

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

PRESENT:

Bob Lucey, Chair
Vaughn Hartung, Vice Chair (via Zoom)
Alexis Hill, Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Commissioner (via telephone)
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

Janis Galassini, County Clerk
Eric Brown, County Manager
Nathan Edwards, Assistant District Attorney

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:01 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 roll, and the Board conducted the following business:

Chair Lucey thanked Jay Carmona, the chair of the Storey County Board of Commissioners, and Sheriff Gerald Antinoro from Storey County for joining the meeting.

21-0682 **AGENDA ITEM 3** Presentation by Jamie Rodriguez, Washoe County, Governmental Affairs Liaison and Alfredo Alonso, Principal, Lewis & Roca, on the 81st Legislative Session Report for 2021. Including, but not limited to: AB1, AB3, AB33. AB110, AB126, AB196, AB274, AB315, AB366, AB397, AB422, AB424, SB37, SB108, SB295, SB297, SB327, SB397, SCR11 & China Spring Budget. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Mr. Alonso thought the 81st legislative session was the strangest in years since the public body had no idea how to handle the COVID-19 situation and still attempt to operate properly. The first three months of the session were mostly virtual with hearings and testimonies provided in that manner. He said significant budget downfalls hurt counties financially by requiring local governments to pay more for the services and programs they provided. The federal government was able to secure money for the states and the plan was to fulfill budget shortfalls later in the year. He indicated a special session about reapportionment would be held in mid-November and it was up to Governor Sisolak to determine how funds would be allocated. He noted a listening tour led by the treasurer was going on, and a committee discussing allocations would convene as they had the previous year. He explained there were many difficult bills to address during this session, but the fiscal aspect could have been significantly worse.

Governmental Affairs Liaison Jamie Rodriguez conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Legislative Team; Overview; Bills with Fiscal Impact; Highlights (5 slides); and Final Legislative Report.

Ms. Rodriguez stated a multitude of staff supported the legislative team by reviewing and providing feedback on bills, and it was a massive group effort to represent the County best during the session. She noted the total number of bills introduced was about 250 fewer than normal based on restrictions from the pandemic.

Commissioner Hill stated it was her first session as a commissioner. She expressed excitement to start interim meetings with internal teams to discuss being proactive rather than defensive, which bills would work in the County's favor, and spending allocations. She felt many opportunities to change laws and spending allocations were available. She wondered whether discussions would start in the next year. Ms. Rodriguez replied discussions would start the next fiscal year, though some were being pushed forward given the upcoming special session. While they expected potential redistricting of the American Rescue Plan Act funds, more clarification would be made at the special session. Once the special session occurred, staff would reach out to departments to allow them time to submit suggestions and proposals for discussion.

Commissioner Jung expressed concern about the lack of a database so the commissioners could access new bill draft requests (BDRs), allowing them to be prepared to present them. She wanted the commissioners to be able to decide which BDRs were most important and thought a list of BDRs was needed for policy discussions as to whether a request was under the County's authority. She asserted they needed to work together to create positive solutions for what this body oversaw. She believed one major issue included annexation and property taxes, and she thought Washoe County had the most to lose from annexation. She wanted more cooperation and things to be fairer so the County was protected from the effects of annexation.

Chair Lucey said every session was unique. He thought Assembly Bill 1 would provide information to legislators to help them understand the challenges and situations impacted by their decisions at the local level. He spoke about the impacts that the Nevada Revised Statutes had on preventing the County from promoting change. As policy discussions took place and more legislative professionals were on their side, he thought discussions could occur more frequently to determine whether issues could be changed and if items should be brought back to the legislative team. He said discussions about representation and redistricting changes had occurred. He believed relationships kept them alive, but they needed to be more self-reliant on how to be effective and strategic about moving things forward. He expressed appreciation for all the hard work done during this fast, 120-day session. He asserted this session was awkward and people wondered how work was going to get completed on time.

Commissioner Jung thanked Mr. Alonso for representing the County, adding she knew he had their best interests in mind.

21-0683 **AGENDA ITEM 4** Public Comment.

Ms. Emily Montan provided a document, copies of which were distributed to the Board and placed on file with the clerk. She spoke about her affiliation with Faith in Action Nevada, who had a meeting about the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that would be distributed to the state, county, and cities; they wanted to provide priorities about what was important. She read quotes from a book on the early 20th century, noting she learned a significant amount about Nevada's history by doing research.

Ms. Janet Butcher, identifying as Martha Washington, stated she could not be happy in the current tyrannical situation. She opined George Washington would not be happy to see what he fought so hard for was being destroyed. She believed people were fighting the same oppression against those who chose to engage in an experimental injection. She quoted Thomas Payne and implored the Board to put an end to tyrannical mandates. People were being fired from jobs because they wanted freedom to choose their own medical care. She brought up that September 17 was Constitution Day.

Mr. Mike Brierley expressed concern about the resolution transferring Wildcreek Golf Course to First Tee. He thought First Tee could discontinue their operation in the future and he wanted to ensure the land would not be used for any other purpose than open space. He suggested provisions be added to the resolution that would deed restrict the land in case golf operations ceased under First Tee.

Ms. Lorraine Dougherty expressed frustration about the constitutional rights of community citizens being ignored, mandates, and decrees that violated her constitutional rights. She wanted the health emergency cancelled because she opined there was no emergency. She expressed refusal to abide by any mandates, declarations, or unconstitutional requirements in place and indicated she would not vote to re-elect any Board members.

Mr. James Benthin said he would attend a school board meeting later in the day where public comment was placed at the end of the meeting. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak at the beginning of the meeting. He discussed schools engaging in social emotional education when he thought it was important to study history so it would not be repeated. He expressed concern about COVID-19 (C19), vaccines, and molecules deposited into the body. He questioned the ethics of drug companies who developed vaccines because they also developed opioids, resulting in a crisis.

Ms. Lori Jensen said she represented Lockwood and its 3,000 residents, and she provided a petition, copies of which were distributed to the commissioners and placed on file with the clerk. She expressed concern about a homeless encampment located between the Vista Boulevard and Lockwood exits. In addition to her concern about residents' safety, she felt evacuations in the event of a fire could be difficult because there was no dedicated road to the encampment. She brought up the dangers of individuals' waste being deposited in the Truckee River and hoped facilities with safer accommodations could be found for the people in this encampment.

Storey County Sheriff Gerald Antinoro spoke about an uptick in criminal conduct in Lockwood due to homeless encampments. In the past when homeless encampments had spilled into Storey County, they worked with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and the Public Works Department. He offered to assist in establishing a resolution to the encampment near Lockwood.

Storey County Commissioner Jay Carmona stated this issue affected both Washoe and Storey Counties. He noted the Storey County Board of Commissioners also offered any regional solutions they could to resolve the encampment issues.

Ms. Cindy Martinez spoke about an incident on August 26 when a suicide bomber in Afghanistan killed 13 members of the U.S. military. Being a Marine veteran, she expressed heartbreak and fury over the incident. She had been speaking about C19 and citizens facing destruction of their constitution rights since December 15. She mentioned several doctors who had websites containing uncensored information about the C19 virus.

Mr. Bruce Foster said he was from a long line of patriots that began with Thomas Foster, who fought in the Revolutionary War. He indicated he was placing a formal accusation against Governor Sisolak, the State Board of Health, the medical industry, and the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners for not following the oaths they took. He chose not to receive the C19 vaccination and contracted C19 in 2020, saying he was now healed after taking ivermectin.

Ms. Melanie Sutton asked for the public health emergency to end as she opined there was no emergency. She said a copy of the Constitution was provided to the commissioners, but she felt they did not read it. She stated Governor Sisolak was not doing his job to uphold the constitutional rights of citizens, and now it was the Board's responsibility. Bringing up a commissioner who would run for re-election in 2022, she remarked she would let the community know her opinion of Board members.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar spoke about a commissioner backing hydroxychloroquine because it helped a family member but who later changed their position for political gain. She alleged the C19 vaccination caused blindness and deafness in children, and a high school senior developed myocarditis from it. She believed side effects from C19 vaccines were being suppressed from the public by local officials.

Mr. Daniel Purdy, brother of Thomas Purdy who was murdered at Washoe County jail, spoke about the issues taking place at the jail. He stated the County continued to provide money and donations, and alluded to a commissioner donating taxpayer's money for a tactical robot. He opined donating money to social programs would help, and he asserted the homeless population needed help from the local government.

Ms. Annemarie Grant, sister of Thomas Purdy, explained her brother had a mental health crisis at the Peppermill Casino and had asked for help. She expressed frustration about the treatment her brother received which resulted in his death. She displayed a video of her brother in custody begging for his life. She opined he was killed

because law enforcement believed him to be homeless. She wondered why the public could not access the meeting via the Zoom app when a commissioner was doing so.

Ms. Erin Massengale requested an item be placed on the agenda to pass a resolution ending the public health emergency and banning vaccination passports or a vaccine verification system. She blamed Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protocol for deaths in the intensive care units of hospitals. She felt the CDC was promoting discrimination and segregation based on medical status.

Ms. Patty Toone stated Constitution Day was September 17 and schools who received federal funds were required to teach about the Constitution on that day or risk losing that funding, yet 90 percent of schools were non-compliant. She had yet to see anything occur in Washoe County since speaking about this issue a few weeks ago. She stated the Carson City Board of Supervisors would present a proclamation recognizing Constitution Day, and she hoped Washoe County schools would do something as well.

Ms. Tracey Thomas quoted the Bible and stated Wildcreek was one of the last affordable golf courses in the Sparks community. She wondered why the Washoe County Medical Examiner's Office did not provide detailed vital statistics like Clark County did; she wished to see the number of deaths due to C19 with no other underlying issues. She believed obesity should be a reported statistic since many C19 deaths also involved obesity. She noted a stipulation in the Nevada Revised Statutes requiring signatures to be verified before voter cards were activated.

Ms. Diane Crowne stated she was 82 years old, healthy, and looking forward to receiving her booster vaccination. She thanked the people who continued to wear masks and appreciated the mandates the Board had in place. She hoped the commissioners would consider the priorities of Faith in Action Nevada, adding she wanted to see more priority placed on low-income affordable housing, climate change infrastructure, and food and security for people in homeless encampments. She referenced a document she provided, which was placed on file with the clerk.

Ms. Marie King, identifying as Betsy Ross, spoke about Constitution Day. She provided a document, copies of which were distributed to the Board and placed on file with the clerk. She addressed the commissioners' lack of attention to the people speaking. She knew each one of the commissioners took an oath of office and shared her disappointment with their behavior. She opined the solution to the issue was for the commissioners to resign.

21-0684 **AGENDA ITEM 5** Announcements/Reports.

County Manager Eric Brown indicated the County would adopt a new domain name for websites and email addresses on September 20, which would then end in washoecounty.gov, not in washoecounty.us. The change would improve the security of digital communications, and Homeland Security preferred the .gov domain. He stated the change would be seamless for users, and changes had been made internally to interface

with software platforms to minimize technical issues. Over time, he said, the .us domain would be phased out, a process that should also be seamless.

Commissioner Herman strongly recommended the Board agendaize an item to end the public emergency and allow some normalcy and freedom. She thought any vaccine mandates should be banned. She believed a forensic audit of the 2020 election should be conducted and Washoe County should become a 2nd Amendment county. She indicated she would continue to bring these items up until they were resolved. She lauded Lander County for not being afraid to face some of these items, especially election integrity. She wondered why Governor Greg Abbott of Texas was not afraid to sign election reform. She said developers had sued individuals and homeowners associations to such a degree that people were afraid to speak during public comment. She spoke about strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPP), saying she had read that the silver state set the standard for anti-SLAPP suit laws. She believed this issue should be addressed because the Board was missing its goals if it did not protect the people's right to speak during public comment.

Commissioner Hill mentioned the first responders working on the Caldor and Dixie Fires. She said it was incredible to have blue skies for the balloon races and hoped people had been able to attend them. She thanked the first responders and the Emergency Management Department who did a significant amount of work for the event even though it was out of the County's jurisdiction. She noted the Sheriff's Office and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District were also assisting.

In reference to public comment about the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), Commissioner Hill assured the community there would be a public engagement process; although the details had not been released yet, public comment would be accepted. She noted more information would be announced as it became available.

Commissioner Hill expressed excitement about the domain change to washoecounty.gov and said the accessibility to the County website would change to include access for hearing and visually impaired individuals. She noted options would also include the ability to read the website in different languages. She was extremely proud of staff for making this happen.

Commissioner Jung spoke about the Senior Services Advisory Board, saying they had continued their regular meetings and recently elected new Chair Hawah Ahmad. She noted some board members would term out and new appointments would be introduced in the next month. She invited the other commissioners to join her at a meeting. She thanked this Board for considering the ARPA money and said she would bring priorities for Senior Services. She expressed pride in the advisory board as they used the Zoom app to continue meetings and never lost momentum. She noted they had their senior games in compliance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. She encouraged the commissioners to look in their districts for more senior activists.

Vice Chair Hartung said he attended former Sparks Mayor Ron Smith's memorial service and people there had asked about a proclamation for the Constitution. He reminded people that this Board asked for a memorial at the courthouse for the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the United States Constitution, yet the request was turned down. He commented he was happy to sponsor that proclamation.

Vice Chair Hartung asked for a discussion with the County Manager, Chair Lucey, and Senator Mark Amodei concerning the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land adjacent to Lockwood. He asserted Washoe County had no authority to require people in the encampment to disperse from the property because enforcement was under the authority of the BLM. He thought it was important to reach out to the BLM district manager and Senator Amodei to resolve this issue.

Chair Lucey addressed public comments related to Wildcreek and the potential for open space between the City of Sparks and Washoe County. The resolution in the Consent Agenda was to initiate the process and the intent was to turn the property over to First Tee for them to manage the golf course. similar to the process at Washoe Golf Course. In conjunction with the memorandum of understanding (MOU) and resolution, the intent was also to include and maintain the property as open space if golf functions ceased.

Chair Lucey asked for discussions with BLM about Lockwood homeless camps and how the County could assist. He stated the assistant county manager in charge of the homelessness program was taking notes and would be in contact with Sheriff Darin Balaam to coordinate between both jurisdictions.

Chair Lucey asked to invoke the two-hour rule to discuss public safety, justice system services for Incline Village, and the establishment of a community center. He noted facilities in Incline Village had been disconnected and he wanted to unify the departments to make it more efficient for the community.

Chair Lucey requested an update about the status of a land study and the lands bill so the Board could discuss it as it related to the disposition of ARPA funds. He thought it was important to complete the land study so policy decisions about low-cost housing, business incentives, or recommended direction could be made.

Chair Lucey said it was great to see people at the balloon races. He noted the weekend had beautiful sunrises and the races were a success, although the event was cancelled on Friday due to severe air quality. He stated it was nice to see some normalcy return to the community.

Chair Lucey thanked the staff at the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for their assistance with the Caldor and Dixie Fires. He noted the convention center was opened to evacuees from the South Lake Tahoe area, at one time serving nearly 300 individuals. Animal Services assisted in evacuating and boarding animals. He asserted the fires were dangerous due to

severe winds, and he was thankful for the rain, which changed the outcome. He looked forward to a quieter fire season.

Vice Chair Hartung brought up the MOU for the Wildcreek property and wanted to ensure that the property would revert back to Washoe County if it was no longer used as a golf facility. As he recalled, the County was unable to deed restrict the property to be open space if golf operations ceased to continue. He stated the County was working with the City of Sparks to ensure the preservation of the property.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – 6A1 THROUGH 6H5

- 21-0685** **6A1** Recommendation to approve an Agreement for Professional Services for the South Truckee Meadows Wastewater 2020 Expansion Project Exploration Services between Washoe County and Gerhardt & Berry Construction, Inc. and authorize funding to increase contract amount by \$57,612.15 [for a total contract amount of \$107,285.19]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

- 21-0686** **6B1** Discussion and possible approval of a settlement of claim number 2021203 involving Washoe County and Votec Corporation for an amount of [\$25,000], inclusive of attorney’s fees and costs for all claims against Washoe County. Comptroller. (All Commission Districts.)

- 21-0687** **6C1** Recommendation to approve budget amendments totaling an increase of [\$10,245.00] in both revenue and expense to the FY22 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Public Health Preparedness Program Grant Subaward retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and direct the Comptroller’s office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Health District. (All Commission Districts.)

- 21-0688** **6D1** Recommendation to approve the acceptance of reimbursements from the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program for Fiscal Year 2021/22 for youth detained at Wittenberg Hall Detention Facility. Juvenile Services. (All Commission Districts.)

- 21-0689** **6E1** Recommendation to approve a resolution declaring Washoe County’s intent to convey to the Northern Nevada Youth Golf Foundation, d/b/a First Tee of Northern Nevada, a corporation for public benefit under NRS chapter 82, the property commonly known as the Wildcreek Golf Course on Sullivan Lane in Sparks, Nevada (APN 027-011-09) (approximately 110.72 acres) without consideration as authorized in NRS 244.284 and setting a date for a hearing at which objections can be heard and other matters properly related thereto. If ultimately approved, First Tee would be required to operate the golf course for charitable or civic purposes for the community on terms specified in a purchase and sale agreement and related documents,

and if the property ever ceased being so used, it would revert automatically to the county. Manager's Office. (Commission District 5.)

- 21-0690** **6E2** Recommendation to approve a joint Memorandum of Understanding between Clean Tahoe and the following jurisdictions for FY21-FY22: County of Washoe, County of Placer, Town of Truckee, Incline Village General Improvement District, Nevada Department of Transportation and the California Tahoe Conservancy for the purpose of commemorating the agreements and commitments signed by the aforementioned parties in individual contracts with Clean Tahoe for the purpose of providing expanded litter and garbage cleanup efforts around the Tahoe Basin. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0691** **6E3** Recommendation to approve a 2021 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) FireShows West grant from the State of Nevada, Division of Emergency Management for [\$12,870.00, no county match required] including funds to be used for non-employee training; Grant Term: Retroactive from September 9, 2021 - September 30, 2021; If approved, authorize the Chairperson to execute grant documents and County Manager or his designee to sign the grant award documents when received; and authorize the Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0692** **6F1** Recommendation to accept grant funding [\$97,603 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, 2021 through August 31, 2022, 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.)
- 21-0693** **6G1** Recommendation to accept supplemental funding [additional funding of \$13,600.00, for a total of \$26,600.00, 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 Modification #001 of grant award documents. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0694** **6G2** Recommendation to award Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 3157-21 for Inmate Commissary Services on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office to the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder, Keefe Group, and

authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute a five-year agreement, beginning January 1, 2022 with the option of two (2) one (1) year extensions upon mutual agreement. No fiscal impact. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0695 **6G3** Recommendation to accept the FY 2022 Joining Forces award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety [amount not to exceed \$96,000.00, 25% In-Kind county match required] to cover overtime costs related to conducting traffic enforcement checkpoint events and limited travel expenses, for the grant term of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 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.)

21-0696 **6G4** Recommendation to authorize the grant application for the 2021 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award (CFDA#16.738), Office of Justice Programs, and Bureau of Justice Assistance through the Reno Police Department. With this funding, the WCSO's anticipated award will be [\$77,956.00, no County match required] for the purchase of Law Enforcement equipment, Law Enforcement related training and travel; and approve the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Reno, on behalf of the Reno Police Department, Washoe County, on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and the City of Sparks, on behalf of the Sparks Police Department for the management and disposition of 2021 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0697 **6H1** Recommendation to accept a FY22 John H. Chafee Foster Care Program subgrant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$254,953; \$63,738 county match], retroactive from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 to support youth who are aging out of the foster care system with achieving greater independence, to improve educational outcomes for children in foster care, and to support an active and involved youth advisory board in Washoe County; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the grant award; and direct the Comptroller's office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

21-0698 **6H2** Recommendation to accept a Federal Title IV-B Subpart 2 grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$49,470; \$16,490 county match] for Family Support services, retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the sub-grant award; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

- 21-0699** **6H3** Recommendation to accept a Federal Title IV-B Subpart 2 grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$55,290; \$18,430 county match] for Family Reunification services, retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the sub-grant award; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0700** **6H4** Recommendation to accept a Federal Title IV-B Subpart 2 grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$62,200; \$20,733 county match] for Family Preservation services, retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the sub-grant award; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)
- 21-0701** **6H5** Recommendation to accept a Federal Title IV-B Subpart 2 grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$125,130; \$41,710 county match] for Adoption Promotion & Support services, retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the sub-grant award; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Human Services Agency. (All Commission Districts.)

Regarding Agenda Item 6A1, Commissioner Herman commented on the good work being done in the south valleys and wondered what the County could do to get the City of Reno to be responsible for the north valleys. She spoke on Item 6B1 wondered if the Votec equipment could have caused inaccuracies. Lastly, she wanted assurance that the Wildcreek property could not be sold if ownership was transferred to First Tee.

County Manager Eric Brown replied there would not have been any exposure to election accuracy because staff did not use what Votec provided.

Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro stated Agenda Item 6E1 was a notice to the community that at some point in the future, he suggested October 12, a public hearing would take place to hear objections to the intent to transfer the Wildcreek property to First Tee of Northern Nevada to provide low-cost golf and youth instruction. The draft for a purchase and sale agreement would be brought to the public hearing meeting with all necessary provisions to direct the manager or assistant county manager to execute the documents. The documents would include a reversionary clause reverting the property to Washoe County if First Tee of Northern Nevada was unsuccessful at this mission or decided they no longer wanted to provide services to the community. This clause eliminated the chance that First Tee would take possession of the property and sell it.

Commissioner Herman hoped that would answer some community questions and asked whether there would be a hearing on this item. Mr. Solaro confirmed there would be a public hearing.

Vice Chair Hartung wondered whether First Tee could partake in any handoff clause to another golf administrator or whether the property would automatically revert to back to Washoe County to reinstitute another contract. Mr. Solaro replied First Tee could not sublet the property, it would revert back to Washoe County.

On the call for public comment, Mr. John Hesse, Ms. Darlene Hesse, and Mr. Wesly Griffin were called to speak but were not present.

Ms. Darla Lee spoke about Wildcreek, saying every neighborhood should have some open space for mental and physical health. For many years, she stated, there was talk of First Tee taking over management of the course. She urged the Board to approve the proposal, although she thought the resolution lacked the wording about the title reverting to the County. She wanted to see a guarantee in writing that it would come back to Washoe County if First Tee no longer operated the golf course.

On motion by Commissioner Herman, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 6A1 through 6H5 be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 6A1 through 6H5 are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

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Discussion took place regarding Agenda Item 10, during which Commissioner Hill expressed concern about the reclassifications and new positions being requested when the budget for the next fiscal year had recently been approved. She opined the fiscal impact on departments could be significant and should have been included in that budget. She thought it was the Board's responsibility to spend taxpayers' money in the most fiscally responsible manner. She wanted additional information prior to the item being approved. Chair Lucey agreed Agenda Item 10 would be pulled from the agenda; staff would review it with Commissioner Hill and place it on the next agenda.

BLOCK VOTE – 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, & 19

21-0702 **AGENDA ITEM 7** Recommendation to: (1) award a bid and approve the Agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the South Valleys Regional Sports Complex Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvements Project [staff recommends Facilities Management, Inc, in the amount of \$134,000]; and (2) approve a separate project contingency fund [in the amount of the \$16,297] for a total project budget of \$150,297. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be awarded and approved.

- 21-0703** **AGENDA ITEM 8** Recommendation to approve an Amendment No. 2 of the Agreement between Washoe County and MWH Constructors/KG Walters Construction for CMAR Pre-Construction Services for the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation 2020 Facility Expansion Project within the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility service territory [\$681,077.26]. This amendment will allow for the necessary CMAR (Construction Manager at Risk) preconstruction services through the completion of the project allowing the County to benefit from reduced operational costs, value engineering and constructability savings during construction. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be approved.

- 21-0704** **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to approve Amendment #1 to Lease Agreement between Roter Investments of Nevada Limited Partnership and Washoe County for a 60-month term, commencing retroactively from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026 [\$891,378 for the five year term], for the continued occupancy of the Sierra View Library Branch located at the Reno Town Mall, 4001 S. Virginia Street, Reno, Nevada. Amendment #1 includes a carpet replacement project in year-two in which costs are shared by Roter and Washoe County [fiscal impact \$160,000]. Community Services. (Commission District 2.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved.

- 21-0705** **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve the CY 2022 Health Benefits Program for employees, retirees, and their dependents at an approximate annual cost of \$57.8 million, and authorize the Director of Human Resources/Labor Relations to execute all insurance contracts and service agreements pertinent to the Health Benefits Program. Human Resources. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0706 **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to accept a FY22 Fund for a Healthy Nevada subgrant award from Nevada Clinical Services, Inc. through the State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Public and Behavioral Health in the amount of [\$231,274; no county match] retroactive from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 to support breakfast meals at OUR Place and TADS, food baskets for clients at CrossRoads and meals for the 2nd Home-Delivered Meals program; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to execute the grant award documents; 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 Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

21-0707 **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to accept a FY22 Fund to Assist Former Foster Youth (FAFFY program) subgrant award from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) in the amount of [\$200,000; no county match] retroactive from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 to provide case management and related services to youth aging out of foster care; to provide non-county employee travel for youth travel to support permanent connections, normalcy activities, attaining a permanent living situation and other travel needs; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to 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 Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

21-0708 **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to accept a FY22 Title XX subgrant award from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in the amount of [\$663,807; no county match] retroactive from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 to promote unification, safety, educational support, and normalcy for children in care; authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the grant award documents; 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 Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

21-0709 **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to accept FY22 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$951,057; \$237,765 County match] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022; authorize the creation of a full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Human Services Worker III position with a fiscal impact of [\$127,627], and to reclassify existing position 70009676 from a Victim Witness Advocate (pay grade JJ) to a Human Services Case Worker III (pay grade NN) with a fiscal impact of [\$9,254], both positions contingent on Job Evaluation Committee (JEC) review and approval, funded 100% by the VOCA grant award, and as such, if grant funding is reduced or eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the position will be abolished accordingly unless additional funding is secured; direct the Human Resources Department to make the necessary staffing adjustments as evaluated by the JEC; authorize Director of Human Services Agency to execute the sub-grant and related documents; 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 Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be accepted, authorized, and directed.

21-0710 **AGENDA ITEM 16** Recommendation to accept Community Corrections Partnership Block Grant from the Department of Health and Human Services - Juvenile Justice Programs Office in the amount of [\$317,090.76] to provide treatment and programming to youth referred to the Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services; for the retroactive period of 7/1/21-6/30/22. No match required. If approved, direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. Juvenile Services. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0711 **AGENDA ITEM 17** Recommendation to approve an Intrastate Interlocal Contract between the State of Nevada acting by and through its Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public and Behavioral Health Lake's Crossing Center and Washoe County for professional services in the form of mental health evaluations of criminal justice system defendants to be performed by the State, effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed [\$1,506,400] for the four-year term [\$376,600 annually]. This agreement will replace the agreement approved by the Board of County Commissioners on June 22, 2021 due to a modification requested by the State of Nevada consisting of the addition of marriage and family therapists to the definition of mental health professionals in the scope of work portion of the agreement. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chair Lucey, seconded by Vice Chair Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 17 be approved. The interlocal contract for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

21-0712 **AGENDA ITEM 18** Recommendation to approve Fiscal Year 2021-2022 renewal of software licenses, software subscriptions and sole source purchases of computer and network hardware, through joinder with National Association of State Procurement Officers (NASPO) Master Price Agreements for State of Nevada with CDW Government Inc. (CDW-G); and approve expenditures that will aggregate to exceed [\$100,000] but not to exceed [\$1,110,000] and will remain within the available Technology Services budget for FY 2021-2022.

General Fund

- Office 365 EA subscriptions, not to exceed [\$947,658.84]
- Adobe EA subscriptions, not to exceed [\$52,513.20]
- Brooktrout, not to exceed [\$6,500]
- GFI Faxmaker software renewal, not to exceed [\$4,000.00]
- Netmotion license renewals, not to exceed [\$19,500]
- Printer Logic license renewals, not to exceed [\$15,600]
- KnowB4 license renewals, not to exceed [\$50,500]
- Other hardware, software, subscriptions, and maintenance, not to exceed [\$13,727.96]

Technology Services (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0713 **AGENDA ITEM 19** Recommendation to approve the purchase of consumables from ThermoFisher/Life Technologies at an approximate cost not to exceed [\$400,000.00] annually to include single purchases exceeding \$100,000.00 for the retroactive term of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 for the purchase of consumables for use in the Forensic Science Division DNA section. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

21-0714 **AGENDA ITEM 21** Public Hearing: Subject to a finding of conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan by the Regional Planning authorities, to approve a resolution initiating an amendment to the 2019 Truckee Meadows Regional Plan Map 3 - Regional Utility Corridors & Sites to include: (1) a 120 MW solar energy center (containing a ±660 contiguous acre solar field, switchyard, 84 MW solar energy storage system, and new substation) south of Flanigan; and (2) a short 34.5 KV overhead transmission line connection from the project switchyard to an existing 345 KV transmission line (WSUP21-0001 Rock Springs Solar). Community Services. (Commission District 5.)

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

Commissioner Herman thought the County was providing the type of power that was needed, and she supported the item.

Chair Lucey stated this item, if approved, would go to the Regional Governing Board.

On motion by Vice Chair Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 21 be approved. The resolution for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

21-0715 **AGENDA ITEM 20** Presentation by Washoe County COVID-19 response Incident Commander Dave Solaro on COVID-19 Delta variant data and information in Washoe County to include an update on impacts, vaccination status, State Directives in place, and general information for the community. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.)

Assistant County Manager Dave Solaro conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: What we will cover today; Objectives; Current COVID by the numbers (4 slides); Current Vaccination status in our community; Masking rules in Washoe County; What does Presidential action from September 9th mean; Tips for our community; and How to use the COVID Risk Meter.

Mr. Solaro stated this was the same data presented in August along with the changes that occurred in September. He highlighted the second objective from his slide pertaining to delivering clear and consistent information. He suggested public comment at Board of County Commissioner meetings was not a location to get information for decision-making. He asserted comments made during public comment about 18-year-olds becoming blind were incorrect, and he wanted to provide correct data for the community to be able to make informed decisions; staff was not spreading lies or rumors. He stated getting COVID-19 (C19) was not his biggest concern, getting hurt and needing to be hospitalized with no available space was his worry. He noted the emergency rooms were packed with individuals with C19, which clogged the system.

Commissioner Hill noted the County was learning a lot about best practices and that the local plan was not working. She thought social distancing would be required but the County had not heard from experts that it was needed. She wondered about the possibility of the Board providing additional authority to the task force through hospital associations, the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, the Washoe County School District, and the Washoe County Health District through more direction; this would ensure the community was clear, and revisions put in place were being followed. She asked about thoughts on how to proceed.

Mr. Solaro said the assumption in the local plan was that the County would revert to something else if cases started to increase. Based on what they were seeing in the community and discussions about compliance, a group could determine a mandate for social distancing might be more harmful than good. He appreciated that people in the community were looking at the plan and questioning why businesses were not closing when triggers were hit. He thought the plan was not flexible enough to provide the authority necessary to opt not to implement stricter measures because they might do more harm than no measures at all. He said increases in vaccination rates and the Governor's mask mandates were two tools that were helpful in slowing the spread, but the point was not about eradicating C19, it was about slowing it down so hospital resources were there when people needed them. Whether there was direction from this Board to amend the plan to provide the incident response teams more latitude, they met every Friday and discussed the pros and cons of all recommendations. He said he could take some direction to that team to get feedback about implementing changes within the plan to provide more flexibility.

Commissioner Hill thought that was something that should be discussed as a Board. She wondered whether hospitals were being given enough support to ensure they were able to care for sick individuals in the community, even if it meant postponing elective procedures. Mr. Solaro mentioned he had been on a Hospital Association call and, though he could not share any proprietary information, discussions were happening within the

hospital community because their job was to be prepared for emergencies. He was not sure a mandate was necessary at this time. He wanted to ensure everyone was working with the same goals and helping each other across the state. He felt comfortable moving forward and monitoring the situation, believing the hospitals were doing a good job managing the day-to-day burden from the community.

Commissioner Jung asserted the County did not control the media, no matter what was posted on social media, but she had not seen anything about the urgency of the current situation. She regularly monitored the risk meter and said she felt Mr. Solaro's frustration. She wanted communication to be pushed to the public about the severe situation the community was facing with C19 cases. She noticed it was not being relayed to people that C19 tests and vaccinations were free, and that needed to be explained, especially to those without medical insurance.

Commissioner Jung wondered how to get real-time data about hospitalizations. Mr. Solaro asked whether she wanted specific data or the number of people in hospitals, which was easy to access. He stated the data was not in real time, it was one day behind. Specific data related to which illnesses were hospitalizing people was difficult to achieve. Commissioner Jung asserted the data did not list the conditions of patients, nor how many were in intensive care units, displacement, or on ventilators. Mr. Solaro said it was difficult to gather that data unless one had the knowledge to generate specific reports. The website www.covid19washoe.com had the general data, and the criteria tab allowed visitors to filter information by various specifics.

Commissioner Jung stated she was impressed by Mr. Solaro's knowledge and the information he provided. She heard from colleagues that his knowledge of the region was immense, and she wanted how respected he was in the community on the record. She asserted he was the only person she could get answers from, and she felt comfortable with the information she received.

On the call for public comment, Ms. Cindy Martinez disagreed with Mr. Solaro's remarks about public comments not being accurate, adding she was offended by those comments. She spoke about the County failing to present any information about the ability of the community to protect themselves from C19 by use of supplements or prevention protocols; that information had only been provided by citizens during public comment. She opined the virus had mutated because so many people received vaccinations. She expressed concern about nurses being fired, which left reduced medical staffing.

Ms. Janet Butcher, identifying as Martha Washington, wondered why she saw no biohazard disposal containers if C19 was so bad. She displayed a photo of face masks thrown on the ground. She expressed concern that infected illegal immigrants could account for new outbreak cases. She argued that N95 masks did not stop transmission of viruses and wondered how a cloth or paper mask stopped the spread. She opined the experimental injection was not yet a vaccination. She stated her immunocompromised daughter chose to get the vaccine, but she did not disown her for doing so. She thought people should not lose their jobs for choosing not to be vaccinated.

Commissioner Hill thought it would be helpful to provide direction to Mr. Solaro related to revising the local plan to give more authority since she heard from the community that they did not know which direction the County was going.

21-0716 **AGENDA ITEM 22** Public Comment.

Ms. Cindy Martinez opined it was not fun coming to these meetings every Tuesday, but the fate of the state and country were at stake. She stated there was clearly a bifurcation in the country about the role of government. She expressed concern about the direction of the country and the safety of the American people, and disgust with what she believed was the president threatening American citizens. She asserted not everyone who contracted the virus died, noting she had friends in various stages of illness and recovery. She asked the Board to consider prevention protocols.

21-0717 **AGENDA ITEM 23** Announcements/Reports.

Chair Lucey stated the COVID-19 response taken by federal, state, and local governments was very different on many levels. It was challenging for individuals to understand why and how decisions were made. He stated President George Washington issued a letter to John Hancock on February 5, 1777, ordering all 40,000 troops be inoculated for smallpox. He asserted it was the choice of individuals to receive the vaccination or not, but the County was doing its job by providing data and facts to citizens to support the situation. He said it was frustrating to be required to wear a mask and he did not want to wear one, but it was what was needed to reduce the spread in the community. He stated 500,000 individuals lived and worked in this community, and it was the responsibility of Washoe County to provide services so businesses could operate safely.

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12:44 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

BOB LUCEY, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

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

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