



## Warm Springs/Rural Citizen Advisory Board

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 Warm Springs/Rural Citizen Advisory Board held July 12, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at Regional Shooting Facility, 21555 Pyramid Highway, Palomino Valley

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**— Kevin Cook, Pam Roberts, Marshall Todd, Larry Chesney, Hugh Ezell (absent)
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**—Pledge was received
- 3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – No public comment
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 10, 2023**— Pam Roberts motioned the word “rebuild” be changed to remodel in the 4<sup>th</sup> sentence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph. The motion was approved. Minutes were unanimously approved.
- 5. PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE** –Chief Joe Schum provided key data from the fire department: the department received 31 calls in May and June; there was a fire in May, and one in June; there were 18 medical calls, 6 vehicle crash calls, and 6 good intent alarm calls. On July 8<sup>th</sup> there were 3 fires; one in Peavine Peak, one in Hunter Lake Trail, and one in Hidden Valley. The department graduated 5 recruits. There are still 1-2 vacancies. Auxiliary volunteers are active.

Marshall Todd asked about obtaining info/reports regarding the financial costs of emergency responses to fires. Chief Schum said he would get that information.

Kevin Cook asked what the auxiliary volunteers’ roles were. Chief Schum explained that they are on-call volunteers that respond to incidents as needed, and are alerted via an app.

A citizen asked how often the fire department recruits, to which Chief Schum answered about twice a year.

Lieutenants Avinia and O’Brien from the sheriff department provided data: there were 40 calls in the first quarter, and 68 calls in the second quarter; they urged homeowners to install motion-sensor recording alarm systems to protect their property; they noted that the department is fully staffed; they urged citizens to get to know their neighbors for safety reasons.

The board engaged with the lieutenants in a discussion about homeowner rights to protect themselves and their property. The lieutenants emphasized they abide by the castle doctrine, but to use risk/reward critical thinking.

Larry testified to the benefit of knowing your neighbors.

**6. WELCOME TO NEW CAB MEMBERS; ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR** – New board members were welcomed by tenured board members. Marshall Todd motioned for Larry Chesney to become chair. This motion was seconded by Pam and unanimously voted for after Pam explained to the attendees Larry’s relevant experience.

Larry Chesney motioned for Marshall Todd to be vice chair. This was seconded and unanimously voted for.

Discussion of why previous members left the board occurred. It was noted that previous members

stepped down because they were too busy to fulfill their duties.

**7. ECOMMENT & SPEAKUP** – Erick Willrich, Assistant to the Washoe County Manager, presented a powerpoint on E-Comment and Speakup, explaining the nature and function of each. Mr. Willrich explained that e-Comment allows citizens to review agenda items in detail, indicate their position on an item, request to speak in a live meeting, and submit comments online. For constituents, comments are posted in real time and can be posted from anywhere with internet connection, removing the hurdle of being physically present to provide input. Speakup has multiple language options. Mr. Willrich explained the process of creating an account in order to use Speakup and log in to the agenda. His powerpoint demonstrated how to navigate the platform. He noted the comments are limited to 2,250 characters which is the equivalent to a 3 minute public comment. The platform also allows constituents to sign-up for in-person public comment. No personal information will be included on comments other than the constituent's name.

Mr. Willrich is presenting this information at all of the CABs, and is also working on media press releases with the same information.

General questions were asked by board members regarding the functions of the site during the presentation, which Erick answered.

Larry voiced approval and praise of the program.

County Commissioner agenda items, and how this will enhance public participation in County business.  
[Non-Action Item]

**8. NEIGHBOR NETWORK OF NORTHERN NEVADA (N4)** – Presentation to be rescheduled.

**9. NEVADA LEGAL SERVICES** - Case Manager Joseph Sullivan was not in attendance to speak/present.

**10. WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSIONER UPDATE**- Washoe County Commissioner Jeanne Herman was not in attendance.

Mr. Brown noted that Commissioner Herman lead the charge for fully staffed agencies. He elaborated that property tax makes up most of the budget. Due to down revenue, there is an expected slow down/brake on particular expenditures, such as staffing.

Mr. Brown discussed the resignation of the range master and the state of various ranges. He emphasized that the range will not be shut down.

Larry suggested that Mr. Brown get the information regarding the range out to the public through various communication channels.

Mr. Brown discussed the need for emergency agencies to have more synergy and have a common communications platform.

**11. CAB MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS** — Marshall Todd expressed his joy and commitment to service, and gratitude to the board and Candee Ramos for all their efforts. Kevin said an update for the master plan is going to be available soon, and he will make it available to everyone and to schedule an update presentation when he can. Candee mentioned it will be discussed in the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Marshall Todd mentioned there is some progress being made regarding local water storage issues.

Kevin wanted to clarify the status of the fiber optics/broadband status for the area. Mr. Brown provided

an update on improvements.

Pam announced that senior fair will take place at the Old Town Mall in September.

Candee announced that the application deadline for the Washoe County Leadership Academy is Friday.

**12. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – No public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**—Meeting adjourned 7:42pm