

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

[10:01:21 AM:](#)

I. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No public comments were submitted.

[10:01:35 AM:](#)

II. ELECTION OF 2014 OFFICERS:

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair positions for 2014 calendar year:

MOTION: Commissioner Myers moved to appoint Commissioner Rice as Chairman and Commissioner Williams as Vice Chairman. Commissioner Rice seconded the nomination. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Rice assumed control of the meeting.

[10:02:27 AM:](#)

III. APPROVAL OF PRECEDING MINUTES:

October 2, 2013 - Regular Meeting

MOTION: Commissioner Williams moved to approve the October 2, 2013 meeting minutes. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[10:02:42 AM:](#)

IV. ELKO COUNTY REGIONAL STREET AND HIGHWAY FUND:

Review of Quarterly Financial Reports relating to Regional Street and Highway fund.

Cash Minor gave an overview of page three of the financial report showing the first four months of collections. He stated upon page four, the project list, there were three County items that have no budget: the Kittridge Project, the Devil's Gate Road, and traffic signal maintenance. He stated there would be research upon those projects to see if they would have to allocate funding toward them. Cash Minor stated in the Supplemental Fund there was a \$160,000 allocated to Middle School Improvements and asked if they wished to de-obligate that funding.

MOTION: Commissioner Myers moved for approval of the quarterly financial report and to de-obligate the \$160,000 in supplemental funding for the Middle School Improvements. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. CITY OF ELKO:

Discussion and consideration of a request for RTC financial participation of installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Silver Street and Errecart Boulevard in Elko.

Dennis Strickland, Public Works Director, commented they had previously discussed this issue. He stated there was a traffic study in 2012 wherein this intersection almost met the warrant for the signal. He stated since that study there had been additional traffic counts and now the signal was warranted due to the housing development in the Hamilton-State area. Dennis Strickland stated there was a significant investment in the bridge and the road so to function more efficiently it needs a traffic signal. Dennis Strickland stated this signal would accommodate the Bullion Road residents and the possible school going into that region. Dennis Strickland commented the City of Elko had not come to the RTC for a number of years for funding. He stated they did seek RTC funding on the Silver Street overlay project. Dennis Strickland requested the RTC participate at a 50/50 percent match with the City on this signal. He commented the City had previously installed the signal bases and the conduit at the same time of the bridge installation which reduced the current costs.

Commissioner Williams inquired if there was money in the fund.

Dennis Strickland stated it was the City's intent to request this from the safety fund and that fund had been shored up with the de-obligation so funding was available now for this request.

Cash Minor stated that fund was at \$89,000 and with the de-obligation of \$160,000 there would be \$249,000 available.

Commissioner Myers noted this action would have drained the fund without the de-obligation.

Dennis Strickland stated that bridge was the only major infrastructure to get anyone over the Humboldt River. He noted Twelfth Street was at capacity. He commented upon the need for the access and complaints they had received on that intersection.

Commissioner Rice stated there would be additional development in the geothermal park which would also impact that intersection.

Commissioner Williams supported the project because of the recent growth in the area but noted the safety funds were to be available to all the entities and inquired if there were other requests pending from the other entities.

Cash Minor stated the RTC monies were allocated based upon assessment value of the entities within the County. He noted the safety fund

originated from interest earning upon the money which had accumulated over a number of years. He stated with the current interest rates the interest did not accumulate a lot.

MOTION: Commissioner Myers moved to approve \$137,500 out of the \$160,000 that we just de-obligated and moved to the Supplemental Safety Fund for the RTC participation in the Elko traffic light. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion.

Commissioner Rice commented this signal would improve the traffic flow for Elko and Spring Creek citizens.

Commissioner Williams noted it would help those trying to make a left hand turn onto Silver Street.

Commissioner Myers noted 56 of those homes in the Hamilton-Stage Road were occupied and they were not at their capability in the subdivision.

Dennis Strickland stated they had viewed the area recently and there were a total of 97 structures in that subdivision with ten still under construction.

Commissioner Rice questioned if this light would be coordinated with lights upon the Mountain City Highway.

Dennis Strickland replied in the affirmative.

Commissioner Rice stated typically this fund was funded through interest earnings only and as growth continues they may need to look at other funding mechanisms in the future to address the various safety needs throughout the County.

Dennis Strickland noted in 2006 RTC safety funds in the amount of \$212,000 were allocated to the safety project on Silver Street.

Commissioner Myers commented federal funding was also applied to that project.

Commissioner Rice suggested they consider the creation of developer impact fees. He noted in other communities developers see that as part of doing business.

Commissioner Williams noted there would be more building in that Hamilton-Stage subdivision.

Randy Brown stated there was a capacity of 122 units within that subdivision but the developer must prove water availability and was working with the City of Elko for more water to subdivide further.

The motion passed unanimously.

[10:17:46 AM:](#)

VI. NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

Update reporting as may be available relating to traffic counts, projects,

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and other matters of interest.

Mike Murphy, NDOT District 3 Assistant Engineer, introduced the new traffic engineer, Boyd Ratliff. He reported there was a project scheduled this summer in the Dunphy area where they will redo the concrete pavement and bridgework. Mike Murphy commented there was a contract to do a frontage road that was part of old Victory Highway. He stated from the Emigrant Pass maintenance station to Carlin they would be completing a top layer of asphalt. Mike Murphy stated they had completed the east bound lanes in the Carlin tunnels and next year the west bound side of the tunnels would be addressed. He stated the Elko urban jobs were comprised of the state roadways from Khourys on the Lamoille Highway/Fifth Street to Idaho Street and from the corner of Fifth Street and Idaho Street all the way to the 298 interstate exit. He stated from the intersection of Silver Street and the Mountain City Highway they would go all the way past Sundance Drive to Cattle Drive with ADA accessibility sidewalks, curbs and gutters which meant a possible impact to the local businesses. He stated the contractor would hold weekly meetings with them with a lot of the work to be done at night. He explained through the weekly meetings with the contractor they could update the business owners and address the business owners concerns. Mike Murphy commented the construction time was dependent upon the weather. He said the signals would be modified to correct the timing of the signal. He stated the wildlife crossing in the Pilot Valley area was nearing completion. Mike Murphy reported on US Highway 93 from Curry to Lage's there was an ongoing job to be completed with the widening of shoulders and some passing lanes. He stated in phase two, the section from Curry to the County's Clover Valley Road, would go to bid for a set of passing lanes. Mike Murphy commented they were widening the shoulders upon Highway 93 to address safety concerns. Mike Murphy stated they had scheduled a cold mix overlay upon the Ruby Valley Road from the maintenance station north to the intersection of the North Ruby Valley Road. He believed they would be importing a couple of the construction crews from Las Vegas or Reno to complete the scheduled projects this season. Mike Murphy in the Winnemucca area there would be a project on Golconda Summit and one project north on Highway 95. He stated this year the district would spend over \$100 million dollars on active work.

Commissioner Williams stated White Pine County had requested support from the Commission last year on a grant to rebuild the Northern Nevada Railroad to Curry. He inquired about rebuilding the crossing for the railroad

project.

Mike Murphy commented they had seen a grant application from the Northern Nevada Railroad. He expressed concern with the traffic and noted with a rail crossing it meant every hazardous vehicle and school bus would have to stop in the middle of road that had a 70 mph speed limit upon it. Mike Murphy was concerned that when they do activate a crossing that they were doing it for good reasons and the need was there. He stated when the track was completed and the train was ready to go on the track they would consider the crossing.

Commissioner Williams noted the Pequops was a major deer crossing route and they had barricades in the middle of the lanes which traps the fawns on the lanes. He inquired if they had considered putting in an overpass in that area.

Mike Murphy stated they had a design project in the Pequop area and they had discussed that issue but funding was an issue. He believed there would be some exclusionary fencing. He stated the majority of the deer migration was on the east side of the summit. Mike Murphy stated they took out some of those cuts and removed guardrail so it was more open to see the deer crossing. He stated within the next reconstruction project on that road they would include wildlife mitigation in the project. He stated it was expensive to haul the materials in for those wildlife projects.

Commissioner Rice inquired about the impact of ore hauling on State Route 226 from Lone Mountain Station to Tuscarora.

Mike Murphy stated that road was not designed for heavy hauling. He stated the company was hauling legal loads but there was insufficient funding for improvements on those state routes.

Commissioner Rice noted that road was resurfaced recently.

Mike Murphy clarified that highway was chip sealed. He stated the company hauling on it was within the legal limits and paid the gas tax.

Commissioner Rice noted one of the trucks had dumped one of their loads last summer which closed the road.

Mike Murphy stated NDOT had been in communication with the mine about road impacts and snow removal. He stated that the truck traffic was traveling at a more reasonable speed and the mine was addressing NDOT concerns.

Mike Murphy stated on Idaho Street in November there was a 10% decrease compared to November 2012 and Lamoille Highway had decreased by 4% in November 2013.

Commissioner Williams inquired why the decrease on Lamoille Highway.

Mike Murphy commented people travel less with higher gas prices and the mines bussing decrease traffic counts. He stated on SR 225 and the Mountain City Highway there was an increase of traffic counts due to the ore hauling.

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Commissioner Williams commented there was a new pipeline installation proposed along that highway and inquired about NDOT oversight.

Mike Murphy said they would have oversight to make sure the infrastructure was not destroyed and that they put best management practices in mind. He stated NDOT controls the accesses so the road would not be broke down or deteriorates. He said the Nevada Highway Patrol monitors the weight of the vehicles upon the state routes.

[10:39:57 AM](#)

VII. ENTITY PROJECTS REPORTS:

Report on status of entity projects financed by Regional Street and Highway Fund apportionments.

A. City of Carlin:

Carlos Esparza stated there was no report to be submitted.

B. City of Elko

Dennis Strickland, Public Works Director, stated they completed the project on west Idaho. He stated they do not have any huge regional projects planned for next year. Dennis Strickland reported that Cedar Street would be their next improvement project.

Commissioner Myers inquired when the light would go in at Errecart Boulevard.

Dennis Strickland replied after their budget process, possibly this summer after July 1, 2014.

C. City of Wells

No report was submitted.

D. City of West Wendover

Bryce Kimber gave an update on phase 1 of enhancement project on Wendover Boulevard. He stated their next project proposal would be phase 2 of Florence Way upgrade and relocation. Bryce Kimber stated Florence Way was part of the Safe Routes to Schools Project. He commented the RTC aided them on the first phase of this project. He stated phase 3 will be incorporated with the Elko County School District when they build the new school project in Wendover.

E. Town of Jackpot

Cash Minor stated there was nothing to report.

F. Spring Creek Association

No report was submitted.

G. Elko County School District

Steve Bowers, Elko County School District, asked if they had any

questions.

Commissioner Myers inquired if the School District was looking at any further expansions within the County.

Steve Bowers stated they were currently in design phase for a new elementary school for West Wendover and the next project would probably be another school in Elko. They were looking at property off the Errecart extension but it was a small parcel. Steve Bowers stated a demographic study would be prepared of the district. He stated they were also looking at some property in Kittridge Canyon and some above the Adobe Middle School.

Commissioner Myers inquired if they could purchase adjacent property at Errecart to have sufficient property. He noted a new housing development had gone up in that area which increased the population.

Steve Bowers stated that would be considered in the demographic study.

Commissioner Williams commented they had been working with Bill Micheli and the Sheriff's Department on the problems at the Osino school bus stop.

Commissioner Rice inquired about the demographics study.

Steve Bowers stated they may have to redraw boundaries due to the growth.

H. **GET MY Ride** (formerly Elko Area Transit System)

Abigail Wheeler reported they had accomplished their goals of a new name, marketing transportation in Elko and opening routes to the students. Abigail Wheeler stated they opened a fifth route in Elko and opened Spring Creek to four times a day which helped the seniors getting into Elko and the Spring Creek students having access to Elko after school activities. Abigail Wheeler stated the policies and procedures were established which would help them acquire more grants. She commented they were stricter on the no-show policy and there would be disciplinary action upon excessive cancellations. She stated there were now restrictions on the amount of carry-ons because they have had people carry on thirty bags of groceries and expect the driver to help them unload the groceries at their home. Abigail Wheeler stated there was a community needs assessment planned. She reported there was same day service now available but they may not be able to accommodate all requests at peak hours. Abigail Wheeler would be coordinating with the contractor to analyze the ridership and adjust for peaks. She stated a deviated fixed route was proposed in the 2015 plan. Abigail Wheeler was working toward a support program because there were no dedicated tax funds. She reported from October to December of 2013 they had a 20% increase in patronage. Abigail Wheeler stated in their 2015 plan she would like to expand the hours but they still have to stay within budget.

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Commissioner Myers commented there was a need because some of the handicapped that have to work on weekends depend upon the bus to get to work.

Abby Wheeler stated there was no financial support for that.

Commissioner Williams commended Abigail Wheeler for staying in or below budget and yet increasing the service to an elderly population and the handicapped. He stated the rides normally cost \$17 to \$20 but the rider pays an average of \$2.00. Commissioner Williams stated when she had problem riders she should explain to them the great service they were receiving at the cost to the taxpayers.

I. **Elko County**

Terry Lister reported they have had an easy winter with no snow removal. He stated in February they hope to go out to bid for the Franklin/Pole Canyon Bridge and Cottonwood Creek Bridge projects. He stated they would also be going out to bid for the mag and lig projects. Terry Lister stated in March they would go out to bid for the Boyd-Kennedy rehab together with the Twin Bridges approach.

[10:56:55 AM](#)

VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION OF ROUTINE RTC ISSUES:

Commissioner Myers inquired when the traffic signal was installed at the Errecart intersection would it be flashing for the first week or so.

Dennis Strickland stated it should be fully functionally when it goes on line.

Commissioner Myers noted the people went through the light at Aspen because they were not familiar with it.

Dennis Strickland stated that light at Aspen was the only light in that corridor that was on loop detection; the rest were on camera. He stated they did a traffic warrant study for the intersection of Jennings and Mountain City Highway but they were not meeting the warrants for a signal at this time. Dennis Strickland stated the costs for that light would be less because of the crossing that was already installed. He stated the City had set aside some funding for that light. Dennis Strickland stated the City would be using the additional gas tax to purchase the signal components which could be used on the future signals.

Commissioner Myers stated at the City Council meeting last night there was public concern about the location of the police department. He stated there was a question if there was a development agreement with Al Park Petroleum. Commissioner Myers believed Al Park Petroleum was in there before the others so there may not be a development agreement.

Commissioner Rice stated the City was researching that but there may be a possible deferral agreement.

Dennis Strickland was unaware of such agreement.

Commissioner Rice noted that development also included Union Pacific land.

11: AM

IX. APRIL 2014 RTC MEETING:

Chairman Rice commented the next regularly scheduled RTC Meeting was scheduled for April 2, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

11: AM

X. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No public comments were submitted.

11: AM

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Rice adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

APPROVED,

JOHN PATRICK RICE, Chairman

ATTEST:

MARILYN TIPTON, Deputy Clerk