BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 15, 2025 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, in the direction of the Chair. (For Possible Action)
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on April 15, 2025. Present were Chairman Rich McKay, Vice Chair Marty Plaskett, Commissioner Mike Schoenwald, District Attorney Ted Beutel and County Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling. The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. The interactive video conferencing system was connected between Crescent Valley and Eureka for the entire meeting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the agenda with the correction of the dollar amount of Public Works item #4 to \$6,590,810.00. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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, audience member Christiana Mason asked for the possibility that Crescent Valley could get an indoor pool like Eureka has. Chairman McKay called for public comment in Eureka, hearing none he proceeded to the next item.

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 of March 4th and March 18th, 2025, Commission meetings. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the March 4th and March 18th, 2025 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. 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 Comptroller Kim Todd reviewed the expenditures.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the expenditures of \$1,864,668.30 with the passthroughs of \$299.30 to the Nevada Department Room tax, \$53,584.10 to Nevada State Controller School tax, \$306,091.74 to Nevada State Controller, \$320 to the Nevada Division of Minerals, \$78 to the Washoe County Crime lab, and a 6-month invoice from Dominion for \$446.29. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

2. Review Fund Balance Report. (Discussion)

The Board reviewed the current Fund Balance Report.

COMMISSIONERS

1. Discuss legislation being considered by the Nevada Legislature at their upcoming 2025 Session. No position on legislation will be taken by the Board at this time. (Discussion)

Jake Tibbitts and Mike Mears reported that the next hard deadline is April 22nd, it will be the first house passage. Mike Mears reported that the SB116 Elected Officials bill passed out of committee on Friday, it did get amended but it is still moving along. Mike explained that elected officials have not had a cost-of-living increase to their base salary in 8 years due to their salary being set by statute. The bill will add a potential 29% Cost- of- Living catch up and will allow for local control. Mike explained that within our county there are employees making more than the elected official, causing no incentive for succession within departments. Mike explained that if there isn't a balance to the scales, soon the offices will end up with unqualified people in elected offices. Mike also explained that he is following AB135 that would allow the surviving spouse of a veteran to maintain property tax exemptions after the veteran has passed. Jake Tibbitts explained that he is following the AB80 Healthy Soils Initiative, the AB104 and SB39 bills regarding water retirement provisions. Jake explained they did put forth an amendment on the Ab479 Agrivoltaics bill.

Chairman McKay called for a recess to the regular meeting to open the public hearing. Chairman McKay opened the public hearing at 10:06 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice was given that the Board of County Commissioners would hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on April 15, 2025, to hear public comments and take action regarding County owned real property located at 381 Well Street in Eureka; specifically, the Board's intent to consider lease of said property to a newly hired and/or future emergency medical services employee.

1. Open public hearing and invite comments on the proposed Resolution and proposed Lease Agreement supporting lease of County real property less than 25,000 square feet in area pursuant to NRS 244.2833. (Discussion)

Human Resources Director Tasha Dunlap commented that the reason for the resolution and agreement was to house an EMT that was hired, since then he has found his own housing. Her opinion was that due to the need not being there she felt it was no longer necessary to move forward with the lease agreement. Commissioner Schoenwald commented that he would be in favor of getting rid of the property all together. Commissioner Plaskett questioned that the emergency need for use of the house has gone away, but what if it comes back. Chairman McKay agreed that it is nice to have in their back pocket for emergencies. Discussion ensued over the need for housing in the north as well. District Attorney, Ted Beutel advised that the Board table the resolution and proposed lease for now and work with public works to find a more permanent solution for both Eureka and Crescent Valley. Public Works Director Jeb Rowley stated that he does not want to get in the property management business and is not in favor of extending housing options. Crescent Valley audience member Lisa Wolfe questioned if the resolution is written specifically designating EMS or if it needs to be amended going forward to make it more useful in a general fashion. Chairman McKay answered that if it is brought back, he personally would like to see more flexibility on how it is used. Seargent Charles Cobb commented that he supports a housing option, he commented that Eureka is a very welcoming community, but the housing is a hard deal. Commissioner Schoenwald commented that a housing option when hiring is tricky because he personally would like to see more locals getting hired in the County. Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling answered the discussion over how the School District handles housing, she explained that the school staff does not live rent free, they include the rent in their salary. Seargent Charles Cobb commented that NDOT also does housing rentals with employees.

The Board chose to table the Resolution and Lease Agreements in the Public Hearing for more discussion.

2. Review Resolution for the Lease of County Real Property Less Than 25,000 Square Feet in Area Pursuant to NRS 244.2833; and consider adopting Resolution as presented, adopting Resolution with revisions, or denying action to approve or adopt said Resolution. (For Possible Action)

Item was tabled.

3. Discuss, approve, or deny signing a Lease Agreement between Eureka County and a newly hired and/or future Emergency Medical Services employee for the property located at 381 Well Street in Eureka. (For Possible Action)

Item was tabled.

Chairman McKay closed the Public Hearing and called the regular meeting back to order at 10:27 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS- CONTINUED

2. Review and consider approval of the following: (a) Lease Agreement with Gallagher Dental Care, as an approved service provider, for use of space at the Eureka Medical Clinic; and (b) Contract for Services of an Independent Contractor for provision of dental services at the Eureka Medical Clinic. (For Possible Action)

Dr. Gallagher attended via the phone conferencing system and Veronica Tognoni appeared in person to discuss the Gallagher Dental Care contract. They explained that they plan to slowly incorporate specialists, depending on the specialist they will have to provide different kinds of supplies. Dr. Gallagher also explained that his Elko office plans to set aside a specific day of the week to see Crescent Valley patients. All parties had a chance to view the lease agreement prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the Lease Agreement with Gallagher Dental Care as an approved service provider and approve contract for Services of an Independent Contractor for provision of dental services at the Eureka Medical Clinic. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny signing the Indigent Defense Financial Status Report for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2024-2025, detailing costs expended for provision of public defense services, due to the Department by April 15, 2024. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the Indigent Defense Financial Status Report for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2024-2025, detailing costs expended for provision of public defense services, due to the Department by April 15, 2024. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Discuss, approve or deny waving the fee for the use of the Community Center in Crescent Valley to hold Barbara Dugan's funeral service on May 31, 2025. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Schoenwald commented that Barbara Dugans' family has asked that in the leu of flowers donations be made to Healthy Paws and the Crescent Valley Emergency Fund.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve waving the fee for the use of the Community Center in Crescent Valley to hold Barbara Dugan's funeral service on May 31, 2025. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

5. Discussion regarding the need in Crescent Valley for residents to have reliable transportation to medical appointments and consider what options may exist or may be implemented to meet this need. (Discussion)

Senior Center Program Director, Linda Gordon explained that the Crescent Valley Medical Services Advisory Committee, Nick Collins, Miles Umina and Sargent Cobb have given a lot of feedback on how a transportation service would work. They have figured Monday and

Wednesday, Elko and Tuesday, Battle Mountain to transport individuals to medical appointments. The transport would run through the Senior Center using their vans. Discussion ensued over rules; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult, behavior code of conduct, pick up/drop off locations. Linda explained that Crescent Valley splits their grocery trips into men and women rides, they would allow to for individuals to ride the bus during that time for medical reasons. Discussion ensued over whether there would be a cost to ride or not, Linda explained that they charge Crescent Valley seniors \$5 to go on the grocery trips. District Attorney Ted Beutel discussed the code of conduct and agreed to work with Linda to create one. The Board did not feel that this item needed to be on another agenda and to allow Linda to continue working on the transportation service and begin.

SENIOR CENTERS- Linda Gordon, Senior Center Program Director

1. Report on activities at the Eureka Senior Center and Fannie Komp Senior Center. (Discussion)

Senior Center Program Director, Linda Gordon reported that they collected \$12,495.95. Comptroller Kim Todd suggested creating a separate fund for the medical trips therefore the grants will not be affected.

The Board took a 5-minute recess.

Chairman McKay called the meeting back to order at 11:06 a.m.

<u>FLIGHT ALLIANCE OF NORTHEASTERN NEVADA (FANN)-</u> Rex Steninger, VP and Amanda Osborne, Secretary

1. Presentation on the benefits of Eureka County's annual membership to the Flight Alliance of Northeastern Nevada (FANN). (**Discussion**)

Elko County Commissioner and Vice President of Flight Alliance of Northeastern Nevada, Rex Steninger and Elko County Manager and Flight Alliance of Northeastern Nevada Secretary Amanda Osborne presented to the Board the benefits of Eureka County's donation to the Flight Alliance of Northeastern Nevada. They explained that after Covid the Elko Airport was at risk of losing commercial air service; to continue being connected to healthcare, education, business, and economic development they created a private public partnership. They explained that Elko County is supporting the flight alliance at \$500,000 a year and Lander County has agreed to \$250,000 a year. Currently they have 1 flight to Salt Lake every day but are working on flights to Reno and Las Vegas. Discussion ensued over Eureka citizens choosing to drive to Reno or Las Vegas versus Elko for a cheaper flight.

NV DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

1. Review and approve the Nevada Division of Water Resources Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budgets for special assessments to be collected by Eureka County on behalf of the Division for necessary expenses related to supervision over the following waters in Eureka County: (a) Maggie Creek

Groundwater Basin; (b) Boulder Flat Groundwater Basin; (c) Whirlwind Valley Groundwater Basin; (d) Lower Reese River Valley Groundwater Basin; (e) Crescent Valley Groundwater Basin; (f) Pine Valley Groundwater Basin; (g) Diamond Valley Groundwater Basin; and (h) Kobeh Valley Groundwater Basin. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the Nevada Division of Water Resources Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budgets for special assessments to be collected by Eureka County on behalf of the Division for necessary expenses related to supervision over the following waters in Eureka County: (a) Maggie Creek Groundwater Basin; (b) Boulder Flat Groundwater Basin; (c) Whirlwind Valley Groundwater Basin; (d) Lower Reese River Valley Groundwater Basin; (e) Crescent Valley Groundwater Basin; (f) Pine Valley Groundwater Basin; (g) Diamond Valley Groundwater Basin; and (h) Kobeh Valley Groundwater Basin. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD- Diana Kersey, Chair

1. Discuss, approve or deny a donation, in the amount of \$3,650.00, from the Northend Activity Fund (010-071-53030-018), for the Crescent Valley Fun Days event to be held June 21, 2025 in Crescent Valley and if approved issue Check to Diana Kersey, Chair of the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board. Note: Last year's donation was \$3,600.00. (For Possible Action)

Diana Kersey, Chair of the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board, explained they are starting to plan for the Crescent Valley Fun Days and would like to go ahead and get the funds in order.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve a donation, in the amount of \$3,650.00, from the Northend Activity Fund (010-071-53030-018), for the Crescent Valley Fun Days event to be held June 21, 2025 in Crescent Valley and if approved issue Check to Diana Kersey, Chair of the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

GOLD DIGGERS ATHLETICS-Marshall Christensen, President

1. Discuss, approve or deny waiving the fee for the use of the Softball field for the 2025 Season for the Gold Diggers 4th – 6th grade 12U softball team. (For Possible Action)

Gold Diggers Athletics President, Marshall Christensen explained they started a travel softball team for young girls in the community, they are practicing 2 days a week. They currently have a deal with the school district to practice indoors during the colder months. Marshall explained that he will supply his own insurance to cover the use of the fields. Jeb Rowley explained that he and Marshall have discussed the calendar and prior agreements with the fields. Jeb Rowley also questioned, what is the point of having a fee if everyone asks the Board to waive it. Chairman McKay told Marshall that after going around and asking local businesses, the rec board and the local mines for donations, if they still need funds to then come to the Board for a donation, they would be happy to help support.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve waiving the fee for the use of the Softball field for the 2025 Season for the Gold Diggers 4th – 6th grade 12U softball team. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

HUMAN RESOURCES-Tasha Dunlap, Human Resources Director

 Discuss, approve or deny updates to the Communications Supervisor job description. (For Possible Action)

The Board approved items 1, 2, and 3 altogether.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve updates to the Communications Supervisor, the Civil Process Administrator, and the Records/Technical Support job descriptions. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Discuss, approve or deny updates to the Civil Process Administrator job description. (For Possible Action)

Approved with item 1.

3. Discuss, approve or deny updates to the Records/Technical Support job description. (For Possible Action)

Approved with item 1.

SHERIFF- Miles Umina, Sheriff

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

Sheriff Umina reported that he swore in a new deputy the day before, Eric Fleming, he will be stationed in Crescent Valley. They have worked out a deal with Diana Kersey with Trucking Water to use their man camp to house deputies in Crescent Valley. Sheriff Umina reported they have hired another dispatcher and will be starting in the next few weeks. He also reported on a call they went on for 4,500 pounds of buried marijuana, it was a very large bust and they will continue the investigation.

2. Discuss, approve or deny a proclamation declaring April 13-19th, 2025 as Telecommunicator Week. (For Possible Action)

Sheriff Umina read the proclamation declaring April 13-19th, 2025 as Telecommunicator Week, Sheriff Umina also wanted to personally thank the Eureka County Dispatchers for all their hard work. He mentioned that dispatchers are the first on the scene, they are the lifeline to the deputies, firefighters and EMS.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the proclamation declaring April 13-19th, 2025 as Telecommunicator Week. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

TELECOMMUNICATOR WEEK PROCLAMATION- April 13-19, 2025

WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at any time which require a response from the Sheriff's Office, Fire Department and/or Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, when an emergency occurs, the prompt response from the Deputies, Firefighters and EMT's is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and

WHEREAS, Professional Telecommunicators are the single vital link for the Deputies, Firefighters, and EMT's by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them with accurate information as they receive it and ensuring their safety; and

WHEREAS, Professional Telecommunicators are not as visible as the men and women who arrive on scene of the emergency; and

WHEREAS, each Professional Telecommunicator exhibits compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job; and

WHEREAS, Eureka County would like to recognize the current team of Telecommunicators at the Eureka County Sheriff's Office. Supervisor Clara Bundy, Trina Webster, Lena Engeseth, Jessica Smith and Marcia Brown; and

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT WE, BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, do hereby proclaim the week of April 13-19, 2025, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Eureka County in honor and recognition of our Telecommunicators and the vital contributions they make to the safety and well-being of our citizens.

PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 15th day of April 2025.

By fire Mishey Rich McKay, Chairman

Mary Plaskett Ree Chair,

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Mike Schoenwald, Member

ATTEST: Nett State | S

3. Discuss, approve or deny out of State travel for Undersheriff Tyler Thomas to attend International Association of Chief's of Police conference in Denver, Co. October 17th-October 22nd (Includes travel day) (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve out of State travel for Undersheriff Tyler Thomas to attend International Association of Chief's of Police conference in Denver, Co. October 17th-October 22nd (includes travel day). Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

1. Report on County Facilities / Public Works projects and activities. (Discussion)

Public Works Director, Jeb Rowley reported the Opera House had 35 visitors and 170 people attending various events, he found someone to come and tune the piano at the Opera House. The pool saw 67 daily swimmers, one party, movie night, 10 seniors and 11 students on the swim team. The landfill saw 426 deliveries, with 75 tons of municipal solid waste and 100 tons of construction debris. May cleanup is right around the corner and has 5 Saturdays in it. The clinic is still under construction prepping for the new X-ray machine, the electricity is being conducted and then onto flooring. The new counters in the clinic have been installed as well. Mount Rose heating and air will be here working at the clinic and Opera House. Western States will be in town performing biannual fire alarm inspections. They are working on the Eureka Airport and Windsock project and will have open bids at the 29th meeting.

2. Review list of personal property items (miscellaneous furniture, small equipment, etc.) that no longer serve a useful purpose to Eureka County in the conduct of County business and, pursuant to Eureka County Code, Title 3, Chapter 20, Section .130, declare the items to be surplus property and authorize sale or disposal utilizing the methods outlined in Title 3 of Eureka County Code. (For Possible Action)

Jeb explained that there are a few furniture items for auction that they are advertising around town for anyone in the community that is interested.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the public sale of surplus property; Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny purchasing controls, SCADA and instrumentation from Great Basin Control Systems for an amount not to exceed \$57,990.00, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund and the Devil's Gate Water Fund. (For Possible Action)

Jeb explained that SCADA is the communication that operates wells, booster stations and tank levels, it will start with Eureka and Devils Gate systems, eventually merging Crescent Valley.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve purchasing controls, SCADA and instrumentation from Great Basin Control Systems for an amount not to exceed \$57,990.00, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund and the Devil's Gate Water Fund. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Review and consider approval of the Construction Manager at Risk, Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Sierra Nevada Construction Inc., for the amount of \$6,602,045.00 for Phase 2B Road and Utility Improvement Project, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund. (For Possible Action)

The Board edited the amount in the agenda item from \$6,602,045 to \$6,590,810 during approval of the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

Jeb explained the Construction Manager at Risk, Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Sierra Nevada Construction Inc., for the amount of \$6,590,810 for Phase 2B Road and Utility Improvement Project. The amount will cover 3,000 feet of sewer replacement, 3,000 feet of storm drain, and approximately 4,600 feet of 6 inch water line. Their plan is to get started underground as soon as they can.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the Construction Manager at Risk, Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Sierra Nevada Construction Inc., for the amount of \$6,590,810.00 for Phase 2B Road and Utility Improvement Project, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

5. Review and consider approval of the Proposal for Construction Services with Lumos & Associates for the amount of \$797,100.00 for Phase 2B Road and Utility Improvement Project utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the Proposal for Construction Services with Lumos & Associates for the amount of \$797,100.00 for Phase 2B Road and Utility Improvement Project utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Eureka Water/Sewer Utility Fund. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

6. Review and consider approval of the Construction Manager at Risk, Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Sierra Nevada Construction Inc. for a maximum cost of \$2,589,484.00 for the Crescent Valley Waterline and Road Rehabilitation Project, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Crescent Valley Water Utility Fund. (For Possible Action)

Jeb explained that they have acquired property through tax delinquencies and worked with the BLM to correct the right of way, so they have room to realign the water line and road for where it needs to go. The project will replace approximately 3,500 feet of 8-inch C900 mainline in the town of Crescent Valley along Airport Avenue.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the Construction Manager at Risk, Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Sierra Nevada Construction Inc. for a maximum cost of \$2,589,484.00 for the Crescent Valley Waterline and Road Rehabilitation Project, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Crescent Valley Water Utility Fund. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

7. Review and consider approval of the Proposal for Construction Services with Lumos & Associates for the amount of \$254,900.00 for the Crescent Valley Waterline and Roadway Treatment Project, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Crescent Valley Water Utility Fund. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the Proposal for Construction Services with Lumos & Associates for the amount of \$254,900.00 for the Crescent Valley Waterline and Roadway Treatment Project, utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Regional Transportation Commission Fund and the Crescent Valley Water Utility Fund. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NATURAL RESOURCES - Jake Tibbits, Natural Resources Director

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

Natural Resources Director, Jake Tibbits reported that he and Dale Bougenig attended the Division of Water Resources annual water monitoring and mining operations meeting. NRAC met on the 9th, the South-Central Adaptive Management Response Team for the Greater sage Grouse met and had 22 people in attendance. Jake reported that the next Thursday is the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council meeting, and the Humbolt River Basin Water Authority will have a meeting on the 18th. The State Conservation Commission and the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife will meet on the 24th, and The South Railroad project will meet on the 30th.

 Discuss and consider commenting to NV Division of Environmental Protection on Nevada Gold Mines, LLC, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit NV0022675 to discharge treated groundwater from the Boulder Valley Water Treatment Facility to the Humboldt River. (For Possible Action)

Jake explained that Barrick and Nevada Gold Mines have maintained the Pollution Discharge Elimination permit regardless of not discharging into the Humbolt River Basin since 1999. Jake suggested supporting the permit with regard to the county code and what is stated regarding discouraging out of basin water transfers and that the County would oppose such transfers that don't pass scientific rigor. He also suggests supporting the disposal of mine dewatering in a manner that returns the water to the ground in the same basin with was withdrawn. Jake explained that the settlement with Barrick and the Attorney General is that a certain amount can be exceeded, and they will pay a mitigation fee to Eureka County for \$4 per acre of foot, that money goes into the water mitigation account.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve commenting in support to NV Division of Environmental Protection on Nevada Gold Mines, LLC, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit NV0022675 to discharge treated groundwater from the Boulder Valley Water Treatment Facility to the Humboldt River. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss and consider response to Callaghan Wild Horse Complex Habitat Management Evaluation and proposed development of Herd Management Area Plan. (For Possible Action)

Jake explained that the Federal District Court Decision in Nevada is now forcing the BLM to create an EA on a management plan before they can do a gathering. Jake explained that the Board has commented on these gathering plans in the past.

Chairman McKay motioned to approve a response to Callaghan Wild Horse Complex Habitat Management Evaluation and proposed development of Herd Management Area Plan. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Discuss and consider response to EPA and Army Corps of Engineers proposed rulemaking related to implementation of the definition of "waters of the United States" consistent with the Supreme Court's 2023 decision in Sackett v. EPA. (For Possible Action)

Jake explained that NRAC is recommending approval of the letter, regarding the definition of "water of the United States" under the Clean Water Act.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve a response to EPA and Army Corps of Engineers proposed rulemaking related to implementation of the definition of "waters of the United States" consistent with the Supreme Court's 2023 decision in Sackett v. EPA. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

 Discuss Mormon Cricket and grasshopper control efforts for the upcoming season including commenting on Rangeland Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Suppression Program Draft Environmental Assessment. (For Possible Action)

Jake explained that before any Mormon cricket treatments can happen on public lands an environmental assessment with the BLM has to take place. Unfortunately, it will push the timeline of any potential treatments to June or July.

Commissioner Plaksett motioned to approve commenting on the Rangeland Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Suppression Program Draft Environmental Assessment. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Jake also explained that the Department of Agriculture has created a section of their website designated to reporting Mormon crickets. The website will link to Google Earth where you can report the exact location of spotting Mormon crickets. Jake also suggested people can report sightings to him.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Review correspondence. (Discussion)

County Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling read the meeting correspondence; Nevada Water Resources Association Spring Student Scholarship Opportunities email, NWRA Water Rights Book for sale email, NWRA Upcoming committee meetings, NWRA Workshop for May 15th, 2025-, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Corrective Actions for Sam's Corner Store,

3093 CV NV-Groundwater Monitoring Report, NACO News letter and Board Meeting Summary March 2025, NRAC Agenda.

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

None reported.

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, audience member Lisa Wolf asked if she could get a copy of the presentation by the Flight Alliance of Northeastern Nevada. She also asked for clarification that the FANN is asking for the counties to subsidize private air flight traffic to the tune of a million dollars. Chairman McKay called for public comment in Eureka, hearing none he proceeded to the next item.

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)

Kim Todd reminded the Board that the 29th meeting will be the last time to make any changes to the tentative budget and there will be a public hearing on May 20th regarding the budget. Kathy Bowling reminded everyone that there will be an additional meeting on April 29th and the May 6th meeting will be cancelled. Kathy also reminded everyone that in order post the agenda on time she really needs people to adhere to the deadlines for getting items in.

ADJOURNMENT

1. Adjournment of meeting.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve adjournment of the meeting; Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by Deputy Clerk Recorder, Katelyn Ziemann.

Approved this 20th day of May 2025 by the Eureka County Board of Commissioners.

County Clerk Recorder, Kathy Bowling

Chairman, Rich McKay

Page 13 of 13 April 15, 2025 BOCC