

**IN A REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION HELD ON APRIL 10, 2019  
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  
Steve Stork, Commissioner  
Nichole Baldwin, Clerk of the Board  
Susan Lujan, Deputy Clerk

County Officials

Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director  
Timothy Bunch, Human Resources Director  
Desiree Barnson, Social Services Director  
Mike Wheable, District Attorney  
Bryan Pyle, Deputy District Attorney  
Carl Gregory, Emergency Mgmt. Director  
Juan Carlos Cervantes, UNR Coop Ext. Coord.  
Bill Calderwood, Public Works Director  
Lori Romero, Library/Sr. Center Director

Also Present

Geri Wopschall  
Cheryl Noriega  
Carol McKenzie  
Raleene Makley  
Les Robison  
Bill Ward, WPCFD  
Kay McMurray, Ely Times  
George Chachas, KGTV-10  
Laurie Carson  
Beau Carlson  
Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Town Council  
Chris Maestes, McGill Town Council  
Raymond Maestes  
Ely Fire Chief Ross Rivera  
Shaun Mayo, WPCFD  
Kevin Robison, Golf Adv. Bd. Chairman  
Randy Long, WPC Golf Professional  
Pete Mangum  
Tom Quinlan (?)

\*\*\*\*\*

Chairman Richard Howe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Steve Stork led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/SILENT INVOCATION**

This was duly observed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Raleene Makley asked the Commission to table item 3) under the Fire Commission meeting. The Town Hall meeting for public input is scheduled, and she felt it was in the Board's best interest, and their duty, to listen to the people of White Pine County. She emphasized that agenda item needs to be tabled.

Mr. Les Robison read his email to the Commission into the record at this time; he is requesting the Board table any voting on the interlocal agreement with the City of Ely items on our agenda.

Ms. Cheryl Noriega voiced her concerns that the White Pine County Fire Commission isn't listening to the residents of the outlying areas, which the interlocal agreement with the City of Ely would adversely affect. She noted that most people are not in favor of this, and she urged the Board not to vote on this until after the Town Hall meeting.

Ms. Laurie Carson advised she also supports waiting on voting on the interlocal agreement. She applauded Chairman Richard Howe for voting "No" on this when it was handed out. She added that something of this extreme importance surprised her for being voted on so quickly. She continued that the public needs to have the opportunity to study this, ask questions, and know the impacts. She requested the Board table that agenda item.

McGill Town Council Member Cynthia Angelopoulos also asked the Board to table this agreement; she felt it was only fair that it not be presented to the residents of White Pine County until after the Town Hall meeting.

Mr. Chris Maestes, also a member of McGill Town Council, respectfully requested the interlocal agreement agenda item be tabled until people have had the opportunity to ask questions on this issue.

Ms. Carol McKenzie was in total agreement with these people, and felt things are coming in too fast for all the residents, including those living in the City, to study this. She and many others are requesting time to study and they would appreciate the Board not addressing this until after the Town Hall meeting.

WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin read a letter submitted from former Fire Chief Timothy Regan. In it, he thanked Chairman Richard Howe for his support, and that "he was the only one who supports the Fire District."

Mr. George Chachas complained that there's no sound system in the Library Conference room; it isn't ADA-compliant, and everybody needs to be heard. The agenda item pertaining to the interlocal agreement didn't have anything in the Public Packet to review. The City of Ely is overspent in their Fire Dept., and he asked where they would get the money from in this agreement. On another agenda item pertaining to the franchise fee tax, he commented that he "never did like it." He never heard a Commissioner speak against it, though. Where would the County get the revenue to replace the fee, he wondered. There is also an agenda item regarding a Victims Fund to compensate those whose property has been damaged; he cited his own property damage that has yet to be compensated for. There's also an agenda item wanting to raise the room tax for the Golf Course; he felt that budget needs to be back in the General Fund, where it's been for years. He stated that those who golf need to pay more, and the Golf Pro needs to charge higher fees. The hotel/motel industry is taxed more than any other; he suggested putting the taxes onto the gaming industry instead. He added that the Golf Course is a luxury, not a necessity.

---

**White Pine County Clerk**

**From:** Archie Robison <sgtrobison@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:30 AM  
**To:** Shane Bybee, Steven Stork, Richard Howe, White Pine County Clerk  
**Subject:** Interlocal Fire & EMS agreement

April 10, 2019

To the White Pine Commission,

It is my understanding that there is to be a vote today at the County Commission meeting regarding the proposed Fire & EMS agreement between White Pine County, and the City of Ely. I am also aware that there are a great number of citizens that have questions, and harbor deep feelings about the proposal, and in fact that a "Town Hall" type meeting has been scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm at the Convention Center. As elected County officials, it is my opinion that you have an obligation to bring the entire proposal to all the citizens of White Pine County, to hear their comments and concerns, and answer questions about the effects of this agreement to the safety of the public. You see not all the citizens of White Pine County can attend the County Commission meetings at the normally scheduled hours due to employment, or family obligations, but may actually be able to attend the town hall meeting as it presently scheduled. I therefore strongly urge the board to table any vote on this agreement until after the town hall meeting, thus providing an opportunity for those citizens unable to attend the board's regular meetings to have their voice heard.

Respectfully,  
Lester Robison  
PO Box 151211  
Ely, NV 89315

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Timothy Regan  
673 Port Malabar Blvd  
Palm Bay, Florida 32905

White Pine County  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
Campton Street  
Ely, NV 89301

Dear Commissioner Howe and Fire Commissioners,

I am taking this opportunity to have two items of importance placed on permanent public record and to be heard at this Fire District Meeting today.

**Item Number 1.**

I would hope by now that it is clear as to why I exited the Fire Chiefs position just a mere three months after taking the job. Your last meeting, culminating in the acceptance of the City of Ely's interlocal agreement clearly and concisely answers that question. The job that you hired for me and that I accepted, was over, I knew that was on the horizon from the rumors and side talk that had been occurring since just after I arrived here, I had only hoped it wasn't true. I did not leave because of Fake News, I left because of Real News. A job is simply a contract between the employer and the employee, I went above and beyond to uphold my part of that contract, you failed miserably to treat me with respect, communicate, work with, or show any interest in any part of the White Pine Fire Protection District. When that became clear to me it was obvious our professional relationship would be terminated by me. I have done enough research to see what happens to Fire Chiefs here if they stick around long enough. I do however want to thank Richard Howe for his support, he is the only one that supports the fire district.

**Item Number 2**

The public expects elected officials to be truthful and transparent with their citizens at all times and so should employees. After viewing the video of the Fire Commissioners Meeting of March 27, 2019, I was amazed at the statements that were made regarding the approved purchase of the 2019 Jeep Wrangler. At no time did I ever request, infer, ask, specify or bring up that the Jeep would be used to tow trailers. That is simply made up in some vain attempt to make me look foolish. As Director Francis stated it was specified for its maneuverability, fuel efficiency and overall low cost. I could have purchased a 65K Ford F350 but why? What you are confused with, is that when the Grant funded OEM 2017 Ford F350 was purchased, it was specified to pull trailers. Wrong truck and wrong Fire Chief. Also, when making statements regarding operational plans and equipment needs I would caution each of you, not speak on subjects that you have no knowledge, experience or education in, in fact some of you have never even set foot in Station 1 and if pressed couldn't even name the paid staff that are set to be terminated or the County Volunteer Chiefs names. Each of these persons and their families are about to have their lives turned upside down, as of yet, they haven't even been officially told that their jobs are being eliminated.

Finally, I would compel the citizens of White Pine County to find qualified people to run for these Commissioner Seats and to take back your Fire Commission. You are now partially funding the City of Ely Fire Department with your County tax dollars. This is a disgraceful action that will ultimately be paid for in lives and property.

Sincerely, Timothy Regan

At 9:17 a.m., Chairman Richard Howe recessed the regular Commission meeting and opened the Fire Commission meeting. At 10:19 a.m., Chairman Howe adjourned the Fire Commission meeting and reconvened the regular Commission meeting. At this time he recessed the Commission meeting for a break; the meeting was reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

**9:30 A.M. – PROPOSED ORDINANCE 500**

DISCUSSION/FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE 500, BILL 04.10.2019, - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4.04 OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY CODE TO RAISE THE TOTAL RENTAL BUSINESS TAX RATE FROM 11.5% TO 13.5%; PROVIDING FOR 2.5% OF THE TOTAL RENTAL BUSINESS TAX REVENUE TO GO TO THE WHITE PINE COUNTY GOLF COURSE; ADJUSTING THE NOTICE REQUIREMENT TO REFLECT CHANGE; AND ADDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

Commissioner Shane Bybee advised he had brought this up during the recent budget hearings; this is very important, as our Golf Course needs some budget stability. He explained that this tax would be collected strictly outside the City limits, and would create a valuable revenue source to help stabilize the Golf Course budget. He continued that we're really focusing our efforts on tourism in this community, and the Golf Course has a big part in that. To compare, the Wendover Golf Course has a \$1.2 million budget, not including the Clubhouse; that's just the Maintenance part of their budget. While we've increased user fees this year, this tax won't affect anyone living in the County; it's strictly a lodging/rental tax for people who are traveling through. He added that travelers expect to pay those fees, and this would be commensurate with the City's rental tax; we're still on the low end of the spectrum, he noted, and at 13.5% we will match the City's tax rate. Commissioner Shane Bybee disclosed he does have the Ramada Copper Queen in the City. Chairman Richard Howe asked how much revenue this would generate; outside the City limits there are Lane's Truck Stop, the Fireside Inn, motels in Baker, RV Parks, etc. He continued that he was on the Tourism & Recreation Board and voted for the fee at that time; the money was given to the Golf Course the first year and then "everyone else jumped in and got a piece of the pie." He noted there's a new fleet of carts, more golf sheds, etc. at the Golf Course; will the Golf Course be able to build itself completely up by imposing this?

Golf Course Advisory Board Chairman Kevin Robison advised of the historic financial situation the Golf Course always had; there was a plan after the State took over the County to move the Golf Course into a special revenue fund, moving it away from the Enterprise Fund it was in at the time. He provided a brief history of the room tax and how it evolved over time, noting this would provide from \$40-50,000/year, and he did feel this tax would sustain the Golf Course. He welcomed everyone to come out and see how the Golf Course has been enhanced, and yet they are doing everything on a shoestring. They also have volunteers to commit their hours over the seasons to help assist with this. He encouraged the Board to approve this Ordinance. Commissioner Shane Bybee asked Finance Director Elizabeth Frances about the money that was originally set aside for the swimming pool; he thought it might have been ½%. D.A. Wheable advised that this was researched a few years ago, found where it was instituted, and then it was changed and fell off. Golf Professional Randy Long noted that the Golf Course at Jackpot has 6 full-time workers, and we have 3 part-time workers. He added that without them and the assistance of Maintenance, "our product would be nothing." This tax, he continued, would give us a fighting chance; most of their equipment is quite old, and the original cart fleet dates back to the 1980s. He spoke of the possibility of a walking trail to view the birds and wildlife out there, in the future. Commissioner Bybee noted that the Golf Course is becoming more of a center for the community; by taking down the old sheds and putting in a covered pavilion for weddings, social gatherings, etc. it created a great venue for other events. He cited the Speleo Cavers when they came in and noted this doesn't have to just be for golfers, but for other things that enhance our community. He felt this tax would give us a jump start to assist with going forward with some of these great ideas.

Mr. George Chachas advised the County is competing against the private sector for weddings and other social events; he didn't think an amphitheater would be suitable, though. He recalled when the Golf Course went to 18 holes people felt big money would be coming in, but that hasn't happened. He felt the Golf Course itself could be enhanced and bring people in. Golf Professional Randy Long noted that the Rotary Club, Robinson Mine, etc. make donations to the Schools, Drama classes, and other charitable organizations; the various golf tournaments, etc. are done all year long.

In reply to a query from Commissioner Steve Stork, Commissioner Bybee advised the current room tax rate in the City is 11.5%. Some of that was for the pool, which was finally constructed using some of those funds. Commissioner Stork felt that if equal fees will be charged by the City/County, he wouldn't have any issues.

District Attorney Mike Wheable read the Summary of Ordinance #500 into the record, noting this is the First Reading. WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin noted the process of how Ordinances are accomplished.

### **10:30 A.M. – NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY**

#### **DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WHITE PINE COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM AT A COST OF \$29,858 FOR FY2020**

Mr. Marcus Lesbo, NDF, provided a handout to the Board and advised that 2 years ago a formula was created to come up with the amount they were asking the County to pay in order to participate with them; at that time it was \$200,000. The Legislature passed a formula and the results were: There was 398,599 privately owned acres in White Pine County. Acreage was removed based on areas that wouldn't burn here, such as water; low burn areas; and the burn acreage was decreased further, as he explained. The high risk areas comprise 5,301 acres, and those are the hard-to-fight fires. NDF will charge White Pine County for 61,000 acres, utilizing a 6-year average of what it takes to fight fires, and in comparison with other counties. He did note these figures don't include when White Pine County was their own fire-fighting 474 entity. \$2.5 million is the target revenue the NDF requires to keep their operations active and help with fire suppression throughout Nevada. Commissioner Steve Stork felt that was much more equitable than what had been presented 2 years ago; he could support this. District Attorney Mike Wheable noted the only issue is that NDF should probably contract with the Fire Commission, and the funding should come out of the Fire District fund. This should be placed on the next Fire Commission meeting agenda, as an agreement with NDF. Commissioner Stork asked if he would still have access to the work crews; Mr. Lesbo noted they are supporting more fuel reduction, cost-free. Mr. Slade Sanborn, NDF, clarified that White Pine County gets an automatic 30% reduction from their crews plus opportunities for the Fire Protection District Officer to identify fuel reduction needs in the County. Those services are done with grant monies, for free, to White Pine County. Commissioner Bybee felt that we had a great partnership with NDF in the past, and we'd be irresponsible not to consider this. D.A. Wheable recommended tabling this as it would have to come from the Fire District, and the County Commission can't approve their budget. As there was no motion, this was for discussion only and it will be put on the next Fire Commission agenda.

### **10:45 A.M. – UNR COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

#### **DISCUSSION/UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES COMING OUT OF THE OFFICE OF THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

UNR Cooperative Extension Coordinator Juan Carlos Cervantes provided a handout to the Board, a matrix of all the activities in his office. The programs stem from agricultural, youth/community, and natural resources, as he noted. For the agricultural, he cited the agri-educational program that this Commission already approved to hire some research help; they got all the GIS information and are now adding layers of other vegetation data to add to other experimental data, to enable them to sample the forage. For the youth, drone building is done as a STEM activity; he provided some pictures of the kids doing this at Steptoe High School; they are in week 4 and things are going well. Next year the drone building will be done at the High School, as well as in Baker and Lund. He continued that the Ely Shoshone Tribe has asked him to do STEM youth activities in the summer for their kids; they wanted to know what he would need financially. For the community, he cited the Stay Healthy/Stay Strong program for the senior citizens. He explained that as we age we find our core strength and balance is greatly reduced, and this program helps to overcome those issues. Coordinator Cervantes added that this year the funds for that program came in, but he was unable to secure help with it; it's an 8-week long fitness/nutrition program. He added that there's also a Farmers' Market in the works, but it takes a lot of effort; it does really good things for the community. He continued that with respect to administration, it's difficult to be productive without any admin help, but he's been able to do it so far. He emphasized that he's in the community and involved because he wants to be here; he feels at home. He cited the report in the materials and advised it includes more details regarding other efforts. The concept map at the bottom shows the different stages of activities over a period of time; his report is basically the services he provides for White Pine County and how the funds are being spent. Director Frances advised that there were some changes in his budget that needed to come before the Commission; as this agenda item doesn't allow for that, they will be discussed during the Departmental Budget item later on in the meeting.

**ITEMS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**TRAVIS GODON, COMMISSION VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2019-15, A RESOLUTION OF THE WPC BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CREATING A POLICY FOR THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLES BY COUNTY DEPARTMENTS**

It was advised this is the same as what was provided during the Fire Commission agenda. Commissioner Travis Godon made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-15, to create a policy for the purchase of County vehicles by County Departments. Commissioner Shane Bybee seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Howe, Chairman  
Travis Godon, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Shane Bybee  
Commissioner Steven M. Stark  
Commissioner Ian Bullis

801 Clark Street, Suite 4  
Ely Nevada 89301  
(775) 293-6509  
Fax (775) 289-2544

Inchale Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners

WPClerk@whitepincountynv.gov

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-15**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CREATING A POLICY FOR THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLES BY COUNTY DEPARTMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, NRS 244.275 establishes the Commission's authority to purchase personal property necessary for the use of the county, and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of this policy is to obtain the best value in goods and services for the County on behalf of the public and to define the responsibilities of County departments in the purchase of goods and services.


**NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WHITE PINE COUNTY, STATE OF NEVADA, hereby RESOLVES:**

That in addition to complying with all Nevada Revised Statutes applicable to local government purchasing, any county department seeking to purchase a vehicle for its necessary use must, along with its funding request

1. Provide to the Board of County Commissioners a list of that department's existing vehicles, if any, along with a description of their current condition, mileage, and any known defects
2. Provide to the Board of County Commissioners a detailed description of the vehicle sought to be purchased, including the vehicle year, make and model, a picture of the vehicle, its cost, an estimate of its annual maintenance costs, and the specific need for the vehicle.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019

Approved:

  
Richard Howe, Chairman  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
White Pine County, Nevada

ATTEST

  
Clerk of the Board

**DISCUSSION/ACTION TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE FRANCHISE FEE TAX FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 AND BEYOND**

Commissioner Travis Godon noted it's unknown where we would be in the budget to address this, but he felt we should do something, at least to discuss it, even if we don't have the exact figures available at this point. He continued that we're one of the highest taxed counties in the State, according to NACO. If this isn't accomplished this year, we should at least begin discussion this in order to get some relief. He added he's open to creative ways to get this done. Commissioner Ian Bullis asked how much this fee generates; Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that next year it will have generated over \$500,000. District Attorney Mike Wheable advised that when the State came in, and then when this fee was sunset, there were layoffs, and the question of who to cut in which Departments, etc. arose. While it's an essential part of government, he noted we do have a conservative Board; he discussed this with Director Frances and Assessor Hilton, and perhaps we could revisit some different taxes and consider those at the beginning of next fiscal year. Commissioner Shane Bybee noted that we could get creative and do more to eliminate redundancy of services; it would be a battle, but we will have to work to identify those. He commented that we always come up short, every budget season; therefore we need to streamline or go without some services that we offer our public. Once those are identified, then we can proceed to make reductions as needed. Chairman Richard Howe advised he was here in 2013

and we were laying people off because we were over the 25% mandate. He added that if this is done away with, our budget and personnel and even the way we operate this County will be affected. He continued that franchise fees are a way to keep a sustainable source of revenue, and this fee should NEVER be sunset again; it was sunset by mistake, he added. He added how much of the City of Ely can operate without a 3% franchise fee? Without it, much of your budget will be eliminated. It's a modest fee, but ranchers, farmers, etc. often write the fees off on their taxes. He noted he's never paid over \$2.50 higher in the wintertime. He concluded that we're in financially great shape in White Pine County due to this, and YOU DO NOT WANT TO TOUCH THIS! It was noted that this was included on the agenda today just to begin discussions, and that no decisions are being made today. Commissioner Steve Stork felt that Commissioner Godon had an excellent idea; he's all for giving it back to the taxpayers, "that's where it belongs." He felt that was a goal worth working towards. Commissioner Shane Bybee echoed those remarks. D.A. Wheable confirmed this is just for discussion today; we need to see what we're spending first. Once we're in the black, then we can start looking at the taxes and fees. He agreed that everyone did work hard to put this together. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to reduce or eliminate the fee as requested. Died for lack of a motion.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**MIKE WHEABLE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2019-14, A RESOLUTION OF THE WPC BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN SUPPORT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AS A MEANS TO OFFSET THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS**

District Attorney Mike Wheable advised Commissioner Travis Godon needed to state a disclosure; Commissioner Godon disclosed he has a conflict due to Silver Lion Farms. D.A. Wheable continued that due to the energy uses at the Yelland Airport and in other areas of the County, we leased out some Airport space to create a solar farm to offset our emissions in White Pine County. This Resolution solidifies that, and also perhaps a direct line from the solar farm. He explained that we would get a small percentage of it for law enforcement; the BLM gave it to us with respect to the Airport. The remainder of it would go to the State. Commissioner Ian Bullis commented that he felt the language in there pertaining to climate change was in doubt, but otherwise he could support this. D.A. Wheable clarified that we must support our Airport, that's why this is being requested. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to approve. Commissioner Steve Stork made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-24, in support of renewable energy as a means to offset the burning of fossil fuels. Commissioner Ian Bullis seconded. Motion carried 4:0 with Commissioner Travis Godon abstaining from the vote.

*White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners*

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-14

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN SUPPORT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AS A MEANS TO OFFSET THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS**

WHEREAS, NRS 244 establishes the County's authority to regulate matters of local concern, and

WHEREAS, burning fossil fuels is a major source of greenhouse gases and pollutants such as carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, mercury, and particulate matter, and

WHEREAS, aircraft account for 12 percent of carbon dioxide emissions from United States transportation sources and 3 percent of the United States' total carbon dioxide emissions,<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2018, the County leased real property adjacent to the Ely Airport (Yelland Field) to allow the installation of a solar energy facility for the purpose of expanding the Ely Airport grounds to include renewable energy production, and

WHEREAS, such renewable energy projects are vital to the County's desire to offset the effects of burning fossil fuels

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WHITE PINE COUNTY, STATE OF NEVADA, hereby RESOLVES:**

That White Pine County, Nevada, will encourage local renewable energy projects, including those involving wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydrogen or future technology, with a low impact on the environment

That the Commission intends to develop and implement a plan whereby the renewable energy generated by the solar energy facility to be installed on the Ely Airport grounds shall be used for the operation of the Ely Airport.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED this 10th day of April, 2019

Approved

*Richard Howe*  
Richard Howe, Chairman  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
White Pine County, Nevada

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
Clerk of the Board

APRIL 10, 2019

<sup>1</sup>United States Environmental Protection Agency website: <https://www.epa.gov/resolutions-emissions-vehicle-and-cargo-regulations-proposed-2019-2024>  
last revised April 2, 2019

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**DESIREE BARNSON, SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR**

DISCUSSION/ACTION/RATIFICATION OF THE ADSD GRANT FOR \$25,000.00 WITH A REQUIRED MATCH OF \$3,750.00 WHICH WILL BE IN-KIND VIA THE DIRECTOR'S WAGES

Social Services Director Desiree Barnson advised this ADSD grant is for the operations of the Ely Bus; the match will be in-kind as noted, through her wages. Commissioner Shane Bybee made a motion to ratify the ADSD grant for \$25,000 with a required match of \$3,750 to be paid by in-kind through the Director's wages. Commissioner Ian Bullis seconded. Motion carried.

**BILL CALDERWOOD, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL TO BAN SMOKING AND VAPING AND APPROVAL OF "NO SMOKING – NO VAPING" SIGNS AT COUNTY OWNED LITTLE LEAGUE/BASEBALL/SOFTBALL PROPERTIES

Public Works Director Bill Calderwood explained that this is a request from Little League; they have to play in a non-smoking facility, which led to this signage. Commissioner Travis Godon made a motion to approve the no smoking or vaping signage at the County-owned Little League baseball/softball properties as requested. Commissioner Ian Bullis seconded. Motion carried.

**ELIZABETH FRANCES, FINANCE DIRECTOR**

DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2019-13 TO AUGMENT THE WPC GENERAL FUND FOR UNANTICIPATED AND UNBUDGETED BLM LEASE REVENUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 AND TO INCREASE AIRPORT FACILITY REPAIR & MAINTENANCE BY THE SAME AMOUNT

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised this is for Lease Amendment #4 on the BLM modular project. This is the formal step required to complete the augmentation. Commissioner Travis Godon made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-13 to augment the General Fund for \$25,000 for the BLM lease revenues that were unanticipated and unbudgeted and to increase the Airport Facility Repair/Maintenance budget by the same amount, as requested. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

*White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners*

**Resolution Number 2019-13**

**Resolution to Augment the White Pine County General Fund for Unanticipated and Unbudgeted BLM Lease Revenues in the Amount of \$25,000 and to Increase Airport Contract Services by the Same Amount**

Whereas, White Pine County entered into lease agreement amendment #4 with the BLM to install additional infrastructure for placement of a future BLM owned modular office, and

Whereas, both the County and BLM are ready to move forward with the additional infrastructure, and

Whereas, this project and the related revenue sources were unanticipated during FY 2019 budget process and therefore not budgeted,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that White Pine County shall augment the White Pine County General Fund for unanticipated and unbudgeted lease revenues in the amount of \$25,000 (001-000-36401-017) and increase the Airport Facility Repair & Maintenance line item (001-702-52606-017) by the same amount

It Is Further Resolved that the Finance Director shall forward the necessary documents to the Department of Taxation, State of Nevada

Passed, adopted and approved the 10th day of April, 2019.

Ayes 5  
Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_

  
Richard Howe, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:  
  
Nichole Baldwin, Clerk of the Board

DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION/DIRECTION/APPROVAL RELATED TO VARIOUS ITEMS AND DEPARTMENTS IN THE FY2020 BUDGET INCLUDING: COMMISSION, CLERK, RECORDER INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGETS, ASSESSOR INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGET, TREASURER, ELECTIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, FINANCE, HUMAN RESOURCES, 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, COUNTYWIDE EXPENSES, 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, BUILDING & PLANNING, GOLF COURSE, AQUATIC CENTER INCLUDING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, CHINA SPRINGS, AND CAMP SUCCESS

District Attorney Mike Wheable read the first portion of the agenda title into the record, adding the phrase "including those Departments that are listed on the agenda." Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that UNR Cooperative Extension Coordinator Juan Carlos Cervantes had sent her a revised budget which was presented earlier today. She reviewed it briefly for the Board and advised that the backup materials now match the cover page for his budget. Coordinator Cervantes thanked her for her patience with him during this budget season, and advised that he's been the sole person in the Extension Office. He can't keep 4-H people since we don't pay them a good wage, he added, citing Ms. Billie Sue Heckathorn as an example. The problem is that he can't manage the programs if he's out in the field; he noted the \$24,000 is in his budget for an assistant. It should be paid out of State funds, and he hopes this Board will support him in this. He asked the Board to allow him to have an Administrative Assistant, and advised that the graduate student he does have is budgeted for ½ of the year. He needs to get things launched and he feels he could tap external grants to fund these programs. Commissioner Ian Bullis suggested there are many outsource companies offering virtual assistants that can take messages, make appointments, etc., and thus allow him to be more productive, rather than hiring someone. Coordinator Cervantes noted that that if no one is in the office, though, it looks as though the office is closed; that happens all the time. Commissioner Bullis added that the Farmers' Market might be allocated to the Tourism & Recreation Board. Coordinator Cervantes commented that no one will step up to help him with these things; we have 2 years left, and his office is insolvent at this point. Commissioner Bullis suggested he talk directly to Chairman Kyle Horvath. Commissioner Bybee understands that these programs will pay for themselves, but there's a concern with dealing with public funds; we can only spend the revenues we have. Coordinator Cervantes added that he also has to answer to the State, as well as the County Commissioners; he noted he's been getting less each year. He did state that the County could request more funds for his office so as not to put so much of the burden on the County. Commissioner Travis Godon advised that both he and Commissioner Bybee will be meeting with UNR on April 24<sup>th</sup>; perhaps this Board could approve this tentatively and then address it after their meeting with UNR, but before going to the final budget. Commissioner Godon agreed, noting that if the money is there, great; if not, then we'd have to revisit this. Director Frances concluded that her direction would be to do this budget as requested and tentatively add back in the positions being asked for, and then adjustments could be made after the meeting with UNR. Coordinator Cervantes thanked her for her help.

Director Frances continued with the updated copy, from yesterday's special meeting; she noted that the changes from that meeting are highlighted in yellow (Tentative Position Changes sheet). The next item was the Summary of the Commission Proposals to Balance the Budget, showing changes in green lines. She explained that the final part is the updated figures for everything in the budget: The projected utilization is \$121,062, and we will be above the required 25%. She reported that the ad valorem tax numbers have been received, and are included in these figures. She encouraged the Board that if everything looks good to submit for the tentative budget, then they should do so.

WPC Clerk Nichole Baldwin advised that pertaining to retaining/storage of files, District Court Judge Steve Dobrescu has stated that the majority of files can be destroyed once we have electronic records available, to last "for perpetuity." The scanning project, which Clerk Baldwin presented at yesterday's meeting, would cost \$90,000; \$30,000 from Court Admin Fees would be put towards that project. Commissioner Shane Bybee advised this would be a huge cost savings in manhours, etc. to have that done. Commissioner Steve Stork suggested perhaps WPC Assessor Burton Hilton's Technology Fund could donate towards the scanning project as well. It was clarified that the files would be transported to Reno in batches to be scanned. Director Frances recommended approving up to \$120,000 in the budget,



with \$90,000 coming from the General Fund and \$30,000 coming out of the Court's Admin Fees. She will discuss this further with the Judges. Clerk Baldwin advised that the scanning company charges \$300/day and \$2,600 setup fees if they travel to Ely, instead of us bringing the files to them in Reno.

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances advised that with the changes noted today the estimated ending fund balance will be \$4,680,929. Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to approve the tentative budget with the changes noted. Commissioner Travis Godon disclosed that he would be voting on this, with the exception of the solar lease as noted earlier. Commissioner Ian Bullis made a motion to approve the tentative budget for the various items and Departments with changes as discussed today. Commissioner Shane Bybee seconded. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF THE FY2020 TENTATIVE BUDGETS FOR WHITE PINE COUNTY AND THE TOWNS OF LUND, MCGILL AND RUTH**

Director Frances cited the tentative budgets in the backup materials and asked if the Board had any questions; there were none. Commissioner Ian Bullis made a motion to approve the FY2020 tentative budgets for White Pine County and the Towns of Lund, McGill and Ruth. Commissioner Travis Godon seconded. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA: DISCUSSION/ACTION/RATIFICATION OF CORRESPONDENCE SENT ON BEHALF OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION; APPROVAL OF PAYROLL FOR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS; APPROVAL OF HR TRANSMITTAL FOR PAYROLL CHANGES; APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS WITHIN/BETWEEN FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS WITHIN A FUND THAT DO NOT INCREASE THE TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF THE FUND**

Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Shane Bybee made the motion; Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

**NOTICE OF UNTIMED ITEMS**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FOLLOWING COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING:**

**March 13**

Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to approve. Commissioner Ian Bullis made a motion to approve the March 13 set of Commission minutes as presented. Commissioner Steve Stork seconded. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Human Resources Director Timothy Bunch wished to clarify that Carl Gregory had resigned from the position of Interim Department Head for the Fire District, and not as the Emergency Management Director.

Chairman Richard Howe advised he had received an email from Gary Perea, who is resigning as an EMT in Baker.

Commissioner Steve Stork brought up the Special Meeting of the County Commission and the Fire Commission; there followed a brief discussion of the date, which will be held on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Stork also noted we should schedule another Fire Commission meeting in each of the townships, to be held on each site.


Chairman Richard Howe stated that with the actions the Board took today, the Town Hall meeting isn't necessary anymore. Commissioner Steve Stork agreed and then commented on the bulletin announcing the Town Hall meeting; D.A. Wheable advised there will be no debate regarding that notification. Chairman Howe felt it should be cancelled; the Board gave general consensus. Commissioner Travis Godon commented that there are no personal attacks involved, and reminded everyone to be civil.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:55 a.m., Chairman Richard Howe entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Steve Stork made the motion; Commissioner Shane Bybee seconded. Motion carried.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WHITE PINE COUNTY  
STATE OF NEVADA

BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WPC CLERK OF THE BOARD