

## **5/12/09 Washoe County Commission Action**

At their regular meeting on May 12, 2009, the Washoe County Commissioners voted unanimously not to pursue continuing to operate the Northgate Golf Course property as a golf course. In making their decision, the Board cited the saturation of the market (as RSCVA did when they closed the course) as well as the County's current budget shortfall of \$47 million which is requiring the severe cuts in the County's parks budget including the potential closure of the Sierra Sage Golf Course.

The County Commission also directed staff to pursue other options to maintain the property as open space. Specifically, they asked staff to do six things:

- 1) continue negotiations with property owner RJB Development toward a final resolution
- 2) develop a critical path schedule for the effort since time is of the essence
- 3) work with the City of Reno to define roles and responsibilities (the property lies within the City of Reno's jurisdiction; the Commissioners asked that the City of Reno fund the current maintenance costs for the property; Reno's Parks Director informed us that the Reno City Council approved an initial expenditure of up to \$1,000 per month for this purpose at their 5/13/09 meeting)
- 4) Secure 50% of the cost of the property appraisal from RJB Development
- 5) Pursue State Question 1 funding and the necessary 50% match
- 6) Pursue other matching funding or resources such as a special assessment district (SAD) in partnership with the City of Reno.

It is anticipated that an update on this process will be presented to the County Commission on June 23rd.