

# BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF NEVADA       )  
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COUNTY OF EUREKA    )

## CALL TO ORDER

1. Approval of the agenda notice with addition of any emergency item and/or deletion of any item.  
*Unless otherwise stated, items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda, in the direction of the Chair. (For Possible Action)*
2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on July 1, 2025. Present were Chairman Rich McKay, Vice Chair Marty Plaskett, District Attorney Ted Beutel and County Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling, (Not present, Commissioner Schoenwald). The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. The interactive video conferencing system was connected between Crescent Valley and Eureka for the entire meeting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve agenda with the Labeling of Commissioner item #1 and adding Meeder Investments presentation under Treasurer Item #2. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Public comment and discussion. *Notice: No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. Public comments may be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Public comment may be allowed on "Action" items, in addition to the two times specified on the agenda. (Discussion)*

Chairman McKay called for public comment in Crescent Valley, hearing none he called in Eureka. Lions Club member, John Fitzgerald and Lions Club member, Mike Podborny spoke on behalf of the Eureka Lions Club. Lion Fitzgerald spoke first, informing the board they were cleaning Schwamb Cemetery, and the work is beyond the gardening tools they have and were hoping the county would be able to provide some assistance with some equipment. Lion Podborny then spoke saying it took him four hours to clean six plots just to make them visible.

2. Consider items requiring action to be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting. *Notice: The public is welcome to request agenda items for future meetings during the Public Comment period or may consult with one or more of the Board of Commissioners to request agenda items for future meetings. (Discussion)*

None considered.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### 1. Approval of the minutes from July 1st, 2025, Commission meeting. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett commented there was one correction that needed to be made under HR item #2. Correction that needs to be made is, Commissioner Plaskett motioned and also seconded the item, it should read, Commissioner Plaskett motioned, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the June 3, 2025 Commission meeting minutes with the correction. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

## COUNTY COMPTROLLER – Kim Todd, Comptroller

### 1. Payment of expenditures. *Notice: Expenditures received after action has been taken under this Comptroller section may be presented and acted upon throughout the day.* **(For Possible Action)**

The Board along with Comptroller, Kim Todd reviewed the expenditures.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the payment of expenditures in the amount of \$2,733,755.98. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

### 2. Review Fund Balance Report. **(Discussion)**

The Board reviewed the current Fund Balance Report.

## COMMISSIONERS

### 1. Discuss, approve, or deny signing the Indigent Defense Financial Status Report for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of Fiscal Year 2024/2025, which is due to the Department of Indigent Defense Services by July 15, 2025. **(For Possible Action)**

Item was tabled.

### 2. Discuss, approve or deny continuing the weekend stipend for the District Attorney, Justice of the Peace and Public Defender in the amount of \$450.00 per weekend for on-call pre-trial hearings (AB518). This fee was originally funded by the Department of Indigent Defense for two fiscal years and has expired effective June 30, 2025. *Note: The Department of Indigent Defense may still fund the Public Defender and District Attorney stipend but they are waiting on a legal ruling from the State.* **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve continuing the weekend stipend for the District Attorney, Justice of the Peace and Public Defender in the amount of \$450.00 per weekend for on-call pre-trial hearings (AB518). Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

## IT – Misty Rowley, CIO

### 1. Update on IT projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

IT CIO Misty Rowley reported to the board they had been working on the July newsletter, newspaper articles and social media for the month. Installed the bypass switch as the Sheriff's office and had been troubleshooting an issue with Mimecast DMARC and are working on the RIM server migration.



**EUREKA MAIN STREET**-Veronica Tognoni, Secretary

1. Discuss, approve or deny ratifying a fee waiver for the Opera House usage fee of \$50.00 per day for the nonprofit event called the Eureka Grant Summit hosted by the Eureka Nevada Main Street nonprofit organization. **(For Possible Action)**

Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling spoke on behalf of Veronica Tognoni, informing the board they are requesting the fee to be waived for the use of the Opera House for the Grant Fund training they held for the community. Commissioner Plaskett noted it is customary for nonprofit organizations to have the fee waived of \$50.00 per day.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve ratifying a fee waiver for the Opera House usage fee of \$50.00 per day for the nonprofit event called the Eureka Grant Summit hosted by the Eureka Nevada Main Street nonprofit organization. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

**TREASURER** -Pernecia Johnson, Treasurer

1. Review of Treasurer's Report for May 2025. **(Discussion)**

Greg Balls with Meeder Public Funds spoke via phone. Mr. Balls presented on the Moody's Downgrade, he stated the United States has gone from a Triple A status to a Double A status, which adds some concern to the market. Mr. Balls added that one of the reasons for the downgrade is that the Government is spending as though we are in a financial crisis. He explained that Meeder Public Funds, looks at the overall economy and what really controls the investment income for the county are yields. Mr. Balls reported the county is forecasted to receive 2.2 million of investment or coupon payment, that is investment income. Mr. Balls added, if he could summarize, that he does think rates will remain elevated, stating he thinks the County is in a good position and then he will continue to look for opportunities that will prove to be beneficial going forward.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**-Tasha Dunlap, Human Resources Director

1. Discuss, approve or deny covering milage and a hotel room for site visitors of candidates for the Human Resources position. **(For possible action)**

HR Director Dunlap was not present at this meeting. Commissioner Plaskett spoke on behalf of the review committee, stating their recommendation would likely be for two of the candidates to come for a site visit.

Commissioner McKay motioned to approve covering milage and a hotel room for candidates interviewing for the Human Resources position. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

2. Discuss, approve or deny a promotional request for the Assistant Public Works Director-Buildings and Utilities. **(For Possible Action)**



Public Works Director Rowley informed the board the promotional request was to go with the Assistant Public Works Director-Buildings and Utilities job description that was approved at the last meeting, he just did not have the promotion request ready at that time.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the promotional request for the Assistant Public Works Director-Buildings and Utilities. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

#### **SHERIFF-** Miles Umina, Sheriff

##### **1. Report on Sheriff's Office projects and activities. (Discussion)**

Sheriff Umina reported on the traffic enforcement day that was held on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Sheriff Umina reported that his deputies worked across the county on Highway 50, 278, 306 & Interstate 80. Sheriff Umina had 5 deputies that day and in an 8-hour period made 54 traffic stops. Sheriff Umina also reported that they are working on patrolling JD Ranch Road at least once a day, saying he has had lots of reports of people speeding. Sheriff Umina also added that after speaking with the courts, traffic tickets that have been issued up to this point this year have gone up significantly more than they have seen in a very long time. Sheriff Umina reported he has 2 positions open and 2 employees headed to post on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Sheriff Umina also reported with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Holiday coming up they will be heavily staffed that day.

##### **2. Discuss, approve or deny permanently increasing Grace Miller's Credit Card to \$2,000.00 due to recurring monthly fees and supply orders. (For Possible Action)**

Undersheriff Cobb explained Administrator Grace Miller has recurring monthly bills that are charged to her credit card and the expenditure increase would keep it from maxing out each month.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve permanently increasing Grace Miller's Credit Card to \$2,000.00 monthly due to recurring monthly fees and supply orders. Commissioner McKay seconds the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS/COUNTY FACILITIES** – Jeb Rowley, Public Works Director

##### **1. Report on Public Works and County managed facilities projects and activities. (Discussion)**

Public Works Director Rowley reported on the JD Ranch Road, the NGM MOU did get all signatures, they have begun recruiting for that position now. Director Rowley let the board know he has 2 equipment operator positions open. Director Rowley also reported the Eureka Town siren is under repair now and Eureka road crew has been filling in for other staff, such as providing Landfill coverage and cover at one of the cemeteries for a burial. Director Rowley informed the board they had obtained a temporary lane closure permit for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the crew would be washing down the street and sidewalks in preparation for the Holiday. Director Rowley also reported RadioTek would be coming back to install a remote antenna. Then lastly Director Rowley reminded everyone about the burn ban that went into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Commissioner Plaskett inquired about the employees on the cleaning crew on Main St., Director Rowley responded with it is mostly the building and grounds crew and a couple of casual employees from the pool.



2. Discuss, approve or deny quote from Mt. Wheeler Power in the amount of \$25,274.00 for electrical service upgrades at the Eureka County Airport to allow for the construction of the new SRE (Snow Removal Equipment) Building utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-016-55010-000) in the Airport budget. **(For Possible Action)**

Public Works Director Rowley explained to the board the electrical services upgrades at the airport would be removing one primary pole with a transformer and then put in a pad mounted transformer and 350ft of primary underground to get that area clear and reestablish the electrical connection.

Commissioner McKay motioned to approve a quote from Mt. Wheeler Power in the amount of \$25,274.00 for electrical service upgrades at the Eureka County Airport to allow for the construction of the new SRE (Snow Removal Equipment) Building utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-016-55010-000) in the Airport budget. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny proposal from Lumos & Associates for engineering, administrative, and related services for the 1.25 Million Gallon Storage Tank Re-Paint Project (Eureka Town Water System) for an amount not to exceed \$26,360.00 utilizing funds budgeted for surveying and engineering (045-177-55010-357) in the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund. **(For Possible Action)**

Public Works Director Rowley explained they are still working up the submittal for NDP on when they would be able to take the tank offline. Commissioner Plaskett asked Director Rowley if there would be any weld inspections. Director Rowley answered stating they would have to be a separate line item which they did not call for in this project.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the proposal from Lumos & Associates for engineering, administrative, and related services for the 1.25 million Gallon Storage Tank Re-Paint Project (Eureka Town Water System) for an amount not to exceed \$26,360.00 utilizing funds budgeted for surveying and engineering (045-177-55010-357) in the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

4. Discuss, approve or deny quote from Innovative Communications Systems, LLC to replace sound system equipment at the Eureka County Fairgrounds in the amount of \$87,288.04 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-001-55010-000) in the County Commissioners' budget. **(For Possible Action)**

Assistant Public Works Director Halpin updated the board on the sound system. Assistant Director Halpin informed the board the sound system is worse than they thought, adding that the sound cabinet and mics are old. Assistant Director Halpin also added they would upgrade the speakers and bullhorns to help voices carry further. Commissioner Plaskett asked for a breakdown of the quote they submitted, Assistant Director Halpin said he would work on getting that to him.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the quote from Innovative Communications Systems, LLC to replace sound system equipment at the Eureka County Fairgrounds in the amount of \$87,288.04 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-001-55010-000) in the County Commissioners' budget. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.



5. Review quote from Empire Southwest LLC and consider authorizing purchase of one 2025 CAT 420 Backhoe Loader under Eureka County's OMNIA Purchasing Partners Contract (Member # 1029700) in the amount of \$169,989.74 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-015-55010-000) in the Buildings & Grounds budget **(For Possible Action)**

Assistant Public Works Director Halpin informed the board they were working with CAT instead of Source Well this time, stating that OMNIA is a new State Purchasing Program and will save them 22%.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the authorizing purchase of one 2025 CAT 420 Backhoe Loader under Eureka County's OMNIA Purchasing Partners Contract (Member # 1029700) in the amount of \$169,989.74 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay (010-015-55010-000) in the Buildings & Grounds budget. Chairman McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES** – Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager

1. Report on current and emerging natural resource issues affecting Eureka County. **(Discussion)**

Natural Resources Manager Jake Tibbitts commented on an earlier public comment regarding the cemetery clean up, Manager Tibbitts commented that the county holds come funding through a BLM community assistance grant for related projects within the wildland urban interface. He did comment he did have a chance to explain this to Lions Club Members Mike Podborny and Mike Fitzgerald. Manager Tibbitts reported to the Board a NEPA kickoff meeting for a new Ormat geothermal project in Whirlwind Valley that will be that same day at 1p.m. The next day at 6:30 p.m. i-80 Gold will be hosting the Ruby Hill Mine Town Hall at the Opera House. Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> NRAC will be having their monthly meeting at 6p.m. Manager Jake Tibbitts received 2 notices for geothermal lease sales, one for Battle Mountain BLM and one for Elko BLM, Manager Tibbitts will keep the Board updated on any lease sales in Eureka County. Manager Tibbitts explained a substantial portion of the BLMs environmental assessments are dealing with standards for grazing, he is interested to see how those will affect the livestock community.

2. Discuss and consider response, including protest, of Greenlink North Transmission Project Final Environmental Impact Statement. **(For Possible Action)**

Natural Resources Manager Jake Tibbitts explained the final response consists of the requested partnership with NV Energy and an outline of the remaining issues. The board discussed commenting on the sage grouse issue, county and public roads, future growth and development lands, the letter will be a collaborative approach versus a protest approach.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve a response to the Greenlink North Transmission Project Final Environmental Impact Statement. Chairman McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Review correspondence. **(Discussion)**

County Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling read the meeting correspondence; Legislative updates with Nevada State Engineer registration period and the NWRA 2025 Fall Symposium September 16-17. Naco June News letter, Small Business Training hosted by American Indian Chamber Education Fund in Fallon June 25, 2025 a letter from Jeff and Doug Gemutliche, travelers from Florence, OR sharing positive feedback on Eureka County Sheriff's Office interaction while passing through Eureka. White Pine County Board of Commissioners Letter to BLM regarding



scoping comments to the Robinson Summit Substation Expansion and 525-kv Interconnection Project and Resource Management Plan Amendment, NDEP Notice of Proposed Action, Fact Sheet and Water Pollution Control Permit for Ruby Hill Mine. Nevada Tax Commission meeting for June 25th announcement and link to agenda and the CVTAB Agenda. NDEP Notice of Public Comment Period and Hearing, BLM Elko District Office Preliminary Environmental Assessment for the 2025 Geothermal Lease Sale.

**2. Commissioner reports on pertinent correspondence or other matters. (Discussion)**

Commissioner Plaskett commented on his ongoing frustrations with the William B Ririe billing department, he has formally turned his issue over to the Eureka County Collections.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**1. Public comment and discussion. *Notice: No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. Public comment may be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Public comment may be allowed on "Action" items, in addition to the two times specified on the agenda. (Discussion)***

Chairman McKay called for public comment in Crescent Valley and Eureka, Laura Shivers echoed Commissioner Plaskett's comment on the William Bee Ririe billing and the frustrations that she herself has experienced. Lisa Wolf with the Eureka Sentinel asked the spelling of some of the people who presented or commented during the meeting. Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling asked who is keeping track of the cemeteries and mapping them, she discussed possibly adding it to a future agenda, she has many people come in her office looking for information.

**2. Consider items requiring action to be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting. *Notice: The public is welcome to request agenda items for future meetings during the Public Comment period or may consult with one or more of the Board of Commissioners to request agenda items for future meetings. (Discussion)***

None considered.

**ADJOURNMENT**

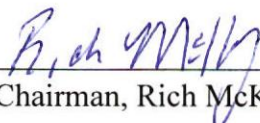
**1. Adjournment of meeting**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to adjourn the meeting, Chairman McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:10p.m.**

*Prepared and submitted by Deputy Clerk Recorder Kim Christiansen.*

*Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of August, 2025 by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.*

  
Chairman, Rich McKay

ATTEST:   
County Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling