



South Truckee Meadows/Washoe Valley Citizens Advisory Board

DRAFT: Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are approved by the CAB.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the South Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board held September 12, 2013 at the South Valleys Library at 15650A Wedge Parkway, Reno, Nevada

1. ***CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Malachy Horan, Chair. Malachy Horan led the Salute to the Flag.
2. ***ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM OF EIGHT CAB MEMBERS AND THREE AT-LARGE ALTERNATES WERE PRESENT.**
MEMBERS PRESENT – Thomas Daly, Malachy Horan, Chair., Tom Judy, Vice Chair., Steven Miles, At-Large Alternate, Patricia Phillips, Kathie Roberts, Kimberly Rossiter, At-Large Alternate, Jim Rummings, Eric Scheetz, Brad Stanley and Patrick Ty Whittaker, At-Large Alternate.
MEMBERS ABSENT – Dennis Wilson, unexcused
3. ***PUBLIC COMMENT**
 - Ginger Pierce, Pleasant Valley thanked each CAB member for volunteering to serve on the board. Ms. Pierce urged each CAB member to preview all applications that will be reviewed by the CAB and to review their area plans. Ms. Pierce noted that members of the Planning Commission, State of Nevada or other departments within Washoe County will not look at the actual property which the application is intended. Ms. Pierce stated concern that some projects could have catastrophic impacts should they fail. Ms. Pierce provided her complete comments in writing.
 - Robert Parker, Galena thanked the CAB members for volunteering to serve. Mr. Parker discussed the necessity for removing dry and flammable vegetation and debris along local creeks. Mr. Parker stated that there is no requirement in Washoe County for cleanup along local creeks, however, some Home Owner Associations have been trying to cleanup areas within their development. Mr. Parker stated that there were conditions that were placed on developers along Galena Creek requiring the land along the creeks to be deeded to Washoe County in 1980. Washoe County has not maintained the areas along any of the local creeks. Mr. Parker asked that the CAB schedule discussions regarding these concerns with Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) at the October CAB meeting. There needs to be solutions to requiring maintenance and cleanup along the creeks. Mr. Parker offered to take CAB members on a tour of Galena Creek to see the difference between maintained and not maintained creeks.
 - Susan Juetten, East Washoe Valley asked for contact information for Washoe County staff to address development code concerns including Dark Skies standards, light and signage specifications for the Dollar General Store that is being built next to the 7-11 in Washoe Valley prior to the October CAB meeting. Ms. Juetten asked that this project be scheduled on the next CAB agenda for review and discussion. Ms. Juetten stated asked that the South Valleys Area Plan be scheduled on the October agenda for updated information and discussion and what will happen to that plan. Ms. Juetten stated concern that people in East Washoe Valley are feeling disenfranchised since the reduction of CAB's in Washoe Valley.
 - Kathy Bowling, Callahan Ranch thanked members of the CAB for their service and stated that with all of the citizen involvement in the drafting of the Forest Area Plan which was approved in 2008, that not one suggestion from the public was included in the final plan. Professional opinions regarding the standards of the scenic corridor were ignored. The plan did recognize two developers. Ms. Bowling stated that the higher density request for the Madera Ridge proposed development should be coming to the STMWVCAB for review and recommendations.
 - Pat Phillips presented a request from Kathy Barcomb for regulations for livestock and slaughter standards for acreage between 1 acre and 20 acres. Ms. Barcomb was informed by county staff that there are currently no ordinances. Ms. Barcomb has requested that this issue be scheduled on a future CAB agenda for discussion and possible recommendations on ordinances to remedy lack of guidelines.
 - Malachy Horan asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this agenda item.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2013. – MOTION:** Tom Judy moved to approve the September 12, 2013 agenda as posted. Eric Scheetz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Item 7 C was heard immediately following item 6. A.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF AUGUST 8, 2013. –** The minutes were postponed to the October meeting due to many CAB members no having received a copy of the draft minutes prior to this meeting.
6. ***COMMISSIONER UPDATE**
 - A. Washoe County Commissioner David Humke discussed the first reading of the streamlining of code and administrative enforcement method on the civil side of a dispute. The office for such hearings is still to be determined. The second reading is scheduled for September 24, 2013. The Nevada Association of Counties and

the Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities have held statewide meetings together in an effort of cooperation. The Board of County Commissioners will be attending continuing education opportunities. Commissioner Humke stated that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will have four more meetings to review AB46. Commissioner Humke stated that there is a Bill requesting a boundary line change to transfer property from Storey County into Washoe County in Commission District 2 near Sunny Hills. The second item in the Bill is a 200 acre parcel to be transferred into Storey County. The property 200 acre parcel could be used for a hotel, truck stop or a tire manufacturing operation. Citizens are urged to consider the land uses for these properties and other issues of concern and state their opinions to their Commissioner.

Comments and Concerns

- In response to questions raised, Commissioner Humke reported that there are currently no approved applications for development in the Sunny Hills neighborhood, however, the land is within the Sphere of Influence for future annexation. Once annexed, the city would be responsible for providing fire and law enforcement services. Storey County and the developer are proposing a revenue sharing method.
- Malachy Horan stated concern regarding the proper procedure to report a hazard and to get a County Representative to address a problem. Commissioner Humke stated that Washoe County Code Enforcement is a complaint driven system.
- In response to questions raised, Commissioner Humke stated that Washoe County requires a developer to provide the results of a study on revenues generated versus costs to Washoe County. Commissioner Humke stated that he is not necessarily supportive of boundary line changes.
- Jane Countyman, West Washoe Valley stated concern that what assurances would Washoe County citizens have that Storey County would honor their commitments to provide services. Contracts only last so long and somehow they seem to be rewritten. Washoe County has improved fire service to other areas and not improved the fire services in Washoe Valley. Commissioner Humke stated that NDF (Nevada Division of Forestry) was not living up to their side of the agreement with Washoe County. Sierra Fire was formed and is contracted with Truckee Meadows Fire. There are plans to expand services to all facilities that has less staffing than other stations. Commissioner Humke discussed flexible staffing and a reserve component for staffing fire stations. A citizen can be trained to aide the fire services. Ms. Countryman stated concern whether Washoe County would take responsibility for fire services should Storey County default on providing fire services. Ms. Countryman stated opposition to a boundary line adjustment.

7. *PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY REPORTS/UPDATES

A. Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) – Howard Riedl, RTC Senior Engineer presented an update on RTC structure and responsibilities. Mr. Riedl provided information on; Metropolitan Planning: designated by State, Mandated by Federal Government; Long range transportation planning; Controls use of Federal transportation funding. Street and Highway Program: Develop, design, construct Regional Roadway projects for local jurisdictions; RTC does not own or operate any roadway facilities; Partner with local jurisdictions to operate and maintain. Public Transit Services: Fixed Route (Ride, Intercity, Rapid, Sierra Spirit, TART); Paratransit (ACCESS); Ride Share Services. Mr. Riedl provided information on Complete Streets projects, and the SouthEast Connector Phase I and Phase II. Public comment period is between August 23, 2013 through September 22, 2013. Construction is anticipated between 2014 to mid-2016. Mr. Riedl provided printed copies of his presentation. . Following his presentation, Mr. Riedl will be available to address questions from the CAB and audience. Contact Mr. Riedl at hriedl@rtcwashoe.com / phone 335-1872.) (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

Comments and Concerns

- In response to questions raised regarding complete streets, Mr. Riedl listed the public safety items and other needs that RTC looks at prior to moving forward with a roadway project. Mr. Riedl stated that RTC meets with local residents and listen to them and see what they want. Mr. Riedl outlined the areas of Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks that RTC provides roadway services and development.
- Mr. Riedl stated that funding of some RTC projects comes from fuel tax which is paid by the gallon of gas. Another source of funds comes from sales tax and regional road impact fees. The impact fees are a set amount based on type of facility and increased roadway traffic and capacity improvements. RTC also receives funding from Federal Highway Transportation, from Nevada Department of Transportation and advertising on the buses. Mr. Riedl stated that the budget is close to one hundred million dollars.
- Mr. Riedl addressed the widening of McCarran from Mira Loma to Greg Street and the SouthEast Connector project. RTC has a corrective maintenance program repaving with slurry seal. Widening of McCarran should begin in mid-2014.
- In response to questions raised, Mr. Riedl stated that RTC works closely with other jurisdictions and cooperates with NDOT and provide shared services. Mr. Riedl stated that they rely on their Board of Commissioners for direction to meet their objectives. The RTC looks at condition of pavement to determine when treatment is scheduled. Mr. Riedl discussed their long range transportation plan which is available on the RTC web-site. Mr. Riedl stated that RTC has to demonstrate their compliance with ADA (American Disabilities Act) requirements on the roadways.

- Brand Duc stated concern regarding safety issues of standing water on southbound McCarran between Mill Street and Pembroke. Mr. Riedl stated that RTC plans to rebuild that section of roadway. RTC relies on the jurisdiction to handle the maintenance on their roadways.
- In response to questions raised, Mr. Riedl stated that the roadway development is based upon Washoe County. Storey and Lyon Counties land use plans.
- In response to questions raised, Dwayne Smith, Washoe County Community Services offered to address Washoe County roadway concerns including speed limits. Call (775) 328-2043.
- Mr. Riedl stated that RTC is working with the Army Corps of Engineers and State of Nevada regarding the development within the wetlands and clean water permits.
- Mr. Riedl stated that RTC has provided an Environmental Assessment Statement and there is a possibility that the Army Corps of Engineers may require an Environmental Impact Statement.
- Mr. Riedl stated that the budget for the SouthEast Connector, Phase I is approximately seventy million dollars. The budget for Phase II is approximately one hundred forty million dollars. This will be one of the most costly projects.
- Tom Judy clarified that RTC has filed for an Environmental Assessment process in order to avoid having to do an Environmental Impact Statement. Mr. Riedl stated that the Army Corps of Engineers may require an Environmental Impact Statement.
- Fran DeAvila stated that it defies all logic for RTC to move forward with the SouthEast Connector when the project has not been given all of the appropriate approvals. Mr. Riedl stated that the biggest risk is whether the community wants the project. Ms. DeAvila stated that it appears to some that it was a done deal behind the public eye and the public hearings are superficial.

B. Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) – Thor Dyson, District II engineer, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) presented updated information on highway and transportation issues in Washoe County. District I is in the Las Vegas area has the largest population base. District II is the northwest section of the state. The headquarters is located in Carson City. Staff includes design, construction and maintenance employees. District III is the northeast rural area of the state. NDOT works closely with RTC and Washoe County and coordinates with Caltrans. Mr. Dyson reported that the speed study dictated that the speed limit should be raised to seventy miles per hour on I-580. Following his presentation, Mr. Dyson was available to address questions from the CAB and the audience. Contact District II at (775) 834-8300. NDOT.com (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

Comments and Concerns

- Pat Phillips stated concern regarding the safety of bicyclists along State Route 431 from Huffaker south. Mr. Dyson discussed the need for wide bicycle lanes and the statewide bicycle lane plan. Mr. Dyson discussed the use of converging diamond interchange.
- In response to questions raised, Mr. Dyson discussed funding of NDOT project. There has not been a state gas tax increase since 1992. NDOT tries to match federal funds for highway transportation projects. Mr. Dyson discussed some proposed projects including I-580 from the I-80 interchange southbound to Moana Lane; Mt. Rose Summit to the intersection of Wedge Parkway; and roadway reconstruct on Glendale to E. McCarran. NDOT has a team that reviews potential projects and determines the priorities.
- Tim Holt, Galena Pines asked that Mr. Dyson preview the manholes under the new I-580 bridge in the Pleasant Valley area. They have flooded in the past and need some attention. Mr. Dyson stated agreed to meet with the citizens to address the issues and concerns.

C. Nevada Division of Wildlife, (NDOW) – Chris Healy, Public Information Officer for NDOW provided a Power Point presentation to update information on the human-bear conflicts as it relates to access to trash and public safety concerns in the Tahoe area. The bears that are being addressed are the North American Black Bear. There are between four hundred and seven hundred bears in the State of Nevada with the bear concentrations within the Tahoe Basin. Bears are increasing their food intake in September each year. Bears are wild animals and can do much damage. NDOW is averaging nearly three hundred calls from citizens each year reporting bear conflict activity. Ninety-five percent of the incidents involving bears are due to humans mis-handling bears. A primary cause of bear mortality is being hit by vehicles on local roadways. Bears are attracted to food in dwellings, left in trash and garbage containers and from fruit trees. Anyone who has bear proof containers need to keep them locked and away from dwellings and garages. People need to educate themselves on safety measures while living near bear habitat. Mr. Healy reported that NDOW will euthanize a bear only for public safety reasons and that is the last thing NDOW wants to do. Following his presentation, Mr. Healy addressed questions and concerns from the CAB and audience. Persons needing to report conflict bear activity can call the NDOW's Bear Hotline at (775)-688-BEAR (2327). For information on living with Bears, persons can go to www.ndow.org and find the Gear Logic page. Contact Chris Healy a, NDOW (775) 688-1554 or chealy@ndow.org (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

Comments and Concerns

- In response to questions raised, Mr. Healy urged citizens to remove any food including fruit fall on the ground that attracts bears. Mr. Healy stated concern when people put their garbage and trash pick up out the night before which serves as an invitation to bears.
- Eric Scheetz offered to provide information on his extensive experiences with bears. Mr. Scheetz stated concern that citizens are being pushed into a difficult situation due to Waste Management requiring that trash pick-up be scheduled very early in the morning so residents have to put their trash out the night before. Mr. Scheetz stated that he has found someone in Sparks that will build bear secure structures.
- Members of the CAB and audience thanked Mr. Healy for his presentation.

D. Washoe County Community Services Division – Dwayne Smith, Engineering and Capital Projects Division Director and Vahid Behmaram, Water Rights Manager, provided an overview of the services provided by the division. Mr. Smith discussed the plans for the replacement of a municipal water well in the Pleasant Valley service area due to the existing well which has high iron content. Mr. Smith provided contact information for the Community Services Department. Following the presentation, both Mr. Smith and Mr. Behmaram were available to address questions from the CAB and audience. Contact: Dwayne Smith, Community Services Department, Engineering and Capital Projects Division (775) 328-2043 or DESmith@washoecounty.us (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB.)

Comments and Concerns

- In response to questions raised, Mr. Smith stated that they have been monitoring the water table and take samples of the water quality. They have not seen much change in the water level. Mr. Smith stated that this well is a back up only and not the primary well.
- Ginger Pierce stated that the site was the old school mine and would the well dig into the mine shaft? Mr. Smith stated that he would let everyone know if they drill into a mine shaft.
- Don Kitts stated that the water tank sits on the site of the old Galena ore mines.
- In response to questions raised, Mr. Smith stated that they would look at whether new customers could connect to the well in the future.
- In response to questions raised, Mr. Smith stated that there would not be any charges to existing Pleasant Valley residents.
- Mr. Smith stated that Washoe County assumed the water customers when the developer abandoned the well. Mr. Behmaram stated that Washoe County inherited the failing well system. Washoe County was the safety net.
- Tim Holt stated that there are a number of property owners that are on record protesting the well project unless the well is permitted with conditions including that the permitting needs to require active monitoring of adjacent domestic wells. The well needs to be protected from flooding. Mr. Behmaram stated that there were nine protests filed asking the State Engineer to provide conditions on the approval of the well. Mr. Behmaram reviewed the law and NRS-533.370 criteria. One protest requests that the should any well along Galena Pines go dry, state law provides that NRS- 534.120 prohibits the drilling of wells where a municipal agency provides water.
- Mr. Malachy asked that the citizens meet with Mr. Smith and Mr. Behmaram to resolve the issues and concerns
- Don Kitts stated that a part of the approval of a secondary water line that should the domestic wells go dry in the Galena Pines area, that the owner cannot drill deeper but can connect with the municipal water supply dated in 1992.
- Mr. Smith stated that they will honor agreements in place.

8. *CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

- Tom Judy asked that the agenda items be prioritized and possibly combine some topics in order to keep the meeting from running long.
- Malachy Horan asked that the written record reflect that Commissioner David Humke had stated during the August CAB meeting that 80% of the fire department calls for service are medical.
- **Next Agenda Items:** Nevada Division of Forestry, Livestock and Slaughter Ordinance.

9. *PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments and Concerns

- Jim Johns thanked the CAB members for volunteering to serve on this board and being involved and urged that questions be kept to a minimum in order to manage the length of the meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT – Tom Judy moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. The motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Allayne Donnelly-Everett, Administrative Recorder Services

Those in Attendance: Commissioner David Humke, 11 CAB members, 18 members of the audience.