



Laughlin Town Advisory Board
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT CENTER
101 CIVIC WAY
LAUGHLIN, NEVADA 89029
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MINUTES

LAUGHLIN TOWN ADVISORY BOARD

**March 13, 2012
1:30 P.M.**

**REGIONAL GOVERNMENT CENTER
101 CIVIC WAY, LAUGHLIN, NEVADA**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Candice FitzGerald, Chair
Rosemary Munger, Vice-Chair
Michael Bekoff
James Vincent
Vacant

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: 35 Guests Signed In

1. CALL TO ORDER

Please *turn off* all cell phones, pagers & other electronic devices.

Please take all private conversations outside the room.

- A. Conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.
- B. Invocation led by the **Pastor Gerald Preuss** and Pledge of Allegiance led by **James Vincent**.
- C. Items on the agenda may be taken out of order.
- D. The Laughlin Town Advisory Board may combine two or more agenda items for consideration.
- E. The Laughlin Town Advisory Board may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item at any time.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

- A. **Approval of the March 13, 2012 Agenda.**

Michael Bekoff moved, **James Vincent** seconded to approve as presented the March 13, 2012, Laughlin Town Advisory Board Agenda. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 4-0.

B. Approval of February 14, 2012 Minutes.

Michael Bekoff moved, **James Vincent** seconded to approve as presented the February 14, 2012 Laughlin Town Advisory Board Minutes. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 4-0.

3. **COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:** This is a period devoted to comments by the general public about items on *this* agenda. If you wish to speak to the Board about items within its jurisdiction but not appearing on this agenda, you must wait until the “Comments by the General Public” period listed at the end of this agenda. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. Please step up to the speaker’s podium, clearly state your name and address and *spell* your last name for the record. If any member of the Board wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this will be done by the Chair, or the Board by majority vote. The Board retains the discretion to take additional public comments during times other than during a Public Hearing or during the Public Comment Sessions. In all other instances, a citizen may speak on any matter before the Board for consideration, after receiving recognition and consent of the Chairman of the Board.

4. **PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY REPORTS**

- A. LV Metro Police, Laughlin Substation Report: **Lt. Brian Evans, Commander**

February 2012 Statistics:

Calls for Service: 325, up 4.17% from February 2011
Traffic Citations: 427
DUI’s: 7
Battery Domestic Violence Arrests: 6
Bookings: 58
Juvenile Citations: 6 (6 residents, 0 out-of-state)

1) Riverside Resort is still the leading calls for service upon Casino Drive and Vista Creek is the leading calls for service upon the residential neighborhoods; 2) On February 29, 2012, the Laughlin Substation participated in Operation Catch 22 in cooperation with Arizona Get ‘Em to execute 11 simultaneous search warrants on gang members in the area following an 8 month investigation; 3) Laughlin River Run preparation is underway and resources have been identified and a plan is in place; 4) Laughlin Substation manpower remains about the same and plans are in place for a Work Assistance Program to assist, and receive assistance, from other bureaus; and 5) A helicopter with TAC medics was used recently used during a search warrant mission in Laughlin.

- B. Nevada Highway Patrol, Department of Public Safety Report: **Sergeant Novelt**

Mack

February 2012 Statistics:

Accidents: 2 (1 property and 1 injury)
Citations: 314
Arrests: 1 (Felony Drugs)
Warrants: 2
Stranded Motorists: 115

1) Three children were taken out of Idaho and a local citizen identified the vehicle, leading to the individual being stopped and the recovery of the children.

C. Clark County Fire Department:

Greg Castle, Battalion Chief, 3B Platoon, Clark County Fire Department reported.

February 2012 Statistics:

Stations 76 and 85 responded to 258 calls for service, up 8% from February 2011.

1) There were two code saves, one at the Riverside and one at thee Golden Nugget; 2) Wrapping up training with Bullhead City with another Technical Rescue operation team support scheduled for April; and 3) Staff Chiefs are working with Metro through Instant Action Planning to address the River Run anticipated needs.

5. COMMUNITY REPORTS:

A. Clark County Water Reclamation Dist. Report: **Jake Jacobson, Assistant Manager**

Laughlin Services

February 2012 Statistics:

Wastewater Treated: LWRF treated an average of 1.66 MGD, producing clean water returned to the Colorado River.
Wastewater Flows: Flow decreased 310,000 gallons per day from last year at his time.
Spills/Overflows: None.
Complaints: One odor complaint of a private sewer in a business complex checked.
Call Before You Dig: 29 mark-out requests.

B. Big Bend Water District (LVVWD) Report: **Jordan Bunker, Public Services**

Jordan Bunker was unable to attend the meeting so **Candice FitzGerald** read the following report sent via email: “There have been no major leaks or breaks reported. Contract 1342 Polyethylene Service Line replacements is approximately 15 percent complete. This project consists of service line replacement within the Villa Bonita and Desert Park communities. Work is wrapping up in Desert Park and now commencing in Villa Bonita. Approximately 37 service lines have been replaced thus far. Staff continues to notify customers that will be affected, as well as SNTC regarding any road closures that could happen due to the work

taking place”.

- C.** Bullhead City Report: **Brenda Richardson, Senior Administrative Analyst**
No report.
- D. Director** Clark County Laughlin Senior Center Report: **Richard Declercq, Recreation**
- 1) In February 268 people visited the Senior Center 1400 total times; 2) Open use visits were 1700; and 3) April 12, 2012 a trip to the County Fair is scheduled.
- E.** Laughlin Chamber of Commerce: **Connie Davis, Executive Director**
- 1) March 8, 2012, the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce, Clark County and Bullhead Economic Development sponsored the third Economic Development Summit about business expansion and retention at the Aquarius Resort; 2) A new community development lender is opening an office in Las Vegas called Clearing House Community Development Financial Institution; 3) On March 31, 2012 Harrah’s is participating in Earth Hour, turning exterior off non-essential lighting from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM; 4) April 12, 2012 a Joint Mixer will be held at Harrah’s; 5) Annual Meeting was held at the Aquarius last week with President **Donna Treague** and Vice-President **Ryan Walker**; 6) 2011 in review was challenging with a failing economy, but in 2012 we need to build a bridge to the future through economic development, and helping to improve Laughlin and the surrounding communities; and 7) The Community Achievement Awards Dinner will be held October 13, 2012, and the Chef’s Food Fest will be held June 21, 2012 at the Aquarius.
- F.** Laughlin Tourism Commission: **M. J. Smith, Executive Director**
- 1) Reminder of Alabama Concert on March 31, 2012, gates open 6:00 PM, show starts at 7:00 PM; 2) Meeting with tri-state stakeholders to ensure safety at the 2012 Laughlin River Run; and 3) The 2012-2013 Event Calendar should be ready by the end of the month.
- G.** Laughlin Library: **Karen Lassen, Branch Manager**
No report.
- H.** Bennett Elementary School: **Dawn Estes, Principal**
- Mary Beth Brisk**, Literacy Specialist, reported.
- 1) Students will be celebrating Nevada Reading Week March 26, 2012 through march 30, 2012; and 2) Literacy Night will be held for parents and students to complete various literacy activities at stations.
- I. Educator** University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: **Debbie Marcusson, Extension**
No report.
- J. Specialist** Southern NV Health District: **Patricia Hayde, Senior Environmental Health**

- 1) One serious public health notice in the last quarter (Jan/Feb 2012) where three guests at the Luxor Resort were diagnosed with Legionnaire's Disease (two in 2011 and one in 2012);
- 2) March is National Nutrition month and everyone is encouraged to get your plate in shape

by adding more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean protein and dairy to every meals. Online assistance is available at the www.gethealthyclarkcounty.org and on U-Tube; 3) The switch to daylight savings time is an excellent opportunity to check emergency preparedness kits and ensure they are ready to go; 4) Review of Health Cards is currently underway with digital online movie and Laughlin is part of the Beta Testing for renewal applicants; 5) Board of Health is seeking at large Southern Nevada Health District board member applications available online at www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org; and 6) Started in 1962 the Health District is celebrating 50 years of public health.

6. ZONING

A. PREVIOUS ZONING ACTIONS:

Previous Zoning Actions. (For additional information see Clark County web site on the Internet at http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/public_communications/Pages/Agendas.aspx, then go to NOFA (Notice of Final Action) on the month and date the item was heard and look for the item number (i.e. UC-0000-11).

1. None.

C. CURRENT ZONING ACTIONS:

1. None.

Zoning Appeal Process : Planning Commission and Board of County Commission meetings are both held at the Clark County Government Center, Commission Chambers, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89155-1841. Planning Commission Meetings are scheduled on the first & third Tuesdays of each month and the following Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Board of County Commissioners Zoning Meetings are scheduled on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM following the first & third Tuesdays of each month. ***If you appeal a Planning Commission action, you must be present at the Board of County Commissioners meeting to present your appeal.*** Appeals are made by filling out a "Filing An Appeal" form, available from the Department of Comprehensive Planning, Current Planning Division. You may call Current Planning at (702) 455-4314 to request the form. Once in the automated phone system, press Option #2, listen closely to the options and press Option #2 again. This will connect you to a person who can help you with the appeal form. Once you have filled out the appeal form, fax it to (702) 455-3271, then call (702) 455-4314 to verify the appeal form was received and ask when it will be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. ***Appeals must be done within five (5) judicial (business) days from the time the item was heard by the Planning Commission.***

7. COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND CONCERNS:

A. **Consider appointment of Steve W. Collins to the Public Works Committee, and take any action deemed appropriate.**

Michael Bekoff moved, **James Vincent** seconded to appoint **Steve W. Collins** to the Public Works Committee. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 4-0.

B. **Receive a report from Sabrina Whartenby, Outreach Coordinator, New Hope Hospice, on New Hope Hospice and the services it offers.**

New Hope Hospice has offices in Laughlin, Henderson, Bullhead City, and Havasu. The program was originally designed by Medicare for cancer patients and patients with life limiting illnesses of six months or less. Hospice is now able to accept patients that have other life limiting illnesses and can come to the homes of the patients (there is no hospice

house in the area) to provide prescription drugs related to the hospice diagnosis, medical equipment and supplies required to treat life limiting illness, routine home care, continuous care, respite and general inpatient care. Services are covered by Medicare Part A so there is no charge to

the patient or families for services. For additional information call (702) 298-4673 or go online to www.yourtrustedpartner.com.

- C. **Receive a presentation from Doug McGeehan, President, Laughlin parent Teacher Organization (LPTO) on equal educational opportunities for Laughlin schools and consider a letter of support from the Laughlin Town Advisory Board, and take any action deemed appropriate.**

Bennett Elementary School (and the Laughlin Jr/Sr. High School in some instances) has the following problems: 1) Additional band width needed to use online teaching programs at a cost of \$100/month or \$.17/month per student; 2) Lack of advanced class opportunities for honor students; 3) A permanent, not temporary portable, elementary school is needed. Portable classrooms (with stucco on the outside) were built in 1986 as a temporary measure until a school was built; 4) There are rats and reptiles living under the portable classrooms; 5) There is an accumulation of pigeon droppings on the roof near the air intake system and also in the cooling tower forcing children to breathe contaminated air; 6) Inadequate cooling system; 7) Overcrowded classrooms; 8) Possibility of loss of bus transportation for students living on the east side of Needles Highway; 9) Inadequate school property ingress and egress; 10) A Special Education Instruction Facilitator position was lost at Bennett Elementary School during the last round of budget cuts so there is no longer an advocate for special needs students and families; 11) Only one Primary Resource Teacher for grades 1-5; 12) Limited services for families with children who require special needs: special needs children, medical needs children, and special education children in one small room; 13) No Attendance Officer; 14) Early childhood intervention and literacy limited pre-school program; 15) Laughlin does not have four day Kindergarten; and 16) In a lockdown situation the portable classroom heating and air conditioning systems must be shut down individually and doors cannot be closed between many classrooms.

James Vincent asked **Patricia Hayde**, Senior Environmental Health Specialist for the Southern Nevada Health District, to step to the podium and asked about the health issues involved with the Laughlin schools. **Ms. Hayde** responded that all that is required is the filing of a complaint and the Health District will investigate any unsafe conditions at the schools.

Jackie Brady asked if anyone has addressed the Clark County School District Board of Trustees? **Mr. McGeehan** responded that that is what he was asking the Laughlin Town Advisory Board to do. **Ms. Brady** responded this issue is beyond the authority of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board, however, the LPTO can let the School District know that the welfare of education and the children's health are at stake. Another suggestion is to ask the Department of Taxation or Clark County how much revenue is going to the School District because we have hotel resorts here and a lot of revenue has gone to the School District because of that.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Community Development:
Chair**

No report. No meeting in February.

The next meeting of the Community Development Committee will be April 25, 2012, 3:00 PM, Laughlin Regional Government Center.

B. Parks & Recreation: James Vincent, Co-Chair

No report. No meeting in February.

The next meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee will be March 19, 2012, 9:00 AM, Laughlin Regional Government Center.

C. Public Safety: Candice FitzGerald, Co-Chair

Met on February 27, 2012 and the main topic of conversation was the resurfacing on Banyon at James Bilbray. There will not be a meeting in March.

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be April 16, 2012, 3:00 PM, Laughlin Regional Government Center.

D. Public Works: Fred Doten, Committee Co-Chair

February 21, 2012: 1) Looked at mission and goals; 2) Elected an interim Co-Chair, **Shawn Escarzaga**; 3) Discussed various work projects, including Cougar Drive turn lane which is expected to be started in March/April; and 4) Needles Highway between Bruce Woodbury and Highway 163 is deteriorating rapidly so it will be milled down, then slurry sealed.

The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be March 20, 2012, 10:00 AM, Laughlin Regional Government Center, and a Special Call meeting on March 21, 2012, to tour the Republic Services Recycling Plant for a tour.

E. Social Services: Rosemary Munger, Co-Chair

February 21, 2012: 1) Working on the File of Life with possible sponsorship by Valley View Medical Center.

The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be March 20, 2012, 8:30 AM, Laughlin Regional Government Center.

9. **COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:** This is a period for the Public to comment on items within the jurisdiction of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board, but not appearing on this agenda. If any member of the Board wishes to extend the length of their comments, this will be done by the Chairman, or the Board by majority vote. When speaking during a specific item or during the Public Comments sessions, please step up to the speaker's podium, clearly state your name and address – please spell you name for the record – and limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes. No vote may be taken on any matter not listed on the posted agenda.

Jordan Ross, Laughlin Constable's Office, announced he is aware that there are people present who want to speak toward comments made over the last few weeks, particularly at the last Legislative

Commission, and there are strong feelings and opinions about this. I support incorporation, but I do not support the level to which civil discourse in this community has sunk.

Dick McCall, 3835 Desert Marina Drive, Laughlin, NV, addressed an article in the LV Review Journal on March 4, 2012 which included an interview with **Michael Bekoff** regarding his testimony opposing the right for citizens of Laughlin to vote. **Mr. Bekoff** was quoted in the RJ as saying he was speaking on behalf of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board and **Mr. Bekoff** was not delegated to represent LTAB which is a violation of Open Meeting Law. **Mr. McCall** asked for an apology and **Mr. Bekoff** replied that he notified the LV Review Journal reporter that she was in error in making that statement.

Jim Bodley, 1838 Oasis Court, Laughlin, NV, pointed out that two members of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board misrepresented themselves when testifying before the Legislative Commission on incorporation by introducing themselves as members of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board opposing incorporation.

Rosemary Munger asked **Michael Bekoff** to call the LV Review Journal and ask that a retraction be printed about the quote that he represented the Laughlin Town Advisory Board.

Monica Hilton, North of Edmonton, Alberta, a visitor to Laughlin staying at the River Palms Resort, complained about the condition of the property between the River Palms and Golden Nugget next to the Riverwalk where there is broken glass, erosion, unkept plants and lights out.

10. **NEXT POSSIBLE MEETING DATE:** The next possible meeting date is Tuesday, March 27, 2012, and the next regular meeting is Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at 1:30 P.M., Regional Government Center, 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada. Agenda items due no later than March 16, 2012, and March 30, 2012, respectively.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Michael Bekoff moved, **Rosemary Munger** seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:11 PM. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 4-0.

These meeting minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the April 10, 2012 meeting. Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the meeting minutes of the May 08, 2012 meeting.