

WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSION  
RENO CITY COUNCIL  
SPARKS CITY COUNCIL

JOINT MEETING

TUESDAY

9:00 A.M.

JANUARY 21, 2003

PRESENT:

David Humke, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman  
Jim Shaw, Washoe County Commissioner, Vice Chairman  
Jim Galloway, Washoe County Commissioner\*  
Pete Sferrazza, Washoe County Commissioner  
Bonnie Weber, Washoe County Commissioner

Robert A. Cashell, City of Reno, Mayor  
Dave Aiazzi, Reno City Councilmember  
Toni Harsh, Reno City Councilmember  
Pierre Hascheff, Reno City Councilmember  
Jessica Sferrazza, Reno City Councilmember  
Sharon Zadra, Reno City Councilmember

Ron Schmitt, Sparks City Councilmember

ABSENT:

Dwight Dortch, Reno City Councilmember

Tony Armstrong, City of Sparks, Mayor  
Michael Carrigan, Sparks City Councilmember  
Geno Martini, Sparks City Councilmember  
John Maver, Sparks City Councilmember  
Phil Salerno, Sparks City Councilmember

The Board and Councils met in joint session in the Council Chambers of Reno City Hall, 490 South Center Street, Reno, Nevada. Also present were Washoe County Manager Katy Singlaub, Deputy District Attorney Paul Lipparelli, County Clerk Amy Harvey, Reno City Manager Charles McNeely, Reno Deputy City Attorney Marilyn Craig, Reno City Clerk Lynnette Jones, Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey, and Sparks Deputy City Clerk Lenda Azcarate. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerks called the roll for their respective entities, and the Commission and Councils conducted the following business:

## **AGENDA**

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Councilmember Aiazzi, seconded by Commissioner Shaw, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the agenda for the January 21, 2003 joint meeting be approved.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tom Walbom, Granite Construction Co., advised that Granite Construction and the Associated General Contractors have continually requested to participate in the development of the noise ordinance. He said the construction industry seems to be singled out in this ordinance, and they are not being afforded the opportunity to participate in the process.

**\*9:10 a.m.** Commissioner Galloway arrived at the meeting.

Sam Dehne, Reno citizen, discussed his concerns about noise pollution in Reno, which he believes is out of control.

## **MINUTES**

On motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, Chairman Humke ordered that the minutes of the joint meetings of October 15 and November 19, 2002 be approved.

On motion by Councilmember Harsh, seconded by Councilmember Aiazzi, which motion duly carried, Mayor Cashell ordered that the minutes of the joint meetings of October 15 and November 19, 2002 be approved.

The City of Sparks did not have a quorum present.

## **03-61      RESOLUTIONS HONORING VIVIAN FREEMAN AND DEBBIE SMITH**

Mayor Cashell and Chairman Humke went to the podium. On behalf of Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks, Chairman Humke presented a Resolution to Vivian Freeman in recognition of her 16 years of service as a member of the Nevada State Assembly representing District 24. Chairman Humke acknowledged some of Ms. Freeman's accomplishments during her service in the State Assembly.

Chairman Humke then presented a Resolution to Debbie Smith in recognition of her service as a member of the Nevada State Assembly representing District 30. He noted that Ms. Smith was named "Freshman of the Year" by certain publications, which honor was well deserved.

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Commissioner Shaw introduced Dale Sanderson, Administrator of Plant Facilities with the Washoe County School District. He said Mr. Sanderson would be the School District liaison for issues concerning consolidation of parks maintenance services.

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**03-62            INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF ROAD MAINTENANCE AND SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES, INCLUDING REGIONAL CONSOLIDATION**

Mark Sullivan, Associated General Contractors, advised they are supportive of any opportunity to provide increased efficiency by consolidation and request to be involved in those discussions. He said the noise ordinance committee should consist of people that are affected by it, and they would like to have some input during the process.

Sam Dehne, Reno citizen, said he believes consolidation is generally a good idea because it appears that money could be saved. However, no jobs should be lost in any consolidation process.

Rod Savini, Deputy Public Works Director, Washoe County, advised the Street Maintenance Services Regionalization final report dated December 17, 2002 was initiated by Washoe County and has gone to the other jurisdictions for their review and comment. He advised the analysis concluded there would be a direct cost increase of \$50,000 annually by regionalizing street maintenance. Mr. Savini reviewed other options identified in the study for consideration of shared street operation responsibilities. He noted that a weak link in the analysis is that the maintenance activities for each entity vary in scope, production, and amount of resources, which resulted in “apples to oranges” data. Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) develop the Road Maintenance Efficiency and Optimization Program jointly with each jurisdiction to provide “apples to apples” data. He advised RTC staff would present the program to their Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and then to the RTC Board for approval. RTC would then complete the action plan and report their findings. Mr. Savini then responded to questions concerning maintenance standards and expenditures for overlays and reconstruction. He advised that infrastructure preservation expenditures were not a scope of the study.

Commissioner Sferrazza said he believes maintenance includes everything required to maintain the streets and having one agency to conduct street maintenance operations would save money.

Mayor Cashell commented that it is time for a more in-depth study of all the issues concerning consolidation of street maintenance operations. He said he is not looking at layoffs and would want any necessary staff reductions to occur through attrition or other methods. He noted there would probably not be much savings at first,

but savings should be realized over time. He said the City and County Managers should provide direction concerning how to consolidate street maintenance operations. Councilmember Zadra stated that RTC should participate in the discussions between the Managers.

Councilmember Aiazzi said he thought part of the report was to propose how the County could help the Cities provide some road maintenance, as 75 percent of the residents in the community pay taxes to the County but do not receive County road services. He then noted only five cents is left in the tax cap and, if something could be worked out that Sparks and Reno would not have to raise taxes to get what they need, the five-cent cap could be left for the County to provide services on a county-wide basis. He said this could be done immediately by the County agreeing to provide street services in Reno and Sparks, and these issues need to be dealt with before the entities go into their budget sessions. Mayor Cashell suggested that the Managers provide recommendations concerning the five-cent cap.

Councilmember Hascheff said, once “apples to apples” comparisons are available, benchmarking and performance measures should start to determine which agency is in the best position to provide the service. Staff could then make recommendations to the joint board regarding whether or not consolidation would save money. He stated he believes efficiencies would occur with consolidation, but that conclusion cannot be reached without the data. He said he would also like to know the estimated timeline for completion of the RTC report so the board members could start making short-term and long-term decisions.

Mr. Savini advised the first phase of the RTC contract would take approximately five months, and the entire process would take approximately 11 months. He stated there would be opportunities during the process to present updates to the joint board.

Councilmember Schmitt noted that labor costs comprise about 87 percent of the Sparks budget, and due to Nevada laws, consolidation would increase labor costs because of the cherry picking that occurs. Councilmember Sferrazza stated her understanding of the cherry picking law is that it only applies to law enforcement. Councilmember Aiazzi said the cherry picking situation could be addressed somewhat with contracting. He noted the joint board could make a policy decision that would not require five or six months of study, which would be that all roads in Washoe County would be treated equally relative to the tax monies collected. He said he hopes this matter can be discussed and resolved over the next couple of months.

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Humke ordered that the Street Maintenance Services Regionalization report be accepted. It was further ordered that the Regional Transportation Commission be directed to develop the Road Maintenance Efficiency and Optimization Program jointly with the respective staff representatives from each jurisdiction to improve efficiencies and street maintenance operations. The

scope of the Road Maintenance Efficiency and Optimization Program, as outlined in the agenda memorandum dated January 9, 2003, is to be expanded to include all phases of street maintenance operations.

Commissioner Sferrazza commented that savings occur by consolidating everything, not just looking at street maintenance, and he would like to receive the “apples to apples” comparisons as quickly as possible. He said he has no problem with the RTC developing and funding the program, but all four agencies should participate in drafting the document; and the Associated General Contractors should be provided the opportunity to participate in the process. Commissioner Galloway stated the scope of the study should include major reconstruction including overlay and slurry seal programs.

Councilmember Hascheff made the same motion for the City of Reno, but added that staff be directed to provide a timeline for completion of the study at the next joint meeting and provide preliminary reports prior to completion of the study. Councilmember Zadra seconded the motion, and on call for the question, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sferrazza stated he would hope the County would explore methods to help the Cities maintain their streets. He said everyone pays the taxes and there is inequity relative to street maintenance.

The City of Sparks made no motion, as there was no quorum.

**10:15 a.m.** Councilmember Schmitt left the meeting.

**03-63** **CITY OF RENO ANNEXATION PROGRAM**

Sam Dehne, Reno citizen, discussed issues relating to Reno’s annexation program.

John Hester, Community Development Director, City of Reno, advised the 2003-2009 Annexation Program includes properties added to the City’s Sphere of Influence by the 2002 Truckee Meadows Regional Plan and the Settlement Agreement. He said the Settlement Agreement requires adoption of specific criteria to be considered during the processing and review of annexation applications submitted under NRS 268.670, which relates to voluntary contiguous annexations. Mr. Hester advised that, pursuant to City Council direction, a policy has been added that Reno would not involuntarily annex islands that were created through voluntary annexations. He stated the City Council introduced an ordinance on January 14, 2003 that includes a 750-foot noticing requirement, which was requested by Washoe County. Mr. Hester discussed the City of Reno Annexation Program pointing out on display maps the lands that are ready for development, areas that are the highest priority for investment in the Regional Plan, areas needed to maintain the logical City limits, and areas excluded from the draft program. He advised that Reno is trying to respond to the request to minimize the amount of property in the program, satisfy the Settlement Agreement requirements and

provide good concepts and good planning. He stated Reno staff is open to input and is re-examining the annexation program.

Randy Baksley, Senior Planner, City of Reno, advised the current Sphere of Influence contains about 16,000 acres, of which approximately 4,713 acres have been excluded in the draft annexation program and 1,822 acres have been identified for possible exclusion.

Commissioner Galloway said the Sphere of Influence has been decreased, but a very large annexation potential still exists that was designed to accommodate approximately 20 years of population growth. However, there is no predictability or prioritization over what is annexed first. He said the County would like to see something more specific so people would know that only a small fraction, which should be about one-third, of the 20-year program would be annexed in the next seven years.

Adrian Freund, Washoe County Community Development Director, reviewed the comment and response process concerning this issue occurring between Washoe County and the City of Reno. He expressed appreciation for the number of adjustments and changes that Reno made in response to the County's original comments. He stated the County's concern is the lack of a process for meeting criteria and making findings directly related to the statutory criteria, which would allow identification on the map of areas that could potentially be annexed. He said County staff would continue to discuss these issues with Reno.

Upon inquiry of Commissioner Galloway, Mike Harper, Planning Manager, Advanced Planning Program for Washoe County, advised that the County objected to Reno's proposed location of the regional center because of leapfrog development concerns. He said that issue is one of the reasons for the Community Management Plan process that would hold development within Washoe County to limited geographic areas where services already exist.

Upon inquiry of Councilmember Harsh, Mr. Hester stated that Washoe County and the City have been responding to comments concerning the draft program, and the City is in the process of refining this procedure to try to get to something that everyone likes. He said his understanding is the County would like the City to explicitly define in the annexation document what criteria was used and why. Arlo Stockham, Advanced Planning Manager, City of Reno, provided information concerning the evaluation criteria for annexations.

Discussion was held concerning the cooperative planning process that is part of the Settlement Agreement. Commissioner Galloway commented that the County is concerned about the City changing land use, but does not have a problem with the land uses that currently exist. He noted that the cooperative planning process does not mean the joint board discusses a land use change; it means the individual entities do. Mr. Freund stated the new Regional Plan places significant constraints on the County's ability to approve nonresidential development in the unincorporated area. He said it would be

difficult for the County to develop anything that would be considered more than a neighborhood commercial center.

**\*11:05 a.m.** Commissioner Galloway left the meeting.

Commissioner Sferrazza said he supports the City's request that the County impose the same criteria on itself, such as a regional market monitoring system. He requested that staff try to develop something that could be implemented region-wide.

City Manager McNeely commented that this is a work in process and staff is trying to sift through the County and City issues and concerns. He suggested that staff be directed to continue to meet and resolve the issues and present a final report outlining the areas of agreement or disagreement.

County Manager Singlaub stated it has been County staff's intent all along that Washoe County be subject to the same criteria and standards. She said the differences in philosophy between the staffs are being worked on and Reno and Washoe County staff are confident that a common ground will be found.

**11:10 a.m.** Councilmember Harsh left the meeting.

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Shaw, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that staff be directed to continue to work toward a resolution of the issues concerning Reno's Annexation Program.

**03-64            UPDATE – TIBURON SOFTWARE SYSTEM**

Sam Dehne, Reno resident, said he had a conversation with Officer Johns of the Reno Police Department and is convinced that Tiburon is doing a great job and is paying for itself.

Jim Johns, Reno Police Department, provided a report concerning the functions of the Tiburon Software System. He advised the program was originally designed as a fully integrated public safety system that would link the processes of many law enforcement criminal justice agencies together. He said, at this time, dispatch, the communications program, the records management system for the City of Reno and Washoe County, an automatic report system, a fire records management program, a court management program, and a corrections management system are functioning under the Tiburon System.

Commissioner Sferrazza stated that many of the complaints he received about the System had to do with data entry and things that were not required before but are required now, such as name and address verification. He said this type of data was previously collected by the booking staff at the jail. Mr. Johns discussed the advantages of the System, advising it allows an officer to have input on a first hand basis and assure the proper person is identified, if a future incident of some kind occurs. He said the

efficiencies built into the system multiply out to better define and report crime statistics, and the new process specifically relates to the original report-writing officer. Officer Johns stated he believes the jail and County staff still do their process because many double and triple checks are built into the system to make certain the correct person is being identified. Upon inquiry of Commissioner Sferrazza, Officer Johns advised that the Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP) was not integrated into the Tiburon System because the State wants a paper report. He advised the intent of the program is to be as paperless as possible, but different parts of the criminal justice system still want paper documents for some things. He noted the integration of NHP is currently being worked on.

Councilmember Sferrazza encouraged joint board members who have not done so to attend a briefing at the Police Department and talk to the users of the System. She said they are not happy because the System is not user friendly.

### **LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

This item was continued.

### **03-65 ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY JOINT MEETING**

Mayor Cashell stated he would like the joint agenda to be limited to two or three issues per meeting in order to provide more time to address them.

Councilmember Aiazzi requested a meeting in March or April that would be devoted entirely to budget matters. He said it would be beneficial to know what each entity is doing before going into their individual budget sessions.

Chairman Humke stated he believes the legislative updates are important during the upcoming Nevada Legislative session, and thinks an entire meeting devoted to budget issues is a good idea.

County Manager Singlaub advised the best time for the joint bodies to look at budgets would probably be in April, because that is when the tentative budgets are submitted to the State, and a fair amount of information would be available.

Councilmember Sferrazza suggested a joint board retreat in order to spend a full day discussing budget and other issues.

On motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Councilmember Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, it was directed that the Managers determine a date for a joint retreat.

**\*11:40 a.m. Commissioner Shaw left the meeting.**

Following further discussion, the Joint Board determined the following items would be placed on the next agenda: sex offender reporting and felon registration;

noise regulations ordinance; streets and roads consolidation; parks and recreation consolidation; City of Reno Annexation Program revisions and legislative issues.

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There being no further business to come before the Boards, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

**ATTEST:**

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**DAVID E. HUMKE**, Chairman  
Washoe County Commission

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**AMY HARVEY**, County Clerk  
and Clerk of the Board of  
County Commissioners

**ATTEST:**

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**ROBERT A. CASHELL**, Mayor  
City of Reno

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**LYNNETTE R. JONES**, City Clerk  
City of Reno

**ATTEST:**

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**TONY ARMSTRONG**, Mayor  
City of Sparks

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**DEBORINE J. DOLAN**, City Clerk  
City of Sparks

*Minutes Prepared By  
Barbara Trow, Deputy County Clerk*