

BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 2, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF NEVADA)
)SS
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, at the direction of the Chair. (For Possible Action)*
2. Pledge of allegiance.

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on April 2, 2024. Present were Chairman Rich McKay, Vice Chair Michael Sharkozy, Commissioner Marty Plaskett, District Attorney Ted Beutel, and Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling. The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. The interactive video conferencing system was connected between Crescent Valley and Eureka for the entire meeting.

Approval of Agenda: Two items on the agenda were edited for the meeting; Jeremy Rice was moved up to right after approval of agenda and Public Works item #3, The Eureka Swim Club, was tabled.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the agenda with said changes. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

The meeting then 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 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 opened the floor for public comments, seeing none in Crescent Valley, he opened the floor to Eureka. Seeing none he proceeded to Item #2.

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)*

Public Works item #3 was tabled and will be moved to next meeting's agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the January 20, 2024 Commission meeting and the February 1, 2024

Commission meeting. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve January 20, 2024 and February 1, 2024 meeting minutes. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE NIGHT IN CRESCENT VALLEY-Jeremy Rice

1. Discuss, approve or deny a request to waive rental fees for the Community Center in Crescent Valley on April 20th from 5pm to approximately 8pm for Jeremy Rice to host a meet the commissioner candidates' night. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve of waiving rental fees for the Community Center in Crescent Valley for a meet the commissioner candidates' night. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

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 the Comptroller Kim Todd reviewed expenditures.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve expenses in the amount of \$493,172.04. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

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

The Board reviewed the current fund balance report.

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGT – Kim Todd, Comptroller

1. Review budgets and discuss, approve or deny sending Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Tentative Budget for filing with the Nevada Department of Taxation. *Note: Pursuant to NRS 354.596, Tentative Budgets must be filed on or before April 15, 2024 for the following Eureka County entities: Eureka County (overall County), Eureka Town, Crescent Valley Town, Devil's Gate GID, Diamond Valley Weed District, Diamond Valley Rodent District and Eureka County Television District.* **(For Possible Action)**

Comptroller Todd presented budget reports on certain departments in the County; Eureka County (overall County), Eureka Town, Crescent Valley Town, Devil's Gate GID, Diamond Valley Weed District, Diamond Valley Rodent District and Eureka County Television District, the reports presented included details of revenue and expenditures. Certain budgets that were discussed had a deadline of April 15, 2024. Eureka County is estimated to end 2024 with a negative 5.4 million and 2025 is estimated at a negative 6.2 million.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Tentative Budget for filing with the Nevada Department of Taxation; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

2. Set date and time for public hearing to consider changes to the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year

2024- 2025. Pursuant to NRS 354.596(4) this budget hearing must be held no sooner than the third Monday in May and no later than the last day of May. **(For Possible Action)**

Public hearing to consider changes to the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 was set for May 21 at 10:00 am.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS

1. Discuss, approve or deny signing the Indigent Defense Financial Status Report for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2023-2024, detailing costs expended for provision of public defense services, due to the Department by April 15, 2024. *Speakers: Brandy Mahoney/Kathy Bowling* **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve signing the Indigent Defense Financial Status Report for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2023-2024, Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

2. Discuss, approve or deny a proposal for an increase to the Public Defender contract for Fiscal Years 24-25 and 25-26 submitted by Kelly C. Brown, Esq., Eureka County's public defender. *Note: This increase would not be an additional cost to the County as Assembly Bill 518 ensures that for each subsequent fiscal year, the contribution is increased by the lesser of the cost of inflation (as measured by the Consumer Price Index) or 5%, anything over this amount would be reimbursed to the County by the State of Nevada. Speakers: Kim Todd/Kathy Bowling* **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve an increase to the Public Defender contract for Fiscal Years 24-25 and 25-26 submitted by Kelly C. Brown, Esq., Eureka County's public defender.; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

3. Discuss, approve or deny purchasing prizes for a photo competition held on Eureka County's social media platforms and website, to be paid utilizing funds from the Commissioners miscellaneous grants account (010-001-53010-085) for an amount not to exceed \$200.00. *Speakers: Misty Rowley, Jessica Santoyo* **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve purchasing prizes for a photo competition held on Eureka County's social media platforms and website, to be paid utilizing funds from the Commissioners miscellaneous grants account (010-001-53010-085) for an amount not to exceed \$200.00; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

IT DEPARTMENT-Misty Rowley, IT Director

1. Report on IT projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

IT Director, Misty Rowley gave an update on some of the things they have been working on like; Microsoft 365 Office migration, replacing and updating the commissioner microphones, they worked with the District Attorney's office, Recorder's office, the Comptroller's office and a representative from Tyler for a few different things.

2. Discuss, approve or deny accepting Quote #9623398 from Sweetwater for additional audio-visual equipment in both the Crescent Valley and Eureka Commission rooms, for an amount not to exceed \$9,944.00 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Technology Support budget (010-018-55010-000). **(For Possible Action)**

Misty Rowley said she looked at many different options and this one seemed to be the best, it comes with a two-year warranty and support from an authorized representative.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve deny accepting Quote #9623398 from Sweetwater for additional audio-visual equipment in both the Crescent Valley and Eureka Commission rooms, for an amount not to exceed \$9,944.00 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Technology Support budget; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

TREASURER-Pernecia Johnson, Treasurer

1. Review Treasurer's Report for February 2024. **(Discussion)**

Treasurer, Pernecia Johnson gave a quick report, they should be seeing net proceeds in the next month.

AMBULANCE & EMS – Kenny Sanders, EMS Director

1. Discuss, approve, or deny request from the Northern Nevada EMS Consortium (NNEMSC) for a donation not to exceed \$5,000.00, to be used towards the Rural Nevada Trauma Symposium scheduled April 26-27, 2024 in Elko and the Ruby Mountain Mental Health Summit scheduled September 17, 2024 in Lamoille, to be paid utilizing funds from the Commission's miscellaneous grants account (010-001-53010-085). **(For Possible Action)**

At the previous Commission Meeting the Board had questions about what the donation would exactly be used for. EMS Director, Kenny Sanders called and had a lady explain over the phone what exactly the money will be used for at the Rural Nevada Trauma Symposium.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve of the \$5,000 donation, with \$4,000 of it going to the 2-day training and \$1,000 going toward the other event. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE – Michael Jones

1. Discuss, approve or deny a request to waive rental fees to allow a Junior Baseball League to use the baseball field in Eureka for regular practices (up to five days per week) and occasional weekend use to host League games. *Note: The League will coordinate its schedule to ensure field time does not conflict with high school team schedules.* **(For Possible Action)**

Mike Jones, Eldon Allred, and Melissa Fitzwater explained to the Board that Ruby Mountain Rec League is separate from JPO, they are a little league baseball team for ages 12-15 co-ed. Because they are separate from JPO some of the insurances are different, they are also planning on doing fundraising as well as the donation. They are asking for a donation of \$1,000 and to waive the fees of the fields. They explained that they have already coordinated with the High School baseball team to work around their schedule, and have made a plan for cleaning up the fields and bathrooms after practices and games.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve of waiving the rental fees for the Eureka Baseball fields to be used for Junior Little League, Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

2. Discuss, approve or deny a request from the Junior Baseball League for a donation of \$1,000.00 from the Commission's miscellaneous grants account (010-001-53010-85) for the purchase of baseball equipment for the team. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve of a donation of \$1,000 to the Ruby Mountain Rec League, Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

EUREKA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL – Jaylene Callister, Guidance Counselor (*via letter*)

1. Discuss, approve, or deny a contribution to the Eureka County High School annual scholarship drive for the Class of 2024, to be paid with monies budgeted for miscellaneous grants in the Commission budget. *Note: Last year the contribution was for \$2,000.00.* **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve a contribution to the Eureka County High School annual scholarship drive for the Class of 2024 and to raise the donation to \$3,000, Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

NEVADA GOLD MINES-Tamara Baker and Maggie Corbari

1. Presentation on Nevada Gold Mines Robertson Project permitting activities and plans. **(Discussion)**

Tamara Baker, the permitting manager with Nevada Gold Mines and Matt Miller, the community engagement and development specialist for Carlin presented before the Board the projects at Gold Rush, the Robertson project and the Long Canyon project. The Gold Rush project received approval and started construction on December 8. It is an underground mine and they dewater and pipe the water back into the Pine Valley basins that infiltrate back into the ground. They have had to pause construction during the Sage Grouse lekking season. The Gold Rush project will bring in 570 new jobs to the community. The Robertson project will be on the northwest side of the Crescent Valley Road and is expected to be 9 years of mining, 3 years of heap leaching, and 3 years of reclamation. It will have 3 open pits; the Gold Pan, the Porphyry, and the Altenburg Hill. They will transport carbon that comes off the leach pad to existing facilities at Cortez, and mill grade ore will be transported to the pipeline, so because of this there will be a haul road. The Robertson project will add an additional 150 employees during the construction phase and 415 employees during the operations. The Long Canyon project with is on the eastern side of the state and is in Elko County, it has a staff of 14 people doing care and maintenance. Nevada Gold Mines has contributed \$3.1 Billion to the state, comprised of four; inputs, taxes, goods and services purchased within the state. \$347 million in taxes paid and \$1.2 billion in personnel costs.

**Chair McKay called for a 5-minute recess at 11:26am.
The meeting was called back to order at 11:40am.**

RECREATION BOARD-Natasha Clugage

1. Discuss, approve or deny a request from the Eureka County Recreation Board for the transfer of \$26,400.00 from the Capital Outlay Fund (100-235-55010-000) to the Recreation Miscellaneous Grants Account (100-236-53010-085) to be used for continued support of recreational activities. *Note: The Recreation Board has used all funds allocated to the Miscellaneous Grants Account and needs to redirect funds from the Capital Outlay Budget in order to continue funding events for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2024. (For Possible Action)*

Recreation Board Chair, Elmer Porter requested a transfer of \$26,400 from the Capital Outlay Fund to the Recreation Miscellaneous Grants Account for their 2024-2025 budget. Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve transfer of funds; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

ROAD DEPARTMENT – Raymond Hodson, Public Works Director

1. Report on Road Department projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

Raymond Hodson, Public Works Director gave an update on projects the road department has been working on; the road crew finished the Three Bars project, they hauled in 31,000 yards of material. They will start to work on grading dirt roads around the county and cleaning them up. They finished the Senior Center project and thatched all the lawns in Crescent Valley. They will be starting prep on the announcer stand and the cook shack for paint at the fairgrounds.

2. Pursuant to Personnel Policy 5.7.3, consider authorizing Public Works to make an advanced step hire for the position of Equipment Operator I at Range 117/Step 3 on the Eureka County wage and salary scale. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC WORKS – Jayme Halpin, Assistant Public Works Director/Project Manager

1. Report on Public Works projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

Jayme Halpin gave an update on projects the building and grounds department has been working on; they finished grouting work around the pool. They finished putting in new laminate floors at the Crescent Valley substation. They are still working on the design on utilities and the airport layout plan, he reported there should be updates to the board soon. The advertisement for the SRA building went out but no bidders get. They had their Red Card training for Eureka in March.

2. Discuss, approve or deny recommendations set by Public Works for limits to quantities on items accepted during the Free Dump Days held in May and October, including direction for informing the community through mailers, Eureka County Website, and social media. **(For Possible Action)**

Jayme Halpin explained that with the cost of having to ship tires out, he suggested putting a cap on tires and limiting tires with rims still during Free Dump Days. He suggested putting a cap at 20 tires and then charging after that. Jake Tibbitts commented that putting a cap could potentially cause an increase in the number of tires getting dumped out in the sagebrush and gullies. He mentioned that he reached out to BLM to see about a grant to help with hauling tires out of town. After discussion on the difference of tires with rims and weighed down with dirt or concrete, the Board decided no cap on tires but a fee for tires with rims or dirty/concrete.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny allowing the Eureka Swim Club to be placed under the Eureka County Swimming Pool Department (Account 070) effective Fiscal Year 2025. *Note: All revenue and expenses will be run through the County and not through the non-profit Eureka Swim Club.* **(For Possible Action)**

Item was tabled.

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 gave a report on projects around the County; the final decision for the Ormat Whirlwind Valley geothermal project reached a final decision. And a final decision was made on the Ranch Road Communications tower. Federal District Court Judge Miranda Dew issued an opinion on the lawsuit that wild horse groups had filed against the BLM on the Pancake gather; the Commissioners sent a comment on that some months ago. Jake will be attending the community meeting in Crescent Valley for the Robertson project. The legislative Natural Resource Committee will be meeting and Jake will attend virtually. Jake and one of the Board members will be attending the BLM coordination meeting with Bald Mountain and Elko District as well as an NRAC meeting. The Natural Resource department is getting ready for the Crescent Valley Fire Wise event happening the first week in May.

2. Discuss and consider providing additional scoping comments for the Greenlink North Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which will analyze NV Energy's proposal for a new transmission line system in White Pine, Eureka, Lander, Lyon and Churchill counties. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve of letting NRAC (Natural Resources Advisory Committee) add a comment and Chair McKay signing the letter outside of the meeting. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss and consider response regarding the NV Division of Water Resources conjunctive management strategy of waters within the Humboldt River Basin including nominating Eureka County individuals to serve on the Stakeholder Working Group. **(For Possible Action)**

The Board decided to let the NRAC board choose a representative to serve on the Stakeholder Working Group.

Commissioner Plaskett motions to approve, Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

4. Discuss and consider developing efforts, including funding contributions, to help address Mormon Cricket and grasshopper infestations in or affecting Eureka County. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve of donating \$10,000 to help the Mormon Cricket and grasshopper infestation around Eureka County.

5. Discuss and consider resolution recognizing former Natural Resources Advisory Commission (NRAC) member Ken Conley for his many years of service to NRAC and Eureka County. **(For Possible Action)**

Eureka County, Nevada

April 2, 2024

RESOLUTION
HONORING KEN CONLEY
FOR TWENTY-SIX (26) YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE
NATURAL RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR EUREKA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wish to honor Natural Resource Advisory Commission member, Ken Conley, for his service advising the County of Eureka with issues relating to public lands and natural resources, including water quantity and quality, air space and air quality, wild horses, wildlife, grazing allotments, mining, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Resource Advisory Commission was formed in November of 1993, originally titled Public Lands Advisory Commission, and Ken Conley has served on that Commission for twenty-six (26) years of thirty (30) years since its establishment; and

WHEREAS, Eureka County acknowledges the following biographical information: Ken Conley has been involved in various aspects of agriculture, mainly ranching and farming since he was 13 years old. In 1978 Ken and Beverly were married and moved to Grass Valley, NV where Ken was employed at the University of Nevada Gund Ranch Experiment Station. In 1997 Ken and Beverly purchased a 160-acre farm on 6th Street in Diamond Valley, NV. An additional 640-acre farm was added in 2007, located on 3rd Street in Diamond Valley, where they raised cattle and hay. Ken and Beverly have three children, Russell Conley, Rebecca Owen, and Anne Kniefel. Russell Conley and his wife Lynn own and operate the majority of the properties in Diamond Valley. Ken and Beverly have leased the Baumann Ranch in Grass Valley, NV for the last ten (10) years, where they continue to run their cattle operation; and

WHEREAS, Ken Conley's involvement on the Commission has been instrumental in providing guidance to the County of Eureka in maintaining balanced use and preserving the public lands and natural resources that all Eureka County residents utilize and enjoy.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners recognizes and honors Ken Conley for twenty-six (26) years of service and dedication to Eureka County and its natural resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be published in the minutes of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners to remain a part of the permanent and historical records of Eureka County.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of April, 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

No correspondence.

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

No reports.

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)**

Chair McKay called for public comment in Crescent Valley seeing non he called for public comment in Eureka. Sheriff Jesse Watts gave a public comment asking for an update on his request for an agenda item on the status of the Attorney Generals investigation. He also raised concern on the fact that after Commissioner Sharkozy's resignation and the pending election for his seat the Board would be down a member for a number of months.

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)**

No items.


ADJOURNMENT

1. Adjournment of meeting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to adjourned the meeting; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried 3-0.

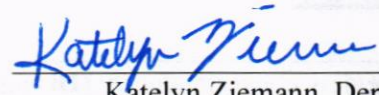
Meeting was adjourned at 12:54 pm.

Approved by vote of the Board this 2nd day of May, 2024.


Rich McKay, Chairman

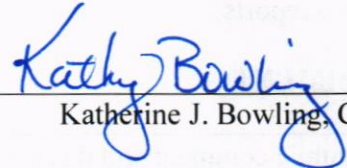
I, Katelyn Ziemann, Deputy Clerk, attest that these are a true, correct, and duly approved minutes of the March 19,

2024, meeting of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.



Katelyn Ziemann, Deputy Clerk

I, Katherine J. Bowling, Clerk Recorder of Eureka County, acknowledge and accept the attached minutes as approved by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and attested to by the Deputy Clerk.



Katherine J. Bowling, Clerk