

Audit Committee Meeting  
Washoe County, Nevada  
July 18, 2024, at 3:00 PM

Voting Members: John Briscoe, Kevin Stroupe (*remote*), Charlene Hart,  
Commissioner Herman

Non-Voting Members: County Manager Eric Brown

Absent: Commissioner Hill

Other attendees: Katelyn Kleidosty (Internal Audit Manager), Louis Martensen  
(Internal Auditor), Abigail Yacoben (Chief Financial Officer), Mike  
Large (Deputy District Attorney), Cathy Hill (Comptroller)

Agenda Item 1: Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Mr. John Briscoe, the interim-Chair of the Audit Committee. The roll call was conducted, and Commissioner Hill was absent. Those listed above were present at the meeting. A quorum was established.

Agenda Item 2: Public Comment

Ms. Audrey Keller introduced herself as a volunteer applicant for the Audit Committee position. She expressed her happiness living in Reno for a little over two years. Ms. Keller shared that she had been very active in her prior county, where she had submitted a letter of recommendation detailing her extensive work. She had been elected to represent 5,000 residents of her local neighborhood, which was impactful due to its harbor location. Ms. Keller described herself as an environmental activist with a strong knowledge of harbor and clean water issues, emphasizing the importance of water issues to Washoe County as well. She had worked with state water agencies and played a significant role in her previous county's environmental efforts. With 15 years of experience as a CEO, Ms. Keller noted that although she is not a CPA, she is well-versed in finance. She described herself as inquisitive and thorough, having reviewed the Committee's documents with great interest. Ms. Keller expressed her enthusiasm about leveraging her skills for county service and indicated her readiness to answer any questions at a later time.

No one else answered the call for public comment.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Minutes for June 13, 2024 Meeting

No one responded to the request for public comment. Commissioner Herman made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 13, 2024 meeting. Ms. Hart seconded the motion. Mr. Briscoe abstained from voting on the motion because he did not attend the June 13, 2024 meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: Selection of One Qualified Applicant to Recommend to the Board of County Commissioners for an Audit Committee Appointment for the Term Beginning July 1, 2024, Ending June 30, 2028. Qualified Applicants: Sabrina Grenet and Audrey Keller.

Upon request from interim-Chair Briscoe, Ms. Kleidosty introduced the topic to the Committee that they met to discuss the selection of one qualified applicant to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners for an appointment. She elaborated that there were two applicants to be considered: Sabrina Grenet and Audrey Keller. Ms. Kleidosty continued to explain that applications and supporting documentation had been provided with the agenda. She noted Audrey Keller was present in the room, while Sabrina Grenet was available remotely. Ms. Kleidosty invited the Committee to start the discussion and decide how they wished to proceed with the questioning of the applicants.

Public comment was called. Mr. Scott Finley introduced himself and explained that he had a military background in the financial management and comptroller field. Mr. Finley advised against voting for Audrey Keller, citing his research on her background. He explained that according to Ms. Keller's LinkedIn profile, Audrey Keller is a civic leader, public communicator, and environmental advocate with visioning skills. Mr. Finley elaborated that Ms. Keller's experience includes being a partner with Keller Partners since January 2005, which is based in Reno, Nevada. He continued Keller Partners is a US West Coast financial research firm focused on supporting active investment management but does not offer individual investment management services. Mr. Finley stated that the firm's collaborators are located in California and Washington. He checked the Secretary of State website in California and found that Keller Partners LLC was created under Audrey Keller in September 2004 and became inactive in June 2022. However, he stated that no Keller Partners was listed in Washington State, but Keller Partners and Company LLC, a foreign LLC, was active and traceable to Washington DC. Mr. Finley postulated that Keller Partners and Company was recognized as a top-performing lobbying firm with a history of achieving clients' objectives through policy advocacy, lobbying, and strategic campaigns. Mr. Finley also noted that Audrey Keller submitted a City of Reno Board and Commission membership application, indicating she had been a Reno resident since March 2022. He pointed out that Keller Partners LLC from California became inactive three months after she became a Reno resident. He expressed that Audrey led an effort to save the Rancho Equestrian Center from demolition in 2022-2023. Mr. Finley concluded by expressing concern that appointing Audrey Keller would give Washington DC influence over the committee.

There was no other public comment for this item.

Discussion by the Committee commenced. Ms. Hart noted that both individuals had impressive experience. She continued that Audrey brought her business owner background, while Sabrina had experience as an auditor. Ms. Hart expressed a preference for Ms. Grenet's audit experience. Interim-Chair Briscoe agreed with Ms. Hart, especially in terms of auditing. He noted that with all the experience Ms. Keller had, she could serve on the Board of County Commissioners. Interim-Chair Briscoe asked Commissioner Herman if she would like to add anything. Commissioner Herman declined to add additional commentary. Interim-Chair Briscoe asked Mr. Stroupe if he had anything to add. Mr. Stroupe did not have anything else to contribute.

Ms. Hart made a motion to recommend Sabrina Grenet to the Board of County Commissioners for the Audit Committee. Mr. Stroupe seconded the motion. Interim-Chair Briscoe, Ms. Hart, and Mr. Stroupe voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Herman voted against the motion. The motion passed.

#### Agenda Item 5: Calendaring of Future Audit Committee Meetings

Ms. Kleidosty noted that the agenda said June 26, 2027, which should have read June 26, 2025. She also called attention to the September 12, 2024 and the January 9, 2024 meeting would be at 2:00 p.m. instead of 3:00 p.m. as discussed at the prior meeting.

#### Agenda Item 6: Audit Committee Member Comments

Ms. Hart asked if our future agenda would include a revote of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Ms. Kleidosty confirmed that this item would be on the September agenda.

There were no other questions or comments from the Committee members on this item.

#### Agenda Item 7: Public Comment

There was no public comment for this item.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m. by Interim-Chair Briscoe.