



STOREY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

4/4/2023 4:00 PM
26 SOUTH B STREET, VIRGINIA CITY, NV

MEETING MINUTES

JAY CARMONA
CHAIRMAN

CLAY MITCHELL
VICE-CHAIRMAN

LANCE GILMAN
COMMISSIONER

ANNE LANGER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JIM HINDLE
CLERK & TREASURER

Roll Call: Commission Chairman Jay Carmona, Commission Vice-Chair Clay Mitchell, Assessor Jana Seddon, Justice of the Peace Eileen Herrington, Recorder Dru McPherson, Sheriff Mike Cullen, County Manager Austin Osborne, Deputy District Attorney Keith Loomis, Comptroller Jennifer McCain, IT Director James Deane, Fire Chief Jeremy Loncar, Public Works Director Jason Wierzbicki, Operations and Project Manager Mike Northan, Communications Director Becky Parsons, Business Development Manager Lara Mather, Community Relations Director Honey Menefee, Community Development Director Pete Renaud, Senior Center Director Stacy York, Emergency Management Director Mike Bullian, Planning Manager Kathy Canfield

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

Commissioner Carmona called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Commissioner Gilman was absent.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the agenda for the April 4, 2023, meeting.

County Manager Austin Osborne asked the commissioners to remove Item 19 and Continue Item 23 to April 18, 2023, meeting.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve today's agenda with the two noted changes of removing Item 19 from the Fire Protection District Board Agenda and moving Item 23 to our next regularly scheduled meeting. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

4. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the minutes from the February 7th, 2023, meeting.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the minutes from the February 7th, 2023, meeting as presented. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

5. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of the minutes from the February 21, 2023, meeting.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2023, meeting as presented. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

6. CONSENT AGENDA FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:

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

- A. Arcadia Solar LLC – Contractor / 4050 East Cotton Center Blvd. #30 ~ Phoenix, AZ
- B. BES Electric – Contractor / 621 Gyrfalcon Ct. Unit A. ~ Windsor, CO
- C. Capriati Construction Corporation – Contractor / 1020 Wigwam Parkway ~ Henderson, NV
- D. Clark & Sullivan Constructors, Inc. – Contractor / 905 Industrial Way ~ Sparks, NV
- E. Done Right Set Up and Service – Contractor / 1355 Farm District Rd. ~ Fernley, NV
- F. Gore Acoustics & Drywall Systems Inc. – Contractor / 4855 Joule St. B# ~ Reno, NV
- G. Hilow Services – Out of County / 3983 S. McCarran Blvd. ~ Reno, NV
- H. International Paper Molded Fiber LLC – General / 2555 Peru ~ McCarran, NV
- I. Jax Construction & Consulting LLC – Contractor / 17 Sharp Springs Ct. ~ Sparks, NV
- J. Jones Covey Group Inc. – Contractor / 9595 Lucas Ranch Rd. ~ R. Cucamonga, CA
- K. Layton Construction Company LLC – Contractor / 9090 S. Sandy Parkway ~ Sandy, UT
- L. MRBRAZ & Associates, PLLC – Contractor / 2004 West Timberlake St. Ste 101 ~ Azle, TX
- M. Mule Fence Inc. – Contractor / 40 Hardy Dr. ~ Sparks, NV
- N. Qualus LLC – Professional / 100 Colonial Center Parkway Ste. 400 ~ Lake Mary, FL
- O. Sparks, NV LC – Out of County / 2730 Peralta St. ~ Oakland, CA

II. Approval of claims in the amount of \$2,790,185.09.

III. Removal of uncollectable delinquent Business Personal Property tax bills. Total amount of bills to be deleted including penalties and interest \$125,430.25.

IV. Removal of tax bills for demolished Mobile Home. MH000169 totaling \$310.40.

V. Removal of tax bills for MH001154 TE Bertagnolli & Associates 2009-2023. \$1255.48 mobile home destroyed.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Seconded by: Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action): None

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

Fire Chief Jeremy Loncar

- Will soon post information on winter damage cleanup using trailers or chipping fallen tree limbs and other natural debris on the property.

Community Relations Director Honey Menefee

- Attended WNDD workshop to review strategic economic development strategy, and what projects should be kept on the list.
- On the CPF grants, moving forward with fire and fairgrounds with architectural and environmental reports. Lockwood Senior Center at the preliminary design phase and environmental.
- Community project grants are completed, benches are at Pinion Park. The Clampers have one more plaque. Lockwood invasive plant grant is also waiting for the weather. They will clean out all vegetation and put down chemical abatement.
- The Governor's Office of Science and Technology will hold a meet and greet regarding broadband access from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Virginia City Senior Center and from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Lockwood Senior Center.

Emergency Management Director Mike Bullian

- Working on a property damage assessment operation at Taylor Street, Six Mile Canyon, Lousetown Road and Mark Twain culverts.

Assessor Jana Seddon

- Occupancy cards go out next week and it is imperative for residents to turn them in, otherwise they will be at the 8 percent tax cap.
- Have been working cleaning up uncollectible taxes. The office is now trying to bring mobile home accounts current by setting up payment plans.

Planning Manager Kathy Canfield

- Had kickoff meeting for Long Valley Creek with a good turnout. Expect the plan to be completed in six months. A presentation is on the county web site under Planning.
- Met with EPA on the five-year review of the Mercury Superfund Site, with state and ACOE.
- Will be meeting with FEMA regarding 5 years Community Assistance visits for a community rating system.
- Met with NVEnergy about an environmental document to be released on powerlines from Southern Nevada to Northern Nevada. Presentations will be done this summer.
- A drone class from UNR mapped the Fireman's Museum.

Recorder Dru McPherson

- Will test for move to the cloud and will have an electronic blackout date on April 14. Will be accepting mail and hand-delivered documents.

Community Development Director Pete Renaud

- Will start hitting the boardwalk for repair needs soon. Merchants are responsible for repairs.

Clerk & Treasurer Jim Hindle

- Tax delinquency letters will be going out and residents should contact the office for payment arrangements.

10. RECESS TO CONVENE AS THE STOREY COUNTY HIGHWAY BOARD

- 11. 10:30 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING:** Public Hearing on proposed Resolutions 23-671 and 23-675 as described: RESOLUTION 23-671, proposes the identification of a road commonly known as County Road Number 910040 (3 segments), Yellowjacket Road/American Flat (Segment 1), American Flat/American Flat Lower (Segment 2), Unnamed Road (Segment 3), pursuant to Nevada revised statutes 403.170 AND 405.191 as a minor county road. The road is located southwest of Gold Hill in the American Flat neighborhood of Storey County on both private and public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, however only the roadway on public land is proposed for identification. The road commences within Township 16 N, Range 21 East, within Section 6 within APN 004-331-06 at an approximate spring crossing then heads north and then northeast to conclude at the historic Catholic Cemetery on APN 002-283-01. The effect of identifying the road as a minor county road is to identify it as a public road, available for public use but not maintained by Storey County. It must be used by motorists at their own risk.

Planning Manager Kathy Canfield said this public hearing was for two sections of roadway, 22-671 and 23-675. She said this is a continuation of RS 2477 applying to roads on BLM or other public property.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Carmona declared the Public Hearings Closed.

12. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible adoption of Resolution 23-671 which proposes the identification of a road commonly known as County Road Number 910040 (3 segments), Yellowjacket Road/American Flat (Segment 1), American Flat/American Flat Lower (Segment 2), Unnamed Road (Segment 3), pursuant to Nevada revised statutes 403.170 AND 405.191 as a minor county road. The road is located southwest of Gold Hill in the American Flat neighborhood of Storey County on both private and public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, however only the roadway on public land is proposed for identification. The road commences within Township 16 N, Range 21 East, within Section 6 within APN 004-331-06 at an approximate spring crossing then heads north and then northeast to conclude at the historic Catholic Cemetery on APN 002-283-01. The effect of identifying the road as a minor county road is to identify it as a public road, available for public use but not maintained by Storey County. It must be used by motorists at their own risk.

Ms. Canfield said these are the motions for the item heard in the public hearing. The findings were read into the record and can be found in the Commission's packet for April 4, 2023, beginning on page 64.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to adopt Resolution 23-671 which proposes the identification of a road commonly known as County Road Number 910040 (3 segments), Yellowjacket Road/American Flat (Segment 1), American Flat/American Flat Lower (Segment 2), Unnamed Road (Segment 3), pursuant to Nevada revised statutes 403.170 AND 405.191 as a minor county road. \ **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

13. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible adoption of Resolution 23-675, which proposes the identification of a road identified as Unnamed, County Road Number 910045 pursuant to Nevada revised statutes 403.170 AND 405.191 as a minor county road. The road is located southwest of Gold Hill in the American Flat neighborhood of Storey County on public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The road commences within Township 16 N, Range 21 East, within Section 6 within APN 004-331-06 at an approximate spring crossing then heads south to the Storey County/Lyon County boundary. The effect of identifying the road as a minor county road is to identify it as a public road, available for public use but not maintained by Storey County. It must be used by motorists at their own risk.

Ms. Canfield said this road extends to the county line. The findings were read into the record and can be found in the Commission's packet for April 4, 2023, beginning on page 99.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to adopt Resolution 23-675, which proposes the identification of a road identified as Unnamed, County Road Number 910045 pursuant to

Nevada revised statutes 403.170 AND 405.191 as a minor county road. Seconded by: Jay Carmona. Vote: Motion passes 2-0.

14. DISCUSSION ONLY: Report of public works department regarding roads and highways in Storey County.

Public Works Director Jason Wierzbicki said the county suffered severe road damage from weather events. He had an engineer look at Taylor Street and the estimated repair cost was \$400,000. He said it was still closed and he was getting a second opinion.

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

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

Commissioner Carmona thanked Public Works and the team for their work during the difficult weather.

16. DISCUSSION ONLY: Brian Mitchell, Director of the Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT) is here to present the broadband infrastructure and digital equity planning process taking place throughout the state of Nevada.

Ms. Menefee introduced Brian Mitchell, director of the Office of Science Innovation and Technology. Mr. Mitchell said his office is working to ensure that all Nevadans have access to reliable, high-speed Internet. He said there were 31 different county facilities that need better broadband. The state has completed an RFP and selected two vendors, and the state will invest \$16 million in Storey County. He said the second part of the plan involves a digital equity plan for digital skills and are partnering with the Storey County Library and are offering two public surveys on the skills that are needed. The surveys are on highspeednv.com and on county social media pages. He also said the office plans to award a contract to SkyFiber.

Commissioner Mitchell said with the loss of the Community Cable TV Co-op, seniors in particular can stay connected.

Public Comment: None

17. DISCUSSION ONLY: Presentation by the Virginia City Silver Circuits robotics team including a robotics demonstration and discussion about their curriculum and achievements.

Commissioner Carmona said the team would not be appearing.

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

20. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and possible approval of the 2023-2024 Storey County Fire District Tentative Budget for submission to the Nevada Department of Taxation.

Comptroller Jennifer McCain this tentative budget will be submitted to the Department of Taxation. The district is in the middle of union negotiations, which has left some items, such as health insurance increases and she hoped that would be done by the final budget. She has been communicating with Taxation but does not have clear numbers. She said the General Fund Revenues over expenses are about \$1.2 million, but this will get used up. The ending fund balance, including transfers and contingencies, is \$150,000, but these are preliminary figures. Fire District revenues increased 37 percent. The district is also applying for a SAFER grant, and if it is not awarded, the budget items will not be utilized. She said the increase was due to salaries and benefits, with new positions planned for the Fire District. She noted there were no final CBA calculations.

Fire Chief Jeremy Loncar said that six increased staff will be paid for under the SAFER grant, which runs for three years and is 100 percent paid. They will be staffing another fire station or upstaff current station. There will be an additional inspector and a part-time admin went to full time, and the assistant chief. Other grant-paid staff have been used for fire prevention only.

In response to a question from Commissioner Mitchell, Ms. McCain said the amount budgeted is lower than six positions because the grant is not yet completed.

Chief Loncar said FEMA pays the actual cost of the employee.

Ms. McCain said expenses are increasing 36 percent across the board. We have established a new line-item account for fire equipment, not quite capital improvement, or operations. There will be a \$250,000 transfer out from Mutual Aid, but the transfer to capital projects will be \$1 million. Capital Projects Fund includes purchase of an ambulance, type 3 wildland engine and type 5 wildland engine as well as an assistant chief vehicle for a \$1.4 million capital outlay.

Ms. McCain said SSCRT is higher, and Taxation has not gotten back to her. Ms. McCain said the county was looking at significant building permit income coming in.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Fire Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the 2023-2024 Storey County Fire District Tentative Budget for submission to the Nevada Department of Taxation as presented. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

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

22. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Update, discussion, and provide direction to county staff and lobbyists regarding upcoming bills and legislation affecting Storey County including, but not limited to, the following, and other properly related matters: AB63 I80 Safety Corridors; SB81 Regional Orderly Growth; AB143 Lands Transfer Bill; AB47 OHV Bill; SB92 Sidewalk Vendors; SB304 NFPA Mandates; SB432 Storey County post abatement revenue redistribution; and any legislative BDR, bill, resolution, or other action of the legislature or the government of the State of Nevada causing SB1 or other post-tax abatement revenues from Tesla or other tax abated or non-tax abated companies to be canceled, diverted away from Storey County, redistributed, postponed, or extended, and other properly related matters.

County Manager Austin Osborne said there was a special meeting a few days focused on these. I would focus on changes that happened since that time, SB432, we discussed at last meeting would take 80 percent of revenues. That bill appears to have been drawered. If it doesn't get a hearing, it goes away,

He said on SB81, nothing has happened, but they are getting prepared for a hearing. This is the bill that adds legislators as nonvoting members of the regional county managers discussions.

Judge Eileen Herrington congratulated leadership on SB432.

Mr. Osborne asked to continue to oppose SB432 and SB81. If SB81 changes, we could have a special meeting.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to instruct county staff to continue opposition to bills SB432 and SB81 as discussed here. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

On another matter, Commissioner Carmona explained that the Robotics team was not notified of the meeting, so they did not appear, but they are 12th in the world for their average robot score and third in the world for their autonomous robot score.

24. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and Possible Action of Grant of Easement File No. 2023-010 to NV Energy for utilities within a portion of the Electric Avenue Right-of-Way at the intersection of USA Pkwy, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada. Continued to next meeting.

Planning Manager Kathy Canfield said that NVEnergy is proposing a gas line on Electric Avenue and Milan Drive in TRIC to fill two missing segments.

Public Comment: None

Motion: In accordance with the recommendation by staff, I, Commissioner Mitchell move to approve a Grant of Easement (2023-010) to NV Energy for utilities located within a portion of the Electric Avenue Right-of-Way at the intersection of USA Pkwy, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

25. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and Possible Action of Grant of Easement File No. 2023-011 to NV Energy for utilities within a portion of the Electric Avenue Right-of-Way east of USA Pkwy, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada.

Ms. Canfield said this is the segment just east of the previous one that will connect.

Public Comment: None

Motion: In accordance with the recommendation by staff, I Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve a Grant of Easement (2023-011) to NV Energy for utilities located within a portion of the Electric Avenue Right-of-Way east of USA Pkwy, McCarran, Storey County, Nevada **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

26. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Consideration and possible approval of Resolution No. 23-676 of the Board of Storey County Commissioners extending the declaration of a state of emergency in Storey County due to unforeseen severe weather events causing sudden flooding, avalanche, and mudslide due to snow runoff caused by atmospheric river flows across the county starting March 9, 2023, and the end date extending from April 4, 2023, to such time that the State of Nevada ends its declaration of emergency. The emergency declaration may provide the county access to state and federal funds and other resources which otherwise may not be available for its response to the weather emergency. This action should not cause alarm, but it should remind residents and businesses to be vigilant and to prepare for potential impacts caused by storm events.

Emergency Management Director Mike Bullain said the county's declaration was set to expire. The State declaration is in effect and if the county's expired Storey County would not receive any federal funding.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve Resolution No. 23-676 of the Board of Storey County Commissioners extending the declaration of a state of emergency in Storey County due to unforeseen severe weather events causing sudden flooding, avalanche, and mudslide due to snow runoff caused by atmospheric river flows across the county starting March 9, 2023, and the end date extending from April 4, 2023, to such time that the State of Nevada ends its declaration of emergency. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

27. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and possible approval of the 2023-2024 Storey County Tentative Budget for submission to the Nevada Department of Taxation.

Comptroller McCain said there will be many changes until the final budget. General revenues are at \$26 million, which is done to Taxation's Projections and SSCRTs are something that will be changing. She said the county is also working with the Fire District and Community Development Department on licensing and permitting, and the Senior Center for food contracts, so all information is not yet available.

Expenses are at \$24.6 million in the General Fund, with significant increases in wages and benefits and a 26 percent increase in the cost of health insurance. Staff changes from part-time to full-time in a number of departments. This does not include contingencies and transfers out. Other increases in staff include a part-time site coordinator for the senior center, full time for Buildings and Grounds, Community Relations also seeks one more staffer. Other increased costs are in service and supplies at 24 percent, Assessor at 12 percent, Administrative at 6 percent, which includes the indigent defense fund, and DA increase at 10 percent, and District Court increase at 14 percent. Justice Court has an increase of 7 percent, Health and Human has an increase of 15 percent. Parks and Pool has an increase of 5 percent, the Service Department has an increase of 10 percent, IT has a decrease of 12 percent, and Emergency Management has an increase of 15 percent.

Transfers out are \$11,772,500, going to support various projects and operations in various funds. Those include \$1 million for the Roads budget, Operation of Piper's Opera House, Capital Projects will be a \$8 million transfer, the TRI Payback fund will receive \$2.5 million, Emergency Mitigation is \$100,000 and the grant fund, \$72,000 for the matches. The Commissioners have increases in wages benefits, decreases of service and supplies. Increase in liability increase of 25 percent. The Professional Service Fund is increasing 47 percent.

Commissioner Carmona asked if Community Grant funding was expended. Community Relations Director Honey Menefee said Mark Twain had not touched their money, some left in the Highlands and Lockwood may not use its entire \$10,000 grant. Virginia City may have several thousand left.

County Manager Austin Osborne said the Legislature lobbyists and financial professionals needed for the white paper and help with a complete policy rewrite have led to increases. We have not engaged in Marlette Lake negotiations, that will be rolled over. There are also needs for building security and also a solid waste franchise agreement.

Ms. McCain also said there was a reclassification for the Clerk-Treasurer's office that is not finalized. Software increased due to new maintenance agreements. Election line item has increased 38 percent because it is a presidential election coming up.

Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hindle said there has been an increase in the volume of activities, with elections being more of a year-round activity thanks to more reporting requirements from the Secretary of State's Office. With the presidential preference poll coming up in February 2024, it's another election and ramping up with a start in September and the normal primary in June, and staffing is needed for early voting and the Election Day. Also, the Secretary of State's Office was mandated to initiate a top-down voter registration management system

with new hardware and software required. There will be 2 systems for 2024, with our VOTEC system and the new KNOWiNK system. The Secretary of State's Office said they would subsidize a good portion of the new system for the first year, but it has not been defined.

Maintenance agreement significant increases on annual renewals of all software systems.

Ms. McCain said an increase of 68 percent for the Recorder's Office is due to a new historical document scanning process.

Recorder Dru McPherson said that she is requesting \$200,000 for the records management budget, for a one-time project to index and redact 123 years of property records, dating back to 1859. Online documents are searchable back to 1982. Currently documents are not searchable by keywords, including deeds, mortgages, and other important property documents. Project would be put out for bid, and one vendor put the cost at \$191,000. Could charge \$1 per page for documents, so it could be a source of revenue.

In response to a question by Commissioner Mitchell, Ms. McCain said salaries and wages were down because of the elimination of a part-time position in that office.

Buildings and Grounds increased wages and benefits and building maintenance at 285 percent due to reconfiguring past practices where Buildings and Grounds has a project that is managed by another department. We are putting all of those projects into their department fund. Items included are repairing stairs at the senior center, painting various county buildings, roof repairs, carpet replacement and structural repairs at the Sheriff and DA's offices.

Ms. McCain said that for the Sheriff's Department, there is a 22 percent increase that doesn't include additional staff requests. Other significant changes are service and supplies increased by 12 percent due to inflation, telephone, auto maintenance, fuels and tires. Travel and training are due to the sheriff improving education for staff, significant change is moving some items from enforcement supplies into maintenance agreements. Reduction in capital outlay of 40 percent. The sheriff is looking at additional grants. He would move away from Dodge Durangos to Chevy Tahoes.

Sheriff Mike Cullen said that staffing levels are down 10 positions but feels like they will be filled soon. We have a lot of people doing a lot of jobs and trying to be more efficient with different jobs. Assistant Sheriff will be full-time position to spread out chain of command with the deputies. Would like to have an administrative manager. TRIC footprint will be increased, and the Lockwood footprint will be decreased. Need an administrative manager to manage civilian personnel. Would like to add a volunteer coordinator with an increase in volunteer interest and reserved deputies, and an inmate work crew supervisor. Using weekend inmates to clean VC rather than sit in their cells. That is a part-time position. The evidence technician, as our evidence collection, cataloging needs repair. It is a full-time job for one of our sergeants. On-call coroner position for a flat rate, non-investigative type deaths. This attracts retired firefighters, police and paramedics to come out at \$75 per call.

He said he wanted to reinstitute corporal positions. With equipment, Chevy Tahoes, the Durangos have been wrecked and the cost for replacement parts is higher with the Durangos. Tahoes are recommended for police work.

Assistant Sheriff Eric Kern said the Chevy Tahoes have better ability, have more room and space, higher clearance. Durangos are less expensive when you purchase them, but parts are more expensive. Tahoe parts are easier to get.

Sheriff Cullen said Washoe County donated seven Mobile Data Terminals to Storey County and looking at getting 20 more from Carson City. Communication benefits with dispatch and other deputies are significant. They cost \$3,000 to \$4,000 each, so this is a minimal cost.

Assistant Sheriff Kern said these terminals can help the deputy run checks during traffic stops, rather than use dispatch to do it.

Sheriff Cullen said training would increase, and investigations, have a few cases that are significant, and they will be a big deal shortly. Working on clearing old cases that have undocumented portions and evidence issues. Working on partnerships with Community Chest with mental health outreach. Evidence room costs is that we have stored evidence improperly. On grants, he said he is looking for an OHV vehicle grant as well as grants for training, software, and other equipment. He said we had received grants from the Gary Sinise Foundation and United We Stand.

Commissioner Carmona – animal control. Better facilities for animal control. Sheriff Cullen said. Honey Menefee said one of the appropriation requests would include an upgraded kennel.

Community Development increase in service and supply and capital outlay. New inspector coming on. Travel and training increased 47 percent. Capital outlay is increasing for a full-time printer for TRIC office.

Community Relations, or Services, is being completely re-configured. The Business Development Officer and Community Service Coordinator will handle indigent services. It will include additional costs for travel and training. Cemetery support will be in this budget. All nonprofit support grants will be in this new department.

Ms. Menefee said Community Chest, St. Mary's Art Center, Fourth Ward School Museum, VFW, and others.

In response to a question, Mr. Osborne said murals and other items designed to promote Storey County has increased professional services, with an RFP going out soon.

Ms. McCain said Communications had an increase in subscription costs, a mobile system.

She said the Comptroller's budget will share an additional administrative assistant. Travel and training budget has also increased.

For the Senior Center, Ms. McCain said there will be an increase in auto and building maintenance and decreases in utilities and office supplies. Total department increase is 8 percent. Will add food contracts will be added later.

Ms. McCain said the Planning Department needs an additional planner and increased 48 percent.

Planning Manager Kathy Canfield said the Master Plan Update and an in-depth look at housing would require more professional services. Also, roads, parking, and other issues that may require outside assistance. Water and flooding projects, the water resource plan, drainage master plan.

Mr. Osborne said a housing needs analysis was needed to accommodate the region.

Ms. McCain said the General Fund had an excess revenue of \$1.2 million. Ending fund balance reduced 43 percent or \$11 million.

Road Fund will have increase 30 percent revenues, but there is a \$1 million transfer in. A \$218,000 gas tax estimate from Taxation, increasing to \$600,000. Expenses increasing 69 percent due to health insurance increases, two additional full time and part time employees. Increase in training and traffic signal maintenance expense account. We need to spend the money. There are two traffic signals in TRIC. State is to reimburse the county for any expense over \$2,500. Road cost, Culvert replacement, K-Rails and other equipment are needed. She said changes are expected. In Capital Outlay there is an increase of 83 percent, semi-truck turnaround at the bottom of Six Mile Canyon Road, Culvert replacements, K-rails for Cartwright, and 50 percent of Farr West CIP paying for roads in Virginia City.

Equipment acquisitions include two community development trucks, one pickup, three sheriff's vehicles. Two insurance replacements, snowblower for justice center and IT buildings. Ending fund balance will decrease 8 percent.

She listed capital projects for Lockwood and Virginia City projects, which will roll over to the next fiscal year, including the Lockwood Senior Center, a Lockwood dog park, Courthouse fence repair and Justice Court parking lot, Station 72. Most of this is due to the weather. New projects with federal appropriations are Station 71, Lockwood Senior Center, and Fairgrounds project. Other new projects include Courthouse security, generators, TRIC center remodeling, Virginia City Senior Center, cameras, fire stations technical upgrades. Increase of 2 percent in ending fund balance. Infrastructure Fund will be 50 percent of Farr West CIP, portion of Lockwood substation and water system. Ending fund balance will go from \$1.7 million to \$1.2 million. VC rail fund must be related to the railway in Storey County. VC Freight Depot, a ramp at the Gold Hill Depot, and a payment to the V&T Railway Commission of \$250,000.

VCTC budget is close to balanced with \$29,000 of excess revenue. Piper's Opera House budget is still falling short of their operational cost, \$230,000 expenses to be paid by a transfer from the general fund.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the 2023-2024 Storey County Tentative Budget for submission to the Nevada Department of Taxation as presented. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

28. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Discussion and possible action to accept assignment of lease of property within the Silver Terrace cemeteries from Comstock Cemetery Foundation (CCF) which is presently leased to CCF for 99 years for \$1 per year by Consolidated Virginia Mining Company (CVMC). CVMC will include in the lease additional property within is an as yet undefined area of cemetery property to be known as the Eastern Extended Lands (EEL). In order to define the area being included in the assigned lease the County will conduct a survey of a portion of the Ohio Relocation and March Fraction mining claims belonging to CVMC to be made at County's expense in an approximate amount of \$30,000.

Mr. Loomis said the CCF received a lease from the mining company, and there was a survey requirement. The MOU with the CCF provides for the county to pay for this. The county is subject to the same requirements as the CCF would have been. The mining company will deed the property to the county and retain the mineral rights.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the acceptance of the assignment of the lease between CCF and CVMC from CCF and authorize the County to survey a portion of the Ohio Relocation and March Fraction mining claims to be included in the assigned lease for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 and authorize the Chairman to sign. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

29. RECESS TO CONVENE AT THE STOREY COUNTY WATER AND SEWER BOARD

30. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and possible approval of the 2023-2024 Storey County Water and Sewer Tentative Budget for submission to the Nevada Department of Taxation.

Ms. McCain said that the Water and Sewer District requested another operator. The split could change from 30 percent Water and 70 percent Sewer. Water Fund increase is projected to be 9 percent. Revenues are \$752,000, slightly under expenses and the bond payment. There will be a decrease in the ending fund balance of \$45,000. Increases are in wages and plant maintenance as well as utilities contractors. Changes in the fund include changes in contracts with plant operators, since the plant needs upgrades. Revenues in the sewer fund

increased 6 percent due to the rate increase. It will also receive a transfer of \$200,000 from the infrastructure fund. Expenses are to increase 32 percent. Other increases are utilities, lab fees, and inflation. Revenues are at \$471,000 and operating expenses are \$418,000, giving the fund a base to grow.

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the 2023-2024 Storey County Water and Sewer Tentative Budget for submission to the Nevada Department of Taxation as presented. **Seconded by** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

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

32. DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: For consideration and possible approval of business license second readings:

- A. Custom Sign Service LLC – Contractor / 3350 Centennial Park Dr. ~ Carson City, NV
- B. RAD Pizza – Out of County / 825 Delucchi Ln. Apt. 1168 ~ Reno, NV
- C. Sean Craig’s Plumbing LLC – Contractor / 3231 N. Decatur Blvd. Ste 225 Las Vegas, NV
- D. Supreme Plumbing LLC – Contractor / 395 Freeport Blvd. Ste. 8 ~ Sparks, NV
- E. Westex Consulting Engineers, LLC – Professional / 220 S. Rock Ste. 12 ~ Reno, NV

Public Comment: None

Motion: I, Commissioner Mitchell, move to approve the second readings of business licenses listed as A-E. **Seconded by:** Jay Carmona. **Vote:** Motion passes 2-0.

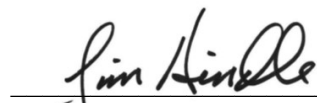
33. PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action)

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

Commissioner Carmona adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

35. CALL TO ORDER CLOSED SESSION MEETING PURSUANT TO NRS 288.220 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFERRING WITH THE STOREY COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT CHIEF AND LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING LABOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE STOREY COUTNY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION IAFF LOCAL 4227

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Hindle
Clerk & Treasurer