

12/19/2017

Debbie Sheltra called into the Manager's Office this morning at 9:28am and wanted the following distributed to all Commissioners regarding item 14 of today's BCC Agenda.

-Fidel

"I Debbie Sheltra wish the Commission to oppose voting in support of item 14 on today's agenda. Supporting the state of Nevada against the residents of Washoe Valley. Because the historical siperats of torts and inverse condemnation laws would leave the state of Nevada responsible for only \$100,000 max damage for each of the 23 homes burned down in Washoe Valley in the little valley fire."

Debbie Sheltra

775-742-5365

~~_____~~
- BCC 12-19-17 #14
Debbie Sheltra

Salas, Fidel

From: Michael Langton <langton.michael@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:51 AM
To: Salas, Fidel
Subject: letter to the mayor and council members
Attachments: letter to mayor and council members2.doc

enclosed is the letter I sent to the mayor and council members
thank you for your help
Michael Langton

Mayor Schieve
David Bobzien
Jenny Brekus
Naomi Duer
Oscar Delgado
Paul McKenzie
Neoma Jardon
December 12, 2017

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers

As a home owner who lost significant property as a result of the Little Valley Fire, I have to tell you that our Insurance coverage did not come close to paying for the damages. If this damage occurred as a result of a lightning strike, it would have been an "Act of God" and we would not have been covered. I understand that. The cause here was the furthest thing from an "Act of God". It was caused by arrogance and lying by a person acting in the name of the State. His name is Gene Philips At a meeting of the home owners, Mr Philips, who was in charge of the burn said ***"Once I light this fire, I own it. The governor can call me and tell me to move but I will not leave this fire till it is out"*** He did not say this to me alone. There were more than 30 witnesses to this promise as well as the video crew from KOLO who were filming the meeting. This promise was not kept and in retrospect, was never meant to be honored. It was just a tool to get our cooperation. Incredibly, even though there were predictions of high wind days in advance of the fire, the burn master pulled all crews off the mountain before the fire was out. With total disregard for life and property, he left the fire. If not for the efforts of The South Valley Volunteer Firefighters, people would have died. Certainly no effort was put forth by Philips to prevent this. Some of the people were woken up at 4:00am and in less than an hour their houses were burning. Their past, their present and their future were all destroyed. What they spent their lives building was gone

We initially believed this man. We believed he was capable of doing what he promised. Why wouldn't we. He represented the state. He represented the people we elected to protect us and our property.

If a bad guy came to my house, stole my property and burned my house down, the state would catch this person and rightfully put them in prison for a long time. But the state issues itself a get out of jail card and limits its responsibility to \$100,000. The only difference to me is you know and expect this thievery from a bad guy. You do not know or expect this betrayal from elected individuals who promise to protect you if we would only vote for them.

My wife and I live in the middle of a burned out forest. Everyday we deal with the stress of rebuilding, fighting to get people to do what they promised It is a daily assault on our immune systems to live here amidst the skeletal remains of once majestic trees that took over a hundred years to grow.

If someone is hired to do a job for you, it is not too much to expect, as a homeowner, taxpayer and voter, that they will do that job, to the best of their abilities, with consideration and respect for the individuals affected by their efforts.

If you get a chance to reconsider your vote, I ask you to vote against supporting the \$100,000 limit of the state. If the state hired honest responsible people, this all could have been avoided.

Respectfully
Michael Langton

2155 Old Ranch Road

-