BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

TUESDAY 10:00 A.M. JULY 19, 2016

PRESENT:

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

Jan Galassini, Chief Deputy 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 Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

16-0637 AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Donald Dixon expressed his concerns regarding the security of the electrical grid. He recommended that the County request from the Nevada Public Utilities Commission, or whomever the Board considered appropriate, to certify the electrical substation compliance for the area. Handouts were placed on file with the Clerk.

Elise Weatherly said she was still trying to find out how to get the Chuck Colson Ministry back into the juvenile center. She spoke about Pastor Marvin Neal and she asked what lead to the change in direction since Pastor Marvin Neal had been there so long. She said she called Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, but never received a response.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

16-0638 AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Herman spoke about a conversation she had with a Cold Springs resident regarding street sweepers. She asked who was responsible for sweeping the streets. She mentioned residents in Lemmon Valley and the surrounding areas still had issues regarding the cleanup of their culverts and ditches. She inquired whether the County could contract someone to clean up the culverts and ditches during the summers.
Commissioner Hartung stated he and Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, had discussed the potential to place a dentist into the Emergency Room (ER) system in order to address some of the oral issues. He explained how a person with an impacted tooth would not be properly treated in the ER. He said he received comments from an ER that they would make room for a dentist and he mentioned two dental service programs in the County.

Commissioner Lucey requested a staff report from the Sheriff’s Office and the Community Services Department to see if anything could be done regarding a speed reduction on Andrew Lane. He acknowledged Christopher Hicks, District Attorney, was in attendance and thanked him for a $10,000 donation from the District Attorney’s Forfeiture Fund to the Join Together Northern Nevada organization. He mentioned a recent district forum was held at the South Valleys Library to discuss Medical Marijuana Establishments in Washoe Valley. He thanked the library’s management and staff; as well as, several County staff who assisted with the forum.

Commissioner Berkbigler stated she attended the birthday celebration for the Great Reno Balloon Race and at the event, it was announced that a Balloon Race specialty license plate would soon be released. Part of the proceeds from the plate would go to the Balloon Race association.

Chair Jung said she also attended the Great Reno Balloon Race’s 35 year anniversary celebration. She remarked had the County not waved the park fees for the Great Reno Balloon Race in the past, it might no longer exist. She added the County continued to wave the park fees and the Great Reno Balloon Race was the largest free hot air balloon race in the world. The event had a tremendous impact on the County as people came from all over to attend. In regards to the unrest across the Country, she requested for the Department of Emergency Management to work with other agencies to conduct some sort of practice or drill. She mentioned Donald Dixon’s comments during public comment about power grid threats and the veracity of those claims. She stated she attended a Criminal Justice Advisory Committee meeting on mental health. She asked staff to provide the Board with an update and possibly look for direction regarding Nevada Revised Statute 433C – Community Mental Health Programs. She also mentioned the issue of housing for the mentally ill and suggested asking the Chamber of Commerce to lobby the banks to donate one foreclosed house a year to a non-profit organization.

Commissioner Lucey stated he and Commissioner Berkbigler participated in a recent Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) meeting. He mentioned Commissioner Hartung consistently asked for a decelerate lane on Calle De La Plata and Pyramid Highway. He reported that the Nevada Department of Transportation was going to start working on the decelerate lane. He also mentioned there was an uptick in bus ridership over the past year and that RTC was looking to add more routes. Bus service would be expanded into the outlining areas of the County.
Commissioner Berkbigler noted the area of Somersett, which was home to many in the senior community, was also being looked at for a bus service route.

Commissioner Hartung thanked Commissioner Lucey for his diligent work regarding RTC issues. He thought the RTC should give unlimited free bus rides to the children at The Children’s Cabinet and also to veterans.

Chair Jung challenged the other Commissioners to get a Balloon Race license plate. She added she participated in a “Yes” on Question 2 commercial in favor of the Marijuana Legalization Initiative. She closed by stating she attended a Northern Nevada Muslim Community celebration to mark the end of Ramadan at the Lazy 5 Regional Park.

16-0639 AGENDA ITEM 5 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:

**Essentials of High Performing Teams**
Celina Gonzalez-Valenzuela, District Attorney
Mayela Lozano-Garcia, District Attorney

**Essentials of Support Staff**
Celina Gonzalez-Valenzuela, District Attorney

**Promote Yourself! Mini Certificate Program**
Celina Gonzalez-Valenzuela, District Attorney

Chair Jung thanked Christopher Hicks, District Attorney, for supporting his staff.

16-0640 DONATIONS

6.1. Accept a donation [$1,800.00] from Nevada Bighorns Unlimited Reno to the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office for the Sheriff’s Office Deputy Reserve Program, including funds to be used for food purchases and travel, and, if approved, authorize Comptroller’s Office to make appropriate budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts)
6.2. Approve cash donations in the [amount of $1,290.00] for the period of June 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016 and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the appropriate budget amendment. Social Services. (All Commission Districts.)

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

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Items 6.1 to 6.2 be accepted.

AGENDA ITEM 7 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.

AGENDA ITEM 8 Public Comment.

Cathy Brandhorst spoke about matters of concern to herself.

AGENDA ITEM 9 Announcements/Reports.

There were no announcements or reports.
10:38 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

ATTEST:

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KITTY K. JUNG, Chair
Washoe County Commission

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

Minutes Prepared by:
Michael Siva, Deputy County Clerk