



**NYE COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**March 17, 2021**

**9:00 A.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Blundo  
Commissioner Jabbour  
Mr. Dan Schinhofen

PUBLIC WORKS STAFF: Mr. Tom Bolling  
Mr. Tim Dahl  
Ms. Lynnette Atkinson  
Ms. Michelle Blodgett

Commissioner Blundo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public comment.

**COMMISSIONER/MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Mr. Schinhofen suggests that we do the next meeting in April so that we have time to review next years' Budget.

Commissioner Jabbour has nothing at this time.

Commissioner Blundo would like to have a maintenance report for Comstock Park so that he can give it to the Home-Owners Association. He would also like to know how many miles of road they have in the Park that we maintain and the condition of the roads.

Mr. Dahl stated that he sent an email to Commissioner Blundo this morning and he is planning to attend an HOA Meeting at Comstock.

Mr. Bolling stated that he is going to have a presentation at the next meeting regarding the estimated costs for all the Nye County Road upcoming scheduled road maintenance. Mr. Bolling

stated that he has gone through the NDOT and Street & Highways recommended intervals and we are currently not meeting those standards; however, those are just preliminary reports.

Commissioner Blundo asked if this presentation was going to include a strategy to move forward.

Mr. Bolling stated that he is trying to keep us where we are currently at and not degrading anything more than what we already have.

Commissioner Blundo asked for a follow-up report on the next Agenda for Bell Vista Road. He would also like to know what other roads would be good candidates for that Grant. Mr.

Schinhofen stated that he understands we are 3-4 million dollars short every year for just maintaining the roads we currently have and thinks that we should be pushing for Diesel Tax. He would like to have this Board write a recommendation to the BOCC to pass it. We would be receiving 60-65% revenue just from the 95 Corridor. Mr. Schinhofen would like staff to research this and see if it's an RTC item or a BoCC item.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM 1/27/2021 MEETING:**

Commissioner Schinhofen motioned to approve. Jabbour second. Approved.

#### **DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION REGARDING AN UPDATE FROM PAHRUMP VALLEY TRANSPORTATION:**

Mr. Eric Whalen, Director of Transportation from Pahrump Valley Transportation stated that he is here to give an update.

Mr. Whalen stated that the cost per passenger is \$17.00. He also stated that it might sound a little high but 20-25% of their trips are to Las Vegas.

Mr. Whalen has more information that he would like to have on the record.

Commissioner Blundo made a motion to accept additional back-up. Commissioner Jabbour second. Approved.

Mr. Whalen stated that in the additional back-up he has included a lot more information and numbers.

Mr. Whalen also stated that he will acquire the Veteran's Transportation in September 2021. He has also applied for an NDOT Grant.

Mr. Jabbour asked if all complaints (3) were cleared up and closed. Mr. Whalen stated yes. He also asked if they did Drug Screening on the employees. Mr. Whalen stated that he does random and pre-employment screening and if there is an accident.

Mr. Schinhofen asked that the total operating budget is for the year. Mr. Whalen stated \$525,000.00 a year.

Commissioner Blundo asked if he would split the sponsored and unsponsored trips in the future. Commissioner Blundo suggested that on New Years Eve they offer rides.

Commissioner Blundo would like to see this service in Amargosa, Beatty and Tonopah in the future.

Mr. Dahl asked Mr. Whalen to provide this Board with information on the annual funding that he receives from our budget. Mr. Whalen stated that it is used to up-grade and purchase vehicles and it also includes repairs to those vehicles.

Mr. Whalen stated that he is contracted with HHS (Health and Human Services) to get people

transported for vaccinations.

Mr. Dahl asked what other Grants he receives. Mr. Whalen stated that he gets \$350,000.00 from NDOT. Mr. Whalen stated that he matches \$150,000.00 by his contract revenues.

Commissioner Blundo asked that this Board get sent a report annually or quarterly or whenever they meet.

### **DISCUSSION AND DELIBERTATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PLACEMENT OF SOLAR STREET LIGHTING**

Mr. Bolling stated that the back-up has the locations that Public Works feels is in the most need.

Mr. Bolling stated that we are going to include the light in the Pahrump Valley Boulevard Project and the same with Gamebird. Mr. Bolling stated that going forward whenever we do a project, we are going to include lighting to all major intersections.

Commissioner Blundo asked if we had purchased all ten lights. Mr. Bolling stated yes.

Commissioner Blundo Mr.

Dahl stated that they chose lights that they thought would be beneficial. Tim also stated that they have put up a temporary light at what will be the One Stop Shop on the Calvada Eye. He stated that it works well. He would like to use this list as the testing of these solar lights. As soon as the poles arrive, we will start installing them.

Mr. Schinhofen stated that he supports getting the other 10 lights. Commissioner Blundo asked what the cost was. Mr. Bolling stated that the cost was \$6,500.00. Commissioner Blundo wants to move forward also.

Commissioner Blundo asked that we add/fix or upgrade the light at Gamebird/Blagg. He would also like to add Blagg/Jaybird.

Mr. Dahl stated that he plans to put one at Gamebird and 160.

Commissioner Schinhofen made a motion to purchase 26 lights for various locations that were discussed for the County. Commissioner Jabbour second. Approved.

Further discussion, Commissioner Jabbour stated that Tonopah promotes the dark sky, but he thinks that we should have a few extra on hand in case Beatty or Amargosa may need lighting.

Commissioner Blundo stated that he would like to see a light in Amargosa on Farm Road by the Senior Center.

Mr. Dahl stated that he will attend Town Board Meetings to see where there is a need.

### **DISCUSSION AND DELIBERTATION REGARDING AND ALTERNATE ROUTE IN TO FRONTSITE**

Mr. Bolling stated that as requested by this Board they have included in the back-up 3 different routes in to Frontsite. Tom stated that every single route has BLM ROW. He also stated that without storm drain the cost per mile is about a minimum of 1 million dollar.

Mr. Schinhofen stated that Homestead would be the best route.

Mr. Schinhofen made a motion that we come back with an estimate so we can move forward.

Commissioner Blundo second. Approved.

Further discussion, Commissioner Jabbour stated that it looks like it may cost around 4.6 million

and he thinks that because Frontsite is planning on developing in the future then he doesn't see how this will help the tourism in Pahrump. He also stated that the maintenance for the road will fall on the county. Mr. Schinhofen stated that we would receive room tax when and if Frontsite does develop. Commissioner Jabbour stated that he will go along with the study. Mr. Dahl stated that Frontsite has submitted a traffic analysis, so they are moving forward. He also asked for clarification on this motion and that is for staff to begin conversation with BLM regarding the BLM ROW applications and what that might take. Mr. Schinhofen stated yes.

**SET TIME & DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:**

Mr. Schinhofen made a motion for April 21, 2021 at 9:00 am. And, for May 19th at 9:00 am. Commissioner Blundo second. Approved.  
Further Discussion, Commissioner Jabbour would like to have these meetings the day after a BOCC Meeting so that he can attend in person.

**COMMISSIONERS' / MEMBERS COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Jabbour stated that he happy that everyone is staying on top of the Leslie Project. Commissioner Blundo would like to see an item for fund allocations for transportation to vaccinations and for Holiday cab rides. He would also like to see an agenda item with an update on Tecopa Road.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT: (second)**

Ms. Jaynee Reeves, citizen of Nye County would like to see a beautification project along 160. She was hoping that we could talk to NDOT about doing something along the 160 from Homestead Rd. to Home Depot. She feels it would make our community feel nice. Mr. Dahl stated that in the past the public has asked for beautification in the past, but we have not had any luck with NDOT. They will consider it only if we pay for it. Mr. Schinhofen stated that NDOT next big project is going to be from Trout Canyon to Rainbow. Maybe we could see if they could some statues or rockscapes from Homestead on in. Mr. Schinhofen asked Tim to have discussion with NDOT. Commissioner Blundo stated that he will call a "Special Meeting" if NDOT would like to come out and have further discussion regarding this topic.

**ADJOURN:**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynnette Atkinson