

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 19, 2021

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, 2021. The meeting was conducted telephonically pursuant to Governor Sisolak’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, which was extended by subsequent Directives through duration of the current State of Emergency. Present were Chairman J.J. Goicoechea; Commissioner Rich McKay; Commissioner Mike Sharkozy (via telephone); District Attorney Ted Beutel (via telephone); and Administrative Assistant Jackie Berg. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chairman noted there were no changes to the agenda, but items may be taken out of order to accommodate other schedules. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the agenda; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea opened the floor for public comments.

Remembrance of Witz Bailey: Sheriff Watts said that Eureka County lost a long-time community member early that morning, noting that Witz Bailey was a friend and mentor to many. He asked for a moment of silence in respect for and in loving remembrance of Witz.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 22, 2021: Commissioner McKay motioned to approve minutes of the February 22, 2021, meeting; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

JUVENILE PROBATION

Grad Nite 2021: Juvenile Probation Officer Steve Zimmerman said his office is seeking donations for the 30th annual Eureka High School Grad Night event for the class of 2021. He explained this has proven to be a safe alternative to alcohol and drug related parties.

Commissioner McKay motioned to donate \$500.00 to the 2021 Eureka County High School Grad Night event scheduled for June 4th, to be paid from miscellaneous grants in the Commissioners’ budget. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Out-of-State Travel: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve out-of-state travel for Steve Zimmerman and Irma Davila to attend the Northwestern Alcohol & Substance Abuse Conference in Boise, Idaho, June 27th-30th. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Costs related to the conference will be paid with a grant from PACE Coalition.

COMPTROLLER

Payment of Expenditures: Expenditures were presented for approval by Comptroller Kim Todd. Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve expenditures in the amount of \$371,133.35 for accounts payable, and \$359,123.38 for payroll and benefit related expenses (including employee paid deductions), for a grand total of \$730,256.73. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Credit Card Use: Sheriff Watts joined the conversation concerning expenditures stating, “I’m up here in reference to an expenditure on my credit card that was found by the Comptroller’s office, and I want a full explanation of it on the record.”

He explained that Undersheriff Thomas used his (the Sheriff's) credit card to purchase uniforms for new employees who had not yet been issued credit cards, because the limit on the Undersheriff's card was not enough to complete the transaction. The Sheriff felt the Internal Control Policy was 'flawed' and in need of updating, and felt that the Comptroller's office had unfairly and inconsistently applied this policy to his department, citing an example of when he thought the Chairman had used another staff member's credit card in Washington DC. He was also concerned that a letter had been placed in the Undersheriff's personnel file about this transaction.

Chairman Goicoechea corrected Sheriff Watts concerning the trip to Washington DC, stating that someone else's credit card was not used, rather a call was made to the Comptroller's office to increase the card limit, and no policies were violated.

Comptroller Kim Todd explained that the Internal Control Policy is very clear and specifies that cardholders are not to allow other individuals to use their credit cards. She clarified that a letter was generated for the external auditors (as is done in each and every instance when this occurs), and these letters are not placed in the personnel files.

Chairman Goicoechea suggested that the external auditor be invited to a future meeting to review credit card regulations and policies.

Fund Balance Report: The Board reviewed the report showing current fund balances.

COMMISSIONERS

American Rescue Plan of 2021: Ms. Todd explained that a bulletin was received from Nevada POOL/PACT regarding the American Rescue Plan of 2021 and options related to extending Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL) and Emergency Family & Medical Leave (EMFL) related to COVID relief packages. She explained that, under the previous presidential administration, Eureka County opted to extend paid leave benefits through March 31, 2021.

The current administration provides the option of extending benefits through September 30, 2021, under different criteria, but it is not mandated for government employers. HR Director Heidi Whimple said the previous extension of benefits was a good move by the County, but felt existing paid leave plans were sufficient for employees and she didn't anticipate that further extensions would prove beneficial.

The Board agreed to take no further action to extend COVID related leave benefits for County employees under the American Rescue Plan of 2021.

Letter to PACE Coalition: Wanting to be transparent in relation to donated funds received from Eureka County for the planned regional Child Advocacy Center, PACE Coalition requested written authorization to transfer funds from the PACE bank account into a special account opened by Elko County.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to ratify a letter to PACE Coalition authorizing transfer of funds, contributed by Eureka County, from PACE to the Elko County account recently created for the Child Advocacy Center. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

FBO Contract Extension: At the last meeting, the Board discussed items that could potentially affect the FBO (Fixed Base Operator) contract that was due for renewal, and suggested a temporary extension while other issues are worked out.

Commissioner McKay motioned to sign a letter granting a 90-day extension, from March 21st through June 20th, of the FBO contract with John Walzl, under terms and conditions of the existing contract originally entered into on March 21, 2017. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Resolution Supporting the Use of Trained Hounds in Hunting: The State Board of Wildlife Commissioners is meeting on March 19th and 20th and has been petitioned to ban hounds in bear hunting and to ban wildlife hunting contests. The County Advisory Board to manage Wildlife met on March 11th and recommended that the Commissioners oppose both issues.

The Board agreed to send a letter supporting the County Advisory Board's position and the Chairman worked with Mr. Tibbitts to draft a resolution supporting use of hounds in hunting.

Raymond Hodson, on behalf of Houndsmen of Nevada, thanked the Board for its support. Joe Luby and Sheriff Watts also voiced support for the Board's actions.

Commissioner McKay motioned to adopt a resolution supporting the use of trained hounds in hunting to control predatory wildlife, and also to send a letter to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners supporting wildlife hunting contests. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Eureka, Nevada

March 19, 2021

**RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE USE OF TRAINED HOUNDS IN HUNTING**

WHEREAS, Eureka County has a thriving and substantial natural resource based economy that depends upon the need for the periodic control and removal of predatory wildlife, including mountain lions, which are best managed through the use of trained hounds.

WHEREAS, Eureka County has a significant outdoor based economy predicated upon providing equitable access to the County's natural resources by all recreationalists, including consumptive and non-consumptive users alike. Hunting, including pursuit of predatory wildlife with trained hounds by licensed guides and recreationalists, is a large part of Eureka County's outdoor economy.

WHEREAS, Eureka County is approximately 81 percent public land that is managed for multiple and mixed use by and for all of its residents and visitors alike. Hunting, including the use of trained hounds by licensed guides and recreationalists, is consistent with the doctrine of multiple use management of public lands.

WHEREAS, Eureka County has a largely rural population living adjacent to wildlife, periodically human-wildlife conflicts occur, including conflicts with predatory wildlife. At times, the need to remove individual predatory animals is required, and in such instances the use of trained hounds is an important option available to law enforcement officers.

WHEREAS, Eureka County residents have a longstanding tradition of animal husbandry. The breeding, training, and keeping of hounds for the pursuit and management of predatory wildlife is consistent with the character and tradition of Eureka County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Eureka County Board of County Commissioners hereby supports the tradition and continued use of trained hounds for the pursuit and control of predatory wildlife by licensed guides, government contractors, and recreationalists alike.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Eureka County Board of County Commissioners opposes recent efforts by special interest groups to prohibit the use of hounds via a petition before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. Such petitions, being based on emotional rhetoric rather than scientific fact, are inconsistent with the values and culture of rural Nevada and especially of the residents of Eureka County.

ADOPTED this 19th day of March, 2021.

BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF EUREKA, STATE OF NEVADA

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea, DVM

J.J. Goicoechea, DVM
Chairman of the Board

Attest: /s/ Jackie Berg
Jackie Berg, Administrative Asst. II

Hemp Handler Application: The resident planning on submitting a hemp handler application to the Plant Industry Division of Nevada Department of Agriculture asked that no action be taken by the local Board at this time. It was noted that applications that do not pass local government review are subject to denial by the Department.

Tyler Meeting Manager: Annual costs to continue utilizing the Hyland OnBase agenda management software are nearly \$7,000.00, with only one user remaining in the County. Other departments have dropped the program because of the high costs and because the program isn't user-friendly. Staff researched other options and found that Tyler Technologies offers meeting and agenda software with recurring annual costs of \$4,000.00 regardless of the number of users. Initial software and installation will cost approximately \$18,000.00. Staff is still researching conversion costs to retain data on the existing program in order to comply with retention requirements.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the quote, including conversion costs, for Tyler Meeting Manager in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 to be paid with monies budgeted for software conversions. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS

Nevada Legislature – Innovation Zones: Chairman Goicoechea reported that formal language has still not been introduced on proposed legislation to create Innovation Zones in Nevada, but is expected any time. He is in communication with Storey County, which plans to oppose this legislation by resolution as soon as formal language is available. In the meantime, the Chairman felt it was important for Eureka County to go on record against this legislation.

The Chairman motioned that Eureka County formally oppose the bill proposing creation of Innovation Zones in Nevada, which is set to work its way through the Nevada Legislature, and for Eureka County to encourage the NACO Board of Directors to oppose this legislation in alignment with its Legislative Committee's recent action against this bill. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Nevada Legislature – AB240: Jake Tibbitts reported that AB240, related to mining, is set for hearing on March 22nd. This bill proposes to dissolve the Division of Minerals and the Commission on Mineral Resources and to move those duties to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection and the State Environmental Commission. Currently there is a healthy balance between the Division of Minerals, which promotes mining, and the Division of Environmental Protection, which regulates mining. This would remove this balance and Mr. Tibbitts recommended that Eureka County strongly oppose this legislation.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned that Eureka County strongly oppose AB240, and that Mr. Tibbitts be authorized to testify on behalf of the County in this regard. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Other Legislation: Chairman Goicoechea wanted to acknowledge Mr. Tibbitts' hard work related to SB94 (concerning gates across public roads), stating that it looks like an amendment to improve that bill language will be supported by all 17 counties.

Law Enforcement Legislation: Sheriff Watts said he continues to follow the Senate Bill that would repeal the 'red flag' laws. Additionally, he published written opposition to AB286, which he called a 'gun grab' bill.

PUBLIC HEARING POSTPONED

CDBG COVID Grant: The public hearing to consider proposed projects for the CDBG-CV Round 2 grant was postponed due to the 14-day published notice requirement.

SENIOR CENTERS

Nutrition Grant: Commissioner McKay motioned to ratify Notification of Grant Subaward from Nevada Aging & Disability Services Division for Nutrition Grant #07-000-57-NX-21 in the amount of \$4,239.00, with no match required from Eureka County. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Transportation Grant: Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to ratify the grant application to Nevada Aging & Disability Services Division for Transportation Services Subaward Grant #07-000-

10-BC-21 in the amount of \$22,500.00. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

IT DEPARTMENT

Business Email Retention: IT Director Misty Rowley asked the Board to consider setting a retention period for emails. She researched what other counties are doing and found some have retention periods of 180 days or even 90 days for emails. She offered that departments wanting to retain an email correspondence for a longer period could save the email in an alternate location, such as an electronic folder.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the pros and cons related to retaining emails for longer periods. Unfortunately, the practice of retaining emails indefinitely has made public record requests onerous, particularly for the IT Department and District Attorney's office.

The Board favored a shorter retention period, such as 180 days, possibly effective July 1st. This could be revisited in six to 12 months to consider an even shorter timeframe. The Board asked Ms. Rowley to work with the District Attorney to present a proposed email retention schedule in writing for the Board's consideration. Any retention policy will likely need to be added to the Personnel Policy to ensure consistency among departments and to hold employees accountable.

AMBULANCE & EMS

Report on Activities: EMS Director Kenny Sanders reported there were 18 calls for ambulance service in January, with 12 in the Eureka area and six in Crescent Valley. Of those, nine were transferred to REACH or MedX AirOne.

There were 28 calls for service in February, with 17 in the Eureka area and 11 in Crescent Valley. Six of those were transferred to air medical services.

Pending State approval, EMS is working on scheduling an EMR (emergency medical response) class for the Pan Mine.

MEDX AIRONE

Background: Paul Ward, Executive Director of MedX AirOne, was in attendance to present options to supplement Eureka County emergency services. He noted this was a preliminary discussion so that Eureka County can consider what options are best suited to the local needs, and MedX will support whatever decision is made. Mr. Ward gave a video presentation that provided background on MedX AirOne. He said he is proud of the working relationship with Eureka County, and is especially proud to offer a service without egregious billing practices that jeopardize the financial resources of residents.

MedX AirOne began in 2015 with an aircraft stationed in Winnemucca, expanding into Elko in 2016, and most recently stationing a fixed-wing aircraft in Ely in 2018. In 2019, they began offering ground transport services through MedX EMS in Wells and the City of Elko.

MedX has a hangar near the hospital in Winnemucca, occupies the old terminal building at the Elko Airport, and has a station in Elko for ground transport units. In Wells, a ground ambulance is housed at the volunteer fire department. In White Pine County, staff has space in the county fire station and MedX funded and built a hangar on leased land at the Ely Airport.

Options to Supplement Emergency Services: Mr. Ward offered Option A, paramedic services, or Option B, Advanced EMT services. This would be provided by rotating in different providers to have one paramedic or AEMT on duty 24-hours a day during a seven-day shift. Mr. Ward hadn't completely worked out scheduling, but felt something similar to a mining schedule would work in this rural area – with an individual working a 7-day shift with 24-hour on-call coverage, to be replaced by another individual for the next 7-day shift.

Mr. Ward personally recommended Option B, because it is difficult for a paramedic to maintain certification in a low-call-volume area. Estimated costs for Option B (Advanced EMT) would be \$300,000.00 to \$350,000.00 annually for personnel, not including a response vehicle or

equipment. If interested, a similar model could be forecast for the Crescent Valley area. Estimated costs for Option A (paramedic) would be \$600,000-plus annually.

Mr. Ward said they are not contemplating stationing an aircraft in Eureka because that is a much higher level of commitment and is not feasible at this time. This could only be considered in the future if other entities are willing to share in support and funding. MedX would be willing to house an individual at the Eureka Airport, and this individual could also manage the facility if a contract can be worked out.

Comments: EMS staff, Kenny Sanders and Shealene French, were in attendance at the meeting and voiced concerns that bringing in another entity and a corporate model could drive volunteer EMTs away, which they have seen happen in other rural areas. They asked that, if changes are being considered, EMS staff be more involved in the conversations.

A couple people asked about billing, not wanting to see patients receive bills from multiple entities. Volunteer EMTs, Earl Overholser and Chance Ellis, also voiced concerns. Mr. Ellis felt the local team was a tremendous asset because they know the area and the residents. He said the MedX flight crew does a fabulous job, but didn't want to see the local service lose its personal touch. Mr. Overholser felt the County should invest in the existing service before seeking help from an outside entity.

Commissioner McKay stated nothing has been decided, and his purpose for looking into these options was to improve and expand emergency coverage and to help prevent burnout of existing staff. He has received positive feedback from the local community favoring additional or enhanced coverage.

Chairman Goicoechea made several comments. The County has worked to encourage volunteer staff by offering incentives to pay for training and travel for EMTs to become certified, but it is challenging. He has also shared in concerns over coverage and burnout. This is why the upcoming budget includes an additional paid EMT for the Crescent Valley area, which has struggled with its ambulance service. The Chairman said that the upcoming budget (Fiscal Year 2022) did not anticipate augmenting emergency services in this manner, so the discussions are preliminary, with no planned funding in the upcoming year. He added that costs and comfort-level of the volunteers and paid staff will ultimately determine what direction the County takes.

Conclusion: The Commissioners acknowledged the benefit and partnership that MedX AirOne provides with its flight services. They asked Mr. Ward to firm up his estimates and provide something in writing outlining costs and services, along with a list of equipment and vehicle needs, which can be presented at a future meeting.

TREASURER

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for February was submitted by Treasurer Pernecia Johnson, showing an ending General Fund balance of \$35,332,993.26. Ms. Johnson forwarded the net proceeds of minerals revenue estimates earlier in the week to assist the Board with budget planning.

Ms. Johnson serves as Public Guardian for Eureka County and informed the Board that Highland Manor, the senior care facility in Elko, has lifted some COVID restrictions and is now allowing residents to have in-person visitors.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Updated Job Descriptions: HR Director Heidi Whimple continues updating job descriptions to the new consistent format. She worked with Ray Hodson to update several Public Works job descriptions, noting that conditions were added to allow an individual employee to grow and advance within a position. Some of the advanced positions now include a level of supervisory duties. A job description was created for the Crescent Valley Technician without wastewater duties, as they don't apply in that area. All job descriptions were reviewed and approved by Nevada POOL/PACT.

Commissioner McKay motioned to approve the following position descriptions: Public Works Equipment Operator I, II, III, & Senior; Public Works Technician I, II, III, IV, & Senior; and Public Works Crescent Valley Technician I, II, III, & IV. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

SHERIFF

Hiring Freeze Waivers: Sheriff Jesse Watts submitted Hiring Freeze Waiver Justifications for four positions, noting that he overlooked seeking waivers on two positions that had already been filled. Those were a patrol position in Crescent Valley and a jailer position in Eureka.

Commissioner McKay motioned to waive the hiring freeze and authorize the Sheriff to hire the following positions: Deputy Sheriff I, II, III for Crescent Valley; Deputy Sheriff I, II, III for Eureka; Dispatcher I, II; and Casual Bailiff. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Advanced Step-Hire: Sheriff Watts requested authorization to hire a Dispatcher candidate at a range 119, step 4, on the salary scale due to extensive training and experience in emergency communications.

Commissioner McKay motioned to authorize an advanced step hire, pursuant to Personnel Policy 5.7.3, for a Dispatcher due to the applicant's qualifications and training; Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

EUREKA RESTORATION ENTERPRISE

Main Street Flower Baskets: Garney Damele, of Eureka Restoration Enterprise, sent a letter and attended the meeting to request funds to pay labor costs for eight students to water and maintain hanging flower baskets along Main Street in Eureka for an estimated 14 weeks this coming summer.

In 2020, ERE sponsored this project with financial assistance from the Recreation Board. She said the students did a terrific job and were reliable and conscientious about their responsibilities. Two students per week care for the flower baskets and are paid \$100.00 each.

Chairman Goicoechea said there have been a lot of good comments and people seem to enjoy the flowers on Main Street.

Commissioner McKay motioned to approve donating \$2,800.00 to Eureka Restoration Enterprise to cover labor costs related to flower baskets along Main Street in Eureka, to be paid from miscellaneous grants in the Commissioners budget. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

COUNTY FACILITIES

Facilities Update: Joyce Jeppesen, Public Works Assistant Director-Administration, gave an update on activities at County managed facilities.

Eureka Opera House: In February, the Opera House had 19 tourists and 36 participants in scheduled meetings or events, which included a Eureka Business Network meeting, mine training, and red card wildland fire training. There was also a COVID vaccination POD (point of dispensing) with a total of 46 shots given.

Sentinel Museum: The Museum had 60 visitors in February. During the month, the Museum acquired ten accessions and over 40 artifacts.

Swimming Pool: The Pool is open with regular hours and there were 72 swimmers during the month of February.

Eureka Airport: In January, the Airport sold 115.5 gallons of avgas. LA Perks submitted a quote for replacement of the fuel skid system. Application for the Fiscal Year 2021 FAA grant was submitted for \$85,000.00 to complete environmental studies and design work related to the snow equipment building and windsocks.

Eureka Canyon Subdivision: One application for a subdivision lot was given out, but is still pending.

Eureka Landfill: The Landfill had 388 customers for the month and accepted a total of 255 tons of municipal waste and construction and demolition debris.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Update: Public Works Director Jeb Rowley reported on projects and activities.

COVID Vaccines: Mr. Rowley felt the COVID vaccination POD at the Opera House was well attended. The State is now sending out Mobile Vaccination Units (MVUs) to distribute vaccines to vulnerable and rural populations, which will remove some of the burden off local Emergency Management. The State is in contact with Public Works to schedule the MVUs in Eureka County towards the end of March and beginning of April. Return trips will be scheduled a few weeks later for second doses.

PPE Distribution: The State is distributing PPEs (personal protective equipment), so Mr. Rowley will work with EMS and the Sheriff to identify local needs to ensure there is an adequate inventory of PPEs in the County.

Pinto Creek Fire: Staff and volunteers responded to a fire at Pinto Creek to assist the Cold Creek Volunteer Fire Department. A pump went out in one of the Diamond Valley fire engines, so that will be repaired. Fortunately, it is still under warranty.

Radio Network: Galena Group and Western States Enterprises were in the area the past week to work through some communication issues in preparation for proof of concept testing to prove effectiveness of LTE coverage and connection points for P25 radio coverage.

LA Perks Quote for Fuel Skid: LA Perks provided a quote to repair the fuel skid system at the Eureka Airport, in the amount of \$95,996.00 with half paid up front to cover material costs.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to approve the quote from LA Perks to repair the Jet A fuel skid at the Eureka Airport, for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 utilizing funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Public Works budget (010-042-55010-000) and funds budgeted for capital outlay in the Capital Projects Fund (042-140-55010-000). Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION HONORING RETIRING EMPLOYEE

Resolution for Kristi Davids: Joyce Jeppesen read the resolution honoring Kristi Davids for over 13 years of service to Eureka County. Ms. Davids was presented with a plaque on February 25th in recognition of her retirement.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adopt the resolution honoring long-time employee, Kristi Davids; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Eureka, Nevada

March 19, 2021

RESOLUTION HONORING KRISTI DAVIDS FOR THIRTEEN AND A HALF YEARS (13 ½) YEARS OF SERVICE TO EUREKA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to honor employee, Kristi Davids, for thirteen and a half years of service to the County of Eureka; and

WHEREAS, Eureka County acknowledges the following biographical information: Kristi Davids was born on September 23, 1978, in Toole, Utah, to Howard and patty Wright. The Wrights moved back to Crescent Valley in 1981 and Kristi and her younger brother Matt (currently serving in the United States Air Force in Las Vegas, NV) were raised near their grandparents, Tom and Doris Smith and Cecil and Charlotte Wright. Kristi was active in 4-H and grew up riding ad showing horses. Kristi married Jim Davids in 1997, and they have three children – Katie, 21; Britney, 16; and Brandon, 10. They also have three pug dogs, two guinea pigs, and a cat.

WHEREAS, Kristi first worked for Eureka County as a casual worker cleaning houses for senior citizens in Crescent Valley, and eventually working for a short period at the Fannie Komp Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, Kristi left the county and went to work at the Hungry Miner in Carlin and at the Red Lion in Elko; and

WHEREAS, Kristi was re-hired by Eureka County in 2007 as a Casual Janitor. Her duties expanded to Casual Office Assistant and Janitor, the position she held until February 25, 2021; and

WHEREAS, County officials, co-workers, and friends celebrate with Kristi as she embarks on the next adventure in her life, and the pursuit of her favorite pastimes of traveling, diamond painting, baking, preparing family holiday celebrations, and spending time with her children; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Eureka County Commissioners recognizes Kristi Davids for thirteen and a half years of service on behalf of Eureka County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be published in the minutes of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners to remain a part of the permanent and historical records of Eureka County.

ADOPTED this 19th day of March, 2021.

BOARD OF EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF EUREKA, STATE OF NEVADA

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea, DVM

J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

/s/ Michael Sharkozy

Michael Sharkozy, Vice Chairman

/s/ Rich McKay

Rich McKay, Member

Attest: /s/ Lisa Hoehne

Lisa Hoehne, County Clerk

NATURAL RESOURCES

Report on Activities: Natural Resources Manager Jake Tibbitts reported on recent activities. The Natural Resources Advisory Commission met on March 10th. The County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife met on March 11th. On March 18th, Mr. Tibbitts and Chairman Goicoechea participated in a productive meeting on Nevada Gold Mine's Goldrush Project, and the County is pleased to be involved this early in the NEPA process.

Upcoming Meetings: The Eureka Conservation District is meeting on March 23rd; and the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council is meeting on March 30th.

SCORP Survey: The Nevada Division of Recreation and Nevada Division of State Parks released a public survey as part of the federally required Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Mr. Tibbitts felt it was important for Eureka County to respond to support outdoor recreation being done in a way that minimizes conflicts between outdoor recreationists and other land uses. He encouraged other groups, individuals, and members of the public to respond, and will post notices to make people aware of the survey.

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to have Mr. Tibbitts respond to the survey on outdoor recreation on behalf of Eureka County as part of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Grasshopper & Mormon Cricket Suppression Program: Each year the US Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) publishes an Environmental Assessment for its Rangeland Grasshopper & Mormon Cricket Suppression Program. Comments were due by the end of the day, and Mr. Tibbitts prepared a letter in support of the Draft EA.

Commissioner McKay motioned to approve the response letter to USDA-APHIS concerning its Rangeland Grasshopper & Mormon Cricket Suppression Program Draft Environmental Assessment. Commissioner Sharkozy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from: Lance Paul; District Attorney Ted Beutel; Natural Resources Manager Jake Tibbitts; Comptroller Kim Todd (2); Juvenile Probation Officer Steve Zimmerman; Eureka County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (2); Eureka Restoration Enterprise; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board (3); Eureka County Television District; Nevada Assoc. of Counties; Nye County Battle Born Patriots; Nevada Dept. of Agriculture; Nevada POOL/PACT; Nevada Aging & Disability Services Div. (2); Nevada Dept. of Indigent Defense; Nevada Dept. of Transportation; Nevada Div. of Environmental Protection; Public Utilities Commission of Nevada; Nevada Dept. of Business & Industry; Nevada Tobacco Prevention Coalition (2); US Dept. of the Interior-BLM (3); National Assoc. of Counties (3); US Senator Jacky Rosen; US Dept. of Homeland Security (2); Governing electronic newsletters; and Walmart Public Affairs & Government Relations.

Commissioner Reports: Chairman Goicoechea shared that in the course of meetings with the congressional delegation, he thanked Senator Rosen for her earlier support in funding “*The Path Forward for Management of BLM’s Wild Horses & Burros.*” But a staffer must have really missed the mark, because the response letter said they talked about protecting horses from soring tactics. Chairman Goicoechea wanted to clarify this for his fellow Commissioners.

The Chairman will testify during the next week in favor of SJR3, which urges Congress to provide funding to reduce wild horse and burro populations. This legislation is supported by the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council and Eureka County.

Commissioner McKay continues having conversations with developers, particularly one from Las Vegas, and hopes this will lead to development of lots in the Eureka Canyon Subdivision. He is also meeting with a local homebuilder later in the day.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Goicoechea called for public comments; there were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sharkozy motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner McKay seconded the motion; the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Approved by vote of the Board this 20th day of April, 2021.

/s/ J.J. Goicoechea
J.J. Goicoechea, Chairman

I, Jackie Berg, Commissioner Administrative Assistant, attest that these are a true, correct, and duly approved minutes of the March 19, 2021, meeting of the Board of Eureka County Commissioners.

/s/ Jackie Berg
Jackie Berg, Commissioner Administrative Asst.

I, Lisa Hoehne, Clerk Recorder of Eureka County, acknowledge and accept the attached minutes as approved by the Board of Eureka County Commissioners and attested to by the Commissioner Administrative Assistant.

/s/ Lisa Hoehne
Lisa Hoehne, Clerk