

**IN A REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION HELD ON OCTOBER 28, 2020 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

County Officials:

Bryan Pyle, Deputy DA  
Sheriff Scott Henriod  
Tim Bunch, HR Director  
Bill Calderwood, Public Works Director  
Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director  
Mike Johnson, IT Specialist  
Mike Wheable, District Attorney

Also Present:

Isaac Bullis  
George Chachas  
Ivory Lyles, PhD, UNR Coop. Ext.  
Holly Gatskey, UNR Coop. Ext.

Present via Zoom:

Geri Wopschall, Marietta Henry, Lori Romero (Library Director), Lee Bonner (NDOT), Shannon Peirce (Public Health Nurse), Kristina Swallow (NDOT), Angela Bellander (4-H Office), Bethany Coca (Finance Dept.), Burton Hilton (WPC Assessor), Dr. Daren Kunz (WPC PHO), Donna Bath (Silver Lions Farms), Nathan Robertson (City of Ely Mayor), Jeremy Drew (RCI)

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Chairman Richard Howe called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Commissioner Laurie Carson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/SILENT INVOCATION**

This was duly observed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

George Chachas repeated some prior concerns about curbs and gutter and sidewalks around town and the center walk way near the Convention Center not being put back in by the parking lot, plus not meeting ADA requirements; people are forced into the street. Lights on corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Lyons Avenue were installed on private property, but the City is required to stay within easements and this needs corrected. Governor Sisolak's directive states people are not exempted from wearing a mask and he reminded the Board that Commissioner Bullis has not worn one and he needs reprimanded and brought into compliance and the same for other elected officials. Mr. Chachas reminded the room that we lost one of our own who "worked for peanuts". Next, he asserted that the Regional Planning

Commission fails to send out agendas that comply with OML. The Building Inspector refuses to give him a permit to roof his house. How many discrepancies does he have to bring up until this Commission does something? Mr. Chachas described a situation where development in our community is being hindered. Time was called.

Human Resources Director Tim Bunch informed the Board and community that COVID-19 case contact tracing used to be handled by the State, but now it falls on our Public Health Officer who is asking for help from the County with self-contact tracing. He will update the Board as he learns more.

**1. NOTICE OF TIMED AGENDA ITEMS:**

**A. 9:00 A.M. UPDATE FROM THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**1) Discussion Only: Nevada Department of Transportation's Annual Presentation including the 2021 White Pine County Report. Kristina Swallow, Director**

Kristina Swallow from NDOT appeared via Zoom and presented the 2021 priorities and concerns for White Pine County. She noted removal of the traffic signal in East Ely was a community effort and will not need to be reinstalled. Last year, her team prioritized some goals that include getting to a long term needs based screening which will help shape her program. She summarized some accomplishments in White Pine County that included a project on Hwy 93 and several chip seal projects. The 2021 work program has a budget of around \$8 million and includes a project with the Ely Bus, among others.

**\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Acceptance of the NDOT Reports and Presentation and/or approval of additional comments or edits as requested by the Commission**

Chairman Howe opened this item and began ranting about the road from Ely to Las Vegas (Hwy 318). It has no passing lanes and he described a situation that might've left him dead if he'd done things different. He has friends who had a similar experiences needing to turn around. He felt something could be done by NDOT to make this safer. Near Alamo, traffic slows down and he witnessed pile ups in the narrows which present a serious danger to travelers. Someone has died on Hwy 93 recently. It is 250 miles with no turn outs and something has to change! He welcomes the NDOT people to take that drive with him and commented on the asinine route of I-11 through Elgin Springs needing passing lanes.

Commissioner Bullis agreed that many frustrating situations exist with our roads. Despite the fact that the larger populations get more money for transportation infrastructure, we cannot stop fighting for it. He acknowledges that NDOT has to yield to the Governor and asks for more attention locally.

Commissioner Carson brought up studies in regards to safety in front of Lane's Truck Stop in Preston, NV and she asked for more info on that. Director Swallow replied that areas outside the vicinity of Lane's presented more crashes and are more of a concern after a recent study. Commissioner Carson reiterated passing lanes and ingress and egress needs to be looked at more closely in that area as well as on Murry Summit. Director Swallow noted a National Passing Lane Study that was recently initiated and will be ready in about 2 years. She wants to be sure that they are targeting the highest priorities. Commissioner Carson urged the critical need for passing lanes on Hwy 318 and Hwy 93 as she described situations where semi-trucks came dangerously close to her with no passing lanes.

District Attorney Mike Wheable asked Director Swallow how many people have to die during the course of this 2 year study and added that their blood will be on NDOT's hands. He likened Hwy 318 to an artery leading to the heart of Nevada (Las Vegas); its weaknesses will cause travelers to take detours. Commissioner Bybee brought up some intersections that he was at where semi-trucks rolled through a stop sign that caused him to lock up his brakes to avoid hitting another semi and asked if things could be done to get semi-trucks to stop as required. Ms. Swallow indicated that we may want to reprioritize our list of priorities to enhance stop signage at junctions, for example.

Chairman Howe desired to bump up passing lanes to the top of the priority list. Commissioner Bullis moved to move the passing lanes on Hwy 318 for #1 and Commissioner Carson seconded; the motion was approved. Commissioner Bybee moved for the #2 priority to be work to be done at the Blackjack and Lages Junction and enhance signage for stopping. Ms. Swallow suggested the junction work being a bigger project and that it should be a #3. Commissioner Bybee agreed and amended his motion. Commissioner Bullis seconded that motion and it passed.

**B. 9:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING**

**1) PUBLIC HEARING/Discussion Only: Notice of the White Pine County Board of County Commissioners' intent to lease the following described County-owned real property to HOTEL NEVADA AND GAMBLING HALL, LTD. for a duration of three years with an option for an extension of two additional years for \$725.00 per year pursuant to NRS 244.2833:**

**Billboard Lease Area #1, more particularly described as:**

**Beginning at a point in the NE 1/4 SW 1/4 of Section 11, T. 16 N., R. 63 E., M.D.B. & M., whence the South 1/4 Corner of said Section 11 (a sandstone monument), bears S.36°25'00"E., 1,768.04 feet distant,**

**Thence S. 17°44'22"W. 30.00 feet  
parallel to the East Right-of-way line of U.S. Highway No. 93,**

**thence N. 72°15'38"W. 50.00 feet  
perpendicular to and to the East Right-of-way line of U.S. Highway No. 93,**

**thence N. 17°44'22"E. 30.00 feet  
along the East Right-of-way line of U.S. Highway No. 93,**

**thence S. 72°15'38"E. 50.00 feet**

**to the point of beginning and containing 1,500 sq. ft. more or less of the NE 1/4 SW 1/4 of said**

**Section 11, T.16N., R.63 E., M.D.B. & M. The basis of bearing for this legal is S.89°51'48"W.**

**along the South line of the NE 1/4 SW 1/4 of Section 11, T.16N., R.63E., M.D.B. & M., as stated**

**in a deed filed in Book 67, Page 128 in the White Pine County Recorder's Office on August 1st, 1983. Bryan Pyle, Deputy DA**

Vice Chairman Travis Godon abstained from discussion and voting on these 3 items as he has done business with YESCO. Deputy DA Bryan Pyle advised that the Commission approved this last year. Last year, some details in the agreement were not approved properly and this agreement cleans that up; which is why it is backdated. He detailed why this was published in the paper and the need for the resolution based on the type of lease. There was no public comment.

**\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of Resolution No. 2020-68, A Resolution Of The White Pine County Board Of County Commissioners Declaring Its Intent To Lease Certain County-Owned Real Property Known As Billboard Lease Area #1, Pursuant To NRS 244.2833**

Commissioner Bybee moved to approve and Commissioner Carson seconded; motion passed with one abstention by Commission Vice Chair Godon.

**\*3) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a lease agreement between White Pine County and HOTEL NEVADA AND GAMBLING HALL, LTD. for the lease of Billboard Lease Area #1 for a duration of three years with an option for an extension of two additional years for \$725.00 per year pursuant to NRS 244.2833**

Commissioner Bybee moved to approve and Commissioner Carson seconded; motion passed with one abstention from Commissioner Godon.

### **C. 9:30 A.M. UNR COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

**1) Discussion Only: Update from Ivory Lyles, Ph.D, Director of Extension on Extension Services in White Pine County**

Ivory Lyles, PhD from UNR Cooperative Extension thanked the Board and boasted about his time here in White Pine County. He talked about the partnership between Cooperative Extension and White Pine County over the years and mentioned the restructuring in the local office. Effective October, we no longer have an extension educator here, whom was transferred to Reno to report to Mr. Lyles in a special position. He intends to refill that position quickly. He noted the recent decision by the Board to vacate the office space for UNR in the Library and he asked for the Board to reconsider that decision due to cost and inability to offer services to the community. He noted a budget of \$51,000 including some carry over that is not enough without negatively impacting what they do here. DA Wheable asked the Board to stick to the update at this time.

Holly Gatskey, Area Director, presented the update that was contained in the backup material. Local youth made 150 masks that were delivered to the hospital and care center. Between the after school program and other things going on, over 200 youth are impacted by the Cooperative Extension. She talked about the local fair and 4-H activities that occurred this year. UNR brings educational information to local youth and she brought up examples of that. M.s Gatskey will be working with the local employees for support and she made herself available for questions.

DeeDee Sandoval and Pete Mangum are present in support of the UNR Cooperative Extension and the services they provide locally. Mr. Mangum noted the Cattlemen's Update that is put on by the Cooperative Extension.

Chairman Howe called a short break at 9:54 am for a private litigation session between the Board and the DA.

**\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a request from UNR Cooperative Extension for the Board of Commissioners to reconsider their decision made September 9, 2020 to vacate office space in the Library used for Extension and 4-H Services. Ivory Lyles, Ph.D Director of Extension**

Chairman Howe called the meeting back into session at 10:06 am and thanked UNR for their patience and cooperation. DA Wheable read a letter from the Library Board of Trustees and Lori Romero, Library Director. In summary, they are in need of additional space for the public in the library. The Trustees included some suggestions for space utilization. Chairman Howe noted the financial situation the Cooperative Extension is in and wants to work with them to make something work. Commissioner Godon offered to extend the lease through March or April. Mr. Lyles thanked the Board for this offer. Commissioner Godon made that a motion for UNR occupancy in the Library to be extended until the first of the fiscal year with some protections to be put in place. Commissioner Carson seconded. The motion passed unanimously. DeeDee Sandoval appreciated the Board and their support.

**E. 10:15 A.M. NATURAL RESOURCES**

**\*1) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a draft written comment regarding the Nevada Division of Water Resources' proposal to designate groundwater basins in White Pine County. Jeremy Drew, RCI**

Jeremy Drew from RCI appeared via Zoom and presented this item. The draft is in the backup material from meetings held earlier this month in various places. The one thing we requested is the deadline for written comments has been extended until December. The letter for this item can be approved or wait for additional comments from the Water Advisory Committee. As a side note, CNRWA has a meeting tomorrow for additional comments to this topic. He detailed parts of the letter that were important and of interest and noted its attachment of suggestions for basins. Commissioner Godon felt the process has been like a grey box that allows the State Engineer to do what he wants while the rural counties have little recourse. Commissioner Carson felt the letter was well done. Vice Chairman Godon moved to approve and Commissioner Bullis seconded. The Motion passed.

**\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a draft written comment regarding the White Pine Pumped Storage Project Pre-Application Document. Jeremy Drew, RCI**

Jeremy Drew recalled that this meeting took place in September and comments are being accepted until the end of this month. This letter calls out the county's support for the project and made sure to require an adopted water and land resource plan before moving forward. He detailed parts of the letter that are critical for the county and their interests and that noted that copies should go to all interested parties. Vice Chairman Godon wanted to cc RPlus and Luigi Resta and asked Mr. Drew to make that change. DA Wheable advised he will



provide an update in November regarding the County's water rights and this project. Commissioner Godon moved to approve, Commissioner Carson seconded; motion passed.

**F. 11:00 A.M. MCGILL TOWN COUNCIL**

**\*1) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval to designate highways and/or portions of highways within McGill, Nevada for the purpose of allowing operation of off-highway vehicles. Danielle Jensen, McGill Town Council & Bryan Pyle, Deputy DA**

Danielle Jensen from McGill Town Council appeared via Zoom and requested OHV access on local roads in McGill. The route they provided in the backup material is what they are seeking approval on. DA Wheable has changes on one route map and he explained this ordinance has to have detailed directions on where it ends and begins. He needs someone in McGill to refine the description on the route to meet those needs. Deputy DA Bryan Pyle stated that these first 2 items (1 and 2) are precautionary and asked if McGill Town Council is trying to use Hwy 93 as a route. Ms. Jensen noted crossing Hwy 93 occurs at Avenue K to access a gas station. By law, a state highway can be crossed, but not traveled down, it was explained. If the council desires only to cross Hwy 93, item 1 and 2 are null. To clarify, they cannot designate a gas station in their OHV route, unless the route goes by there. The street by the gas station can be designated, but the route would need to be further extended to access public lands. Deputy DA Pyle suggested that the route be changed from Ave. K to 12<sup>th</sup> Street to Hwy 93 to be picked up on the other side of Ave. K. Commissioner Godon moved to approve this item contingent on mapping and details being worked out with the DA's office. DA Wheable suggested motions to table items 1 and 2 and the parties can work together to bring back a revised ordinance. Commissioner Bybee moved to table items 1 and 2, Commissioner Bullis seconded and items 1 and 2 were tabled.

**\*2) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a letter to NDOT requesting approval of designation of highways and/or portions of highways within McGill, Nevada designated by the Board of County Commissioners for the purpose of allowing operation of off-highway vehicles. Danielle Jensen, McGill Town Council & Bryan Pyle, Deputy DA**

**3) FIRST READING/Discussion Only: On proposed Ordinance 516, Bill No. 10.28.2020, an Ordinance creating White Pine County Code Chapter 11.60 entitled "Off Highway Vehicles," establishing rules for operation of OHVs within the County, the routes authorized for use as ingress and egress from certain areas within the County, specifically including the township of McGill, to public and private lands where off highway usage is authorized and setting the penalties for violations of this Ordinance**

Deputy DA Pyle brought up the confusion people have on using OHV routes and asked if the Board wanted to copy and codify what the City has done. Commissioner Bybee thinks we should copy the City to keep consistency. Commissioner Carson noted complaints she's received about dust from OHV use in McGill in alley ways, etc; how will that be addressed? McGill needs to find a way to help people get to where they are going as opposed to tooling around town. Ms. Jensen noted the routes proposed are paved roads, so dust should not be an issue. In response to a query from DA Wheable, Ms. Jensen noted a neighborhood watch meeting was held along with one Town Council meeting where the public was invited to

provide input on this issue. McGill Town Council needs to provide the new written description for the OHV route to be discussed on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> for a second reading.

## **2. ITEMS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

### **A. COUNTY COMMISSION**

#### **1. Richard Howe, Commission Chairman**

**\*a) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a Proclamation Declaring the week of January 24 – 30, 2021 as National School Choice Week in White Pine County**  
Commissioner Bullis moved to approve and Commissioner Godon seconded; motion passed.

**\*b) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a Proclamation Recognizing the White Pine War Memorial Committee for Their Donation of a New Sign for Veteran's Park**

Commissioner Bybee moved to approve, Commissioner Carson seconded; motion passed.

#### **c) Discussion/Update on the GridFlex Pumped Storage project**

Chairman Howe and Vice Chairman Godon met with people on the project and discussed them having an office locally and other needs going forward. Their good faith and desire for a successful project was shown and everything was good, according to the Chairman and Vice Chair.

#### **2. Laurie L. Carson, Commissioner**

**\*a) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval to appoint an alternate to attend the SNPLMA/ENLRP (Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project) meeting on November 19, 2020**

At 10:59 am, this item was presented by Commissioner Carson. She stated that she cannot attend this meeting and is asking for an alternate. This group (ENLRP) participates with PTNA and SNPLMA in rating projects. The meeting is virtual and Commissioner Carson will provide all the necessary information. Commissioner Bybee is willing and so is Public Works Director Bill Calderwood. Commissioner Bybee moved to appoint Director Calderwood, Commissioner Carson seconded the motion and it passed.

### **B. ELECTED OFFICIALS**

#### **1. Burton Hilton, Assessor**

**\*a) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of a presentation to Board of County Commission of the Assessor's Log Roll of Changes made to the Secure Tax Roll, per NRS 361.310(4)**

Burton Hilton, Assessor, via Zoom presented this item which is an annual item for the Board's approval; it shows changes to the tax roll after Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. Commissioner Bybee moved to approve, Commissioner Godon seconded. Motion passed.

**2. Mike Wheable, District Attorney**

**a) Discussion Only: regarding an expiring lease agreement with Aeronautical Radio, Inc. (ARINC) for lease of space at Yelland Field for operation of ARINC's VHF Air-Ground Data Enroute Radio Station**

DA Wheable explained this is an old lease and is expiring. The lessee is requesting a 3 year extension. The Board may want to consider increasing the price. Deputy DA Pyle explained that they will have to advertise this change and create a resolution for a future meeting. The purpose of this radio equipment is to communicate with people that are being served at the airport. Adding interest was suggested. They will gather more information on this for the Board. Commissioner Bybee doesn't see haggling over \$720.

**\*b) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of an Attorney Fee Agreement with Marquis Aurbach Coffing to participate in the Mineral Rights Litigation initiated by Lander County under the terms and rates disclosed in the agreement**

DA Wheable presented this item and noted it was discussed at the last meeting. He suggested putting a not to exceed amount on this as it will have to come out of contingency. Commissioner Carson asked if we just pay a certain amount. Mr. Hardy previously explained how the fees would be split; the more who join the lawsuit, the cheaper the fees will be. Deputy DA Pyle noted a retainer is not being required at this time; we will just be billed. Commissioner Godon moved to approve with this an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Commissioner Bullis seconded the motion and it passed.

**\*c) Discussion/For Possible Action: The White Pine County Board of Commissioners took public comment on 10/14/2020 regarding the receipt of a notice from the State Engineer of the Division of Water Resources that Bema Gold (U.S.), Inc., through its agents, Hydrotech Consulting Services, LLC and Dixon Hydrologic, PLLC, of an application 89953T filed on July 27, 2020. This application proposes to change the point of diversion of existing Permit 26239 from an underground source in White Pine County to a well site located within Nye County. The Board of Commissioners may approve a course of action to recommend to the State Engineer. Bryan Pyle, Deputy DA**

DA Wheable stated the State appropriated water from our county across county lines and we may have wanted to have known more about this and commented. Our local ranchers may have wanted something to say about this as well, but this may have been rubber stamped by the state because of who the applicants are. Jeremy Drew from RCI advised that a sizable potential lithium or brine deposit south of Hwy 6 in Railroad Valley was discovered. In order to keep the well open, the company had to move water rights into that well and keep it as a water well. They found a willing mining entity in the same basin near Hamilton to keep this open. This was a minor change and a temporary application; a hearing needed to be held in both counties due to its nature. DA Wheable reviewed how this should have come before the Board and what should be done differently in the future. The Water Advisory Committee had no concerns at the last meeting, it was reported. No action was taken.



## **C. DEPARTMENT HEADS**

### **1. Lori Romero, Library Director/Senior Program Administrator**

#### **\*a) Discussion/For Possible Action to Approve Plan to Provide In-Person Programming at the County Library**

Library Director/Senior Program Administrator Lori Romero patterned this idea after Clark County and is doing 1 program at a time. Checks are done at the door, mask wearing and sanitation is mandated, and no refreshments are being provided. Commissioner Carson moved to approve. Dr. Kunz (PHO) commended Director Romero on her efforts to reduce the spread short of stopping activities. Commissioner Godon seconded the motion and it passed.

#### **\*b) Discussion/For Possible Action to Approve Plan to Serve Congregate Meals and Provide Limited Activities at the Ely Senior Center**

Dr. Daren Kunz (PHO) via Zoom met with Director/Administrator Lori Romero and in his opinion, the Senior Center can hold bingo night and a limited exercise group if masks are worn. The eating of meals at the Senior Center presents risks when masks are removed to eat, but the benefits of this function are much greater and he is troubled by this. He needs to come up with a plan for meals at this time. Chairman Howe noted staff being out in the cold handing out lunches and the challenge that presents. Dr. Kunz is working from current guidelines that insist on patrons sitting 6 feet apart and only household members being allowed to sit together. Further, if one senior does not have a mask on while they eat, transmission of COVID can be traced to that instance. Mask removal makes seniors more vulnerable while inoculants are increased. Another option would be the use of HEPA filtration, but funds are an issue. Perhaps CARES Act funds could be obtained for that.

Commissioner Bullis noted our love and care for senior citizens and how the greatest thing we could do for them is give them freedom to sit and have a meal with friends. If they can eat in a restaurant with friends, why not the senior center? He added these are just guidelines and seniors should have the freedom to choose what risks they subject themselves to including sitting at a table with friends. Commissioner Godon agreed and suggested having a waiver for them to sign. Director Romero passed out some things that were talked about and insisted that she wanted to provide the safest environment as possible. Seniors need social interaction and have been asking when they can come back inside. In response to a query from Commissioner Carson, a temperature of 100.4 was chosen as it is a CDC guideline, while considered a little high. Director Romero added that anything approved here will need to be approved through the Division of Aging. Dr. Kunz wants to see this go forward and likes the waiver idea. The Director/Administrator's plan is good, which includes screening at the door and signing in for contact tracing.

HR Director Tim Bunch suggested 2 separate lunch times to allow for proper spacing. Director/Administrator Romero reminded them this is still in the works and still needs further approval. Commissioner Godon wants Dr. Kunz and Director Romero to go forward and work it out with the waiver idea. Commissioner Godon moved to approve with best judgment being used and a waiver being signed, seconded by Commissioner Bullis. Motion passed.

## **2. Timothy Bunch, Human Resource Director**

### **\*a) Discussion/ For Possible Action: ratification of request to attend UNR virtual studies towards Certified Public Official designation and to submit for available educational grants through Pool Pact**

At 11:32 am, Human Resources Director Tim Bunch presented this item that goes toward his certification. Commissioner Bybee moved to approve, Commissioner Carson seconded and the motion passed.

### **\*b) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval regarding PERS refund process for individuals seeking to cash out their contribution upon vesting period. This process requires termination of employment, re-employment 24 hours later, re-establishing new hire and effective dates and termination pay-outs, etc. that will require extensive HR and Finance attention**

Director Bunch was unaware that an employee enrolled in PERS can cash out their contributions after 5 years. That can occur if someone becomes unemployed for 24 hours and then rehired, which causes a ton of work for the County. He detailed what would need to take place and added that someone who desires that might not be the best candidate for the position. Finance Director Elizabeth Frances explained that the CBA and current personnel policies do not provide for the termination and reemployment of an employee to accomplish a PERS refund and she does not advise the Board to support this. Director Bunch is encouraged the Board to approve upholding our own policies which would prevent PERS payouts. DA Wheable noted our policies and CBA may need to be changed to allow this right to PERS; a better analysis needs to be done. Director Bunch noted an employee who is desiring to cash out their PERS. The question is, is that person guaranteed to be rehired and the answer may be no. More information is being requested from Director Bunch and will be presented at a future meeting. No action was taken.

### **\*c) Discussion/For Possible Action: ratification of request to attend NACo High Performance Leadership Academy Jan. 11 -April 16. Classes require 3-5 hours per week and is fully funded by scholarship of \$1,995.00 w/ zero match**

Director Bunch noted this Academy was created by General Colin Powell and he will use his own time to attend this. Commissioner Bullis moved to approve, Commissioner Godon seconded; motion passed.

### **\*d) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval to accept the newly created legal assistant job description for the District Attorney's Office. This FT position is to replace 2 PT positions within the DA's Office contingent upon BOCC approval and acceptance by the Operating Engineers Local Union #3**

Item 2C3g was opened at the same time as this at 11:41 am. Commissioner Bybee disclosed that his daughter works in the District Attorney's Office and he will be abstaining from discussion and voting. DA Wheable gave some history on this item where 2 part-time positions were created in the office that one person was performing. Changes were made to keep the budget in balance. He feels the Union will support this new position. There is adequate budget to cover this change, per the Finance Director. He's asking for the 124-126 grade range. The long term impact for the DA's budget is outlined in the backup for Finance

Director Frances' item. Commissioner Bullis moved to approve this item contingent on Union approval, Commissioner Godon seconded and the item passed with one abstention by Commissioner Bybee.

**3. Elizabeth Frances, Finance Director**

**\*a) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of Quarterly Grant Reports**

Commissioner Carson moved to approve, Commissioner Bybee seconded and the motion passed.

**\*b) Discussion/For Possible Action: approval to proceed with negotiation with contractor(s) for the engineering services on the McGill Slag Ditch planning study based on recommendations from the evaluation committee**

Requests for SOQs was advertised and the committee determined Basin Engineering to be the most highly recommended contractor for this project. Commissioner Carson moved to approve and Commission Bullis seconded. Motion passed.

**\*c) Discussion/For Possible Action: Ratification of Interlocal Contract for Cooperative Purchasing between White Pine County and H-GAC**

Director Frances explained why she is asking for approval on this item. Commissioner Bullis moved to approve, Commissioner Bybee seconded and motion passed.

**\*d) Discussion/for Possible Action: Approval to amend budget for CARES Act Funds as previously approved based on changing needs and updated Treasury Guidance**

Director Frances noted changes coming up that will call for amendments. Deadlines were pushed back and amounts were increased to allow for more applicants. At this time she has 40 applications, but 25 do not have amounts. Discussion of HEPA filters in offices was had. Commissioner Godon moved to amend the budget to extend the deadline to Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> to include the purchase of HEPA filters for county offices not to exceed \$10,000. Commissioner Bybee abstained from the vote as he may apply for funding through his business. Commissioner Bullis seconded the motion and it passed with one abstention.

**\*e) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of Resolution 2020-66 to augment the General Fund from unanticipated and unbudgeted revenues from Lincoln County for reimbursable labor and travel related expense for juvenile probation in the amount of \$1,465**

Commissioner Carson moved to approve. Commissioner Godon seconded. Motion passed.

**\*f) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of Resolution 2020-65 to augment the White Pine County Indigent Fund by \$18,404 from unanticipated and unbudgeted Beginning Fund Balance and increase Equipment Over \$5000 line item to provide for match required for new bus**

Commissioner Bullis moved to approve and Commissioner Bybee seconded, item passed.

**\*g) Discussion/for Possible Action: Approval to combine two positions in the District Attorney's Office – Public Guardian at 20 hours per week and Administrative Assistant at 15 hours per week – into one 40 hour per week Legal Assistant position. Grade to be evaluated and determined based on information in backup documentation and will be contingent on Union concurrence**

HR Director suggested grade 124. Commissioner Carson moved for grade 125 and Commissioner Godon seconded it. The motion passed.

### **3. CONSENT AGENDA**

The following are "action" items that may be considered in one motion/one vote. They are considered routine, non-public hearing items that have no protests. Any person representing an item or member of the public not in agreement with the recommendations by staff should request to have that item removed from the Consent Agenda. Any County Commissioner may remove any items from the consent Agenda and have it placed in the Action Items.

**\*a) Discussion/For Possible Action: to ratify Correspondence Sent on Behalf of the White Pine County Commission.**

**\*b) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of Payroll for County Elected Officials.**

**\*c) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of HR Transmittal for Payroll Changes.**

**\*d) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of budget transfers within and between functions or programs within a fund that do not increase the total appropriation of the fund.**

Commissioner Godon moved to approve and Commissioner Bybee seconded; motion passed.

### **4. UNTIMED ITEMS**

**\*a) Discussion/For Possible Action: Approval of minutes from the County Commission Meetings held:**

- **October 14, 2020**
- **Special October 21, 2020**

Commissioner Carson moved to approve with one change in attendance that was previously given to the Clerk. Commissioner Bullis seconded the motion and it passed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None was had.

### **ADJOURNMENT**


Commissioner Bybee moved to adjourn and Commissioner Bullis seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:06 pm.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**WHITE PINE COUNTY  
STATE OF NEVADA**

BY:   
**CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

  
**WPC CLERK OF THE BOARD**