

EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Budget Meeting – March 29, 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 29, 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 1:00 p.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

Commissioner Page made a motion to approve the agenda as posted; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Fiorenzi called for public comments. There were none.

FINANCE

Payment of Expenditures: No action was taken on this agenda item.

Employer-Paid Contribution Plan for PERS: Mike Rebaleati, Recorder & Auditor, explained that a recent audit by the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) identified that further documentation or clarification was required on two exempt employees who had selected the employer-paid contribution retirement option. Mr. Rebaleati explained in detail what needed to be included in the motion. Commissioner Page made a motion confirming that Eureka County's policy is, and has been, that all exempt employees' salaries are based on the employer-paid option in the Public Employees' Retirement System, which means that when an exempt employee selects the employer-paid option it is the equivalent of a cost of living adjustment of 10.59% (and a multiplied factor as determined by PERS annually); additionally, the motion reiterated that Dorothy Rowley, employee #253, selected the employer-paid retirement option on 12-16-07 (which was her effective date and represents the 10.59% equivalent increase), and Wally Cuchine, employee #73, selected the employer-paid option on 10-16-09 (which was his effective date and represents the 10.59% equivalent increase). Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CONTRACT RENEWALS FOR JANITORIAL SERVICES

Eureka Justice Facility; Eureka Library: Chairman Fiorenzi previously abstained from the janitorial service bid awards due to a close family member submitting one of the unsuccessful bids; and he stated he would also not discuss or vote on any of the janitorial service contracts. Ron Damele, Public Works Director, explained that the janitorial service contracts had all been reviewed and signed by the District Attorney and the contractors. Cleaning by Chae had obtained the required Nevada business license. Commissioner Page motioned to approve signing the contract for janitorial services for the Eureka Justice Facility and Eureka Library with Cleaning by Chae; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0. Chairman Fiorenzi abstained from the vote.

Eureka County Courthouse: JD Janitorial has applied for a Nevada business license, which is expected to be received soon. Commissioner Page motioned to approve signing the

contract for janitorial services for the Eureka Courthouse with JD Janitorial; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0. Chairman Fiorenzi abstained from the vote.

Eureka Administrative Building: Commissioner Page motioned to approve signing the contract for janitorial services for the Eureka Administrative Building with JD Janitorial; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0. Chairman Fiorenzi abstained from the vote.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 BUDGET TRANSFERS

FY 2010 Budget Transfers: Mr. Rebaleati explained that the Board approved a budget augmentation resolution on March 19th. The Board reviewed a copy of a letter provided to the Eureka County Television District, explaining their budget augmentation. The transfer and augmentation changed the total Fiscal Year 2009-2010 budget amount for the Television District from \$399,500.00 to \$495,643.00, with \$80,011.00 currently remaining in the current budget. This budget must be adhered to pursuant to NRS 354.626. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve the internal transfers for the Eureka County Television District; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

HIGH SCHOOL RODEO CLUB

Annual High School Rodeo: Carrie Dubray, Eureka High School Rodeo Director, requested the typical donation of equipment and supplies from the Commissioners for the annual Eureka County High School Rodeo scheduled for May 28-30, 2010. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve donation of paper for the rodeo programs, water truck and operator, tractor, arena drag/groomer, and use of the Fairgrounds for the annual High School Rodeo; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Cost Share for Livestock Panels: Ms. Dubray requested that the County participate in a cost-share with the Recreation Board to purchase 350 livestock panels to be used to erect 126 additional horse pens at the Fairgrounds, at a total cost of \$26,600.00 (the lowest proposal out of four vendors). The Recreation Board has been approached and will give final approval at their next meeting. Ownership of the panels will be retained by the County. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve County participation in a cost-share with the Recreation Board to purchase 350 livestock panels for the Eureka Fairgrounds, at a total cost to the County of \$13,300.00; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. The Board directed Ms. Dubray to have the Rodeo Club consult with Public Works to complete this purchase according to County standards, and also requested that the Rodeo Club coordinate with the County to ensure proper location of the pens.

NEVADA HEALTH CENTERS, INC.

Nevada Health Centers Contract: Tom Chase, CEO of Nevada Health Centers, Inc., provided the Board with an outline of the proposed NVHC budget for FY 2010-2011, and the status of the Eureka and Crescent Valley clinics. Mr. Chase described the revenues, in-kind donations, patient revenues, expenses, and labor costs. NVHC has been taking steps to improve its financial situation by addressing employee benefits, pensions, and health plans. State-wide patient encounters have increased; however, many of the new patients are uninsured. Mr. Chase explained that Eureka County's NVHC budget will have to increase for personnel costs because a full-time doctor, full-time physician assistant, and an additional provider is needed. The cost for supplies and equipment is budgeted with an increase, mainly due to increased costs for pharmaceuticals and medical supplies. Provider travel expenses have also increased in order to provide sufficient coverage in the County. Mr. Chase described the cost of installing electronic medical record systems throughout NVHC sites and associated depreciation. Allocations for the Eureka County clinics (which do not receive federal funding) were discussed in comparison to other NVHC clinics throughout the State. It was reiterated that

the funds previously earmarked for telemedicine have been reallocated to support the additional medical provider. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve signing the NVHC contract for FY 2010-2011, not to exceed \$778,500.00; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. The contract will be forthcoming for signatures at a future date.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Priority List: The Board reviewed the updated Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Rebaleati commented that most of the major infrastructure projects have been or are in the process of being pre-funded. Mr. Rebaleati inquired as to whether the Capron Street Project (to include paving of Bullion Street up to the Elementary School and drainage construction) should be included and where it should be placed on the five-year plan. The Board agreed to allocate funds to cover engineering costs for the Bullion Street Project for FY 2010-2011.

The Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board had requested installation of wood on the interior walls at the Community Center; Mr. Damele explained that this request will be placed under building improvements. Paving in Crescent Valley was discussed, and the Board agreed that the sewer system study in the town should be completed prior to any additional paving to avoid having to excavate newly paved streets. Mr. Rebaleati noted that the Crescent Valley paving request had been moved to FY 2015 under the Regional Transportation Commission budget.

Tentative Budget for Capital Improvement Projects: The tentative budget for capital improvement projects was reviewed by the Board.

ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION AND ACTIVITY

Revenues v. Expenditures: Mr. Rebaleati explained that the large pre-funded capital improvement projects were not included in the total expenditure breakdown for the County. He provided the Board with a conservative revenue and expenditure analysis. Total estimated County revenue is \$20,251,000. Total estimated County expenditures equal \$19,408,000. The expenditure total includes a significant amount of over-budgeting and includes payroll, benefits, services and supplies, and smaller scale capital improvements. Revenues include net proceeds and ad valorem taxes.

Crescent Valley Activities Committee: Mr. Rebaleati pointed out a \$5,000.00 line item for the Crescent Valley Activities Committee for FY 2010-2011. Commissioner Page expressed concerns with the Activity Committee competing with other organizations when food is provided during events, but added that he is supportive of funding activities in the community, and stated he will discuss any issues or concerns with the CVTAB members.

Proposed ILS/ALS Certification for NDF: The Board discussed the budget proposal from the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) to have the Battalion Chief and NDF firefighter become intermediate life support (ILS) and advanced life support (ALS) certified and to purchase necessary medical equipment at a cost of \$40,000.00. Many of the medications needed for ILS/ALS kit are perishable and have to be climate controlled. Commissioner Page felt that these services should be provided through the County's emergency medical service and not the fire departments or NDF. Sam Hicks, NDF Battalion Chief, suggested that the ILS/ALS request be removed from the NDF budget. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to remove the proposed \$40,000.00 line item for ILS/ALS supplies and equipment from the NDF budget; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Department of Taxation: The Board reviewed the Department of Taxation's final assessed value analysis by county. The assessed valuation for Eureka County was \$758,185,606. The estimated net proceeds for Eureka County for FY 2010-2011 is \$6,412,734. The Board also reviewed estimated net proceeds for the current fiscal year.

2011 Tax Rate: The Board reviewed the breakdown of the General County Tax Rate for 2011. A new Water Planning Fund will be established for FY 2010-2011 with the re-allocation of

one cent from the Landfill Fund and one cent from the Agricultural Extension Fund. The Hospital Indigent Fund will be increased by one cent for a two cent total allocation. Mr. Rebaleati described the breakdown of the General County Tax Rate which includes: 0.5549 for the General Fund; 0.1221 for the Road Fund; 0.0410 for the RTC Fund; 0.0100 for the Agricultural Extension Fund; 0.0080 for the Agricultural District #15 Fund; 0.0200 for the Water Planning Fund; 0.0500 for the Capital Improvement Fund; 0.0150 for the Accident Indigent Fund; 0.0048 for the County Indigent Fund; and 0.0200 for the Hospital Indigent Fund. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve the 0.8458 rate for the 2011 General County Tax Rate, 0.0085 for the Television District, 0.2153 for the Crescent Valley Town Fund, 0.2153 for the Eureka Town Fund, 0.0781 for the Diamond Valley Weed District, and 0.0400 for the Diamond Valley Rodent District; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0. The 0.1625 School Bond rate will be eliminated from the tax role.

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Special Assessments: The Board reviewed the Nevada Division of Water Resources FY 2010-2011 budget for special assessments to be collected by Eureka County on behalf of the Nevada Division of Water Resources, for necessary expenses related to supervision over certain waters in Eureka County. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to approve the special assessments for the following: Diamond Valley Groundwater Basin in the amount of \$6,696.98; Crescent Valley Groundwater Basin in the amount of \$408.96; Maggie Creek Groundwater Basin in the amount of \$5,997.78; Lower Reese River Valley Groundwater Basin in the amount of \$22.72; Boulder Flat Groundwater Basin in the amount of \$12,202.29; and the Humboldt River Distribution in the amount of \$10,396.93. Commissioner Page seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. No special assessments are needed for the Whirlwind Valley Groundwater Basin for the upcoming fiscal year.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT BUDGET MEETING

The Board agreed to hold the next budget meeting on May 17th at 1:00 p.m., which will be held the same day as the mandatory hearing to approve the County Tax Rate for FY 2011.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Board agreed to review the contract for the County's legislative lobbyist on April 6th during the regular Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Fiorenzi called for public comments. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2.33 p.m.; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Approved this 15th day of April, 2010.

/s/ Leonard Fiorenzi

Leonard Fiorenzi, Chairman

Attest: /s/ Jackie Berg
Jackie Berg, Clerk