

Approved February 15th, 2018

The Special Meeting of the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners was held on January 10, 2018 in the meeting room of the County Administration Building, 1616 8th Street, Minden, NV, beginning at 6:00 PM.

Call to Order

Commissioners Present:

Steve Thaler, Chairman
Barry Penzel, Vice Chairman
Nancy McDermid, Board Member
Larry Walsh, Board Member
Dave Nelson, Board Member

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present:

Larry Werner, County Manager
Doug Ritchie, Chief Civil Deputy District Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Nelson

PUBLIC COMMENT - *None*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION to approve agenda; Carried.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dave Nelson, Board Member
SECONDER:	Larry Walsh, Board Member
AYES:	Thaler, Penzel, Walsh, Nelson
ABSENT:	McDermid

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Chairman Thaler explained the items on the Agenda for tonight and informed everyone that they would take a break for a few minutes to wait for Commissioner McDermid, who had several meetings today.

Chairman Thaler called for a break at 6:05 PM

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Meeting reconvened at approximately 6:20 PM

1. For possible action. Discussion on appointment to the Board of Equalization, and designation of Board of Equalization Chairperson by the Chairman of the Board of County Commission. (Larry Werner)

Larry Werner, County Manager, noted that Gary Boudreau, the only candidate for the Board of Equalization was unable to attend.

Public Comment - None

MOTION to approve the appointment of Gary Boudreau to the Board of Equalization for the term of office from January 2018 through December 2021; Carried.

Chairman Thaler Designated Elaine Pace as Chairwoman of the Board of Equalization.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nancy McDermid, Board Member
SECONDER:	Larry Walsh, Board Member
AYES:	Thaler, Penzel, McDermid, Walsh, Nelson

2. For possible action. Discussion on appointments to the Senior Services Advisory Council. (Larry Werner)

Scott Morgan, Community Services Director, stated that the Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC) is a seven-member board that provides recommendations to staff and the Board of County Commissioners. He added that they help with a variety of social programs for the elderly. Mr. Morgan stated that the SSAC is also the advisory council for Douglas Area Rural Transit (DART) Transportation.

Chairman Thaler explained the interview process for **Bob Cook** and offered him a few moments to introduce himself.

Bob Cook said that the SSAC is an important board. He is a member of the young at heart board, as well as being part of the building design committee. Mr. Cook understands the Commissioners concerns about new blood for the boards and he can relate to those concerns.

Commissioner Walsh thanked Mr. Cook for his service.

Commissioner Nelson asked Mr. Cook what he felt his best achievement during his service was and what he was looking forward to.

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Mr. Cook commented that being part of the building design team was a highlight for him. He enjoyed the team effort and was glad to be a part of it. He said he would like to see the Tri-County Route reestablished and see more County attention focused on the seniors in the Lake Tahoe area. Mr. Cook stated that he and a group of other residents have a plan to consolidate the library and build a senior center at Kahle Community Center. He added that the library property could be used to build tennis courts in Zephyr Cove and Tahoe-Douglas Fire could pitch in money and benefit from the services. Mr. Cook believes the senior community at the lake is different from the valley; people are less mobile and less involved and mostly come from California, so he would like to see some attention in that area.

Commissioner McDermid agreed with Mr. Cook that the potential at Kahle is very important and that moving the library and seniors to that location would truly make it a community center. Commissioner McDermid stated that everyone wants the Tri-County Route reestablished but there's no funding for it. Commissioner McDermid mentioned that Lake Tahoe lost the funding for the route from Tahoe-Carson City because they are prohibited from going from urban to urban. Commissioner McDermid also stated that being able to partner with Jump Across Carson (JAC) is one way to cobble together a transit route, but funding for transit is the big issue there.

Vice-Chairman Penzel didn't have any questions.

Chairman Thaler asked Mr. Cook if he would like to see a flagpole at the community center and which flags he would like to fly.

Mr. Cook informed Chairman Thaler that someone has written a check to fund the American, State and County Flags, flagpoles and lights for the next five years.

Chairman Thaler stated that he is a flag person and flies a flag in his yard every day.

End of Mr. Cook's interview.

Chairman Thaler explained the interview process to **Felix Lockwood** and offered him a few minutes to introduce himself.

Felix Lockwood confirmed that he has been on the SSAC for 17 years. Mr. Lockwood is proud of the senior center because it is the best in the state; he added that Douglas County has the best rural transportation system in the state and he believes that SSAC had something to do with all that success. Mr. Lockwood appreciated the help of Scott Morgan and Travis Lee throughout the process. Mr. Lockwood says he's a typical senior, and the SSAC needs that type of representation. Mr. Lockwood understands there is a lot of work still to be done but he enjoys the work.

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Chairman Thaler felt that Mr. Lockwood and Mr. Cook must be doing well because no one is running against either of them and he thanked Mr. Lockwood for his service.

End of Mr. Lockwood's interview.

Chairman Thaler explained the interview process to **Carol Voge** and offered her a few minutes to introduce herself.

Carol Voge noted that she moved here with her husband about 20 years ago from California. Ms. Voge was Assistant City Treasurer for Arcadia, California and she has a lot of experience working with a variety of people through her various employments. Ms. Voge was encouraged to apply by a former police officer and feels she would have plenty of time to devote to the committee and Douglas County.

Vice Chairman Penzel thanked her for applying and appreciated her sense of volunteerism.

Ms. Voge mentioned that she also volunteers at the senior center quite often.

Commissioner Walsh mentioned that her smile would be a great asset to the committee and congratulated her.

Commissioner McDermid thanked Ms. Voge for applying and felt she would introduce a spark of energy to the committee. Commissioner McDermid also thanked her for being active in the County and willing to help the activities of the senior center.

Ms. Voge said that she is ready with ideas and comments to bring to the SSAC.

Chairman Thaler asked what she liked most and least about the senior center.

Ms. Voge stated that she likes that it's a central place to meet people and participate in activities. She added that she would like to see different menu selections and she informed the Board that she was looking forward to being on the committee and is willing to share advice and she gets along with most people.

End of Ms. Voge's interview.

Public Comment - None

MOTION to appoint Bob Cook, Paul Lockwood, and Carol Voge; term of office is from January 2018 through December 2019 for the Senior Services Advisory Council; Carried.

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RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Larry Walsh, Board Member
SECONDER:	Nancy McDermid, Board Member
AYES:	Thaler, Penzel, McDermid, Walsh, Nelson

3. For possible action. Discussion on appointments to the 911 Surcharge Advisory Committee. (Larry Werner)

Chairman Thaler explained the interview process to **Bruce Beamer** and allowed him a few minutes to introduce himself..

Larry Werner, County Manager, stated that the 911 Surcharge Advisory Committee mandated state law to look over the 911 call center and is the oversight committee for the 911 funds.

Chairman Thaler informed **Bruce Beamer** of the interview process and offered him a few minutes to introduce himself.

Bruce Beamer stated that he has lived in Douglas County for 28 years and he had a career in telecommunications and joined the committee to use his experience to help the County. Mr. Beamer said he wants to stay on the 911 Surcharge Advisory Committee (911SAC) because they are in the middle of contract negotiations. The contract is for equipment that is seven years old, and the current contract expired two years ago but the vendor has been kind enough to maintain the equipment. Mr. Beamer said the new contract is almost ready and will probably be before the Board in the next month or two, which includes Text 911. Mr. Beamer added that funding has been a Critical issue; the 25 cent income tax has been on landlines but a lot of people are getting rid of landlines so there needs to be more funding to cover the loss. He added that the basic rate will be the same in the new contract but the monthly rate will be higher because there isn't an option to pay up front. Mr. Beamer supports a rate increase because of the needs of the community for 911. He concluded by saying he would like to continue on the board to see the process through, new equipment installed and new features implemented.

Vice Chairman Penzel mentioned that the funds Mr. Sagan wants are from the General Fund and wondered what would not be funded in order to cover these expenses.

Larry Werner, County Manager, stated that the money was from a separate funding source.

Mr. Beamer stated that the committee asks how things are funded and Mr. Sagan will provides an explanation but they aren't involved in the County finance process. Mr. Beamer stated that there is also an expense in training personnel.

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Vice Chairman Penzel asked about the progress of gathering 25 cents from every cell phone.

Mr. Werner indicated that he thought it was before the State legislature previously but it is only landlines now.

Vice Chairman Penzel asked for the position of the 911 Committee on that idea.

Mr. Beamer said that they know they need more money but don't want to be greedy. He added that the state would allow a rate increase up to a dollar but they are going to just go for the 25 cent increase because of the other funding issues for body cameras. Mr. Beamer believes all residents should pay in, regardless of landlines or cell phones. He considers it a social.

Vice Chairman Penzel believes gaining income from cell phones would dramatically increase their funding.

Chairman Thaler asked M. Beamer who the clients were for the 911 Committee

Mr. Beamer said that all the citizens of Douglas County, and also anyone who calls 911.

Chairman Thaler asked how much oversight he has over the 911 budget.

Mr. Beamer said that Mr. Sagan tells them what he's asking for and they look to see what can be funded.

Chairman Thaler asked what the most expensive part of the budget was.

Mr. Beamer replied that the hardware and the data transport to tie this location to other locations, those two things are the biggest expenses.

Chairman Thaler asked if they were looking at the next legislative session in 2019 to make changes.

Mr. Beamer stated that it was discussed at the last meeting and they are talking to people and informing them of what 911 does to drum up support.

Chairman Thaler stated that it's hard to get taxes passed in this County, so the Board tries to ask departments to look within before going to the taxpayer.

Mr. Beamer said that while you can call it a tax, it's a public safety issue, and it's worth the money when people need the help.

Mr. Werner informed the Board that the committee was formed to ensure that money is only spent on 911 uses.

Mr. Beamer said that the 25 cent tax doesn't fund the personnel but it's a vital part of the service.

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Commissioner McDermid believes Douglas County is part of a four-member coalition, and they have a meeting next week and this could be one of the bill drafts they put forward. Commissioner McDermid added that with the new technology they will need new hardware and could possibly need help with funding.

Vice Chairman Penzel said that if the bill draft goes forward, Mr. Beamer and his committee will need to play an important part in getting that passed. Vice Chairman Penzel asked if Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) are considered a landline and he wondered how they know how many people have that.

Mr. Beamer said that they are not considered landlines and that's one thing they've asked for from the phone companies but have not gotten a response.

Vice Chairman Penzel said the 911 Advisory committee is responsible for the expenses but don't know what the revenue will be.

Mr. Beamer replied by saying that's correct, they only see what Mr. Sagan brings to them.

Chairman Thaler thanked him for his time and his wealth of information.

End of Mr. Beamer's interview.

Chairman Thaler explained the interview process to **Christine Mills** and offered her a few moments to introduce herself.

Christine Mills stated that she is the civilian coordinator for the Alpine County Sheriff's Office and she is also a member of the Douglas County Mounted Posse. She concluded by saying being involved with surcharge and the decisions have been very rewarding.

Vice Chairman Penzel thanked Ms. Mills for applying and being on the board. Vice Chairman Penzel asked if Alpine County has the same type of funding mechanism as Douglas County, in regards to hardware.

Ms. Mills stated that she is not familiar with the idea because Alpine County money comes from Douglas County. Ms. Mills added that landlines and cell phones are also charged the 911 tax in California and VOIP phones are not currently charged but she would like to see that.

Vice Chairman Penzel said he was glad to have people who see the overall picture as well as work within the system.

Chairman Thaler asked Ms. Mills what her greatest accomplishment on the board has been.

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Ms. Mills said the discussion to raise the surcharge and use that to fund the new 911 hardware system and the body cameras was rewarding and she enjoyed the process.

Chairman Thaler said the Nevada Legislature gave Douglas County the opportunity to raise the tax, but it's still a statewide issue of handing down the enforcing of the tax to the County. Chairman Thaler mentioned that the Board depends on advisory committees, and although they are behind the scenes they are very important. He thanked Ms. Mills for taking the time to serve the community and attending this interview.

Ms. Mills said that she was also glad to put a name to a face and appreciates the opportunity to serve.

Commissioner McDermid said that Ms. Mills brought the actual services, from dispatch to EMT and was grateful she was willing to volunteer for the committee.

End of Ms. Mills' interview.

Public Comment – None

MOTION to approve the appointment of Bruce Beamer and Christine Mills to the 911 Surcharge Advisory Committee for the term of office from January 2018 through December 2019; Carried.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nancy McDermid, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dave Nelson, Board Member
AYES:	Thaler, Penzel, McDermid, Walsh, Nelson

4. For possible action. Discussion on appointments to the Genoa Historic District Commission. (Larry Werner)

Chairman Thaler explained the interview process to **Bob Centanni** and offered him a few moments to introduce himself.

Bob Centanni stated he has been a resident of Douglas County for the past 25 years and he lives in Genoa. He said that there seem to be things happening in Genoa but the Genoa Historic District Commission (GHDC) is not involved. He added that when the Pink House was redone, GHDC was not informed, as well as when the Cottage House was redone. Mr. Centanni said that GHDC would like the Planning Commission to work more closely with them. Mr. Centanni mentioned that they would like to see an ordinance adopted that would allow them to have more of an impact.

Commissioner Walsh asked for clarification on the ordinance.

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Mr. Centanni said that the guidelines were never incorporated into the ordinance.

Commissioner Walsh asked if they have talked to anyone in the Planning Commission about the status.

Mr. Centanni replied by saying it's still in progress.

Commissioner Nelson asked which position he fills on the board.

Mr. Centanni stated he was the delegate at large member but at this time he does not specifically know what zone he fills.

Larry Werner, County Manager, shared some information regarding the GHDC and their responsibilities.

Commissioner Walsh said he appreciated Mr. Centanni's service on the board.

Commissioner McDermid asked why Genoa Historic District Commission was not involved with the renovations for the Pink House.

Mr. Centanni claimed that they went straight to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner McDermid stated that it is the Genoa Historic District's job to review the plans.

Mr. Centanni said he tried to contact the owner but they could not, and he did not attend the Planning meetings.

Vice Chairman Penzel stated that he was glad to have the institutional knowledge Mr. Centanni brings.

Mr. Centanni said that individuals want to do their own thing but the district wants to have more influence on what people do. He added that he does hope the district has more say in future plans.

Commissioner McDermid asked about the GHDCs relationship with the Genoa Town Board and Manager.

Mr. Centanni indicated that it's completely separate.

Commissioner McDermid asked if there was a working relationship, where information goes back and forth between the Town Manager and the district.

Mr. Centanni mentioned that if anyone has a question they will call the town office and their concerns are referred to the Town Manager.

End of Mr. Centanni' s interview.

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Chairman Thaler explained the interview process to **Marian Vassar** and offered a few minutes for an introduction.

Marian Vassar said she is a Genoa resident and has always been interested in the history and preservation of the Town of Genoa and County.

Commissioner McDermid noted Mr. Centanni's comment about the Pink house renovation happening outside of the GHDCs involvement and asked how that happened.

Ms. Vassar said the district started with a little brown book of guidelines and regulations. She thought the County knew of their guidelines but found it did not. Ms. Vassar mentioned that Mimi Moss gave them a draft of the County ordinances but it hasn't been followed through or completed. Ms. Vassar said that individuals go to the County to ask for permissions and they used to be sent to the GHDC, but somehow that dialogue has been lost and the County isn't sending applicants there anymore. Ms. Vassar added that she gets frustrated when things happen and no one has come to the GHDC before permits are issued. Ms. Vassar wants to see the town retain its Historic status and would like to know what was happening with the ordinance Ms. Moss was working on, she is concerned on the impact it will have on their town.

Commissioner McDermid stated that she would be extremely upset if Genoa was taken off the National Historic Registry.

Ms. Vassar added that signage issues have also occurred, and the district could have made suggestions for a more appropriate sign. Ms. Vassar is concerned with the lack of communication between GHDC and the County.

Vice Chairman Penzel noted that the County has a Master Plan update in the process but it's not a directive; he believes the district should consider providing input and verbiage so the Board can look at it. He added that the Master Plan is there to provide a way to proceed and how things are going to be done in and for Genoa.

Ms. Vassar stated that the district reviewed the Master Plan update five years ago, and they have spoken with Candace Stowell and have been providing information for the current Master Plan update. She felt their input would be helpful.

Chairman Thaler confirmed that they have rules and regulations that specify what the district expects of people, but the ordinance doesn't give them the power they think they have because of conflicting interests. He added that the ordinance states that the committee sets the rules, but the authority of the district has to do with the appearance of buildings.

Ms. Vassar asked if they need to contact the County when there's a problem.

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Chairman Thaler read the ordinance (2.28) and confirmed that if someone wants to change something on the exterior of a building, they go to the Genoa Historic District Commission first.

Ms. Vassar stated that people don't know that, they go to the County first, and the County doesn't send them to the GHDC. She would like to see what the County is planning for the committee and have the authority that sends people to them first.

Chairman Thaler asked Ms. Vassar how often the district receives applications.

Ms. Vassar claimed that they used to receive applications on a regular basis until the ordinance was introduced.

Chairman Thaler noted that the committee doesn't meet unless they have an application.

Ms. Vassar confirmed Commissioner Thaler's statement and said the last application was from Dr. John Holms to extend their garage, but that's a private home within the commercial historic committee.

Chairman Thaler asked how often they deny applicants.

Ms. Vassar said practically never, she said they make suggestions to arrive at a consensus, but there needs to be some give and take. Ms. Vassar said that they don't want to be witch hunters.

Vice Chairman Penzel said the GHDC needs to understand what is in writing and read what was in the Master Plan.

Ms. Vassar noted that if the house is used as a residence in a commercial zone it still has to comply because of the zoning.

Vice Chairman Penzel said the GHDC needs to look at adopting the brown book of guidelines.

Ms. Vassar agreed but added that even their guidelines need updating.

Mr. Werner said they are talking about Title 20, and not the Master Plan. He is taking notes to hopefully fill in the cracks.

End of Ms. Vassar's interview.

Chairman Thaler explained the interview process to **Rebecca Pappenfort** and offered her a few moments to introduce herself.

Rebecca Pappenfort said she has been a Genoa resident for 15 years, and while on the Genoa Historic District Commission she has learned a lot from the other members. She added that Genoa is more than just a little town. Ms. Pappenfort

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has noticed the beauty and the things that aren't so pretty, so she wants to be part of keeping it historic.

Commissioner Walsh thanked Ms. Pappenfort for being part of the committee.

Commissioner McDermid thanked Ms. Pappenfort for being a part of the commission and said she doesn't to see Genoa lose its historic designation. Commissioner McDermid thanked Ms. Pappenfort for ensuring the Historic District maintains it's integrity.

Commissioner McDermid referenced the glitch in communication between the County and the GHDC and wants to make sure that gets fixed. She added that she is not sure of the procedures, but it's important for the entire County. Commissioner McDermid added that Genoa is one of the few places that are considered Historic. Commissioner McDermid added that redevelopment has helped the non-historic areas to be upgraded. She noted that it is very important to bring change in communication.

Mr. Werner agreed wholeheartedly and added that he was unaware of the issue but has taken copious notes and will work towards change.

End of Ms. Pappenfort's interview.

Public Comment

Bob Centanni stated that the Historic Element of the Master Plan Update was brought to them by Candace Stowell and they reviewed it and made comments. He added that it's a separate entity to promote the town of Genoa. Mr. Centanni said that the brown book of guidelines should be amended to the ordinance to give the Genoa Historic District Commission more enforcement rights, and it possibly needs to be revised but they still follow it today.

MOTION to approve the appointment of Bob Centanni, Marian Vassar, and Rebecca Pappenfort to the Genoa Historic District Commission; term of office from February 2018 through December 2019; Carried

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nancy McDermid, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dave Nelson, Board Member
AYES:	Thaler, Penzel, McDermid, Walsh, Nelson

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT - None

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Steve J. Thaler, Chairman
Douglas County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Kathy Lewis, Clerk-Treasurer