

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

MAY 20, 2008

PRESENT:

**Bob Larkin, Chairman**  
**Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairman\***  
**Jim Galloway, Commissioner\***  
**David Humke, Commissioner**  
**Kitty Jung, Commissioner**

**Amy Harvey, County Clerk**  
**Katy Singlaub, County Manager**  
**Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel**

The Board met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

**08-468      AGENDA ITEM 3 – PROCLAMATION**

**Agenda Subject:** “Presentation of Excellence in Public Service Certificates honoring Washoe County employees who have completed essential employee development courses.”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, recognized the following employees for the successful completion of the Excellence in Public Service Program development courses administered by the Human Resources Department:

**Essentials of Management Development Program**

Susan Hood, Water Resources Licensed Engineer  
Candace Hunter, Health Department Nursing Supervisor

**Essentials of Personal Effectiveness Program**

Darcy Chappel, District Attorney Family Support Specialist  
June Davis, Water Resources Administrative Secretary  
Kimberly Graham, Sheriff’s Office Investigative Assistant  
Gina Greco, Second Judicial District Court-Family Court Administrative Secretary II

**Essentials of Support Staff Program**

June Davis, Water Resources Administrative Secretary  
Kimberly Graham, Sheriff’s Office Investigative Assistant

Gina Greco, Second Judicial District Court-Family Court Administrative  
Secretary II

**Essentials of Train the Trainer Program**

Jean Knowles, Sheriff's Office Program Assistant

**\*2:08 p.m.** Commissioner Galloway arrived at the meeting.

**08-469      AGENDA ITEM 4 – PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Agenda Subject:** “Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to two minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Commission agenda. The Commission will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to two minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Commission as a whole.”

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, stated “The Chairman and Board of County Commissioners intend that their proceedings should demonstrate the highest levels of decorum, civic responsibility, efficiency and mutual respect between citizens and their government. The Board respects the right of citizens to present differing opinions and views, even criticism, but our democracy cannot function effectively in an environment of personal attacks, slander, threats of violence, and willful disruption. To that end, the Nevada Open Meeting Law provides the authority for the Chair of a public body to maintain the decorum and to declare a recess if needed to remove any person who is disrupting the meeting, and notice is hereby provided of the intent of this body to preserve the decorum and remove anyone who disrupts the proceedings.”

Tom Noblett recited a poem about character and congratulated the Board on taking care of his gripes.

Ruth Hagan introduced her registered therapy dogs, Rosie and Gus. She discussed not being invited to Forest Area Plan meetings regarding potential changes to the Plan that would affect her quality of life. She indicated she was looking for compromise, and she felt the good decisions already made regarding land use should not be set aside without an adequate public hearing. She also believed it was felt that because people were not attending every meeting, tacit approval was being given to the changes. She indicated that was not the case because she was able to gather enough signatures to fill up a whole page of paper in 45 minutes from people who did not want the Forest Area Plan changed.

Karen Mullen said there was a misconception that the community was not willing to negotiate regarding the Forest Area Plan, and she felt the planning process set both sides up to be in conflict. She stated the Board's assistance was needed to bring things back to be a true community based planning process where consensus could be found. She advised the Board that staff told the developer not to meet with citizens and that staff felt the people showing up at Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) meetings did not

represent the whole community. She hoped the Board would see there was a need to work through the issues at the community level. To that end, she was requesting the Planning Commission be directed to send the Forest Area Plan back to the CAB for further review and the developers in the community meet to come toward consensus. She said two of the Planning Commissioners were informed of the community's concerns this morning. She noted at one of the CAB meetings, it was indicated the Table of Permitted Uses could no longer be altered for the various area plans, so variations on land-use designations could not be done for specific parcels, which was also an area for concern.

Michael Boyce pleaded with the Board to slow the Forest Area Plan process down. He said since finding out about the proposed changes, the community tried to be part of the process by hiring their own consultant. He felt they had come up with compromises that fell within County Code. Mr. Boyce felt the process should stop and go back to the citizens, and staff needed to be informed their behavior in telling the Chair not to talk with the citizens was unacceptable.

Brad Lyles said he lived adjacent to the Matera Ridge Project and was never notified about the Forest Area Plan changes. He stated staff indicated legal notification was not required until the Plan came before the Planning Commission or this Board, and he felt that should be changed. He felt flyers should be sent to all of the residents in the area so they could provide their input on the Plan. He understood the Matera Ridge Project needed approximately 700 acre feet of water. He said the State Engineer's assessment indicated there was 3,000 acre feet available in the hydrographic basin in which the Matera Ridge Project was located. He stated 14,000 acre feet were already appropriated, which meant the basin was grossly over appropriated. He felt the available water rights should be verified before the developer was given the mistaken impression that homes could be built.

Terry Tiernay read from his handout, which was placed on file with the Clerk, regarding the County having reached the milestone of 400,000 residents in 2006. He said reaching that milestone meant the Board of County Commissioners must be expanded to seven members per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 244.016.

Guy Felton discussed why he felt the Reno Justice Court's judges were not impartial.

Kathy Bowling read from Ginger Pierce's letter, which was placed on file with the Clerk, regarding the Forest Area Plan. Ms. Bowling said she did not understand why citizen input was not included in what was supposed to be a community driven Forest Area Plan according to State Statute. She indicated Mike Harper, Planning Manager, said it was because the approximately 50 people showing up at each meeting did not provide community consensus for an area with 6,000 people. She said she asked how many people would represent a consensus. Mr. Harper replied the plan was not up for a vote except by the County Commission and that planning staff had the legal right to put what they felt was best into the Plan.

Sam Dehne sang about the “Washoe County Budget” and discussed his issues with vote counting.

Beth Honebein objected to how the community was shut out of the Forest Area Plan process. She said she had an e-mail list of close to 200 citizens that she notified about upcoming meetings and what was happening with the Plan, and she received many e-mails back thanking her for the updates because they could not attend the meetings. She talked with Eric Young, Planner, about discussing the amount of Commercial Zoning and the Matera Ridge Project’s density change asked for in the Forest Area Plan. She read from his e-mailed response, which was placed on file with the Clerk. She stated she had been talking with staff, including Mr. Young, since September; and, if he did not understand what the communities issues were at this point, she did not know how to make it any clearer.

Gary Schmidt said he was heartened by this morning’s citizen participation in public comment. He discussed what he felt was the biggest threat to a free society. He stated he supported all of the comments made by the residents impacted by the Forest Area Plan.

**08-470            AGENDA ITEM 5**

**Agenda Subject:    “Commissioners’/Manager’s Announcements, Requests for Information, Topics for Future Agendas and Statements Relating to Items Not on the Agenda. (No discussion among Commissioners will take place on this item.)”**

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, clarified that the Statute referenced during public comment regarding Commissioner Districts was not the entire Statute. She said the entire Statute provided that counties with populations of 400,000 or more were determined by decennial census, and that finding would not be made until 2010.

Ms. Singlaub said even though the Budgets were passed yesterday, Item 6 was noticed as a possible public hearing. Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel, advised the budget items were badly noticed this year, and she suggested opening the public hearings, taking public comment, and closing the hearings.

Ms. Singlaub said Item 8J(1), a reappointment to Open Space and Regional Parks Commission, was pulled along with Item 16, the award of bid to purchase e-mail archiving software.

**\*2:36 p.m.**    Commissioner Weber arrived at the meeting.

Commissioner Humke reread Ms. Pierce’s letter read during public comment regarding the Forest Area Plan. He assured residents that the Commission set a precedent by calling back the South Valleys Area Plan. He noted that portions of the geographical area that were acceptable were adopted because there appeared to be unanimity by the citizens to make the changes called for in the Pleasant Valley area. He

noted the Washoe Valley portions were still being discussed and changed and he believed that portion would not go to the Commission to be adopted until the citizens felt it was ready. He advised he was going to work toward getting a majority of the Commissioners to set aside the Forest Area Plan.

Commissioner Humke noted he attended a ground-breaking ceremony at the ORMAT geothermal facility near the intersection of Highway 395 and the Mt. Rose Highway on May 6th. He stated that facility would generate another 17 megawatts of electricity and was selling its very clean power to Sierra Pacific Power Company.

Commissioner Humke said he attended the Nevada Juvenile Justice Commission meeting on May 15th in Las Vegas where Title II Formula Grants, Juvenile Accountability Block Grants, and Title V Grants were approved. He said there was a report on the Adam Walsh Act and on a White Paper being prepared on how to appropriately implement that Federal Statute. He also provided testimony on May 15th to the Nevada Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regarding the undergrounding of power lines in the Spanish Springs area.

Commissioner Humke advised there would be a Peace Center Open House at the Family Court located at 1 S. Sierra on May 22nd. He said the Peace Center provided a location for child visitations to take place for families that had a history of disputes. He stated the City of Reno would be having a ground-breaking ceremony for its Senior Citizens Center at 3925 Neil Road on May 27th at 11:30 a.m., which was a welcome addition because it would supplement work being done by the County.

Commissioner Humke requested an agenda item, prior to the next joint meeting, for this Board to hear and approve a plan for homeless services in the County. He felt the County was unprepared for this item at the last joint meeting because some of the participants did not have the City of Reno's staff report. He acknowledged staff was working on the issues, but he felt the discussions would benefit from the elected officials' participation. Commissioner Weber indicated she asked for an agenda item last week to discuss the homeless situation, so the Board would know the position it was taking as a Commission.

Commissioner Weber said during yesterday's vote on Item 6 for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD), she tried to get her phone off mute to vote in favor of the budget, but instead disconnected the call. Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel, advised it was too late for Commissioner Weber to vote, but her intention would be reflected in today's minutes.

Commissioner Weber noted because she was out of town, her intern, Megan Jackson, held her "Coffee and Conversation with Your Commissioner" last Saturday. She noted the next "Coffee and Conversation with Your Commissioner" would not be held until the third Saturday in September due to the summer break. She said Ms. Jackson also attended the North Valley Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB) meeting

last night in her place and was taken on a tour of the neighborhood. Commissioner Weber indicated she really liked the idea that the City of Reno conducted tours.

Commissioner Weber commented that she and Commissioner Jung appreciated the Library Board of Trustees' efforts, but she felt during these tough economic times the libraries should be looked at a little differently. She also felt the subcommittee should continue its work and library hours of operation should be as many or more than they were open currently by using staff and by encouraging the public to volunteer.

Chairman Larkin welcomed the Reno High School Senior Government students to today's Commission meeting and was glad they were able to view County government in action. He congratulated the Spanish Spring's Cougars for their 4A softball championship.

Chairman Larkin said he saw a disturbing trend in relationships between Advanced Planning and citizens, especially at the Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) level. He requested a meeting with the County Manager and appropriate Advanced Planning staff to discuss what had gone awry.

Commissioner Galloway said he was concerned that the undergrounding issue had gone this far, because he was not sure the County knew what the cost would be. Katy Singlaub, County Manager, replied she would have to check with staff.

Commissioner Galloway stated he would be attending the Shore Zone Ordinance workshop Thursday at the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency headquarters at 9:00 a.m. He said the meeting would focus on the discussions between the California and Nevada Lt. Governors about whether the Ordinance would allow the limited construction of new piers at Lake Tahoe. He felt it was important that no Ordinance was passed without ample public scrutiny and that this workshop would be a test drive of the Ordinance's language.

Commissioner Galloway noted he attended the Ward 5 NAB meeting last Thursday where a great deal of time was spent discussing the truck stop issue, which he believed would be heard in June. He felt part of the issue was people wanting to get Special Plan (SP) areas, and he questioned the wisdom of having such a broad designation. He asked if Planning staff could advise him whether or not the County had an SP designation or a designation that was similar; and, if there was, could it be eliminated and replaced with a designation that was more defined.

Commissioner Jung requested information on when the Planning Commission received their meeting packets, because she felt that information should be made available to the public at the same time. She asked to have information regarding the process included in the workshop, along with information on Advanced Planning's notification process. She suggested language changes to the notification cards could be

made that could help people better understand what was happening, because the cards were written using a legalized style of writing.

Commissioner Jung asked staff to respond to her request about what the County was doing for Flag Day on Saturday, June 14th.

Commissioner Jung said almost the entire Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) meeting was spent discussing what the County's gateway areas should look like and how the litter rules would be enforced in those areas. She noted Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful was also there to discuss their cleanup efforts. She requested a breakdown on how much each jurisdiction spent and how many hours were involved doing the cleanups to determine if there would be an advantage to taking a multi-jurisdictional approach to them. She requested the gateway areas be placed on a joint meeting agenda.

Commissioner Jung stated she went to the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) Board meeting as an alternate and the Panther Valley Water Association issue was being worked towards resolution. She and Rosemary Menard, Water Resources Director, were going to meet with the Association to look at alternatives to them running their own public utility.

Commissioner Jung said she attended the opening of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Health Center along with Chairman Larkin, and she was very impressed with how the Tribe's culture was integrated into the Center.

Commissioner Jung indicated she went on a "Ride Along" with the Sheriff's Office on a Saturday and the patrol focused on the east side of Sun Valley Boulevard. She said it was a wonderful experience, and she encouraged the other Commissioners to go out and see what the "Best of the Best" were doing.

Commissioner Jung asked if one of her colleagues would attend the Oversight Panel for School Facilities meeting on May 22nd at 11:30 a.m. at the School District offices because she would be out of town. Commissioner Humke replied he would be attending.

Commissioner Galloway said he met with representatives of Washoe Arc (WARC), which was an organization that ran thrift shops and workshops for the benefit of handicapped individuals. He advised the Commission that WARC was planning to expand both areas. He stated WARC also conducted document destruction for other agencies. He noted Washoe County did its document destruction in-house, but giving it to WARC could benefit people who needed work and could potentially be done more cost effectively.

**08-471            AGENDA ITEM 6A, 6B, 6C, AND 6D – BUDGET**

**2:30 p.m.**

**Agenda Subject: “Sierra Fire Protection District, South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County -- Hearing on Tentative Budgets, as well as possible changes to adoption of Final Budget, for Fiscal Year 2008/09 (possibly continued from May 19, 2008 meeting).”**

Chairman Larkin stated the Board would be convened simultaneously as the Board of Directors of the Sierra Fire Protection District, the Board of Trustees of the South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, and the Washoe County Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Larkin opened the public hearing.

Sam Dehne discussed his background and what he felt was the genesis of the budget problems.

Chairman Larkin closed the public hearing.

No action was taken on these items because the budgets were approved on May 19, 2008.

**08-472            AGENDA ITEM 7 – BUDGET**

**Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to adopt the Washoe County Fiscal Year 2009-2013 Capital Improvements Program Plan-Budget.”**

Chairman Larkin said the \$44 million and the almost \$33 million on pages 2 and 3 of the staff report added up to almost \$77 million, but the last paragraph on page 2 mentioned \$100 million. Melanie Purcell, Budget Manager, indicated the remainder was scattered throughout Year 5. Chairman Larkin stated the figures indicated Spanish Springs Regional Park would receive \$1 million, but he could only find \$650,000 on page 3. Ms. Purcell responded she would do some research on that discrepancy.

Chairman Larkin advised that full funding was found for construction of the Sparks Justice Court in fiscal year 2009/10.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 7 be adopted.

**DISCUSSION – CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS 8A THROUGH 8J(3)**

Commissioner Galloway thanked staff for providing all of the agreements as part of the Commissioner's agenda packets.

**08-473      AGENDA ITEM 8A – PUBLIC GUARDIAN**

**Agenda Subject:** “Approve four-year contract between the County of Washoe and the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education on Behalf of the University of Nevada, retroactive to August 2, 2007, [no fiscal impact] for the Public Guardian Office to serve as a field placement site for interns from the school of Social Work--Public Guardian. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8A be approved, authorized, and executed.

**08-474      AGENDA ITEM 8B - FINANCE**

**Agenda Subject:** “Approve and certify budgets and special assessments or tax rates for: Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basin [\$2,000], Cold Springs Valley Groundwater Basin [\$3,000], Honey Lake Valley Groundwater Basin [\$2,000], Lemmon Valley Groundwater Basin [\$11,000], Truckee Meadows/Sun Valley Groundwater Basin [\$35,000] and a tax rate of \$0.0005, Washoe Valley Groundwater Basin [\$1,623.39] and Warm Springs Valley Groundwater Basin [\$4,818.23] as required by NRS 534.040 to fund the budgets of the water basins and distribution systems administered by the State Engineer as requested by Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; and if approved, authorized County Clerk to certify same--Finance. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8B be approved, authorized and certified.

**08-475      AGENDA ITEM 8C – SENIOR SERVICES**

**Agenda Subject:** “Approve and execute an Interlocal Interim Agreement between the County of Washoe and County of Storey, for the purpose of providing a Senior Nutrition Program through the Department of Senior Services retroactively from May 1, 2008 through April 30, 2009--Senior Services. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8C be approved and executed.

**08-476            AGENDA ITEM 8D – JUVENILE SERVICES**

**Agenda Subject: “Accept Continuation Grant [\$50,000 - no County match] from the Annie E. Casey Foundation to support activities related to the replication of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI); and if accepted, direct Finance to make the appropriate budget adjustments--Juvenile Services. (All Commission Districts.)”**

In response to Chairman Larkin, Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said the County’s annual results report was due on September 1, 2008.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8D be accepted and directed.

**08-477            AGENDA ITEM 8E – DISTRICT COURT/SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Agenda Subject: “Accept donations from Sierra Association of Foster Families [\$12,000]; Washoe County School District [\$20,000]; and the Del Grande Foundation [\$5,000] to supplement the Improve Educational Outcomes for Foster Children Program Coordinator Position; and if accepted, direct Finance to make necessary account changes; abolish Program Coordinator position in the Second Judicial District Court – Family Division and create an unclassified Program Coordinator position in the Child Protective Services Fund effective July 1, 2008 to be supported by the Federal IV-E Funding, transfer the incumbent as an unclassified employee and direct Human Resources and Finance to make the necessary SAP system changes--District Court/Social Services. (All Commission Districts.)”**

On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Galloway thanked the donors for their donations to support educational outcomes for foster children.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8E be accepted, directed, abolished, created, and transferred.

**08-478            AGENDA ITEM 8F – ASSESSOR**

**Agenda Subject:** “Approve roll change requests, pursuant to NRS 361.768 and NRS 361.765, for errors discovered for the 2007/2008, 2006/2007, 2005/2006, secured and unsecured tax rolls; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute orders listed on the exhibits and direct the Washoe County Treasurer to correct the error(s) [cumulative amount of reduction \$91,662.63] (parcels are in various Commission districts)--Assessor.”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8F be approved, authorized, executed, and directed.

**08-479            AGENDA ITEM 8G(1) – ENHANCED 911 EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Subject:** “Authorize payment from the E911 Fund to Robert Cox Enterprises for an agreement to serve as Recording Secretary for E911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee in Fiscal Year 2008-2009, [amount not to exceed 2,000]--(All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8G(1) be authorized.

**08-480            AGENDA ITEM 8G(2) – ENHANCED 911 EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Subject:** “Authorize payment from the E911 Fund to Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority for Automated Number Identification Circuit Fees, Automated Location Information and Automated Number Identification Trunk Fees for services provided January to June 2008 [7,444.56] and for services to be provided July to December 2008 [7,444.56] and January to June 2009 [7,444.56] for a total amount not to exceed \$22,333.68. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8G(2) be authorized.

**08-481            AGENDA ITEM 8G(3) – ENHANCED 911 EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Subject:** “Authorize payment from the Enhanced 911 Fund to AT&T for three Multi Frequency Receiver Cards in Fiscal Year 2008-2009, [not to exceed \$12,500]. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8G(3) be authorized.

**08-482            AGENDA ITEM 8H(1) – PUBLIC WORKS**

**Agenda Subject:** “Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Washoe and Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful concerning the Adopt-A-Spot Program for clean up of selected (highly visible) County Rights of Way; and if approved, authorize the Director of Public Works to execute the Memorandum of Understanding. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8H(1) be approved, authorized, and executed.

**08-483            AGENDA ITEM 8H(2) – PUBLIC WORKS**

**Agenda Subject:** “Approve and authorize Chairman to execute Facility Use Agreement between the County of Washoe and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Verdi Post No. 10053, a Nonprofit Nevada Corporation for lease of space in the VFW Building in Verdi, Nevada for the continued use by the Verdi Township Citizen Advisory Board for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009; [lease expense for Fiscal Year 2008/09 is \$1,200; funds are available in the Community Development Department cost center 116430-710505]--Public Works.”

Commissioner Weber thanked Hal Morton, Verdi VFW Post No. 10053, for his willingness to make the facility available for the Verdi Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) meetings.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8H(2) be approved, authorized, and executed.

**08-484            AGENDA ITEM 8I(1) – SHERIFF**

**Agenda Subject: “Approve Grant Reimbursement (no County match required) of Overtime [not to exceed \$10,000] and Cell Phone Expenses [not to exceed \$4,000] for Internet Crimes Against Children Investigations; and if approved, direct Finance to make the necessary budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts.)”**

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8I(1) be approved and directed.

**08-485            AGENDA ITEM 8I(2) – SHERIFF**

**Agenda Subject: “Accept grant award [\$91,000 with no County match required] for 2007 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Grant Funds from United States Office of National Drug Control Policy through Las Vegas Metro Police Department, to cover overtime, training, travel and investigative costs for participation in the Task Force and Supplemental Grant Award [\$25,000 with no County match required] for Marijuana Eradication to Cover Overtime Costs and if approved, direct Finance to make necessary budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts.)”**

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 8I(2) be accepted, approved, and directed.

**08-486            AGENDA ITEM 8I(3) – SHERIFF**

**Agenda Subject: “Approve Sheriff’s Security Agreement between the County of Washoe and the Reno-Tahoe Open Foundation to provide Uniformed Deputy Sheriffs for security [estimated security costs \$35,000 to be reimbursed by Reno-Tahoe Open] during the 2008 Reno-Tahoe Open Golf Tournament, July 28, 2008 through August 3, 2008; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute Agreement. (Commission District 1.)”**

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8I(3) be approved, authorized, and executed.

**08-487            AGENDA ITEM 12J(2) – REGIONAL PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**

**Agenda Subject:** “Accept grant [\$74,256 with 20% cash/in-kind match of \$18,673 required] from the National Scenic Byway Program, through the Federal Highway Administration and Nevada Department of Transportation, for the Mt. Rose Scenic Byway Interpretive Project at the Galena Creek (Day Use) Recreation Complex; and if accepted, authorize Chairman to execute Cooperative Agreement between the County of Washoe and State of Nevada, acting by and through its Department of Transportation; authorize the Regional Parks and Open Space Director to sign all subsequent documents and reports associated with this grant; and further authorize Finance to make the appropriate budget adjustments. (Commission District 1.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12J(2) be accepted, authorized, executed, and directed.

**08-488            AGENDA ITEM 12J(3) – REGIONAL PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**

**Agenda Subject:** “Approve the relocation of a 50’ wide emergency access easement that currently exists through Phillip and Annie Callahan Park, APN: 045-472-29, which is held by Montreux Development Group, LLC, and Montreux Homeowners Association, the Raymond P. Callahan Trust and Zygmunt Terelak and Christine B. Teralak to an existing Washoe County road along the south property line of Callahan Park, and the subsequent abandonment of the existing 50’ access, drainage and public utility easement through Callahan Park and if necessary grant a 30’ wide emergency access easement to Montroux Development Group LLC and Montreux Homeowners Association along the southwest property line within Callahan Park, [approximate expenditure of \$3,000 to Sierra Pacific Power Company for “undergrounding” of two power poles along the south property line of Callahan Park]; and if all approved, authorize Chairman to execute Grant of Easements, Grant of Emergency Access and Agreement, and Resolution necessary for this action. (Commission District 1.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12J(3) be approved, authorized, and executed.

**Agenda Subject: “Appearance: Chief Administrative Judge Connie Steinheimer and Assistant Sheriff Lisa Haney – Status report on Washoe County Criminal Justice System”**

John Berkich, Assistant County Manager, stated he served as the coordinator/facilitator for the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, which prepared this status report for the Board.

Carla Fells, Detention - Operations Manager, indicated she was standing in for Assistant Sheriff Lisa Haney. She conducted the *Washoe County Jail Update – 2008* PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk. She explained for the Pretrial Custody Comparison Snapshot slide, a snapshot represented one day out of each of the years shown and “M” meant misdemeanors and “G/M” meant gross misdemeanors. Commissioner Galloway requested a more recent snapshot starting from the time Early Case Resolution was stopped because that data would foretell the future more accurately than past data. He said he understood attempts to resurrect Early Case Resolution was stalled.

Commissioner Jung requested a breakdown on what jurisdiction was booking inmates and the crime for which the inmates were being booked. Ms. Fells said those figures would be provided.

Chairman Larkin asked if statistics were available on the average daily jail population per capita. Ms. Fells replied it was not done per capita because it was difficult to separate the data for the City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County because the jurisdictions went across the two Cities’ boundary lines. Katy Singlaub, County Manager, indicated there were available statistics on which jurisdiction the individuals were sentenced from and from which Court. She asked if the question was more about rate of incarceration and rate of admission. Chairman Larkin indicated it was not so much the rate he was interested in, but a snapshot of how the community as a whole was doing in terms of the community’s incarceration of its population. Ms. Singlaub replied those figures were compiled monthly and could be e-mailed to interested Commissioners. Chairman Larkin stated the projected population in 2008 was 418,000 and the inmate population was 1,032 year-to-date, which was only .002 percent of the population; but he felt that percentage did not provide the whole picture. Ms. Fells said staff would look at breaking the numbers down by per capita and by jurisdiction. Chairman Larkin said he felt that would become a relative piece of information going forward.

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Ms. Fells said SCWP stood for the Sheriff’s Community Work Program. She explained inmates in that program were sentenced to go out into the community to perform community service rather than sitting in jail, but there could be some jail time involved. Commissioner Galloway noted CPC was an acronym for Civil Protective Custody.

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Ms. Singlaub said the number of people in the Sheriff's custody while not in jail was looked at daily, weekly, and monthly. She stated this ensured that people who could be in alternative incarceration programs were in those programs. She noted the categories were broken out the way they were to help manage the alternatives to incarceration and the jail populations.

Commissioner Galloway noted the numbers indicated the population of inmates in alternative programs was going up. Ms. Fells said the limited jurisdiction courts, such as the Reno and Sparks Municipal Courts, used the SCWP very efficiently. She noted the SCWP benefited the community because the inmates provided a cost savings to the County for doing services, such as cleaning the parks and the animal shelter, that the County would normally pay for.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Ms. Fells said everyone was video arraigned who went to District Court, but individuals were only video arraigned for the limited jurisdiction courts.

Chief Administrative Judge Connie Steinheimer, Second Judicial District Court, conducted the *Washoe County Criminal Justice System* PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Judge Steinheimer said there was debate on whether the Supreme Court's rulings were going to be rules or recommendations in terms of representation for indigent defense. She felt the Supreme Court was going to make some changes to the guidelines, which was the basis for the termination of the Early Case Resolution (ECR) program. She explained there would be differences in handling misdemeanor cases, gross misdemeanors, and felonies. She said ECR probably would not exist for felony cases, but would exist in some capacity for misdemeanor and for some gross misdemeanor cases. She stated the concept that it was not in a client's best interest to accept an early case resolution that would allow them out of jail on a time served while the case was thoroughly investigated was recognized as being ridiculous by Public Defenders and by the Court. She felt there would be a sliding scale where the best judgment of the defense attorney would be used to determine how much investigation would be necessary before they could make a recommendation to their client to accept the negotiated resolution. Chairman Larkin noted any weighted-caseload study would have to incorporate some notion of the sliding scale for an ECR type of system. Judge Steinheimer agreed, and said she understood the process would clearly identify the courts and the serious felonies that would be part of the weighted-caseload process. She stated the State's judges felt the Nevada Supreme Court would provide some direction.

Judge Steinheimer confirmed the ECR process was currently suspended because the Public Defender was not participating at this time. She noted the individual Public Defenders, the Alternate Public Defenders, and the Deputy District Attorneys were working hard to find a quick resolution to the problem, even though a vast majority of the cases plead during their first hearing before the Judge and were resolved at that point. Chairman Larkin acknowledged that even though there was no longer a formal

ECR process, some elements survived because it had been institutionalized to some extent in terms of the processes used.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Judge Steinheimer said the expected bottleneck of cases had not yet arrived. She felt the lack of a bottleneck was because of the outstanding work being done by the people who worked within the Court System, but could become a problem if the number of cases going to trial increased.

There was no public comment and no action was taken on this item.

**3:47 p.m.** Commissioner Humke temporarily left the meeting.

**08-490**      **AGENDA ITEM 10 – APPEARANCE**

**Agenda Subject:** “**Appearance:** Gregory Neuweiler, Chairman of the Elections Task Force. Presentation of the Task Force’s final report and recommendations. (All Commission Districts.)”

Greg Neuweiler, Elections Task Force Chairman, introduced the members of the 2008 Task Force. Chairman Larkin thanked them for all of their hard work.

Dan Burk, Registrar of Voters, said the Task Force asked questions about every part of the process and wanted to see everything his office did. He assured the Board that the Task Force’s findings came from actual knowledge and hands-on experience, and he concurred with every recommendation.

Chairman Larkin noted none of the individuals who questioned the Sequoia voting machines were present today, but the people who truly cared about voting in Washoe County were present and had participated in the process. He said the Commission was deeply grateful for their participation.

Mr. Neuweiler said on CSPAN on March 30th at 12:15 a.m. he watched a Brookings Institution report on voter technology. He said the same analysis was being done in Massachusetts as was being done here. He noted the Institution wrote a book called *Voting Technology: The Not So Simple Act of Casting a Ballot* that contained the study’s conclusions. Some of the book’s conclusions were:

- Voter confidence was high when a verification system was used.
- From the states studied, only 5 percent of voters expressed a need for help on Election Day.
- Voters improved their accuracy when using a voter verification system because they went back to verify their vote.
- Verification systems added a layer of complexity to the process because problems with the paper rolls and how hard they were to refill had to be resolved by adding another layer of education just to put the paper on the machines. Mr. Neuweiler noted the County had that same

problem, which was solved by an artist drawing a diagram on how to install the paper.

- No record of wholesale fraud was found. Mr. Neuweiler noted wholesale fraud was the deliberate mis-designing of ballots.
- Security was found to be the most important issue.
- The real problem with voting was user ability, because the user had to be trained.
- Absentee ballots had a huge possibility of wholesale fraud because they were the only paper ballot in a system that used touch screens. The conclusion was reached that security was extremely important and more than one set of eyes was needed for absentee ballots. Mr. Neuweiler noted that was done by the County.
- The study determined the ballot record was the electronic system, not the paper printout or anything else.
- Electronic systems with paper ballots were more accurate and more trusted.
- For accuracy, the number of voters voting must be compared to the number of votes cast. Mr. Neuweiler said Washoe County did that as part of the certification process. He stated that was where everything was balanced and the County had never lost a single vote since 2000. Chairman Larkin said that should be put on the side of the tallest building in the community.
- Voter perception of accuracy was not individually driven by individual experiences, but was media driven by implying and exposing voting-day problems in overflow precinct locations. Not a single voter ever complained about corruption, but trust became questionable when the media went to overflow precincts or where machines broke down.
- A measure gain was found in votes cast by going to touch screens.

**3:58 p.m.** Commissioner Humke returned to the meeting.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Mr. Neuweiler discussed the 54 recommendations made by the 1999 Blue Ribbon Elections Task Force, which were adopted by the Board of County Commissioners and cost the County approximately \$250,000 to implement. He noted great improvements were made to the system since that report was made.

Mr. Neuweiler discussed the 2008 Elections Task Force's report and its recommendations as outlined on Page 4 of the report. He said the Task Force spent many hours prioritizing the items for the three processes: Pre-Election Period, Election Day, and Post Election Period.

Commissioner Jung suggested natural disasters in general that could occur on Election Day, not just flooding, should be looked at. She thanked the Task Force's members for the detailed work they did to help ensure elections in Washoe County were fair, and she was looking forward to seeing their innovative ideas implemented.

Commissioner Galloway asked what the Task Force recommended doing about the famous “button” on the voting machines. Mr. Neuweiler replied he had to interject a little bit of reality regarding that “button.” He said the library at Mt. Rose Highway had one of the best setups for the placement of the voting machines because they were able to put two chairs between each machine. He said the chairs protected the button because no one could get around to the back of the machine without moving a chair. He said the chairs also provided a place to put assistants for the disabled, a place for parents to put their children, and enough space between the machines to make it impossible for someone to turn and see how someone was voting at a neighboring machine. He stated the recommendation was to at least put one chair between machines in addition to the thicker tags that were already added. He said to cut the tags off, someone would have to go behind the machine and would have to carry tools to cut the tags or, if the tags could not be cut off, the doors would have to be jimmed. He indicated being behind the machine would be questioned by a precinct worker and by definition it should never happen. Mr. Burk explained what the yellow button in the back of the machine was designed to do. He noted a yellow cap was designed to cover the button to stop anyone from reaching behind the unit and touching it.

Chairman Larkin asked if the Commission took action, was Mr. Burk prepared to move forward and did he have the needed resources available in his budget. Mr. Burk replied the Commission provided about \$100,000 a year to keep up with population growth. He noted this year there was approximately \$40,000 of that amount saved that would be used to respond to the recommendations in the report and that the cabling and the ID system were already purchased. He felt moving forward with all of the items, assuming the budget was there, would take until 2009; but many items would be done prior to the 2008 election.

Commissioner Weber thanked the 2008 Elections Task Force. She asked if their report could be made available on the County’s web site. Mr. Neuweiler replied it was available on the web site. Commissioner Weber suggested preparing a one-page pamphlet about the history of the County’s voting system and how every vote was counted since 2000.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Chairman Larkin, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be acknowledged and directed the Registrar of Voters to move forward and for the County Manager to cooperate wherever possible to implement the recommendations where everyone needed to be on board to work issues out.

**BLOCK VOTE – AGENDA ITEMS 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 AND 19**

**4:29 p.m.** Commissioner Humke temporarily left the meeting.

**08-491            AGENDA ITEM 13 – SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to authorize issuance of an Invitation to Bid for Independent Living Services for \$307,000--Social Services. (All Commission Districts.)”**

Chairman Larkin asked for an update on the program’s effectiveness.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke temporarily absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be authorized.

**08-492            AGENDA ITEM 14 – ENHANCED 911 EMERGENCY RESPONSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to authorize funding from the E911 Fund to support region-wide E911 GIS mapping service provided by City of Reno for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 [not to exceed \$229,602.22]--Enhanced 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee. (All Commission Districts.)”**

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke temporarily absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be authorized.

**08-493            AGENDA ITEM 15 – PURCHASING**

**Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to award Bid No. 2650-08 for Primary and General Election Sample Ballots to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder meeting specifications as determined by the Registrar of Voters and the Purchasing and Contracts Administrator after opening bids on May 15, 2008. Bid results will be provided to the Board at the meeting of May 20, 2008 [estimated value of this award is approximately \$600,000]; however, actual bid results will be disclosed at the time this agenda item is heard--Purchasing. (All Commission Districts.)”**

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke temporarily absent, it was ordered that Bid No. 2650-08 be awarded to Intraform, Inc. in the amount of \$426,920.

**08-494            AGENDA ITEM 17 – REGIONAL PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**

**Agenda Subject:** “Recommendation to accept cash donations [\$141,580] from the Wilbur May Foundation; \$16,580 to be used for media and marketing of the May Center and \$125,000 capital improvements at the Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Museum; and if accepted, direct Finance to make necessary budget adjustments--Regional Parks and Open Space. (Commission District 1.)”

Commissioner Galloway, on behalf of the Board, thanked the Wilbur May Foundation for the donation of \$141,580.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke temporarily absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 17 be accepted and directed.

**08-495            AGENDA ITEM 18 – DISCRICT COURT**

**Agenda Subject:** “Recommendation to approve Intrastate Interlocal Contract between Public Agencies (County of Washoe through the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada and the State of Nevada acting by and through its Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services) for Master’s System for the purpose of enforcing child support obligations, locating non-custodial parents, establishing paternity, obtaining child support and adjusting support orders for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011 [estimated budget for these services for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 is approximately \$258,750 reimbursed through Federal Title IV-D funds]; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute Contract--District Court. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke temporarily absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 18 approved, authorized, and executed.

**08-496            AGENDA ITEM 19 – DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**Agenda Subject:** “Recommendation to approve Intrastate Interlocal Contract between the County of Washoe and the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, for the period July 1, 2008 until June 30, 2012, for the purpose of providing non-public assistance child support establishment and enforcement services in Washoe County; and if approved, authorize Chairman to execute the Contract--District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke temporarily absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 19 be approved, authorized, and executed.

**08-497            AGENDA ITEM 20 – MANAGER**

**Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to approve and authorize the Chairman to execute Agreement for Weighted Case Load Study, Washoe and Clark Counties Nevada, Office of the Public Defender between the County of Washoe and Spangenberg Group [not to exceed \$214,785 (Washoe County’s share \$54,785 to come from Contingency, \$160,000 to be reimbursed to Washoe County from Clark County)] pursuant to the Supreme Court Order (ADKT No. 411) dated January 4, 2008, in the matter of the Review of Issues Concerning Representation of Indigent Defendants in Criminal and Juvenile Delinquency Cases; approve and authorize Chairman to execute an Interlocal Agreement for Weighted Case Load Study between the County of Washoe and Clark County for reimbursement from Clark County to Washoe County for its proportional share of the study; and if all approved, direct Finance to make the appropriate budget adjustments--Manager. (All Commission Districts.)”**

John Berkich, Assistant County Manager, conducted a brief review of the events leading to this agenda item and why the Spangenberg Group was chosen, as detailed in the staff report dated May 5, 2008.

Chairman Larkin stated he had no particular concern with the Spangenberg Group, but he was deeply concerned with the study approach, the methodology, and especially the lack of peer reviewed inputs into this particular approach. He noted that even though the approach was used in 40 other jurisdictions and was not challenged, he had to have confidence in the report’s conclusions. For instance, if the Public Defender said he needed 25-30 more attorneys, he had to feel the study led to that conclusion independent of the researchers and independent of the people being sampled in terms of their bias. He felt the way the report was structured now, without a concurrent peer review process, he could not accept it; and process should include auditing the sample group.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Mr. Berkich advised staff was looking at this highly specialized technical field to find out what kind of peer review process could be brought into this process and suggested the Board could make its approval conditional to a peer review process being added as a sub-process. He said staff would develop that sub-process and submit it to the Board for review and approval if necessary. Chairman Larkin said what he was alluding to was the need for some kind of audit to be conducted of the individuals that were randomly chosen along with a methodology indicating how the 12-week period would be selected.

Chairman Larkin said the individuals of the Spangenberg Group were excellently credentialed as attorneys and one also held a Masters in Information Systems; but he felt they had to employ an independent researcher who had specific credentials, preferably at the doctoral level, in basic research. He noted the Spangenberg Group did social management not research, which he had no problem with; but they had to employ someone who understood the scientific process, had the appropriate academic credentials, and was peer reviewed in terms of the overall process. He reiterated that when Mr. Bosler requested 20 more attorneys, he wanted to know that the request was supported by the Weighted Caseload Study.

Chairman Larkin said in terms of the instruments being proposed, there would have to be some kind of peer review. He felt just because they had been used in 40 internally processed reports, it did not mean they were valid or reliable in terms of the instrumentation for the empirical study the Spangenberg Group would be bringing to the Board. He stated the components of the instruments needed an internal validity and reliability review so the Board could have confidence in the results of the report. He said these were the specifics of what he was requesting.

In response to Chairman Larkin's earlier question, Mr. Berkich said page 22 of the proposal indicated the test period was identified to meet the entire calendar for this project and data entry would encompass a 12-week period beginning August 11th and ending October 31st. Chairman Larkin asked how the test period was selected. Mr. Berkich responded it was based on the amount of preparation work and the amount of analysis that had to be done after the test period was over. Chairman Larkin said because a lot went into these studies and he did not take them lightly. He believed the other Commissioners did not either.

Commissioner Galloway asked if he was correct in assuming that the results of the study would not be based on a previously adopted standard, but would be a time-effectiveness type study done on a sample group to determine how much time was needed to do a job such as indigent defense. Mr. Berkich replied it would be an empirical test that would calculate how much time an individual attorney spent on any element of processing and presenting the defense of a case. He said it had to be noted that the Supreme Court's decision with respect to the Performance Standards could have an impact on the data. Commissioner Galloway felt it definitely would have an impact. He stated it would be Clark and Washoe County people who would be meeting these standards, but the study could not be done until the standards were fully defined. Mr. Berkich indicated that was correct and the rules of the game still had to be determined. Commissioner Galloway said if the standards were not fully defined until July, and they were part of the test period starting August 11th, the attorneys would not have much time to adapt to the standards. He felt the point Chairman Larkin was raising was that three months later someone might say "if I had known what I knew now, I could do this faster and do this better." Mr. Berkich said that input would be taken into account and was something that had been looked at. He said because the Supreme Court came out with an Order that delayed the standards, it created an element of uncertainty with respect to the Performance Standards. He said any impact on this study and how well it was going to go

and how quickly it would be done would likely have staff bringing the study back to the Board and to the Court to change what was being proposed.

Commissioner Galloway said if the Board wanted certain things such as peer review to be written into this agreement, how would the Board know those things would be acceptable to Clark County. Mr. Berkich responded his sense was they would have no reason to object to it. Chairman Larkin interjected he was not suggesting this report be modified at this time, but was suggesting Mr. Berkich bring back to the Board an ancillary report. He stated Mr. Berkich had worked diligently on this agreement, and he believed it was a good deal; but he wanted to safeguard the County by having a peer review process. Commissioner Galloway asked if Washoe County could have its own peer review process if there was a disagreement with Clark County regarding it. Mr. Berkich said absolutely. Chairman Larkin said that would be his intent.

There was no public comment on this item.

Chairman Larkin made a motion that Agenda Item 20 be approved, authorized and directed with the terms and conditions as enumerated in the staff report and that, independent of Clark County who could participate if they wanted, a peer review process be brought back to the Board that would run concurrently with the Weighted Caseload Study.

Commissioner Galloway seconded the motion, but said he did not want his vote to lock in that August 11th date because he was afraid it might be too early. Chairman Larkin said he agreed. He felt people would not be totally inexperienced with the Supreme Court rules, but the Court could change them. He stated he did not want to lock the Board into a circumstance where, if the rules were changed significantly in July, people would be at the least efficient point at the start of the study. He felt the study could be shifted out three weeks to a month. Mr. Berkich confirmed this was a proposed timeline, which could be modified if necessary.

Commissioner Galloway commented it would be in the interest of Washoe and Clark Counties to, as they get the readings from the Supreme Court on what the Performance Standard would be, “test drive” how the routines would be done. He noted some people were running through routines so they would not be at the start of the learning curve when they were administered the test. He felt it was better to do some dry runs on probable standards to get ready.

Chairman Larkin explained for the public listening, the reason the Commissioners were spending so much time discussing this agreement was because the impact could be millions and millions of dollars that would come out of Washoe County’s General Fund and would translate into reduced services in other areas.

Mr. Berkich asked the motion include approval of the Interlocal Agreement. Chairman Larkin noted the “as enumerated in the staff report” included the Interlocal Agreement with Clark County.

On the call for the question, the motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Humke temporarily absent.

**4:55 p.m.** The Board convened at the Board of Directors of the Sierra Fire Protection District.

**5:00 p.m.** The Board reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners.

**08-498** **AGENDA ITEM 11 – APPEARANCE**

**Agenda Subject:** “**Appearance:** Stan Sherer, Director, City of Sparks Department of Parks and Recreation. Presentation on the Golden Eagle Regional Park Project located in Sparks--requested by Commissioner Larkin. (Commission District 4.)”

Stan Sherer, City of Sparks Department of Parks and Recreation Director, thanked the Board for allowing him to make a presentation on the 450 acre Golden Eagle Regional Park Project. A copy of his pictorial presentation was placed on file with the Clerk.

Mr. Sherer commented the first phase of the park to be developed was the Sports Complex. He explained the design process started early in 2005 and the actual construction of the Sports Complex commenced in late August of 2007. He noted it was the City of Sparks’ largest public works project. He said two-thirds of the project’s funds came from the sale of the Don Mello site on Sparks Boulevard and the balance came from Revenue Bonds, Regional Impact Fees the City of Sparks accumulated, and \$1.8 million from the 2000 Parks and Open Space Bond Issue.

**5:04 p.m.** Commissioner Jung left the meeting.

Mr. Sherer said the Sports Complex represented the largest artificial turf installation in the history of the industry at 1.4 million square feet, and he discussed the benefits of using artificial turf.

**5:06 p.m.** Commissioner Weber left the meeting.

Mr. Sherer said the replacement fields opened in the spring and the entire facility was operational with mostly landscaping still to be completed. He described the facilities available, those still to come, the state-of-the-art lighting used to light the fields, and the Interpretative Center that would be built by Washoe County.

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Mr. Sherer replied the better the contractor did with its concession operations, the more the Complex’s net revenue would be. He noted budget reductions meant the loss of a huge percentage of seasonal employees in addition to a couple of fulltime employees. He said the key to the Complex’s success would be marketing and the generation of enough revenue to offset its

operating costs. Commissioner Galloway felt there was the potential for huge concession sales.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Doug Doolittle, Regional Parks and Open Space Director, said the \$500,000 from WC-1 was part of the funding for the Interpretative Center and there was \$310,000 coming from Federal Land/Water Conservation Funds and State Question-1 Funding, which made up the total \$810,000. He described what would be included in the Interpretative Center and that preliminary work had started. He said its groundbreaking would be coordinated with the City of Sparks and was expected to be scheduled within the next 30 days.

Mr. Sherer said working with County staff on this and other projects was a pleasure because they were very professional and were great people to work with.

There was no public comment or action taken on this on this item.

**08-499      AGENDA ITEM 12 – APPEARANCE**

**Agenda Subject:** “**Appearance:** Brett Kandt, President, Truckee Meadows Tomorrow and Karen Hruby, Executive Director, Truckee Meadows Tomorrow. Presentation of Truckee Meadows Tomorrow's 2008 Community Wellbeing Report.

Brett Kandt, Truckee Meadows Tomorrow (TMT) President, conducted a PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He noted TNT's objective was to help the community to define its quality of life in a tangible objectively-measurable way. He discussed the community indicators that drove the entire process and that represented the community's quality of life values, which he noted were constantly evolving. He also discussed the *2008 Community Wellbeing Report*, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Mr. Kandt said prior to the process of using indicators to define and measure quality of life, the community had no benchmarks to gauge whether policy and program decisions were beneficial over time. He said today there was a broad-based set of quality of life indicators that had measurable data trends that were used to track the health of the community, to make strategic decisions, and to frame and shape an approach to issues. He said this process was pioneered in the Truckee Meadows and it was being recognized as a model in other communities.

**5:21 p.m.**      Commissioner Humke returned to the meeting.

Mr. Kandt invited the County to continue to partner with TNT. He said the next quarterly meeting would be June 26, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. at the Renown Medical Center and the discussion would focus on civic engagement.

Mr. Kandt recognized Kathy Carter, Community Relations Director, as being a tremendous supporter of TMT in addition to being a past president.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Karen Hruby, TMT Executive Director, explained the indicators without any markings that were in the Executive Summary were new indicators. Chairman Larkin commented on how invaluable the report and the indicators were to the Board of County Commissioners. He noted many were integrated into the County's planning and budgeting process as well as being a step up to the Commission's goals and objectives. He stated the indicators were part of the fabric of how the Commission operated.

Commissioner Galloway said he appreciated the work done by TNT. He asked about the approach being taken towards the declining Mental Health and Social Wellbeing indicator, especially regarding teen suicides. Ms. Hruby said that was a new indicator and the benchmarks were being established. She said TNT was trying to start new quality of life compacts to bring together the entities that needed to tackle the issue. Commissioner Galloway felt if the dynamics between teens that have behavioral issues could be changed, it would leave them less distressed and healthier mentally. He hoped something would emerge to deal with that issue. Mr. Kandt said the community recognized that the health and wellbeing of everyone in the community, including teens, was of value. He said that was why TNT showed it as an indicator to be tracked and measured and which would eventually provide a benchmark for improvement.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Mr. Kandt indicated one of the topics to be discussed at TNT's quarterly meeting would be the downward voting trend. Chairman Larkin asked what the Commissioners could do to encourage people to vote and to make it clear every vote counted. Katy Singlaub, County Manager, said Liz Ortiz, Community Relations Program Assistant, was actively working with the Registrar of Voter's Office regarding that issue. Chairman Larkin suggested a report to TNT or vice versa and then getting the information out to voters so they would be aware that their vote counted.

There was no public comment or action taken on this on this item.

**08-500      AGENDA ITEM 22**

**Agenda Subject: "Reports/updates from County Commission members concerning various boards/commissions they may be a member of or liaison to (these may include, but not be limited to, Regional Transportation Commission, Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority, Debt Management Commission, District Board of Health, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Organizational Effectiveness Committee, Investment Management Committee, Citizen Advisory Boards)."**

Commissioner Humke said the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) met last Friday and took up two ballot questions. He advised one question was a collection of fuel taxes that would act as an inflation catch-up provision and the other was for a 1/8 cent sales tax to be used for public transportation. He explained those were possible ballot questions that would come before the Board of County Commissioners. He advised an agreement was also reached regarding the developer impact fees, which

would be phased in. He said the Board of Health meeting would be held this coming Thursday.

Chairman Larkin asked if this agenda item, Reports/updates from County Commission members, should be combined with Commissioners'/Manager's Announcements that were made at the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Galloway said having this item at the end of the meeting came in handy in case something was not mentioned earlier.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, noted Chairman Larkin's birthday was last Saturday.

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

**May 20, 2008**

The following communications and reports were received, duly noted, and ordered placed on file with the Clerk:

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 08-501** Resignation of Dave Pedroli from the Gerlach/Empire Citizen Advisory Board, filed with the Clerk March 4, 2008.
- 08-502** Resignation of Debey Grimes from the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board, filed with the Clerk March 7, 2008.
- 08-503** Southwest Gas Corporation, Amendment to Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity dated March 19, 2008; amended application to expand service territory to areas not currently served by any natural gas service provider.
- 08-504** Notice of rate increase from the Gerlach General Improvement District, dated March 20, 2008 and effective March 1, 2008.
- 08-505** Bureau of Land Management notice of the filing of Plats of Survey in Nevada, filed with the Clerk April 8, 2008.
- 08-506** City of Sparks, Notice of intent to annex land dated April 21, 2008.
- 08-507** AT&T Nevada declaration of availability of IP video service dated April 21, 2008.

### **08-508      REPORTS – MONTHLY:**

- A. Washoe County Clerk of the Court, fee collections for March 2008.
- B. Washoe County Clerk of the Court, fee collections for April 2008.

### **REPORTS – QUARTERLY (QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 2008):**

- 08-509** Gerlach General Improvement District, economic report.
- 08-510** Grand View Terrace General Improvement District, financial statements.
- 08-511** Incline Village/Crystal Bay Office of the Constable, revenues received.
- 08-512** Sparks Justice Court, revenues received.

- 08-513** Washoe County Clerk, financial statement/fees collected.
- 08-514** Washoe County Clerk of the Court, financial statement/fees collected.
- 08-515** Washoe County Sheriff's Office, civil fees and commissions collected.

**TENTATIVE BUDGETS – FISCAL YEAR 2008/09:**

- 08-516** Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District.
- 08-517** City of Sparks.
- 08-518** City of Sparks, Redevelopment Agency I.
- 08-519** City of Sparks, Redevelopment Agency II.
- 08-520** Gerlach General Improvement District.
- 08-521** Palomino Valley General Improvement District.
- 08-522** Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority.

**TENTATIVE BUDGETS – FISCAL YEAR 2008/09 (continued):**

- 08-523** South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District.
- 08-524** Truckee Meadows Water Authority.
- 08-525** Verdi Television District.
- 08-526** Washoe County.
- 08-527** Washoe County School District.

\* \* \* \* \*

**5:36 p.m.** There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried with Commissioners Jung and Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that the meeting be adjourned.

**ROBERT M. LARKIN**, Chairman  
Washoe County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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

*Minutes Prepared by  
Jan Frazzetta, Deputy County Clerk*