# BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 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 September 1, 2026. Present were Chairman Rich McKay, Vice Chair Marty Plaskett, Commissioner Mike Schoenwald, District Attorney Ted Beutel and Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling. 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 Schoenwald motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. The 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 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 both Eureka and Crescent Valley, 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)**

Nothing Considered.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the minutes of July 21, 2026, August 4, 2026 and August 18, 2026 Commission meetings. **(For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the meeting minutes from July 21, 2026, August 4, 2026 and August 18, 2026, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The 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 meeting expenditures.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of $2,420,890.90 including a late payment of $618.80. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

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

The board reviewed the fund balance report.

**HEALTHY PAWS OF EUREKA** – Cindy Beutel

1. Discuss, approve or deny a donation of $5,000 to Healthy Paws of Eureka for spay, neuter or well-being of animals in Eureka County. *Note: The last contribution to Healthy Paws was $5,000.00 in 2025.* **(For Possible Action)**

Cindy Beutel with Healthy Paws of Eureka explained to the board she has been working with the Sheriff's Office to rehome dogs and cats that end up at the County Pound. Ms. Beutel works closely with the SPCA to get dogs and cats spay and neutered and rehomed. She explained the main expenses come from pet food and gas to travel to Reno to pick up the food. She is working on finding a Crescent Valley local to help animals in their area. Ms. Beutel is also scheduling a free clinic day for locals to get their animals treated.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve a donation of $5,000 to Healthy Paws of Eureka to be paid from Commissioners Miscellaneous, Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**TREASURER** – Pernecia Johnson, Treasurer

1. Review of Treasurer's Report for July 2026. **(Discussion)**

The board along with Treasurer Pernecia Johnson reviewed the July Treasurers report.

**IT** - Misty Rowley, CIO

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

CIO Misty Rowley reported her office worked on the county newsletter, social media and attended MarketShare PR meetings. They worked with the Sheriff's office on planning and coordinating the installation of the new fiber circuit to replace the copper lines that the 911 VESTA system is on. They also worked on updating their incident response plan.

**Chairman McKay recessed the regular meeting to open the Public Hearing.**

**PUBLIC HEARING - EUREKA COUNTY BILL DRAFT REQUEST (BDR)** –
*Notice was given that the Board of Eureka County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on September 1, 2026, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Eureka County Commission Chambers in the County Courthouse at 10 South Main Street, Eureka, Nevada. The reason for said hearing is to invite public comments and consider a proposed Bill Draft Request to be submitted to the Nevada Legislature regarding the de minimis use of water for road maintenance.*

**1.** Open public hearing and invite comments on a proposed Bill Draft Request regarding the de minimis use of water for road maintenance. **(Discussion)**

Chairman McKay called for public comment in both Eureka and Crescent Valley, hearing none he proceeded to close the public hearing.

**2.** Discuss, approve or deny submitting a proposed Bill Draft Request regarding the de minimis use of water for road maintenance. **(For Possible Action)**

The proposed bill draft request is intended to allow 2-acre feet annually of water use for road maintenance to be considered de minimis. All counties are required periodically the use of water for road maintenance purposes. However, counties often do not have municipal water rights in the vicinities of remote roads being maintained, it can be cost prohibitive and administratively cumbersome to acquire water rights and install infrastructure in remote areas when only sparse and periodic use of water is required. It is in the public interest to allow de minimis use of water for road maintenance to ensure safe travel conditions on public roads.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve submitting a proposed bill draft request regarding the de minimis use of water for road maintenance. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**HUMAN RESOURCES** - Cristina Lopez, Human Resources Director

**1.** Report on Human Resources projects and activities. **(Discussion)**

Human Resources Director, Cristina Lopez reported the Human Resources position, and the Public Works Administrative Assistant positions are posted. Upcoming positions that will be posted include a Public Works Mechanic and a position in the Clerk Recorders office. She received a resignation from the Sheriff's office, and she is closing 2 investigations by the end of the week. She reported no new Workers Compensation cases, and 5 people are out on FMLA. The 4x10 midterm survey was completed, and she will have a presentation for the board soon.

2. Discuss, approve or deny a request to authorize the double fill of a currently occupied position within the Clerk Recorder's Office, and approve the corresponding position justification form. **(For Possible Action)**

Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling explained she had a recent resignation in her office, their last day is November 18th. Given the timeline it gives her office transition time to train the new hire. The double fill would also be during the November General Election, giving her more help during that busy time.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve double filling a currently occupied position within the Clerk Recorder's Office and approve the corresponding position justification form. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**AMBULANCE/EMS** – Nichole Cooley, EMS Director/Coordinator

1. Report on EMS projects, activities, and services provided. Report on contract services. **(Discussion)**

EMS Director/Coordinator Nichole Cooley reported for July there were a total of 39 runs, Eureka had 22, Crescent Valley had 1, MedEx Eureka had 0 and MedEx Crescent Valley had 16. They brought in $4,102.85. The dentist visits were 0, Genesis had 8 nursing and 9 PCA's, the Eureka clinic had 340 visits and the Crescent Valley clinic had 24 visits, Rehab Services had 91 visits. They wrote off $12,367 for Medicare/Medicaid. EMT's Brent Jones and Griffin Bussian put on a CPR class for 12 people at the school bus barn.

2. Discuss, approve or deny proposal from 2862 in the amount of $50,430.00 for the purchase of 4-P25 stationary radios and 4-portable radios for the Spring of 2027 transition, utilizing funds from Capital Outlay (010-054-55010-000). **(For Possible Action)**

Director Cooley explained the amount for the radios has been budgeted in capital outlay for the past few years in anticipation of the current radios becoming obsolete. They have coordinated with the state and Helena Services on the 2862 Communications equipment installation. The 4 portable radios would be on each person, allowing them to directly communicate with the hospital for orders without having to rely on cell phone service with the issue of would they even have cell phone service.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the proposal from 2862 in the amount of $50,430.00 for the purchase of 4-P25 stationary radios and 4-portable radios for the Spring of 2027 transition, utilizing funds from Capital Outlay (010-054-55010-000). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

3. Discuss, approve or deny sponsoring the 2027 Rural Nevada Trauma Symposium conference in Elko specializing in Trauma education for rural and frontier Nevada. *Note: Silver-$1,500.00, Gold-$2,500.00, Sponsor-$5,000.00* **(For Possible Action)**

2024 was the last time Eureka County donated to help sponsor the Rural Nevada Trauma Symposium conference in Elko specializing in Trauma education for rural and frontier Nevada. 7 people from Eureka County attended the conference in 2025. This year 4 people from Eureka County will be attending and Director Cooley will be presenting. In 2024 the board donated $1,500.00.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve donating $1,500 to help sponsor the 2027 Rural Nevada Trauma Symposium conference in Elko. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**SHERIFF** - Miles Umina, Sheriff

| 1. Report on Sheriff's Office projects and activities. **(Discussion)** |
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Sheriff Miles Umina reported they have 4 in custody, 3 in Lander County and 1 at the Department of Corrections. Sheriff Umina continues working with Lexipol on the policy project following state statutes. Sheriff Umina reported on the swatting call to the Elementary School the week prior, Nevada State Police, NDI detectives, the Elko Bomb squad and NDOT all responded and helped in different capacities. On September 16th the Sheriff's Office is holding a National Night Out in Pine Valley at the Hay Ranch meeting room.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT** – Scooter Mentaberry, Road Supervisor

| 1. Report on Road Department projects and activities. **(Discussion)** |
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Road Supervisor Scooter Mentaberry reported on the roads in Eureka County that were maintained with graders and mowers, the crews also worked on cattle guard maintenance. The road crews responded to various fire calls with water trucks, dozers and a loader. A load of magnesium chloride has been ordered for the JD Ranch Road to help with dust.

**NEVADA DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES** – Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager

| 1. Discuss and consider recommending any course of action to the State Engineer under the provisions of NRS 533.363 regarding the water right applications 95291 and 95292 proposing to change the point of diversion and place of use of permits 57755 and 57883 within Eureka County. In accordance with NRS 533.363, notice of consideration of the water rights application was provided in the Eureka County Star for three consecutive weeks. **(For Possible Action)** |
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The board reviewed the water right applications 95291 and 95292 proposing to change the point of diversion and place of use of permits 57755 and 57883 within Eureka County. NRS 533.363 requires Eureka County to review the water right applications and changes proposed, the County is not required to act on the applications.

No action was taken.

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Jeb Rowley, Public Works Director

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

Public Works Director Jeb Rowley reported they are obtaining quotes for the relocation of some streetlights on main street in front of the old True Value. The water crew has performed annual testing on fire hydrants and services for fire suppression throughout Eureka County. They continue minor remodeling projects at the doctor's house and PA house on Well Street. October is the last meter read month, and the crews are preparing for insulation and blowing out the park sprinkler systems.

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| **2.** | Discuss, approve or deny ratifying a 3/4-inch residential water meter and service application to serve APN 007-380-46 located in Devil's Gate GID District 1. **(For Possible Action)** |

The Devils Gate GID approved ratifying the 3/4-inch residential water meter and service application to serve APN 007-380-46 located in Devil's Gate GID District 1 in their meeting prior to the Commission meeting.

Commissioners Plaskett motioned to approve ratifying a 3/4-inch residential water meter and service application to serve APN 007-380-46 located in Devil's Gate GID District 1. Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

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| **3.** | Discuss, approve or deny accepting the proposal from Lumos and Associates, for an amount not to exceed $38,500.00, for the Eureka Airport – Valley Gutter Replacement, and Pavement Maintenance Project Proposal for Engineering and Construction, utilizing funds from Capital Outlay Survey & Engineering in the Airport Capital Outlay Fund (010-016-55010-357). **(For Possible Action)** |

The proposal for the Eureka Airport from Lumos and Associates will cover the remaining portion of concrete gutter at the airport in front of the airplane hanger along with a design for preventative maintenance. The FAA will still have to approve the plan before the project can be authorized.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve accepting the proposal from Lumos and Associates, for an amount not to exceed $38,500.00, for the Eureka Airport – Valley Gutter Replacement, and Pavement Maintenance Project Proposal for Engineering and Construction, utilizing funds from Capital Outlay Survey & Engineering in the Airport Capital Outlay Fund (010-016-55010-357). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

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| **4.** | Discuss, approve or deny ratification of expenses paid to Day Engineering for engineering services for the evaluation of the Airport and SR 278 area near the Devil's Gate GID water system, including Water Modeling and Mapping, in the amount of $7,000.00, utilizing funds budgeted for Capital Outlay in the Devil's Gate GID fund (120-245-55010-357). **(For Possible Action)** |

The engineering services from Day Engineering will provide continual updates to the 2024 Water Master Plan that covers all the county municipal systems in the Devils Gate GID Districts. With the interest of developing man camps or lab facilities outside of the service area the County needs to evaluate the capacity of the existing systems and existing customers.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the ratification of expenses paid to Day Engineering for engineering services for the evaluation of the Airport and SR 278 area near the Devil's Gate GID water system, including Water Modeling and Mapping, in the amount of $7,000.00, utilizing funds budgeted for Capital Outlay in the Devil's Gate GID fund (120-245-55010-357). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**5.** Discuss, approve or deny ratification of Work Change Directives No. 3 and No. 4 issued under Contract PWP #: EU-2025-272 with Parsons Drilling, Inc. for the Kobeh Valley Well and Transmission Main Project, in the combined estimated amount of $1,931,375.00, pursuant to authority granted by the Board on May 5, 2026, utilizing funds budgeted for Capital Outlay in the Water Mitigation Fund (125-247-55010-357). **(For Possible Action)**

The board authorized at the May 5th meeting to move forward with change orders to provide timely reporting under the grant conditions and the timeline requirements. The change orders have included sanitary surface seal, surface casings and ordering drill steel. The work change directives still fall under the $2.5 million associated with the grant funding.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve the ratification of Work Change Directives No. 3 and No. 4 issued under Contract PWP #: EU-2025-272 with Parsons Drilling, Inc. for the Kobeh Valley Well and Transmission Main Project, in the combined estimated amount of $1,931,375.00, pursuant to authority granted by the Board on May 5, 2026, utilizing funds budgeted for Capital Outlay in the Water Mitigation Fund (125-247-55010-357). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**6.** Discuss, approve or deny ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding between Eureka County and Nevada Gold Mines LLC for road maintenance on Eureka County roads used by NGM, for a three (3) year term commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2029, with Nevada Gold Mines LLC funding an annual amount not to exceed $410,131.00. **(For Possible Action)**

This is Eureka Counties' second year operating under the MOU with Nevada Gold Mines, the additional funding requested and agreed upon reveals the impacts to the road. The funding amount increase supersedes the pervious MOU agreement; they also agreed to sign a 3-year term. The board agreed to give Director Rowley the signing authority for the MOU and extensions.

Commissioner Schoenwald motioned to approve the ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding between Eureka County and Nevada Gold Mines LLC for road maintenance on Eureka County roads used by NGM, for a three (3) year term commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2029, with Nevada Gold Mines LLC funding an annual amount not to exceed $410,131.00 and authorize Jeb Rowley signing authority. Commissioner Plaskett seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**7.** Discuss, approve or deny accepting proposal from Yesco in the amount of $4,378.00, for replacement of wall signs at the Eureka Senior Center and the Fannie Comp Senior Center, utilizing funds budgeted from Capital Outlay in the Building Maintenance Fund (040-130-55010-00). **(For Possible Action)**

The board reviewed the plans to replace the signs at the Eureka Senior Center and the Fannie Comp Senior Center, they discussed seeing if the historic societies would want the old signs.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve accepting proposal from Yesco in the amount of $4,378.00, for replacement of wall signs at the Eureka Senior Center and the Fannie Comp Senior Center, utilizing funds budgeted from Capital Outlay in the Building Maintenance Fund (040-130-55010-00). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**8.** Discuss, approve or deny accepting proposal from Yesco in the amount of $11,632.00, for replacement of the double-sided monument sign at the Eureka Medical Clinic, utilizing funds budgeted from Capital Outlay in the Building Maintenance Fund (040-130-55010-000). **(For Possible Action)**

The board reviewed 2 different styles prepared to replace the double-sided monument sign at the Eureka Medical Clinic, one design would display 5 subtenants under the William Bee Ririe display. While the second design would display 6 subtenants under the William Bee Ririe display. The board chose the design that would display 5 subtenants.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve accepting the proposal from Yesco in the amount of $11,632.00, for replacement of the double-sided monument sign at the Eureka Medical Clinic, utilizing funds budgeted from Capital Outlay in the Building Maintenance Fund (040-130-55010-000). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**9.** Discuss, approve or deny entering into a contract with Custom Painting & Decorating Inc., in an amount not to exceed $99,760.00, for the Eureka County Courthouse – Exterior Repaint Project, utilizing funds from Capital Outlay in the Building Maintenance Fund (040-130-55010-000). **(For Possible Action)**

Since the contract with Custom Painting & Decorating Inc. was approved in July there has been an increase in contract value of $2,900. The Courthouse exterior paint project is scheduled to start at the end of September, weather permitting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to approve entering into a contract with Custom Painting & Decorating Inc., in an amount not to exceed $99,760.00, for the Eureka County Courthouse – Exterior Repaint Project, utilizing funds from Capital Outlay in the Building Maintenance Fund (040-130-55010-000). Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**<u>NATURAL RESOURCES</u>** – Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager

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

Natural Resources Manager Jake Tibbitts reported i-80 Gold held their community meetings in August in Eureka and Pine Valley, both were well attended and the item of concern in both locations was the conditions safety issues of State Route 278. The Legislative Committee on Public Lands work session approved 2 letters related to counties ensuring access of public roads through private land. On the 21st Senator Rosen visited and hosted a roundtable focusing on i-80 Gold and the potential growth and impacts in Eureka. Nevada Rural Housing, the Governors Office Housing Division, Northeast Nevada Regional Development Authority, the Sheriff and EMS all attended the meeting with Senator Rosen to discuss housing, landfill expansion, sewer pond expansion and powerlines. On August 22nd the habitat project pinion juniper work for sage grouse will begin, on August 26th Manager Tibbitts attended the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council meeting. Manager Tibbitts is on the search committee for the new Extension Statewide Range Specialist. Manager Tibbitts will attend the meeting with the Federal Surface Transportation Board on the Nevada Gold Rail. On the 9th the Water Law Working Group will meet; also, on the 9th NRAC will have a meeting. The Nevada Supreme Court has scheduled their oral argument for the Diamond Valley adjudication appeals for October 8th starting at 10am.

## CORRESPONDENCE

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

Nevada Secretary of State Francisco Aguilar releases statement on Supreme Court ruling on executive order on mail ballots, Nevada Secretary of States office to host investment adviser regulatory roundtable in Reno, Nevada Secretary of State Francisco Aguilar announces court victory protecting Nevada voters in Nevada. Nevada Secretary of State's call and data background with the DHS, NACO August 14, August 21 newsletters, Crescent Valley TV Board August 8 meeting minutes, and the TV Board September 2 meeting agenda.

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

Nothing 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 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 both Eureka and Crescent Valley, 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)**

The board discussed Rehab services, MedEx, and the OB-GYN attending the September 15th meeting for updates and contract renewals.

## ADJOURNMENT

**1.** Adjournment of meeting.

Commissioner Plaskett motioned to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Schoenwald seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**The meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm.**

*Prepared and submitted by Deputy Clerk Recorder Katelyn Ziemann.*
*Approved this 15th day of September 2026 by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.*

Rich McKay
Chairman, Rich McKay

ATTEST: Kathy Bowling
Clerk Recorder Kathy Bowling