

Minutes from the November 04, 2020 HIGHWAY Commission Meeting

November 04, 2020

1:00PM

Esmeralda County Courthouse

Commission Chambers

233 Crook Ave., 2nd Floor

Goldfield, Nevada

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.

Ralph Keyes -	Chairman
Delon "De" Winsor -	Vice-Chairman – not present
Timothy Hipp -	Commissioner
Robert Glennen -	District Attorney
Michelle Garcia -	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.)
None.

3. *APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES.

Batch 1:	\$5,599.36
Batch 2:	\$46.56
Total:	\$5,645.92

Commissioner Keyes made the motion to approve the expenditures in the above amounts. Commissioner Hipp seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

4. *DISCUSSION/DECISION/APPROVAL: Rejected Vendor Bills from Auditor's Office.
None.

5. *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION: Discuss/Decide if the county needs an ordinance to fine drivers using county roads who are racing and using the roads for abnormal usage. And create a permit process for use of the roads within the county for recreational or special use to assist in the cost of repairs after races or large groups use our county roads. (Commissioner Winsor)

Deven Thackeray came up and asked to table this until we have a meeting with BLM discussing this matter. He said there have been some car events recently. The problem we're having is that folks go to BLM and they pay a fee for that event to use our roads. By paying that fee they are permitted to have an event. These events are not great big huge trucks. This one this weekend is a 10-car event and when they permitted this event, they permitted it as a 10-car event, they weren't supposed to go over 50 miles per hour. He said the event organizer did just the opposite of what BLM had permitted them to do. It says it is a high-speed event; that the road is closed.

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Deven said he notified BLM immediately of this. He got ahold of Mr. Perry Wickham and Jonah and they got ahold of the organizer and they counseled him strongly on that's not what was permitted; you need to stay within your permitting rights.

Deven said that, having said that, we want to meet with BLM and we want to get the language right because we want to make sure folks are able to go out and enjoy the roads here. If you want to go out and enjoy your road and you've 5 or 6 vehicles or even 7 and you're not doing damage to the roads, other than how they were when you got on them, then there shouldn't be a maintenance agreement, or a maintenance fee for us to go out for us to repair them. However, if they are going to permit these events and it's going to be a certain, however the language could be, give and take, between Esmeralda County and BLM, if it is going to be something that is going to require that, then that's something that we need to look at in the future. He said BLM said they are willing to work with us, in any way possible, to get all the language right on this.

Michelle Garcia asked what road this is. Deven said this is off Paymaster. In Silver Peak.

Commissioner Hipp said if it is De's agenda item, he thinks we should wait until he is here to address it. Deven said he wanted to give a little background.

6. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Approve purchase of International 3-axle haul truck and Cat D76 Dozer from Estate 411 Nye County Equipment Auction for \$36,025.00, including buyers' premium and determine fund for this purchase. (Deven Thackeray)

Mr. Thackeray came up and said he'd like to move forward with this purchase. He said usually we go through state purchasing. It's a bargain price for these items and that's why this is on the agenda. He said in his backup he gave some comparisons.

Vera Boyer said she gave all of the commissioners a hand-out for this item. She said Mr. Thackeray cannot use PILT funds for this purchase. They have already been allocated across his budget but he had a special road capital fund that has \$45,000 in it. Or, he can transfer from Services and Supplies to Capital Outlay.

Commissioner Hipp said there is a lot of confusion about the PILT money. He remembers fighting to get \$100,000 into the fund and not the \$45,000. He remembers that we agreed, instead of locking it up into an equipment fund, that the Road Department was going to get the full PILT money. This is another situation where we approve the budget, it goes to the state, we come back and get copies and it doesn't match with what we agreed upon during the budgeting time. He said this is one of many of those situations. He said it is really important that we ensure that the budgeting process is not rushed this year and we finish is early so that we can go back and ensure that everything is done correctly before we approve it and send to the state. Vera said to Commissioner Hipp, if he would look at the packet in front of him, at number 2, we did transfer the PILT money into his fund. This had to be balanced across all of his budget so that he came in with a decent ending fund balance. Then the commissioners decided that there would be

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\$45,000 transferred to Capital Projects. So, it is all there; he's just used it for services and supplies and to help balance his budget. We didn't shortfall him in any of that PILT money. Commissioner Hipp asked her if it has all been spent. She said it has all been allocated across his budget to help his budget be in balance.

Commissioner Keyes said he talked to Dan McArthur and read Dan's thoughts via text. Dan said he looked at the budget again and he does see in the road fund, not the road capital projects fund for the transfer in, for federal in-lieu, and he does see in the road fund budget money of \$50,000 for capital outlay so there is no need to do any commission action, it is already there. Commissioner Keyes said he thinks they should still do some action to approve spending that money so it's in the public eye and they know where they're spending money and what they're doing with it. Vera said that \$50,000 is a Road match for one of his grants. That is not available to be spent. She said if you look at the backup that she provided that is a part of his match. Commissioner Hipp said it's the \$45,000, not the \$50,000. He can make the motion saying they can take it out of the Road capital projects.

Commissioner Keyes said that when we were doing our budget this year, we weren't sure how we were going to stand with our PILT funds and the net proceeds, etc., so we figured we were going to have to make some adjustments in our budget during the year. We talked about that, we discussed it, that is what we decided. This is acceptable in his opinion.

Commissioner Hipp made the motion to approve the purchase of International 3-axle haul truck and Cat D76 Dozer from Estate 411 Nye County Equipment Auction for \$36,025.00, including buyers' premium and determine fund for this purchase. Funds to be taken out of the Road Capital Projects Fund. Commissioner Keyes seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion carried.

7. **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.)

ESMERALDA COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT UPDATE

November 4, 2020

1. Crews are currently: In Fish Lake Valley, Eddie is grading Upper Chiatovich. When he is done with that, he will transition to grading and watering the north end of Fish Lake Valley. In Silver Peak, Jesse just finished grading the Yellow Hills and has hooked up with Mario and both are grading Coyote Road up to Mineral Ridge and down the other side into Fish Lake Valley. When finished with that, Jesse will start to grade Oasis Pole Line Road into Fish Lake Valley and Mario will start grading Railroad Pass. In Goldfield, Steve just finished grading Diamond Field to Cheri's driveway and then staged down to the Cottontail where he graded out the runway. I drove it after Steve graded it and it looks good and an airplane should have no trouble landing. We are working with Mike's office to get a windsock, as the old one is missing. Once replaced, it is good to go.

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2. As of 10/27/20, in Goldfield crews are cleaning both cattle guards on Cemetery Road and then transitioning down to 5 Mile and cleaning cattle guards there.

Goldfield Street Repair Project: Chris has been working with Mike on getting the screening plant ready to move over to the Gemfield Laydown Yard, if not this week, then next. Once moved, we will need to get some general maintenance done to bring it up to specs to pass MSHA inspections. We will probably start screening material in the middle of November. This will allow us to screen and stockpile material through February. We may finish sooner, but allow to February in case of breakdowns. When processing starts, I will be rotating crews out as needed so we have coverage in each district. An example of this is Jesse & Mario. They will be 2 weeks at the plant and 2 weeks back to Silver Peak. This way we keep up with maintaining our roads. Please remember to keep in mind, this is a big project with a lot of moving parts. When our operators are back in their districts, their first objective is in town, then outlying roads.

8. ***ADJOURNMENT:**

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