

Minutes from the April 07, 2020 Commission Meeting

April 07, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Esmeralda County Courthouse

Commission Chambers

233 Crook Ave., 2nd Floor

Goldfield, Nevada

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.**

Delon "De" Winsor - Chairman

Timothy Hipp - Vice-Chairman

Ralph Keyes - Commissioner

Robert Glennen - District Attorney

LaCinda Elgan - Clerk of the Board

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

LaCinda stated that she had a conversation yesterday with Dan McArthur and he will not attend our meeting and if we choose to have a meeting, he will call in briefly and give his opinion about what is going on. She said he feels like a lot of the budget stuff that we would be discussing could be held off for at least a couple of weeks. It is not going to change the tentative budget. She said he knows the revenues are going to be going down significantly because there is no gaming, no sales tax, no gas tax going in the state coffers. He is suggesting that we postpone the budget workshop.

Commissioner Keyes said he didn't know if the others had gotten the same email that he did but the Governor is asking the counties to look at their budgets and plan on less money.

LaCinda said Dan made it very clear that the ending fund balance is in good shape.

Sheriff Elgan said that if we adopt this emergency declaration, we are not going to be having any meetings until April 30. The declaration states no meetings whatsoever.

3. ***RECESS TO ESMERALDA COUNTY BOARD OF HIGHWAY COMMISSION:**

Commissioner Keyes made the motion to recess to the Board of Highway Commission.

Commissioner Hipp seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

BTO

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4. ***APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES.**

Batch 1: \$205,773.39
Payroll: \$81,867.54
TOTAL: \$287,640.93

Commissioner Keyes made the motion to approve the expenditures in the above amounts, with the addition of \$20,000 to Lynmor Sales and Re-Marketing Services for the Solid Waste Roll-Off truck. Commissioner Hipp seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

5. ***DISCUSSION/DECISION/APPROVAL:** Rejected Vendor Bills from Auditor's Office.

April 7, 2020

TO: The Honorable County Commissioners

RE: Rejected Vendor Bill

I have received a past due invoices for NV Public Agency Insurance Pool Pact the dates vary, see below, from Ellen Loving Commissioner Secretary. These bills total \$2500.00. The past due bills are as follows:

Pool Pact 5388 \$500.00 dated 5/28/19
Pool Pact 5389 \$306.00 dated 5/28/19
Pool Pact 5390 \$500.00 dated 5/28/19
Pool Pact 5513 \$500.00 dated 8/6/19
Pool Pact 5514 \$500.00 dated 8/6/19
Pool Pact 5512 \$500.00 dated 8/6/19

I have rejected these invoices according to NRS 244.210, NRS 244.215 and NRS 244.250.

These invoices are past the time frame to be paid along with the County bills.

I have researched the above-referenced bills and found that they have not been previously paid.

These invoices can be approved by the County Commissioners if they so order, and only by a unanimous vote of its members and certified by the Clerk of the Board that all voted for its passage.

Please review the invoices and designate if \$2500.00 is approved or rejected for payment.

Sincerely,
Vera Boyer

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Auditor/Recorder

These were for insurance claims deductibles for the County. Commissioner Hipp made the motion to approve the rejected bills for the total amount of \$2500.00. Commissioner Keyes seconded the motion.

6. ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 03/03 and 03/17/2020 meeting of the Esmeralda County Board of County Commissioners.**

On the 3/17 minutes, fixed the amount to \$10,000. Commissioner Keyes made the motion to approve the minutes from the 03/03 and 03/17/2020 meetings of the Esmeralda County Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Hipp seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

7. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discuss/Decide and approve County staffing requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Hipp brought up how are we going to address people who are required to work and people who are at home collecting a paycheck? He said the commissioners are in charge of the finances. Commissioner Winsor said we are already budgeted for the year to pay the people so it is not like it is going to cost extra money. Commissioner Keyes asked if we are paying overtime.

Sheriff Elgan said he feels like his office is essential. He is hearing discontent from his office that some people are staying home and getting their full paychecks and they are there answering the door. He said one suggestion was maybe they could get holiday pay. Commissioner Hipp said his concern is as long as it doesn't cost them money. He said if the Sheriff could keep it in his existing budget, he would be open to that.

Holly Isenhour said the people who are staying home right now, are doing that at the direction of the commissioners and unless they are going to lift that she doesn't think the employees that are being forced to stay home should be required to go on unemployment to have it effect PERS or use up their vacation time.

Deven Thackeray brought up maybe giving people hazard pay when they work in the office. Sheriff Elgan said he would like to give his people at least holiday pay.

Justice of the Peace Danielle Johnson said her employee is working full-time from home every day.

Commissioner Hipp made the motion to continue to pay the employees until 04/30/2020 and then have a special meeting to re-assess the situation.

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Sheriff Elgan asked again about the hazard pay. He is asking for holiday pay. Commissioner Hipp said he is not on-board with 44 days of holiday pay. He said it's a different discussion.

Commissioner Hipp again made the motion to continue to pay the employees until 04/30/2020 and then have a special meeting to re-assess the situation.

Commissioner Keyes wanted to talk again about hazard pay. LaCinda suggested they could talk about the hazard pay and it being retroactive at the 4/30 meeting.

Sergeant Matthew Kirkland stood up and wanted to know how the commissioners are going to mandate the essential employees to show up to work. Sheriff Elgan said they are the front line and are trying to protect everyone in the courthouse, plus they have inmates they have to protect. Commissioner Keyes said he is trying to get the hazard pay right and not get it kicked down the road. Sheriff Elgan said he has already agreed to take it out of his existing budget to compensate his people for it. He said he is not asking the County for any more money. Commissioner Hipp is thinking that those people who have a day off would get holiday pay. He was told, no, it would be for hours worked, not when they are off.

Commissioner Keyes stated he knows the Sheriff's office has gone above and beyond what a normal employee would do and they deserve hazard pay.

Commissioner Keyes seconded Commissioner Hipp's motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA ITEMS DUE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS

1. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Ratify and Sign the Declaration of Emergency made on March 17, 2020, due to the COVID-19 virus. (Robert Glennen)

Commissioner Keyes stated we need to close the restroom at the Fish Lake Valley Hot Box to the public because we have a lease with the BLM so we are responsible for the maintenance of it. Sheriff Elgan said he doesn't have the manpower to do any enforcement out there. They will lock the doors. Commissioner Keyes wants that added to the resolution.

Deven Thackeray came in and said that he has been exposed to someone who was exposed to the COVID-19 virus and then left the meeting.

Sgt. Kirkland stated that he has been in contact with Deven 3 times today so far. He said he has to go feed the inmates in 15 minutes. JP Johnson said this is exactly how it is spread. Sgt. Kirkland said this is where shutting down the courthouse needs to happen.

Commissioner Keyes wanted to make item 11 clear. Sheriff Elgan said the bottom of the first page would include the FLV Hot Box location.

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They will have Mike Anderson's people put signs up at the parks stating they are closed per the resolution.

2. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Temporary closure of the Senior Transportation program as possible solutions to accommodate seniors for grocery pickup. (commissioners)

Ellen stated that the drivers don't want to drive at this point. Commissioner Keyes stated the school bus drivers are delivering school lunches. Sheriff Elgan said JC called Raley's and they have a \$35.00 bag that has microwavable things in it, but it has to be paid for at a register. As far as the pharmacy, if you have a pre-paid card, anyone can pick it up, but otherwise you have to pick up your own. Commissioner Keyes said we can't take anyone to Bishop because they would have to self-quarantine for 14 days after that.

Sgt. Kirkland was asking who would want to take the responsibility of going and getting the money and then shopping and then delivering. That is a lot to ask, and they would be exposing themselves, and there has been one confirmed case of COVID-19 in Tonopah as of this morning.

Commissioner Hipp asked Ellen about commodities. He asked if the county would pay the \$35.00 and go up and get the groceries and drop them at the door and have no contact. Sheriff Elgan asked Ellen if she had a list of seniors. She said sometime it is 2 and sometimes 8. He said he was thinking maybe his people could cook for the seniors and have someone pick them up at the back door and deliver them to our seniors.

Commissioner Hipp made the motion to cease the senior transportation program until further notice but that we provide emergency food delivery for emergency situations only. They can call the county number, providing we have drivers available. Commissioner Hipp said he wouldn't mind helping with that. Commissioner Keyes seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

Commissioner Hipp made the motion to approve resolution number 20-R-05 as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE ESMERALDA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO RATIFY ITS DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY IN ESMERALDA COUNTY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THE RESPONSE TO SAID EMERGENCY AS SET FORTH IN FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAW

Commissioner Keyes seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

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8. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

Holly Isenhour came up and stated her office is yet to receive the Notice of Entry of Order.

Commissioner Keyes stated he presented the CDBG grant and we got it. All the generators and the roads phase 3 in Goldfield were approved. The generators for every community center, the road shops for emergency gas and the radio station. \$360,000 for the generators and for phase 3 of the roads, \$425,000. Commissioner Keyes said to thank Susan Dudley for this.

9. ***ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Hipp made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Keyes seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.