

# EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 19, 2010

STATE OF NEVADA        )  
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COUNTY OF EUREKA     )

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Eureka County Commissioners met pursuant to law on March 19, 2010. Present were Chairman Leonard Fiorenzi, Vice Chair Jim Ithurralde, Member Mike Page, District Attorney Theodore Beutel, and Clerk & Treasurer Jackie Berg. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The interactive video conference system was connected and utilized between Crescent Valley and Eureka for the entire meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Fiorenzi commented that he would not participate in deliberating or voting on any agenda items that might involve family members, specifically agenda items #3 through #8 under Public Works and approval of vouchers for Pernecia Johnson, Deputy Public Guardian. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve the agenda as posted; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT & DISCUSSION**

Chairman Fiorenzi opened the floor to public comment. Sally Goicoechea provided cost estimates for portable corral panels, stating that the High School Rodeo Club had asked the Recreation Board for a contribution to purchase the panels to be used for various events at the Fairgrounds. The Recreation Board recommended that the Rodeo Club approach the Commissioners with a request that both boards share in the cost of this purchase. The Rodeo Club was willing to pay the order deposit so that the panels could be ordered in time for this year's High School Rodeo in late May. The Commissioners agreed to place this request on their next agenda.

There were no other public comments.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Page motioned to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2010, budget meeting; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Ithurralde noted one change, to correct a name spelling, and with that motioned to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2010, Commissioner meeting; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

## **FINANCE**

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Mike Rebaleati, County Recorder & Auditor. Commissioner Ithurralde noted that full payment to Nevada Health Centers was submitted for approval, but felt an adjustment might be in order since the Crescent Valley Clinic had been closed for a substantial period and the Eureka Clinic still did not have a doctor on staff. Chairman Fiorenzi suggested holding the check to Nevada Health Centers and requesting their presence at the March 29<sup>th</sup> budget meeting. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned that the check to Nevada Health Centers be held over until their attendance at the March 29<sup>th</sup> budget meeting; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve expenditures and payroll in the amount of \$551,412.55 (\$306,045.24 in expenditures and \$245,367.31 in payroll); Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Page motioned to approve Yucca



Shakespeare Festival was to perform a western style version of Taming of the Shrew, with show times scheduled at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Mr. Cuchine reported that Museum Director, Ree Taylor, has been updating exhibits throughout County buildings. The Economic Development Program has begun preparations for the annual car show and garage sale coming up in May.

## **SENIOR CENTERS**

Notification of Grant Award: Eureka Senior Center Site Director, Millie Oram, provided details on the Nutrition Services Grant. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve signing the Notification of Grant Award for a Nutrition Services Grant from the Nevada Aging & Disability Services Division in the amount of \$3,891.00; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Delivery Van for Fannie Komp Senior Center: Fannie Komp Senior Center Site Director, Adell Panning, provided information from Public Works regarding purchasing a 2010 GMC Yukon to serve as a delivery van for the Crescent Valley area. Commissioner Page motioned to approve a capital outlay purchase of a 2010 GMC Yukon under the State Purchasing Fleet Vehicle Bid, in an amount not to exceed \$30,830.25, to be used as a delivery van for the Fannie Komp Senior Center; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received from: Connie Hicks; Vincie Walzl; Eureka Moly newsletter; Eureka County High School; District Attorney Ted Beutel; Recorder/Auditor Mike Rebaleati; Assessor Michael Mears; Public Works Director, Ron Damele (3); Eureka County Natural Resource newsletter; Eureka County Yucca Mountain newsletter; Eureka County Recreation Board; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board (2); University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Gary McCuin; notice of Master Plan public hearings; Mt. Wheeler Power; Lumos Landmarks newsletter; Allison, MacKenzie, et al (3); JBR Environmental Consultants; Galena Group, Inc.; Washoe County Manager's E-Update; Governor, Jim Gibbons; Nevada Aging & Disability Services Div.; Nevada State Office of Energy; Nevada State Public Works Board; Nevada Energy; Nevada Housing Division; Nevada Dept. of Transportation (2); NDOT Centerline newsletter; Nevada Economic Update newsletter; Economy in Brief newsletter; National Assoc. of Counties; news release: National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition; and US Fish & Wildlife Service.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Extension of Green-Up Program: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, presented a grant amendment for a one-year extension of the Green-Up Program (to March 2011) with the Bureau of Land Management. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve signing the grant amendment to extend the Green-Up Program; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Relocate 14<sup>th</sup> Street Power Pole: Mr. Damele explained that a power pole in Diamond Valley conflicts with alignment of the new portion of Keg Street and must be relocated, so a cost estimate was obtained from Mt. Wheeler Power. Commissioner Page motioned to approve paying Mt. Wheeler Power to relocate the power pole on 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Diamond Valley, not to exceed \$4,667.00; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Janitorial Services for County Buildings: Chairman Fiorenzi turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Ithurralde and excused himself from the room for the agenda items related to janitorial services. Public Works Director, Ron Damele, provided bid sheets for each facility along with a recommendation for award and noting the requirement that each successful bidder must obtain a Nevada state business license.

Janitorial Services Bid Award for Courthouse: Commissioner Page motioned to award the bid for janitorial services at the Eureka County Courthouse to JD Janitorial in the amount of

\$2,500.00 per month, with the requirement that they obtain a Nevada state business license; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0.

Janitorial Services Bid Award for Administration Building: A total of four bids were received for the Administration Building with the two lowest bidders submitting the same amount. Mr. Damele explained that there were several options available for bid award: (a) draw lots; (b) negotiate with the two low bidders for a reduced price; or (c) bid language allowed for award to the lowest 'responsive' and 'responsible' bidder, and since one of the low bidders was the current contractor with an excellent performance record, they could be deemed a 'responsible' bidder. District Attorney Ted Beutel confirmed that this was a legal and acceptable manner in which to award the bid. Commissioner Page motioned to award the bid for janitorial services at the Administration Building to JD Janitorial in the amount of \$2,000 per month; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Page amended his motion to include the requirement of obtaining a state business license; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the amended motion; motion carried 2-0.

Janitorial Services Bid Award for Eureka Justice Facility and Eureka Library: Commissioner Page motioned to award the bid for janitorial services at the Eureka Justice Facility and Eureka Library to Cleaning by Chae in the amount of \$1,600.00 per month, with the requirement that a Nevada state business license be obtained; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0. Chairman Fiorenzi rejoined the meeting upon conclusion of the janitorial bid awards.

Copy Machine for Crescent Valley Public Works: Public Works has obtained approval from Assessor Michael Mears to utilize the Assessor's Technology Fund to purchase a color copier for the Crescent Valley Public Works. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve purchasing a color copy machine for Crescent Valley Public Works from Office Products, Inc., not to exceed \$7,800.00, with purchase made through the Western States' Contract Alliance utilizing monies from the Assessor's Technology Fund; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Update on Various Public Works Projects: Mr. Damele provided the following updates: The bathroom is complete for the partial remodel of the doctor's residence; window replacement and other minor repairs will follow with a completion date of April 15<sup>th</sup>. Reconstruction of the entryway at the Eureka Senior Center has run into several issues related to water and crews are currently working on measures to divert water outside of the building. Repairs and mold remediation were completed at the Crescent Valley Clinic which has a target reopen date of March 26<sup>th</sup>; the x-ray machine will not be operational until delivery of a cabinet for the x-ray developer. Installation of lights for the Crescent Valley Community Center parking lot will begin soon and should be completed within two weeks. The Eureka Justice Facility remodel is nearly complete; on March 23<sup>rd</sup> a technician will complete connection of the uninterrupted/backup power source which will be followed by staff moving into the remodeled areas (dispatch and booking areas). Preparations are being made to go to bid on the Courthouse exterior painting.

Grant to Devil's Gate GID: Mr. Damele explained that an Environmental Assessment is required before moving forward with the second phase of the Devil's Gate Inter-Tie Project. This will require a grant from the County's General Fund to the Devil's Gate GID. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve a grant in the amount of \$36,000.00 to the Devil's Gate GID to complete the Environmental Assessment required for Phase 2 of the Devil's Gate GID Inter-Tie Project; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Easement from Frank & Elmer, LLC: At a previous meeting the Public Works Director and County Engineer identified a right-of-way issue in the northern area of the Eureka Townsite (across a portion of the Triangle Mill Site). They have been in contact with the property owners, who have agreed to grant an easement for the purpose of future placement and maintenance of subsurface utilities. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to accept the easement from Frank &

Elmer, LLC, for the area identified in the Town of Eureka, and that the Chairman be authorized to sign the easement outside of the meeting upon completion of the legal documents; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Nevada State Office of Energy Grant: In 2009 the Board directed Public Works to apply for a grant to conduct a study regarding energy usage in County buildings for the purpose of reducing the carbon footprint. The grant application was successful, so Public Works requested approval to hire a consultant for this project. Commissioner Page motioned to approve signing documents for a grant in the amount of \$188,000.00 from the Nevada State Office of Energy upon review by the District Attorney and to authorize Public Works to move forward with hiring a consultant to conduct this energy study on County buildings; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Restriction of Certain Pipe from Eureka County Projects: Due to official notification regarding alleged significant problems with certain water and sewer pipe, Public Works requested a temporary moratorium on usage of this pipe in County projects. Commissioner Page motioned to exclude Polyvinyl Chloride AWWA C900 and C905 water and sewer pipe manufactured by J-M Manufacturing Company, now doing business as JM Eagle, from Eureka County projects until concerns are adequately investigated and resolved to the satisfaction of Eureka County; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Advertise for Bids – Courthouse Exterior Painting: Mr. Damele reported that the draft set of plans for repainting the exterior of the County Courthouse were complete and he requested approval for staff and the architect to begin advertising for bids for this project. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to authorize staff and the architect to begin advertising for bids to paint the County Courthouse exterior, with a planned bid opening date of May 6<sup>th</sup>; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

County Inspector for Main Street Water and Sewer Project: Mr. Damele requested authorization to hire a contractor to act as inspector on behalf of Eureka County for the upcoming Main Street Water and Sewer Project. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to authorize Public Works to hire an inspector for the Main Street Water and Sewer Project; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

## **COUNTY ENGINEER**

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) D-Firm Mapping Project: County Engineer Tom Young, Lumos & Associates, reported on a mapping project being conducted by FEMA in Eureka County. FEMA contacted Public Works some time ago to inform that they would be remapping the entire portion of Eureka County. Mr. Young and Mr. Damele listened in via teleconference to a recent scoping meeting regarding this project. As part of the process, FEMA is taking existing paper maps and converting them to digital. FEMA will not restudy the area, but will take the best existing maps and data to produce the digital maps. It is important to know that flood elevations and boundaries will likely change. FEMA plans on having a draft to the County for review by February 2011, and Mr. Young recommended that the County be proactive in keeping the public informed and bringing forth any challenges before the project is published.

## **RECESS FOR DEVIL'S GATE GID MEETING**

The Board recessed for the Devil's Gate GID meeting from 10:47 to 11:03 a.m.

## **SWIMMING POOL / PARKS / RECREATION**

Update Report: Cindy Adams, Parks, Recreation & Facilities Director, reported on activities at County facilities. The Swimming Pool had a total of 359 swimmers over the past month. A swimming lesson program was completed with 15 participants. There were a total of

19 different events at the different County facilities over the past month. Ms. Adams is currently working on consolidating the facility and event files for easier accessibility.

### **AMBULANCE & EMS**

Update Report: EMS Coordinator, Mike Sullivan, had to leave the meeting due to an emergency call and therefore, was unable to give his update report.

Ambulance Bill Write-Off: Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve the ambulance bill write-off for patient #2005366 in the amount of \$137.42; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **EUREKA COUNTY FAIR BOARD**

Letter of Resignation: Commissioner Page motioned to accept the resignation of Vincie Walzl from the Fair Board; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **EUREKA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE**

A letter was received from the Eureka County High School requesting a contribution towards their annual scholarship drive. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve a donation of \$1,500.00 to the Eureka County High School scholarship drive for the graduating class of 2010; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Report on Activities and Upcoming Meetings: Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager, reported that he attended the following: the Natural Resources Advisory Council meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>; the Barrick Ruby Hill Open House on March 10<sup>th</sup>; met with Marilyn Smith from the Elko Cooperative Extension office regarding a work program for troubled youth on March 11<sup>th</sup>; met with Andy Cole, General Manager of Ruby Hill Mine, along with Ron Damele on March 11<sup>th</sup>; a Wildlife Advisory Board meeting, also on March 11<sup>th</sup>; listened to the Mount Hope conference call on March 16<sup>th</sup>; attended a Natural Resources Conservation Service water resources workshop with Commissioner Ithurralde on March 16<sup>th</sup>; and on March 17<sup>th</sup>, attended the Commissioners' budget meeting and the NEPA Committee meeting that evening. Upcoming meetings include: the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority meeting in Eureka on March 26<sup>th</sup>; a future industrial needs meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>; a NEPA Committee meeting is planned for the end of March, Firewise meetings will be held to finalize the details on Firewise Day; and on April 2<sup>nd</sup> there is a State Land Use Planning Advisory Council meeting, also in Eureka.

Comments to Forest Service Regarding Wild Horse and Burro Project: Mr. Tibbitts explained that federal regulations mandate that the US Forest Service work with the Bureau of Land Management on management of wild horses and burros on adjacent federal lands. This has hindered the BLM's activities in the past when the USFS wasn't prepared to move forward, or could not provide an accurate accounting of horse and burro numbers. The BLM recently issued a notice of proposed action and Mr. Tibbitts drafted a letter to the USFS supporting the BLM's efforts to move forward with wild horse and burro management; as well as comments related to animal numbers, methods in setting the numbers, etc.; and inquiries related to future management plans. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to authorize sending the letter to the US Forest Service regarding AMLs (appropriate management levels) and other issues as outlined by the Natural Resources Manager and recommended by the Natural Resources Advisory Commission; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Comments to Forest Service Regarding Monitor and Hot Creek Mountain Ranges: Mr. Tibbitts prepared comments to submit to the US Forest Service regarding a proposal to authorize continued livestock grazing on the Monitor and Hot Creek Mountain Ranges. The Board reviewed the written comments, and Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to submit the

comments to the Forest Service regarding continued livestock grazing on the Monitor and Hot Creek Mountain Ranges; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **EUREKA COUNTY SHERIFF**

Out-of-State Travel: Per a request from Sheriff Ken Jones, Commissioner Page motioned to approve out-of-state travel for Deputy Sheriff Rick Matheus to attend taser technician and evidence collection/analysis training in Scottsdale, Arizona, April 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>; Commissioner Ithurrealde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **NEVADA STATE BANK**

Brief Presentation Regarding Options Available to Local Governments: Russell Price, Vice President, and Dan Dykes, Local Government/Investment Representative, attended to provide Eureka County with a brief update on benefits and services available to governmental entities and municipalities through Nevada State Bank. They explained NSB's investment service and public finance departments, including availability of a registered investment advisor. In light of the present economy, the representatives assured the Board of NSB's financial stability, and thanked Eureka County for being a long term customer, which they felt was a mutually beneficial relationship. Mr. Price and Mr. Dykes thanked the Commissioners for their time and stated they would be happy to visit again and sit down with the Treasurer and the Investment Committee.

### **RECESS FOR LUNCH**

The Board recessed for lunch from 12:07 to 1:00 p.m.

### **EUREKA MOLY, LLC**

Nevada Mining Association Conference and Legislative Issues Related to Mining: Tim Arnold, General Manager of Eureka Moly, gave a brief report on the recent Nevada Mining Association Conference. The mining industry provides for an additional 50,000 jobs with excellent benefits and the highest average wage in the state. Nevada mines pay conventional taxes like any other industry, as well as net proceeds of mines which accounted for \$92 million paid in Nevada during the most recent tax year. The mining industry feels it is important to inform the public about their contributions, since mines are often perceived by the public and their detractors as not paying their fair share of taxes.

The recent Special Session of the Nevada Legislature looked towards mining as an additional revenue source for the state's estimated \$870 million shortfall. But history has shown that taxing a single industry (such as gaming) has not proven to be a long-term solution to the state's financial woes. Special interest groups are targeting the industry as well, such as in the proposed PLAN Initiative. These legislative proposals do not address long-term solutions or the negative impacts to the industry, especially the small operators and other categories like geothermal and sand & gravel. The mining industry countered the state's proposals with an offer to pay an additional \$30 million in net proceeds annually, or an agreement to pre-pay net proceeds for an additional year. The mining industry will continue to work on a viable solution since these issues will be addressed again in the 2011 Legislative Session.

### **DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

Cloud Seeding Presentation: Arlen Huggins, Associate Research Scientist with the Desert Research Institute, gave an informative presentation on the technical process to achieve cloud seeding, as well as success rates, benefits, and project funding. Mr. Huggins reviewed several cloud seeding sites throughout Nevada that the Desert Research Institute has managed, or is currently managing, with notable success rates. The two methods used for cloud seeding

are ground generators that are operated remotely via cell phones or land lines to release the seeding solution into the atmosphere, or aerial seeding where the solution is released by aircraft. The method selected is highly dependent on the local area, terrain, mountain elevations, and other factors.

Cloud Seeding Feasibility Study: A fairly intensive feasibility study must be done to determine if cloud seeding is suited to the area and which method is indicated. The study will include a climatological assessment of storms, cloud structure, temperature trends, prevailing wind directions, mountain elevation and width, and a topographical assessment. If Eureka County is interested, Mr. Huggins offered to prepare a proposal and cost estimate for a feasibility study for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to direct Desert Research Institute to prepare a cost proposal for a cloud seeding feasibility study for the Eureka area; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **BID OPENING – 2010 MAIN STREET WATER & SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

As advertised with a 1:30 p.m. deadline on March 19, 2010, bids for the Main Street Water and Sewer Replacement Project were received, opened, and bid amounts were read into the record. A total of eight bids were received, with base bid amounts as follows: Tand, Inc./\$4,407,584.00; Harbor Co., Inc./\$4,747,474.70; Q&D Construction, Inc./\$4,388,000.00; TAB Contractors, Inc./\$8,623,410.00; Legacy Construction & Development, Inc./\$5,190,977.50; Sierra Nevada Construction, Inc./\$3,936,007.00; Campbell Construction Co., Inc./\$4,653,250.50; and A&K Earth Movers, Inc./\$4,954,000.00.

Bids will be reviewed by Public Works and the County Engineer for completeness and accuracy, and they will make a recommendation for award at the next regular meeting. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to accept the bids into the record as received, with bid award scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD**

Change Meeting Time of CVTAB: Notice was given that the Board of Eureka County Commissioners would hold a public hearing on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. to invite public comments and take action on a proposed ordinance amending the 2006 EUREKA COUNTY CODE, TITLE 13, TOWN OF CRESCENT VALLEY, by amending CHAPTER 20, CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD, to change the time of regularly scheduled meetings of the CVTAB from 7:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. A copy of the proposed ordinance has been on file with the County Clerk for public examination.

Chairman Fiorenzi read the public hearing notice into the record and opened the floor for public comment related to the proposed ordinance. There were no public comments from members of the public present in Eureka or in Crescent Valley. Commissioner Page motioned to approve the ordinance changing the regular meeting time of the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board from 7:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. This amendment to the Eureka County Code will be effective upon completion of the statutory advertising period.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Possible Amendment to Personnel Policy Related to Holiday Pay: The issue had been raised in an earlier meeting regarding 10-hour per day employees receiving 10 hours of pay on holidays, resulting in 22 more hours of holiday pay annually than is received by 8-hour per day employees. Human Resources Analyst, Jerry Larson, stated that Eureka County is currently the only county that pays 10-hours of holiday pay; other counties pay 10-hour employees the standard 8-hour rate. Chairman Fiorenzi had researched what would be a fair solution to employees and still be acceptable under labor laws. He proposed that 10-hour employees

continue receiving 10 hours of holiday pay, and that 8-hour employees receive 8 hours of pay for the holiday with an additional 2 hours banked to use as paid leave at an alternate time. Chairman Fiorenzi felt this was a win-win option because it avoided reducing benefits for 10-hour employees, yet did not impact the budget since this will not create a monetary increase for 8-hour employees. After a lengthy discussion regarding the pros and cons of this proposal, Mr. Damele suggested that the banked leave must be taken within 30 days of the holiday to avoid an accumulation of hours that could cause a manpower deficiency, especially at the end of the calendar year when employees are using up any remaining leave. The Board members concurred with these proposals, and Commissioner Page motioned to direct staff to draft language for consideration at their next meeting; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Clarification in Personnel Policy Related to Holiday Pay for Part-Time Employees: Mr. Larson stated that the current Personnel Policy Manual does not specifically address holiday pay for part-time employees. Mr. Rebaleati recommended that the compensation amount should be based on hours budgeted for that position (i.e. a ½ time employee would receive a half day's holiday pay and a ¾ time employee would receive ¾ of a day's pay); this is the method currently used, but it is not documented in policy. Commissioner Page motioned to clarify the Personnel Policy Manual by stating that part-time employees will be compensated with holiday pay consistent with the average workday budgeted for that position; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Set Meeting for Employee Comments on Personnel Policy Updates: Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to set a special meeting for March 29, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. to hear employee comments regarding the Personnel Policy Manual updates; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. A separate public hearing will be set at a later date.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Update Reports: All Commissioners attended the budget meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Fiorenzi and Commissioner Ithurralde attended the Ruby Hill Mine Open House on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Ithurralde also met with Governor Jim Gibbons briefly on his recent pass through town, participated in a teleconference with Senator Harry Reid regarding a funding initiative to protect sage grouse habitat, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service water workshop on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Request from Barrick Ruby Hill Mine for Letter of Support: Andy Cole, General Manager of Ruby Hill Mine, explained that Ruby Hill has been working with the Bureau of Land Management to acquire 150 acres of land, which is currently the site of their east dump. The Environmental Assessment has been completed, and is currently being reviewed by the BLM with comments expected soon. That is why Barrick is requesting that Eureka County submit a letter to the BLM supporting this land transfer. Chairman Fiorenzi commented on the positive aspects that Ruby Hill provides to the County and the community. But he felt the Board needed more information before submitting a letter. Following further discussion, Commissioner Ithurralde motioned that Eureka County reserve comment until the Environmental Assessment is released, at which time a comment letter will be considered; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. Mr. Cole understood the County's position and thanked the Board for their time.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT & DISCUSSION**

Chairman Fiorenzi called for public comments and discussion. There were no comments from the public. The Chairman suggested that staff look into the possibility of producing the meeting documentation in an electronic file that could be accessed on a laptop in lieu of the

paper meeting packets currently provided. He asked that this be included as a discussion item on the agenda for the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. There were no additional comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Ithurrealde motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m.; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010.

/s/ Leonard Fiorenzi  
Leonard Fiorenzi, Chairman

Attest: /s/ Jackie Berg  
Jackie Berg, Clerk