

**MINUTES**

**SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Standing Committee to the Laughlin Town Advisory Board**  
**April 15, 2014**  
**8:30 A.M.**

**Laughlin Regional Government Center**  
**101 Civic Way, LAUGHLIN, NEVADA**

**Members Present:** Roger Burtraw  
Victoria Conely  
James Williams

**Members Absent:**  
Cheryl Seipke

**Others Present:**  
Kelly Robson, HELP of Southern NV  
Julie Fairman, Laughlin Times  
Becky Hochstedler, Colorado River  
Food Bank  
Steve Welch, Clark County Camphost  
Barbara Welch, Clark County Camphost

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- A.** Conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.
- B.** Agenda items may be taken out of order if deemed necessary.
- C.** The Social Services Committee may combine two or more agenda items for consideration.
- D.** The Social Service Committee may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item at any time.

**2. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS**

- A.** Approval of the April 15, 2014 Agenda.

**Victoria Conely** moved, **James Williams** seconded the approval of the agenda.  
Motion carried 3-0.

- B.** Approval of the March 18, 2014 Minutes.  
**James Williams** moved, **Victoria Conely** seconded the approval of the minutes.

Motion carried 3-0.

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 committee 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 committee wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this will be done by the Chair or the committee by majority vote. The committee 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 committee for consideration, after receiving recognition and consent of the Chairman of the committee.

4. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

- A. **Receive a presentation from Kelly Robson, Chief Social Services Officer, HELP of Southern Nevada.**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**Kelly Robson** presented the nine programs that serve the Southern Nevada Community. HELP of Southern Nevada is located at 1640 E. Flamingo Road in Las Vegas, contact information is: 702-369-4357 or [www.helpsonv.org](http://www.helpsonv.org) Social Service agencies in Laughlin are urged to call **Kelly** directly on her cell phone 702-563-7279. HELP of Southern Nevada is a private nonprofit agency that gets its funding from grants and donations.

The Emergency Services consists of six programs: Rental and utility assistance is available for individuals who have had an unforeseen circumstance in the past 30 days. The program has case management services to assist individuals to get back on their feet and obtain self-sufficiency. HELP is an intake site for SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) which assists in filling out an application and bypasses the welfare office when initially applying for benefits. The Energy Assistance program works with the State of Nevada to assist individuals with filling out an application for energy assistance that helps pay a portion of a power bill. HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS) provides food vouchers for clients with HIV/AIDS to help with dietary needs. A New Path provides rental and utility assistance to low income individuals.. The 6-12 month program focuses on case management, programming and support to its clients to become self sufficient. Baby First Services offers prenatal guidance, information, and mother-to-mother support for at-risk pregnant women. Outreach

services include Baby Find, Smart Shop, and assistance with diapers, formula, and wipes. Families can receive assistance every 30 days. Other emergency services include bus passes, food vouchers, clothing vouchers, hygiene products, baby and infant needs, referrals to other services, and case management.

W.O.R.C./Displaced Homemaker (Work Opportunities Readiness Center) provides pre-employment services that empower participants to enter or re-enter the labor market through workshops, support groups and networking. The service provides personal or vocational counseling, job seeking and job keeping methods, leadership development and decision making skills development.

Shannon West Homeless Youth Center is a residential facility that provides services for at risk youth ages 16 – 24 that are homeless or at risk of being homeless. The center is open 24/7 – 365 days/year. The youth must be attending school to take part in the center. Referrals are received from schools, social service agencies, juvenile and adult justice courts; most youth also have mental health or substance abuse issues.

Community Alternative Sentencing gives court appointed individuals (sentenced and non-sentenced juvenile and adult offenders) the opportunity to service the community. It saves taxpayers the cost of incarceration, provides manpower to nonprofits and government agencies in lieu of court fines, fees, restitution, jail, probation or as a condition of probation.

Framing Hope Warehouse receives donated retail merchandise and building supplies from 12 Home Depot stores in Southern Nevada and redistributes the products to local Southern Nevada nonprofits and their clients at an affordable fee.

Weatherization offers assistance to low-income families (the elderly, people with disabilities, and families with children) who lack resources to become energy efficient which improves energy affordability and making housing more affordable.

Holiday Assistance includes three programs: Adopt-A-Family, Turkey-Thon and Toy Drive/Holiday Assistance for families and children that would otherwise go without.

Nevada 211 is a 24-hour free information and referral line that connects people with vital basic services for everyday needs and in times on crisis.

Homeless Services Program is designed to prevent homelessness to those at risk of becoming homeless or for those who have been homeless for an extensive period of time, including the chronic homeless, those with mental illness, and the

disabled.

**Steve Welch** and **Barbara Welch**, Clark County Camphosts, ask is there's a mobile crisis team that can come to Laughlin to work with the homeless. The **Welch's** question what happens if a person is not willing to accept relocating to an area where services are available, or are not willing to accept the conditions to get into one of HELP's programs. **Kelly** states that they cannot intervene if a person is not willing to accept their services. Committee members suggest that individuals not willing to relocate or accept the conditions of services contact local churches, River Fund, Salvation Army or Catholic Charities if they are seeking immediate temporary help.

**Becky Hochstedler**, Colorado River Food Bank, asks if HOPE can send a representative to the food bank one morning a month to offer services to the homeless and needy. **Kelly** will contact the food bank next week.

**B. Committee to discuss specific goals for 2014.**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**James Williams** requests an immediate goal be that existing committee members look for individuals to become members of this committee.

**Roger Burtraw** announces that committee member **Joe Marr** passed away last week end and this committee is down to 4 members.

**C. Committee to discuss public service information that may potentially be submitted to the media and take any action deemed appropriate.**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**Julie Fairman**, Laughlin Nevada Times, is present at today's meeting and will make a report in the local newspaper. **Julie Fairman** states that information must be submitted by noon Friday to be included in the following week's edition.

5. **COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:** This is a period for the Public to comment on items within the jurisdiction of the Social Services Committee, but not appearing on this agenda. If any member of the committee wishes to extend the length of their comments, this will be done by the Chairman, or the committee 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 your 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.

6. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** May 20, 2014, 8:30 A.M., Laughlin Regional Government Center, 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada. Agenda items due no later than May 12, 2014.
7. **ADJOURNMENT**  
**Victoria Conely** made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 a.m., seconded by **James Williams**. Motion carried 3-0.

**NOTE:** *These meeting minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the May 20, 2014 meeting. Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the minutes of the June 17, 2014 meeting.*