR really asks for is better regulation of traffic flow. TRIC, we are all for this, we propose that if there is only one BDR allowed from the county we believe this is the one and right now is the time to do it.

Donnie Gilman – I'd like to share a couple of observations. I drive that road every single day. The truck traffic is very dangerous. Lots of rocks being kicked up when they are in the left-hand lane going over the yellow line. Lots of debris, trash. I replaced 3 windshields in my car in under 10,000 miles. The biggest concern for me is that I followed a fuel truck that came out of Sparks. He was doing 86 mph. If there is an accident on the road around one of the blind corners before and after the Mustang exit, it's going to be a massacre if one of these trucks can't stop in time especially a fuel truck. I feel that's very dangerous. More law enforcement on that corridor would be great and I ask you to consider this bill.

Fire Chief Jeremy Loncar said that we've talked a lot about the safety aspect of it and we are coming up on agreement season again which I'll have to bring back in front of you. Storey County Fire Protection does service that area in an automatic aid agreement. We are dealing with those incidents on a regular basis. I get that same feedback from my staff. And obviously it is a burden on us as well. From the Fire District's side of it, this is a very good thing. If we can slow it down, reduce our accidents obviously, we're getting my people off the road. Being on that

highway is a dangerous place to be. I fully endorse it, and if there is a way to possibly consider some kind of conflict with BDRs, the Fire Protection District is an independent political organization so that is also there at your disposal.

Sam Toll, Gold Hill, said he applauded commissioner Gilman's efforts. Something you have been trying to accomplish for a decade. Anyone in the Lockwood/Rainbow Bend area that has to deal with the video game players and the speed of entering the freeway, it's It is clearly a need that has to be addressed. As a candidate for Assembly, if you're in District 40, I would not only vigorously support this action, I would take it upon myself to address the concerns of Commissioner Mitchell and allow us the flexibility if elected to consume one of my BDRs as a method of addressing this and therefore freeing up the county to use a BDR for anything else that may be appropriate. Mr. Gilman I appreciate your quixotic efforts on this and encourage you to continue to do so.

County Manager Austin Osborne said one thing to add to this was that Storey County and this proposal here is asking to be part of the conversation with the region. You hear about us communicating with mayors and city council people as well as the NHP and NDOT and state officials. I think it is important, like what Lara talked about, as far as our vision and mission for the county to start participating regionally. This is right on par with that.

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell move to approve Resolution No. 22-657 authorizing the County Manager to engage a lobbyist(s) to draft a bill for the 2023 legislative session regarding certain items related to traffic safety on Interstate-80 between Reno/Sparks and Fernley.

Seconded by: Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

12. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of Resolution No. 22-656, a resolution setting grade and salary range of employees fixed by ordinance or resolution per NRS 245.045 for appointed Storey County officials for the 2022-23 fiscal year and superseding prior year action by resolution for appointed Storey County employees with the addition of Cyber Security Officer.

HR Acting Director Jeannie Green said this item was requesting approval for a cybersecurity officer position to be included in pay resolution. Previously some of these responsibilities were performed by an employee in a network support technician position. We were not able to reach agreement with the AFSCME union to reclassify the position to cybersecurity officer, which reflects the higher-level IT security responsibilities. With the resignation of the previous employee, it was decided the position would be included in the non-represented chart and the grade level adjusted to compensate for the certifications required and the duties assigned. This position comps out at a grade 133, and the position will be exempt from overtime.

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell move to approve Resolution No. 22-656, a resolution setting grade and salary range of employees fixed by ordinance or resolution per NRS 245.045 for appointed Storey County officials for the 2022-23 fiscal year and superseding prior year action

by resolution for appointed Storey County employees with the addition of Cyber Security Officer. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

13. DISCUSSION/NO POSSIBLE ACTION: 4th Quarter 21-22 Storey County fiscal year budget vs actuals review, unaudited.

Jennifer McCain said it was important to note this is end of year and unaudited. General fund revenues on positive note. \$7 million higher than we appreciated. Coming from ad valorem. Charges for services were \$700,000 higher due to assessor's fees. Highest is building permits, \$2 million higher than budgeted or 640 percent. I took a tour of TRI and you can definitely tell we have construction going on over there which is a direct correlation to this increase. Expenses reflect very conservative spending leaving 16 percent of budget unspent. Each department ended with excess funds on the expense side. Some line items went over budget, because of inflationary issues, fuel, computers, this affects our budget. We plan budget a year in advance and when these things come up we must make adjustments. Due to asking elected and department heads to be conservative with other line items in their budget, we saw the lowest amounts in these augmentations and transfers. Everyone did a lot of work to make sure their budget comes in where they needed to be.

Clerk-Treasurer's election expense came in higher than anticipated, but state reimburses. Sheriff budget had overage in coroner charges. We estimate these kinds of things every year, and unfortunately this was a service we had to use more. Sadly. Emergency management had a slight overage due to Six Mile cleanup. You were presented with graph. All came in within 5 and 50 percent, leaving remaining budget on table. This is due to conservative spending; people doing Zoom meetings instead of driving, the unavailability of supplies. Road had higher revenue due to changes in fuel tax. We had \$400,000 more than what we had budgeted and FCCRTs were budgeted at \$401,000 and we collected 146 percent of this with a surplus of approximately \$196,000. Road budget had \$1.8 million in the budget; expenditures were \$1 million, mainly due to capital road improvement. That unspent money is unavailable materials, contractor issues, staff time and heavy equipment. This will leave us with an additional amount of \$800,000 in our fund balance. This is creating a situation we can examine need for general fund to continue transfers. Fuel tax is helping may not need \$400,000 transfers each year. Infrastructure fund pays for Farr West road rehabilitation plan. The past year's projects were mainly in Virginia City and Mark Twain. Capital Projects fund, revenue was a transfer from General Fund balance, not additional revenue for the county. We completed the water tank project, Gold Hill plant, Justice Center which includes IT offices. Finalized IT projects, including sewer tower project near completion and storage projects in data center. VCTC has revenues totaled \$1.8 million due to room tax increasing over \$169,000 and tourism tax which was collected at the end of the year at 139 percent or \$690,000. Events are bouncing back. Camel Races leading way with 150 percent of budgeted revenue. On the expense side, VCTC expenses were about \$1.4 million. This number excess could decrease slightly. Piper's is supported by this fund. We are not as close to realize we can stop at support of General Fund, budget \$266,000 and \$241,000 was collected including transfer of \$110,000. With their lowered expenses, they are still building their fund balance by \$19,000. Good for Piper's, trying to bounce back from COVID. TRI payback fund. Trying to split the VCCRTs and the SCCRTs. We are trying to fund without having to do transfers. We want to get to point where they are included in taxes we collect. Working with

Connie Christensen Accounting and is finalizing the fiscal 2020/2021 audit. Expect them to be at about what we paid.

The VC Rail Fund, revenues come from a rail tax, the unaudited amount was \$720,000 collected. This is more than double budget amount. We budget \$350,000. Attributed to higher sales tax, which moves to the higher rail tax. Expenditures in the past year paid off old bond paid for and will continue to fund restoration of V&T freight depot.

We did end the year with a few funds that were overbudgeted. The Drug Court Fund, which is a very small fund. We did have an unexpected expense of \$40 that did put us into the negative, however we do have excess revenue of \$40. Unfortunately, Taxation will only see that we had a negative. As well, our indigent accident, our payment to the state, for the final quarter was higher than was expected. These were two things when we reviewed for augments and transfers these were unanticipated and most likely Taxation will require that we write a letter and explain how we let this get to be an overbudget item.

Commissioner Gilman said he thinks it celebrates the county and the wonderful job Ms. McCain was doing, and everybody was on board.

Commissioner Mitchell said he was very pleased with how the budget turned out. Asked about expense of elections, we budgeted the same amount. It ended up being triple what we budgeted. We budgeted \$50,000 and we spent three times that. Is that what we can expect going forward? Ms. McCain said it is not what we can expect going forward. We had a lot of changes in election this year, for example the mail-in ballots, and the Clerk-Treasurer's office purchased equipment to deal with those changes. As I said, there is a grant supposedly coming from the state, and we will see some reimbursement for that, but once we purchase that equipment, it's ours. I can't say we won't see something like that in the future, but the changes came after the budget was created, so we had to make those kinds of accommodations.

Commissioner Mitchell said it makes him wonder if we are becoming too conservative with our upcoming budget, or if we feel that we are over the hump with all the changes that have been introduced or will be introduced.

Ms. McCain said the budget for the current year is for the same election season, so I don't anticipate that we will have another major purchase before the next election.

Commissioner Carmona congratulated Ms. McCain and her staff on the great job they have done. You have worked hard to get us to where we are at, and it does not go unnoticed.

Ms McCain added that it was not just her office but the county as a whole, I just get to be the ringleader and wrap it all up with a bow. But it does take everybody to be on board that we're spending where we are supposed to be spending.

Public Comment: (None)

14. DISCUSSION/NO POSSIBLE ACTION: County Manager to provide quarterly county administrative update

Mr. Osborne said this isn't about my offices or my accomplishments, it is a picture of the entire county. All the different departments and functions. It really is a team effort. This is exclusive to the county, not the fire district.

- Marlette water system still finishing up master plan with Farr West Engineering. It's coming to a close. We should have that for review for public discussion and then to this board within the next few months. This is a prelude to Carson City Water Agreement. We have an MOU with the state to hold the 2002 agreement in place. This begins when the master plan is completed. At that point we'll begin those negotiations. We are still exploring options to provide water to the Highlands and Mark Twain. I have made it public that a draft is showing that we are looking at an excess of \$100 million to just to pipe the water to those places, not including distribution. That is a reality factor, that at least we know at this point with engineers who are qualified to estimate costs. It doesn't mean it's not going to happen; it just means we must figure out ways around those things.
- The white paper, the fiscal analysis we're going to use in legislative work is moving along. Marty Johnson completing his work. Lara and I are creating it as a marketing tool respective to each project, to the Legislature, to Washoe County and other jurisdictions. We are working in a way that will see five other sub-reports created.
- Waste management. I have reached out to Sloan and Vazquez, a firm that worked with Carson City, Washoe County and other jurisdictions to help build RFPs and negotiations with whatever the trash provider would be. It will take time but part of that will be a public process, working with communities. We will upload a survey, web site and interactive piece by 2024.
- Emergency management. Before we post for a position, we are looking at reorganizing that position and decide in next 30-60 days.
- Zip code countywide project, met with USPS Nevada-Utah director and what his office is willing to do, which is not much because of how he is structured. Go to federal USPS office then to our federal delegation. We are going to keep working on this and there is progress.
- Storey County Lands Act. Ticor is done with their assessment of all those parcels. We are prepared to give or at least get rid of Storey County's claim to them from the federal government and give to school board, businesses and residents in Virginia City and Gold Hill. Keith Loomis is working on deeds to allow that to happen. School District will get land.
- Strategic plan, you have accepted all the vision and mission drafts. We have worked with departments and now we are working with community. We had a workshop with public in the Highlands. We will put online survey up so people can be involved, and will come back to elected offices, and then back to board.
- Cleargov web site is up so people can go see where their tax money is going.
- MOU for cemetery burials and preservation is coming along, waiting for one person to come back in August and have it approved by board and Comstock Cemetery Foundation.
- Health insurance benefits, we are working our way for a 70/70 benefits programs for dependents. Employees have thanked us for creating a sustainable situation.
- On buildings and liability insurance we went out to bid first time since 1987, we plan on doing the same again and take a different approach and maybe get more bids. We are going to bid on all our contracts and programs.
- On reorganization – Thanks Stacy and Lara and her team for reorganizing senior services and the food pantry. Keep getting more efficient and compliant and providing better service.

- Our capital projects, Lockwood Community Senior Center is in design right now, we are meeting as a team to get an all-inclusive facility that meets their needs, working with food pantry, seniors, and others to get center that meets their needs. We are expecting major construction to be happening in 2024, hopefully completion in 2024.
- Highlands community center bid came out at nearly \$1 million. Mike Northan is reformatting that bid to try to get that down.
- Depot looking at roof repairs in next year
- Courthouse pavers sidewalk looks like it will make deadline for ADA and historic compliance.
- We are working on a sheriff's substation and tower.
- Goals for 2023 include finishing the strategic plan, the white paper, the cemetery MOU, the VCTC Interlocal Agreement, the RS2477 federal element and the BOC approval, ultimate BLM acceptance, the RS2477 private library system, water master plan, getting our IT equipment moved to the Switch data center, land transfer to the Storey County School District through the federal lands bill, then the lands bill transfer to residents and businesses, the Capital improvement plan update and projects including the Lockwood Senior Center, the Highlands and Mark Twain Community Center upgrades and the Justice Center parking area, and Fairgrounds water, the Carson City Water Agreement, water projects. zip code, lands bill 2.0, which is a Mark Twain parcel and one related to the school district, Lockwood and Mark Twain flood plans, RFP countywide broadband program, the CIP update, Master Plan update, IT being more cloud based, ordinance and policy changes for the commissioners and departments. All departments are working on efficiencies customer service and new technology. Economic development, recruiting businesses and working more closely with other leadership and legislature and regional communities.

Public comment: Sam Toll, Gold Hill said he is looking forward to those things being executed. You said the county is working to create environment of competitive bids, I didn't hear RAD Strategies mentioned in that listing. What is the status of Rad Strategies contract is considering uncertainty at the VCTC. All our contracts we are looking at across the board, so any contract that is effective at this point would be considered for going out to RFP at the correct given time. Sam Toll asked if he would include Battle Born Digital to receive an RFP? Commissioner Carmona said they would make note of that.

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

16. CONSENT AGENDA FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:

- I. Consideration and possible approval of newly created Personnel Policies P210 Employment of Relatives, P211 Employee Dating, P212 Code of Ethical Standards, P213 Political Activity, P214 Solicitation, P215 Work Stoppage, P216 Outside Employment, P217 Dress and Grooming, P217A Line Employees Professional Appearance, P218 Children Pets Visitors in Workplace, P219 Reporting Convictions, P220 Genetic Info Nondiscrimination Act GINA, and P221 Telecommuting for the Storey County Fire Protection District.

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Fire Commissioner Mitchell move to approve the Consent Agenda for the Storey County Fire District. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** Consideration and possible approval of a contract between Carson City and the Storey County Fire Protection District for use of the Regional Fire Training Facility of approximately \$4,000.

Fire Chief Loncar said this is the annual renewal of this agreement with the training center near airport. We are going to do differently; we usually pay day rate. This year I would like to pay the annual fee, so we have unlimited use. We are doing more of our own training. In training plan it would exceed the amount of annual fee, not to exceed \$4000.

Commissioner Carmona asked what the daily rate was. Chief Loncar said it was based on the number of users, can be \$50 per day to \$500 per day. There are multiple options, depending on the training. It could be a big saving for the district.

Public comment (None)

Motion: I, Fire Commissioner Mitchell move to approve approval of a contract between Carson City and the Storey County Fire Protection District for use of the Regional Fire Training Facility of not to exceed \$4,000 and authorize the fire chief to sign it. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

17. **DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** Consideration and possible approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Storey County Fire Protection District and Storey County Fire Fighters' Association Local 4227 as it pertains to Article 9, Holidays within the 2019-2023 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Chief Loncar said this was outlined in current CVA, as current president as we have added additional holiday. They are paid set rate. It is a percentage at 5.5 hours with addition of this holiday that we moved that to 6 hours off base rate.

Public Comment None

18. **DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** 4th Quarter 21-22 474 Fire District Funds fiscal year budget vs actuals review, unaudited.

Comptroller McCain said that these were unaudited figures. The Fire District as well is in a very positive place. The chart I have included shows all revenues and expenses has a whole have come in under budget. On the revenue side, the Fire General Fund has significant overages in collections. This is due in part to higher than anticipated ad valorem at 136 percent of the budgeted amount, and the sales tax collection is 135 percent of budgeted amount. This will give the Fire District additional revenue of just over \$1 million. Other areas for revenue were in licenses and permits. This is because it was zero budgeted in these line items. Changing the

responsibilities of fire inspections for building permits came about in middle of fiscal year, therefore there was zero budgeted. They did collect \$176,900 approximately. All of these excess revenues helped the Fire District to grow their fund balance, which puts them in the position to start planning for some of the large projects that are on their CIP. Also, these revenues reflect transfers, such as \$500,000 from Mutual Aid to the General Fund, then to CAP projects at \$407,000 then into the Fire Emergency Fund of \$42,800. Overall they came in under budget. Did suffer the same inflationary issues in fuel, maintenance and computer issues. With those items over budget. Loncar worked to keep other items under budget.

Mutual Aid and Grant Fund, designed to pay for specific issues. Mutual aid for out of county fires. Grant is mostly for the NVEnergy grant. Mutual aid fund ended slightly under budget in revenues, but actual build came \$300,000 over budget to \$721,000 build. As of June 30, 2022, we had only collected \$406,000 of that. We collected another \$280,000, it is coming in but takes a little longer. Same for the grant fund. June is last year and won't see that money until July and August. It will take time for expenses and revenues to catch up with each other.

Commissioner Mitchell on the totals on the revenue side, does it include interfund transfers? Ms. McCain, transfers are included in overall revenues. For the General Fund, the overall revenue, if we deducted the \$500,000, that gives us the total of what that would be. As far as the graphs go, that is something I usually try to avoid. As time goes on, I would be able to spread some of that out and you would see it more clearly.

Public Comment (None)

19. CORRESPONDENCE/NO ACTION:

1. Letter from David L. Fraley regarding SCFPD Fees.

Commissioner Mitchell, the chief already addressed this. We did not go from \$35 to \$125 in one year. It went to \$75.

Chief Loncar said it did not go up from \$35 to \$125.

20. RECESS TO CONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY WATER/SEWER BOARD

21. DISCUSSION ONLY/NO ACTION: 4th Quarter 21-22 Storey County Water-Sewer Funds fiscal year budget vs actuals review, unaudited.

Ms. McCain said both Water and Sewer funds revenues came in higher than anticipated while their expenses came in lower than expected. It is important to note that the intergovernmental support that increased the revenue was bonds and grants for water and sewer projects. We anticipated more of this project to be done, so expenses and revenues, was significantly higher than anticipated. It wasn't done, so the revenues that come into these funds was significantly higher. The reason the revenues came in higher is that the Water and Sewer is required to pay back bonds on their own, so depositing this revenue into those funds creates that liability for them. Charges for services shows actual income to support and it was slightly higher than anticipated. Water collected about \$41,000 more in charges for services, and \$15,000 in new

hookup fees. Sewer collected \$13,000 more in charges for services, and this is the USDA payback collection. Sewer collected \$9,900 in new hookup fees.

On expenses, things were tighter with inflationary issues and unforeseen service maintenance in the Water Fund. Sewer did better comparing budget to actual. Both ending fund balance should see \$50,000 more in the bank than what they began. In these two funds 50,000 is a huge positive note for them.

Commissioner Mitchell asked about the future health of these funds seeing what – future health of these funds, seeing what correlation is related to the charges related new hookups, so we have a better idea of impact of new users so we can plan as we go forward to look for ways to develop new revenue sources to support the system.

Ms. McCain said we are limited to the amount of collections we can have. Not because we put that limit on ourselves, but there are only so many places we can build out. Some new permits where people are being more adventurous. We have Farr West study for rate increases expected for three more years. That does overall affect the revenue stream across everyone.

Public Comment (None)

22. RECESS TO CONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD

23. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval for 2nd reading of a General Business License and Cannabis License for Pure Tonic Concentrates, 420 USA Pkwy, Sparks NV 89437; Applicant is Jacob Ward.

Chief Deputy Tony Dosen said there was no issue with the background check.

Public comment: Sam Toll, Gold Hill said he noted the irony and happy coincidence that the chronic tonic will manufactured in industrial park opposed to Mr. Gilman's insistence that it not be in the industrial park, and the ultimate irony in the street address.

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the second reading of a General Business License and Cannabis License for Pure Tonic Concentrates, 420 USA Pkwy, Sparks NV 89437; Applicant is Jacob Ward. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

24. ADJOURN TO RECONVENE AS THE STORY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

25. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the 2nd reading for a Home Based Business License -SOL Healing Massage by Jordan located at 169 Julie Way, Dayton, NV 89403. Applicant is Jordan Shelton.

Chief Deputy Dosen said there were no concerns from the background check.

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the second reading for a Home Based Business License -SOL Healing Massage by Jordan located at 169 Julie Way, Dayton, NV 89403. Applicant is Jordan Shelton. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

26. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of business license second readings:

- A. A Pro Contractor Services – Contractor / 1633 Boulder Hwy. ~ Henderson, NV
- B. Battleborn Painting – Contractor / 429 Toano St. ~ Reno, NV
- C. CalNeva Signs – Contractor / 898 Maestro # 101 ~ Reno, NV
- D. Comstock Chronicle - Out of County / 373 Dayton Valley Rd. Apt 116 ~ Dayton, NV
- E. Pregis Evertec LLC - General / 727 Milan # 100 ~ Sparks, NV
- F. Roto Rooter of Northern Nevada & Tahoe – Contractor / 200 Coney Island Dr. B ~ Sparks, NV
- G. TL Consulting LLC – Contractor / 3625 Poco Lena Ct. ~ Washoe Valley, NV
- H. Pacific Steel – General / 1980 USA Parkway ~ Sparks, NV
- I. TRS-SESCO LLC – Out of County / 721 A Park Centre Dr ~ Kernersville, NC

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the second reading for of business license second readings A through I. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

28. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the Annual review and evaluation of the performance of Austin Osborne, County Manager for the time period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. The Board may, without further notice, take administrative action against Austin Osborne, County Manager, if the Board determines that such administrative action is warranted after considering the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health of Mr. Osborne. At the end of the annual performance evaluation, the Board may modify existing goals and objectives of the County Manager's job; determine whether or not to provide a merit increase, bonus, or other compensation adjustment; take adverse administrative action up to and including termination; or any other such action deemed warranted by the Board.

HR Acting Director Jeannie Green said It's time for the county manager's performance evaluation. As in previous years, this has to be conducted in an open meeting. Mr. Osborne got the notice on July 8. At the conclusion you can determine if he is due merit increase so far. The evaluation form has nine major areas. He chose not to do the self-evaluation.

Commissioner Carmona said he had graded Austin's evaluation.

Commissioner Gilman said in my view of our county manager probably the most professional, proficient, and distinguished county manager in the state. From my perspective we can dispense with the nine categories and move on to talk about how we feel about Austin.

Commissioner Carmona said they have had issues on how we handle these, or the efficiencies on how we handle these.

Commissioner Mitchell said he was completely satisfied with the work that Austin does and the way he represents himself. I have nothing specific I must address. I'm thrilled with the work that he's doing. I don't feel the need to delve into it.

Commissioner Carmona said, to make Austin uncomfortable I think we should take a moment to find something we can compliment him on. I don't think we have to go through the list, it is a good benchmark for those who have issues. I don't know how the man does it, but he does it and I am very thankful he is the county manager. He has been the tip of the spear for all three of us. There were no classes for COVID, we have come out relatively unscathed and that is not from sheer accident. He takes direction from the commission, but a lot of trust and faith are put in Austin and I don't think he disappointed any one of us. Austin just does a stellar job. Very impressed with his work ethic, and probably have more good things to say than he wants to hear. Does an outstanding job and I fully support a bonus or increase coming his way.

Commissioner Gilman said if I were to ask him to do any one thing, take a bit more time off. He doesn't take enough time off. He is in the office early and too late. I think the man works too hard.

Ms. Green said if you want to grant the merit step, which is typically what you do on an anniversary, you can move from Step 4 which he is currently at to Step 5. That would be effective July 1.

Public Comment: (None)

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve a step increase for County Manager Austin Osborne effective July 1. **Seconded by:** Commissioner Gilman, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous vote.

29. **PUBLIC COMMENT (NO ACTION):** Sam Toll, Gold Hill, said he read the packet and read the County Manager Osborne's response. When we look at what Mr. Osborne has included in the packet, he is indicating findings as a description of what might be considered light pollution and other things that the regulation addresses. While there is a discussion about residential lighting systems, the first paragraph addresses specifically and directly other Gold Hill neighbors and myself have with lights, the unnecessary brightness and reduction of visual performance and visibility, light pollution, hazardous conditions for all modes of transportation and also affects the night sky. When lights were put in someone at sheriff's office said they were blinded by lights and surprised by intensity of lights going in all over town. From a safety standpoint, having one on Greiner's bend, because it is dangerous, but at Gold Hill Hotel where people are crossing street, may be appropriate, but not compatible with our country and rural lifestyle. My issue was not addressed. What can we do to have these lights removed. That is the position the residents whose properties are affected, and that is my question, why do we need them and what can we do as citizens to request they be removed.

Commissioner Carmona said he has two recommendations. I believe there are residents that share your sentiments. I recommend you get a letter with their signatures, especially if we are talking about removing lights. As far as safety goes, I travel that road, there are deer there, those lights kept me from hitting several deer. I think if those lights are going to be up, the lights are bright and bothersome, I urge you to get a letter with some signatures so we have it for our records that a majority of residents are unhappy. Everything is LED these days. High pressure sodiums are not available that is why they got replaced.

30. CORRESPONDENCE/NO ACTION:

1. Correspondence:

1. Letter from Sam Toll regarding streetlights, and related correspondence
2. Letter to NDOT requesting assistance for permitting "horse sign" installation at Five Mile Flat, Storey County.

31. ADJOURNMENT OF ALL ACTIVE AND RECESSED BOARDS ON THE AGENDA:

Chairman Carmona adjourned the meeting at 12:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

Doreayne Nevin, Clerk-Treasurer.