

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

155 No. Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada  
November 18, 2016

### CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Churchill County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 1:15 p.m. on the above date by Chairman Olsen.

PRESENT: H. Peter Olsen, Jr., Chairman  
Carl Erquiaga, Vice-Chairman  
Harry Scharmann, Commissioner  
Benjamin D. Shawcroft, Civil Deputy District Attorney  
Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager  
Alan Kalt, Chief Financial Officer  
Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board

ABSENT: Alan Kalt, Chief Financial Officer  
Kelly G. Helton, Clerk of the Board

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Olsen inquired if there were any public comments on issues that were not listed on the Agenda. Deputy Clerk Moore said there was a Nuisance Complaint filed by Candy Peck on November 14, 2016. Statutes require that the hearing be held between December 14<sup>th</sup> and December 24<sup>th</sup>. She checked the conference room schedule and any of those dates are available if you would like to set a date for the hearing. A date was set for 6 p.m. on December 22, 2016.

### VERIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA:

It was verified by Deputy Clerk Moore that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 14th day of November, 2016, between the hours of 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. at all of the locations listed on the Agenda, in accordance with NRS 241.

### ACTION ITEMS:

#### AGENDA:

**Commissioner Erquiaga made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted.  
Commissioner Scharmann seconded the motion, which carried by  
unanimous vote.**

#### MINUTES:

**Commissioner Scharmann made a motion to approve the Minutes of the  
regular meeting held on October 19, 2016 as submitted. Commissioner  
Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

#### APPOINTMENTS:

THE BOARD MAY REQUIRE THE PROVISION OF AN OATH OR AFFIRMATION BY ANY PERSON PROVIDING ORAL TESTIMONY AT A PUBLIC HEARING.

**1:15 p.m. Consideration and possible action re: Update of current activities, plans, or actions related to the Carson City District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), including a presentation regarding development of a Travel Management Plan, Carla James, Acting Field Director, Stillwater Field Office, Bureau of Land Management.**

Carla James, Acting Field Director of the Stillwater Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), said Dixie Meadows Geothermal Plant is moving forward through the authorization process and that Enel's solar addition to the existing Geothermal Plant at Salt Wells is also moving forward. They will be preparing NEPA analysis with an EA following that.

Dan Westermeyer had a PowerPoint presentation and said they recently did an expansion of the old helipad at Sand Mountain and law enforcement put 2 large containers there in order to keep some equipment on-site so they do not have to haul equipment back and forth. It will be available for BLM use, Banner Hospital, and also law enforcement. They had a good Halloween turnout this year. They do not have all the numbers yet. Banner Hospital was there with EMS most of the weekend, which was beneficial for the users out there in case anyone needed first aid or to be transported. They have plans to level the camp area because they have problems with some of the rock piles and fire pits. They interfere with parking because of the sand.

The restoration project of the Little Den fire area was seeded and some restoration work was done. There was a big storm which filled in Little Den's Creek and caused some grading to it so they will wait until after the next storm to see if that flushes some of that out. They are partnering with NDOW to do some seeding for the Little Horseshoe Fire, which is at the north end of Edwards Valley Creek to try to keep invasive species like cheat grass down. They have not had a lot of luck in the past. When they reseeded it, they did not get enough rain, but they hope this year they will get some rain.

County Manager Lockwood asked if there was a temporary transfer that the BLM is doing in regards to the Navy withdrawal. Can you explain what is going on and what the process is? Carla James said they do have segregation that was issued in support of the withdrawal application that they received from the Navy. The segregation closed the proposed withdrawal area and some of the existing withdrawn area to any activities such as new mining claims. It is in place for 2 years pending the outcome of the withdrawal. Commissioner Erquiaga asked what segregation meant. Dan Westermeyer said it is basically acting as if the withdrawal was approved as far as geothermal or mining. Carla James said there cannot be any new authorizations for new mining claims or anything like that. She said anyone who has a mining claim in the withdrawn area and wants to do exploration has to submit a proposal and then there is a process that the BLM goes through to process that activity. It does not stop current activities, just new activities. Commissioner Erquiaga said as far as the Navy's use of the land is, are they still restricted to what their current withdrawal is that is in effect? Carla James said that is correct. Commissioner Erquiaga asked how much difference is there between this and what the sage grouse focal areas were that they withdrew. Carla James said it is the same type of segregation. Commissioner Erquiaga said so that means things are basically frozen in time and Ms. James said that is correct for the next 2 years. Commissioner Erquiaga asked what the decision process is for that. He knows there is a comment period that ends December 1, 2016, which is separate. Carla James said it is all the same comment period.

Commissioner Scharmann asked who is in charge of law enforcement when they have 800 RV's at Sand Mountain. Dan Westermeyer said they have their law enforcement ranger Logan Briscoe who does all the assignments and then usually 2 or 3 local Rangers and they bring in Rangers who are required to do details throughout the year as part of their job. He thinks they had 7 or 8 Rangers plus some local Sheriff's Deputies. Commissioner Scharmann asked if the BLM ever did anything about an MOU with the Sheriff's Department. Dan Westermeyer said they provided another \$10,000.00 grant and are redoing the MOU, but he is not sure if it has been finalized yet although it has been worked on recently.