

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

MARCH 15, 2016

PRESENT:

Kitty Jung, Chair
Bob Lucey, Vice Chair
Marsha Berkgigler, Commissioner
Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

Jan Galassini, Deputy Chief County Clerk
John Slaughter, County Manager
David Watts-Vial, Legal Counsel

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:00 a.m. 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 Deputy Chief Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

16-0203 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Sam Dehne spoke about an \$800 million tax bond that would be on the ballot in November. He said he ordered Tesla to pay their fair share of taxes.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

16-0204 AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Hartung asked staff to provide a five minute overview as to why the County utilized the Construction Manager at Risk method.

10:08 a.m. Commissioner Berkgigler left the meeting

Chair Jung inquired what the County was doing to coordinate a regional approach to address the opioid issue plaguing the Country. She said the region needed to proactively address the issue by coalescing law enforcement, social workers, and rehabilitation centers.

10:09 a.m. Commissioner Berkgigler returned to the meeting.

John Slaughter announced the pasture area at the Rancho San Rafael Regional Park would reopen for off-leash use for dogs. He also announced that Senior Services was holding an event where seniors could receive free food for their pets.

Chair Jung added the County would be holding a press conference at Rancho San Rafael Park for the reopening of the dog park, and that the Communications team needed to relay that information. She mentioned she was using some of her discretionary fund to pay for refreshments at the event.

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

16-0205 **AGENDA ITEM 5** Approve minutes for the Board of County Commissioners concurrent meeting of February 1, 2016.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 5 be approved.

16-0206 **AGENDA ITEM 6** Presentation of Excellence in Public Service Certificates honoring the following Washoe County employees who have completed essential employee development courses.

John Slaughter, County Manager, recognized the following employees for successful completion of the Excellence in Public Service Certificate Programs administered by the Human Resources Department:

Promote Yourself! Mini Certificate Program

Heidi Howden, Reno Justice Court

Essentials of Train the Trainer

Charity Rosasco, Sheriff's Office

Essentials of Management Development

Mary Deberg, Sheriff's Office

Essentials of Support Staff

Erica Bower, Assessor

Jessica Cabrales, Health District

Magali Cooke, Senior Services

Cassie Donnan, Sheriff's Office

Pama Gillam, Social Services

Darcy Chappel, Social Services

Chair Jung commented that only women had taken advantage of the courses. She thanked the department heads for allowing their staff to take time off to better themselves. She encouraged all staff to take advantage of the courses.

DONATIONS

- 16-0207** **7A** Accept a donation of two vehicles [estimated value of vehicles is \$13,396.00] from the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) for use by the Sheriff's Office in undercover and bait operations. . Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7A be accepted.

PROCLAMATIONS

- 16-0208** **8A1** Proclamation – March 31, 2016 as Cesar Chavez Day.

Commissioner Hartung read and presented the Proclamation to Ramon Chavez, Cesar Chavez's nephew, and Andrew Barbano.

Mr. Chavez thanked the Board on behalf of his family.

Mr. Barbano stated he produced the annual Cesar Chavez event, which would take place on March 30th at Circus Circus. He said he was Vice President of the Reno-Sparks National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), which was an associate sponsor of the Cesar Chavez event. He thanked the Board for the proclamation and asked them to make the proclamation mean something. He mentioned he made the same request when the NAACP accepted proclamations for Black History Month from the Sparks and Reno City Councils. He spoke about the City of Sparks' Diversity Commission and the City of Reno's exploration of a Human Rights Commission. He asked the Board to coordinate with the cities of Reno and Sparks to establish a Human Rights and Diversity Commission that worked for all three entities. He said in addition to the proclamation, the Board would be acting in the spirit of Cesar Chavez and the human rights he gave his life for.

There was no public comment on the Proclamation listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8A1 be adopted.

- 16-0209** **8A2** Proclamation – March 16, 2016 as Kick Butts Day.

Commissioner Berkbigler read the Proclamation.

Commissioner Berkbigler said she had the dubious distinction of having been the original non-smoking lobbyist in the state of Nevada. She added she lobbied the Legislature to change the State's non-smoking law.

Kelli Seals, Health District Health Educator Coordinator, stated Kick Butts Day was a day of youth activism and she introduced two University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), students, Tina Hailer and Christine Bohemier. She also introduced Frankie Vigil, American Lung Association Executive Director.

Tina Hailer said Kick Butts Day was a day of activism to help prevent tobacco use. She added important steps had been made throughout Nevada to reduce tobacco use and exposure, which included the increase of the State tobacco tax. She noted another important strategy was to create tobacco and electronic cigarette free indoor and outdoor spaces.

Christine Bohemier stated UNR went tobacco free in August 2015, becoming the first campus of higher education in Nevada to become smoke and tobacco free. She commented that as a UNR student she looked forward to continued efforts in the community to implement strategies to reduce tobacco use and protect people from second-hand smoke exposure.

Kevin Dick, Health District Health Officer, thanked the Board. He pointed out cigarette smoking rates were going down but electronic cigarettes and vaping rates were increasing dramatically. He said he would like the proclamation to mean something and to continue Kick Butts Day into the future. He mentioned a smoking cessation phone line (1-800-Quit-Now) was available for free assistance. He remarked he looked forward to appearing before the Board at its next meeting to talk about some of the changes to the County's smoking policy and efforts to further restrict exposure to second-hand smoke on the County complex.

Ms. Vigil thanked the Board. She noted exposure to second-hand smoke increased a person's possibility of having a cardiovascular event by 30 percent, which was one of the reasons why having non-smoking indoor and outdoor facilities was appreciated.

There was no public comment on the Proclamation listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8A2 be adopted.

16-0210 **8A3** Proclamation of support for Basin and Range Organics.

Commissioner Lucey read and presented the Proclamation to members of the Basin and Range Organics (BARO) Board of Directors.

Pat Lynch stated she was on the BARO Board of Directors and she introduced fellow officers of the Board, Marcia and Steve Litsinger, and Ben Rush, Program Director. She noted BARO Board members Clint Koble, Rob Holley and Garrett Gatewood were unable to attend. She thanked the Board and stated BARO's effort was to promote the value of growing, raising and handling of organic foods throughout the state of Nevada.

Ben Rush, Program Director, said by supporting BARO, the Board also supported residents in Nevada who were consumers and those who adopted higher standards of production in ranching and the handling of organic foods. He also thanked the Board.

Steve Litsinger thanked the Board. He said BARO supported the County by increasing the number of farmers, growers, processors and handlers. By supporting their efforts, he believed this was a beginning to a new economic turn in the County.

There was no public comment on the Proclamations listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8A3 be adopted.

16-0211 **AGENDA ITEM 9** Possible Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations with Washoe County, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and/or Sierra Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220.

There was no closed session.

16-0212 **AGENDA ITEM 10** Public Comment.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

16-0213 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Berkgigler thought it was time for the County, the City of Reno and the City of Sparks to establish a Human Rights and Diversity Commission. She asked staff to present an agenda item regarding the Commission.

Commissioner Hartung concurred with Commissioner Berkgigler's comments.

Chair Jung requested the Communications team to work with the recipients of the proclamations to produce material for the Washoe County Television to help promote their causes. She mentioned the possibility of having a proclamation policy to help support non-profit organizations that did not have the budget to advertise. The promotional materials could also be shared with the cities of Reno and Sparks, who also had their own television channels.

Commissioner Lucey stated the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) would be offering free rides on Saint Patrick's Day. He urged the County's citizens to not to drink and drive, and to utilize RTC's services. He mentioned the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority hosted the Big Sky Basketball Tournament. He welcomed the United States Bowling Congress bowlers to the area.

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

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10:55 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion duly carried, the meeting was adjourned.

KITTY K. JUNG, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

NANCY PARENT, County Clerk and
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

*Minutes Prepared by:
Michael Siva, Deputy County Clerk*