

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, Manhattan, and Railroad Valley, 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.

Debra Strickland, Chair
Frank Carbone, Vice Chair
Donna Cox, Commissioner
Leo Blundo, 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: Lorina Dellinger, Assistant County Manager; Kelly Sidman, Deputy Clerk; Samantha Tackett, Administrative Manager; Savannah Rucker, Comptroller; Marla Zlotek, Chief Deputy District Attorney

Not Present: Leo Blundo, Commissioner; Chris Arabia, District Attorney; Sharon Wehrly; Sheriff

Commissioner Cox was present via telephone.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited

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

Commissioner Strickland mentioned the outreach about the meeting yesterday and how difficult it was on some of the Commissioners.

Commissioner Carbone said a lot of time was spent on something the Commissioners knew they were going to do anyway, but they could not do much about the school. He also hoped more meetings would be like yesterday's meeting, which did not have the long discussions that had been happening.

Commissioner Cox hoped the Governor saw the meeting yesterday and realized that there were two sides to every story and would give it a lot of consideration about the mask law and the vaccine. As far as the School District, she suggested sending a letter bringing to their attention that group was out there and was adamant.

3. Approval of the Agenda for August 4, 2021 (Non-action item)

Tim Sutton said items 4 and 6-11 could be removed from the agenda.

4. For Possible Action – Emergency Items

This item was removed from the agenda.

**5. 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.**

Kay LaPointe thanked the Board for yesterday and keeping it together.

SITTING AS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**6. 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.

**7. 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.

**8. 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.

**9. 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.

**10. 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.

11. 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.

FINANCE

13. Presentation regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, CARES funding and Nye COVID Relief Plan (CRP) updates, and overview of the Interim Final Rule (IRF).

Grants Administrator Samantha Kramer said in the back-up was the presentation from June 29, 2021, a status update on the COVID and CARES programs, NACO's analysis of the interim final rule, and the interim final rule from the Department of Treasury. She reviewed the primary ways to utilize the funding; the period of performance; the ways to support the public health response; how to address negative economic impacts; premium pay for essential workers, which could not be used to prefund OPEB, but could cover regular PERS benefits for time worked; replace public sector revenue loss; and water, sewer and broadband infrastructure.

Commissioner Blundo was present.

Commissioner Strickland asked if the money could be used for a cloud seeding program.

Savannah Rucker said the State Revolving Fund (SRF) tied to communities that were low- to moderate-income and those projects did not have to tie into COVID. Broadband did not have to tie into COVID either.

Mrs. Kramer then discussed the ineligible expenses.

Commissioner Jabbour said on page 12 of the back-up, under the heading Nye CRP status update, it listed administration's areas of concern as double dipping in grant reporting, lack of accountability from applicants, lack of timely communication, and lack of compliance with approved agreements. He asked how that would be explained to the future applicants that it would not be tolerated and they must comply with the requests.

Mrs. Rucker thought the best way of managing that was to make this a reimbursement program so they were providing documentation before receiving funding, but it was up to the Commissioners how to set the programs up and how they were administered.

Commissioner Blundo disclosed he was an applicant of the Nye COVID Program and the Nye Small Business Grant Program. He said he wanted the majority of the money to go the people. On the small business grant side, there were still people who needed help but the money ran out and he would like to fund the rest of that program. He then

13. Presentation regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, CARES funding and Nye COVID Relief Plan (CRP) updates, and overview of the Interim Final Rule (IRF)-Cont'd.

pointed out the eviction moratorium was extended for certain people and asked if there was a list of how many renters were in the County.

Mrs. Rucker said she could reach out to the Nevada Rural Housing Authority for that information.

Commissioner Blundo wanted to continue doing the programs like the small business programs, public health and safety, and rent/mortgage moving forward as well as making an allocation for key critical items for the County. He did not know how to address premium pay, but if there was a program Commissioner Blundo thought the Board should do that as an advance through employers and they could include it as a premium in their own payroll. He then asked if the CPA firms were helping the individuals.

Mrs. Rucker said yes and some of the businesses did not understand bookkeeping or what was required of them.

14. For Possible Action – Presentation of the data generated from the community outreach meetings held by Finance; and discussion, deliberation, and direction to staff on the administration of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds relating to: 1) Support of the public health response; 2) Programs to address negative economic impacts of COVID; 3) Support to local government with revenue loss; 4) Premium pay for essential workers; and 5) Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure needs.

Samantha Kramer said two meetings were held with community stakeholders to discuss how to help them better, which generated a lot of conversation and identified community needs. She discussed the list of ideas created from those meetings, which included ways to improve the design and execution of health and public health programs; enhance behavioral and mental health services; prevent and mitigate COVID; and support the local health and safety workforce.

**5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (up to three-minute time limit per person.)
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Debbie Carle, principal of J.G. Johnson Elementary School, invited the Commissioners to visit the school. She stated her support of the Cotillion for Success program which would not only help the children with their social and emotional issues but also help bring back the socialization they were deprived of last year. It would also teach them manners, respect, how to dance and how to dress up, which would be the only opportunity to do that for many of them.

**5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (up to three-minute time limit per person.)
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specifically included on an agenda as an action item-Reopened-Cont'd.**

Sylvia DeMasi, assistant principal at J.G. Johnson, said a program like Cotillion for Success did not exist when she was in school and bringing that program to J.G. Johnson would be a wonderful opportunity for the students. She pointed out if the program came to J.G. Johnson it would be available to the entire School District for ten years.

Kay LaPointe said they were looking at building character with the students, give them confidence and the ability to achieve things. The program would be for fourth graders this year as they considered it a critical year in the children's lives. The general outreach this year at J.G. Johnson would be 40 kids. Multiplying that by all the schools in Pahrump in year two it would impact 160 kids, and then adding the northern part of the County would be at least another 100 kids.

Tina Trenner said she had known Sharen Black for over 20 years. Ms. Black was a for-profit business, had a television production company, and was extremely successful. The goal was to take the Cotillion for Success national with the formation of 501(c)3 for funding issues that the participating schools may have.

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Samantha Kramer said other ideas brought up during the community workshops were COVID-19 treatment and medical services.

Commissioner Strickland asked if the Cotillion could be considered enhancing behavioral and mental health services.

Mrs. Kramer thought it could be plugged in there.

Commissioner Carbone reminded the Board that the School District was getting \$10 million and he wanted to make sure there was no overlap.

Commissioner Blundo suggested sending a letter of support to the School District.

Savannah Rucker advised she had reached out to the grants administrator at the School District to have a preliminary discussion on how they intended to use the

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funding. She wanted to make sure forces were combined on what both Boards were passionate about without any overlapping.

Continuing her review, Mrs. Kramer said ideas were provided on how to prevent and mitigate COVID-19; enhance behavioral and mental health services; support the local health and safety workforce; improve the design and execution of health and public health programs; and address disparities in public health outcomes, such as children facilities.

Commissioner Carbone wanted to know what was available for childcare in the County.

Mrs. Rucker said she thought about creating a grant program to entice childcare facilities to open in all areas of the County. Health and Human Services Director Karyn Smith told her there were only three or four licensed daycares right now. Mrs. Rucker would get a list to the Commissioners.

12. Presentation by the Nevada State Treasurer, Zach Conine on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Zach Conine said he and the Governor launched the Nevada Recovers Listening Tour, a 75-day tour with 75 events to hear what the communities needed and the best way to get that done. The Every Nevadan Recovery Framework bill was passed and would ensure that federal funds from the ARPA would be invested in the most collaborative, transparent and effective process. They would do things at the State level to address broadband issues, rental issues, and small business support and wanted to be sure they were collaborating with the communities to avoid duplication. Types of aid included non-discretionary aid, quasi-discretionary aid, and discretionary aid, which included State and local aid. Mr. Conine discussed the timeline starting with the statewide listening tour launched yesterday. That input would be summarized into a comprehensive roadmap. After that was developed the State would move to designing and creating new programs and services that would be funded through ARPA.

Commissioner Blundo asked that the programs be easily accessible to the public.

Commissioner Strickland asked the State to privatize the DMV because of the issues experienced during the pandemic.

12. Presentation by the Nevada State Treasurer, Zach Conine on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)-Cont'd.

Mr. Conine said the Governor made a comment to a reporter yesterday that one of the top priorities was to use some of the money to fix systems that just did not work, like the DMV and the UI systems.

The Board was in recess until 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Cox was not present.

14. For Possible Action – Presentation of the data generated from the community outreach meetings held by Finance; and discussion, deliberation, and direction to staff on the administration of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds relating to: 1) Support of the public health response; 2) Programs to address negative economic impacts of COVID; 3) Support to local government with revenue loss; 4) Premium pay for essential workers; and 5) Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure needs-Reopened.

Samantha Kramer said other ideas presented during the workshops were ways to assist small businesses and non-profits; aid to impacted industries; aid to unemployed workers; expenses to improve efficacy of economic relief programs; and services for qualified census tract and other disproportionately impacted communities.

Savannah Rucker said they planned on having another community discussion regarding the funding for the negative economic impact to figure out how to best serve the community.

Mrs. Kramer then reviewed the ideas provided for premium pay for essential workers. The last discussion during the community stakeholders meeting was the water, sewer and broadband infrastructure. The ideas included the Gabbs and Manhattan water and sewer system upgrades and the Calvada Eye for future growth.

Darin Tuck from Public Works said his biggest concern was the Gabbs sewer and he believed it was at a critical stage. The clay pipe there was just crumbling and there was an emergency two weeks ago where they found the pipe disintegrated. There were no issues with the plant itself. It was just the pipes had reached the end of their useful life.

Commissioner Strickland asked if he had estimates to do a full retrofit.

Mr. Tuck said it was between \$800,000.00 and \$1 million on the sewer and \$2.5 million on the water, which probably had gone up a little since the estimates were received.

Commissioner Strickland asked to put it on the list and send it up to the State to see if they could help.

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Mrs. Rucker thought the ARPA funding could be used as a bridge funding to address the critical system while wait for the grant funding.

Commissioner Jabbour asked if there was an estimate for Manhattan.

Mr. Tuck said he had no concerns for Manhattan right now as it was in pretty good shape. As to any other needs in the County's infrastructure, he advised a State inspection was done the other day and the Town of Amargosa needed to be updated for about \$50,000.00. He had not put anything together on that.

Mrs. Kramer reviewed the ideas for broadband infrastructure.

Commissioner Jabbour said he was on the phone during the community stakeholders meeting and it was a factfinding mission. Nothing was force ranked and everything was just ideas. One of the things mentioned was the reimbursement program. Initially he liked that, but then he thought about people not having upfront money to take care of their needs and then get reimbursed. Commissioner Jabbour thought that needed to be considered moving forward.

Mrs. Kramer said this would be presented again at the August 17, 2021, meeting to start coming up with programs to use the funds. The first interim report had to be submitted by August 31, 2021, which was just expenditures incurred from the beginning of the year and the County's ideas for revenue replacement.

Rick Minch, Deacon of Our Lady of the Valley, said they would like to participate in the water infrastructure part of the grant. He explained it would help the parish with fire suppression as well as the neighborhood around them as there were no fire hydrants and no underground water.

15. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation regarding the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding eligible expenses for each Fiscal Year of the program.

Samantha Kramer updated a live spreadsheet as the Board discussed the various ways the money could be allocated to the different programs.

Commissioner Blundo made a motion to approve the spreadsheet detailing the American Rescue Plan Act funding eligible expenses for each fiscal year of the program

15. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation regarding the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding eligible expenses for each Fiscal Year of the program-Cont'd.

identifying FY22 and FY23 in the amount of \$9,036,547.00; seconded by Commissioner Carbone; 4 yeas.

**16. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (up to three-minute time limit per person.)
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Commissioner Strickland said she wanted a letter sent to the School District regarding the Cotillion.

17. ADJOURN

Commissioner Strickland adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED this 8 day
Of September, 2021.

ATTEST:

Frank C. Ly
Chair

Keely G. Sedman
Nye County Clerk / Deputy