

**IN A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION, SPECIAL BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH & SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSION & FIRE COMMISSION HELD ON APRIL 7, 2021 IN THE COUNTY LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM IN ELY, NEVADA**

**The Following Were Present:**

**County Commission**  
**Richard Howe, Chairman**  
**Travis Godon, Vice-Chairman**  
**Ian Bullis, Commissioner**  
**Shane Bybee, Commissioner**  
**Laurie L. Carson, Commissioner**  
**Nichole Baldwin, Clerk of the Board**  
**Jill Perez, Deputy Clerk**

**County Officials:**

**Bill Calderwood, Public Works Director**  
**James S. Beecher, District Attorney**  
**Lori Romero, Library Director**  
**Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director**  
**Daren Kunz, Public Health Officer**  
**Desiree Barnson, Social Services Director**  
**Tim Bunch, Human Resources Director**  
**Michael Johnson, IT Specialist**  
**Brett North, White Pine County Fire Chief**  
**Sheriff Scott Henriod**  
**Pat Stork, City of Ely Fire Chief**

**Also Present:**

**George Chachas, George Town Media**  
**Kyle Horvath, WPC Tourism**

**Present via Zoom:**

**Geri Wopschall, Nancy Baker, Jeremy Drew (RCI), J. Gianoli, Burton Hilton (Assessor), Carrisa (Juvenile Probation), Mary Kerner, Jennifer Lee (City of Ely), Caroline McIntosh, Tara North and others**

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**Chairman Richard Howe called the meeting to order at 9:04 am. Finance Director, Elizabeth Frances led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/SILENT INVOCATION**

**This was duly observed.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Director of WPC Tourism, Kyle Horvath addressed the Board regarding item C4 on the agenda that is consideration for a letter of support for the Ward Mountain Trail expansion plan submitted to SNPLMA. He expressed gratitude to Commissioner Bullis and everyone that is considering this project. He wanted to make clear there are multiple pools of money in the SNPLMA funding and the Forest Service and Land Managers apply for a different pool

of money than the County Commission and the City so it would be in no way a competition for the priorities that the County sets for the SNPLMA projects. The importance of this project is more than just a recreation project, it's an economic development project that has been in the works for 10 years to create a quality of life for locals as well as a tourists and it draws-in outdoor recreation and trail enthusiasts. This proposal through the Forest Service addresses trail head development and access points which removes issues with landowners adjacent to recreation areas. It will get people off of the roads so that there isn't a safety issue going on and it increases our trail system so the County becomes very attractive to people looking at this for a destination and is even more attractive to people who run, bike, and hike with their families and becomes a place where they would want to move and live. The last two years of putting on the emphasis on Mountain Biking and Trails Recreation, the County has since been named mountain biking's next big boom town by the former bike magazine BETA MTV. From an industry standpoint all eyes are on WPC, Ely and the trail development. This project has not been recommended for funding twice through the SNPLMA project. He is asking the County to modify the letter that was submitted as a draft to address the economic impact and support it in hopes that either they will change their mind or resubmit it in Round 19. There will be a lot of understanding in why this project is extremely important for the County's businesses for the locals as well as for the tourism of WPC.

George Chachas reminded the Board to put their masks on. Regarding a concern he has, the golf course has used over 111 million gallons of water. Have they paid this bill? And what did the Board pay if it was paid? He has asked in the past to consider soliciting a newspaper that is fair and balanced. He reminded the Board a year ago today on 04/07/2020 he paid cash for ads to be run in the newspaper. He presented a receipt and claimed the ads had not ran and he claims fraud. He demanded the Board pull the newspaper licenses and stop doing business with them until they rectify the situation. He still has not received written statements regarding numerous concerns that he has continued to bring to the Board and he feels he is still getting the cold shoulder. In regards to item D5, the Board is to close the meeting for personnel sessions and he did not see the building inspector, Brad Christiansen, on the list. He has not received repairs to his building and when he complained he was told he hired a poor contractor. He continued to explain the Planning Commission does not address code violations by themselves as well as other members of the Commission or the City Council. Time was called.

**The Chairman temporarily recessed the Special County Commission Meeting for a Special White Pine County Board of Public Health Meeting at 9:13 am.**

**A. SPECIAL BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING**

Public Health Officer, Daren Kunz called the meeting to order at 9:14 am.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**\*1) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of the Local Mitigation and Enforcement Plan, effective May 1, 2021**

Public Health Officer, Daren Kunz addressed the Board. It is his understanding the District Attorney, James Beecher has written a plan for mitigation efforts moving forward. He wanted to make it known that he was not consulted on this plan nor was any of his input put into this plan.

District Attorney, James Beecher addressed the Board making clear he is not a Public Health Officer and he made this mitigation plan at the direction and consultation with the Emergency Manager, Brett North and Vice Chairman Travis Godon. The State put out a document outlining what they were looking for when delegating control back to the Counties. One of the areas where he deviated from the outline is in the preface. The preface is not required; if the Commission wants to adopt this plan, they can do it with amendments in any matter. There are different sections in monitoring that can be found in the State's Direction template and they are not trying to interfere with how William Bee Ririe Hospital and the PHO do their monitoring overall. Mitigation measures are the big meat of this plan. DA Beecher is proposing moving forward with no restrictions or mandates and essentially giving the power back to the local businesses to run their businesses the way they want to run them. The second part is who it applies to. The template shows many different sections and classification of businesses. This plan will apply to all businesses and organizations in regards to public information, the County, to his knowledge, hasn't had a big part of this outside the Public Health Officer and his Office. In consultation with Matt Walker, WBRH has been doing their own public information campaigns in regards to the resource needs. The County is pretty set on PPE in regards to an amended plan, this was not in the template but it was a recommendation. Emergency Manager, Brett North has a contact with the State and the State suggested there be something in the plan in case the PPE situation goes bad again. It was suggested that the ICU beds get over 80% occupancy, there will be a special meeting to discuss what to do if things go bad and how to handle the situation. Required endorsements include: Board of Public Health, WPC School District Superintendent, NV Rural Hospital Association or the NV Hospital Association, and WPC Commission. DA Beecher has contacted WPC School District Superintendent Adam Young and gave him the details of the plan and Mr. Young responded via email stating he would endorse this plan. DA Beecher has not been able to get in contact with anyone from NV Hospital Association and is hoping Emergency Manager, Brett North could use his contacts with the State and get this signed by the NV Hospital Association or the NV Rural Hospital Association. Commissioner Laurie Carson was unsure about resource needs and monitoring and asked for clarification. DA Beecher explained it states to identify any needs that you have for public health, enforcement, or emergency management, meaning above and beyond what the County is able to provide; what the County would need from the State. Commissioner Carson was under the impression of WPC still needing Public Health and Emergency Management in order to do monitoring. DA Beecher continued to explain that it was his belief at the time of writing the plan that WPC can manage this without additional resources from the State and if this was not the case it could be changed. Commissioner Carson asked who would help with Public Health and noted the County hired a new employee for help with data entry. DA Beecher explained yes, that was the County taking care of itself. He can't read the mind of

the people who put together the template, but he tries to infer what they are wanting. For example, if the County needs an additional \$1 million in funding so the County can procure the PPE and the COVID tests needed because the County doesn't have enough, he would imagine they would come back with strings attached. Commissioner Carson reminded the Board of the \$80,000 grant from the State that WPC has yet to receive. She expressed concern and did not want any impact on that. Commissioner Bybee asked if the County has applied for the grant. Social Services Director Desiree Barnson stated yes and she would have the signature page this afternoon. She offered to call Renee to check on the progress of the paperwork. She explained the grant would not only be for the staff, but for a lot of equipment for the County as well. DA Beecher suggested he could identify in the grant stating WPC is currently applying for this grant, which will meet certain needs and he asked Director Barnson for a description so he could plug the information in, and outside of that grant WPC has no additional needs. Commissioner Carson agreed to this terminology and she is more comfortable with this than before. DA Beecher stated WBRH was opened and is giving vaccines to anyone over the age of 18 and had been doing this for almost two weeks. PHO Kunz stated he did not agree with the 80% capacity of ICU. There is one ICU bed and if that bed is full then ICU would be at 100% capacity. He would be more comfortable with the plan if the County continued to use the State's monitoring plan, where they flag the County with increased transmission, testing, and deaths. He reminded the Board the County has not been flagged for weeks. He stated if the County uses ICU beds to capacity of 80%, by the time it hits that, the Public Health Commission might have missed the opportunity to reduce transmission and spread. He suggested using two out of the three measures from the State. DA Beecher agreed with PHO Kunz on the plan and stated it could be amended if PHO Kunz wanted to send the verbiage. If the Commission does not like 80%, then something needs to be put down so the County has a trigger for the State to approve this plan. Vice Chairman Godon suggested taking off ICU and put "bed". He expressed his only issue with the State is the target always moves. Commissioner Bullis suggested 80% of the hospital capacity instead of "bed". PHO Kunz does not know how to measure other than the matrix the State is using. He has not seen the demographics change or the goals that the State is holding the County accountable for. He expressed the County needs to open. He applauded this measure and thinks it's a great thing but he does worry about the State coming back and closing the County again. Commissioner Bullis and Vice Chairman Godon agreed if the State does come back at the County, the Commission will go and pass a resolution stating the County will do it their way. Commissioner Bullis stated the State is incorrect with their measure. The State had been showing people outside of the County, that we have had 700 deaths and the State was basing it off of per 100,000, which WPC doesn't have and that's a completely incorrect statistical analysis. PHO Kunz stated it is correct, the State is trying to show how the County compares to a bigger County. The States uses 100,000 so that the numbers correlate. WPC has only had 6 deaths and the State puts that out for every 100,000. If the Commission wants its own measurement, he suggested taking out 80%. The hospital has 4 COVID beds in the COVID unit. He would suggest saying if 3 out of 4 beds are filled, then reconvene a meeting and see if the County can find a pattern of transmission and that would be our own measurement. DA Beecher stated the reason why there was a percentage is if they changed the number of beds that have been assigned. Commissioner Bullis commented on the State's statistical analysis and asserted that it is not reflective on reality when you have a population

of 10,000 comparing it per capita to a population of 700,000 or 2 million down in Las Vegas. He felt it is like looking at one family getting infected making it look like a similar situation as a super spreader event down on the strip in Las Vegas. Commissioner Carson asked if it can be called the Hospital COVID plan. Sheriff Henriod inquired about not worrying about the bed capacity and just worry about the population. DA Beecher advised that the problem is the size of the town. We can have one family go out of town and all of them become positive and that one family could bring us to the percentage. Commissioner Bybee disagreed stating since this has started, the benchmark of all restrictions has been to overwhelm healthcare and he thinks the plan has to stay in place and the County should go off of what the hospital capacity is. Chairman Howe stated what we are looking at is to try and get away from the State and figure out what is in the interest of WPC. Commissioner Carson suggested changing the plan to state "COVID bed capacity reaches or exceeds 75%". Vice Chairman Godon made the motion to adopt the plan with the following amendments: strike 80% and make it 75%; strike ICU and make that COVID and then Commission Carson added the resource needs grant that Director Barnson is working on. Commissioner Bullis seconded the motion. DA Beecher stated there would be one more vote at the Commission meeting. DA Beecher requested an amended motion to allow the addition of any grants that may be affected by this plan. Vice Chairman Godon amended his motion to amend. Commissioner Bullis seconded the amended motion. Motion passed.

PHO Kunz passed out an updated graph showing where WPC is from the start of COVID to now. From the start of COVID we have had a total of 566 cases. Currently in the County there are 8 active cases that will fall off in 2 days after quarantine and the County will go down to 0 active cases. We have had only 6 deaths in the County. 29.3% have started with the vaccine. There was a spike after Halloween and mostly during the colder months and now is tapering off. PHO Kunz expressed his gratitude to the health care workers and the County Hospitals and thinks they have all done an excellent job in keeping COVID down. He continued to acknowledge Bernadett Sena, Shannon Pierce, Ridley's, WBRH, and Economy Drug Store for having done a wonderful job at keeping up with the vaccines, organizing the POD's, and testing. Fire Chief, Brett North and Matthew Walker have been making sure the County gets the vaccines. Chairman Howe and Commissioner Carson commended PHO Kunz's efforts and noted that he should be applauded as well. PHO Kunz thinks it's time to open up. Since Dec. 9 the County has had 257 cases. He stated he has spoken with all families and had nothing but respect.

**\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of minutes form the December 9, 2020 Special Meeting of the White Pine County Board of Public Health**

Commissioner Carson made the motion to approve with changes. Commissioner Bybee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

HR Director Tim Bunch also recognized Bernadett Sena and Shannon Pierce for their efforts with the vaccines. They have been able to keep up with the demands of the shots and the workload of their office and they do it with smiles and keep their customer service.

George Ghachas addressed the Board asking if the Governor's directive have been muted. He wanted clarification on the COVID deaths in WPC.

Vice Chairman Godon made the motion to close the meeting at 9:49 am. Chairman Howe seconded the motion. Motion passed. The Special Board of Public Health meeting was adjourned at 9:49 am.

**The Chairman temporarily recessed the Special County Commission Meeting for a Special Joint County Commission & Fire Commission Meeting at 9:50 am.**

**B. SPECIAL JOINT COUNTY COMMISSION & FIRE COMMISSION MEETING  
PUBLIC COMMENT**

George Chachas addressed the Board stating he has seen no resolution on Ave D. access to Hwy 93. The road is way too narrow and doesn't meet code and it needs to be addressed.

**\*1) Discussion/For Possible Action: Direction or Approval related to Revenues and Department Expense in the FY2022 budget including: Commission, County Manager, Clerk, Recorder including special revenue budgets, Assessor including special revenue budget, Treasurer, Elections, Information Technology, Finance, Human Resources, Countywide, District Attorney, Justice of the Peace-Ely including special revenue budgets, District Court I including special revenue budgets, District Court II including special revenue budgets, Judicial related costs, Juvenile Probation, Juvenile Detention, Bailiffs, Judicial Court Support, Sheriff including Administration, Detective, Patrol, Jail, Coroner, Dispatch and Task Force, Fire, Emergency Management, Economic Development, Buildings and Maintenance, Parks Maintenance, Public Health, Cooperative Agreements-Animal Control, Library, Airport Operating, Natural Resources, Transfers, Contingency, Agricultural District, Emergency Medical Services, Agricultural Extension, Social Services including donations fund, Road Department, Airport Capital Improvement, Capital Improvements, SB74 tax fund, Towns of Lund, McGill & Ruth, Senior Center, Industrial Park, Tri-County Weed, Building & Planning, Golf Course, Aquatic Center, China Springs, Camp Success & Various Grant Budgets. Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director**

Finance Director Frances addressed the Board and provided documentation/handouts that shows everything that was requested and explained what was on each handout. The handouts also explains how the funds are allocated. All of these numbers have been updated into the budget that she is proposing for the tentative budget. Base wage increases have not been calculated into the budget for the Justice of the Peace. She did provide an analysis of what it would look like with a 5% increase. Chairman Howe asked what the raises were given to other departments over the last five years. Director Frances stated she would come back with that information. Commissioner Carson asked how long it had been since the Justice of the Peace received an increase. Chairman Howe stated 5 years. Director Frances stated she would get the information and reminded the Board they need to approve the tentative budget by 04/15. She expressed concerns for the WPC general fund balance noting the Department of Taxation Lead Renewable Energy abatement went up 5 times what it used to be and should be going down consistently over a period of time. She had a discussion with

the Assessor and asked if this was the only thing we were having issues with or did something happen in DEVNET and why we are seeing these very large increases. Assessor Hilton is reaching out to DEVNET. The County is looking at an increase in revenues but she is not convinced they will come in as projected. Commissioner Bullis and Vice Chairman Godon discussed how they worked on the proposed budget adjustment for FY2020-FY2021. They handed out a summary of proposed budget adjustments for FY2021/2022 and explained how they came up with these numbers. Chairman Howe inquired about vehicle warranties for 5 years; would the County be better off buying new vs. an older vehicle? Commissioner Bullis stated whoever is shopping for a vehicle needs to pay attention to how old the vehicle is and the warranty. Chairman Howe expressed his gratitude for them keeping the reserve within the 25%.

Commissioner Carson stated she personally wants the IT Manager vs. the County Manager. Second thing she questioned, there were numerous departments that wanted to get back to the 14% and asked if the 5% was being cut from their reduced budget. Vice Chairman Godon stated that the 14% was put back and then reduced by 5%. Commissioner Bullis does agree with Commissioner Carson in regards to the need for an IT Manager and his only thought is there is no County leadership. They are constantly canceling department head meetings and everything functions better when you have a good leader. We can always contract out for the IT Manager, he felt. Commissioner Bybee expressed his concern with a County Manager as half the department heads are elected officials that don't have to answer to a County Manager. He really likes the IT Manager, especially with the courthouse coming, but at the end of the day the County is working without both positions and he is leaning on scrapping both. Director Lori Romero supported the IT Manager. She believes Mike and Jennifer have their hands full with all the departments. The Commission asked for Director Frances' input for the IT Manager. Director Frances thinks both positions are very important to the County, but feels the one position to be more impacting would be the IT Manager. She agreed with Commissioner Bybee, the County Manager probably can't make an elected official do anything, but the IT Manager would provide better mentoring to the two technicians that are on staff now to be able to grow into their positions more effectively. Chairman Howe agreed with Commissioner Bybee. The County doesn't know what the budget is going to look like in the future. He is not in favor of the County Manager right now because the Commission deals with the department heads and the department heads know who to call if they need anything. Just because the County has a lot of money doesn't mean we have to spend it now. This particular year is a different one and we don't know what the future holds as far as revenues go. He does not think this is the year to hire a County Manager or an IT Manager. He feels the work load will slow down. Vice Chairman Godon suggested scrapping both positions for now and submit the preliminary budget, and depending on where the revenues come in, the 5% cut across the board can be restored fully or can be backed it off once we have better knowledge of numbers when we have the final budget. Chairman Howe asked about the payment to the PHO. Right now the County pays \$5,000 a month to the PHO and he would like to drop it to \$1,000 a month due to the slow of the pandemic and work load. Director Frances did budget in the next year \$12,000 for the PHO contract knowing it would drop from pandemic level to routine level. Commissioner Bybee stated he has no problem shopping for used vehicles. Commissioner Bullis feels Director Frances is doing more than

her share of the work and is operating outside of her job description. He stated if we don't do the County Manager and we switch to the IT Manager we are saving more money than what has been suggested. Commissioner Carson agreed we need to continue to work forward. We have been living in the dinosaur ages far too long and feels this would be a smart move for the County. Commissioner Bybee is ok with the IT Manager as a preliminary and then making a final decision as we get closer to the end of the legislative session and get truer revenues, with the understanding that this is something we could reconsider. Vice Chairman Godon asked for a quote between a contract and an employee for the County. Director Frances mentioned the possibility of the County using the American Rescue Plan funding to fund a portion of the IT Manager position since it provides for broadband infrastructure.

Commissioner Bybee asked for an updated list from each department on age, mileage, and condition of each vehicle. Director Frances wanted to remind the Board of the issues with the special revenue funds and they needed to be addressed before she can file a report with a statement. One of the funds is the Drug Rehab program. She spoke with Judge Dobrescu regarding this fund and his projected ending fund balance for next year is a negative \$18,977. She cannot file this budget. He has to cut the program or the County needs to find a way to increase revenues. Some of his grant funding is based on traffic tickets. The legislature is trying to make this go from criminal to civil so his funding may end up going down further. The two things we came up with is we can get a general fund subsidy for one year and have the Grant Writer Tabitha Hamilton find grants that would assist with this program for FY23. She is hoping the Commission would be open to a \$25 - \$75,000 one-time subsidized payment while they look for grants to keep the program going, otherwise the program will have to be cut back. Chairman Howe thinks the Commission should go ahead and do this and replace the funds when they get the grant. Commissioner Bybee thinks \$75,000 is a little extreme and thinks \$50,000 would be better. Director Barnson asked if the majority of the people in the Drug Court program are indigent. If so, her funding can be used. Director Frances stated this is something we can speak with Judge Dobrescu about. She will amend the Social Services Indigent Fund to include Drug Court. The Commission agreed only if it's workable and they all agreed on \$50,000. The Justice Court House Arrest program is also in a negative balance and she believes there is a \$2,500 subsidy already from the general fund. The revenues have decreased due to COVID. It's about \$1,504 short and on a one time basis she would like to keep that program because it's less expensive to have someone on house arrest vs. incarceration. If it could be taken up from \$2,500 to \$4,004, it should keep the program even.

Director Frances provided several handouts, one of them was a revised budget from Public Works Director Calderwood showing the pricing summary for the custodian. Director Calderwood addressed the Board and recommended to use the provider two days a week and then use the janitor staff to fill in the extra times. He worries about how the department heads and officials would feel with employees they are not familiar with cleaning their offices. Chairman Howe disagreed. He is in favor of hiring a full time employee and does not want to outsource for this position. He likes the idea of giving someone in the community a job that would give them the pride of earning PERS and a paycheck which is beneficial thing for any person. Commissioner Bybee stated we are at the mercy of what our revenues are.



He thinks this is a matter of making a cost effective decision and is in favor of going with the contract. Commissioner Bullis advised the Board of a contract company that cleans the School District and many places in town who are well known and do a good job. HR Director Tim Bunch suggested thinking long term as far as turnover for the County. Vice Chairman Godon is comfortable with two days a week for this fiscal year and, to revisit the budget next fiscal year and see where the County is. Chairman Howe noted four out of five Commissioners are in favor of a contract janitor.

Director Frances handed out additional budget documents and went over each account and explained the changes and her concerns before getting to a tentative budget. In summary, Justice of the Peace, was different with pay over the past several years so a decision can be made at the 4/14 meeting. Vehicles can be purchased new or used. She will obtain an updated list containing the age, mileage and condition of department vehicles. She will cut the custodian position and add two days per week under contract services. She will eliminate the County Manager position and all related to that position. The Board would like an estimate with BCT if we go with an IT Manager. For Drug Court, there will be a \$50,000 increase from the general fund or through Social Services. For Justice Court, there will be an increase on house arrest from the general fund by \$1,504.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**The Chairman adjourned the Special Joint County Commission Meeting and Fire Commission Meeting at 10:42 am and reconvened the Special County Commission Meeting.**

#### **C. COUNTY COMMISSION**

##### **\*1) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of the Local Mitigation and Enforcement Plan, effective May 1, 2021**

DA Beecher made changes according to the mitigation plan from the Public Health Meeting. Commissioner Carson suggested changing the plan to state "COVID bed capacity reaches or exceeds 75%". Commissioner Carson made the motion to adopt the plan with following amendments: strike 80% and make it 75%, strike ICU and make that COVID beds and add the resource needs grant that Director Barnson is working on. For resource needs, it will say additional needs are not needed at this time. Commissioner Carson made the motion to approve. Vice Chairman Godon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

##### **\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Ratification of a letter supporting the City of Ely's attempt to secure funding for NDOT's "Ely's Downtown Project". Richard Howe, Chairman**

Chairman Howe had a meeting with Mayor Robertson asking for support. NDOT already had approval, but the City of Ely did not have funding. Commissioner Bullis made the motion to approve. Commissioner Bybee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**\*3) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval to change the Social Services Administrative Assistant from Temporary Part-time status to full-time permanent status immediately. Commissioner Ian Bullis and Social Services Director Desiree Barnson**

Commissioner Bullis clarified this is not something that will affect the general fund. Commissioner Bybee agreed with approving this item. Director Barnson stated we originally had the employee for only COVID, however they have taken on a huge workload and she is asking to make the position fulltime. The State gave up the COVID program due to the slowdown in cases. Director Frances wants to make sure this is in the budget. Vice Chairman Godon made the motion to approve. Commissioner Carson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**\*4) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval to write a letter in support of reconsideration of SNPLMA funding decision regarding Ward Mountain trails. Commissioner Ian Bullis**

Commissioner Bullis noted that Director of WPC Tourism Horvath gave us a great update about this item. Chairman Howe thinks a letter for support would be great. Commissioner Carson stated this letter is strictly to elevate why we think the trail system is important to our community. Vice Chairman Godon made the motion to approve. Commissioner Carson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**\*5) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a letter in support of Storey County's position on Innovation Zone BDR 1109. Chairman Richard Howe**

Chairman Howe spoke with Storey County Manager Austin Osborne. He feels what is taking place in legislature is asinine and does not agree with the tech companies coming in and trying to take over the Counties. Vice Chairman Godon stated the situation looks pretty greedy as normal. Chairman Howe thought this County and others should jump on board to support Storey County's position in regards to BDR 1109. Commissioner Carson made the motion to approve. Commissioner Bybee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**D. UNTIMED ITEMS**

**\*1) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a separate compensation table for District Court Staff in alignment with WPCSEA and Operating Engineers Local Union #3, AFL-CIO represented staff compensation tables. Tim Bunch, Human Resources Director**

HR Director Tim Bunch had a discussion with Judge Dobrescu. He stated Judge Dobrescu approved the pay increase for the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer and the Bailiff. Director Frances stated this should take the positions from an 11 to a 15 step increase based on credentials. Commissioner Bybee made the motion to approve. Commissioner Bullis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of Amendment #3 for the White Pine County Slum/Blight Property Abatement, 18/ACQ/09 to extend the expiration date of December 31, 2020 through June 30, 2021**

Commissioner Carson made the motion to approve. Commissioner Bybee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**\*3) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of Resolution 2021-26 authorizing the Social Services Director to make proposal(s) with NDOT for grants through the USDOT FTA for the Ely Bus. Social Services Director Desiree Barnson**

Commissioner Bullis made the motion to approve. Vice Chairman Godon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**\*4) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of minutes from the March 10<sup>th</sup> County Commission and Budget Workshop Meeting**

Commissioner Bullis made the motion to approve the minutes with one correction noted. Commissioner Carson seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**\*5) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a Motion to close the County Commission Meeting pursuant to NRS 241.030 to have closed personnel sessions for Elizabeth Frances-Finance Director, Lori Romero-Seniors Program Administrator, Bill Calderwood- Public Works Director, Tim Bunch- Human Resources Director, Desiree Barnson- Social Services Director and Brett North- District Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director to consider their character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, physical or mental health in order to evaluate their job performance from April 2020- April 2021. Tim Bunch, Human Resources Director**

Vice Chairman Godon moved to close the meeting. Commissioner Bullis made the second. The meeting went into closed session at 11:05 am.

The meeting came back in to open session at 12:20 pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None was made.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Bybee made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 pm. Commissioner Carson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**WHITE PINE COUNTY  
STATE OF NEVADA**

**BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**WPC CLERK OF THE BOARD**