

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

JUNE 20, 2023

PRESENT:

Alexis Hill, Chair
Jeanne Herman, Vice Chair
Michael Clark, Commissioner
Mariluz Garcia, Commissioner
Clara Andriola, Commissioner

Janis Galassini, County Clerk
Eric Brown, County Manager
Nathan Edwards, Assistant District Attorney

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:00 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, County Clerk Jan Galassini called roll and the Board conducted the following business:

23-0363 AGENDA ITEM 3 Announcements/Reports.

Chair Hill moved Item 28 directly after the Consent Agenda to accommodate the gentleman representing the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) who needed to leave the meeting early. She stated that as disclosed by the media, Item 13 regarding cannabis consumption lounges was removed from the agenda. She informed anyone who wished to speak on that topic could speak during general public comment at the end of the meeting.

Vice Chair Herman expressed gratitude to Governor Joe Lombardo who vetoed Assembly Bill (AB) 242 which would have eliminated the County's right to use paper ballots in elections. She stated she had printed draft language for two resolutions regarding elections and asked County Clerk Jan Galassini to distribute copies to the Board. She declared the first resolution suggested the formation of a Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) for elections and the second was a new rendering of the election integrity resolution she had previously proposed. She spoke about television advertisements concerning the Washoe County Leadership Academy (WCLA) and declared CABs were not advertised in the same way. She thought CABs should have the same advertisement opportunity as other groups in the County to encourage interested people to join. She mentioned Item 8B1 and asked who was responsible for the maintenance of fire hydrants in Sun Valley. She stated she had not received an answer to her question regarding whether the Board could regulate who owned property in the County and she requested a response. She declared rural areas of Washoe County were having issues with Waste Management (WM) which County staff had started working to resolve, but she wanted to bring it up again to ensure people in rural

areas could receive trash service even in inclement weather. She asked the Board to consider bringing public comment back to the beginning of the meeting as she received weekly comments from constituents about this. She requested progress reports regarding the Lemmon Valley school crossing and mosquito mitigation throughout the County. She mentioned hearing a report on the radio that suggested the mosquito issue could become disastrous if something was not done to remove them.

Chair Hill informed Vice Chair Herman that County Manager Eric Brown would be agendaizing an item regarding the creation of a CAB for elections for consideration by the Board. She stated Vice Chair Herman's resolutions would need to be reviewed by the District Attorney's (DA) Office to ensure all components were legal.

Commissioner Andriola requested the Board include time for prayer during meetings and suggested it could take place during proclamations.

Commissioner Clark echoed Vice Chair Herman's concerns regarding mosquitoes and requested the issue be addressed as soon as possible. He wondered why the cannabis lounge item was pulled from the agenda before the Board had the opportunity to have a discussion and vote on whether it wanted to pull the item. He asked Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Nate Edwards if it was common to have someone decide to pull something off the posted agenda without the other Commissioners voting on it. He asserted the item had been an ongoing issue and every time it was put on an agenda, it was tabled. He informed the Board was chastised in an article published by *This is Reno* for regularly pulling items off agendas. He wanted to know if it was legal to pull the item off the agenda before the Board had an opportunity to discuss it.

ADA Edwards suggested Commissioner Clark should have a conversation with Chair Hill regarding his frustration about the item being pulled. He stated when an item of community importance was on an agenda, and the business owner who had been the driving force behind the item requested the item to be pulled, a decision had to be made. He declared there had to be a calculation of whether it would be in the public's interest to get the word out before the meeting that the item was removed from the agenda or leave it on and potentially have many people attend to speak about an item that might be continued. He indicated there was no legal issue with Chair Hill making that kind of judgment call in the interest of meeting expeditiousness. He encouraged Commissioners to continue to discuss matters such as this one on an individual basis with Chair Hill to express their position on items. He opined whoever was in the position of Chair had to make tough decisions and was often faced with procedural and administrative dilemmas. He thought Chair Hill made a judgment call not to have a large number of the public attend the meeting to speak on an item that would likely be continued.

Commissioner Clark asserted he was not targeting Chair Hill, but for the future, he wanted to understand if the Chair was allowed to unilaterally remove a publicly noticed item from an agenda without consulting with the rest of the Board. He asserted there were always going to be people who could not make it to a meeting, and he did not think it was a good reason to pull an item. ADA Edwards appreciated Commissioner

Clark's comments and perspective on the issue. He thought he had explained the issue to the best of his ability.

Commissioner Clark disclosed he met with attorneys over the weekend because the County had retained legal counsel for an investigation. He remarked the firm hired by the County was the same one it employed in 2021 to determine if he had been treated fairly and he disagreed with the findings the firm had presented. He recalled that during his meeting with his attorneys, they pointed out item 5.5, Meeting Item Requests, from the *Washoe County Board of Commissioners Rules of Procedures Handbook*, which he read aloud. He highlighted the statement "substantially conflict with the law or the ability of the County to carry out its administrative operations and duties" which he asserted was the only way a Commissioner's request to place an item on an agenda could be denied. He requested an item be placed on an agenda for a vote to return public comment to the beginning of Board of County Commissioners' (BCC) meetings. He relayed that his attorneys could not fathom a scenario where public comment conflicted with the law or the County's ability to carry out administrative operations. He reiterated his request.

Commissioner Clark recalled his attendance at the 150th anniversary of the historic courthouse and Flag Day celebration on June 14, 2023, and expressed displeasure with clerical errors made by County staff. He spoke about a survey and YouTube video produced by the County that highlighted Commissioner Andriola and wondered why videos had not been created for other Commissioners. He asked for a cost breakdown for the creation of the video and survey including the cost of County employee hours. If the cost of creating a YouTube video was not too high, he requested one be made of Vice Chair Herman so she could speak to residents in District 5 about mosquito abatement.

Commissioner Garcia wished a happy Father's Day to fathers and father figures, and a happy pride month to everyone. She complimented and congratulated those involved in putting together both the 150th anniversary of the historic courthouse and Flag Day celebration and drag queen story hour (DQSH). She thanked Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) deputies, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), and volunteers from Our Center for helping the public feel safe and welcome.

Chair Hill shared she attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) County Leadership Institute (CLI) in Washington, D.C., the previous week. She informed NACo paid for her accommodations and the classes were provided by Harvard University and the University of Kansas Institute for Leadership. She was excited to apply the tools she learned to create a cohesive body both on the Board and with the community. She announced the BCC had an upcoming retreat where Board members would discuss leadership concepts, get to know each other better, and learn about different departments within the County. She recalled that during the CLI she had the opportunity to thank Congressman Mark Amodei and Senators Jacky Rosen and Catherine Cortez Masto for their congressional-directed spending for Washoe County.

Manager Brown announced openings on boards and committees including the Board of Equalization (BOE). He stated people could find more information about openings and how to apply by visiting the County's website (www.washoecounty.gov). He added that enrollment for the WCLA was also open.

23-0364 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Presentation and update on Washoe County's Strategic Plan, Innovative Services objective for Fiscal Year 2023 accomplishments, including the Future of Work Initiative and Washoe County Leadership Academy, and a preview into Fiscal Year 2024 goals.

Communications Director Nancy Leuenhagen conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed a slide titled, "FY23 Goals." She expressed pride in being the first goal team to provide an overview of the work being done on the Strategic Plan initiatives. She said Innovative Services would be reviewed and noted the goals and projects had a very wide scope and involved many departments. She indicated it would be a great cross-section for employees. She stated the review would include some high-level overviews of the three goals outlined on the slide. In addition to highlights of fiscal year (FY) 23, goals for FY24 would be previewed.

Chief Information Officer (CIO) Behzad Zamanian continued the PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Technology Plan; Business Objectives & Strategic Actions; FY23 Achievements – Technology. He recalled that a technology roadmap was developed for the County in FY21. As part of the planning process, staff identified two main goals for Technology Services (TS) that enhanced citizen services and helped staff be more effective and efficient. Within those two goals, six different business objectives were identified and outlined in the presentation. As the plan was developed, he noted staff had to ensure every project and business goal aligned with the County's strategic objective. This was done by identifying strategic actions for each business objective. For example, the Citizens Experience goals project was to provide broadband to Gerlach and included cell service, online services, and public connectivity.

Mr. Zamanian reported that several goals were completed in FY23. He announced 32 conference rooms within the County buildings were updated with new technology to ensure staff could conduct effective meetings. He declared a roadmap was built for upgrading the financial and human resources platforms, which were used by all departments in the County. He commented that staff had evaluated and selected a budget software package and renegotiated the contract with System Analysis Program Development (SAP) to ensure the County had the proper licenses and support. Many technology infrastructure projects were completed including upgrades to the Countywide firewall and network switches. The County owned 95 firewalls in 90 different facilities and staff was able to upgrade 72 of them. He added that the County owned nearly 600 network switches and upgraded 489 of them. He spoke about the cybersecurity roadmap and indicated staff completed 15 to 20 percent of the recommendations to date. He stated a technology infrastructure assessment was developed, which was an in-depth review of the County's technology including networks, data centers, disaster recovery, and backups. The report included 72 recommendations that staff would work on over the next few years as

funds became available. He indicated that Washoe County partnered with the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and NV Energy through a Statewide initiative called the Nevada Shared Radio System to develop a Statewide Project 25 (P25) public safety radio system. He remarked the project started in 2018 and was scheduled for completion in 2026. The Washoe County portion of the project would be completed during FY24. He announced that in FY23 staff completed two of the radio sites, one in Cold Springs and one in Marble Bluff. He reported that staff was ahead of schedule with the implementation of the Gerlach broadband project and shared that the grand opening to celebrate the accomplishment was scheduled for July 25.

Ms. Leuenhagen continued the PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: FY23 Achievements – Service Oriented Culture; Washoe County Leadership Academy (WCLA) (2 slides). She spoke about community support and engagement and mentioned that Program Assistant Alexandra Wilson and the Commission Support Team would continue a thorough exploration of the processes and improvements for boards and committees. She noted the WCLA was preparing to start its second program and mentioned some members from the first program would speak during a later agenda item. She explained that representatives from each district participated in the program which included an array of different professions and demographics. She indicated the County partnered with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Cooperative Extension. She said Dr. Marlene Rebori led the leadership portion, taught many classes, and organized projects for students. She stated Dr. Rebori conducted an extensive evaluation of the program and Ms. Leuenhagen reviewed the findings from the report. She expressed pride in the program, noting it consisted of 25 individuals who were committed to becoming more involved in boards and committees within the community. She announced one of the participants had become a Washoe County employee and shared that the first year was viewed as being a mission accomplished with room to grow.

Human Resources (HR) Manager of Organizational Effectiveness Elizabeth Jourdin continued the PowerPoint presentation and reviewed a slide titled, “FY23 Achievements – Transformational change.” She stated that 68 percent of Washoe County departments, which represented approximately 58 percent of employees, currently worked in some type of flexible hybrid fashion. She believed it was time to bring forward structure and management processes for Washoe County to handle a hybrid and flexible work method. She indicated that recently a Future of Work Toolkit was launched for all County departments that provided guidelines related to hybrid and flexible work platforms and included work agreements and technology documents for employees. She indicated courses had been developed for employees who worked outside the County offices which included trainings related to ergonomics and trip hazards. Employees were required to complete those courses and provide information about how they would work in their home office. Information was included about the conditions covered under Workers’ Compensation as it related to individuals not working on County property. She conveyed that supervisors and managers requested better tools to manage staff in this type of environment and noted training connected to key performance indicators would be provided and incorporated into the performance management structure.

Ms. Leuenhagen continued the PowerPoint presentation and reviewed a slide titled, "Preview into FY24 Goals." She informed that staff was aware of the importance of the boards and committees and engaging and diversifying the process. She said Ms. Wilson and the Commission Support Team were working to get departments that appointed individuals to boards and committees on the same platform.

Ms. Jourdin continued the PowerPoint presentation and reviewed two slides titled, "Preview into FY24 Goals." She asserted employee development belonged in the Innovative Services category. She indicated that in FY24 professional development would include coaching, feedback, and a future leader program for internal staff that would be similar to the WCLA. She added staff would launch a performance management pilot that would change some of the performance management processes. She noted employees would continue to be recognized in the same way. She stated the implementation of guidelines would continue to be managed at the department level and TS would provide software deployment across business services to create a more efficient and effective environment for staff.

Ms. Jourdin reported that in FY24, staff wanted to ensure the fiscal sustainability of the organization. She noted meetings were scheduled with departments at Ninth Street to understand space utilization for employees working a hybrid schedule. She said the Master Plan was being updated with a focus on the future of work and she relayed a desire from staff to ensure barriers were removed where possible to allow access to services and programs for citizens and employees. She spoke about election readiness for 2024 and three major accessibility initiatives. She stated the digital website platform had been going on for the past year with work from the Communications Team and TS. Departments would be trained over the next year so that by June 2024 the County would be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards across the County website and internal platforms. She mentioned language access required through Assembly Bill (AB) 266, which had not made Governor Joe Lombardo's veto list, would roll into law as it surpassed the ten-day waiting period. As an organization, the County would be required to establish a language access plan regarding how to engage with citizens who had limited English proficiency (LEP) and preferred to engage County services and programs in a different language. She stated staff would work on this for the next year to meet AB266 deadlines. She noted it had been nearly 22 years since the last facilities accessibility survey was conducted through UNR. She acknowledged the re-engagement of that program to perform a walkthrough of the facilities and analyze buildings for physical accessibility and ADA design accessibility standards. She noted that the team would bring back a priority roadmap of areas of greatest concern and an organizational plan for remediation priorities going forward in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget process. She said an equity committee made up of representatives across County departments would be established to discuss current and future initiatives.

Mr. Zamanian said that to improve the reporting on technology projects, a technology roadmap would be created and placed into the County's Strategic Plan in FY24 which would be automatically updated to reflect any changes. In the future, a better and

more comprehensive picture of the projects related to technology presentation would be brought back to the Board.

Chair Hill believed this was impressive and noted the team was tasked by the Commission to develop this project in addition to their regular jobs. She mentioned many people helped make this possible. She remarked that it showed the initiative of employees and how much they valued Washoe County and wanted to make it a great place to work and live. She appreciated that the team was able to highlight these initiatives for the Board because Commissioners did not often get to see the work being done in the background. She thanked staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Garcia mentioned the equity committee and believed it was going to be comprised of people from different departments. She wondered whether the goal of that committee would be to address digital language access and facilities or if it would be broader than that. Ms. Jourdin responded that it would be and with time they would address unintended barriers to access that could be related to current policies, procedures, and processes. She stated they would bring in community stakeholders when needed to ensure the work was specific and targeted.

Commissioner Clark said he had seen numerous studies and reports in publications about people working from home and the lack of effectiveness of a hybrid work environment. He thought the new normal should be getting employees back to their place of business instead of developing hybrid options. He expressed opposition to a hybrid work platform at the County.

Commissioner Andriola thanked staff for the opportunity to reach out to constituents in this way. She noted there were nearly 100,000 people in the district she represented. She thought looking at opportunities and available infrastructure was a great method to obtain direct feedback, make a difference, and address the needs of constituents. She commended the technology and inclusiveness that the Commission Support Team had put in place. She appreciated the work and believed all the Commissioners did as well.

Chair Hill expressed appreciation for the great work and looked forward to hearing about the progress.

23-0365 **AGENDA ITEM 5** Presentation from Washoe County Leadership Academy alumni on Group 1 and Group 2 class projects. Group 1's project was to reinstitute the Jan Evans Justice Center Art Program by connecting art teachers and art supplies with the facility, and by providing art instruction to students. Group 2's project was to build raised garden beds with the assistance of UNR's Master Gardner's Program at Rancho San Rafael, and to highlight volunteerism in the community.

Community Outreach Coordinator Candee Ramos said she was part of the team that created the Washoe County Leadership Academy (WCLA). She indicated several alumni from the inaugural year were present in the Chambers to report on their projects.

Ms. Carly Borchard conducted a PowerPoint presentation, that was placed on file with the Clerk. She reviewed slides with the following titles: Creative Connections; Our Why; Overview; Art at Jan Evans.

Ms. Borchard expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the WCLA. She shared that the Commissioners and support staff had been amazing throughout the process. She said her group was touched by the tour of the Jan Evans Juvenile Justice Center (JEJJC) and decided on the concept of providing art to the youth there because it could be very therapeutic. She noted the JEJJC identified the need for additional resources and activities for the youth. The team facilitated a renewed relationship between the JEJJC and the Sierra Arts Foundation (SAF) through discussions and collaboration. She stated the SAF had a proven track record of delivering this type of enrichment program successfully. She mentioned the Washoe County School District (WCSD) agreed to offer credit recovery for JEJJC youth. The team received reports indicating the program was very successful. Offering three different classes ensured that all youth at the JEJJC had an opportunity to participate.

Ms. Alicia Lindsay-Dietrich continued the presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Art Cares Gift Package; Resource Guide; Thank you.

Ms. Lindsay-Dietrich indicated the team wanted to ensure the program was sustainable and students had something to take with them after they left detention. The community rallied and helped the team raise additional funds resulting in approximately \$15,000 for the project including \$2,500 from Commissioner Garcia. The team was able to put together art kits including a drawing pad, some colored pencils, and a Quick Response (QR) code to connect kids to resources. The resource guide was a living document and additional resources could be added to it over time including mental health and outreach services.

Chair Hill thought the project was impressive and its sustainability was exciting. She thanked the team members for their efforts.

Mr. Erick Rodriguez continued the presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Community Garden Beds; Project mission statement; Project goals; Established clear team member availability early; Collaborated to identify project idea; Built a detailed project plan; Created two groups.

Mr. Rodriguez presented Group 2's project of community garden raised beds at Rancho San Rafael Park. He observed that people from many walks of life joined the project. He reviewed some of the tools and methods used to determine which project the team would undertake. He noted the team was divided into two groups, the Marketing Team, and the Park Liaison Team.

Ms. Amanda Harper continued the presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Project plan; photo; Budget and supplies; Project summary; Parallel social campaign; volunteer sign-ups.

Ms. Harper stated the WCLA Group 2 worked with the Washoe County Parks Department to learn about what the County offered and to determine what was needed in the community. The team learned that the Parks Department worked extensively with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Extension Office and its Master Gardeners program. She noted that in 2024 the UNR Extension Office would celebrate its 50th year. The team learned that the Extension Office provided resources for exploring a healthier lifestyle, access to garden space, and educational programs and activities for children. The team determined there was a lot of potential for a community project and that was how they decided on the community garden beds project. She mentioned the team had a \$5,000 budget and the project costs were slightly less than that amount. Most of the project budget was used for garden supplies, but the marketing group used some funds to produce a project summary and tri-fold brochures. She said the brochure would be available electronically, noting the information was not date specific so Rancho San Rafael Park could continue to use the brochure. She indicated a team member was using their personal time to translate the brochure into Spanish. She mentioned the Communications Department helped to create the project summary, the tri-fold brochure, and a social media campaign to help people recreate the garden beds at home. She noted Volunteer Coordinator Denise Evans helped recruit community members to supplement the team by using www.signup.com and volunteers joined the team on build day.

Mr. Rodriguez continued the presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Impact; Project by the numbers; Sustainability; Gardening is more; Special Thanks; Thank you.

Chair Hill thanked both teams for the projects which she thought were outstanding.

Commissioner Andriola commended the entire WCLA group for becoming advocates of the County and for learning about what the various County departments offered. She was sure the participants received more from the WCLA than they anticipated. She thanked the participants for their efforts and for considering the sustainability of the projects.

Commissioner Garcia acknowledged the WCLA participants signed up for a large multi-month commitment while having jobs and families. She was grateful the participants took that step and noted their passion and investment in the community shone through in their group projects. She asked to be informed about harvest day for the community garden beds project. She indicated the resource guide compiled by Group 1 was beautiful and it reminded everyone about the many non-profits available in the community. She thanked Chair Hill and the previous Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for establishing this program with the Office of the County Manager (OCM). She thought the WCLA was a great investment, and she was excited to support the program. She congratulated everyone involved in the WCLA, especially the first cohort of participants.

Chair Hill said the WCLA participants were future County Commissioners, Planning Commissioners (PC), and Board of Adjustment (BOA) members. She encouraged people to become involved in the community.

PROCLAMATIONS

23-0366 **6A1** Proclaim June 19, 2023, as Juneteenth Recognition Day in Washoe County.

Commissioner Garcia read the Proclamation.

Ms. Jessica Van stated she was the president of the Northern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society (NNBCAS). She thanked County Manager Eric Brown and the Board members for their consistent support of the organization. She asserted that just as the County supported the NNBCAS, the organization wanted to be of support to the County in any way possible. She declared the organization held an event the previous Sunday with approximately 2,000 people in attendance. She hoped the NNBCAS could work to provide more education to the community about Juneteenth as the holiday was not just a pivotal moment in black history, it was American history.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Penny Brock displayed a document that was placed on file with the Clerk. She announced that the movie *Sound of Freedom*, based on the true story of Tim Ballard who rescued children from human trafficking, would be in theaters on July 4. She read from the displayed document and stated human trafficking was the second-largest illicit industry in the United States (U.S.). She mentioned statistics regarding human trafficking in North America and asked the Board to put forward an effort to end it.

Ms. Janet Butcher displayed two documents that were placed on file with the Clerk. She clarified she was not present to represent any organization. She declared there were other events that took place in June besides Juneteenth and read from her documents which contained information about the history of Flag Day. She requested better clarification on the process for requesting proclamations and wondered why proclamations were read into the record after the fact. She asked if it was allowable for community members to buy tickets for Commissioners to watch the movie *Sound of Freedom* mentioned by Ms. Brock.

Chair Hill informed Ms. Butcher that the Commission Support Team would contact her with information on how to fill out a proclamation request.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6A1 be adopted.

DONATIONS

- 23-0367** **7A1** Recommendation to accept cash donations totaling [\$1,995.52] from Come in from the Cold [\$592.00], May Foundation [\$870.00], the donation drop box at the May Museum [\$33.52], Arboretum [\$500.00] and in-kind donations from May Arboretum Society [valued at \$45,634.55] for Regional Parks and Open Space programs and facilities; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0368** **7B1** Recommendation to acknowledge a donation of [\$1,000.00] retroactive to March 10, 2023 from L. Edward Humphrey, Esq. and [\$500.00] retroactive to March 27, 2023 from Eurik O'Bryant, Esq. to fund the ongoing operations of the Washoe County Law Library and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0369** **7C1** Recommendation to (1) retroactively accept a donation from The Burkhart Foundation, Inc. to the Nevada Cares Campus in the amount of [\$10,000.00] and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; (2) accept and acknowledge 17 locking cabinets donated to the Nevada Cares Campus, from Reno Business Interiors, totaling an estimated market value of [\$170.00]; (3) accept and acknowledge feminine hygiene items donated to the Nevada Cares Campus from the non-profit, We Serve with Helping Hands, totaling an estimated market value of [\$74.78]; (4) accept and acknowledge 16 heavy duty jackets donated to the Nevada Cares Campus from Mikehla Schulz, totaling an estimated market value of [\$1,360.00]; (5) accept and acknowledge a recycled bench donated to the Nevada Cares Campus from the Washoe County Green Team, totaling an estimated amount of [\$359.00]; (6) accept and acknowledge 33 furniture items donated to the Nevada Cares Campus and the Continuum of Care (CoC), from Nathan James; [total estimated value \$4,999.67], pursuant to Washoe County Code 15.140-15.160; Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)
- Commissioner Garcia read the donations. Chair Hill thanked the donors.

With regard to Item 7C1, Commissioner Clark asked if the furniture donated to the Nevada Cares Campus could be used or if the County would need to dispose of it. He inquired whether anyone had inspected the furniture. County Manager Eric Brown replied that the County normally did not accept items that could not be put to use. Commissioner Clark asked who was tasked with inspecting the furniture or any donations and if they wrote reports about the donations. Manager Brown responded that staff at the Facilities Department performed inspections, but reports were not normally provided.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Items 7A1 through 7C1 be accepted, acknowledged, and directed.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 8A THROUGH 8L1

- 23-0370** **8A1** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioners' regular meetings of April 11, 2023, April 18, 2023, and April 25, 2023. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0371** **8A2** Acknowledge the communications and reports received by the Clerk on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, including the following categories: Communications; Monthly Statements/Reports; and Annual Budgets. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0372** **8B1** Recommendation to approve an Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority regarding Public Fire Hydrants, for a duration of five years, with five year renewal terms, to ensure public safety by providing for identification, mapping, testing, maintenance, non-capital repairs, and record keeping of public fire hydrants that are within both unincorporated Washoe County and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority service boundaries [no fiscal impact]. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0373** **8B2** Recommendation to accept grant funding [\$21,226.82 with no County match] for Fiscal Year 2023 from the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, received under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (SRS Act) for the benefit of public schools and roads within Washoe County; and if approved, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget adjustments. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0374** **8B3** Recommendation, pursuant to NRS 278.0262(c) and related authorities, to appoint Pat Phillips, current member of the Washoe County Planning Commission, to the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission for a term beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2026; or until such time as a successor is appointed, whichever occurs first. The current list of Regional Planning Commission alternates approved by the Board of County Commissioners are: First Alternate: Pat Phillips, Second Alternate: Michael Flick; Third Alternate: Daniel Lazzareschi, Fourth Alternate: Rob Pierce. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

- 23-0375** **8B4** Recommendation to appoint a Washoe County resident to the Washoe County Board of Adjustment representing Commission District 2 (generally includes the Southeast Truckee Meadows area (Virginia Foothills, Rhodes Road, Pleasant Valley, etc.), the Southwest Truckee Meadows area (Mt. Rose and Callahan Ranch), and Washoe Valley (both east and west)), to fill a term beginning on July 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2027, or until such time as the member no longer serves on the Board of Adjustment or a successor is appointed, whichever occurs first. Peter Ghishan is the only eligible applicant. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)
- 23-0376** **8C1** Recommendation to accept a renewed Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to the District Attorney’s Office in the amount of [\$217,864; \$74,930 required match], from the State of Nevada Attorney General’s Office to provide funding for a Deputy District Attorney III retroactive from July 1, 2022 through July 30, 2023 and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement. District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0377** **8D1** Recommendation to acknowledge a grant award of [\$10,431.00], no County match required, awarded to the Washoe County Law Library, Second Judicial District Court, by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records retroactive from July 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023, and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0378** **8E1** Recommendation to approve the budget amendments totaling an increase of [\$213,204.00] in both revenue and expenditures to the EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring Grant retroactive to May 1, 2023, through April 30, 2025, and direct the Comptroller’s office to make the appropriate budget amendments. The purpose of this grant agreement is to conduct ambient air monitoring of pollutants of greatest concern in communities with environmental and health outcome disparities stemming from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will establish a new State and Local Air Monitoring Station (SLAMS) monitor in the western portion of Reno, NV to fill a spatial gap in the existing ambient air monitoring network. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0379** **8F1** Recommendation to acknowledge and approve the selection of, and contract award to, LP Insurance Services, Inc. for RFP 3214-23, to provide insurance brokerage and consulting services, for the Washoe County Health Benefits Program in the amount of \$86,400.00 each year for the three-year contract term; and further authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to enter into this Agreement for three (3) years, commencing July 1, 2023

through June 30, 2026, with the provision for up to two (2) - one (1) year extensions at Washoe County's discretion. Human Resources. (All Commission Districts.)

23-0380 **8G1** Recommendation to appoint Denise Myer to [District 3] to the Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board for the remainder of the term ending September 30, 2023, this position was vacated by Ethan Hovest who resigned from the Board in October 2022. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

23-0381 **8H1** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$10,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2022-2023; District 5 Commissioner Jeanne Herman recommends a [\$5,000.00] grant to Awaken -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes -- for the purpose of eradicating commercial sexual exploitation; and a [\$5,000.00] grant to the Washoe County 4-H Youth Development Program of the University of Nevada Extension -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes -- to support the Washoe County 4-H Large Livestock and Horse Programs; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursements of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 5.)

23-0382 **8H3** Recommendation to approve a two-year Interlocal Contract between Washoe County and the State of Nevada acting by and through the Nevada Division of Forestry Department of Conservation and Natural Resources [in the amount of \$38,721.00 per fiscal year, not to exceed \$77,442.00] for the purpose of providing resources, equipment and financial assistance in the mitigation of emergency fire incidents. If approved, the agreement would be effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025, and would require the County to pay the State in exchange for the provisions of specified emergency fire incident services by the State. Services to be provided by the State generally include, but are not limited to, assistance in the use of an incident management teams, cooperation in the training, equipping and maintaining of firefighting forces, reimbursement of approved costs and assistance with fire investigation. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

23-0383 **8H5** Recommendation to approve amended allocations of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for the following projects in the total amount of [\$206,681.33] Sparks Justice Court Remodel Project in the total amount of \$471,324.70 (an increase of \$90,424.70 over the \$380,900 allocated and approved by the Board December 14, 2021) to account for increased costs of the project during the bidding process. Employee Wellness Initiative project in the total amount of \$118,252.63 (an increase

of \$70,252.63 over the \$48,000 approved by the Board on May 24, 2022) to pay for the Calm App and small fitness equipment for WC Fit. Second Judicial District Court Audio Visual Upgrade project in the total amount of \$1,331,004 (an increase of \$46,004 over the \$1,285,000 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021) to purchase cameras that best fit the Court's needs. Extend authorization for the Human Services Agency Personnel project (approved on December 14, 2021) to utilize funds for personnel until funds are expended rather than by June 30, 2023.

And, if approved, direction to the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

- 23-0384** **8I1** Recommendation to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to conduct testing and training connected to Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment for the Washoe County Sheriff's Office at a cost of Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District's actual labor costs [not to exceed \$63.00 per hour] paid by Washoe County for the period of May 22, 2023, to May 22, 2025, with an option to extend one additional year. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0385** **8I2** Recommendation to accept supplemental funding [additional funding of \$13,000.00, for a total of \$52,600.00, no match required] from the USDA Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest for overtime costs incurred while involved in the Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement #21-LE-11041700-005 for the period date signed - December 31, 2024; and if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize Sheriff Balaam to execute Modification #003 of grant award documents. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0386** **8J1** Recommendation to approve the reimbursement of costs incurred by the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, Washoe County School District, and departments of Washoe County for expenses related to and in support of the Enhanced 911 Emergency Response System and portable event recording devices, as recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee on May 18, 2023, in an amount not to exceed [\$179,706.17] as specified within the adopted Enhanced 911 Fund's operating budget. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)
- 23-0387** **8K1** Recommendation to accept Treasurer's status report for the period ending May 31, 2023, of payment of refunds and interest since last update in the amount of \$737,546.97 on certain property tax overpayments for residential properties at Incline Village/Crystal Bay, in compliance with the October 21, 2019 Order issued by the District Court in Village League to

Save Incline Assets, Inc., et.al. vs. State of Nevada, et.al., Case No. CV03-06922, as modified and clarified by the settlement agreement regarding the processing of refunds. Treasurer. (All Commission Districts.)

23-0388 **8L1** Recommendation to accept two FFY2020 Homeland Security Grant Program sub-grant awards from FEMA through the Nevada Secretary of State in the amount of [\$33,348 and \$25,688 for a total of \$59,036; \$297 County match] for the security upgrades for the physical locations of the Registrar of Voters offices retroactive for the grant period of September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2023. If approved authorize the Registrar of Voters to execute the sub-grant and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's office to make the necessary, budget amendments. Registrar of Voters (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hill acknowledged and thanked Vice Chair Herman for her Commission District Special Fund disbursements of \$5,000 to Awaken and \$5,000 to Washoe County 4-H. She thanked Commissioner Garcia for her Commission District Special Fund disbursement of \$1,000 to the Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID) for a summer program. She expressed appreciation for the efforts the Commissioners put into their districts and their support of programs that worked for their constituents.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Sarah Chvilicek introduced herself as the Washoe County 4-H Program Director for 4-H Youth Development affiliated with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Extension. She offered her gratitude to Vice Chair Herman for the donation of Commission District Special Funds. She stated Vice Chair Herman was a 4-H volunteer leader in Washoe County and she continued to pay forward her support to help youth thrive in the 4-H Youth Development Program.

Ms. Penny Brock expressed gratitude to Vice Chair Herman for her donation to Awaken. She displayed documents that were placed on file with the Clerk. She opined Awaken did not rescue women and girls from sex trafficking but took them in and helped them rebuild their lives. She believed Awaken was a great non-profit organization but noted the community needed an organization to rescue those women and children. She encouraged the Board to provide money to law enforcement to set up a human trafficking task force. She declared human trafficking happened on the streets, in schools, and at UNR. She referred to the document she provided titled "Become Educated" and read the definitions of child sex trafficking and child exploitation. She wished the director of Awaken had been at the meeting, stating she had heard the director speak previously and she thought she was an amazing speaker. She mentioned the outcomes at Awaken were fantastic and the organization was able to help rebuild the lives of children caught up in trafficking. She said she saw young girls in her neighborhood set up to sell fruit or flowers and there was no vehicle there, so she thought they must have been dropped off and instructed to make money. She asserted this had to stop. She reiterated her request for the Board to provide funding to law enforcement to establish a trafficking task force.

Mr. Scott Finley provided documents that were placed on file with the Clerk. He indicated he was a resident of Washoe County and had a military background in financial management. He wondered if the Commission held itself and its employees to a high standard. He declared he held himself to a high standard and was constantly challenging himself; therefore, it should be expected that he would hold those who governed him to an even higher standard as they exerted a certain degree of control over himself, his friends, his family, and his community. He pointed out Item 8H2 which was a recommendation to approve a Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of \$1,000 from Commissioner Garcia to the SVGID, a non-profit organization created for religious, charitable, or educational purposes. He asserted that the SVGID was not a non-profit but a governmental entity. He informed that per Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 244.1505, a grant or donation to a non-profit organization or governmental entity pursuant to this section must be made by resolution. He stated the agenda description for this item misidentified the governmental entity as a non-profit and misidentified the donation as a grant. He opined that Washoe County should not give donations to any non-profit organization where any of its employees received more than a five-figure salary including bonuses. He believed the purpose of a non-profit organization was to help the community for the betterment of society. He reiterated that the Board should not approve Item 8H2 and expressed a desire for the creation of a County policy not to donate taxpayer dollars to non-profits whose CEOs made more than a five-figure annual salary.

Ms. Valerie Fiannaca displayed a document that was placed on file with the Clerk. She spoke regarding Item 8G1, the appointment of Ms. Denise Myer, and thought it was about time this happened. She understood that Ms. Myer was the only applicant for this position which had been open for a very long time. She acknowledged Mr. Finley for catching the error in Item 8H2. She thought the Board needed to stop giving any discretionary money which she recalled Vice Chair Herman spoke about during the previous Board of County Commissioners' (BCC) meeting. She opined Commissioner Garcia's donation was a social justice warrior-type of donation. She declared the Board needed to do what was best for all members of society and not incite turmoil in the community. She stated there were places where these events could happen peacefully.

Mr. Scott Myer agreed with Ms. Fiannaca's comments. He stated his wife was Ms. Denise Myer who was being considered for the Senior Services Advisory Board (SSAB) position. He asserted he was there to represent her as she did not want her presence to be a distraction. He indicated his wife volunteered for this position because she cared about seniors and she wanted the focus to be on seniors. He asked the Board for serious consideration of appointing Ms. Myer to the SSAB so she could begin working and advocating for seniors.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar explained her status as a woman to which Chair Hill responded and encouraged Ms. Snedigar to speak about a specific item. Ms. Snedigar wanted to ensure her status was clearly known. She expressed appreciation to Vice Chair Herman for contributing to the Awaken program. She asserted it was a terrible thing those people went through, and it took a long time to help them deal with their issues. She said she appreciated the donation to 4-H and she thought people would be needing that program

when resources were unavailable in the future. She encouraged people to start preparing for food shortages. She believed the County should inspire people to grow vegetables, as 4-H did, so they would not starve to death.

Awaken's Program Director Ms. Andrea Davis and Director of Engagement Ms. Lauren Teigans thanked Vice Chair Herman for the donation. Ms. Davis shared she ran the prevention program which was being introduced in middle and high schools. She said they informed students to be aware of what trafficking was, what to look out for, who the buyers in the area were, who the survivors were, and how to stay safe on social media.

Mr. James Benthin read from the Staff Report regarding the appointment of Ms. Denise Myer to the SSAB. Chair Hill informed Mr. Benthin he did not need to read the Staff Report. Mr. Benthin expressed support for Ms. Myer and asked that the Commission act on this item. He spoke about the donations to Awaken and 4-H and believed these were needed non-profits. He suggested there be additional zeros added to the donation amounts. He said the County had already spent more than \$13 million on animal services and he thought people were more important.

Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Nate Edwards observed Mr. Finley made a valid point regarding Item 8H2. The Resolution was corrected to state the nature of the SVGID; however, the agenda item still described it as a non-profit organization which was incorrect. He recommended, out of an abundance of caution, the item be delayed until the following week's agenda. Chair Hill agreed and announced Item 8H2 would be tabled until the next BCC meeting.

Commissioner Clark spoke about Item 8G1 and wondered about people who applied to be alternates for the SSAB. He believed those people should have been listed on this agenda item as well. He said Ms. Myer applied in October or November 2022 and the Board was finally appointing her after months of waiting. He noted that she had been waiting a long time and the term would end in September. He wondered if the term could be extended but he did not want that to keep her from being appointed during this meeting. He believed the Board was doing a lot of work to appoint someone to a one-year term when they would only be able to serve for three months before it expired.

Vice Chair Herman mentioned Item 8B1 and asked if there was any staff present in the Chambers who could inform the Board whether the hydrants were included in this item. Assistant County Manager (ACM) Dave Solaro said he was present to answer any questions from the Board. Vice Chair Herman stated Sun Valley residents wondered about the maintenance of fire hydrants in their area as there were several that were out of commission at that time. She relayed that the community believed it could get help from this process. She knew Item 8B1 did not mention Sun Valley, but she wanted to relay the residents' concerns. Mr. Solaro informed he had been in contact with the Public Works Director of the SVGID, Mr. Chris Melton. He reported that Vice Chair Herman was correct, the current agreement was only between Washoe County and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) for those fire hydrants in the Truckee Meadows service territory that were also Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD)

hydrants. He indicated this did not include the Cities of Reno and Sparks or the SVGID. He stated that Mr. Melton was concerned about the ongoing maintenance of the hydrants in Sun Valley. Mr. Solaro had committed to setting up a meeting with TMFPD Chief Charles Moore, Mr. Melton, and himself to discuss the next steps associated with Sun Valley specifically as this agreement had brought some questions forward. Vice Chair Herman thanked Mr. Solaro for the information and offered her assistance if needed.

Commissioner Clark brought up Item 8H4 which allocated \$15,000 to the City of Reno for a collaborative art project at the entrance of the North Valleys Regional Park. He informed that his daughter, Ms. Meghan Ebert, was the Reno City Councilmember who represented Ward 4 where the North Valleys Regional Park resided. He indicated he would recuse himself from voting on the item and asked ADA Edwards how he should handle his recusal since the item was part of the Consent Agenda. ADA Edwards thanked Commissioner Clark for that disclosure and recommended that Item 8H4 be voted on separately. He stated the Commission should vote on all remaining items in Consent first, then a separate vote should be taken on Item 8H4, and Commissioner Clark would step off the dais while that vote occurred.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 8A1 through 8L1, with the exclusion of 8H2 and 8H4, be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 8A1 through 8L1, with the exclusion of 8H2 and 8H4, are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

23-0389 **8H2** Recommendation to approve, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Commission District Special Fund disbursement in the amount of [\$1,000.00] for Fiscal Year 2022-2023; District 3 Commissioner Mariluz Garcia recommends a [\$1,000.00] grant to the Sun Valley General Improvement District -- a nonprofit organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes -- to retroactively support their Dive Into Summer Event held on June 16, 2023 as part of their kick-off to the recreation season; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary disbursement of funds. Manager's Office. (Commission District 3.)

This item was tabled.

11:52 a.m. **Commissioner Clark left the meeting.**

23-0390 **8H4** Recommendation in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve a FY23 Community Support grant award to the City of Reno, a governmental entity, in the amount of [\$15,000] to support a large-scale collaborative public art project at the entrance to the North Valleys Regional Park; approve Resolution 23-79 for the same; and direct Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget appropriation disbursements. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark abstaining, it was ordered that Item 8H4 be approved. The Resolution for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

11:53 a.m. **Commissioner Clark returned to the meeting.**

23-0391 **AGENDA ITEM 28** Public hearing: Approve an outdoor festival business license (pursuant to Washoe County Code Chapter 25 and related provisions) and associated license conditions for an application submitted by Travel North Tahoe Nevada, on behalf of the Incline Village Crystal Bay Drone SkyShow Coalition, to hold a “Drone SkyShow” event on July 4, 2023, at 948 Incline Way (APN: 127-030-15), the Incline Village Visitor Center Park and ball fields. Set-up for traffic control will begin at 5:00 a.m. on July 4, 2023, and the Drone SkyShow event will occur from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Event take-down and cleanup will begin immediately following the Drone SkyShow. This includes a community clean-up day on Wednesday, July 5, 2023. Event organizers estimate 5,000 spectators/attendees. If approved, authorize the Director of the Planning and Building Division to issue the license when all pre-event conditions have been met. Community Services. (Commission District 1.)

Chair Hill opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against this item. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

Commissioner Clark asked whether a shuttle service would be available for the event considering that 5,000 people would result in a large number of vehicles. Senior Planner Roger Pelham replied he was unsure if a shuttle would be provided but a transportation parking plan had been approved through Washoe County Engineering.

Chair Hill noted Microtransit, which was funded by the Board, was available in that area and was very popular with the community.

Commissioner Andriola observed the Staff Report reflected that a parking and shuttle plan had been provided. Commissioner Clark responded that he sometimes asked questions on the dais to ensure the information was stated on the record.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 28 be approved and authorized.

BLOCK VOTE – 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, AND 25

- 23-0392** **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to approve Amendment No. 1 to an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and Carollo for the Pleasant Valley Sanitary Sewer Interceptor - Reach 3 Project and the Pleasant Valley Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Project, to provide professional engineering permitting services, engineering construction management and environmental engineering oversight, as described within Exhibit A [in the amount of \$811,367.70 for a total contract amount of \$2,684,608.70]; retroactive from June 30, 2022 through December 31, 2025. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved.

- 23-0393** **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to award a bid and approve the Agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the 2023/2024 Slurry Seal for Selected Streets in Washoe County, PWP-WA-2023-305, including the Base Bid, Bid Alternate 1 (additional micro and chip seal), Bid Alternate 2 (East Shore Trail Slurry Work), and Bid Alternate 3 (Incline Village Micro Mill) [staff recommends Sierra Nevada Construction in the amount of \$3,262,007.00]; and approve a separate project contingency fund [in the amount of \$100,000.00]. Slurry seal is defined as the application of water, asphalt emulsion, aggregate, and additives to an existing asphaltic concrete surface as a preventative maintenance treatment in an effort to extend pavement service life. Community Services. (Commission Districts 1, 2, 4 and 5.)

On the call for public comment, Ms. Marie Rodriguez spoke about the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) appointment. Chair Hill informed Ms. Rodriguez that item would be heard after the lunch recess.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be awarded and approved.

- 23-0394** **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve the asset reassignment of multiple vehicles from various Washoe County Departments to Equipment Services Fund; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate asset adjustments [estimated net \$1,276,457.24]. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

23-0395 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to approve the Highland Ranch Parkway and Midnight Drive Traffic Signal Reimbursement Agreement between LC Highland, LLC, a Nevada Limited Liability Company (Developer), and Washoe County to support the design and installation of traffic signal infrastructure at the intersection of Highland Ranch Parkway and Midnight Drive, located in the Sun Valley area of Washoe County. This agreement reflects the benefits of signalization of the subject intersection and the pro-rata cost distribution to the Developer (30%) and Washoe County (70%) based on a traffic impact study. [Washoe County's total cost for reimbursement to the Developer is \$420,000.00 based on a total project cost estimate of \$600,000.00]. Washoe County will fund this work from the existing Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project Fund and, due to increasing labor and material costs, requests the potential use of up to \$20,000.00 of additional funds for unforeseen project contingencies. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be approved.

23-0396 **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to certify charges, levy and direct the Treasurer to collect \$374,425.82 in special assessments for fiscal year 2023/2024 as requested by the State Engineer of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, for Black Rock Desert Groundwater Basin (\$68.91), Honey Lake Valley Groundwater Basin (\$8,899.94), Hualapai Flat Water District (\$8,704.30), San Emidio Desert District (\$4,736.26), Warm Springs Valley Groundwater Basin (\$9,278.38), Washoe Valley Groundwater Basin (\$3,738.03), Warm Springs/Winnemucca Creek Basin (\$4,000.00), Cold Springs Valley Groundwater Basin (\$8,000.00), Lake Tahoe Groundwater Basin (\$16,000.00), Lemmon Valley Water District (\$27,000.00), Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basin (\$6,000.00), Spanish Springs Valley Groundwater Basin (\$45,000.00), Tracy Segment Groundwater Basin (\$6,000.00), Truckee Canyon Segment Groundwater Basin (\$12,000.00) and Truckee Meadows/Sun Valley Groundwater Basin (\$215,000.00). Authorize the Treasurer to remove uncollectible assessments and/or correct assessments on the tax roll as requested by the Division of Water Resources; direct the Clerk to execute the State of Nevada Division of Water Resources certification letters and send them back to the Division pursuant to NRS

533.285; and direct the Comptroller to pay to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources the requested funds. Finance. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be certified, levied, directed, and authorized.

23-0397 **AGENDA ITEM 18** Recommendation for the Board of County Commissioners to appoint Evelyn Grosenick as Washoe County Public Defender effective June 20, 2023, with an annual salary of \$180,003.20. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Evelyn Grosenick be appointed as Washoe County Public Defender effective June 20, 2023.

23-0398 **AGENDA ITEM 19** Recommendation to approve Amendment #1 of the Agreement for Professional Services between Washoe County and Rapid Space doing business as (DBA) Quick Space in the amount of [\$94,000] for a total contract amount not to exceed [\$569,000] retroactive for the term of March 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, and in the amount of [\$50,000] for a total contract not to exceed [\$450,000] for each of three optional annual extensions after the initial term, to provide temporary site services including temporary fencing, portable restrooms, portable handwashing stations, portable office buildings, portable storage containers and other items as needed for the Nevada Cares Campus; if approved, authorize the Purchasing & Contracts Manager to execute Amendment #1 and exercise the first option to renew the contract for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$450,000. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Ms. Penny Brock expressed frustration about more money being given to the Cares Campus. She referred to this as the homeless industrial complex and the money being given to non-profits later in the agenda as the non-profit industrial complex. She questioned the approval of retroactive payment for the prior year and thought this might be a double billing. She did not understand all the temporary items and asked why the fence was temporary as she thought that would be permanent. She read part of the agenda item and declared that the language was confusing. She wanted to know what taxpayers would be paying for this item. She thought the Commissioners would have questions about the language. She indicated she had a business degree and knew a

little bit about finance. She wanted the Board to obtain clarification about how much money it would be voting on.

Mr. James Benthin provided documents that were distributed to the Board and placed on file with the Clerk. He expressed opposition to this item and wanted the funds to be given to the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission instead. He read from the document he provided which was an article from *This is Reno* by Kristen Hackbarth titled, "Commissioners review budget, Cares Campus costs and development." He believed the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission had proven what it could do to help the homeless and he reiterated he wanted the funds to go to that organization.

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

23-0399 **AGENDA ITEM 23** Recommendation to acknowledge receipt of the annual report of the Recorder Technology Fund (IN20014), a fund created pursuant to NRS 247.305(2) for the acquisition and improvement of technology in the Recorder's Office, which has projected proceeds in the amount of [\$360,164.00] and projected expenditures in the amount of [\$261,366.00] for FY24. Recorder. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 23 be acknowledged.

23-0400 **AGENDA ITEM 24** Recommendation to approve the Support Reinstatement Amendment ("Amendment") to the SAP Software License Agreement for the County's financial and human resources enterprise resource planning (ERP) system effective December 1, 2002, between Washoe County and SAP America, Inc. for SAP support services in an amount not to exceed [\$435,000.00]. The term of the agreement will be from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Amendment. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 24 be approved and authorized.

23-0401 **AGENDA ITEM 25** Recommendation to approve payment for the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 renewal of the Aumentum Technologies/Manatron Service Level Agreement (“SLA”) for Maintenance and Support Services, in the amount of [\$332,832], for the Treasurer’s Tax System software maintenance and support. The Aumentum Technologies/Manatron SLA was initially approved by Washoe County on July 18, 2008, and payments for the annual renewals are approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 25 be approved.

12:07 p.m. **The Board recessed.**

12:47 p.m. **The Board reconvened with Assistant District Attorney Nate Edwards absent.**

23-0402 **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to: (1) Provide direction to staff on initiation of regulations to allow for cannabis consumption lounges in unincorporated Washoe County as provided in Assembly Bill 341 (2021). Discussion and possible direction may include but not be limited to whether the Board of County Commissioners (Board) wants to allow for cannabis consumption lounges, the process for applications for licensing or permitting, locations where lounges would be allowable, site requirements for lounges, and limitations on approval of lounges; and (2) If the Board wishes to allow cannabis consumption lounges in unincorporated Washoe County, initiate amendments to Washoe County Code (WCC) Chapter 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations) and Chapter 110 (Development Code) pursuant to WCC Sections 2.030 and 110.818.05 to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board’s policy direction regarding potential cannabis consumption lounges. The amendments may include, but are not limited to, the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, permitting requirements, and fees associated with cannabis consumption lounges, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language; and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of the proposed ordinances in accordance with WCC 2.040. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

This item was tabled.

23-0403

AGENDA ITEM 14 Recommendation to approve an agreement for legal services with Baron & Budd, P.C. and Cossich Sumich Parsiola & Taylor, LLC to represent Washoe County in potential litigation for environmental and other damages suffered from the actions of manufacturers, distributors, and dispensers of firefighting foam products and other products which contain polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”), and to authorize the filing of actions against such entities. If approved, the agreement includes a contingency fee to be paid by the county of 25% of the county’s gross recovery plus expenses and costs incurred. The county would also be responsible for its share of costs and fees such as expert witnesses, but only if enough were recovered to cover those costs and fees as well, which under the agreement would be paid up front by outside counsels’ offices. District Attorney. (All Commission Districts.)

12:48 p.m. Assistant District Attorney Nate Edwards returned to the meeting.

Chair Hill stated this law firm reached out to the Board after a press conference was conducted regarding Swan Lake and the poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contained there. She said they were experts in the field, and she believed they were doing much of the cutting-edge science as far as testing. Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Michael Large stated that was correct. He explained this was an unsolicited proposal that came from several reputable law firms in town and the Baron & Budd, P.C., and Cossich, Sumich, Parsiola, & Taylor, LLC firms were spearheading the national multidistrict litigation, which was based in South Carolina. He said the attorneys had top-notch experts in this field. He stated, as with any lawsuit, the client needed to have good-faith bases and evidence to support their claim. He indicated they did not know yet what the parameters would be in regard to PFAS that was attributable to the aqueous film-forming foams (AFFF). He commented that the law firms would employ their experts to come to Washoe County to conduct testing and could determine the potential effect on the groundwater and environmentally sensitive areas. He declared that if any issues were detected, the law firm would proceed to the next step of filing a lawsuit. He asserted the expense for the experts could be high and would be fronted by the law firm.

Chair Hill thought that practice was part of how law firms enticed local governments into becoming partners. She understood the Attorney General’s (AG) Office was not attempting this on a Statewide basis. She explained this was something that cities and counties were working on alone. DDA Large stated that was correct. He said he was in contact with the AG’s Office, and they did not see PFAS as a Statewide issue and had not been involved in the litigation. He asserted that several other states had filed suits directly from their AG’s Office, and he knew California had filed suit a few months ago. He noted typically 500 to 600 local governments and municipalities would be involved in multidistrict litigation.

Vice Chair Herman was curious why the County was getting involved in this litigation. DDA Large stated the AFFFs had been used in fire retardants for years and contained a high concentration of PFAS. It was determined 30 years later that the chemicals had adverse effects on the environment and humans when used in high doses. He stated specifics of the long-term effects were unclear which was the reason for testing. He said litigation would allow the County to seek compensation for adverse effects but asserted it was just as important to have the tests conducted to determine the potential problems the County would face. Vice Chair Herman brought up the number of warehouses in the area where the chemicals were traced and thought it could be a larger problem eventually. DDA Large thought that was a very good example of this type of environmental litigation that could be related back to asbestos. He said when asbestos was being used for many different purposes, no one was aware of whether the potential ramifications were long-term. He stated the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had not spoken about this issue and neither had the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP), but he thought at some point that would happen. He mentioned that staff was getting in front of the potential issue and ensuring they had the information for Washoe County. Vice Chair Herman asked about the water going through the sewer plant and wondered what needed to be done so it could eliminate the chemicals. DDA Large thought the important part of this was to determine what the problem was and then consider the options for remediation which would be up to Washoe County Engineering, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), and the health district to establish the standards necessary to ensure the County was keeping citizens safe and the environment clean from these chemicals.

Chair Hill wondered what would happen if the County did not move forward with this. DDA Large stated if the County did not join the litigation now there was no mechanism to receive any compensation from the manufacturers. He explained this was in contrast to the opioid litigation which the State ultimately joined as well. He noted that non-litigating entities were receiving some compensation also. He said in this case, the State was not involved, and Washoe County would not receive any compensation unless it joined the litigation. Chair Hill mentioned the County did not have the experts or the labs to conduct the necessary testing and it would take much longer to do locally which DDA Large confirmed. Chair Hill declared the County would have to use outside experts which were associated with costs that would be paid to the law firms on the back end of litigation. DDA Large asserted the costs would come off the top of the compensation and then the firm would be compensated for its role in terms of the contingency fee which was 25 percent. Chair Hill asked if 25 percent was normal. DDA Large stated it was and noted the fee for the opioid litigation was 25 percent. He said the fees varied depending on the case. The percentage could go up to 40 percent if a slip-and-fall case were to go to trial.

Commissioner Clark asked about the ramifications if the County did not partner with the law firm on this litigation. He wondered what the County's exposure would be if individual citizens wanted to sue the County for releasing chemicals into the ecosystem. DDA Large stated he did not like to discuss legal strategy on a defense case. Commissioner Clark inquired if the example he provided was a possibility to which DDA Large confirmed it was. DDA Large said that if the County was inadvertently pumping PFAS into a water system, there was the potential for liability on some level. He indicated

they were unsure whether that was occurring since experts had not conducted any testing. Commissioner Clark and DDA Large both agreed that taking charge and getting out in front of this issue to ensure the County was on the cutting edge to protect its citizens was the proactive approach.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

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12:58 p.m. Chair Hill opened Agenda Item 31 at the request of Commissioner Clark. Please see Agenda Item 31, Minute Item number 23-0413, for all comments.

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23-0404 **AGENDA ITEM 16** Recommendation to appoint one candidate from a pool of applicants including: Kim Barghouti, Paula L. Berkley, Reva Crump, Gianna M. Jacks, Valieria T. Koss, Sara Marcus, Patricia McCarthy Olmstead, Virginia A. Nolte, Janice Porter-Moffitt, William R. Puchert, Albert D. Rogers, Linda K. Schmitt, Ann D. Silver, Katy Simon Holland, Brad M. Stanley, Geraldine F. Taylor, CJ J. Walters, Paul D. White, Thomas C. Willadsen, and Nadienne Williams, to fill one midterm vacancy on the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees pursuant to NRS 379.020(3) beginning on July 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2024. Library. (All Commission Districts.)

Program Assistant Alexandra Wilson explained the new process that staff hoped to implement in the future. She recommended the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) initiate this item, call public comment, deliberate, then submit a closed ballot which the Clerk would tally. The top three candidates would be selected, and a second round would take place if there was no clear winner.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Bruce Parks submitted a document that was distributed to the Board and placed on file with the Clerk. He stated the document was an email conversation between a Commissioner and one of the applicants for the position on the Library Board of Trustees and recommended that applicant not be considered for the position. He opined the Library Director had a personal relationship with this individual. He referred to page 3 of the document and questioned why the Library Director addressed the new Commissioners' familiarity with board appointments. He thought the public had an obligation, as members of the community, to ensure they were being represented. He asserted there was an issue with the current Library Board.

Ms. Reva Crump observed that some of the applicants being considered for the Library Board had served multiple times on multiple committees and boards. She opined that simply shuffling board members between commissions was exclusive behavior when the goal was to be inclusive and diverse. She noted there were 21 applicants requesting consideration for the position. She thought that giving more community members the opportunity to provide input would result in a better representation of residents. She asked the BCC to consider the benefit of a wider perspective when selecting an applicant for this position.

Ms. Penny Brock expressed confusion about this process. She noted the BCC would appoint a member to the Library Board, but the Library Director had been hired by the Library Board, not the BCC. She felt the BCC should have hired the Library Director. She opined there was an issue with the current Library Director. She mentioned she heard Ms. Gianna Jacks speak a few weeks prior and she believed Ms. Jacks would provide a fresh perspective to the Library Board. She asked the BCC to consider Ms. Jacks for this position.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar was against appointing Ms. Katy Simon Holland. She opined the various commissions including the City of Reno, the BCC, the Washoe County School District (WCSD), and the Library Board were excessively close. She said people like Ms. Simon Holland moved from one job to another. She spoke about some of Ms. Simon Holland's previous contributions and expressed disapproval of her current efforts. She opined Ms. Simon Holland should not be on the Library Board.

Ms. Nichelle Hull said she represented Wake Up Washoe County which was a local grassroots organization. She stated that County residents had clearly expressed opposition to drag queen story hour (DQSH). She had previously sent multiple emails to the Board and legislators expressing opposition to the DQSH program in the library system. She said she also opposed the Pride Parade video aimed at preschoolers that used the cartoon character from *Blue's Clues*. She asked that the video be removed from the library system website and questioned why the video was tolerated. She read an excerpt from the *Washoe County Board of Commissioners Rules of Procedure Handbook* and asked for an agenda item to address the Library Board. She said she did not want Ms. Simon Holland appointed to the Library Board.

Ms. Janet Butcher expressed disappointment that this item was on the agenda although she acknowledged the position needed to be filled. She liked Commissioner Clark's idea about vetting applicants and had looked forward to a special session during which everyone could meet the candidates. She questioned why this appointment was extended despite having several applications as of October. She noted she had never had a job in which she hired her boss, so she found this appointment procedure interesting. She hoped all the Commissioners had the opportunity to speak to the applicants.

Mr. James M. Benthin agreed with many of the prior public commenters and believed the Library Board needed a person who was pro-family, pro-education, and interested in protecting the innocence of children. He expressed support for Mr. Paul White who he said had always been interested in education, had a lifelong interest in libraries, had authored many books, and had received education awards. He asked the BCC to consider Mr. White for this position.

Ms. Linda Schmitt appreciated the call from Commissioner Andriola the previous Friday during which she got the impression that she had a chance of being selected for the Library Board. She said she wanted to make a difference in the community. She mentioned she had served as a public servant for 19 years in the City of Sparks and ran a non-profit organization that helped homeless women. She stated she very much wanted to work with the library and voiced her love of books, children, and seniors. She thought the library served a huge constituency and she wanted to help make it as good as possible. She hoped the BCC gave each applicant due consideration and an opportunity to serve the community.

Mr. Paul White stated he would resolve the ongoing issue of DQSH. His background included running K-12 libraries, presentations, and book selection activities. He applied for the position on the Library Board because he believed he could resolve the debate about DQSH by making it about principles so that everyone felt they were listened to. He noted that dressing like a woman and offering book readings to children was legal, but every other group that wanted to pursue an equally legal activity had the same right to do so. He believed the Library Board was responsible for this issue because it did not supervise Library Director Jeff Scott. He thought the Library Board needed to direct Mr. Scott to treat all groups the same when scheduling and promoting library events.

Ms. Victoria Myer said the residents were the public and the Commissioners were the servants. She wanted every applicant to be considered over Ms. Simon Holland. She believed Mr. Parks' comments about emails appeared to be a special favor for one applicant. She supported Ms. Reva Crump and Mr. Paul White because she believed they would have the best interest of the community at heart. She spoke about some books found in the children's section of some library branches which she believed were inappropriate. She thought the BCC should appoint the Library Director.

Mr. Fred Myer mentioned he had attended DQSH and alleged that he was treated rudely by Mr. Scott. He agreed with the statements of previous public commenters. He asserted the Library Board needed diversity of opinions, so he urged the BCC to consider all of the applicants. He opined that Mr. White sounded very qualified and he suggested Mr. Scott speak before the BCC.

Ms. Valerie Fiannaca conjectured about why there were so many applicants for the Library Board. She suggested the Commissioners attend a Library Board meeting if they had not done so previously. She asserted having one conservative member on the Library Board was not too much to ask. She observed that Ms. Crump and Mr. White were excellent candidates if education was the criterion for selection. She thought Ms. Schmitt

and Ms. Jacks were also good candidates, stating those four applicants were all conservative. She suggested the BCC pick the most highly educated person for the Library Board.

Mr. Bruce Foster recommended the individuals who previously spoke before the Board. He believed they would provide balance, be pro-family, and would protect the innocence of the community's children. He stated he had emailed the Library Board members and Mr. Scott and had provided copies to the BCC, but he had not received a response. He understood that Mr. Scott stood between the public and the Library Board members. Therefore, he conjectured, the trustees had not received any of his emails regarding his displeasure with DQSH. He spoke about comments made by a transgender influencer regarding drag queens. He expressed disapproval of the direction of the Library Board and the WCSD's sex education program, which he believed would groom and sexualize the community's youth.

Commissioner Andriola stated she called every applicant for this item and other items on the agenda that addressed an appointment. She mentioned that a process was being reviewed to address these types of items in the future. She recognized the County Manager, Ms. Wilson, and staff for doing a great job and helping the BCC navigate this process. She commended every person who applied for a position in a volunteer capacity to help represent the community. She said the two individuals she would name on her ballot would truly represent the community with a balanced approach on the Library Board. She acknowledged all of the applicants for taking the time to speak with her.

Chair Hill thanked all of the applicants who signed up to do this job, noting the Library Board meetings were often long and addressed very important issues. She observed that the libraries met many needs in the community including those of families and people without jobs or housing. She said the libraries were doing incredible work so it was exciting to see who the next library leaders would be. She noted the County retained the applications of individuals who were not selected to be considered for future appointments. She hoped the applicants stayed engaged in the County.

Commissioner Clark referred to the emails submitted to the BCC and said he found it troublesome that someone would become involved in the selection of an appointment. He observed that when he was the Assessor, he was never involved in staff interviews.

County Clerk Jan Galassini read the Commissioner votes aloud. Chair Hill summarized the top candidates were Mr. Albert D. Rogers, Ms. Ann D. Silver, and Ms. Reva Crump. She said the BCC would vote on those three candidates per staff direction. Ms. Galassini read the results of the second round of ballots, naming Mr. Rogers and Ms. Crump as the top two candidates. Chair Hill indicated the BCC would complete one more ballot between those two candidates. Ms. Galassini read the results naming Mr. Rogers as the selected candidate. Chair Hill indicated she would need a formal motion to appoint Mr. Rogers to the Library Board.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 3-2 vote with Vice Chair Herman and Commissioner Clark voting no, it was ordered that Mr. Albert D. Rogers be appointed to fill one midterm vacancy on the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees pursuant to NRS 379.020(3) beginning on July 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2024.

23-0405 **AGENDA ITEM 17** Recommendation to appoint an individual to the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) Board of Trustees for a term beginning July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2027, in accordance to Chapter 474 of the Special Acts of Nevada Revised Statutes. Applicants include: Cortney E. Young, Dale Way, Eric J. Grenet, James C. McNamara, Laura E. Petrucci, Marie L. Rodriguez, Patrick T. Flynn, Rob Pierce, Tray Abney, Veera Murugappan, Victoria A Vasenden, and William Robinson. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Program Assistant Alexandra Wilson indicated the vote would be conducted by closed ballot.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Cortney Young stated she was one of the candidates seeking appointment to the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) Board of Trustees. She observed the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) would appoint someone to the RTAA board and would be tasked with ensuring that one of the largest and most economically impactful projects the region had seen in more than a decade would get delivered with thoughtful oversight. She said that whoever was appointed would need to understand the complexities of a project of this magnitude, be able to build consensus, and remain focused on the needs of the community. She believed she was that candidate. She stated that throughout her career, she had the pleasure to be involved in one way or another with various public works projects in the region. She stated her commitment to the community and qualifications were detailed in her application and reflected in the words of Chief Justice Lidia Stiglich and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Associated General Contractors (AGC) Craig Madole, who wrote to this Board on her behalf. She hoped the BCC would appoint her to the RTAA board.

Ms. Marie Rodriguez said she spent more than ten years in a career that revolved around airports. She thought air travel allowed people to grow, explore new places, and connect with other people. An accessible, safe, modern, and attractive airport was an asset to any region. She stated when people traveled by air, the conversation about the trip not only included the destination, but also the journey including the airport experience. She reviewed her experience in the airline industry and explained she was trained in disaster response and worked with airport management, police, and fire personnel in organizing emergency planning. She saw the Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RTIA) as the gateway between Northern Nevada and the world and wanted to be an active part of making that connection. She expressed excitement that Volaris Airlines had daily non-stop service to Guadalajara, Mexico, where she grew up. She thought it was an asset that she was fluently bilingual in Spanish. She asked for the opportunity to use her skill set, unique perspective, and experience to contribute to the RTAA board. She declared

Northern Nevada was home to many attractions that invited visitors who utilized air travel to come to the area. She pointed out there were over half a million residents in Washoe County alone who may decide to fly out and explore the world. She thought her diverse and hands-on experience could contribute to the RTAA board in a positive manner.

Mr. Veera Murugappan indicated he was a candidate for the RTAA board. He explained he had more than 20 years of experience in the finance and accounting field. He informed he worked for a big gaming company in Reno and also had experience in the hospitality industry. He mentioned he had extensive experience with budgeting, debt management, and financial oversight. He spoke about serving on the Financial Advisory Board for the City of Reno for seven years. He declared he knew how boards worked and that they played an important role in decision-making. He wanted to utilize his expertise in the community and hoped to make an impact with the RTAA.

Mr. James McNamara said he had spoken during public comment previously and thanked the Board for its patience. He wanted to thank Commissioner Andriola for calling him and getting personal viewpoints on this job and what lay ahead for Reno. He thought that was an excellent technique, especially when there were a lot of applicants. He stated he was honored to be considered for a position such as this given the qualifications of the other applicants. He declared he could bring his experience and maturity to the RTAA board, being that he was almost 70 years old. He shared that his knowledge encompassed all aspects of airport operations. He stated that since he was 17 he had been involved in either military or civilian aviation which caused him to fly in and out of the RTIA for about 48 years. He stated he worked in the Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants (POL) industry at a fuel farm and had worked for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for 14 years. He noted that travel allowed him to appreciate the magnitude of the growth in Reno. He spoke about infrastructure issues related to the footprint of the airport and said more travelers would continue to fly into Reno. He thought there were ways to meet those challenges that had not been considered yet. He mentioned issues with personal transportation could be addressed also. He reiterated he was honored to be considered for the position. He noted he had been a long-time volunteer in the County with the Registrar of Voters (ROV) Office and the Washoe County health district.

Commissioner Andriola reiterated she had called all the applicants who were on the agenda, no matter what the appointment was for, including the items on the Consent Agenda. She asserted the applicants were outstanding. She stated the public works project in place at the airport was probably larger than anything the community had seen since the Reno Transportation Rail Access Corridor (ReTRAC). She thanked all the applicants for taking the time to speak with her and looked forward to the BCC developing a process that allowed the Commissioners to review applicants on a deeper level. She mentioned that in making those phone calls, she was able to ascertain a lot more information about the candidates than what she read in their applications. She commended the applicants and stated that as a courtesy, she would follow up with the head of the airport to share the quality of the applicants in this pool and suggest that there could be an opportunity to garner their experience through an advisory focus group. She restated her

appreciation to the applicants for volunteering their time and speaking with her individually.

County Clerk Jan Galassini read the Commissioner votes aloud. Chair Hill summarized the top candidates were Ms. Cortney Young and Ms. Marie Rodriguez. Chair Hill indicated she would need a motion to appoint one of these candidates to the RTAA board.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Ms. Cortney Young be appointed to the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) Board of Trustees for a term beginning July 1, 2023, and ending on June 30, 2027, in accordance to Chapter 474 of the Special Acts of Nevada Revised Statutes.

Chair Hill congratulated Ms. Young and said the Commission would be in touch with the rest of the applicants to discuss an advisory committee. She expressed appreciation to the candidates for applying for the position and taking an active role in the County and the airport.

23-0406 **AGENDA ITEM 20** Recommendation to deobligate previously approved allocations of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for projects that have been completed under budget, been cancelled, or no longer need the previously approved levels of funding. These include reducing the budgeted amount for the Reno Justice Court Remodel by \$500,000 due to project cancellation, and the following due to funds remaining at the completion of the project: Sparks Justice Court AV upgrade by \$4,611.27, Reno Justice Court Self-Help Center by \$16,356.15, Washoe County Sheriff's Office Deputy Positions by \$872,020.21 (funded by FY23 general fund support), Washoe County Sheriff's Office UVC Sanitizing Program by \$36,000, and the County Clerk's Administrative Position by \$52,842.80 (funded by FY23 general fund support). Recommendation to approve transfer of collected 12% indirect on salary from eligible approved projects from July 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023, totaling \$255,681.56. These include Cares Campus Operations \$181,398.15; Public Defender Personnel \$26,481.75; Human Services Agency Personnel \$16,184.80; District Attorney Personnel \$6,657.01; Second Judicial District Court \$6,262.31; ARPA Admin Personnel \$18,697.54.

And, if approved, direction to the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers and unbudgeted transfers. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Ms. Penny Brock expressed concern that another \$181,398.15 was being given to the Cares Campus. She said she had lost track of how much money had been provided to the Cares Campus, Karma Box Project, and the Safe Camp, but she thought it was about \$130 million since 2021. She stated the funding

for the Cares Campus was for 650 homeless people who were referred to as guests. She wondered when it would end and noted there was no explanation about what this money was for. She mentioned property taxes would increase in July and many seniors on fixed incomes could not afford that because some people already had to choose between buying groceries, medications, or other needs. Now the Board was going to ask people to pay more in property taxes to fund the Cares Campus. She wanted to know when the Board was going to stop funding the Cares Campus and the organizations located at the Cares Campus. She brought up that guests at the Cares Campus were being sent to the Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission to receive clothes, shoes, and other personal items and she thought people should be concerned since this was a faith-based ministry that relied on donations. She said she had not seen any reports about the Cares Campus providing clothing. She asked the Board to stop funding the Cares Campus and other organizations at the Cares Campus and opined the money could not be justified.

Chair Hill asked if the Board members wanted to see a staff presentation on this item to which they responded no.

Commissioner Clark expressed frustration about items being co-mingled and thought each of these items should be approved separately. He said he was in favor of items needed for the Reno Justice Court (RJC) remodel but did not like these being co-mingled with the Cares Campus. He wanted to be able to vote for one item but not another. He declared that every agenda included items relating to homelessness and money going to the Cares Campus. He wanted the items to be separated so the accounting could be kept. He believed the process of co-mingling was confusing for the public to understand what was really taking place. He understood the funds could be from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) or the State or federal government, but he said they were still tax dollars that someone worked for. As far as he was concerned, courthouse repairs were a legitimate project, but he thought some of the other items needed to have more discussion.

Commissioner Clark remarked he was at a crossroads and expressed support for the court and Sheriff's Office (WCSO) items, but he wanted further discussion about what the County was doing at the homeless camp. He indicated he was voting no.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Clark voting no, it was ordered that Agenda Item 20 be deobligated, approved, and directed.

23-0407 **AGENDA ITEM 21** Recommendation, in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in the total amount of [\$6,131,494], approve associated resolutions, and authorize the County Manager to sign necessary award documents, for the following 18 projects awarded to government entities or nonprofit organizations created for charitable, religious, or educational purposes:

- Northern Nevada HOPES, a federally qualified health center, in support of construction of a new public health clinic to provide services in the

- community in the amount of \$1,500,000 and approve Resolution 23-48
- Children’s Cabinet in support of the Oddie Blvd Project - Childcare Renovations to enhance childcare capacity in Washoe County in the amount of \$1,000,000 and approve Resolution 23-49
- Raise the Future in support of the Foster Care Trauma-Informed Interventions Program in the amount of \$632,494 and approve Resolution 23-70
- Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District in support of purchasing a new ambulance in the amount of \$500,000 and approve Resolution 23-71
- Tahoe Truckee Area Regional Transit in support of the North Lake Tahoe TART Connect Micro Transit Program in the amount of \$400,000 and approve Resolution 23-72
- Tahoe Lending Locals Project to incentivize Tahoe homeowners to support long-term rentals to locals rather than short-term vacation rentals in the amount of \$350,000.
- Community Health Alliance, a federally qualified health center, in support of on-site health care services at the Washoe County Our Place facility in the amount of \$314,000 and approve Resolution 23-50
- Nevada Museum of Art in support of expanding art research and education in the community in the amount of \$250,000 and approve Resolution 23-74.
- Bristlecone Recovery Center in support of residential treatment services in the amount of \$250,000 and approve Resolution 23-51
- ReBuilding Together Northern Nevada in support of rehabilitating homes owned by Washoe County residents with priority to seniors and veteran owned homes in the amount of \$200,000 and approve Resolution 23-52
- Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful in support of cleaning up public lands in Washoe County in the amount of \$200,000 and approve Resolution 23-75
- Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada in support of Start-Up Week and entrepreneurship initiatives in the amount of \$150,000 and approve Resolution 23-53
- Incline Village and Crystal Bay Community and Business Association (IVCBA) in support of IVCBA Housing and Mainstreet Initiatives in the amount of \$100,000 and approve Resolution 23-76
- Truckee River Improvements in support of collaboration with the City of Reno to perform a Truckee River Master Plan and project implementation in the amount of \$100,000.
- Black Community Collective in support of Entrepreneur Literacy and Financing programming for minority-owned businesses in Washoe County, in the amount of \$75,000 and approve Resolution 23-54
- Soulful Seeds in support of the Our Place Garden Operations in the amount of \$50,000 and approve Resolution 23-78
- Tahoe Transportation District in support of transportation projects in Lake Tahoe in the amount of \$37,500 and approve Resolution 23-77
- Tahoe Prosperity Center in support of the Housing Roadmap

implementation and other community initiatives in Incline Village and Crystal Bay in the amount of \$22,500 and approve Resolution 23-81
And, if approved, direction to the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Garcia stated that the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) required her to disclose and recuse herself if she had a direct conflict of interest on an item. She declared she sought guidance from the District Attorney's (DA) Office and as such, would make a disclosure and ultimately recuse herself from this item. She asserted she was a former board member of the Children's Cabinet which was slated for specialized funding under this item if approved. Although her role as a board member ended the previous year, she wanted to disclose her connection due to its recency. Additionally, she disclosed she had a personal, private relationship with Oscar Delgado who was the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Community Health Alliance (CHA) which sought funding through this item to provide on-site healthcare services to the children, women, and families at Our Place. She informed that Mr. Delgado would indirectly oversee the use of those funds if approved. She declared that out of an abundance of caution, she would recuse herself from the vote. Chair Hill asked Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Nate Edwards if he recommended Commissioner Garcia remove herself from the Chambers for this item to which ADA Edwards responded yes.

2:16 p.m. Commissioner Garcia left the meeting.

Chair Hill disclosed she sat on the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) board and the Tahoe Prosperity Center (TPC) board in her role as a Commissioner for Washoe County. She asserted she did not have a commitment to either organization in a personal or pecuniary capacity; therefore, she would not recuse herself from the vote. She pointed out that the end of the agenda indicated she formally sat on those boards as a County representative.

Commissioner Clark declared the CHA recently received \$5 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from the City of Reno. This item would grant the organization another \$314,000 for on-site healthcare for Our Place. He stated he met with David Walker of the Nevada Museum of Art two weeks prior and Mr. Walker told Commissioner Clark he was planning on asking the County for \$1 million. Commissioner Clark wondered if the \$250,000 from the County in this item would be reduced from the \$1 million Mr. Walker was looking to obtain. Commissioner Clark suggested if this item passed, the museum could implement free or reduced entrance fees once a month, so the community could experience world-class art for free or at a reduced price.

Commissioner Clark asked if County Manager Eric Brown sat on the board for the Children's Cabinet, to which Manager Brown responded yes. Commissioner Clark inquired if there was pending legislation for funding for the Children's Cabinet project. Manager Brown believed legislation was passed that provided \$6 million to the Children's Cabinet for this project, although the organization had asked for \$8 million from the State.

Commissioner Clark clarified that the County would be providing \$1 million through this item and the State had given the organization \$6 million for the renovation of its existing building. Manager Brown replied yes; the County was working with the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Nevada to expand childcare capacities. He declared the contribution from the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) would go directly towards building a childcare facility at that location. Commissioner Clark asked if the money would be earmarked specifically for this project, or if the funds would be transferred into the organization's general fund. Manager Brown responded specifics could be built into the documentation of the subgrant.

Commissioner Clark noted Soulful Seeds would receive \$50,000 through this item to provide operational support for the garden. He asked if residents of CrossRoads and Our Place were encouraged to help with the garden to which Manager Brown responded yes. Commissioner Clark pointed out the County allocated \$100,000 of a community reinvestment grant in October 2022 to ReBuilding Together Northern Nevada (RTNNV) and another \$100,000 through this item. He wondered if the program was the only one that helped people over 60 rehabilitate their homes, and if so, he recommended the County give the organization more money. He declared all the programs listed in this item were great and gave back to the community, but he thought some of the funds were questionable. He asserted the money needed to be accounted for properly.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Jenn Wheeler stated she was the Chief Clinical Officer (CCO) of CHA. She clarified the City of Reno invested the \$5 million mentioned by Commissioner Clark into a building the City of Reno owned, and CHA leased. She declared her organization did not directly receive any of that \$5 million. She informed that since August 2021, the organization had provided healthcare services to residents at Our Place through wellness visits, acute care, mental and behavioral health consultation, and health education. She asserted the funding for this item would allow the organization to double its capacity for the services it provided. She expressed gratitude to the BCC for its support and offered Board members a tour of the CHA facilities, including the mobile site at Our Place.

Ms. Penny Brock claimed she was confused by the Board allocating COVID-19 (C19) funds. Her understanding was that those funds were to help the community during the pandemic, and she did not understand how this item applied to C19 issues since the pandemic was over. She relayed Vice Chair Herman had expressed concerns that the funds were going to be clawed back and property taxes would have to increase to repay the government. She recalled the May 23, 2023, BCC meeting where Chair Hill mentioned the County needed to spend ARPA funds before unused funds had to be returned to the government which Ms. Brock postulated this item was trying to achieve. She suggested the funds should be used to help communities with flooding issues and for mosquito mitigation. She asked why ARPA funds were being allocated to non-profits and wondered why the funds were not awarded to small businesses that suffered during C19

instead. She expressed consternation towards the amount of money being spent on Tahoe and Incline Village (IV).

Ms. Christi Cakiroglu asserted she had worked closely with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) for decades. She expressed thanks for the Board's consideration of funding through this item. She explained that during the pandemic, there was an influx of trash in the form of masks and gloves in open space areas. She stated KTMB serviced more than 500 square miles throughout Washoe County and had mobilized hundreds of clean-up volunteers for over 30 years. She reported the organization was working with the Nevada Air National Guard (NVANG) to remove difficult vehicles from open space areas. She informed that in the organization's most recent litter survey, it was determined that open spaces had gotten dirtier since the pandemic. She asserted funding from this item would help the organization increase its capacity for clean-ups and for educating youth about the importance of not dumping trash in open spaces.

Mr. Craig Chisum declared he was the chair of KTMB. He asserted the organization hosted two large clean-up events annually which were the great community clean-up in May and the Truckee River clean-up in September. He recalled there was a lot of volunteer participation for both events and the organization attracted over 1,200 volunteers from the community annually. He informed KTMB participated in outreach programs including the Warrior program which reached approximately 2,500 students in the community through waste reduction education, watershed programs, and invasive weed education. He declared this grant would have a significant impact on the organization by supporting KTMB's initiatives. He expressed appreciation for the Board's funding consideration.

Ms. Ellie Waller stated she was a Douglas County resident. She thought it was unclear if the BCC would accept all 18 funding requests in this item, or if it could deny some. She informed Douglas County denied two separate \$70,000 funding requests for ARPA funds from the TPC. She expressed concerns regarding the Board's \$400,000 allocation for micro-transit and wondered if Washoe County was getting its fair share of service coverage for that project. She suggested the BCC split the Incline Village Crystal Bay Community and Business Association (IVCBA) allocation to allot separate amounts to housing and the Main Street initiative. She asked what specific projects the funding for the TTD would support because ARPA funds had specific requirements. She hoped the Board would take an in-depth look at how it was applying the funds for this item.

Ms. Ann Nichols informed she was with the North Tahoe Preservation Alliance (NTPA). She pointed out Chair Hill was on boards relevant to this item and she thought it appeared that Chair Hill was giving herself money. Ms. Nichols declared she wanted to see more public involvement in the process and expressed consternation that there had not been a community discussion regarding this item. She felt this item was not noticed adequately due to the Juneteenth holiday. She reported eight senators had voted against allocating more money to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) because there were concerns regarding the agency's viewpoint that large development could be a solution in Tahoe. She thought the employees of the IVCBA and the TPC did not have the

proper qualifications or expertise. She requested the BCC take more time to discuss this item.

Dr. Edward Coleman proclaimed he was the executive director of the Black Community Collective. He thought it was important to discuss the organization and what it would do with the funds if approved. He declared the organization focused on the building and support of long-term infrastructure in the community. He described communities as a tapestry where each individual strand represented a particular group and was interwoven with the next to support itself and others when needed. He believed this was the best way to build community. He asserted that in a review of demographics such as educational achievement, home ownership, and high income, minority populations sat at the bottom of those scales. He declared the organization chose to include black as part of its name because in Washoe County black people were suffering the most, but he pointed out the organization would assist anyone who sought help. He informed that with the funds from this item, the organization would implement an entrepreneurial learning and finance (ELF) program to support minority businesses in Washoe County. He desired for the organization to ultimately become an alternative bank as a community development and finance institution. He expressed appreciation to the BCC for taking the time to consider funding this item.

Ms. Katie Pace stated she was the executive director of RTNNV. She thanked the Board for a previous grant the organization received to help seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities in Washoe County. She reported that in the first half of 2023, the organization helped over 40 households with 185 various repairs including safety bars, roofing, plumbing, and electrical repairs. She declared that with this additional funding, RTNNV would be able to help over 20 additional households. She looked forward to the Board's decision and the organization's ongoing ability to support Washoe County residents.

Ms. Valerie Fiannaca declared former Commissioner Vaughn Hartung previously allocated \$50,000 to Soulful Seeds for fencing and the County allocated \$5,000 to the organization for dirt and seeds. She pointed out the organization was asking for an additional \$50,000 through this item and she opined it was a very expensive garden. She spoke about the Black Community Collective and reported she could not find a business address for the organization. She requested the BCC investigate whether it was an official business.

Commissioner Andriola asked Manager Brown how organizations were chosen for this item. Manager Brown deferred the question to Community Reinvestment Manager Gabrielle Enfield. Ms. Enfield declared this item was the last round of funding for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). She stated the County conducted a competitive process for the first round of funding, but this round did not have a competitive process. She explained that the projects for this item were identified by staff, County leadership, and Commissioners based on the guiding principles the Commission gave to staff at the start of this project in the fall of 2021. She declared each project met at least one of the guiding principles including addressing health disparities and the root causes of

homelessness, bolstering economic recovery, enhancing childhood environments, building stronger neighborhoods, and focusing on a regional approach. She asserted projects had been identified to expand fiscal recovery from C19 throughout the County. She remarked that ARPA funds were designed to focus on helping communities recover from C19 rather than the pandemic itself.

Commissioner Andriola inquired about the deadline in terms of these funds being allocated. Ms. Enfield stated there would be two deadlines, one was the obligation deadline where the County needed to obligate all the SLFRF by December 31, 2024, and the other was the expenditure deadline of December 31, 2026. Commissioner Andriola asked if this was the first time that funding like this had not gone through a competitive process to which Ms. Enfield responded no. Ms. Enfield declared the County had approved projects that were non-competitive grants to non-profits in the past. Commissioner Andriola opined she was not comfortable with this item. She wondered if the County would be responsible for ensuring the organizations spend the funds before the expenditure deadline. Ms. Enfield explained the grants in this item were reimbursement grants, so the organizations would have to spend their own funds and request reimbursement from the County before the expenditure deadline. Commissioner Andriola requested additional clarification on the reimbursement process. Ms. Enfield stated this item was comprised of subgrants from Washoe County to the organizations. She informed the organizations would expend the funds first and then the County would reimburse them using the funds from this item. She remarked the County's intent was to have the subgrants in place early enough to allow for any delays that may occur in a project.

Commissioner Andriola appreciated the parameters the County and the organizations had to work under. She understood that the funding requests met guiding principles from the Commission, but she expressed hesitancy that the organizations were not selected through a competitive process. She suggested the list of organizations be categorized so the BCC could understand the specific guiding principle each one met. She thought the list was difficult to navigate and she was not comfortable supporting this item. She requested this item be tabled to give staff time to explain the alignment of each grant to the Board's guiding principles.

Commissioner Clark declared he was not trying to pick on Ms. Wheeler or CHA when he commented about the funds from the City of Reno, and he appreciated her clarifying comments. He wanted the opportunity to have open discussions with members of the community to get all the facts. He spoke about Ms. Waller and Ms. Nichols' comments and asked if the Board needed to consult with the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) regarding transportation funding in IV. Chair Hill clarified that the Board did regular work with RTC which provided the lion's share of the funding for the Tahoe transportation project. Commissioner Clark addressed comments from Dr. Coleman and asserted he believed in financial literacy. He opined black families in the Country did not have access to generational wealth because they did not have the same access to financial training. He thought the process for the allocation of funds by the BCC should be conducted in a similar manner as appointing an individual to an advisory board, including the conducting of interviews. He wanted to ensure as many organizations as possible could

have access to these funds. He suggested the Board conduct community workshops to give all constituents a voice regarding what the funds should be used for.

Chair Hill recalled the BCC asked for staff to conduct community outreach in 2021 at the start of this project and asked Ms. Enfield to confirm. Ms. Enfield responded that when the SLFRF came out, the County, the Cities of Reno and Sparks, and the State of Nevada all received funds. She informed the State held listening sessions to allow the community to be part of the spending process. She attended all listening sessions that took place in Washoe County and was able to draw information to help staff identify what the community's funding priorities were. Chair Hill remarked she had been part of this project since her election and worked with Manager Brown and Ms. Enfield closely throughout this process. She asserted the program went through a lot of vetting and staff had worked with other entities to ensure projects were not being double-funded. She believed it was right for the County to move forward with this item. She declared that if Board members were uncomfortable with this item, they should give direction to help staff understand where the mark was missed. She declared working on the project had been an incredible experience and expressed concern over tabling this item. She wanted to ensure organizations had enough time to put their programs together before the expenditure deadline.

Commissioner Clark pointed out the Country's economic situation had changed since the onset of this project which should require the Board to look at this item differently. He asserted he approved of some of the allocations, but not others. He thought grouping all the items together was a strategy to hide unappealing projects behind favorable ones and suggested they be put into categories to help the Board vote. Chair Hill asserted it was not fair to say projects were hidden because the Staff Report was very transparent. She declared none of the projects were for secret funds or entities, they were all community organizations.

Commissioner Andriola directed staff to bring back a presentation that outlined the vetting process of these organizations and showed the categorization of each allocation based on the Board's guiding principles. She thought waiting a week to approve this item would not impede program development for the organizations.

Manager Brown declared a presentation of that nature would take more than a week to complete. He suggested staff could meet with Board members individually to receive specific guidance and provide a more in-depth brief on this item.

Commissioner Clark thanked Manager Brown for his suggestion. He thought staff members should be able to take their time to put together a presentation instead of rushing to put an item on the next agenda.

Chair Hill stated she wanted the Board to feel comfortable with and proud of this item. She thought this item was community building through financial support. She asked ADA Edwards if a motion was required to table this item to which he responded no.

There was no action on this item.

3:02 p.m. Assistant District Attorney Nate Edwards left the meeting.

3:04 p.m. Commissioner Garcia and Assistant District Attorney Nate Edwards returned to the meeting.

23-0408 **AGENDA ITEM 22** Recommendation to approve transfer of interest accrued from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) from March 1, 2022, through May 31, 2023, in the amount of \$1,858,400.48 to support Community Reinvestment Program operations. And, if approved, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary unbudgeted transfer. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

This item was tabled.

23-0409 **AGENDA ITEM 26** Public hearing and possible action to: (1) consider a report of each property delinquent on its utility charges and the amount of each property's delinquency, along with any objections to the report; and, (2) After considering the report and any objections to it, determine whether to adopt the report and correspondingly adopt Resolution 23-037 to collect certain delinquent utility charges on the tax roll. All Assessor Parcel Numbers of affected properties are listed in Resolution 23-037 accessible as a linked attachment on the agenda on the county commission's webpage [total delinquent amount of \$173,789.44]. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hill opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against this item. There being no response, the public hearing was closed.

Vice Chair Herman asked if the delinquent charges were related to sewer and water bills not being paid. Division Director of Finance and Administration Samantha Turner replied that they were delinquent charges for sewer bills in unincorporated Washoe County. She stated this process was done once per year and each property owner was notified of this meeting which allowed them to appeal. Once this item was approved the charges would be attached to their property tax roll.

Commissioner Clark wondered whether any of the charges were related to the Golden Valley recharge project. Ms. Turner stated those charges had been removed per direction from the Board during a previous meeting. She indicated staff would include any additional delinquent charges the following year should they occur. Commissioner Clark thanked her for the clarification.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 26 be adopted. The Resolution for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

23-0410 **AGENDA ITEM 27** Public Hearing and possible action to: (1) adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1000 to change the boundaries of District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation); and (2), Public Hearing and possible action to adopt an ordinance imposing a fee on the parcels of land in Washoe County, Nevada District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation) to pay the costs of developing and carrying out a plan for remediation. The Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District was formed in 1997 to address the tetrachloroethene (PCE) contamination of groundwater in the central Truckee Meadows area. The District is tasked with remediating PCE contamination and annually updates both the Service Area boundary and Contaminant Area boundary based on continuous analysis and modeling efforts. There is no impact to the General Fund. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hill opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said Ordinances. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

County Clerk Jan Galassini read the titles for Ordinance No. 1703, Bill No. 1892, and Ordinance No. 1704, Bill No. 1893.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Ordinance No. 1703, Bill No. 1892, and Ordinance No. 1704, Bill No. 1893 be adopted, approved, and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

23-0411 **AGENDA ITEM 29** Public Hearing: Second reading and adoption of an ordinance which amends Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code) within Article 302 Allowed Uses, Article 304 Use Classification System, Article 406 Building Placement Standards, and Article 902 Definitions to: Provide clarity on single-family accessory uses; Allow Child Care, Family Daycare use type within the General Rural and Neighborhood Commercial regulatory zones; Allow Large-Family Daycare use type with an Administrative Permit instead of a Special Use Permit in the Neighborhood Commercial Regulatory Zone; Allow Personal Services use type within the Industrial and Public and Semi-Public Facilities regulatory zones; Include information technology services within the definition of the Administrative Offices use type; Include contractors' office with or without an equipment yard as an example of the Construction Sales and Services use type; Create a definition for "security fence" and provide standards for allowing security fencing on parcels of land that do not have an established main use; Allow for tall specialty fencing for uses such as ballparks and

sports fields; and Place Communication Facilities in the “Civic” rather than the “Commercial” use table; and all matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hill opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against adoption of said Ordinance.

County Clerk Jan Galassini read the title for Ordinance No. 1705, Bill No. 1894.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Katherine Snedigar asserted this type of Ordinance did not apply to her because she was not a person. She would have to cause an injury to someone or something in order for the Ordinance to apply to her. She said she could do whatever she wanted to do on her property.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Ordinance No. 1705, Bill No. 1894, be adopted, approved, and published in accordance with NRS 244.100.

23-0412 AGENDA ITEM 30 Public Comment.

Mr. Scott Finley provided documents that were placed on file with the Clerk. He demanded that public comment be returned to the beginning of the meeting. He spoke about the Elections Group and opined the Board should cease its relationship with the company. He thought the Elections Group had not applied for a Nevada business license as it was not registered on SilverFlume. He discussed Item 12 from the April 25, 2023, Board of County Commissioners’ (BCC) meeting and expressed distrust of the Elections Group and its contract regarding the County’s election process.

Ms. Valerie Fiannaca thanked Commissioner Andriola for suggesting prayer during meetings. She spoke about drag queen story hour (DQSH) and alleged that every parent should have control over the content their children were exposed to. She said she respected Commissioner Garcia’s right to hold personal beliefs. She reported DQSH events were held at the Reno Collective for over a year without conflict and she expressed consternation that DQSH was brought to public, taxpayer-funded spaces. She asserted she would be the first to file a lawsuit if an act of violence occurred in response to a DQSH event. She mentioned there was a DQSH event held at the North Valleys Library the previous week and four police officers were present to protect patrons from protestors. She felt the presence of those officers was unnecessary as she did not think the protestors posed a physical threat to anyone. She proclaimed many community members did not want DQSH in the libraries.

Ms. Janet Butcher affirmed she was not present to represent an organization; she was speaking as an individual. She claimed the community had conveyed its desire to have more balance among the members of the Library Board and opined that did not happen with the individual appointed during this meeting. She requested to know when

there would be another opening on the Library Board, and she hoped the position would not take a year to fill once it opened. She spoke about human trafficking and child grooming and noted *Sound of Freedom* would be played in theaters on July 4. She wondered why the June 13, 2023, BCC meeting had been canceled as she thought there were enough Commissioners in town to hold a meeting.

Ms. Helen Neff provided documents that were placed on file with the Clerk. She thanked the Board for pulling Item 13 regarding cannabis consumption lounges and wondered why the Commission still planned to consider the item. Consumption lounges were denied by the Planning Commission (PC) in December 2022, a decision that was upheld by the BCC on January 17, 2023. She mentioned that at that meeting, Commissioner Clark disclosed he received a check, which he had not yet cashed, from an individual associated with a cannabis business in Washoe County. She recalled Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Nate Edwards thanked Commissioner Clark for his transparency and counseled that the disclosure was not required by law. Ms. Neff hoped other Board members would follow Commissioner Clark's example of transparency by voluntarily releasing details of all contributions received from the cannabis industry. The January 17, 2023, meeting minutes confirmed there was no standardized test for cannabis impairment. She thought lounges should not be considered in the County until standardized testing was adopted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). She directed the Board to pages 6 and 7 of the document she supplied which described her personal experience as a crash victim. She declared Vision Zero objectives would never be achieved if Washoe County made Code changes that put more impaired drivers on the road. She noted studies confirmed that smoking cannabis caused emphysema, an irreversible disease. She pointed out cannabis lounges were designed for out-of-State visitors and renters who could not smoke in their homes. She remarked the Lake Tahoe Destination Stewardship Plan, which the Board sponsored, conflicted with cannabis lounges. She requested more public outreach and comment before the Board made a determination on the issue. She discussed Assembly Bill (AB) 341 which provided an option for local jurisdictions to opt out of cannabis lounges. She noted that seven counties and ten cities in Nevada, including Sparks, had done so. She reported City of Reno staff recommended that the Reno City Council take no action on consumption lounges, and she suggested the Commission should do the same until the NHTSA provided court-upheld roadside testing for cannabis impairment.

Ms. Nichelle Hull observed the American Library Association (ALA) provided a list of banned books due to challenges of explicit content from parents. She wondered why Washoe County libraries had books from that list available to children. She read excerpts from pages 25 and 287 of *Lawn Boy*. She opined the material was unacceptable and demanded the BCC take action to remove inappropriate materials from the library system.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar spoke about child protection laws, grooming, and the school system. She expressed discontent with the Commission and thought it did not make efforts to stop children from being exposed to adult content.

Ms. Sandee Tibbett provided documents that were placed on file with the Clerk. She expressed dissatisfaction with members of the BCC. She mentioned she attended several Washoe County School District (WCSD) board meetings and discussed similarities between that board and the BCC. She thanked Commissioner Clark for advocating for Vice Chair Herman and alleged the Board did not care about its constituents.

ADA Edwards reminded Chair Hill she did not have to allow personal attacks during public comment. He noted public comment was an open concept, but there were limitations that were listed in the agenda. He pointed out that the Attorney General's (AG) Office of the State of Nevada had said multiple times that personal attacks were the type of speech that could be limited during meetings.

Ms. Victoria Myer read an excerpt from *Lawn Boy* which she stated was in the children's section of libraries and schools.

ADA Edwards interjected to request that Chair Hill call for a recess so he could confer with her regarding the nature of the public comment being made.

3:39 p.m. **The Board recessed.**

3:45 p.m. **The Board reconvened with all members present.**

Chair Hill asked ADA Edwards to outline why the Board recessed. ADA Edwards explained that per the AG's opinions and the Open Meeting Law (OML), the Board was permitted to put restrictions on agendas regarding public comment. Examples of those restrictions, as listed in the agenda, dealt with irrelevant statements, unduly repetitious statements, and personal attacks that would objectively antagonize or incite others. He indicated his issue with Ms. Myer's public comment was that there were federal laws regarding sexual remarks in the workplace. Title VII did not allow people to go to a workplace, even if they were making a point about public policy, and read graphic depictions of sexual conduct. He declared he was neither agreeing nor disagreeing with the point being made and reiterated there were limitations to what a person could say in a workplace. He observed that there were employees present at the meeting and they had rights under federal law.

3:46 p.m. **The Board recessed.**

3:52 p.m. **The Board reconvened with all members present.**

Chair Hill stated ADA Edwards was outlining why certain lewd, graphic, or sexual things could not be read into the record. She insisted it was not to protect the Board, it was to protect the County. ADA Edwards contended that under Title VII, the County had an obligation to protect its employees from being exposed to graphic depictions of sexuality in the workplace. He advised that due to federal law, the County did not have to allow that kind of speech. He suggested the Board allow Ms. Myer to have her full three minutes back to make a public comment. He conveyed he asked for the recess because he

thought the County and Chair Hill needed legal advice because neither should allow that type of comment while County employees were in the room. He asserted it was not an argument for or against the ideas Ms. Myer was attempting to espouse and provided an example of an acceptable way to bring attention to the issue she wanted to address. He reiterated that reading explicit content into the record was where the Board had to draw a line. Chair Hill asked for three minutes to be put back on the clock for Ms. Myer and that she please not read graphic, sexual content into the record.

Ms. Myer professed she had been denied the ability to read explicit material, as it was deemed inappropriate to read in a public workplace, but the same material was in schools and libraries that children had access to. She discussed the candidate the BCC selected to sit on the Library Board and expressed discontent with Library Director Jeff Scott.

Ms. Penny Brock recommended the Board see the movie *Sound of Freedom*. She spoke about human trafficking and claimed it was a crisis that needed to be addressed. She mentioned the Washoe County calendar and listed holidays and events that were not included. She requested that American holidays be included on the calendar.

Mr. Fred Myer postulated ADA Edwards was wrong about the legal advice he gave to the Board. He thought if materials could be read in schools and libraries, there should be no reason why the public could not read the same material into the record. He commented he attended a DQSH, and he thought patrons of the event were unfriendly to protestors. He recalled a video he watched of a pastor at a school board meeting who spoke about protecting children. Mr. Myer recalled that during the DQSH event, people blew bubbles at him and got in his face. He professed he was at the event to protect kids and recounted he was not permitted entrance to the library during the event because he did not have a child with him.

Ms. Debbi Sauk referred to comments made by ADA Edwards regarding Title VII. She wondered how it could be justified given the Supreme Court's ruling that nothing countermands free speech except for something that would cause danger such as yelling "fire" in a crowded movie theater.

Mr. Scott Myer did not believe the Board was displaying the American flag correctly as it should be higher than the other flags presented. He brought up Board member re-elections and warned that many in the community were upset about DQSH. He opined books that were not appropriate to read at a Commission meeting should not be read anywhere, especially in schools.

County Clerk Jan Galassini advised the Board she received six emailed public comments which she placed on the record.

23-0413 **AGENDA ITEM 31** Announcements/Reports.

12:58 p.m. **Chair Hill opened Agenda Item 31 at the request of Commissioner Clark.**

Commissioner Clark referred to Item 13, noting his comments were not intended as an attack on Chair Hill. His comments were a result of frustration about the situation. He thought the Commissioners should have a discussion and there was no reason not to vote on the item. He said he had been told numerous times the item concerned a County Ordinance although only one applicant was involved. He stated he just wanted to make a decision on the item and apologized for any offense he might have caused. Chair Hill thanked Commissioner Clark for his comment, noting the item would be agendized for the July 11, 2023, meeting and the Board would move forward whether or not the applicant was present at that meeting.

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4:11 p.m. **Chair Hill reopened Agenda Item 31 for additional comments.**

Commissioner Clark referred to comments made during the previous agenda item stating that type of thing was difficult to hear, and it was polarizing.

Vice Chair Herman asked Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Nate Edwards whether he could do some research prior to the next meeting regarding whether the library could be audited. ADA Edwards replied yes.

Chair Hill said the Board wanted to hear from and dialogue with the public and she was curious about the concerns of residents. She stated she wanted people to feel heard and feel part of the community, but discussions could not take place if there was disruptive dialogue such as swearing, yelling, personal attacks, and individuals reading sexual literature or making lewd comments. She thought there was an opportunity for productive dialogue, and she looked forward to that. She believed there were many ways to address people’s concerns and she wanted to work with the Communications Team to see how to support that in the future. She thanked everyone for a productive meeting.

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4:14 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

ALEXIS HILL, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

JANIS GALASSINI, County Clerk and
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Prepared by:
Carolina Stickley, Deputy County Clerk
Doni Blackburn, Deputy County Clerk
Taylor Chambers, Deputy County Clerk