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:

AGENDA ITEM 3 Appearance: Holly Gatzke, Northern Area Director Washoe County Extension Presentation and update on the carryover spend down plan.

Holly Gatzke, Northern Area Director for the Washoe County University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE), conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She reviewed slides with the following titles: Mission; Program Action – Logic Model; 4-H Youth Development; Literacy First; Infant/Toddler Child Development Associate Coaching; Horticulture; Living With Fire; Radon; Nutrition Education; Tribal Extension Programs; Extension Programs map; and UNCE Washoe County Fiscal Year 2018-19.

Ms. Gatzke highlighted the six focus areas of the UNCE educational programs. She said the 4-H Youth Development program was one of the largest. The program had been expanded significantly for urban programming. She noted adult volunteers made the program possible. She spoke about the Literacy First programs, which were primarily grant funded. She discussed the nationally-awarded Infant/Toddler Child Development credential program offered by the UNCE. She reviewed the 2018-19 budget, noting that total expenses were lower than total revenue, partly because of the interim leadership during the prior three years. She asserted she planned to be in her position for some time. She expressed interest in meeting with County staff to review programming for adult mental health services at the Our Place campus, and to discuss potentially hiring a UNCE staff person to work with Our Place program staff. She believed the UNCE programs which taught life skills would be a good fit for the Our Place campus.
Vice Chair Lucey thanked Ms. Gatzke for the presentation and indicated he looked forward to working with her and the UNCE. He noted the County contributed almost $1.5 million to the UNCE budget. He expressed interest in further developing some of the programs at the Our Place campus, including workforce, economic, and family development. He thought integrating UNCE programs at Our Place would be a great opportunity to serve families with limited resources. He asked whether she was interested in expanding those programs at Our Place. Ms. Gatzke replied yes. She noted the UNCE was already involved in some of those programs but she believed they could do more. She said the UNCE would re-hire staff to help expand those programs.

Vice Chair Lucey mentioned the Soulful Seeds non-profit group had looked at the possibility of developing programs for community gardening at Our Place. He asked whether the UNCE might join them to carry their mission forward. Ms. Gatzke responded Soulful Seeds already had a connection with the UNCE horticulture team and she believed the collaboration would produce great results.

Commissioner Herman thanked Ms. Gatzke for the presentation. She mentioned she had been a 4-H leader for approximately 36 years. She enjoyed the program and believed it was one of the most important programs available to children and adults. She expressed gratitude for the increased funding for the UNCE. She hoped the funding would continue for the excellent programs. Ms. Gatzke said many people did not realize 4-H was about creating great individuals. 4-H projects taught children to plan a project and carry it through to completion. She noted reaching children at an early age helped them build impressive life skills. Commissioner Herman said those children were future leaders. Ms. Gatzke stated statistics indicated that 4-H participants were more likely to become leaders in their community than anyone else.

Commissioner Jung commented she participated in 4-H programs from the ages of 9 to 19 so she was aware of what the program taught, the most important of which she thought was follow-through. She knew the program had evolved and was much smaller than in prior years. She asked whether the UNCE needs assessment was completed. Ms. Gatzke replied she was in the beginning stages of the assessment, which involved collecting information about programs from the County and other agencies. She wanted to ensure funding and resources were utilized appropriately to fill the needs within the community. Commissioner Jung asked whether UNCE staff had contacted the healthy communities group. Ms. Gatzke said yes.

Commissioner Jung observed agencies often worked in various directions without agreeing about the needs of the community. She wanted to provide input regarding community needs. She noted current emergent issues included income inequality and the high cost of housing. She thought the horticulture and Master Gardener programs could potentially partner with all County campuses to help with design, implementation, and renewal. She requested a synopsis of the needs identified through her analysis. She observed the County provided more than half of the UNCE operating budget and asked about the structure of the UNCE Board. Ms. Gatzke indicated she reported to Dr. Ivory Lyles, Director of Cooperative Extension, who in turn reported to the Dean of the College...
of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources. She also reported to the Board of County Commissioners because the program was a partnership.

Commissioner Jung inquired about including Commissioners in the decision process for policy oversight and direction of UNCE programs. Ms. Gatzke stated discussions with stakeholders and the community were part of the needs assessment process. Commissioner Jung clarified she was interested in developing a formal relationship between the Board and UNCE. She asked about the policy oversight when the County contributed significant funding for a program. She thought Board representation was needed through the participation of a Commissioner. She emphasized the need to work cooperatively when trying to solve community issues.

Chair Hartung expressed interest in extending some of the UNCE programs to Our Place. He suggested having adjunct programs for the families at Our Place and starting children in 4-H early. Ms. Gatzke said adjunct programs would be interesting. She noted any programs established at Our Place would not be isolated there and could cross over to other areas of the County in need. Chair Hartung agreed with Commissioner Jung regarding the need for elected officials in leadership positions at the UNCE.

20-0004   AGENDA ITEM 4   Public Comment.

Ms. Tammy Holt-Still submitted a document for the Board, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She displayed a document outlining the monthly precipitation for Stead from 1985 through 2019. She noted precipitation the prior three years was below the median and inquired why Swan Lake flooded. She suggested overdevelopment, high density, imported water, and effluent discharge were responsible for the flooding. She mentioned a resident of Lemmon Valley who was unable to live in their home because of the flooding was burglarized twice the previous week, and the Undersheriff cited a lack of staff as the reason why it happened.

Mr. Russ Earle, President of the Silver Knolls Community Organization, requested the Board not appeal or object to the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency’s (TMRPA’s) decision about Silver Hills. He mentioned a lawsuit was filed on December 11 on behalf of the residents of Silver Knolls against the County and the Commissioners for their approval of the project. He reported that retired Cal Fire Chief Ken Pimlott inspected the site and reviewed the proposed density, and he opined the development replicated Paradise and Coffey Park, California in terms of risk and potential devastation from wildfire. Mr. Earle noted California had extensive experience with wildfires and he believed disregarding the advice from an experienced fire protection specialist was irresponsible. He mentioned Silver Hills residents had no route for evacuation during the previous fire. He asked the Board to uphold the TMRPA’s findings.

Mr. Jim Severt submitted a document for the Board, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He said he built and maintained a bicycle park in Sun Valley Regional Park for the previous 20 years. He worked hard to develop the world-renowned park mostly on his own. He asked for assistance from Washoe County Parks and Open
Space to continue building and maintaining the bicycle park cooperatively. He said he received negligible assistance as a result of prior meetings with Parks and Open Space staff. He requested meetings where the needs and hopes for the bike park’s future were heard and acted upon. He asked the County to stop spending money on the wrong things and instead spend it on the maintenance and expansion of the park.

Mr. Michael Pitkin spoke about his family history. He listed the topics which he discussed at previous public meetings. He mentioned he had been criticized for trying to make a name for himself but asserted that was not his intent.

Mr. Levi Hooper told a story about two young homeless men who he helped the prior month. He offered help to anyone who needed it, indicating he was in need of a better job because his current income was only slightly more than his rent. He commented on the overflow tent at the homeless shelter.

Mr. Sam Dehne spoke about his nominations for elected officials, his flight experience, his YouTube videos, and the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada.

Nancy Parent, County Clerk, stated she received email correspondence from Annemarie Grant, a copy of which was placed on the record for the meeting.

20-0005  

AGENDA ITEM 5  Election of Chair of the Washoe County Board of Commissioners.

Chair Hartung thanked the Board for allowing him to serve and looked forward to the coming year.

Commissioner Berkbigler nominated Vice Chair Lucey to become Chair for the upcoming year. Chair Hartung seconded the nomination.

On the call for public comment Mr. Sam Dehne summarized the purpose of the agenda item. He expressed support for the election of Vice Chair Lucey as Chair of the Board.

Ms. Tammy Holt-Still expressed dissatisfaction with the nomination of Vice Chair Lucey as Chair of the Board of County Commissioners. She believed he had not offer timely support to Lemmon Valley citizens who were affected when Swan Lake flooded. She knew some Lemmon Valley resident were still not back in their homes. She questioned whether electing Vice Chair Lucey was the right direction for the County. She made allegations about past negative behavior and asked the Board not to consider him.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Vice Chair Lucey be elected as the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners.

Chair Lucey assumed the gavel.
AGENDA ITEM 6  Election of Vice Chair of the Washoe County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Hartung nominated Commissioner Berkbigler as Vice Chair. Chair Lucey seconded the nomination.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Chair Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Commissioner Berkbigler be elected as the Vice Chair of the Board of County Commissioners.

AGENDA ITEM 7  Fix the term of office of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board.

Chair Lucey indicated the Chair and Vice Chair were generally fixed at one-year terms, but it was at the discretion of the Board.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Chair Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that the terms for the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Board remain one-year terms.

AGENDA ITEM 8  Announcements/Reports.

County Manager Eric Brown provided an update on the cleanliness of the ramp outside of the Veterans Court which was mentioned by a public commenter during the December 17, 2019 meeting. Mr. Brown reported resources for downtown facilities were reviewed and would be continually monitored by staff to ensure cleanliness was maintained.

Mr. Brown mentioned he met with Sheriff Darin Balaam in response to a request from Chair Lucey to determine whether the Sheriff’s Office (SO) had dedicated resources to address homelessness issues. Sheriff Balaam reported the SO had no dedicated resources. Discussions would take place between the Reno Police Department, the Sparks Police Department, and the SO to more effectively pool resources and coordinate efforts on homelessness issues in the region.

Commissioner Hartung thanked staff and everyone for their compassion on the passing of his mother. He thanked the City of Reno for the flowers they sent him.

Commissioner Herman mentioned she attended the Washoe-Storey Conservation District (WSCD) meeting the prior day. She noted the WSCD’s budget of $5,000 was provided by the State and it had to last 11 months. She said she donated some of her discretionary funds in the past, but she already spent her money for this year. She
stated the WSCD was expected to look at conservation issues in plans by the County, which would require a significant amount of time and money. She thought the WSCD needed to be reimbursed for some of the work, which would be costly if the County contracted out to the private sector. She suggested the County consider contributing funding for them.

Chair Lucey mentioned he and Vice Chair Berkbigler participated in the Community Homelessness Advisory Board meeting the prior week where ongoing homelessness issues in the region were discussed. These issues included emergency shelter, supportive housing, and programming for indigent people. He requested for staff to arrange meetings to discuss the transition to the Our Place campus and funding allocations. He said requests for proposal (RFPs) for the Community Assistance Center (CAC) program manager would be issued. He noted the City of Reno was the lead but the County contributed almost $2.7 million for the program, so he thought the County should have some input on the RFP. He asked Mr. Brown to have detailed conversations with staff, both about moving forward with the RFP and the operator of the CAC.

Chair Lucey reported he attended the Thriving Communities for a Better Southern Nevada conference in Las Vegas on January 10. The conference was hosted by the Office of Family Assistance as well as Clark County staff. He said Clark County accomplished some phenomenal things with regard to supportive housing by using federal funds. Mentioning prior discussion about seeking funding from hospitals, he pointed out Clark County received funds for supportive housing from hospitals, insurance agencies, and healthcare providers for supportive housing. They used those funds to purchase weekly hotels throughout Clark County and turn them into more permanent supportive housing for the homeless. He wanted staff to explore how Clark County worked through the process of acquiring those funds to see how it might be done in Washoe County as well.

Chair Lucey asked staff to investigate the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program which provided federal funds through the State. He had been informed there were more than $32 million unused TANF dollars at the State level. Those funds just needed to have the scope of work changed and they could be transferred to the County for family support services and workforce training. He mentioned Clark County also utilized funds from marijuana sales for supportive housing. He requested staff explore that source of funding as well. He requested these issues be agendized for discussion during a future meeting.

Mr. Brown said meetings between the County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks were already scheduled to discuss the RFP for the CAC and the issue of developing a regional approach for homelessness. He was scheduled to meet with Nevada Health and the Washoe County Health District in the afternoon to explore federal funding opportunities available to the County.
CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 9A THROUGH 9E3

20-0009  
9A  Acknowledge the communications and reports received by the Clerk on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)

20-0010  
9B  Recommendation to approve State Collection Development Grant-In-Aid Award funds from the State of Nevada in the amount of [$14,465.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of November 15, 2019 through June 30, 2020 for the augmentation of Library Collections, direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize the Director to sign the grant award document. Library. (All Commission Districts.)

20-0011  
9C1  Recommendation to appoint one new attorney member and to reappoint one non-attorney member to the Law Library Board of Trustees. It is recommended that Patricia Halstead serve as an attorney member for a two-year term expiring on January 31, 2022, and Cortney Young serve as a non-attorney member for a two-year term expiring January 31, 2022. Candidates will satisfy the attorney position and non-attorney position required for the Law Library Board of Trustees. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)

20-0012  
9C2  Recommendation that the Board of County Commissioners review and acknowledge receipt of the Washoe County Law Library Annual Report 2019. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)

20-0013  

20-0014  
9D2  Recommendation to adopt a Resolution of Intent to execute an easement agreement and easement deed between Washoe County and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority for an access and water facilities easement totaling ±11,802 square feet and a temporary construction easement totaling ±23,588 square feet on APN 534-521-01, part of Sugarloaf Peak Open Space [at the appraised value of $2,033.00]; and if adopted, set a public hearing on the matter for January 28, 2020. Community Services. (Commission District 4.)
20-0015 9E1 Recommendation to approve a direct grant award [$2,500.00, no match required] from the United States Department of Justice, United States Attorney, Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) for reimbursement of overtime costs incurred while involved in the investigation of OCDETF Initiative number PA-NV-314 for the retroactive grant period of October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020, and if approved, direct Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

20-0016 9E2 Recommendation to approve the University-Organization Agreement between the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno and Washoe County Sheriff’s Office to allow University of Nevada, Reno students to participate in Service-Learning, Internship or Field-Study Placement programs with the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office [no cost to the County] for the retroactive period of November 1, 2019 to August 15, 2024. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

20-0017 9E3 Recommendation to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Dispatch Services between Washoe County on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office and the Washoe County School District on behalf of the Washoe County School District Police (WCSDP) for emergency 800MHz radio dispatch services for the period of January 14, 2020 through June 30, 2022 [no cost to the county], with an option to extend one additional year. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no public comment on the Consent Agenda Items listed above.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 9A through 9E3 be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 9A through 9E3 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

BLOCK VOTE – 10 THROUGH 15

20-0018 AGENDA ITEM 10 Recommendation to approve budget amendments totaling an increase of [$434,299.00] in both revenue and expense to the FY20 State Family Planning Grant, retroactive to November 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021, and direct the Comptroller’s office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.
On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved and directed.

20-0019 **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve the reclassifications of a vacant Plans Examiner, pay grade LM, to a new job classification of Plans Examiner Trainee, pay grade K (CSD), a vacant Payroll Technician II, pay grade J, to Account Clerk II, pay grade H (Comptroller), and a vacant Senior Human Services Case Worker, pay grade O, to Human Services Case Worker III, pay grade N (Human Services Agency), as evaluated by the Job Evaluation Committee; and authorize Human Resources to make the necessary changes. [Net annual fiscal impact is estimated at ($27,784)]

Human Resources. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved and authorized.

20-0020 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to approve the revised Interlocal Contract Between Public Agencies between the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) and Washoe County through their CrossRoads Program to provide a sober living environment with supportive services to youths [no cost to County]; effective upon approval through October 31, 2023; and if approved, authorize Chair to execute Contract. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be approved and authorized. The Interlocal Contract for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

20-0021 **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to approve additional funding [increase of $70,000.00, no match required for a total of $199,077.00] from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office for reimbursement of expenses associated with Internet Crimes Against Children investigations for the retroactive grant period of July 1, 2017 through August 31, 2020, and if approved, direct Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.
On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be approved and directed.

20-0022  AGENDA ITEM 14  Recommendation to award a bid and approve the agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Liquid Distribution System Retro Project (Fiberglass Scope) [staff recommends: Brycon Construction in the amount of $79,610] for Fiberglass work [for a current total project amount of $151,260]. Community Services. (Commission District 3.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be awarded and approved.

20-0023  AGENDA ITEM 15  Recommendation to approve an Agreement between Washoe County and MWH Constructors/KG Walters Construction for CMAR Pre-Construction Services for the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation 2020 Facility Expansion Project within the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility service territory [$631,280]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be approved.

20-0024  AGENDA ITEM 16  Recommendation to provide direction to staff whether or not to object to the finding of nonconformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan, by the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission (TMRPC), on Regional Conformance Review Case Number CR19-009 for Washoe County Master Plan Amendment Case Number WMPA17-0010 (Silver Hills). If not successfully objected to or appealed, the finding of nonconformance would effectively overrule the County Commission’s approval of the Silver Hills Project application which, among other things, would result in new master plan and regulatory zone designations for approximately 780 acres of land adjacent to Red Rock Road (APNs 087-309-10, 087-390-13, 086-232-31 and 086-203-05). The new designations would accommodate up to 1872 dwellings, amounting to an increase in potential density from one dwelling per acre to approximately 2.5 dwellings per acre. The applicant and landowner in the underlying matter is Lifestyle Homes TND, LLC.

AND
Direction to staff whether or not to appeal the decision of the TMRPC to the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan Governing Board (RPGB), if the TMRPC upholds the finding of nonconformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan, of Regional Conformance Review Case Number CR19-009 for Washoe County Master Plan Amendment Case Number WMPA17-0010 (Silver Hills). Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

The Commissioners determined they did not need a staff presentation.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Gina St. Ores stated she was a California transplant and opined recent changes had turned Los Angeles into an awful place. She requested the Board take staff’s advisement and listen to their own promises to protect their citizens. She recited several areas relating to community needs which she claimed were important to specific Commissioners; these included a strict code of ethics regarding regulations, investment in critical infrastructure, animal issues, positive customer outcomes, and preservation of the quality of life for families. She entreated the Board to listen to the advice of staff and taxpayers by not appealing the TMRPC’s decision.

Ms. Casey Meaden, who was on the Board of the Silver Knolls Community Organization, asked the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) not to appeal the decision. She pointed out both the North Valleys Citizen Advisory Board and the Planning Commission voted against the development as proposed. She felt the project’s housing density was too high.

Ms. Tammy Holt-Still opined the developer brought this item to the BCC without considering regional planning, staff’s recommendations, or constituents’ concerns. She claimed the BCC overruled its own planning commission’s decision even though the TMRPC would not be able to make the findings. She felt the proper infrastructure was not in place. She pointed out the developer already received approval for a certain number of units and they needed to follow the same regulations as everyone else. She expressed concerns about sewer capacity, stormwater runoff, and egress routes for this development in the event of a fire. She urged the BCC to stop approving inappropriate development without proper infrastructure.

Commissioner Hartung noted he lived in Spanish Springs for 35 years. At that time, no municipal water or sewer services existed and medical response times were between 20 and 40 minutes. Most of the valley was served through community wells. He remarked everything that happened in Spanish Springs since then occurred because of development. He said storms caused greater flooding back before there was a stormwater utility. He indicated asking taxpayers to fund infrastructure in places where development might occur would be a waste of taxpayer dollars. He mentioned his lifestyle had not changed, even with development.

Commissioner Hartung stated the new regional plan that was recently adopted would allow about 15 dwelling units per acre if this development proposal was
denied, not 2.5 per acre; that number would increase if the development was annexed into
the City of Reno. Regarding fire service, he thought the developer was never given the
chance to explain the conditions they imposed on themselves, such as installing fire
hydrants every 300 feet and extending water infrastructure to the smaller Silver Knolls lots
west of Red Rock Road. He said there would potentially be a water supply from the
Truckee Meadows Water Authority to service homes whose wells currently showed high
levels of arsenic. Other conditions included removing the park from the water service and
turning open space into an agrihood. He anticipated it would take between 12 and 15 years
to fully build out this development.

With regard to sewer services, Commissioner Hartung stated the developer
would have to build their own sewer plant if it was determined there was not enough
capacity. He felt the developer’s proposal was a huge investment in the community. He
mentioned housing was needed because this area was a growing community. He added the
developer offered to install solar fields.

Vice Chair Berkbigler expressed agreement with Commissioner Hartung’s
points, but also frustration with staff for not considering the bigger picture. She thought the
developer had a good reputation and she was unsure why staff opposed the proposal. She
recommended the BCC send the proposal to the RPGB for consideration.

Commissioner Jung stated infrastructure would ideally be built first, though
that did not always happen; she strongly disagreed that approving development first was
the proper way to plan. She said she worked for 15 years to change the expectation that
developers did not pay for growth, though she conceded that was how it worked in Nevada.
She stressed there was a housing crisis, citing the large number of people who were only
marginally housed. She said many developers were not great partners, making money but
then refusing to build again. She expressed concern about a judge and a citizen committee
with no elected officials making decisions about land use and development. She opined the
Planning Commission had not performed proper due diligence by denying the proposal
without a hearing.

Commissioner Jung sympathized with people in the area who did not want
to change their lifestyle and those who could not afford to live in the urban center. She
pointed out the BCC already voted on the merits of the case, but she did not feel it was her
job to oversee citizen committees or judges who ruled on development codes. She thought
it was undemocratic to have unelected people making decisions on land use planning, and
she expressed frustration that a citizen-appointed Board overturned the BCC’s decision.

Commissioner Jung indicated she did not know whether the project was a
good one or whether the developer planned to sell the project someday. Taking the proposal
to a regional Board would involve other jurisdictions, such as the Cities of Reno and
Sparks, both of whom had significantly smaller budgets than the County. She expressed
further frustration that the County let those entities dictate what should be done in its
jurisdiction. She affirmed her stance to appeal the decision.
Commissioner Jung asked Mr. Brown to work with the Cities of Reno and Sparks to get rid of layers of unelected Boards. She said she supported what the BCC did but was frustrated that unelected people and judges dictated how land should be planned. She mentioned she was not upset at staff, who she said did what they legally had to do. She opined meetings of unelected individuals resulted in higher land use costs, especially since developers included their costs for lobbyists, experts, and attorneys. She wanted staff to align with the BCC’s direction since she anticipated this trend to continue. She thought building needed to take place at three times the current rate. She dismissed the argument that new homes were too expensive, pointing out people would sell their smaller homes to upgrade to newer, more expensive ones. She did not feel it was wise to deny this project only to spend money on transitional housing. She urged all Commissioners to support projects the majority supported, even if they did not like a particular project.

Commissioner Hartung noted the Sierra Club issued a letter of support for the project based on the conditions imposed by the developer. He did not think any other project in the history of the state had received such a letter. He stated those conditions of approval would be tied to the project even if the developer chose to sell. The typical process would first involve a master plan amendment and then a determination of what the developer wanted to do; he requested both those items be opened together for consideration. He questioned why the applicant was not allowed to make a presentation to discuss the conditions they agreed to.

Commissioner Hartung felt this could be an opportunity to change the Washoe County Developmental Code regarding subdivisions and how they mitigated impacts on the land. Additionally, it would be an opportunity for good growth in the North Valleys. He pointed out a prior Board had turned down an offer to build a stormwater utility in Spanish Springs in exchange for an entitlement. As a result, Spanish Springs residents had to pay for their stormwater utility. He mentioned this developer offered to construct the beginnings of a stormwater utility, with a condition that they retain at least 1.5 times the water that came off their property. He said he supported the project.

Vice Chair Berkbigler agreed with Commissioner Jung that each Commissioner was elected to represent the interests of the constituents of Washoe County. She felt people who were appointed should not make decisions on behalf of an elected body.

Chair Lucey agreed with Commissioner Jung’s comments about the PC and the RPGB, and he felt the level of bureaucracy was ridiculous. He mentioned the BCC supported a bill during the 2019 legislative session to change that but it was defeated. He expressed frustration that a project could not be brought online in a timeframe shorter than two years. He concurred it was improper for unelected people to decide what happened within unincorporated County areas. He expressed support for the project.

Commissioner Hartung recognized the Regional Planning Commission denied the project but regional staff had recommended approval. Lastly, he pointed out the developer not only wanted all the effluent generated by this project, but they wanted as
much effluent as they could get to support the agricultural component of the project. He saw this as a great opportunity.

Commissioner Jung moved to uphold. Chair Lucey clarified the motion should be to continue forward with the appeal and not uphold the non-conformance. Commissioner Hartung seconded the motion and asked the mover for the BCC allow its staff to permit the applicant to make a presentation before regional planning and the Regional Governing Board.

Assistant District Attorney Paul Lipparelli said the motion needed to use the word ‘object’ with regard to the decision of the Regional Planning Commission. He added staff positioned the BCC to anticipate that the Regional Planning Commission would dispense with the BCC’s objection, at which point this would be appealed to the RPGB. If the BCC wished to defend its earlier actions most aggressively, he suggested they should object to regional planning and, should regional planning not yield, the BCC would authorize an appeal to the RPGB. The mover and seconder agreed with the motion. There was a brief discussion about whether the motion included language about allowing the applicant to make a presentation as well as to open both items at once.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Herman voting “no”, it was ordered that an objection to the Regional Planning Commission be made and, should the Regional Planning Commission not yield, an appeal to the Regional Planning Governing Board be authorized. Additionally, it was ordered that the applicant be allowed to make a presentation and both items be opened at once.

20-0025 AGENDA ITEM 17 Recommendation for discussion and possible action in regards to the appointment and/or reappointment of Commissioners to Boards and commissions, alteration of terms of service on Boards and commissions where legally permissible, and such other action as the Board of commissioners may desire to take in regards to those administrative matters. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Management Analyst Jamie Rodriguez reviewed the commission appointments that were expiring. She mentioned Commissioner Jung no longer wanted to serve on the Washoe County Criminal Justice Advisory Committee or the Washoe County Internal Audit Committee.

Commissioner Jung requested to be reappointed to the Animal Services Advisory Board. She said animal services would consider an international approach to determine best practices. She thought the Board needed to have more empowerment and she wanted to be the liaison. She stated she was heavily invested in the animal community. She helped pass the Meow Wolf ad valorem tax in 2001. She wanted to work with the Animal Services Advisory Board to make adjustments and review the budget to determine how to deploy funds effectively with the growing population in the County.
After a discussion, the appointments were decided as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board/Commission</th>
<th>Commissioners</th>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Services Advisory Board</td>
<td>Commissioner Jung – Primary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Homeless Advisory Board</td>
<td>Vice Chair Berkbigler – Primary, Chair Lucey – Primary, Commissioner Hartung – Alternative</td>
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<tr>
<td>District Board of Health</td>
<td>Vice Chair Berkbigler – Primary</td>
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<td>Downtown Reno Business Improvement District</td>
<td>Chair Lucey – Primary, Commissioner Jung – Alternate</td>
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<td>Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN)</td>
<td>Vice Chair Berkbigler – Primary Chair Lucey – Alternate</td>
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<td>Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) Board of Directors</td>
<td>Commissioner Hartung – Primary Chair Lucey – Primary Executive Board, Commissioner Herman – Alternate</td>
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<td>Nevada Tahoe Conservation District Board of Supervisors</td>
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<td>Commissioner Jung – Liaison</td>
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There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that the changes to the above listed Board appointments be approved.
AGENDA ITEM 18  Public Hearing: Appeal of the Washoe County Board of Adjustment’s approval of Special Use Permit Case Number WSUP19-0018 (Foothill Storage) to approve a special use permit to allow for the storage of operable vehicles on a 0.9-acre site at 1525 Geiger Grade for the property and business owner Mark and Melanie Hain. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)
Chair Lucey opened the public hearing.

County Clerk Nancy Parent said she had the mailing list provided by the Community Services Department notifying the appropriate people, and comments from the public which staff provided; she placed both on the record.

Planner Julee Olander conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Appeal WSUP 19-0018 Foothill Storage; Request; Analysis; an aerial map of the site; Analysis (2 slides); Public Notice & CAB; Questions & motions.

Ms. Olander added that the special use permit (SUP) was necessary for storage of operable vehicles. She said the adjacent property also owned by the applicant went through the SUP process in 2007.

Commissioner Hartung asked whether the SUP on the adjacent property required that the property be paved. Ms. Olander replied no. The property had entrance access through King Lane and exit access through Geiger Grade Road. The owner was not required to pave the area where vehicles were parked.

Ms. Olander said staff reviewed the new SUP request and it was decided the owner would be required to pave areas where vehicles with engines were stored as well as the driveway areas. The applicants would also be required to access the property from Geiger Grade Road instead of King Lane. She outlined the conditions for King Lane access and paving, which had been reviewed with the applicant. She displayed the list of the conditions which staff requested be changed or removed from the SUP, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She explained staff requested conditions 1-d and 2-k be removed, 1-g be amended to allow the applicant to use concrete pavers, and 2-e be amended to permit the applicant to initiate presumed public roadway action or provide documentation confirming legal access to King Lane. She noted the applicant was present in Chambers.

Chair Lucey asked whether the applicant was in agreement with the conditions of the SUP. Ms. Olander said staff had reviewed the conditions with the applicants, who agreed to them.

Chair Lucey stated there were many legacy issues with private roadways in District 2, specifically off of Toll Road. He noted the applicant had operated a business on the parcel for many years. He thought the SUP conditions were discretionary based on
Code. He expressed agreement with staff regarding the conditions of the SUP, and was glad staff and the applicant worked to reach an agreement on the requirements.

Assistant District Attorney Paul Lipparelli clarified the Board acted like judges in their quasi-judicial role. The request was an appeal so the Commissioners needed to weigh the evidence and make their decision based on what was on the record. He indicated the appellants needed to affirm they were in support of the conditions as introduced by Ms. Olander.

Ms. Melanie Haine and Mr. Mark Haine affirmed they agreed with the conditions on the application.

On the call for public comment Mr. Bruce Bacon said he lived across the street from the property. He expressed concern about a pattern of abuse. He stated the original SUP for the first parcel was never fully completed or implemented, and the applicant operated the expanded storage facility illegally for more than a year. He alleged the applicant said he was unaware he needed a SUP despite having been through the process previously. He stated that, because the applicant filled in his ditches, the drainage from the storage facility drained onto his property. He urged the Board to review the conditions carefully to ensure they complied with Washoe County Code. He displayed a document, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Chair Lucey closed the public hearing.

Chair Lucey moved to appeal and reverse the decision of the Board of Adjustments for SUP WSUP19-0018 (Foothill Storage) removing conditions 1-d, 1-g, 1-h, 2-e, and 2-k. The approval was based on the Board’s ability to make all four of the findings required by Washoe County Code Section 110.804.25.

Ms. Olander clarified the Board of Adjustment approved the SUP, so the Board of County Commissioners would affirm the decision with amendments to the conditions.

Chair Lucey amended his motion to affirm the decision of the Board of Adjustment for SUP WSUP19-0018 (Foothill Storage) amending the conditions of approval as recommended by staff.

Mr. Lipparelli said the motion was correct and assumed the changes made in the motion were consistent with the material Ms. Olander presented. Ms. Olander confirmed that staff recommended the conditions displayed in presentation.

On motion by Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that the decision of the Board of Adjustment for the WSUP19-0018 (Foothill Storage) be affirmed, removing conditions 1-d, 1-g, 1-h, 2-e, and 2-k. The approval was based on the Board’s ability to make all four of the findings required by Washoe County Code Section 110.804.25.
AGENDA ITEM 19  Public Hearing: Possible approval of Master Plan Amendment Case Number WMPA19-0005 (Continuum of Care Facilities, Spanish Springs Area Plan) - which amends Table C-3 of the Spanish Springs Area Plan, a component of the Washoe County Master Plan, by adding the Continuum of Care Facilities, Seniors use type to that table. The result is to allow that use in the Neighborhood Commercial (NC) and Medium Density Suburban (MDS) regulatory zones with the approval of a special use permit by the Board of Adjustment (BOA). The Continuum of Care Facilities, Seniors use type is a commercial use type that involves the provision of housing, activities, and health services by establishments in order to allow older individuals to age in place; associated facilities may include independent living, assisted living, nursing care, and hospice care as well as accessory housing for staff, and medical facilities and services for residents. And, if approved, authorize the Chair to sign a resolution to this effect. Final approval is subject to a finding of conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan. Community Services. (Commission District 4.)

Chair Lucey opened the public hearing.

County Clerk Nancy Parent stated she received proof of notice of the hearing from the Community Services Department, a copy of which was placed on the record.

Commissioner Hartung stated he had monitored the progress of this request because his parents were part of the continuum of care process. He said he observed the lack of housing for the aging population firsthand. He noted the type of density involved in the proposal was a mild use density because of the age restrictions for residents of care facilities. He expressed support for the project and thought it would become a model for future projects.

On the call for public comment Mr. Jesse Haw, President of Hawco Properties, indicated he fully supported staff’s recommendation to approve of the project.

Chair Lucey closed the public hearing.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 19 be approved, authorized, and directed.

12:34 p.m.  Vice Chair Berkbigler left the meeting.
AGENDA ITEM 20  Public Hearing pursuant to NRS 244.284, to allow for any objections regarding the conveyance of APN 038-401-02, known as the Verdi Historic Schoolhouse and Verdi Volunteer Fire property, located at 165 Bridge Street in consideration of an offer by the Verdi History Preservation Society, Inc., a Nevada non-profit corporation [in the amount of $2.00]; and if supported, authorize the Chairman to execute a Quitclaim Deed; and other matters properly related thereto. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

Chair Lucey opened the public hearing.

Commissioner Herman asked for confirmation that there would not be any issue with the fire department. Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro said he had discussions with the fire district regarding use of the apparatus bay. He said a lease agreement was ready for the next Board of Fire Commissioners meeting and everything appeared to be in good standing.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

Commissioner Jung thanked community activists and staff for facilitating the preservation of a vital part of the community’s history. She encouraged them to continue working on such projects. She requested staff work to identify similar opportunities to transfer historical buildings for preservation purposes.

Chair Lucey closed the public hearing.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Vice Chair Berkbigler absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 20 be supported and authorized.

12:38 p.m.  Vice Chair Berkbigler returned to the meeting.

Commissioner Hartung noted Agenda Items 21 & 22 were related and he asked whether the two public hearings could be opened together. Assistant District Attorney Paul Lipparelli replied that they could.
AGENDA ITEM 21 Public Hearing pursuant to NRS 277.050, to consider any objections to the Resolution of Intent to execute an easement agreement and easement deed between Washoe County and TMWA for a water facilities easement totaling ±967 square feet and a temporary construction easement totaling ±2,585 square feet on APNs 152-051-22 and 150-121-25, part of Arrowcreek Open Space [at the negotiated value of $967]; possible approval of said easement agreement and easement deed; and, if approved, authorize the Chair to execute the agreement and deed to that effect. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

AGENDA ITEM 22 Public Hearing pursuant to NRS 277.050, to consider any objections to the Resolution of Intent to execute an easement agreement and easement deed between Washoe County and TMWA for a water facilities easement totaling ±3,734 square feet and a temporary construction easement totaling ±8,206 square feet on APN 152-430-18, part of Arrowcreek Open Space [at the negotiated value of $3,734]; possible approval of said easement agreement and easement deed; and, if approved, authorize the Chair to execute the agreement and deed to that effect. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

The Chair opened the public hearings by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against Agenda Items 21 and 22. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Items 21 & 22 be approved and authorized.

12:42 p.m. The Board recessed.

2:01 p.m. The Board reconvened with all members present.

AGENDA ITEM 23 Appointment of a person to the declared vacancy of the Incline Village General Improvement District Board of Trustees, pursuant to NRS 318.090, from among the following candidates: Michael Hess, Tony Lillios, D. Alexandra Profant, Sara Schmitz, Joseph Schulz, Bruce Simonian, Michaela Tonking, and Frank L. Wright and the Clerk shall send notification of the appointment to the Washoe County Registrar of Voters, the chair of the Incline Village General Improvement District Board of Trustees, and the Nevada Secretary of State. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Hartung explained the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) had extensive experience appointing officials. The Board would use a closed ballot system and applicants would be self-sequestered outside of Chambers. He said applicants
would be randomly selected, they would have five minutes to speak, and then the Commissioners would ask questions. Staff had prepared five questions, but the Commissioners were not limited to those questions.

Commissioner Hartung indicated there had been an inquiry about why the Board did not use a merit system for the appointment. He expressed displeasure with the inquiry because Statute only required that the applicant reside in the district for a minimum of 30 days and be registered to vote. A merit system might cause a violation of the Statute, so he and Chair Lucey chose not to use one. He explained the Commissioners would vote for two candidates using a secret ballot after all candidates were interviewed. The Clerk would read the votes and the Commissioners would vote again if necessary.

Chair Lucey noted the candidate names were randomized by the County Manager’s Office staff and would be called by County Manager Eric Brown. He reiterated the details of the interview process.

Vice Chair Berkbigler addressed questions about her ability to be fair in the selection process. She expressed displeasure that her ethics had been questioned on a number of occasions. At the request of the District Attorney, she declared she was supportive of Sara Schmitz but she was committed to listening to all candidates. She asserted she would make her decision based on what everyone had to say. She mentioned she had spoken to some of the candidates and was acquainted with several of them. She stated the purpose of the meeting was to follow ethical protocols and adhere to Open Meeting law.

Commissioner Hartung noted he would bear the responsibility if anyone was dissatisfied with the results of the selection process because he led the development of the process.

The applicants were asked to move to another room outside of Chambers.

Mr. Brown called the first applicant, Mr. Joseph Schulz.

Mr. Schulz summarized the letter of intent which he submitted to the Board. He mentioned he included a lengthy list of pending Incline Village projects.

Commissioner Herman asked whether Mr. Schulz intended to run for the seat on the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) Board of Trustees during the upcoming election if he was appointed to the current vacancy. Mr. Schulz said he did. He was sure the position would present challenges, but he had the time, interest, and energy to meet them. He stated he would want to continue as long as he felt he made a contribution.

Commissioner Hartung stated he observed significant discord in the IVGID Board. He asked Mr. Schulz what he would do to bring the two sides together and facilitate decisions that would benefit the community. Mr. Schulz responded he had the temperament
and personality to deal with difficult individuals. He said he would meet with the Trustees individually or collectively as necessary. He thought he was persuasive and looked at issues from all angles. He believed he would be able to find a position agreeable to all Trustees with some diligence.

Commissioner Jung noted the position would be filled for a limited time and asked Mr. Schulz what he believed the biggest challenges facing IVGID in the short-term were. Mr. Schulz replied helping the Board work together was the best short-term goal he could address. He stated there were decisions which were consistently delayed. He acknowledged it was difficult to predict whether IVGID would be able to resolve all of the pending issues during the 11-month appointment. He thought addressing issues as they arose was the best strategy and he believed he would help achieve compromises.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Schulz what he believed the purpose of the IVGID Board was. Mr. Schulz replied leadership and vision. He did not believe the purpose of IVGID was to micromanage or dictate decisions; it was to listen to the community and put their needs into action.

Chair Lucey observed there were tensions within the IVGID Board and he thought the relationship between IVGID and Washoe County was strained at times. He believed Incline Village was a unique community that required a considerable amount of attention. He asked how Mr. Schulz proposed to improve the relationship between the County as the parent agency and IVGID. Mr. Schulz replied the best way to do anything was through direct, active participation. He made a point of attending monthly meetings when he first moved to Incline Village. He thought integrating Incline Village with the County required direct participation, such as attending BCC meetings and getting to know all the Commissioners and committee chairs. He believed face-to-face meetings could not be substituted effectively by other forms of communication.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked about Mr. Schulz’s participation in community activities. Mr. Schulz said he participated in the Incliners social group, an informal men’s group, and the Senior Conversation Café.

Commissioner Hartung mentioned compromise was discussed at the prior IVGID meeting but neither side made changes to reach that compromise. He asked Mr. Schulz how he would convey a spirit of compromise to IVGID. Mr. Schulz said it was important to determine which issues were important to the individuals involved, and to work with them to reach a compromise where possible. He believed compromise was always possible but those individuals needed to be willing to listen and participate.

Mr. Schulz mentioned it seemed as though active lobbying took place for the position. He questioned how those activities would be weighed in the selection process. Chair Lucey thanked him for the comment and indicated the Board would address that.

Mr. Brown called the next candidate, Ms. D. Alexandra Profant.
County Clerk Nancy Parent stated she received documents for the Board from the candidate, copies of which were placed on the record. The documents included three letters of support from Linda Newman, Jack Dalton, and Willy Krusell, as well as several opinion pieces from the November 22, 2019 Tahoe Bonanza.

Ms. Profant thanked the Board for including her in the selection process. She said she agreed with what was said about the authority of the candidacy. She expressed doubt that she was the best candidate for the position. She believed everyone needed to work together to resolve the many issues at the lake. She thought IVGID would benefit from appointing a historic seat to a second-home owner who lived in Reno because that was part of the historic pattern of Incline Village. She mentioned her training and spoke about architectural determinism. She indicated she ran to create a venue to facilitate Nevadans in asserting their rights to protect and possess their property under Article 1, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution. She spoke about the historical roles of Nevada and Lake Tahoe, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency’s (TRPA’s) role in historic resource surveys, and the criteria for Nevadans to protect the history of their property. She discussed the Incline Village and Crystal Bay tax lawsuit. She stated there were ambiguities in property taxation and Nevadans had the right to understand how they were being taxed. She said the County was the biggest asset for residents. She expressed a desire to be part of the solution and, if appointed to the position, her primary purpose would be to support elected County and IVGID officials and staff.

Commissioner Jung noted the position would be filled for a limited time and asked Ms. Profant about her short-term goal. Ms. Profant replied her immediate goal would be to find out what the most pressing agendized matters were. She would prioritize litigation issues and would to try to help avoid litigation because costs would be passed on to the taxpayer.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Ms. Profant what she thought the purpose of the IVGID Board was. Ms. Profant spoke about the founding of general improvement districts (GIDs) due to lack of County resources to manage roads, noting that IVGID was the first GID in the state. She stated sewer, trash, and recreation were components of the IVGID. She said IVGID had the opportunity to uphold and assert the rights of residents to protect their property. She opined IVGID missed that opportunity because they were not working with County staff. She summarized she interpreted the purpose of IVGID was specifically to provide the County with legal counsel related to the NRS.

Commissioner Herman asked Ms. Profant whether she intended to run for the IVGID seat during the upcoming election. Ms. Profant replied she was not sure. She said there where many issues and the same people were consistently involved. She stated she would endorse a better candidate but she would consider running for the seat if other constituents felt she was the best fit.

Commissioner Hartung asked what Ms. Profant would contribute to IVGID to convey a spirit of compromise so decisions might be made where all members of the Board felt they obtained something. Ms. Profant said her training included facilitating
productive outcomes with large stakeholders. She thought she would approach issues by having direct interaction with people at meetings and allowing for interactive comment with the Board. She would attempt to speak with each person in context with the public who attended meetings.

Chair Lucey mentioned the relationship between IVGID and Washoe County had been strained. He thought active participation would be needed to develop cohesiveness within IVGID, and between IVGID and Washoe County. He asked Ms. Profant how she intended to begin that initiative in the remaining 9 to 11 months of the IVGID term. Ms. Profant replied she would begin by addressing the issue of establishing criteria and standards under National Historic Preservation Act title 16 section 106. She would also focus on addressing the ambiguities in databases which affected Nevada taxpayers. She asserted it was a discussion which needed to occur.

Mr. Brown called the next candidate, Ms. Sara Schmitz.

Ms. Schmitz spoke about her decision to reside in Incline Village. She said her experience attending IVGID meetings prompted her to run for IVGID Trustee. She observed the information void left by the loss of the local newspaper during her campaign for IVGID Trustee. She said she received wide support from the community during her campaign. She mentioned how the alleged 2018 True Blue political action committee misinformation campaign divided the community. She discussed the educational non-profit organization Incline Village/Crystal Bay Community 1st, which she spearheaded. She mentioned her volunteer activity, IVGID meeting attendance, and Citizen Advisory Board participation. She described the successes of her collaboration with Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro, IVGID Interim General Manager Indra Winquest, and Vice Chair Berkbigler. She summarized her professional experience, stating she developed a reputation for being forthright, collaborative, and result-driven. She outlined the three priorities she would focus on if she was elected: invigorating the IVGID audit committee and strengthening the role of Treasurer, improving the lines of communication and financial transparency, and revitalizing the aging infrastructure. She believed she had the skills to actively participate and produce results.

Commissioner Herman asked Ms. Schmitz whether she intended to run during the upcoming election. Ms. Schmitz said yes.

Commissioner Hartung mentioned IVGID was divided and asked Ms. Schmitz what she would do to contribute to the spirit of compromise so all members of the Board felt they received something. Ms. Schmitz replied her intention was to embrace all of the Trustees, work collaboratively, listen to them, and make decisions that benefitted the community as a whole. She believed having diverse opinions was how better solutions were reached. She thought Trustees needed to speak respectfully and openly to find compromise because the community would lose without compromise. They were there to represent the community and they needed to work in an open, professional, and collaborative manner.
Commissioner Jung asked Ms. Schmitz what her most immediate short-term goal was for the 11-month appointment. Ms. Schmitz replied her immediate goal was dealing with the audit committee. She noted the audit committee changed to meeting only once per year approximately two years earlier and the Treasurer’s responsibility was delegated to staff. She thought IVGID had the opportunity to address financial transparency, which was the big issue of concern to the community.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Ms. Schmitz what she thought the purpose of IVGID was. Ms. Schmitz replied IVGID was there to be fiduciaries for the district; it oversaw financial transactions and made decisions based on the community’s priorities.

Chair Lucey observed the relationship between Washoe County and IVGID had been stressed during the recent past. He asked how she intended to improve the relationships within the Incline Village area and between Washoe County and IVGID during the 9 to 11 months of the appointment. Ms. Schmitz stated she was unaware of a strained working relationship between IVGID and the County. She believed cooperation was adequate, particularly with Mr. Winquest serving as the Interim General Manager. Chair Lucey clarified the public perception was there were challenges in the working relationship. Ms. Schmitz replied part of the issue was that people in the community did not understand the division of responsibilities between the County and IVGID. She noted the educational newsletter she put together tried to help people understand those responsibilities and commitments. She expressed gratitude for how helpful Mr. Solaro had been. She believed relationships were built through open communication and an understanding of responsibilities. She thought the public needed better education about what occurred in the community.

Commissioner Hartung noted Ms. Schmitz spoke about the aging infrastructure and the effluent pipeline in Incline Village. He asked how she would address those issues, how she would fund the projects, and how she would get a consensus of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Schmitz said a meeting was scheduled for January 29, which would include a workshop to address the issue. The current Board had identified the issue as a priority and she concurred. She noted $2 million had been set aside each year so reserve funds were available. She said waiting for additional funds was counterproductive because making repairs meant using up funds. She thought action needed to be taken soon.

Mr. Brown called the next candidate, Mr. Tony Lillios.

Mr. Lillios highlighted some key information from the letter of intent and the merit criteria submitted to the Board. He spoke about his professional experience, saying he ran companies for most of his career from boards with diverse members and conflicting agendas. He stated the Board needed someone who would fit the role of a collaborative Board member and work within IVGID’s divisive atmosphere. He thought it would be destructive to introduce another Board member who would align themselves with one of the existing factions or introduce new agendas in the following nine months. He believed the role of Trustee was to work with what was already there and serve as a bridge until the election in November. He pointed out there had been many recent changes in
IVGID and public opinion had shifted quickly. He noted the person appointed as Trustee would enjoy the unfair advantage of being an incumbent during the next election. He wanted the best for the district, so he vowed not to run for the Trustee position during the general election in 2020. He said there had been a political tug of war the previous 10 years and he became involved to help restore civility, conversation, and collaboration to IVGID.

Commissioner Jung asked Mr. Lillios what his short-term priority would be if he was appointed to the position. Mr. Lillios replied his first priority was to restore communication between Board members since real conversations were not taking place during meetings. He felt simple changes like being present and talking with each other would produce significant results.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Lillios what he thought the purpose of the IVGID Board was. Mr. Lillios responded the purpose was to provide oversight for the district and manage the general manager.

Commissioner Herman asked whether Mr. Lillios intended to run for the seat during the upcoming election. Mr. Lillios confirmed he would not. He thought it was obvious that being an incumbent would provide an advantage during the election. He believed it was important for candidates to campaign equally so residents would be able to decide fairly.

Commissioner Hartung asked Mr. Lillios what he would do to bridge the two sides that were at odds with each other and attain a tone of collaboration. Mr. Lillios said he would start a conversation. He observed the Board members arrived at meetings with preordained views and did not participate in discussions. He would focus on starting conversations by asking questions and proposing options not being discussed. He stated the art of navigating and facilitating discussions was what he did professionally, and he believed there were options not being explored by the Board.

Chair Lucey said Mr. Lillios mentioned the tension within IVGID and the Chair observed Incline Village was a dynamic and unique community. He stated there had been a common perception during the previous few years that the County and Incline Village could not work well together. He asked how Mr. Lillios would try to create a new culture between the County and Incline Village. Mr. Lillios agreed there was an issue. He thought understanding and respecting each person’s domain was really important. He expressed concern about the tax situation because it was a difficult conversation to navigate. He believed resolving that issue was a priority because it stood in the way of conversations between the County and IVGID.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Lillios what activities he participated in related to IVGID and what a Board member would do. Mr. Lillios responded he thought it was an issue that Board members did not review packets before meetings. He would hold regular office hours to answer questions. He said a rhythm was needed to avoid being unprepared during meetings.
Mr. Brown called the next candidate, Mr. Michael Hess.

Mr. Hess listed his community participation and volunteer activities. He mentioned he worked with Sara Schmitz to form Incline Village/Crystal Bay Community 1st, which focused on education and participation within the community. He said many people believed the partisanship exposed by the IVGID was the issue the community faced, but he believed there was a different issue. He said the Board needed to lead and resolve complaints. He listed allegations which he investigated and reported on publicly. He stated he would continue to research any issue raised by the public to ensure the Board met its fiduciary responsibilities. He believed better evaluations and solutions could be attained by giving staff more direction. He said another way to ensure the public that funds were being correctly handled was by requesting an audit of internal controls. It needed to be affirmed every year by the audit committee as part of its duties. He noted he found IVGID staff to be competent and willing to look for suggestions and input. He said his personal objective would be to work with anyone in the community to reach a satisfactory resolution to any issue they might have.

Commissioner Herman asked whether Mr. Hess intended to run for the seat in the upcoming election. Mr. Hess said yes.

Commissioner Hartung noted Incline Village had some issues with aging infrastructure. He asked Mr. Hess what his priority would be in terms of that aging infrastructure and how he would fund the necessary repairs and upgrades. Mr. Hess replied the most serious issue was the effluent pipeline, which experienced breaks in 2009, 2014, and 2019. He said $8.8 million of the $23 million needed for the project already existed. Raising funds for the project on the bond market needed to be considered.

Commissioner Jung noted the appointment was for a brief period and asked Mr. Hess about his short-term priority. Mr. Hess replied that, aside from the effluent pipeline, he would prioritize financial reporting. He believed many of the issues were due to a lack of financial understanding of IVGID. He said it was because IVGID was part government and part business. He stated a report could be devised to demonstrate how businesses performed and how IVGID was funded.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Hess what he thought the purpose of IVGID was. Mr. Hess said it was to represent the electorate. He believed the Board was supposed to take the voters’ input and put it to good use. He thought the lack of a communication method caused the current issues. He said the community previously had The Bonanza newspaper and weekly meetings to discuss issues and did not have strict open meeting laws, so it was easier to get things done. He believed people needed to be given enough time to adjust to and understand an issue. The Board then needed to listen to feedback from residents. He felt there was no discussion during Board meetings and nothing got done.

Chair Lucey observed Incline Village was a dynamic community with unique challenges. He noted the relationship between IVGID and Washoe County had been
strained during the previous few years. He asked how Mr. Hess intended to bridge the gap to create a new culture and improve the relationship between the County and Incline Village. Mr. Hess replied there needed to be discussion about goals, differences, and solutions. Compromise was necessary because there was no one right answer. He thought working together to understand motivations would produce a reasonable approach.

Noting Mr. Hess’ mention of compromise, Commissioner Hartung pointed out IVGID members were unable to reach a compromise when selecting a Trustee. He asked what Mr. Hess would do to help IVGID reach a point of compromise. Mr. Hess replied the agenda stated what IVGID was supposed to do, but he felt members of the Board needed to be challenged about why they were there if they could not follow the agenda. He thought IVGID should have had a session prior to the meeting where they discussed the selection process, much like the BCC had done.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Hess about his understanding of the responsibilities of a local government agency in meeting its statutory requirements for financial reporting and budgeting. Mr. Hess replied the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) was clear about reporting requirements, but that did not preclude a second set of books from being maintained to report to the public in a way they could understand. He thought basic reporting for the public was not part of the current process.

Vice Chair Berkbigler expressed discomfort with the idea of a second set of books and asked Mr. Hess to clarify his statement. Mr. Hess stated that secondary work and other reporting formats were allowed in accounting. Financial information could be reported in any way a board, a chief financial officer (CFO), or a chief executive officer wanted without adhering to GASB or Financial Accounting Standards Board rules because it was for internal use only and not a legal reporting to the public. Vice Chair Berkbigler expressed concern about Mr. Hess’ response. She suggested the IVGID Board needed to meet with the County’s budget and finance staff because the County never kept duplicate books and never had a problem with people understanding how money was used. Mr. Hess retorted he was a CFO of a billion-dollar company which had not experienced any problems with this type of financial reporting because it was based on the ethics and morals of the company.

Mr. Brown called the next candidate, Ms. Michaela Tonking.

Ms. Tonking spoke about growing up in Incline Village as well as her education and career. She said IVGID taught her the definition of community and she applied to the Board of Trustees to help ensure the community continued to impact residents in a positive manner. In her current role, she analyzed Nevada school districts’ budgets, educated citizens and stakeholders on school financials, and managed a statewide coalition. She listed her volunteer activities and community involvement. She stated there was a feeling of financial distress among some community members but that was a common issue she observed in many governmental organizations and businesses. She said her responsibilities with Educate Nevada Now required her to work with stakeholders to create a clear understanding of financials. She described how she achieved that goal and
said she planned to carry those skills into the community. She believed there was a need for considerations of internal control audits to foster trust and best practices amongst staff. She asserted she was suited to fill the gap left by Trustee Phil Horan’s resignation, noting the right candidate would need to find middle ground amongst the Board. She said she would emphasize collaboration with the community, staff, and fellow Trustees. She would focus on gathering facts, listening to concerns, and making informed decisions for the community while eliminating political divide.

Commissioner Jung apologized to Ms. Tonking for cancelling their meeting the prior Friday. She explained she had not realized Ms. Tonking was a candidate and it would have been unfair to meet with her and not all the other candidates. She asked Ms. Tonking what her primary short-term goal would be. Ms. Tonking replied it would be to create balance between the long-term goals for the community and maintaining current projects. She acknowledged there was a need to maintain buildings, services, and the pipeline, but there were long-term goals which needed to be considered to ensure the community grew.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Ms. Tonking what she thought the purpose of IVGID was. Ms. Tonking responded the purpose of a board was to review and approve financials, memos, and decisions. She said the Board needed to be able to communicate both with its members and with the community, foster collaboration, and recognize when subject matter experts needed to be consulted.

Commissioner Herman asked Ms. Tonking whether she intended to run for the seat on IVGID during the upcoming election. Ms. Tonking said yes.

Commissioner Hartung asked Ms. Tonking what she would do to bridge the two sides of IVGID and help the Board to find compromise. Ms. Tonking replied she would begin by asking Board members, staff, and the community pertinent questions to fully understand who would be affected by a given decision. Her role would be that of facilitator, gathering and understanding facts to facilitate conversations. She would also serve to moderate by presenting the facts and the broader view, and encouraging flexibility.

Chair Lucey said he appreciated Ms. Tonking’s candor when speaking about a divided community and her willingness to communicate and try to bring the two sides together. He guessed that, as a long-time resident of Incline Village, Ms. Tonking probably felt there had been dissension between Washoe County and Incline Village residents and that Incline Village residents sometimes felt disenfranchised. He asked how she would change the culture and the relationship between the County and Incline Village residents. Ms. Tonking said she was aware of the tension from her childhood when IVGID wanted to be a separate school district. She thought communicating and understanding the rationale for decisions made by the BCC would enable her to explain them to the IVGID community. She also believed explaining the IVGID perspective to the Board was an important component in mediating between the two communities.
Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Ms. Tonking what community activities she participated in. Ms. Tonking replied she was a mentor for the We the People program at Incline High School. She also created voter guides to increase education and improve young voter turn out, and she served on the New Leaders Council.

Mr. Brown called the next candidate, Mr. Frank Wright.

Mr. Frank Wright noted IVGID had never included a representative from Crystal Bay although Crystal Bay residents were required to pay for recreational facilities and beaches they could not use. He mentioned he ran for the State Senate eight years earlier and had been engaged in the community for the previous ten years while most of the other candidates had not. He stated many appalling events took place in the community during the previous ten years, listing election fraud, records requests issues, and alleged misconduct by the IVGID attorney as examples. He said accounting practices were not standard and it was difficult to obtain information about expenditures. He spoke about a consultant hired by IVGID to perform a study on Diamond Peak who charged $35,000 for information available on the internet. He stated only he and Ms. Schmitz deserved to be candidates for the Trustee position.

Commissioner Herman asked Mr. Wright whether he intended to run in the upcoming election. Mr. Wright said yes.

Commissioner Hartung commented Mr. Wright was familiar with the division which existed on the IVGID Board. He asked Mr. Wright what he would do to unite to the Board and function as a bridge to find compromise on difficult issues including funding necessary infrastructure repairs. Mr. Wright responded everyone would adapt if he performed his job as a Board member and supported decisions with facts and input from the community. He said IVGID would understand he was there for the right reasons if he listened to the community and proposed solutions which would make the community better. He asserted he wanted to improve the community and ensure it operated legally, but it was difficult to do when pursuing people who did illegal things.

Commissioner Jung asked Mr. Wright what his top priority was for the brief period of the appointment. Mr. Wright said his priorities would be to end the lawsuits and work with other Board members to determine how money was spent. He stated getting an accounting of IVGID funds was critical.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Wright what he thought the purpose of the IVGID Board was. Mr. Wright replied it was created to provide sewer, water, and trash, and later recreation services. He said they were not intended to be for profit, but they became so. He stated the IVGID Board was supposed to oversee facilities and ensure venue managers did their job and provided financial accounting. He noted facility managers appeared to be unsure of the financial status of their venues.

Chair Lucey said the Trustee seat acted as an intermediary between the public, staff, and other Trustees on the Board. In the past, there had been a sense of a strain
between the County and IVGID. He asked Mr. Wright what he would do to change the culture and improve the relationship between the County and Incline Village. Mr. Wright stated he was a reasonable person who had worked with the Commissioners in the past. He said he would discuss any issues with the Commissioners, work to find the root of an issue, and find a resolution. He indicated it was a matter of working together, understanding differing positions, and determining what needed to be done.

Vice Chair Berkbigler observed the Board was aware of Mr. Wright’s participation in community activities. She asked about his understanding of the responsibilities of a local government agency in meeting its statutory requirements for financial reporting and budgeting. Mr. Wright replied the Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFRs) were used for yearly reporting. He alleged Incline Village’s CAFRs had not been accurate but the inconsistencies were overlooked. He wanted to know what the revenue sources and expenditures were. He said the current IVGID Financial Director did not share information with the public, but he hoped things would change with new staff.

Mr. Brown called the final candidate, Bruce Simonian.

Mr. Simonian thanked the Board for interviewing Trustee candidates. He spoke about his business ownership experience and his knowledge of IVGID infrastructure, development, and maintenance. He alleged money was not spent to perform required jobs because of pressures from the community. He said he applied for the interim Trustee position because issues of concern during his previous tenure on the IVGID Board still existed. He alleged the growth of Incline Village/Crystal Bay was stifled by the improprieties of a vocal minority within the community. He listed issues which the IVGID Board dealt with during his tenure. He stated IVGID had a fiduciary duty to spend when it made sense. He mentioned he continued to work with staff and directors on community issues. He spoke about his involvement with the Diamond Peak Committee and the delays involved with that project. He stated he was non-partisan and pragmatic, a common-sense problem solver with a reputation of being honest, accountable, and forthright in his convictions. He cited his experience attaining compromise as a past Board member. He described factors which created a demoralized environment in IVGID. He hoped the master plans that were developed would be implemented soon. He advocated for transparency and communication at all levels. He mentioned the effluent pipeline and short-term rentals were current concerns for IVGID. He said identifying mutual goals and compromising were crucial to making progress.

Commissioner Jung asked what his top priority was for the short-term appointment. Mr. Simonian said pulling people together to get things done would be his priority. There were community issues which needed to make progress. He wanted to advance the effluent pipeline project in a conscientious manner.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Simonian what he thought the purpose of the IVGID Board was. Mr. Simonian replied it was the liaison between the community, staff, and directors. He noted IVGID needed to reflect both sides because information
traveled both ways. He thought communication from the community was key. He emphasized Trustees needed to work together to get the best results for the community.

Commissioner Herman asked whether Mr. Simonian intended to run for the IVGID seat during the upcoming election. Mr. Simonian replied he had not decided.

Commissioner Hartung asked Mr. Simonian what he would do with the current Board of Trustees to achieve compromise. Mr. Simonian responded he enjoyed communicating with people and setting aside personal differences. He believed in discussing issues openly to identify the source of dysfunction. He was a member of the ManKind Project and worked with men and women of all demographics to facilitate conversation.

Chair Lucey said Incline Village was a unique community. He observed there had been tension at various times between Washoe County and Incline Village. He asked Mr. Simonian how he proposed to help improve the relationship with the County during the short-term appointment. Mr. Simonian replied he would work more directly with the County on issues as they arose. He said some projects occurred without significant input from IVGID but IVGID needed to be more actively involved in decisions that affected the community. He encouraged effective communication and being proactive. He wanted to discuss the possibility of becoming an independent city or county so they could control their own destiny.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asked Mr. Simonian what community activities he was actively involved in. Mr. Simonian said he was a member of the Tahoe Incline Rotary, the Incline Tahoe Foundation Board, the Public Action Committee, and the Incline Village Realtors Public Policy Committee. He noted he recently arranged an informal meeting with the Nevada Department of Transportation, Nevada State Parks, and IVGID to discuss traffic issues on the east shore. He said he was very active in trying to solve issues outside the scope of politics.

3:56 p.m.  The Board recessed.

4:05 p.m.  The Board reconvened with all Commissioners present.

On the call for public comment, the following people spoke in support of appointing Ms. Sara Schmitz to the IVGID Board of Trustees: Mr. Michael Abel; Mr. John Eppolito; Ms. Carol DelCarlo; Ms. Diane Becker-Heirshberg; Mr. Omer Rains; Ms. Anne Rossman; Ms. Linda Newman; Mr. Jack Dalton; Mr. Glen Rossman; Mr. Willy Krusell; and Ms. Margaret Martini.

The above individuals provided the following reasons for their support: the endorsement of 447 Incline Village residents; her regular attendance at IVGID meetings; the newsletter she created to objectively inform residents; her level of research and understanding of IVGID and IVGID issues; the narrow margin of the prior election; the benefits her background would provide to the IVGID Board; the attentiveness she
demonstrated to members of the community; the belief she would always take the proper action for the benefit of the community; the belief she was the candidate chosen by the community; the clarity of her communication during meetings; the opinion that she would always act in the spirit of collaboration; her practice of listening to everyone’s input with an open mind; her ability to advocate on issues; the observation that she was respectful and did not get angry; her availability given her retirement; her level of involvement on community issues; the indication of how she would conduct herself in future based on her past actions; her bravery and willingness to step into a contentious position; the leadership role she had undertaken within the community; the lack of time for training or learning which would be required by other candidates; the urgency of the infrastructure issues about which she was already knowledgeable; the personal and professional integrity she demonstrated; the need for the robust audit committee she wanted to create; the tirelessness she demonstrated when working on projects; the collaboration with the Interim General Manager she cultivated; and the accountability, open communication, and transparency she demonstrated through her actions.

Mr. Tony Lillios thanked the Board for clearly considering the appointment process and reviewing the documents he provided. He reiterated his disappointment with the IVGID Board’s inability to appoint a Trustee. He mentioned the dysfunction within the IVGID Board but noted the Incline Village District was a great place to live. He stated the animosity within the IVGID Board was not a reflection of the residents. He disagreed that the other candidates were neutral, citing that some of them had actively campaigned on one of the polarized sides of the IVGID Board. He hoped the polarization could end for at least the few months before the upcoming election. He thought the erosion of respect and civility was shameful.

In addition to her comments in support of Ms. Schmitz, Ms. Margaret Martini opined that Mr. Frank Wright was the second most qualified based on his knowledge of community needs and his involvement.

Documents provided by Mr. Abel and Ms. Martini were placed on file with County Clerk Nancy Parent. Ms. Parent stated she also received email correspondence from Mr. Lillios, letters in support of Ms. Schmitz from Mr. Wayne Ford, Ms. Yolanda Knaak, and Ms. Patricia Morris, and an email from Ms. Kimberly Warren about the meeting process. Copies of the correspondence were placed on the record.

Chair Lucey thanked the applicants and the general public for participating in the process.

Vice Chair Berkbigler said representing Incline Village and Crystal Bay the previous seven years had been an interesting experience. She said she was impressed with the graciousness and politeness of everyone who participated in the selection process. She expressed disappointment with the IVGID Board for their inability to reach a consensus. She thought determining what was best for residents was the most important mandate of an elected body. She expressed concern about the public perception that the County was responsible for IVGID’s inability to reach a consensus. She emphasized the County had
nothing to do with who was selected to the IVGID Board. She thought a strong IVGID Board with good leadership and staff would produce a better relationship featuring better communication with the County. She thought progress in that direction would take place with the Interim General Manager. She emphasized that Ms. Schmitz remained involved and interested in resolving issues so she was unable to understand why IVGID could not reach a consensus. She thought it was clear who would be the best candidate for the position and hoped the other Commissioners would agree.

Commissioner Hartung said he was unsettled when the IVGID Chair began the meeting by stating a consensus would likely not be reached. He knew a decision about the appointment would be reached by the BCC because it could be accomplished with compromise. He said each of the candidates had great qualities to offer and he highlighted key statements made by each candidate during their presentations.

Commissioner Herman thanked everyone for attending and said she heard what they each had to say.

Chair Lucey requested Ms. Parent distribute paper ballots to the Board. He said each Commissioner would vote for two candidates and ballots would then be collected, read aloud, and tallied by the Clerk.

Ms. Parent collected the ballots and announced the results: Commissioner Herman nominated Sara Schmitz and Frank Wright; Commissioner Hartung nominated Sara Schmitz and Frank Wright; Chair Lucey nominated Sara Schmitz and Michaela Tonking; Vice Chair Berkbigler nominated Sara Schmitz and Frank Wright; and Commissioner Jung nominated Sara Schmitz and Michaela Tonking.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Sara Schmitz be appointed to the vacancy on the Incline Village General Improvement District Board of Trustees.

**20-0032 AGENDA ITEM 24** Public Comment.

Ms. Sara Schmitz thanked the Board and everyone who worked to get her appointed. She stated she would endeavor to uphold the things said about her.

**20-0033 AGENDA ITEM 25** Commissioners’Announcements/Reports.

There were no Commissioner announcements or reports.

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4:52 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

VAUGHN HARTUNG, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

Minutes Prepared by:
Carolina Stickley and Derek Sonderfan, Deputy County Clerks