

**EUREKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Quarterly Meeting - October 15, 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 October 15, 2010, at the Crescent Valley Town Center. Present were Vice Chairman Jim Ithurralde (presiding over the meeting), Member Mike Page, and Clerk & Treasurer Jackie Berg. District Attorney Ted Beutel was in attendance via the interactive video conferencing link from Eureka. Chairman Fiorenzi was absent from the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Page motioned to approve the agenda as posted; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Ithurralde opened the floor for public comments. Virgil Roper stated some concerns over a new mine, the Klindex Mine, going in near the Fire Creek area. A well driller had informed him that the new mine would be doing some dewatering and it might be beneficial for the County to have monitoring wells in place to determine the effects on local water. Commissioner Page stated that Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts, had been informed and will look into this. Mr. Page added that the Environmental Impact Statement for the mine is being done in Lander County and everything is in a very preliminary stage.

Commissioner Ithurralde stated the Board planned on getting some information about the possible closure of the Crescent Valley Post Office and will place this on a future agenda to consider writing letters in support of retaining a Post Office in Crescent Valley. There were no further public comments.

**JOINT MEETING WITH CRESCENT VALLEY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD**

Crescent Valley Ranch & Farms Declaration of Restrictions: CVTAB Secretary, Sandy Spoo, reported on preliminary results of a survey conducted with property owners affected by the Crescent Valley Ranch & Farms Declaration of Restrictions. 204 votes were received from the first mail-out with 174 in favor of abolishing the Declaration of Restrictions. A second mail-out of 136 surveys is planned. The Town Board is first targeting the property owners most affected by the restrictions. The County owns 47 lots in the Town of Crescent Valley and the CVTAB would also like an opinion from the County to incorporate into the survey results.

Possible Water Rate Evaluation: The CVTAB had previously requested a water rate study due to installation of the arsenic treatment plant and talks that rates may have to be increased in the future. The Commissioners felt a study would be more timely after the arsenic treatment plant has been installed and working for a year or more to obtain documentation of actual costs. Commissioner Ithurralde reminded everyone that the County has committed to covering the additional costs of the system for the first several years.

CVTAB Member, Dawn Gann, completed a comprehensive study of water rates for the Crescent Valley system since 2005, including a comparison with other County water systems, and provided a detailed report to the Board. Ms. Gann also considered future conservation and funding alternatives to help keep Crescent Valley water rates at a minimum for the consumers.

CVTAB Vacancy: CVTAB Chairwoman, Gloria Sharrow, asked for direction from the Commissioners regarding the vacancy on the CVTAB for the term beginning January 1, 2011. As of January, the CVTAB will become a three-member board and will have two active members. One letter of interest had been received and forwarded to the Commissioners for consideration. Commissioner Ithurralde explained that the Commissioners declined to make an appointment for the remainder of the calendar year and would like to hear a recommendation from CVTAB after the first of the new year.

## **FIREWISE COMMUNITY**

Report on Firewise Community: Virgil Roper provided an update on the Crescent Valley Firewise Community. Firewise Communities were established in Beowawe/Crescent Valley and Eureka/Diamond Valley during the past year and are the only recognized Firewise Communities in the State of Nevada. Mr. Roper attended the annual conference in Reno recently with two other representatives from Eureka County. Activities over the past year included Firewise education days and onsite training to teach fuels reduction around residences as well as providing assistance to residents unable to do it themselves. Current and future plans include working with the BLM on weed reduction and implementing improved signage and house numbers to more easily identify residences. Additionally, the ISO (Insurance Service Organization) recognizes Firewise Communities and increases their fire safe rating by 50 points which in turn reduces insurance rates for residences and commercial buildings alike. Mr. Roper concluded by stating that if the County had an 'employee of the year' award, it should go to Kathy Porter, Natural Resources Department Assistant, for giving 100% in implementing this program.

## **FINANCE**

Creating Proprietary Funds for the Water Systems: Via video conference, County Recorder & Auditor, Mike Rebaleati, provided information regarding moving the Eureka Water System and the Crescent Valley Water System monies out of the two unincorporated town funds and into proprietary funds. This would require no change in the funding of the systems, but the accounting would be conducted more like a business providing for more defined cash flow statements, etc. More information will be presented during the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget workshops, but Mr. Rebaleati wanted the Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board and the Board of Commissioners to begin thinking about this option.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Bid Award – Digital X-Ray Upgrade: Public Works Director, Ron Damele, reported that bids were opened on October 6<sup>th</sup> for the digital X-ray upgrade at the Eureka Medical Clinic and a total of three bids were received. Bids were reviewed and it was determined that the bid most closely meeting the bid requirements was from Merry X-Ray. Commissioner Page motioned to award the bid for the digital X-ray upgrade to Merry X-Ray in the amount of \$48,494.00; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0.

Two Cubic Yard Sand Spreader: Mr. Damele obtained two quotes for a two cubic yard sand spreader to be used in Crescent Valley and recommended purchasing the sander from Jordan's Thermal King. Commissioner Page motioned to approve purchasing the sander from Jordan's Thermal King in the amount of \$6,498.00; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0.

Crescent Valley Projects: Mr. Damele gave an update on several Crescent Valley projects. The line from well #2 to well #1 is in the design phase; the arsenic treatment plant has been awarded to Severn Trent Services and is currently being designed; the well replacement is

very close to going out to bid, and the preliminary engineering report for the wastewater treatment facility was begun the previous week.

Crescent Valley Park Redesign: The Crescent Valley Park Redesign Project was awarded during the October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to CFA, Inc., an architectural firm out of Reno. Next a scope of work and fee schedule will be developed and the contract amount will be negotiated.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Tae Kwon Do Classes: Bob Nelson has been providing Tae Kwon Do classes in the community and has been conducting them outdoors. Now that the weather is turning colder, Mr. Nelson requested permission to hold the classes at the Crescent Valley Community Center and that the facility fees be waived. The Board had no problem waiving the facility fees, but had questions regarding insurance and liability. Mr. Nelson provided a copy of a liability waiver he is already using and the Commissioners agreed to have the District Attorney review it. Undersheriff, Bill Tilton, was in attendance and suggested that the Police Athletic League (PAL) might be willing to sponsor insurance for the activity. This item will be reconsidered once these details are worked out.

Proposed Ordinance Banning Intoxicating Compounds: At the request of the District Judge and some citizens, the Commissioners agreed to consider an ordinance banning certain intoxicating compounds, specifically a legal but dangerous compound known as 'spice'. District Attorney, Ted Beutel, drafted an ordinance for the Board to propose and consider. Commissioner Ithurralde motioned to officially propose the ordinance; Commissioner Page seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Page motioned to hold a public hearing to consider the proposed ordinance at 2:00 p.m. on November 22<sup>nd</sup>; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 2-0.

Quarterly Breakdown of Costs Related to Mount Hope Project EIS: Natural Resources Manager, Jake Tibbitts, provided a written breakdown showing quarterly costs expended related to the Mount Hope Project EIS and related water litigation. There were no comments from the Board.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received from: District Attorney, Ted Beutel (2); Eureka County Public Works, Ron Damele; Eureka County Natural Resources, Jake Tibbitts; Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board; Allison, MacKenzie et al (2); and Nevada Health Centers, Lillian Shell.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Ithurralde called for public comments; there were none. He announced that the next quarterly meeting will be held on January 14, 2011, since the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a Saturday.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Page motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 a.m.; Commissioner Ithurralde seconded the motion; motion carried 3-0.

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010.

/s/ Leonard Fiorenzi

Leonard Fiorenzi, Chairman

Attest: /s/ Jackie Berg

Jackie Berg, Clerk