

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

NOVEMBER 10, 2020

PRESENT:

**Bob Lucey, Chair**

**Marsha Berkbigler, Vice Chair**

**Kitty Jung, Commissioner (via telephone)**

**Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner**

**Jeanne Herman, Commissioner**

**Janis Galassini, County Clerk**

**Eric Brown, County Manager**

**David Watts-Vial, Assistant District Attorney (via Zoom)**

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:08 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

**20-0750      AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.**

Chair Lucey stated an awards presentation was conducted during the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting, but one recipient could not attend until this meeting. Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore shared an incident that occurred on June 23 when a fire broke out near an apartment complex in Sun Valley. Chief Moore indicated Mr. Hector Henriquez from Q & D Construction used the water truck he was driving to keep the fire from advancing until fire crews arrived. Chief Moore awarded Mr. Henriquez a Chief's Medal of Commendation for his actions.

Chief Moore expressed appreciation to Steve Gillespie and Q & D Construction for assisting Station 45 with getting fire trucks out in a timely manner during the busy summer.

A voicemail was played from Annemarie Grant, sister of Thomas Purdy who was killed by law enforcement. She claimed victory over one County Commissioner who was not re-elected. She expressed concern about changes to the phone system at the jail, which included increased costs for phone calls and a service fee to add money to an inmate's account. She played a recording of a deputy being told to back away from her brother.

**20-0751**      **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

County Manger Eric Brown announced a special session would be held on Monday, November 16 to review the Canvass of the Vote. He noted he visited more than half of the polls on Election Day and thanked poll workers for getting the votes in. He conveyed gratitude to the Registrar of Voters' (ROV) Office for ensuring votes were uploaded to the Secretary of State in a timely manner. He thanked law enforcement officers for their presence at polling places, which provided comfort to individuals who were voting, and noted there were very few incidents. He expressed appreciation to Technology Services staff for working with the ROV's Office to ensure technology worked smoothly.

Mr. Brown brought up Agenda Item 8F, which pertained to phasing out and reclassifying positions in the County Manager's Office for additional support for 311 and outreach for the Community Advisory Boards. He indicated this reclassification would create more flexibility for staff coverage.

Mr. Brown said he had participated in the interview panel for the selection of the new Chief in the Department of Alternative Sentencing and acknowledged the appointment of Justin Roper to the position. He asserted Mr. Roper was an exemplary leader in that department, and the Manager was pleased he was selected for the position.

Commissioner Jung expressed appreciation for departments cross training employees. She mentioned the Washoe County ROV's Office was shown on CNN during the election process. She wanted additional discussion and a future agenda item about the efforts County departments took for cross training to create a more responsive workplace.

Commissioner Hartung wanted a discussion about the need for a Risk Manager in Washoe County who could assess actual risks, not just those related to COVID-19 (C19). He said this had been discussed with the previous County Manager and he hoped it would continue.

Chair Lucey thanked Mr. Brown for his continued efforts to resolve issues surrounding C19 and for responding to new hurdles every day. He asserted Mr. Brown operated in the best of his capacity to ensure the organization ran as smoothly as possible, and the public was provided with pertinent information. He expressed concern about the increase in active C19 cases and the amount of people who were hospitalized. He indicated health care workers were becoming overwhelmed. He pleaded with businesses to enforce that employees who were sick must stay home, and to adhere to mask requirements for staff and patrons. He noted Governor Sisolak was scheduled for a press conference later in the day to discuss the C19 response. He asserted C19 cases had nearly tripled and hospitalizations nearly doubled.

Chair Lucey announced retired Chief Joe Ingraham had joined the meeting to celebrate the appointment of his successor. The Chair congratulated Mr. Ingraham on his retirement.

Commissioner Hartung reminded staff about his request for a future agenda item regarding speeding issues in Spanish Springs. He had received complaints about these issues in multiple areas and hoped measures could be taken to help mitigate the matter.

Mr. Brown announced a new picture-in-picture feature that allowed live viewers to also view ballots being processed in the Registrar of Voters Office. He mentioned livestreaming would occur on the County website from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily, and the feed was also embedded in some national news feeds. More than 30,000 viewers had seen ballot processing in Washoe County and the feed would remain live until all votes were counted.

**20-0752**      **AGENDA ITEM 5** Presentation and update on abandoned vehicle removal throughout Sun Valley; acknowledge receipt of Report. Sheriff. (Commission Districts 3 & 5.)

Via Zoom, Lieutenant Dennis Hippert conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: Sun Valley Abandoned Vehicle Project; The Abandoned Vehicle Issue (2 slides); Cleanup Procedures; Partnerships; Aloha/Klondike July 15, 2020; and Multiple Areas September 3 & 4.

Lt. Hippert stated that, when abandoned vehicles were reported to the Sheriff's Office, they were tagged with 72-hour notices warning that they would be towed if not moved within that time. After removing the vehicle, a tow company could file for a junk title certificate through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Once the junk title was received, the tow company became the legal owner of the vehicle and could dispose of it however they chose. He indicated challenges arose after the DMV shut down due to COVID-19, which prevented tow companies from removing vehicles previously collected from their lots and left them with no space for additional vehicles. The shortage of storage resulted in a significant number of abandoned vehicles left in Washoe County open space areas.

Lt. Hippert explained how individuals not updating private party sales with the DMV also created problems regarding enforcement for the illegal act of dumping vehicles. He noted this issue would be brought to the legislature in the future. A community partnership had been created to allow these abandoned vehicles to be removed from Sun Valley en masse, and the tags placed on the vehicles instructed owners to contact the DMV directly. This action enabled junk title certificates to be issued to tow companies without requiring vehicles to be removed first, so abandoned vehicles could be removed in a timely manner. Lt. Hippert stated three abandoned vehicle removal operations had occurred, and he thanked the partners involved, saying deputies could not have done it without them. He noted most of the funding had come from the Sun Valley General Improvement District.

Commissioner Herman thanked the Sheriff's Office for their hard work getting these vehicles removed.

Commissioner Jung thanked Sheriff Balaam and staff for responding to this issue and asked them to let the Board know what it could do to help at the legislative level.

Chair Lucey expressed appreciation for the presentation and the hard work the Sheriff's Office had done to improve the area.

There was no action or public comment on this item.

**20-0753**      **AGENDA ITEM 6** Receive updates and presentations regarding the following NDOT highway improvements: statewide Advance Signal Warning Systems (ASWS) from Sam Ahiamadi, P.E., NDOT Project Manager, and Laycee Kolkman, P.E., HDR Director of Traffic Engineering; and Mt. Rose Highway and U.S. 395/Parr Boulevard bridge from Jae Pullen, P.E., NDOT Project Manager. (All Commission Districts.)

Via Zoom, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) Project Manager Jae Pullen conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk, and reviewed slides with the following titles: U.S. 395 Parr Boulevard Bridge and U.S. 395 North Valleys Phase 1A, Parr Boulevard Bridge Replacement (2 slides).

Mr. Pullen stated replacing the Parr Boulevard bridge was the first phase of the U.S. 395 North Valleys project. This project would widen 395 from North McCarran Boulevard to Stead Boulevard. The previous bridge was more than 45 years old and structurally deficient. He said repair costs were comparable to a new structure. He indicated the Department made the decision to accelerate the bridge replacement ahead of the phase 1 schedule. What typically took 12 months to design was completed in half that time, and the bridge was removed in one weekend in June and reopened to traffic in October. Due to the existing high voltage transmission line overhead, Q & D Construction performed a special procedure to install equipment under the line. At the time of the meeting, most of the work was complete and the contractor would continue to work on the pedestrian fence, lighting, and decorative structures.

Mr. Pullen noted the department designed the bridge to state and federal standards, including incorporating traffic counts and performing a sight triangle to ensure sight distance. However, the department received public feedback that the new northbound ramp lacked visibility for drivers making a left turn. After reviewing sight conditions, he remarked, the visibility was affected by a few factors. The geometric configuration with the ramp alignment was very close to the structure, which affected visibility. There was also a profile change where the east side of the interchange was raised four to five feet. Additionally, new design standards require taller bridge rails. He commented a second factor to consider was that the new structure included sidewalks on the north and south sides, putting the stop line further away from the intersection to accommodate the crosswalk. Finally, the advisory speed was set at 20 miles per hour, but a field review determined vehicles were driving much faster than that on the structure, impacting visibility needs. With all those factors considered, he said, the department was moving forward with short-term sight visibility corrections for the ramp. While the bridge sidewalk

on the north connected to existing sidewalks on both Parr Boulevard and Dandini Boulevard, this was not the case for the sidewalk on the south side. He stated the interim strategy was to close and remove the sidewalk on the south side of the bridge to improve visibility. Additionally, with minor adjustments to the striping lanes, placement could be shifted further north to enhance visibility. He pointed out the next U.S. 395 construction phase was anticipated to begin in 2023 and would align the northbound offramp to be closer to the Dandini Boulevard roundabout. Moving the ramp further to the east would provide additional sight distance from the bridge rail and would heighten visibility. He noted they were moving quickly with a change order to make these adjustments. Once the work was negotiated with the contractor, they would have a better idea of the schedule, though they were also cognizant that winter weather could affect the schedule. In the interim, he said, the contractor placed electronic feedback signs to advise drivers to maintain the posted speed limit.

Mr. Pullen conducted a second PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Mount Rose Corridor Update; Safety Improvements & Corridor Study; Safety Improvements Project; Corridor Study Goals; Study Limits; and Baseline Schedule.

Mr. Pullen stated the Mt. Rose Highway was a scenic bypass and was officially named the highway to the sky. State Route (SR) 431 connected Lake Tahoe to Reno starting at the junction of SR 28, stretching 24 miles northeast to the South Virginia Street intersection. The average daily traffic on the valley section of Mt. Rose Highway had grown from 15,000 vehicles in 2014 to nearly 23,000 in 2019. He commented the department was moving forward with two strategies, the first of which was an intersection spot enhancement at two key locations included in a corridor study to address future needs. Improvements were also planned at the Callahan Road and Edmonton Drive intersections, which would include raised median islands, turning lanes, and intersection lights. He indicated the growth north of Wedge Parkway was transitioning the area from a rural to a suburban environment. The purpose of this plan was to develop a 20-year traffic forecast based on nearby land use. With this information, the planning study would establish a vision for the corridor including appropriate roadway classification, access management standards, roadway connectivity, and a multi-mobile strategy for future needs. For this plan to succeed, the department was collaborating with Washoe County, the City of Reno, and the Regional Transportation Commission. He stated law enforcement, businesses, homeowner associations, and local schools were also included as partners.

Mr. Pullen stated a finalized action plan would include short-term and long-term improvements based on the findings, and hopefully provide realistic expectations based on available funding and priorities. It was their goal for the study to become a useful tool that the City, the County, and NDOT could use whenever designing projects along the Mt. Rose Corridor. He reviewed the area covered by the study, adding it would be completed within the year. The team would begin by evaluating the existing corridor conditions, such as crash data and previous studies. He said NDOT would hold its first virtual public meeting in January, where their team would use information from stakeholders and public feedback to move forward with fine tuning the corridor vision. The

second public meeting would be held in the summer. By October 2021, they hoped to have a finalized corridor action plan that could be used by NDOT and its partner agencies.

Chair Lucey thanked Mr. Pullen for the presentation, adding his appreciation for NDOT's participation in addressing this from an engineering and safety standpoint. However, he said, accidents would continue to occur at the Parr Boulevard bridge and offramp until those issues were addressed. Employees at the Regional Emergency Operations Center and Detention Center would be impacted by the delays in the improvement project.

Chair Lucey had asked staff to pull information regarding accidents on the Mt. Rose Highway, adding the most significant area was between Wedge Parkway and Mt. Rose Ski Resort; accidents at Callahan Ranch Road, North Timberline Drive, and Thomas Creek Road were the highest because of the need to cross lanes of traffic to get on the highway and traffic coming from both directions. He stated 24 accidents had occurred over the past three years in those intersections, so they needed to be considered for signalization. The Sheriff's Office had issued 76 citations, mostly for speeding, and eight accidents had already occurred with one fatality in 2020. He reiterated the longer improvements were delayed, the more incidents would occur. He expressed frustration that the corridor was still in the study stage and no action had occurred.

Commissioner Hartung stated he had worked with Mr. Pullen on geometry issues at Calle de la Plata and Pyramid Way, and appreciated the changes NDOT made. He expressed concern about the Parr Boulevard bridge and thought other options could be utilized to mitigate this situation rather than informational signs. He wanted the improvements completed as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Hartung wondered whether a road safety audit had been completed on the seven-mile section on Mt. Rose Highway. Mr. Pullen confirmed it had been, along with control evaluation studies at two key locations. Commissioner Hartung shared his concerns about the safety of the Mt. Rose Corridor. He asked whether the design included any type of center barrier. Mr. Pullen stated they were working on more of a planning document, although details such as barriers had not yet been determined. He explained roadway classification would dictate how to design the corridor with all details included. He thought the area had been urbanized, and the focus should possibly be on speed, rather than traffic, to accommodate the different types of activity. The study would identify the future vision for the corridor and the best processes to accomplish it. He indicated the study would be used by multiple agencies for the future of the Mt. Rose Corridor, and would detail recommended improvements, such as raised medians. Commissioner Hartung thanked Mr. Pullen for the information and mentioned many of the same measures were needed on Pyramid Highway.

Commissioner Jung asked Mr. Pullen to restate the cost of the Parr Boulevard bridge construction. Mr. Pullen replied phase 1 of the U.S. 395 project was anticipated to begin construction in 2023. Since the bridge was structurally deficient, the cost of repairing the structure would be close to the cost of building a new structure if they

were to delay the project. He said they opted to take phase 1 and break it up into phases 1A and 1B. Phase 1A was the accelerated bridge replacement, which would be followed in 2023 by phase 1B, the widening of U.S. Highway 395 and realigning the Parr Boulevard ramps. Commissioner Jung inquired what would happen if nothing was done until 2023 when new bridge was complete. Mr. Pullen stated it was a risk the department could have taken, but they instead leaned heavily towards the structural division, which strongly recommended the bridge replacement not be delayed and that portion be accelerated ahead of the widening. Commissioner Jung inquired about the work being done in the next phase. Mr. Pullen stated U.S. 395 Highway would be widened, lanes would be added, and the ramps would be realigned.

Commissioner Jung wondered whether NDOT took into consideration the age of the people traveling on Mt. Rose Highway. Mr. Pullen stated it was taken into account, especially in traffic engineering; speed was a major factor when dealing with traffic control. The design speed took behavior and response times into consideration, and signs would need to be large enough to be seen in time at the estimated speed drivers were traveling. Commissioner Jung wondered whether consideration was given to the reduced biological response time of individuals 70 and older. Mr. Pullen stated certain elements in design, especially traffic design, considered all aspects, and some 70 year olds reacted quicker than others.

Commissioner Jung asked about identifiable areas used for vehicle racing and thought it would detour racing if there were no flat straight-aways. She spoke about a certain age group that knew where the best racing areas were. She thought this could be evaluated along with the demographics of people with ingress and egress daily. Mr. Pullen said they tried to capitalize on all the items Commissioner Jung addressed when guidelines were considered. The intent of an engineer was not to design a road that was used as a racetrack; roads designed for comfortable speeds included 12-foot wide lanes for higher speeds and narrower lanes for lower speeds. He stated one challenge was the Mt. Rose Highway community was growing and impacting motorists on the roadways. He indicated staff had to look at the entire picture as the corridor changed, and they did not want to fix something that would cause a situation later. He said Mt. Rose Highway was a four-lane highway and drivers' speeds increased when traffic was light. When they looked at the roadway classification, the intent was to redesign and change the specific characteristics to make people less comfortable driving at high speeds.

Commissioner Jung asked about quality control on an altered highway and wanted assurance that changes were effective. She thought it seemed like staff should be more reactive to real-time data and able to modify rather than react when issues occurred. Mr. Pullen understood what Commissioner Jung was referring to, but said he was not the best representative from NDOT to respond to that question since it pertained to multiple areas of specialties; he would direct the appropriate person to contact her.

Chair Lucey thought many of the Board's concerns were addressed and he understood the project had to be viewed in its entirety. He pointed out the County impact study for the Mt. Rose Corridor started at South Virginia Street and went to Douglas Fir

Drive; the roadway extended into Vice Chair Berkbigler's growing district, which added extra population to and from the corridor. He asserted traffic on the corridor did not include only residential traffic but truck traffic as well. He spoke about the significant changes in elevation on the roadway and said it was difficult in inclement weather to slow down and stop quickly. He thought this project needed to be a global discussion due to all the challenges.

NDOT Project Manager Sam Ahiamadi provided a brief history about the first Advance Signal Warning Systems (ASWS) being installed on roads across Nevada. He said they realized the systems needed to be updated. In 2019, a project was established and ADR Incorporated was commissioned to help them update guidelines that had been used for more than 20 years.

Mr. Ahiamadi conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk, and reviewed slides with the following titles: Statewide Advance Signal Warning System Changes; ASWS Changes; Project Development Timeline To Date; Types of ASWS Systems (3 slides); When To Remove ASWS (2 slides); Timing Modifications; Emergency Vehicle Pre-emption & Pedestrian Priority; Reno-Sparks Area; Carson-Tahoe-Douglas County Area; Northeastern Nevada; Las Vegas Area; Project Schedule; Project Status (2 slides); Construction; and Stay Connected.

Commissioner Hartung expressed appreciation for the comprehensive presentation. He was apprehensive about the changes being made, pointing out the speeds on Pyramid Highway had changed without warning from 45 miles per hour one day to 55 miles per hour the next day. He had accused County staff of making changes but discovered NDOT had made them. He worried about how well people would be informed of pending changes. He stated Mr. Ahiamadi spoke about uniform traffic control device guidelines and compared them to national standards. He was not convinced the ASWS needed fixing. Accidents he had seen on Pyramid Highway were not due to the ASWS, but often driver error. He stated the ASWS at Pyramid Highway and Calle de la Plata was the most dangerous one in the area, telling a story about the fire service going through a red light after the flasher alerted them of the pending signal change, but they could not stop in time when traveling the speed limit. He thought that could be corrected if the warning time was adjusted to provide more time to stop. He expressed concern about backlash the Board of County Commissioners and City Councils would receive, even though it was not the intention of NDOT to create issues.

Chair Lucey requested that Mr. Ahiamadi speak with Commissioner Hartung offline.

There was no action taken or public comment on this item.



**20-0754**      **AGENDA ITEM 7** Proclamation. Recognize the dedicated public service to Washoe County by Judge Peter Sferrazza as a result of his recent retirement as Justice of the Peace for Reno Justice Court. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Lucey read the Proclamation, which he awarded to Judge Peter Sferrazza, who was joined by his family.

Chair Lucey said the Sferrazza name was well known in Washoe County. When Judge Sferrazza was first Mayor in 1981, Chair Lucey was a just a child, but he had continued to hear the name over the years and it was his pleasure to stand next to Judge Sferrazza and present the Proclamation to him personally.

Judge Sferrazza thanked the Commissioners for their work. On behalf of his family, he thanked the Board for the honor and shared that it had been a privilege to serve Washoe County for the last 21 years. He admitted he was looking forward to a long and happy retirement.

Chief Judge Ryan Sullivan, via Zoom, said she was honored to congratulate Judge Sferrazza on behalf of the Reno Justice Court. She acknowledged Judge Sferrazza had a long, distinguished, and varied career. She asserted he always took the time to listen to individuals and tried to understand where people were coming from. She wished him the best in his new adventures.

Judge Sferrazza thanked Chief Judge Sullivan, his colleagues, and staff at the Reno Justice Court for their service.

Ms. Jessica Sferrazza thanked the Board of County Commissioners for honoring her father. She shared a story about how, when he had run for Mayor, he had gotten his children to go door to door by promising them Happy Meals. She mentioned he was the longest serving Mayor in the City of Reno. She expressed gratitude to all elected officials. She spoke proudly about her father's accomplishments in the community, adding he was the kindest person she knew. She wished him well in his retirement.

Commissioner Hartung congratulated Judge Sferrazza for his long career, expressed appreciation for his hard work, and thanked him for his friendship. Judge Sferrazza thanked Commissioner Hartung and stated it was an honor to serve with him.

Vice Chair Berkbigler thanked Judge Sferrazza and said he left a legacy for the community. She hoped he enjoyed his retirement.

Commissioner Herman thanked Judge Sferrazza and his family for their service to the community.

Commissioner Jung thanked Judge Sferrazza on behalf of the citizens of District 3 for his service and said she aspired to be like him. She also thanked his family,

because public servants did not do the job alone. Judge Sferrazza thanked Commissioner Jung for serving in his district.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chair Lucey, second by Vice Chair Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be accepted.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 8A THROUGH 8K3**

- 20-0755** **8A** Approval of minutes for the Board of County Commissioners' regular meeting of October 13, 2020. Clerk. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0756** **8B1** Recommendation to reject an open offer of dedication for the possible future acceptance by Washoe County of two land parcels, APN 089-621-02 and APN 089-631-01 made by the developer Barker-Coleman Investments in August 2007 as part of the approval of Subdivision Tract Map #4821, thereby terminating any and all future rights of Washoe County to assume ownership of the land parcels, and authorize the Chairman to execute a Quitclaim Deed in favor of Barker-Coleman. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)
- 20-0757** **8B2** Recommendation to reject bids for the Washoe County Sheriff Office Visitation Room Conversion Project pursuant to NRS 338.1385(6)(d). Community Services. (Commission District 3.)
- 20-0758** **8C** Recommendation to acknowledge receipt of the Interim Financial Report for Washoe County Governmental Funds for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2020 - Unaudited. Comptroller. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0759** **8D** Recommendation to retroactively acknowledge the Professional Services Agreement to support the Risk-Need-Responsivity Model program for Adult Drug Court, between the Second Judicial District Court and JOIN, in an amount not to exceed [\$40,000] (no match required), to support the Specialty Courts program, effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, with a provision for three (3) one year extensions through June 30, 2024. District Court. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0760** **8E** Recommendation to approve budget amendments totaling an increase of [\$107,047.00] in both revenue and expense to the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Public Health Preparedness Program retroactive to January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and direct the Comptroller's office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)

- 20-0761**      **8F** Recommendation to approve the reclassifications of two (2) Duplicating Equipment Officer II positions, pay grade G, to Office Assistant III, pay grade G (Office of the County Manager) as evaluated by the Job Evaluation Committee; and authorize Human Resources to make the necessary changes. [Net zero impact] Human Resources. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0762**      **8G1** Recommendation to approve a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Federal 2020 CARES Act Grant-In-Aid Award through the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records, in the amount of [\$21,308.00, no match required] for a retroactive term of May 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021; Direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Director to sign the grant award documents. Library. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0763**      **8H** Recommendation to appoint Acting Chief Justin Roper to the unclassified management position of Chief Alternative Sentencing Officer of the Department of Alternative Sentencing (DAS) per Washoe County Code 11.030 and approve an annual starting salary of \$98,800.00 effective November 10, 2020. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0764**      **8I1** Recommendation to accept grant funding [\$62,632.00 with no county match] from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services for personnel, operating, and travel expenses relating to the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS), retroactive from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021, and authorize the Chief Medical Examiner & Coroner of the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office to sign the award and approve amendments, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Regional Medical Examiner. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0765**      **8I2** Recommendation to accept grant funding [\$81,315.00 with no county match] from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services for personnel, operating, travel, and toxicology expenses relating to the Overdose to Action (OD2A) program, retroactive from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021, and authorize the Chief Medical Examiner & Coroner of the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office to sign the award and approve amendments, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Regional Medical Examiner. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0766**      **8J1** Recommendation to accept the Polycom System award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Assistance [amount not to exceed \$31,228.00, no In-Kind county match required] to cover new Polycom Systems and a U-Temp temperature screening units, for the retroactive grant period of January 20, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and if approved, direct Comptroller's Office to make the

necessary budget amendments and authorize Sheriff Balaam to execute grant award documents. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

- 20-0767** **8J2** Recommendation to approve the acceptance of reimbursement costs [\$13,000.00, no match required] from the USDA Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest for overtime costs incurred while involved in the Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement #21-LE-11041700-005 for the period date signed - December 31, 2024; and if approved, authorize Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments and authorize Sheriff Balaam to execute grant award documents. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0768** **8K1** Recommendation to accept a subaward from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child & Family Services in the amount of [\$14,200; no County match] retroactively from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 to provide public awareness and education on infant safe sleep habits; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subaward and related documents; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0769** **8K2** Recommendation to accept a FY21 Federal Title IV-B1 sub-grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$62,004; \$20,668 county match] retroactive from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 to provide child welfare services with a focus on keeping families together; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subgrant award and related documents; and direct the Comptroller to make necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 20-0770** **8K3** Recommendation to appoint Deborah Whitehouse [District 4] and Barbara Korosa [District 1] to the Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board for the four-year term effective November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2024; and recommendation to accept the resignation of Danada Rausch [District 4] effective November 1, 2020. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

Commissioner Hartung brought up an error on Agenda Item 8B1, stating it should read Commission District 4, not District 2.

Commissioner Hartung questioned the difference in estimated construction costs for Agenda Item 8B2. He expressed concern that the engineers' estimate was significantly lower than the professional bids received. Division Director of Engineering and Capital Projects Dwayne Smith indicated spikes in material and labor costs were occurring, and the delivery of materials was being delayed. He and staff were working with

the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Committee to reassess projects in order to understand the process and update the costs. He asserted this was a significant issue and it would be some time before things reverted to normal. New expectations would be set for future bids, and timing was also an important factor. Commissioner Hartung voiced concern about effects to the CIP budget.

Chair Lucey pointed out Agenda Item 8H was a recommendation to approve Acting Chief Justin Roper as Chief Alternative Sentencing Officer of the Department of Alternative Sentencing. He mentioned County Manager Eric Brown spoke about the appointment earlier and Mr. Brown said the interview process was vast. He asserted Chief Roper would be a tremendous asset to the department and congratulated him on the appointment.

There was no public comment on the Consent Agenda Items listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Berkbigler, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 8A through 8K3 be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 8A through 8K3 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

### **BLOCK VOTE – 10 THROUGH 21**

**20-0771** **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to: (1) award a bid and approve the Agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the FY 21 Roof Restoration Project [staff recommends CTR Roofing, LTD., in the amount of \$116,000.00]; and if awarded, (2) approve the purchase of roofing materials from Garland, DBS [in the amount of \$504,228.18] utilizing Racine County, Wisconsin's Contract # PW1925 pursuant to the joinder provision of NRS 332.195; and (3) approve a separate \$30,000 project contingency fund. Community Services. (Commission District 3.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be awarded and approved.

**20-0772**      **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to award a bid and approve the Agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the South Truckee Meadows PRV Replacement Project [staff recommends Farr Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$418,800.00] and, if awarded (2) approve a separate \$30,000 project contingency fund. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be awarded and approved.

**20-0773**      **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to authorize the Construction-Manager-At-Risk (CMAR), MWH Constructors and KG Walters Construction (MWH&KGW), a joint venture, and approve the Owner-CMAR construction agreement, to construct Influent Pump and Screen Replacement Project under a Guaranteed Maximum Price agreement, GMP 2, a separate guaranteed maximum price agreement for the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility 2020 Expansion Project in the amount of [\$2,749,323]. Community Services Department. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be authorized.

**20-0774**      **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to: (1) approve the purchase of a new Sewer Equipment Company of America Eco 900 9-yd Combination Truck and chassis from Nixon-Egeli Equipment Company, 800 E Grant Line Rd, Tracy, CA [\$446,309.81] utilizing Sourcewell contract #122017-SCA; and (2) authorize the Purchasing and Contract Manager to execute the Sourcewell contract usage agreement. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be approved and authorized.

**20-0775**      **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to accept a FY21 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Special grant subaward from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$200,400; \$50,100 county match] retroactive from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 to provide emergency assistance support for victims with a focus on victims impacted as a result of the COVID-19 public health crisis; to provide enhanced technology for Human Services Agency caseworkers; and to increase access to safety and services; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award; and direct the Comptroller's office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

**20-0776**      **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to: (1) accept a sub-grant award from the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division from the Independent Living Grant (ILG) in support of Washoe County Human Services Agency's Homemaker program [\$132,840; County match of \$19,926], retroactive from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; (2) approve Amendment #1 to the contract currently awarded to Freedom Home Health, LLC. (awarded Request for Proposal RFP #3088-19) to support the Homemaker program, which (a) extends the initial contract term to November 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 in amount up to [\$197,028], (b) provides for three (3) one (1) year renewal periods in amount not to exceed [\$127,500] per renewal period, and (c) increases the available service hours up to 10,875 hours for the initial term; (3) authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the Sub-grant Award and related documents; (4) direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and (5) authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute Amendment #1 and any subsequent renewals. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be accepted, approved, authorized, and directed.

**20-0777**      **AGENDA ITEM 16** Recommendation to accept a FY21 Title XX subgrant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of [\$663,807; no county match] retroactive from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 to promote reunification and permanency, health and safety, educational support and normalcy for children in care; to provide shelter services to prevent the removal of children from their families; and to provide professional development/training to Washoe County social work staff and to foster parents; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award; and direct the Comptroller's office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 16 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

**20-0778**      **AGENDA ITEM 17** Recommendation to accept a subaward from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Licensing in the amount of [\$408,600; no county match] retroactive to July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 to provide child care licensing and monitoring within Washoe County; and ratify the authority of the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the subaward and related documents. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 17 be accepted and ratified.

**20-0779**      **AGENDA ITEM 18** Recommendation to approve a purchase order agreement with U.S. Imaging Inc., 400 S Franklin St. Saginaw, MI, 48607, in joinder with the Nye County agreement, for On-site Bound and Mechanical book scanning for an assortment of Land and Vital Records [cost estimated to be \$500,000 in fiscal year 2021 carried forward from fiscal year 2020], utilizing the Recorder's Technology Fund. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 18 be approved.



**20-0780**      **AGENDA ITEM 19** Recommendation to approve the reimbursement of costs to be incurred by the City of Reno for ProQA Priority Dispatch Medical Software licensing, training, quality assurance, support and accreditation associated with implementing Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) services as recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee on October 8, 2020, in an amount not to exceed [\$151,000]. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

On the call for public comment, Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) Executive Director Aaron Abbott thanked the Board via Zoom for approving funding for the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee. He indicated this was a surcharge imposed for wireless users throughout Washoe County, which would be used to enhance the telephonic 911 system. He stated the request came from the City of Reno in preparation for the purchase of ProQA Software. He mentioned this service was provided by REMSA at no charge to taxpayers, and surcharge funding was not used for that service. He opined the purchase by the City of Reno would create redundancy and inefficiencies in the 911 system. He expressed REMSA's concern regarding the ability of the City of Reno to fund the purchase of software through e911, including the opposition of this item. He asked the Board to consider before approving the item.

Chair Lucey stated the Board of County Commissioners had a fiscal responsibility through Nevada Revised Statutes to approve funding from the e911 Board for those who participated; however, approving the item would not guarantee the funds would be spent since approval by the Fire and Police Chiefs at the City of Reno would be required. He understood the concerns related to redundancy but thought it was prudent to move forward with it, even amidst his concern that extra money would be spent on a redundant service if the City of Reno did not implement the system.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 19 be approved.

**20-0781**      **AGENDA ITEM 20** Recommendation to approve the reimbursement of costs incurred by the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, departments of Washoe County, and the Washoe County School District for expenses related to and in support of the Enhanced 911 Emergency Response System and portable event recording devices, and recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee on October 8th 2020, in an amount not to exceed [\$951,354.58] as specified within the adopted Enhanced 911 Fund's operating budget. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 20 be approved.

**20-0782**      **AGENDA ITEM 21** Recommendation to approve the Intrado, Incorporated Service Order amending and replacing all current Intrado, Incorporated service orders and change requests for Washoe County Regional 911 Emergency Response with a one-time cost of [\$142,718], a monthly recurring cost of not-to-exceed [\$145,000 or \$1,740,000 annually] and a term of one-hundred-forty-four [144] months from the order effective date; to approve utilization of 911 telephone surcharge funds for the Service Order; and direct the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Service Order. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 21 be approved and directed.

**20-0783**      **AGENDA ITEM 9** Discussion and possible action to terminate the “AGREEMENT FOR DISPATCH AND FORENSIC SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF RENO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE” dated September 25, 1990, such termination to be effective 90 days after the City of Reno is provided notice of the termination as required by Article VII of the Agreement; authorize and direct the County Manager to provide written notice of the Board’s action to terminate the Agreement at least 90 days prior to the effective date of termination, and to take all other actions consistent with termination of the Agreement. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Lucey stated this discussion had been going on for a significant time and he thought it was time to make the situation right. He asserted Washoe County was a large county and it was imperative to start operating as such. The County could not continue with handshake agreements, and he said business needed to be conducted professionally, including payment for services rendered.

Vice Chair Berkbigler opined regional dispatch had the potential to serve constituents in Washoe County in a less expensive and safer manner. She thought regional dispatch could not be achieved using side agreements with other entities. Washoe County was the regional government and taxes collected from residents within the unincorporated area covered costs for services rendered in the incorporated area. She pointed out Sheriff Darin Balaam and former Sheriff Chuck Allen had tried to reach an agreement with the City of Reno for regional services to no avail. She believed the only way the issue would be resolved was to dissolve the agreement and move forward. She hoped this would generate a solution so constituents living in the greater Washoe County area could benefit from regional services.

Commissioner Hartung agreed with Vice Chair Berkbigler, noting Sheriff Mike Haley was the first Sheriff to speak about the disparity. He indicated exchanging services for payment was the equitable way to conduct proper business, and it was time for this to be changed. He asserted it would not be a simple or comfortable change, but it needed to happen.

Chair Lucey stated it was difficult to account for services with such an agreement. The County had a fiduciary responsibility to taxpayers to fulfill needs in the community and ensure their dollars were being spent wisely. He asserted this was not personal; it was business, and it was time to move services in the right direction.

Commissioner Herman thanked staff for the item, as it was a simple step to balance the budget.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Tom Daly said that, according to County Auditors, the subsidy to Reno had reached more than \$8 million since 2007, not including the services rendered over the next 90 days. He opined it was time for the City of Reno to stand on its own feet. He expressed concern about the specificity of the date when the 90-day notice would be effective and the agreement would be terminated.

Regarding Mr. Daly's concern, Chair Lucey responded he believed the notice would be effective as of the approval of the item. County Manager Eric Brown stated that was also his understanding. Assistant District Attorney David Watts-Vial stated that, with the way the staff report was written, the termination date would be 90 calendar days after the City of Reno received a written notification of termination.

Commissioner Hartung asked whether it was safe to assume the letter would be delivered to the City of Reno by November 13. Mr. Watts-Vial stated he would not be the one to deliver the letter but thought that would be a reasonable time. The language in the staff report would authorize and direct the County Manager to provide written notice to the City of Reno of the Board's action to terminate the agreement at least 90 days prior to the effective date of termination. He noted the specific termination date did not have to be included in the letter.

On motion by Vice Chair Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that the Agreement for Dispatch and Forensic Services Between the City of Reno Police Department and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office dated September 25, 1990 be terminated, with such termination to be effective 90 days after the City of Reno was provided notice of the termination, as required by Article VII of the Agreement; that the County Manager be authorized and directed to provide written notice of the Board's action to terminate the Agreement no later than Friday, November 13; and that all other actions consistent with termination of the Agreement be taken.

**20-0784**      **AGENDA ITEM 22** Recommendation to receive update and provide for discussion and possible direction to staff on the current status, milestones, change orders and budget, of the Nevada Shared Radio System project in Washoe County. Technology Services. (All Commission Districts.)

Via Zoom, Interim Chief Information Officer Quinn Korbolic conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He reviewed slides with the following titles: Nevada Shared Radio System Update; NSRS Background (2 slides); System Implementation Schedule; Project Budget; Project Milestone payments; Project Change Orders; Project Finance; Project payment Sources; and Summary.

Commissioner Hartung asked whether the sites being used for equipment would be co-located with the peaks that already had microwaves and transmitters installed. Mr. Korbolic stated they would be placed at existing sites, although equipment had to be installed at new sites to accommodate the growth in the area, so site acquisition issues would occur. He noted equipment needed to be installed at five new property sites, including one each in Washoe County, Sparks, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and two on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land. He stated that, once the plans were complete, staff would submit applications for permits. He said the permit process would be between six and eight months, and he hoped to be ready for construction by mid-summer 2021. Commissioner Hartung wondered whether the Fish and Wildlife and BLM sites had to go through an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) process. Mr. Korbolic explained only one of the sites was undisturbed and might require an EA or EIS; the other sites were established with communication infrastructure installed.

There was no action take or public comment on this item.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**20-0785**      **AGENDA ITEM 23** Public Hearing: Appeal of the Washoe County Planning Commission's denial of Orni 36, LLC's Special Use Permit Case Number WSUP20-0013 (Ormat Geothermal) for 1) the establishment of an Energy Production, Renewable use type including two 24MW geothermal power plants, 2) the establishment of a Hazardous Materials use, in the form of 720,000 lbs of flammable pentane gas (a refrigerant) for use as a turbine working fluid, 3) major grading for 194.9 acres of ground disturbance, including 300,000 cy of excavation, for well pads and access roads, and 4) a 120kV power transmission line that extends ±21.6 miles over 20 parcels. The application also requests to vary landscaping, parking, and grading standards by waiving all landscaping requirements, waiving the paved parking requirement, and allowing grading height differentials of greater than 10ft from natural grade. This project meets the standard for a project of regional significance, because it will generate more than 5 MW of electricity, require construction of 2 substations, and require the construction of a new transmission line and will require approval by the regional planning authorities before any approval at the county level would

take effect. The two substations will be located on APNs 071-070-13 and 071-030-06. The well pads will be located on APNs 071-030-07, 071-060-18, 071-070-09, 071-070-12, 071-070-16, 071-070-18, 071-070-19, 079-170-02. The Transmission line will be located on APNs 079-180-02, 079-180-12, 079-180-45, 079-570-01, 079-570-07, 079-570-13, 079-320-12, 079-320-18, 079-320-04, 079-170-39, 079-180-34, 079-180-37, 079-180-44, 079-320-42, 079-320-47, 079-320-52, 079-320-55, 079-570-02, 079-570-06, 079-570-12. The Board of County Commissioners may review the record and take one of the following four actions:

1. Affirm the decision of the Planning Commission and deny Special Use Permit Case Number WSUP20-0013; or
2. Reverse the decision of the Planning Commission and approve Special Use Permit Case Number WSUP20-0013 as proposed by the applicant, Orni 36, LLC, and as evaluated by staff in the Planning Commission staff report; or
3. Reverse the decision of the Planning Commission and approve Special Use Permit Case Number WSUP20-0013 with modifications; or
4. Remand Special Use Permit Case Number WSUP20-0013 back to the Planning Commission with instructions. If reversed and approved or if reversed and approved with modifications, authorize the chair to sign a resolution to that effect, including a recommendation to the regional planning authorities for an amendment to the Regional Utility Corridor Map to reflect this project for:(1) A 48 MW Geothermal energy center (containing two 24MW geothermal facilities and related substations on apns 071-070-13, 071-030-06) approximately 10 miles north of Pyramid Lake; and (2) A 21.6 Mile 120 kV overhead transmission line connection within an existing utility corridor approximately 10 miles east of the southern tip of Pyramid Lake south to the border of Washoe County. Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

The Chair opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak for or against this public hearing. There being no response, the hearing was closed.

Mr. Andy Durling from Wood Rodgers, representing the appellant, conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk, and reviewed slides with the following titles: North Valley Geothermal Facility; Project Application; Economic Impact; Fiscal Impact Assessment Summary; Project Location; Project Request; Summary of Project (2 slides); Plant Details; Hazardous Materials; Plant Details (2 slides); Wells and Well Pads; Grading; Planning Commission Concerns Addressed; Finding 4; Finding 6; and Project Benefits. He asked the Board to reverse the Planning Commission's decision and approve the project.

County Clerk Jan Galassini stated a 25-page document had been received from Christopher Dixon, which outlined the public comment provided to the Planning Commission; the email would be placed on file.

Commissioner Herman stated she had reviewed the entire project and believed it would be a significant benefit to the community without any detriment.

Chair Lucey understood that many of the issues would be overseen by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Nevada Division of Minerals, along with a number of oversight agencies. It would also be required to go before the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency due to its sizeable regional significance. He asked for clarification as to whether other agencies would have the opportunity to review this project, and that the Board's role was to approve the above-ground structures and disturbances to dirt. Mr. Durling stated that was correct; there was a list of agencies that regulated projects such as this. He noted Ormat Geothermal had been doing business in northern Nevada for decades and had a stellar reputation for operating these types of projects. He mentioned this project was in an unpopulated area.

Commissioner Hartung asked about water rights for this facility. Mr. Durling stated the appellants did have water rights and the site had shallow water wells, which would provide water for toilets onsite. Commissioner Hartung clarified he was referring to water rights for the geothermal resource. He asked whether they needed water rights, since these projects were non-consumptive. Mr. Durling stated water rights were not necessarily needed, but mineral rights were. Commissioner Hartung thought this would have no effect on the water table, as everything drawn out was put back in. Mr. Durling confirmed water was drawn out to heat the pentane gas and then went right back into the ground. Commissioner Hartung thought this was not a detriment and he did not understand why the Planning Commission had denied the project. He stated he looked forward to similar projects and noted the State would be required to have 50 percent renewable energy by 2030.

Vice Chair Berkbigler asserted Nevada had many geothermal sites and it would be shameful not to utilize them. She said this project would provide jobs and help to meet the future renewables goals.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that the decision of the Planning Commission be reversed and Special Use Permit Case Number WSUP20-0013 be approved as proposed by the applicant Orni 36, LLC., as evaluated by staff and the Planning Commission included in the staff report.

**20-0786**      **AGENDA ITEM 24** Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**20-0787**      **AGENDA ITEM 25** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Herman wished all veterans a peaceful day and hoped they could attend the parade in Virginia City.

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**1:11 p.m.**      There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

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**BOB LUCEY**, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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**JANIS GALASSINI**, County Clerk and  
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

*Minutes Prepared by:  
Doni Gassaway, Deputy County Clerk*