

Monday, January 30, 2012

The annual retreat of the Humboldt County Board of Commissioners was called to order on Monday, January 30, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. at the Winnemucca Events Complex, Exhibit Hall meeting room, Winnemucca, Nevada. Those present were Chairman Mike Bell, Commissioners Jim French, Dan Cassinelli, Tom Fransway and Garley Amos, District Attorney Michael Macdonald, Administrator Bill Deist and Clerk of the Board Tami Rae Spero.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairman Bell asked for public comments. John Siegfried offered comments thanking the elected officials and their staffs; he continued discussing the need for better sound systems in both the Commission Meeting Room and the District Court Rooms including that the systems should offer hearing loops for those that have hearing issues, the need to consider the crowding in the Grass Valley area and the effect on the nitrates in the ground water and water system and the need to continue monitoring the water in the area and he finished by offering a blessing to the Board. Administrator Deist commented on the planned work on the sound system in the District Court room and noted that the County still monitors water in the Grass Valley area by use of monitoring wells. Chairman Bell asked for further public comment. A.L. Brinkoetter addressed the Board regarding the nitrate issue with groundwater in the W. Winnemucca Boulevard area including the need for a water/sewer system; he discussed the effect the issue has on both the residents and the commercial development in the area. Chairman Bell asked for further public comment; none offered.

COMMISSIONERS' RETREAT/PLANNING SESSION:

OPENING COMMENTS: Administrator Deist commented on how the events would proceed today as well as commenting on what had been accomplished from last year's retreat. He thanked the Board for their efforts.

LIBRARY BOARD DISCUSSION REGARDING THE BOOKMOBILE: Provided to the Board for review was a memo from the Library Board including Humboldt County Library Bookmobile fast facts, information on the costs associated with the current bookmobile, information on the proposed new bookmobile including cost, grant money available and design. Library Director Sheri Allen, Library Board member Herk Criswell and Library Bookmobile Technician Ginny Dufurrena appeared before the Board. Mr. Criswell addressed the Board regarding the issues with the current bookmobile including the amount of down time and problems with dust and the heating/cooling systems. Commissioner French disclosed, for the record, that the company, Sun Solutions, which is doing the work on the solar power system, is owned by his son. Commissioner French continued commenting on the complexity of the

1/30/2012

Page 1 of 7

system, the ongoing effort to understand and repair the system, the belief that the system is close to being fully functional and his belief that all avenues need to be exhausted before \$300,000.00 is spent on a new bookmobile; he discussed other avenues to explore including seals, fan systems and using positive pressure on the vehicle. Road Superintendent Ben Garrett addressed the Board and updated them on the work being done on the heating/cooling system and suggested that all alternatives be explored before the current vehicle is thrown out, he compared the new proposal to the current system, addressed the dust issues and discussed the heating system and stated while he thinks it is premature to give up on the current bookmobile he does not dispute the problems it has. Chairman Bell voiced concern about what the return would be on a re-sale of the current bookmobile and the cost of the proposed one. Discussion occurred regarding the amount of dust entering the vehicle and what sealing has occurred. Commissioner French suggested that one of the mechanics do a ride along while the vehicle is in use and commented on issues with the communication between the parties. Mr. Criswell noted the Library Board's appreciation of the work done by the County but questioned the belief that this was a premature request as it has been two years since the vehicle was obtained. Commissioner French stated there are still options available. Commissioner Cassinelli asked where the funding for a new bookmobile would come from. Director Allen discussed the budget for the Library and grant funding available. Administrator Deist reviewed the available budget for the Library noting concerns about the future availability of PILT and Net Proceeds and about using operating funds for this purchase. Discussion occurred regarding the heating/cooling system, the Library Director's concerns about the costs associated with repairs and the history and importance of the program and how the outside temperatures can affect the vehicle and what the interior temperature can be expected to run in the winter and summer. Director Allen asked what the bottom line was for the amount that could be spent for repairs. Chairman Bell suggested that the items discussed be put in place and then an evaluation can be made. Superintendent Garrett concurred. Director Allen again thanked the mechanics for their work. Commissioner French again noted the need to have someone ride along on the bus; discussion occurred regarding a Commissioner also doing a ride along. Library Board member Lisa Verner offered comment from the audience commending Ginny Dufurrena for her work and on the concern about the dust problem. Commissioner Cassinelli commented on the new bookmobile which was being considered and questioned if that type would be the best choice for the area. Vicki Rock offered public comment related to the bookmobile issue and inquiring about exploring an electronic book delivery system. Discussion ensued.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SUMMARY:

1/30/2012

Page 2 of 7

1. Continue working on existing vehicle
2. Look at mechanic going along
3. If change discuss during budget

ROAD MATTERS/REVIEW/DISCUSSION/PROPOSALS: Provided to the Board for review was a memo from the Superintendent discussing RS2477 roadways, an update on the Ruby Pipeline Impact, sign maintenance, striping maintenance, bridge maintenance, gravel road maintenance, pavement maintenance, County-City equipment sharing, an update on equipment status, 2009 - 2011 work activity comparison, gravel road plan 2012-2016, 5 year pavement projections and the 5-year equipment replacement plan. Road Superintendent Ben Garrett appeared before the Board. Superintendent Garrett reviewed the status of the RS2477 roads in Humboldt County, updated the Board on the mitigation efforts by Ruby Pipeline to offset impacted roads, the status of sign and striping maintenance, the status of the Eden Valley Bridge's structural repairs, gravel road maintenance including the need to seek water sources in the Midas Road area, the need for rollers designed as a ripper attachment on the motor graders to improve compaction and extend the drivability of gravel roads, pavement maintenance including an aggressive preventative maintenance program to extend the life of the paved surface roads, work needed on North and South Roads and Winnemucca Mountain Road and the need to discuss what should occur with Cordero Road, an update of the County-City Equipment sharing program, an update on equipment status including needed additions and the time frame for those additions to the County fleet and those items which will be brought forward during the budget process. Superintendent Garrett discussed the comparison between the 2009-2011 work activity, the gravel road plan for 2012 - 2016 and the five year pavement projections. Discussion occurred during the presentation regarding the benefits of crack sealing, equipment sharing between the City and County and whether agreements exist or are needed, work at the Mote interchange, rebuilding versus new on the motor graders, the need for an emergency generator at the road department shop including public comment by A.L. Brinkoetter regarding the generator, that gravel is being purchased, the status of the fuel island at the road department, the use of a bar pit mower and the need for a new one and public comment from Mr. Brinkoetter thanking the road department for the maintenance of the road into the shooting range.

PLANNING MATTERS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCES/MATTERS RELATED THERETO: Betty Lawrence, Senior Planning Technician for the Planning Department and Lewis Trout and Vicki Rock of the Regional Planning Commission appeared before the Board. Discussion occurred regarding the Board's direction regarding checkerboard lands and M - 3 zoning to

1/30/2012

MAR zoning. Commissioner Cassinelli voiced his concern about breaking large parcels into smaller ones in the outer areas where there are no services and about property owners moving junk onto those lots. Mr. Trout wondered if the answer would not be to have a Code Enforcement Officer perhaps shared by the City and County. Discussion occurred regarding that suggestion including issues in areas like the Lambert subdivision, the need for an officer, that the Building & Safety Department does provide some of the services of an enforcement officer, how the position would work and the possibility of having a "County Clean Up Month" again. Mrs. Lawrence reviewed the Regional Planning Commission's endeavors in presenting the master plan to the outlying communities to obtain input from the residents in those areas. Commissioner French commented on the development of Community Development ordinances and asked if the RPC thinks the current appeal process from a RPC decision to the County Commission is sufficient. Mr. Trout offered comment on the current process and noted that staff could be asked to look at the process and develop recommendations. Mr. Trout discussed the access jurat noting that it appeared on the recorded maps but did not appear on the Assessor's maps and asked if it would be feasible to place the notice on the Assessor's maps as well as people may be more likely to see it on that map. Discussion ensued regarding the issue with the Board concurring that current practice is sufficient. Mr. Trout asked if the request is that the RPC review the issue with M - 3/MAR zoning and bring back a proposal. The Board concurred.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SUMMARY:

1. County Clean Up Day/Month etc.
2. RPC to come back with proposal re: MAR zoning

FISCAL REVIEW AND BUDGET DIRECTION INCLUDING CHANGES TO THE SOUND

SYSTEM: Administrator Deist reviewed the Nevada Department of Taxation Combined Sales & Use Statistical Report, the County's second quarter report including an overview of revenues and expenses and an overview of the "shared sacrifice" pushed down from the State and its potential to require a shift in the tax rate. Based on discussion the Board agreed that the tax level must remain at its current level, that the allocation may be moved if needed and that revenues should equal expenses. Administrator Deist asked the Commissioners if they wished to identify any priorities or new programs for inclusion in the upcoming budget discussion. Commissioner Fransway asked that consideration be given to placing \$500,000.00 in the Building Reserve Fund to begin saving towards the building of a Performing/Cultural Arts Center. Discussion ensued regarding the proposal including what other entities may be involved, whether funds exist in the Nixon Fund, where the funds would come from, the ability to move the funds

1/30/2012

Page 4 of 7

back to the General Fund if necessary and the possibility of moving the Buckaroo Hall of Fame into the building. The Board concurred with the suggestion. Comptroller Sondra Schmidt addressed the Board regarding the need to look into the ability to identify the funds specifically for a project and then return them to the General Fund if the plan did not proceed; she noted the need to consider that net proceeds will not be paid next year. After discussion, Commissioner French asked Comptroller Schmidt to look into what can be done as to identifying the funds for the project and to bring that information back to the Board. Commissioner Amos asked if there needs to be an increase to the amount identified for weed abatement and requested that discussion occur with Brad Schultz about the situation. Commissioner French suggested that employee salaries/benefit packages be reviewed and discussed the need for the County to be competitive. Discussion occurred regarding the issue including that the County has managed to keep the work force intact while other entities have laid off workers or had furloughs and the need to look at other Counties relative to their insurance benefits/packages. Commissioner Fransway suggested that perhaps this discussion should not occur in an open meeting but during negotiation meetings. Discussion occurred regarding the sound system in the County meeting room and the need to improving the sound quality.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SUMMARY:

1. Budgets - same process and direction as in the past
2. New programs - \$500,000.00 reserve for cultural arts center/Buckaroo Hall of Fame
3. Sound system improvements
4. Discussion with Brad re: the need for additional funding for weeds

SPECIAL DISTRICT SUCCESSION PLANNING: Communications Director Paul Burkholder appeared before the Board. Administrator Deist noted that the Commission is now the acting board for the Quinn River TV District and as such upgrades to that system are being handled by the County. Director Burkholder explained what improvements he has been implementing for the Quinn River TV District, the funds the District had available, the grant funding that is available for reimbursement of the costs and the impact the project has had on the Communications Department. Discussion occurred regarding the possibility of the district reimbursing some of the costs associated with the Communications Department doing the work.

The Commission discussed the decline in the number of the people willing to serve on the special district boards, the effect of State's reporting requirements on the willingness to serve, the effect of term limits on the special district boards in the smaller locals, the mechanism by which the Commission

assumes the duties of boards without sufficient members, the possibility of seeking NACO's assistance on the issue and the potential future need for a public works department to take on the duties of the districts if the Commission ends up becoming the governing board.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SUMMARY:

1. Look into public works department
2. Commissioner Fransway to seek NACO's assistance as to special districts and term limits.

PUBLIC LANDS ISSUES: Discussion occurred regarding a cheatgrass control program which will be presented to the Board at their next regular Commission meeting and the sage grouse issue. Commissioner Fransway discussed an upcoming trip to Washington DC that he will make as part of WIR to discuss the support for permanent full funding of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT), that offsets not be allowed, the re-authorization of Secured Rural Schools funding, hard rock mining legislation, Forest Service Management Plans, the Endangered Species Act, Forest Planning Rule, geothermal revenue sharing, proposed changes to the Clean Water Act, the NEPA process, Wild Horse & Burro Act compliance, new designations of public lands and the status of the Pine Forest Wilderness bill. Discussion occurred regarding the BLM applying for water rights and concerns related to that action.

OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLES (OHV) ON COUNTY ROADS: Administrator Deist noted that the Commission's packets contained copies of the minutes of prior meetings at which this issue had been discussed. District Attorney Macdonald discussed ordinances from counties related to this issue and commented on the current County Code including the language of the section related to motorcycles. Discussion occurred regarding the current language and issues with enforcement countywide. Commissioner Fransway noted that NRS 490 will go into effect July 1, 2012 and he would like the District Attorney to take a look at it and tell the Board what needs to be done in a timely manner before the implementation date. Sheriff Kilgore addressed Board regarding issues with enforcement. Audience member A.L. Brinkoetter commented about the potential effect on rural Humboldt County and suggested that the issue be evaluated carefully and that a common sense approach be used.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SUMMARY:

1. Ask DA to review NRS 490 to see what we can/or have to do related to OHV


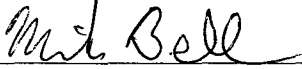
NEGOTIATION PROCESS OVERVIEW: Administrator Deist reviewed what had occurred last year with him acting as the negotiator, a member of his staff being present and the Chairman sitting in on the process; he offered his opinion that the process went well. Commissioner Amos spoke in support of the process and noted that in the event the Chairman could not attend a negotiation hearing the Vice-

Chairman can appear in his stead. The Board agreed the process should remain the same.

RECAP OF THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES: Administrator Deist recapped the summary information from today's retreat meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Sheriff Kilgore offered his appreciation to the Board from the audience.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Bell adjourned the retreat at 2:34 p.m.

ATTESTED:  Clerk APPROVED:  Chairman

UNOFFICIAL