

Pursuant to NRS a joint meeting of the Nye County Board of Commissioners, Nye County Board of Highway Commissioners, Nye County Licensing and Liquor Board, the Nye County Board of Health, the Governing Body of the Unincorporated Town of Pahrump, the Governing Body of the Unincorporated Towns of Beatty, Gabbs, and Manhattan, and the Board of Trustees for the Pahrump Pool District, was held at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers, 101 Radar Road, Tonopah, Nevada 89049.

Frank Carbone, Chair  
Leo Blundo, Vice Chair  
Donna Cox, Commissioner  
Debra Strickland, Commissioner  
Bruce Jabbour, Commissioner  
Sandra L. Merlino, Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board  
Chris Arabia, District Attorney  
Sharon Wehrly, Sheriff  
Tim Sutton, County Manager

Also Present: Kelly Sidman, Deputy Clerk; Lorina Dellinger, Assistant County Manager; Samantha Tackett, Administrative Manager; Savannah Rucker, Comptroller; Marla Zlotek, Chief Deputy District Attorney

Not Present: Sandra L. Merlino, Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board; Chris Arabia, District Attorney; Sharon Wehrly, Sheriff

Commissioner Cox was present via telephone.

### **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was recited.

### **2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (up to three-minute time limit per person.) Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an action item (first).**

Tim Bohannon said today he hoped to see from the public standpoint focus on what was required, mandatory, essential, and what would move the County forward.

### **3. Commissioners'/Manager's Comments (This item limited to announcements or topic/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas)**

There were none.

### **4. Approval of the Agenda for April 20, 2022. (Non-action item)**

Lorina Dellinger said items 5, 9-14, 23, and 25 could be removed from the agenda.

**5. For Possible Action – Emergency Items**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF UNINCORPORATED TOWN OF PAHRUMP**

**6. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation to adopt, amend and adopt, or reject the Fiscal Year 2023 Public Safety and Use Tax (PSST) plan for Pahrump Valley Fire Rescue.**

Savannah Rucker said the plan in the back-up included position requests, but there was no dollar value assigned to them due to the current negotiations with this unit. One request was for six new positions funded by PSST and the total expense was estimated at \$660,000.00, not inclusive of any collective bargaining negotiations currently underway. The other request was for staff responders with benefits and equipment, which would be recurring. There were six existing staff members with the positions valued at \$735,000.00, so the bottom total went from \$2.098 million to \$3.4938 million. Mrs. Rucker advised this fund had ample resources rolled over year to year due to the needs being various, and the chief had a lot of new items included in this year's plan.

Fire Chief Scott Lewis said the plan did not include anything on the EMS side. It was also all new equipment, not replacing anything. The personnel positions equaled two people per platoon, not six per platoon. They would also be rover positions and would help reduce overtime.

Commissioner Jabbour asked if Chief Lewis had an overtime number for the past year.

Chief Lewis said not under this plan. That would be included in the general fund in the enterprise funds.

Commissioner Blundo asked Chief Lewis if he believed all positions were critical, to which Chief Lewis responded yes.

Commissioner Blundo asked if this was to primarily staff the north end of the County.

Chief Lewis said no, but rovers could be placed where the need was. He discussed the recurring costs, which were more gauged toward IT, radio requirements, and things like that.

Commissioner Blundo said the Board approved a big security umbrella through IT and asked if that would catch anything in terms of security.

Chief Lewis said not that he was aware of. He believed this was the operational cost specific to Pahrump Fire Rescue.

**6. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation to adopt, amend and adopt, or reject the Fiscal Year 2023 Public Safety and Use Tax (PSST) plan for Pahrump Valley Fire Rescue-Cont’d.**

IT Director Brad Adams explained these items were specific to first responders. Within the radio assets and IT assets for encryption and perpetual persistent VPN, these components were operational costs. The security aspect under ARPA would also enhance security through these assets. This would be autonomous.

Chief Lewis discussed the equipment requests noting the majority of it was new fire suppression equipment.

Commissioner Blundo made a motion to adopt the FY23 PSST plan for the Pahrump Valley Fire Rescue; seconded by Commissioner Strickland.

Commissioner Jabbour referred to the second to last item on page 2 and asked if there had been incidents.

Chief Lewis said there had been quite a few. When a paramedic was assigned to the SWAT team Chief Lewis became aware there were not enough ballistic vests.

Commissioner Jabbour suggested Chief Lewis put in for more in the future.

The motion to adopt the FY23 PSST plan for the Pahrump Valley Fire Rescue passed with 5 yeas.

Mrs. Rucker asked that items 8 and 26 be opened, which were the budget assumptions, as she wanted to talk the Board through it before the rest of the items were heard.

**8. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Town of Pahrump final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.**

**SITTING AS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**FINANCE**

**26. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Nye County final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.**

Savannah Rucker said there was no presentation in the back-up and she did not have one prepared for today for a variety of reasons. She explained to prepare the tentative and final budgets her department relied on several reports from the Department of Taxation (DTAX) to generate the property tax rate, net proceeds, and other revenue sources that flowed into the County and town general funds. Mrs. Rucker did not agree with the values provided in the report.

**8. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Town of Pahrump final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Cont'd.**

**26. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Nye County final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Cont'd.**

Mrs. Rucker explained DevNet was the system the Treasurer and Assessor used to manage account receivables for property tax. There were some issues with the audit for FY21 that raised questions for her regarding the validity of the reports that came out of that system. She had been working with the current Treasurer and let him know there were issues that needed to be resolved.

Mrs. Rucker had also been in contact with DTAX and thought the assessed valuations were very low compared to where they should be. She was also concerned about incorrect reporting from the State since net proceeds were coming in at \$256,000.00 where the County should see \$2.5 million. If the values that were expected based on trends were used, the Board would have \$750,000.00 to work with to add positions in the County general fund, and there was wiggle room in the Town of Pahrump of between \$500,000.00 and \$600,000.00 to work with for services/supplies and positions in the general fund. Mrs. Rucker said she would like to have the departments present and the Board prioritize today. As she ironed out the issues with the reporting she could bring a report forward with confirmed numbers.

Mrs. Rucker advised the DTAX projections, which included real property values as well as assessed property value, only projected growth of 1.34% from last year, which was not even in excess of the cap of 3%. It made no sense to not see growth at the minimum of 3% if not higher. Net proceeds was 88.6% short from last year. Mrs. Rucker said until she could confirm what the numbers should be she did not want to present information to the Board that was not accurate. Mrs. Rucker said the goal was to have the presentation to the Board at the next meeting and if not, it would be the meeting in which the final budget was heard and she could walk through those assumptions.

Commissioner Strickland did not think the Board should move forward without exact numbers.

Tim Sutton asked if there was any value in proceeding with the meeting today to hear the requests without approving anything.

Commissioner Cox agreed with that.

Commissioner Strickland said she could not support moving forward with the meeting as she felt she was flying blind.

**8. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Town of Pahrump final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Cont'd.**

**26. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Nye County final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Cont'd.**

Commissioner Blundo suggested hearing the other PSST items.

Lorina Dellinger noted the presentations were not scheduled for action anyway. Also, if the presentations were moved to the May meeting that would be a pretty hefty agenda.

Mrs. Rucker said she had a priority list. The Board could assess the public need and rank the priorities based on the presentations given by the department heads and she could factor that into the final budget to be approved by the Board. She would also keep the Board and management apprised as she received information.

**SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF UNINCORPORATED TOWN OF PAHRUMP**

**7. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for Pahrump Valley Fire Rescue.**

Fire Chief Scott Lewis presented his request for increases due to the costs for fuel and power.

Commissioner Carbone said based on what he was reading the request was for salary increases.

Savannah Rucker explained that was overtime for Pahrump Valley Fire Rescue across all three funds.

Chief Lewis advised he did not call people in on a regular basis to cover an incident. Overtime was usually something generated at the beginning of a shift because of an absence.

**SITTING AS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**9. For Possible Action – Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**10. Closed meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**11. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation on conference with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation presented in closed meeting.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**12. For Possible Action – Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conferring with the County’s management representatives regarding labor negotiations, issues and other personnel matters.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**13. Closed meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conferring with the County’s management representatives regarding labor negotiations, issues and other personnel matters.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**14. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation on labor negotiations, issues and other personnel matters presented in closed meeting.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**ASSESSOR**

**15. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Assessor’s Office.**

Chief Deputy Assessor Justin Zimmerman presented his department’s request for a part-time account clerk.

Commissioner Blundo asked if it was a critical position, to which Mr. Zimmerman responded yes.

Commissioner Blundo asked for the head count in the department

Mr. Zimmerman said it was 15 now, but historically it was 16. The position of data collector was eliminated. There were two in Pahrump and they were combined to create one property appraiser, which aided in their efficiency. He explained they tried to get through without replacing that 16<sup>th</sup> head, but it was not working.

Commissioner Jabbour asked if this was a part-time position.

**15. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Assessor's Office-Cont'd.**

Mr. Zimmerman said yes. There were two full-time employees at the counter in Pahrump and this employee would cover lunch breaks and out of office runs to allow full-time coverage of the counter by the other two employees.

**4. Approval of the Agenda for April 20, 2022, (Non-action item)-Reopened.**

Lorina Dellinger said item 16 could be removed from the agenda.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**16. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation to amend the Nye County Plan for the Provision of Indigent Defense Services.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**17. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the District Attorney's Office.**

Chief Deputy District Attorney Kirk Vitto presented their request for two investigators, one secretary, and a deputy district attorney position.

Commissioner Carbone asked what the most important ones were.

Mr. Vitto said that was difficult to determine as he felt they were all needed. They only needed one investigator, so he would prioritize them as secretary, deputy district attorney, and then investigator.

Commissioner Jabbour pointed out the paperwork said two secretaries, two investigators, and one deputy district attorney. With Mr. Vitto's verbal request the numbers would be adjusted and he was not asking for \$590,000.00.

Renne McKeen clarified for FY23 they were asking for one investigator, one deputy district attorney, and one executive legal secretary. The secondary part was an overflow for FY24 to give the Board a heads-up that if one was not given for FY23 it would roll over into FY24. FY24 would be a request for one of each again and whatever was not approved in FY23.

Savannah Rucker thought there was a miscommunication between departments and said she would rerun the numbers.

**17. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the District Attorney's Office-Cont'd.**

Commissioner Blundo said the revised number was \$365,039.50, although Mrs. Rucker may come up with a slightly different number.

**SHERIFF**

**18. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Sheriff's Office.**

Captain David Boruchowitz presented their request for overtime and an evidence technician.

**JUSTICE(S) OF THE PEACE**

**19. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Pahrump Justice Court.**

Pahrump Justice Court Administrator Alisa Shoults presented their request for three additional positions, two window clerks and one chief clerk.

Commissioner Blundo asked which was the most critical.

Ms. Shoults responded she would like to say chief clerk, but she would say the window clerks to alleviate the load on staff.

**COUNTY MANAGER**

**20. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Administration Department.**

Public Information Officer Arnold Knightly presented his request for an additional position in the Public Information Office.

**FACILITIES**

**21. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Buildings and Grounds Department.**

Savannah Rucker advised the Board that this position would be offset by the \$25,000.00 a year in utilities savings as a result of the Siemens project inclusive of the bond payment.

Buildings and Grounds Director William Allen presented his request for a position to accommodate the Siemens project expansion and stand-by.

## FINANCE

### **22. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Nye County Animal Shelter.**

Savannah Rucker said the animal shelter was discussed during yesterday's meeting and the Board selected a staffing pattern. The budgetary expense associated with that staffing pattern as well as services and supplies was included in the prioritization list so the impact could be realized.

Commissioner Cox felt Pahrump was not paying its fair share and she would not mind changing the percentages.

The Board was in recess until 1:45 p.m.

### **23. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Finance Department.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

### **24. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation to: 1) Determine if sufficient financial resources are available to increase the compensation of elected county officers pursuant to NRS 245.043(5) for Fiscal Year 2023; and 2) Determine if sufficient financial resources are available to increase the compensation of the Board of County Commissioners for Fiscal Year 2023.**

Savannah Rucker said the overall total fiscal impact was in the back-up and was built into the tentative and final budgets. Upon preliminary review she made the assumption that the financial resources were available and she did not know if the Board had to take action.

Tim Sutton advised there was no requirement to do this. The reason the Board started doing it was because of the "me too" clause, which had been negotiated out.

Commissioner Strickland asked that item 4 be reopened and this item be removed from the agenda.

### **4. Approval of the Agenda for April 20, 2022, (Non-action item)-Reopened.**

Lorina Dellinger said item 24 could be removed from the agenda.

### **25. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation to determine if sufficient financial resources are available to increase the compensation of Justice of the Peace pursuant to NRS 4.040 for Fiscal Year 2023.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### **27. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Information Technology Department.**

Savannah Rucker explained that similar to the Buildings and Grounds department, IT served multiple funds. The request was for a total of \$57,177.00 with only 60% of that funded through the general fund and the other 40% through PSST or other funds that IT served, totaling \$34,306.00, which was on the prioritization list.

IT Director Brad Adams presented his request for a GIS conference and stand-by.

## PLANNING

### **28. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Planning Department.**

Assistant Planning Director Steve Osborne presented his department's request for one additional position, a senior code compliance officer, and an additional vehicle since they only had one for Planning.

Commissioner Blundo asked Mr. Osborne if he believed this position was critical, to which Mr. Osborne responded yes.

## PUBLIC WORKS

### **29. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Equipment Services Department.**

Public Works Director Tom Bolling presented his request for two positions in the light duty departments in Pahrump and Tonopah.

### **30. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Public Works Department.**

Tom Bolling presented his request for stand-by for the water techs.

### **31. Presentation and discussion of departmental budgetary requests for Fiscal Year 2023 for the Road Department.**

Tom Bolling presented his request for two positions in the heavy duty shops.

**SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF UNINCORPORATED TOWN OF PAHRUMP**

**8. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Town of Pahrump final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Reopened.**

**SITTING AS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**FINANCE**

**26. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Nye County final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Reopened.**

Working with a live spreadsheet the Board discussed the requests. It was determined the Road Department's budget could absorb its requests. For the Town of Pahrump, 100% of the overtime was allowed and 60% of the shelter costs were assigned to the town.

Commissioner Blundo said he was not comfortable with the overtime for Pahrump Valley Fire Rescue and wanted that reduced to zero.

Commissioner Carbone said he would like to see it go down as well.

As to the County general fund, the Board prioritized in the following order: 40% for the shelter; 100% for Public Works stand-by; 100% for IT stand-by; 100% of the stand-by for Buildings and Grounds; 100% of the public records administration position; 100% for the District Attorney investigator; 100% for the Pahrump Justice Court window clerks; and 100% for the Buildings and Ground position.

Commissioner Cox felt impact fees could cover the Sheriff's needs.

Savannah Rucker explained the Code allowed for new buildings, but did not allow the use for administration. She said she could bring the Code back for amendments.

The Board then added the evidence technician for the Sheriff's Office and travel/training for IT, which basically exhausted the \$750,000.00 available.

Since this was a conservative estimate, Commissioner Blundo listed the other priorities as the mechanic apprentices, the Assessor's part-time account clerk, and the District Attorney's executive legal secretary II.

Commissioner Blundo made a motion to continue items 26 and 8 to a time the Comptroller had all relevant information from the State to make an accurate financial portrayal to the Board and the prioritization could be finalized; seconded by Commissioner Strickland.

**8. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Town of Pahrump final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Reopened-Cont’d.**

**26. For Possible Action – Presentation, discussion and deliberation to review and approve the Nye County final budget assumptions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023-Reopened-Cont’d.**

Tim Bohannon agreed with postponing the decision until the revenue information was known.

The motion to continue items 26 and 8 to a time the Comptroller had all relevant information from the State to make an accurate financial portrayal to the Board and the prioritization could be finalized passed with 5 years.

**32. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (up to three-minute time limit per person.)  
Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an action item.**

Marla Zlotek thanked the Commissioners, Finance, Administration, and Elizabeth Enriquez for the delicious low-calorie donuts and the coffee.

Tim Bohannon said he did not hear anything today about oversight, internal controls, financial review, and other things of that nature.

**33. Commissioners’/Manager’s Comments (This item limited to announcements or topic/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas)**

Commissioner Strickland asked if the Treasurer was not putting stuff into DevNet for property tax.

Savannah Rucker said for FY23 she thought there was a reporting issue with DevNet, but she had not been able to pinpoint it. She knew it was used by the Assessor and the Treasurer, and the reports that system was generating was why the assessed value and property tax revenue was so low.

Commissioner Strickland asked staff to have the vendor come in and assist with those reports.

Commissioner Jabbour said everything discussed today was very important and the Board was aware of the staff shortages. He asked the department heads, elected officials and managers to thank their employees for stepping up. He also reminded everyone to spay and neuter their pets.

Commissioner Blundo said budget season was a challenging process. He made it a point to address the concerns of the departments and understood staff was needed. He

**33. Commissioners'/Manager's Comments (This item limited to announcements or topic/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas)-Cont'd.**

asked those who did not get what they wanted this time to call him to see if something could be done.

Commissioner Carbone thanked everyone for their participation.

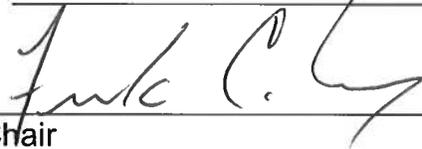
**34. ADJOURN**

Commissioner Carbone adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day

ATTEST:

Of June, 2022.

  
Chair

  
Nye County Clerk / Deputy