

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 31, 2017

PRESENT:

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

Jan Galassini, Chief Deputy County Clerk
John Slaughter, County Manager
Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:03 a.m. in special session at the Reno Town Mall, 4001 S. Virginia Street, Reno Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority Administrative Offices/Board Room, 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:

17-0089 **AGENDA ITEM 3** Public Comment.

Tammy Still said she sent emails to all of the Commissioners but only received a response from Commissioners Herman and Berkbigler. She spoke regarding flooding in Lemmon Valley and thought the Lemmon Valley residents had been deceived and were being ignored. She quoted the Strategic Master Plan Mission Statement about a safe, secure, and healthy community and thought this was being ignored in Lemmon Valley. She provided a handout that included emails she sent to the Commissioners, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

17-0090 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Strategic Planning Discussion: The purpose of the Strategic Planning Workshop is to discuss and possibly give direction regarding strategic objectives, current Fiscal Year 2017 goals and possible Fiscal Year 2018 goals of the Washoe County Commission, which may include, but not be limited to review, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding: Washoe County's Strategic Planning Process; Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Outlook for Washoe County; 2017 Washoe County Department's accomplishments and FY18 Focus; Washoe County's Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 Goals.

John Slaughter, County Manager, stated the meeting would be run as a workshop format.

Chair Lucey stated this was an informal session that was held once a year to give insight and direction for the County. He noted the Department Heads were present to review their department's achievements and future goals. He expressed the eagerness of the Board to hear the presentations because without leadership and direction it would be difficult to provide policy and procedures.

Erica Olsen, Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder of OnStrategy thanked everyone for attending. She stated this meeting was the annual review of the strategic plan. She indicated this meeting would be for guidance and direction only and there would be no action taken. She reviewed slides entitled Retreat Outcomes and Agenda from a PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk. The PowerPoint presentation included strategic plan information and department presentations.

Al Rogers, Director of Management Services, reviewed the presentation slides entitled: Citizen Survey Highlights and 2016 Citizen Survey. He noted there was a meeting scheduled at the end of the week to incorporate all the direction received from the Commissioners. He stated the 2016 Citizen Survey was a data-driven survey geared towards Washoe County specifically. He commented he would bring the information back to the Board in early March but said from a high-level review at this time the survey findings were favorable.

Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager, presented information regarding the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget process. She reviewed slides entitled: Budget Timeline; Preliminary Budget Trends; Historical General Fund Revenues & Expenses; and General Fund Preliminary Projection – Washoe County Must Maintain Financial Sustainability. She explained the trend had been steady since 2014.

Mark Mathers, Budget Manager, reviewed slides entitled: General Fund Budget Trends; FY17 & FY18 Revenue Trends; Property Tax Formula; New Development; C-Tax Revenues are Normalizing; Known Cost Increases; Legislative Issues and Unknowns; Capital Needs; and Historical General Fund Available Balances. Ms. Vuletich concluded the financial and budget review with slides entitled: Summary and Recommendations.

Commissioner Hartung was concerned about sales tax related to online purchases. He thought online sales were increasing and that could affect the sales tax revenue. Mr. Mathers stated that was a Federal issue. He commented the State had reached an agreement with Amazon and other online retailers to collect sales tax on taxable goods. He noted that services were non-taxable and he said there was not an option to change that. He concurred with Commissioner Hartung that sales tax was a reduction in revenue. Commissioner Hartung agreed that non-tangible items should not be taxed. He noted retail sales from large brick and mortar businesses were down and online sales were up. He stated there was a pushback from EBay regarding sales tax.

Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager, stated the Board was interested in the top priorities from each department to lessen the workload for the budget process. Commissioner Berkbigler stated there had been a large number of fiscal requests from the Legislature and asked how many would impact the County. Mr. Rogers replied they've received 42 requests, the majority of which would not dramatically affect Washoe County; most were focused around voters and elections. Mr. Slaughter noted the numbers were preliminary and they could go up or down. He noted decisions had been made that needed to be funded, such as COLAs.

Chair Lucey noted under Commissioner Jung's direction the County was experiencing growth but that it could take a while to get where they wanted to be. He commented they were not seeing the growth they expected but the County accomplished many things last year which resulted in many individual departments seeing growth. He said progress was moving in the right direction but expressed concern over the possible costs of legislative issues. He suggested prioritizing one or two issues at a time to address properly.

Commissioner Berkbigler voiced her concern about recreational marijuana and its impact on local governments. She disagreed with the presentation given to students that stated a big chunk of the tax money went to the County, for it was her understanding that none of it went to the County. She expressed worry about the social use of marijuana and questioned if it could be smoked openly in casinos. Commissioner Herman asked how they were going to maintain their current balance if they had to service new development areas.

Al Rogers suggested skipping the section on fees and that they should discuss it at a later Board meeting. Mr. Slaughter added that many County fees and schedules had not been examined for many years and, given that fiscal responsibility was a priority of the meeting, he urged it be discussed soon. Commissioner Jung directed staff be available to the District Health Officer to create fair fees.

Commissioner Hartung agreed, adding the County was not working for profit; he expected a net zero. He cautioned against taking enterprise funds from the specific departments where they were generated.

Tammi Davis, Washoe County Treasurer, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She stated the Treasurer's mission was to provide excellent customer service as they collected, invested, and distributed the revenues that funded vital government services. She explained their priority for customer service first had to be driven by technology without bypassing the human element. They had implemented a new payment processing system which enabled them to touch payments once as paper and then complete the transaction electronically. Due to some transactions not living up to their standards, they implemented an additional Quality Assurance Queue (QAQ). She said since the cuts in staffing happened, their workflow looked different. To accommodate this, they optimized technology, allowing them to better track trends, and moved to Voice over IP (VOIP) telephone system for

recording purposes. They completed an exhaustive audit of duties and positions so that, when they came to the Commissioners with a request, they'd have salient data to back up their request.

Jeremy Bosler, Public Defender, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He further discussed the launch of the Pretrial Risk Assessment Tool (PRAT), which allowed people who were not at risk to be removed from jail. To do this they created a Category A type, under which would fall those people whose sentences were potentially life terms. He lauded the intern and volunteer hours accumulated in his department. He expressed concerns about recreational marijuana, law enforcement, therapeutic courts, and immigration. He announced his department was being considered as a pilot site for a Teach for America style organization, for which they would be given two full-time employees for two years.

Commissioner Jung informed Mr. Bosler the Commissioners would help out however possible to win the pilot site. Commissioner Hartung asked Ms. Davis if there was a cost-effective way to keep local the fees the County typically sent out of state. She said finding a Nevada-based firm to handle many of those fees was difficult; for example there were no lockbox service companies operating in Nevada. Commissioner Hartung clarified that he'd like to see the fees all kept internally by having County staff perform the work and Ms. Davis said they already do that with lockbox services. Commissioner Hartung said he'd like to work with the Sheriff's Office regarding the alarm fee.

Joseph Ingraham, Department of Alternative Sentencing, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He also touted the success of the Sober 24 pilot program, which was modeled after the 24/7 program in South Dakota. They performed testing in conjunction with Child Protective Services which resulted in many parents being reunited with their children. He stressed the importance of risk need assessment tools and reported his team supervised 2,554 cases, an increase of 68% over the prior two years. He stated he wanted to collaborate with the District Courts to lessen the department's pre-trial case workload.

Kevin Dick, District Health Officer, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He spoke of working with Commissioner Jung to create and implement a strategic plan and also to make and implement a health improvement plan that addressed education, access to healthcare and social services, behavioral health, and food and security. He announced they hired Sharon Zadra as Director of the Truckee Meadows Health Communities Initiative. He thanked Chair Lucey for his support of their family health festivals and stated they were planning future affordable housing forums. He mentioned they were looking for a position in their chronic disease program. Because of fee increases, the department was able to give back \$280,000 to the County, but Mr. Dick noted because of COLAs and benefits they could have a hole in their budget in future years. He indicated they would be asking for additional funding for environmental services personnel.

David Hardy, District Court Judge, presented seven slides regarding the courthouse project. The project started in 1996 when the BCC funded a repair and rehabilitation study, which led to the County purchasing the Pioneer Casino for \$13.2 million. He provided historical information about the courthouse and pointed out that the County's growth had made the current building inadequate. The County's population over the previous 17 years had grown 29.6% and it was expected to grow another 121% by 2055. Since 2000, the County spent approximately \$8 million just to keep the Court in its building. He revealed a study recommended a phased approach: to accommodate the known needs now and defer more uncertain future needs to a later phase. He said following modern trends architecturally would result in sharing space, so that not every judge would be attached to a certain courtroom. The recommended phase one tower was 100,000 square feet, which could potentially include hearing rooms and dispute resolution space. The written request for cost was \$37 million, but Judge Hardy quoted a more realistic cost of \$45-55 million. He listed several potential methods to raise some of the money needed and pledged to work with the Court and the County to enjoy the financial benefits of a more contemporary space. He asked the County to authorize a general and non-binding statement of conceptual support and invited the Commissioners to join him at the courthouse to become familiar with the needs.

Commissioner Hartung stated the Commissioners were not properly agendized to make a commitment, though he did say he had no issue with such an authorization. He asked staff to consider if the proposed location was ideal, or if the funds could be better used to form a partnership, giving them more funds to build a facility. Judge Hardy replied the project belonged to the County that the Court would pursue all options to determine what made the most sense. Commissioner Jung questioned if Judge Hardy had been working with the Community Foundation of Western Nevada and its donors. Judge Hardy would not disclose specific partners but stated they were examining options both locally and nationally. When asked by Commissioner Jung what role he was playing, Judge Hardy said he stepped away from the operational work of the Court and had become the primary driver of the project. Commissioner Jung asked if there was a person heading the development of the project as she had someone to recommend off the record. Judge Hardy indicated they had at least three entities in mind but he was willing to discuss other options. Commissioner Jung suggested they considered enacting the government services tax which would raise about \$16 million a year in extra revenue, portions of which could go to seed funding for the courthouse, replacing voting machines, building a new library, and improving the jail.

Paul Lipparelli, Deputy District Attorney's, spoke on behalf of Christopher Hicks and reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. The accomplishments included the Child Advocacy Center, the Family Support Early Intervention Program, and the Criminal Division. The priorities included hiring a new Program Director of the Victim Services' Division, improving the counseling services and enhancing the medical team of the Child Advocacy Center, and addressing changes of court processes within the scope of their criminal division.

David Solaro, Director of Community Services, reviewed the achievements of the 2016-2017 fiscal year, starting with staffing the Incline Road Substation, which benefitted Incline Village as well as the rest of Truckee Meadows. They developed and implemented a strategic plan and completed interviews with external stakeholders, both of which helped them remain the leader in building and planning. Looking forward, he intended to implement the insight received to create a more streamlined process for entitlement of properties and buildings. Another priority was to participate in the regional plan update to set the direction of the Board.

Frank Cervantes, Director of Juvenile Services, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He highlighted the new Standardized Training Program which would allow each officer in his department to be trained by full-time field training officer. He noted the Sheriff's Office invited his officers to participate in the Category 1 Police Academy, which would be a step up in their training. He stated they were able to enhance their Detention Center education program through an increased number of teachers, the University of Nevada providing paid interns, and having the biggest summer school budget within the district.

Dexter Thomas, Justice Court Administrator, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He stated he collaborated with District Court, Department of Alternative Sentencing, Court Services, Probation Department, and the District Attorney on the PRAT. He noted all Justice Courts in Washoe County would be on the same case management system. He emphasized the collaboration his department had with the other branches of government in order to better serve the citizens, which was their top priority for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. They also sought to increase their collaborative efforts with criminal justice partners, as well as to purchase and adapt new technologies.

Jeffrey Scott, Library Director, reviewed two slides, one showing statistics of the library system and the other listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He also announced a new "Literacy is the Cure" initiative that many Northern Nevada libraries and other non-profits and businesses were participating in.

Michael Clark, County Assessor, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He defined the Assessor's Office as the County's appraisal service, servicing all real estate, all personal property involved in a business, and all personal aircraft, among other things. In 2016, the Assessor's Office lost 11 employees to retirement including every division head – accounting for 232 years of institutional knowledge – as well as losing three employees to promotion. Despite this, all state mandated deadlines were met. They reappraised 174,989 parcels of real estate worth over \$14.2 billion and also \$714 million in personal property. He reported they added 68,000 new photos of properties available for inspection, converted 19,000 drawings to digital format, and added 2,447 buildings to assessment roll with new construction value of roughly \$37 million.

Dr. Laura Knight, Chief Medical Examiner, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She thanked the Board for their support in the transition to the new Medical Examiner's Office and noted they rebranded as a regional facility since they serve 19 counties. She noted they handled a record-breaking number of cases in the 2016-2017 fiscal year and said they hoped to get accredited nationally before it would be federally mandated, especially since most Medical Examiner's offices nationwide were already accredited. She stated their case load had more than doubled since 2007 and anticipated upstaffing so as not to affect the DA's office, other coroners, or Washoe County citizens.

Cathy Hill, County Comptroller, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. Additionally she mentioned each Comptroller employee observed other departments to better understand their environment and work.

Donald Cavallo, Public Administrator, reviewed two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He asserted anything digital that had a password was considered a digital asset, including online banking, stocks, Facebook, and electronic wills. He praised Computrust, the new database, and stated Washoe County was the first in the U.S. to upgrade to internet capability. He showed pictures of a home where they evicted the residents and discovered hazardous waste and dead animals inside, and another picture where they had extracted pipe bombs from a home.

Shyanne Schull, Director of Regional Animal Services, reviewed two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She explained they developed programs to keep pets with seniors and spoke of partnering with the Nevada Humane Society on a program to provide give twelve pallets of pet food to seniors. They also developed a home visit program to provide basic veterinary care to 67 pets of low-income housebound owners. Another program saw more than 250 pets of seniors get vaccines and microchips, part of the 3,400 animals in the region to receive microchips. She explained 10 years ago 44% of cats and 88% of dogs had live releases and how both numbers had increased to 96% in 2016. In the following year they planned to focus on spay/neuter programs and block walk programs to help the community's pets.

Craig Betts, Chief Information Officer of Technology Services, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He added they had worked together with the Cities of Reno and Sparks, the Health District, and the County to launch Accela. His department also worked with the department heads to roll out the Payment Card Industry Assessment to insure credit card security. He claimed cybersecurity was the number one priority moving forward and stated they were cooperating with the Nevada Department of Transportation to replace their radio system. He announced one third of Technology Services employees were eligible to retire within three years so they were working on documentation and cross-training to be prepared.

Chuck Allen, County Sheriff, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He explained the department was broken down into the three bureaus: the Administrations Bureau, the Operations Bureau, and the Detention Bureau. He disclosed \$345,536 in grant funding would be used for backlogged DNA testing cases, metal analyzer cameras, and a true narcotics analyzer for controlled substance testing. He stated they were collaborating with Nevada Division of Public and Behavior Health and others to reduce the wait list length for patients at Lakes Crossing. Before the wait list saw an average of 23 inmates waiting up to 8 months, but those numbers were down to four inmates waiting roughly two weeks, resulting in a savings of about \$20k per inmate. He said 32 Very Important Protocol Persons (VIPP) – dignitaries and presidential candidates – visited the area, which equated to over 2,600 personnel hours and \$130,000 in unfunded salary. He highlighted the importance of staffing and noted he would be requesting additional employees. He also listed training new recruits, particularly in the new Crime Lab, and maintaining equipment as priorities. He addressed the inequity of Washoe County sharing their resources and how that has produced sizeable budget requirements for the department. He cited a 2003 fiscal equity study that mandated all jail functions related to transport fall under the Sheriff's office, which added to the cost.

12:21 p.m. The Board recessed.

12:30 p.m. The Board reconvened with all members present.

Kevin Schiller spoke on behalf of Susan Deboer, Public Guardian, and he reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. In reference to Guardianship Training, he cited a commission report in September 2016 that delineated issues tied to providing better protection in the guardianship process. He commended how much the department was able to do with such a small staff and that they strived to provide better service with the least fiscal impact.

Lawrence Burtness, County Recorder, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He defined the Recorder's primary job as recording documents such as maps, mining documents, and marriage documents, but said the bulk of their documents were property records. Other lesser-known responsibilities of the department included protecting, preserving, and providing access to over 150 years of documents. He announced they remodeled their credit card process to have the customer absorb the fees.

Jennifer Lunt, Alternate Public Defender, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She hoped to avoid asking for additional funds for staffing, but conceded if changes in the District Court happened as expected, she would not be able to proceed as staffed.

Luanne Cutler, Registrar of Voters, reviewed the two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She additionally stated the hope was to have the new voting system implemented prior to the next election

cycle. Her department had been working with four legislators to get a bill in front of the legislation to help with the expense of the new voting equipment. She stated Clark County had already moved to the system Washoe was hoping to move to and stressed it was critical for them to do so. They determined a lease option would be the best way to go.

Amber Howell, Social Services Director, reviewed the two slides listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. She announced Washoe County Social Services received a \$1.7 million Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant, the highest of any agency in the state. She praised the Kids Kottage for having only six children not placed, down from 60 or 70 from before, and stated the Teen Kottage was set to open.

John Listinsky, Director of Human Resources, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He stated when he began with the County four years ago the retiree population was around 920; it had grown to 1,600 and it was projected another 450-470 employees would be eligible to retire within two years. He speculated employees who stay hired for more than five years tended to stay for 20 or 30 years and that this growth of retirees could become a financial burden. When restructuring the compensation program, they would no longer use only California as a model but would compare numbers with Idaho, Utah, and New Mexico as well.

John Slaughter, County Manager, reviewed the slide listing the department's 2016-2017 accomplishments and 2018-2019 priorities. He explained every year for the previous three years they had the same priorities and stressed succession management planning would need to be a priority for the County moving forward.

Ms. Olsen noted the overall goals for the county were the same six goals that had been in place the previous few years. Mr. Solaro continued by reviewing the slides concerning Goal #1: Economic Growth. He asked the Commission what they wanted Washoe County to be as it continued to grow. He stated the further you get away from infrastructure, the more infrastructure and services cost.

Commissioner Herman remarked the number one priority was taking care of the taxpayers. Commissioner Hartung mentioned one stumbling block for the County was waste water; the infrastructure to handle it was old and the facilities were not in the best locations. He noted transportation was an issue and suggested possibly building a subway system. He proposed following in the City of Sparks' footsteps by performing a study to see if the tax base would support the level of development and services, which would affect where to place commercial and industrial areas. He listed the permit process and the coordination of departments as issues, citing the Fire Marshall and the Health Department as examples. He suggested looking inward to streamline processes and help developers create jobs and added moving from a single map to a double map system might work.

Commission Berkbigler praised Commissioner Hartung's map suggestion to show the cost of building a development in outlying areas. She questioned Mr. Solaro if considering impact fees was the proper approach to take and asked him how to provide for the growth and the need for infrastructure now. She expressed concern about how growth was going to affect all departments. Mr. Solaro replied they already consider the increase of revenue versus the impact of new services in both the near term and in the long-term picture. Commissioner Berkbigler pointed out some of the people who come to Washoe County might not be good people, which could put a strain on the jails and Social Services department.

Commissioner Jung advised new residential areas should not be put where infrastructure would need to be developed; it should be where growth was already happening. She also proposed incentivizing commercial growth rather than residential. She addressed Mr. Hartung's water concern by saying that should be headed up by Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA). Commissioner Hartung suggested incentivizing developers to make houses more self-sufficient by incorporating solar panels and battery walls. He echoed Ms. Berkbigler's comment about how fees are not always used in the proper places and cited RTC's misappropriation of Regional Road Impact Fees as an example.

Chair Lucey requested innovative solutions to fix problems such as the transportation issues. Mr. Solaro responded that development needed to pay for itself not only today but also in the future. Chair Lucey declared they needed to deal with the annexation issues of the County in a way that would be functional and sustainable to prevent the chaos that had resulted. He spoke of the need to develop a cohesive regional development vision and the County's crucial role in this, and noted Washoe County was changing and they had to change with it.

Mr. Rogers and Dwayne Smith, Director of Engineering and Capital Projects, presented the slides about Goal #3: Infrastructure. Mr. Rogers asked to hear from the Commissioners what success in infrastructure would look like both locally and regionally. Mr. Smith listed areas they were specifically interested in: parks, fire stations, sewer infrastructure, storm water infrastructure, roadways, and courts. He acknowledged their initiatives of maintaining a five year capital program and bringing the County's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) into compliance with its budget. He sought direction from the Board so they could turn ideas into policy.

Commission Berkbigler asked if the storm water district Mr. Smith brought up was intended to be region-wide. Mr. Smith clarified that was the direction he was looking to get from the Board. She stressed dislike of using taxpayers' dollars twice from two different departments and noted the current focus was on flooding in downtown Reno and the Sparks industrial district. She inquired if it was feasible to go to the Legislature to redirect some of the flood-control money toward storm water issues. Commissioner Hartung replied the Truckee Meadows Flood Management Authority gets 1/16th of a cent by law and stressed the need for a regional flood water utility. He stated they didn't have enough funding to even complete the river flooding project so they

would have to go back to the Legislature for additional funds. He questioned how to ask people to pay for a regional floodwater project that only related to river flood prevention when other areas were also flooding. He stated Washoe County was in a perfect place to drive the conversation but they would have to work with the Flood Management Authority in terms of a regional program.

Mr. Smith acknowledged flooding was a regional issue that required input from regional partners and that much of the existing storm water infrastructure was old. Commissioner Berkbigler brought up they would need to address how to pay for the Lake Tahoe cleanup. Commissioner Hartung claimed as much as 90% of flooding in the County was not river related and called the need for a regional flood water system imperative. Commissioner Herman posed the idea that developers should pay the costs for flood control. Mr. Smith responded all new development projects go through a review process including that they adhere to County Code Chapter 416 regarding storm water infrastructure. He mentioned because of changes in code, research needed to be done about both the need for and ways to fund proposals to work with developers. Mr. Rogers thanked the Board for its direction and said they would think about planning more regionally.

Ms. Howell presented slides about Goal #2: the Senior Population. She stated for all three vulnerable populations – children, adults, and seniors – they needed to be safe, secure, and healthy, preferably in their own homes. The department's first priority was nutrition, mainly in the form of meals for seniors. She explained 15.8% of seniors were at risk of hunger and her department only provided 11% of the nutritional needs of the seniors. Ms. Olsen added the Board directed them in November to expand the goal to vulnerable populations.

Commissioner Hartung asked if cost assistance was available if the senior was a veteran. Leslie Williams, Division Director of Finance of Social Services, answered there was no direct way to recover costs with veterans but they did coordinate with Veterans Resources to help. Commissioner Berkbigler asked if they had a plan to expand beyond the 11% current baseline, to which Ms. Howell said their plan in the next budget cycle was to increase meals by 100,000. This would cost \$475,000 to renovate the kitchens and to account for the increase in contract and staffing costs.

Ms. Howell said to keep seniors at home, which would be very beneficial, their base request would include additional funding for services such as caregiver support, in-home services, and respite services. She repeated the importance of the \$1.9 million VOCA grant they received two years in a row which helped offset costs and allowed them to begin pilot programs, but indicated there was not enough money in their current budget to allow for expansion.

Chair Lucey emphasized Human Services were critical the County and mentioned the need for innovative solutions that could also save money. He urged all departments to keep an open mind to new pilot programs and initiatives, citing the Crossroads program that won national awards. Commissioner Berkbigler stressed the

County would always need to care for the vulnerable populations. She suggested having Commissioners congratulate graduates of the Crossroads program like the City of Reno was doing with their Reno Works project. Ms. Howell announced they hired a new Community Outreach Coordinator to act as a public relations person. Ms. Olson confirmed the direction of the Commission that they expand their concentration beyond just seniors to include other vulnerable populations.

Mr. Schiller noted that anyone in the room could become a part of a vulnerable population at any moment. By expanding the goal to include all vulnerable populations, it would create a healthier community. Chair Lucey claimed the department needed to be rebranded as it was no longer just about social services, it was about human services. It would become important to educate the public to cast off the negative reputation of those services.

Mr. Schiller presented slides about Goal #4: Medical Marijuana. Mr. Schiller said he would not discuss the medical aspects but would focus on the passage of adult and recreational usage. He reminded the Board the bill passed in November at about a 54% passage rate and he wanted to look at the ramifications on a regional level, since Washoe County represented local government but also encompassed the Cities of Reno and Sparks. He addressed the proposed 10% tax on recreational marijuana and said the availability or non-availability of that money at the local level would be an important component for discussion. He asked for direction from Board as to where to go as the bill was already passed.

Commissioner Berkbigler suggested renaming the goal *legalized marijuana* as it was no longer dealing solely with medical marijuana. She posed the question of how recreational marijuana would affect the County as a whole. Ms. Olsen asked if it was the will of the Board to keep the marijuana initiative as a goal, to which Commissioner Jung stated that the County needed to be prepared to act once the State issued regulations. She agreed with the Governor's wish to have edibles not be confusing to adults or children. Commissioner Berkbigler asked if they should look to the regulations set up in Las Vegas as a model for fundraising. Commissioner Jung noted the County was raising significant money in property and sales tax alone but said they would have to go to the Legislature for further direction. She warned overtaxing could make the black market look more attractive, which would not be desirable.

Chair Lucey encouraged Ms. Jung to stay with the topic and its impact on County departments as well as what the revenue streams would look like. He noted it could be a very fluid topic from both policy and funding standpoints since there were many unknowns. Mr. Schiller described the industry as a \$6 billion industry within the regional area and said the County and the State were in positions to be proactive with the acclimation process. He gave the example of addiction needs that could occur with the bill's passage and that the County needed to make sure it could provide the proper services.

Nancy Leuenhagen, Communications Director, presented a slide about Goal #5: Professional, Unified Team. She said it was time to sharpen their message from the County and requested input regarding what success looked like. She suggested modifying their goal, which was working as a professional unified team, to working together on a unified message. Like Ms. Howell's hiring of a Community Outreach Coordinator to better inform citizens, her department had the same need, but she stated with the pooling of resources they could achieve it.

Commissioner Berkbigler remarked the exposure the County received had increased exponentially over the previous four years and the feedback she heard was positive. Commissioner Jung attributed the positive reputation the County had was due in part to the communications team and their outreach programs. Chair Lucey commended all department heads and their departments as jointly being the leader of business in northern Nevada. He urged everyone have a continuous drive to be better and stated Washoe County was as important as Clark County. He wished to have the County's mission statement not just be a piece of paper on the wall but a message to live by.

Mr. Slaughter presented the slides about Goal #6: Valued, Engaged Workforce. He praised the Washoe Leadership Program and Gabrielle Enfield in his department for the rollout of the program and stated the major goal of the program was to facilitate a customer service culture. He asked the Board that the goal statement continue to which Ms. Berkbigler and Mr. Lucey gave their absolute support.

2:15 p.m. Commissioner Jung left the meeting.

Ms. Olsen reiterated the Board heard each department's priorities and that the County was committed to those goals. Mr. Slaughter confirmed the direction he'd received regarding the Courthouse project was to continue working with Judge Hardy.

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

17-0091 AGENDA ITEM 5 Discussion and possible direction on 2017 Draft Board of County Commissioners Rules of Procedures.

Mr. Slaughter stated the goal of reviewing the updated Policies and Procedures that had been compiled into one document, which was distributed to the Commissioners at the meeting and a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He highlighted some changes, including: Parliamentary Authority, the preparation and proper order of business of Commission Meetings, changes to the voting system with regard to the remodel of the Chambers, and Commissioner communication. He asked the Board to review the document, particularly the communications section, and offered to discuss the information individually.

Chair Lucey asked if there was any type of verbiage that the Commissioners could review regarding Board-to-media communication. Mr. Rogers replied there was some draft language already but he was reviewing other jurisdictions'

manuals for other best practices to incorporate. Chair Lucey directed the Commissioners read through the manual to bring back at a future meeting, and once the additional media discussion was included, to ratify it. John Slaughter reminded the Board that draft ordinances needed to be posted on the website for review by the Commissioners and the public 21 days prior to being placed on an agenda for a first reading.

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

17-0092 **AGENDA ITEM 6** Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

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2:22 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

BOB LUCEY, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by:
Doni Gassaway and Derek Sonderfan, Deputy County Clerks*