



Laughlin Town Advisory Board
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT CENTER
101 CIVIC WAY
LAUGHLIN, NEVADA 89029
(702) 298-0828
FAX (702) 298-6132

MINUTES

LAUGHLIN TOWN ADVISORY BOARD

**February 8, 2011
1:30 P.M.**

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Janet Barela, Chair**
 Candice FitzGerald, Vice-Chair
 Michael Bekoff
 Rosemary Munger
 James Vincent

MEMBERS ABSENT: **None**

OTHERS PRESENT: **30 Guests Signed In**

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.**
- B. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. **Pastor Gerald Preuss** gave the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by **Michael Bekoff**.**
- C. Agenda items may be taken out of order if deemed necessary.**

2. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Approval of the February 8, 2011, Agenda.**

Rosemary Munger noted a correction to Page 2, 6. COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND CONCERNS, B., sentence 3 from 2010 to 2011. **Michael Bekoff** moved, **Rosemary Munger** seconded to approve as corrected the February 8, 2011 Laughlin Town Advisory

Board Agenda. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

- C. Approval of January 11, Minutes.**

Michael Bekoff noted a correction to Page 2, 2. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS, C., sentence 6, from “Upon a voice vote, motion carried 3-2” to “Upon a voice vote, motion carried 3-0”.

Candice FitzGerald noted a correction to Page 1, MEMBERS PRESENT, from “**Ted Pamperin**” to “**Rosemary Munger**”. **Michael Bekoff** moved, **Candice FitzGerald** seconded to approve the January 11, 2011 Laughlin Town Advisory Board Minutes as corrected. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

3. PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY REPORTS

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

Statistics for the month of January 2011:

Calls for Service: 313, down 2.80% from January 2010

Traffic Citations: 451

DUI's: 4

Battery Domestic Violence Arrests: 12 adult, 1 juvenile

Bookings: 51

Juvenile Bookings: 1 (resident)

Juvenile Citations: 7 (4 were residents, 3 were non-residents)

Tucker Holding Facility. Tucker Holding Facility went back to its normal schedule on January 22, 2011, and in the first week there were more bookings than in the first month it was closed.

Personnel. **Sgt. Jack Prescott** has replaced **Sgt. Kent Kirk**, and one officer is in Motor School, and on Thursday there will be a decision on when that officer will be replaced, if at all.

Phlebotomist. A Phlebotomist is being sought for after hours blood draws for DUI arrests. Currently anyone detained for a DUI arrest has to be immediately transported to Las Vegas for a blood draw. Anyone who has a suggestion or knows anyone who could do the after hours blood draws should contact **Lt. Evans**. The Phlebotomist must have an insurance binder. A certification requires a six-credit course at a cost of approximately \$1,000 and that may be the alternative down the road.

James Vincent noted that on the Metro report the number of hotel/casino calls were up and asked how many calls were for disturbances at the hotel nightclubs. **Lt. Evans** responded that the calls seem to be cyclical depending upon the activities going on in a specific weekend. Last weekend there were a number of calls to local nightclubs, but is not the major problem at the hotels. The major problem is nuisance calls like trespass or disorderly conduct.

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

No report. **Lt. Evans** reported that **Sgt. Mack** had a medical procedure and will be unable to attend the meeting today.

C. Clark County Fire Department: **Roy Session, Battalion Chief**

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

Statistics for the month of January 2011:

	Station 76	Station 85
EMS	78	53
Fire	0	0
Other	1	8

Laundry Fire. There was a laundry room fire at the Heritage Park Apartments, but it was contained to the laundry unit. Laundry and cooking fires account for approximately 33% of all residential fires. Laundry fires account for approximately 10% of those residential fires so a prevention tip is to do regular cleaning of dryer lint filters and the backs of dryers where lint gathers because the heat catches the lint on fire, which then goes to the walls and moves to the attic.

Training. Bullhead City, AZ, has become much more integral to the operation of the Laughlin Fire Stations over the last six months with the shut down of one of the units. Regular training will be done on an every other month rotation between Laughlin and Bullhead City, with six training sessions a year: three in Laughlin, three in Bullhead City. The first training starts next week at the Laughlin Marina. Next month the Laughlin Water Treatment Facility will be hosting and give training on their site and the Hazmat issues related to that.

Michael Bekoff asked if the withdrawal of the ladder truck, technical rescue truck, and swift water rescue boat, has the Fire Department had occasion to request those units from Bullhead City. **Chief Castle** responded that last week there was a body on a roof that could not be reached, but Bullhead City Fire was unable to respond and assist with that recovery so the out of service 100' ladder truck stored at Station 76 was used for the recovery.

4. **PREVIOUS ZONING ACTIONS:**

Previous Zoning Actions. (For additional information see Clark County web site on the Internet [athttp://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/public_communications/Pages/Agendas.aspx](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).

A. *None.*

5. **CURRENT ZONING ACTIONS:**

A. **TA-0007-11 – Siegel COMPANIES, INC:**
Text amendment: to amend Title 30, Chapter 30.08, Table 30.44-1 (Chapter 30.44) to

create a new development code category for extended stay units in certain zoning districts subject to a minimum one-week stay and complete kitchens being provided. To the Board of County Commissioners 03/02/11.

James Vincent asked if this Text Amendment is for Clark County as a whole, or for someone making an application for a Laughlin business. **Deborah Murray**, Community Development Manager, explained that the Clark County Development Code is a prescriptive code and not a performance code meaning that if it doesn't say it in the code you can't do it.

Someone wants to do this particular use in Las Vegas and it's not in the code, so there needs to be a Text Amendment to create an ordinance that would affect the entire County. **James Vincent** read a portion of the background into the record as follows: "The applicant's business is to acquire run down and distressed apartment complexes, renovating, upgrading, and furnishing them so that these complexes may be offered to future or existing tenants on a weekly or monthly basis. Although the properties function somewhat like apartment complexes as the majority of the tenants rent long term, the applicant does offer certain amenities found in hotels or motels, i.e., units are furnished and all utilities are paid for and provided by the applicant. The applicant's business model is similar to that of an extended stay hotel – a hybrid between an apartment and a hotel/motel." "The applicant is proposing that the use be allowed within the following zoning districts subject to a minimum one-week stay required and providing units with complete kitchens for long term occupancy by use permit approval: R-5, C-2, M-D, M-1, U-V, and H-1." "Lodging, Long/Short Term: A multi-unit commercial establishment for transient and extended stay lodging, consisting of: 1) units with a kitchen suitable for long term occupancy; 2) customary hotel services such as linen, maid service, telephone, and upkeep of furniture (maid service may be made available to tenants); and 3) may include resident and guest amenities such as meeting rooms, clubhouse, and recreational facilities." **Mr. Vincent** stated that he is in favor of this type of project for housing due to the current economic conditions with so many foreclosures and bad credit making it impossible for people to lease or rent an apartment and get the necessary utilities turned on.

Michael Bekoff stated that he is in favor of and endorses this type of housing because in the past he has lived in a Siegel Companies, Inc. property on a weekly basis. They provided a good product and a better alternative for a lot of people than having to rent a conventional apartment and pay deposits and utilities. It was a clean and protected atmosphere with security and on-site maintenance and a good alternative for casino employees who are paid on a weekly basis.

James Vincent moved, **Michael Bekoff** seconded to approve TA-0007-11 – SIEGEL COMPANIES, INC., subject to staff conditions. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

- B. UC-0006-11 – PRE/LAUGHLIN (NV), LLC:
USE PERMIT for a check cashing business.
WAIVER OF DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS to allow a check cashing business less than 1,500 square feet in size in conjunction with an existing shopping center on a portion of 10.0 acres in an H-1 (Limited Resort and Apartment) Zone in the MUD-1 Overlay District. Generally located 150 feet west of Casino Drive and 50 feet north of Bruce Woodbury Drive within Laughlin. To the Board of County Commissioners 03/02/11.**

Wendy Taylor, Manager, QC Financial Services, Inc., representing the applicant, stated that QC Financial Services, Inc. is aware of the concern, and stated that this business is in no way related to the proposed bikini bar in the mall. The applicant wishes to withdraw the Waiver of Development Standards because applicant has talked to “Larry” at the mall and he is going to add an additional 80 square feet to the location so the 1500 square foot requirement is met. This is a stable company and want to be a productive member of the Laughlin community. QC Financial Services, Inc. currently employs over 1700 employees with 500 locations nationwide and is based out of Kansas City, Missouri. QC Financial Services, Inc. started in 1989 as a rent-to-own business, but as consumer needs changed, so did the business, from check cashing to short-term payday lending. QC Financial also believes in giving back to the communities and participated in the Laughlin/Bullhead City River Regatta last year and won first prize and donated the proceeds to helping needy families.

Rosemary Munger asked if the staff recommendation of denial was due to not meeting the square foot size minimum, and **Deborah Murray** responded that yes, that is the way she interpreted the staff recommendation of denial.

Applicant stated they are not looking for a Waiver of Development Standards at this time and are *withdrawing* that portion because they have talked to the mall and 80 square feet will be added to the property bringing the total footage to the 1500 square foot minimum requirement. **Michael Bekoff** moved, **Rosemary Munger** seconded to approve **UC-0006-11 – PRE/LAUGHLIN (NV), LLC**, Use Permit only as requested by the applicant, subject to withdrawal of the Waiver of Development Standards, and subject to staff conditions. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

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.*

6. COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND CONCERNS:

- A. Receive a report from Jim Ward, Veterans Appreciation Alliance, on a proposed “America Memorial Experience” Project in Laughlin, and take any action deemed appropriate.**

Jim Ward, and **Jay McIlroy**, representing Veterans Appreciation Alliance, presented a PowerPoint presentation on a proposed “America Memorial Experience” project in Laughlin to honor and remember veterans of foreign wars. **Rosemary Munger** asked if there would be an admission fee and **Mr. Ward** responded that it would have to be discussed, but there is an admission fee in Washington, D. C. That’s still open for discussion, but the thought is that if you charge an admission fee you’re going to keep people farther away, and the value of this through grants, foundation money, and donations at the park should be sufficient to continue to build out phases and maintenance on the park. **Rosemary Munger** asked if a budget has been formulated showing what it would cost to operate and **Mr. Ward** responded that some budget analysis has been done, but in the preliminary stages a company called

ConsultEcon, Inc. of Cambridge, Massachusetts has been brought in and participated in the building of forty veteran-themed parks, either in the renovation or build-out of those parks. This proposed park will be unlike any other veteran's park in the country. There are 25 million veterans, with forty percent of those living in the western states, so we believe we can tap into that, and if even a portion of those veterans visit Laughlin, that would benefit the Laughlin community. **Mr. Ward** asked if this project is of interest to this community? We don't expect an answer today, but want to start the wheels turning. **Mr. Bekoff** asked if a letter of support is being requested today, and **Mr. Ward** responded that with a letter of support the organization would be able to talk more intelligently to foundations as a non-profit organization, and when you have the support of the community, you have it all.

Pete Gorrie, 2566 Monroe Manor, Laughlin, NV, stated that he is totally in support of the project and loves the concept.

Janet Barela stated that she believes this project brings a lot of restoration in the values that sometimes we forget, what's important to teach our children, citizenship, patriotism, understanding what being an American means, so it is an honor that Laughlin is being considered as a location for this project, but community support is needed for it to be successful.

Michael Bekoff moved, **Candice FitzGerald** seconded that the Laughlin Town Advisory Board issue a letter to the Veterans Appreciation Alliance in support of the proposed American Memorial Experience Project in Laughlin. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

Janet Barela stated that she knows that the Community Development Committee and the Laughlin Town Advisory Board can't be involved in any type of fund raising, but would really like for the Community Development Committee to be somehow involved with the project as it moves forward so we don't lose track of it. **James Vincent** suggested that the matter be placed on Community Development Committee and Parks and Recreation Committee agendas for discussion and follow up.

- B. Announce and approve appointments to the Laughlin Town Advisory Board standing committees of Community Development, Public Safety, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, and Social Services for 2010, and take any other action deemed appropriate.**

James Vincent recommended appointment to the Parks & Recreation Committee, with applications to follow for those who have not yet submitted an application, as follows:

Park & Recreation Committee:

Standing committee member **Cheryl Crow, Michelle Vestal, Christie Dennis, James Buyerly, Tina Webb, and Kathy Atkins**

James Vincent moved, **Michael Bekoff** seconded to approve the appointments of the recommended committee members to the Parks & Recreation Committee. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

Candice FitzGerald recommended appointment to the Public Safety Committee, with applications to follow for those who have not yet submitted an application, as follows:

Public Safety Committee:

Robert Latsko, Dorothy Lewis, Joe Marr, Gerald Preuss, and Bill Condray

Candice FitzGerald moved, **Michael Bekoff** seconded to approve the appointments of the recommended committee members to the Public Safety Committee. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

Michael Bekoff recommended appointment to the Public Works Committee:

Public Works Committee:

Thomas Bartelmy, Jim DeWoody, Fred Doten, Jon L. Safranek, and Rick Simmons

Michael Bekoff stated that he did not wish to re-appoint standing committee member **Marie Pollack** due to her lack of meeting attendance (two meetings) over the past two years.

Michael Bekoff moved, **Candice FitzGerald** seconded to approve the appointments of the recommended committee members to the Public Works Committee. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

Rosemary Munger recommended appointment to the Social Services Committee, with applications to follow for those who have not yet submitted an application, as follows:

Social Services Committee:

Judith Brown, Catherine Carlson, Victoria Conely, Brian Heitzinger, Robyn Kelley, Bette Miller and Cheryl Seipke.

LTAB After discussion, it was determined that there are too many committee members (7 plus Co-Chair instead of 6 plus LTAB Co-Chair), so **Jackie Brady** stated that **Cheryl Seipke**, as Secretary and not an active member of the committee, makes the number of members correct.

Rosemary Munger moved, **Michael Bekoff** seconded to approve the appointments of the recommended committee members to the Social Services Committee (without **Cheryl Seipke**, Secretary). Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

Janet Barela recommended appointment to the Social Services Committee, with applications to follow for those who have not yet submitted an application, as follows:

Community Development Committee:

Trish Bleich, Brett Dennis, Dr. Jesse Lewis, C. W. Marvin, Karl Munninger, Suzanne Condray

Janet Barela moved, **Michael Bekoff** seconded to approve the appointments of the

recommended committee members to the Community Development Committee. Upon a voice, motion carried 4-1 (James Vincent).

Janet Barela, Chair, called a 10-minute recess at 3:00 PM. The meeting resumed at 3:13 PM.

C. Discuss and consider the Public Safety Committee and Public Works Committee meeting separately and independently, and take any action deemed appropriate.

Jackie Brady stated that in the Saturday, February 5, 2011 TAB/CAC training (mandatory for all TAB/CAC board members in Clark County), it was mentioned that the ByLaws were being changed, and February and March of odd numbered years are the months that ByLaws are officially changed. It is important that the Special Ad Hoc ByLaws Committee formed by the Laughlin Town Advisory Board on March 23, 2010 meet immediately for the purpose of reviewing and making recommendation to the Laughlin Town Advisory Board on Article VII - Committees. At the moment, the Public Safety Committee and the Public Works Committee are violating the ByLaws by meeting together since they are listed as separate committees.

Janet Barela stated that the participants who submitted an application and were appointed by the Laughlin Town Advisory Board to the Special Ad Hoc ByLaws Committee are: **Janet Barela**, Chair; **James Vincent**, Co-Chair; **Fred Doten**; **Jordon Ross**; **Stephen Collins** (now deceased); **Andralee Y. Crow-Drescher**; and **Jim De Woody**.

Janet Barela announced that a meeting of the Special Ad Hoc ByLaws Committee will be organized as soon as possible and the public is invited to attend, but any comments or suggestions should be submitted in writing as soon as possible prior to the meeting. The committee will review Committee Purpose Statements, developed during an All Committee meeting, and review the Article VII – Committees section of the ByLaws.

Fred Doten, 3517 Cottage Meadow Way, Laughlin, NV, voiced a question and concern regarding what is needed for a quorum of the individual committees when meeting together?

Janet Barela responded that a quorum, when the committees are meeting together, is a simple majority of the combined members of both committees. **Mr. Doten** then asked if a member of the Public Safety Committee leaves during a combined meeting and the meeting loses a combined quorum, can the Public Works Committee continue to meet separately if they have a quorum of members present? **Janet Barela** responded no, not if the meeting is posted as a joint meeting.

Jackie Brady stated that many years ago when the subject of the Public Safety Committee and Public Works Committee meeting together in order to achieve a quorum (where the separate committees were unable to do so), it was recommended that the ByLaws

be changed to reflect that the committees would be combined and meeting jointly, but the idea was rejected because the thought was that the committees might want to meet

independently again at some point in the future.

Janet Barela stated that according to the current Bylaws the committees are not directed to meet together, but are two separate committees. If the committees choose to meet together, then you are still separate committees meeting together and still required the same quorum for each committee as though meeting individually.

Fred Doten stated that in the past there was a quorum of the two committees meeting together based upon the total members for the two committees, and when that quorum was lost the meeting had to stop.

Janet Barela stated that no more time would be spent on this subject today because it needs to be clarified by the Special Ad Hoc ByLaws Committee, with a recommendation to the Laughlin Town Advisory Board to amend the ByLaws.

D. Discuss the possibility of receiving the Hoover Dam truck traffic again through Laughlin, NV, and Bullhead City, AZ, and take any action deemed appropriate.

The Community Development Committee (CDC) became aware of the issue and began working on this matter a few weeks ago at the CDC meeting. **Brett Dennis**, new Co-Chair of the Community Development Committee, has been designated as the point of contact for this specific project. **Mr. Dennis** was unable to attend this meeting due to work commitments, so **Janet Barela** read a status report prepared by **Mr. Dennis** as follows:

Community Development Committee
Boulder City U.S. 93 Bypass Research

STATUS OVERVIEW

In all reports that have been reviewed, the concern that a traffic issue would arise has been brought forth since the early stages of the O'Callaghan-Tillman Memorial Bridge project. However, funding seems to be the main reason why it hasn't been addressed over the past 10 years. The current redirect proposal is a quick fix to an estimated \$360 million federally funded multi-year solution involving the Interstate 11 project.

Jacob Snow, general manager of the Regional Transportation Commission, has partnered with Boulder City Mayor Roger Tobler and deemed the problem a state of emergency in his reports to the Federal Highway Administration to persuade the agency to ban tractor-trailers from the new Hoover Dam bypass bridge until traffic problems can be resolved. Snow reports that an estimated 34,000 vehicles pass through Boulder City every day, an increase of nearly 1,000 vehicles before the bypass bridge opened. He also states the congestion problem is due to the nearly 1,100 large trucks that can now use the route that was closed to them when the highway crossed Hoover Dam. Snow plans to actively advocate for Interstate 11 and install three real-time cameras so that motorists can log onto the computer to check out traffic before they travel to the area. I have asked that I be added to his contact lists regarding these matters.

The Nevada Department of Transportation plans to widen the one-lane stretch of the highway between Lake Shore Drive and the Hacienda hotel-casino this year but has been fighting resistance from the National Park Service. NDOT has also pledged assistance in securing funding for the Boulder City Bypass, rebranded as part of the proposed Interstate 11 project connecting Phoenix and Las Vegas. Details have been requested regarding these projects.

Locally I have spoken with members of our emergency services units, such as NHP, LVMPD, CCFD, and AMR in regard to drafting impact reports that show the trends and effects we experienced here in Laughlin as a result of the Hoover Dam crossing closure that took place in 2001. I have also been attending the construction meetings involving the Casino Drive, and Heritage Greenway Trail projects that are currently ongoing here in Laughlin to review ~~and~~ ^{the} potential effects they will have on the proposed redirection of traffic.

Brett A. Dennis
Citizen Co-Chair
Community Development Committee - LTAB

Jackie Brady stated that she spoke with **Jacob Snow**, General Manager of the Regional

Transportation Commission, last week and he indicated that any application for re-routing the traffic to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) would take some time, however, reader boards have been installed on the highway from Las Vegas stating that there is heavy traffic at the O'Callaghan-Tillman Memorial Bridge, and advising trucks take the U.S. Highway 95 route. It is suspected that it is the City of Boulder City trying to redirect traffic, not the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) or any other transportation department.

Janet Barela suggested writing a letter to **Jacob Snow** asking him to consider Laughlin's concerns prior to making any application to route traffic away from the Hoover Dam ByPass Bridge. **Brett Dennis** is putting together a list of concerns, including safety concerns, about having the truck traffic come through Laughlin and Bullhead City. A primary concern is access to medical care for Laughlin residents. When there is no access to medical care via the Laughlin Bridge, it is a major safety concern. **Ms. Barela** would like the safety concerns to be considered as discussions move forward because this not a matter of inconvenience, but potentially a matter of life and death. **Ms. Barela** would also like to thank **Mr. Snow** for a recent invitation to Laughlin to participate in a meeting regarding the truck traffic issue, even though that meeting was changed

Janet Barela moved, **James Vincent** seconded to write a letter to **Jacob Snow**, General Manager of the Regional Transportation Commission, expressing Laughlin concerns about the possibility of re-routing truck traffic away from the Hoover Dam ByPass Bridge through Laughlin and Bullhead City. Upon a voice vote, motion carried 5-0.

7. COMMUNITY REPORTS:

A. Clark County/Town Manager's Report: **Jackie Brady, Town Manager**

PowerPoint Presentation. **Jackie Brady** delivered a PowerPoint presentation:

"INTRODUCTION:

- To recap the year's events and any progress made;
- The Town Manger's Office often launches new projects and addresses the various important issues that impact the town;
- The goal is to achieve balance: not too much government becoming oppressive and not too little as to become ineffective.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- This report will briefly cover: projects, important issues addressed, special challenges and plans for the New Year.

PROJECTS DURING THE YEAR:

- 2010 – the culmination of the planning for several projects:
- Laughlin-Bullhead City Bridge Project. Environmental Assessment finalized and awaiting a finding from the FHWA;
- Laughlin Greenway heritage Trail Project (North Reach). Design and construction bid completed; Rehabilitation of Casino Drive with enhancements. Underway;
- 2010 – Clark County Reclamation completed and undertook several improvement projects. Rehabilitation of two lift stations and adding of needed pipe along

Woodbury Drive to the plant. Aeration piping replacement and relocation of the bleach building – got underway in 2010;

- 2010 – Clark County Public Works did extensive maintenance of rights of way (ROW) and flood channels;
- 2010 – The building of two federally funded projects on County leased land – completed: The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC)/Southern Nevada Transit Coalition (SNTC) Transit Center – February. Funded by Federal and Fort Mohave Funds. The Colorado River Food Bank and Clothes Closet – February. Funded by the Federal Community Development Block Grant program administered by Clark County;
- 2010 – Adoption of Big Bend Water District Service Rules and Parameters for expansion. Took about ten months, working with local groups-will be reviewed again in about 2015;
- 2010 – Various technical upgrades including: Upgrade of the government channel’s equipment. Ability for Clark County Channel 4 to operate in Laughlin. Ability to film off site;
- 2010- Kick off of implementing the Laughlin Economic Development Plan. Many of the features were implemented first through the consultant. Laughlin’s Economic Development Website start up at www.laughlinbusiness.com. A new Clark County website – upgrading and changing the Laughlin page accordingly. Regularly gathering together with regional economic development personnel and agencies;
- 2010- A major housing project completed to house almost 500 additional families and seniors (federal funding/financing made possible through Clark County);
- 2010 – provided some assistance in the transitions and relocation from United Way to River Fund, Inc.;
- 2010- Participated in the hiring and location of the new UNR Cooperative Extension faculty member and her offices; and
- 2010 – Completed the necessary document packages for getting BLM to allow various types of development on the 9,000 acres.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SUCH PROJECTS: All of these projects signify progress (Thomas Jefferson once said: “Information is the currency of democracy”), however:

- There’s always a need for citizens to know about the things that occur;
- Local governments undertake projects that upgrade their systems, make the community safer, help the quality of living for residents and visitors; and
- Lack of communication can produce misunderstanding, misconceptions and ill-will and frustration.

ISSUES:

- Issues that surfaced or were punctuated in 2010: The economy (a continuation of conditions that began in about 2007 – for Laughlin, growth has been slow in general). Incorporation plans. Implementation of Laughlin’s Economic Development Plan. Issues involving road conditions;
- Each of these issues is being addressed by various groups and departments (Louis Brandeis once said ‘The most important political office is that of the private citizen’;
- We are working to build a favorable business environment that allows for business expansion and the diversification of the economy so that the private citizen can do

business in town whether by producing services and goods or by paying for them;

By

such growth, revenues can come in to address infrastructure needs and prepare for Laughlin to stand alone as a city.

CHALLENGES:

- Time, staff and money – in short supply;
- Government once had adequate money to assist in improving local infrastructure, now it must lay-off workers and curtail service delivery;
- Over the past two years, most employees of the Town Manger's Office have been laid off and the budget has been sharply curtailed. This has resulted in: Work, expenditures, focus, etc. being re-prioritized; Greater pursuit of activities that will help in the long run to boost the economy and town's attractiveness; and Efforts to shore up social service delivery agencies to help those citizens who are facing hardship;
- While government can help, I am also reminded of the quote 'A government big enough to give you everything you want is a government big enough to take from you everything you have.' ~**Gerald Ford**, An address to a joint session of Congress on August 12, 1974.

COMMUNITY LIFE:

- We have seen the volunteer Public Works & Public Safety Committees step up to provide both eyes and responses to offer solutions and report problems with streets and flooding;
- Each standing committee has taken on responsibilities that once were done by governments and they are doing a good job but this year, they will need to perhaps do more;
- Once completed, the large Trails Project will also need volunteer assistance;
- With such a rich pool of dedicated citizens willing to contribute their time and energies to preserving the attractiveness of our town and providing whatever service they can provide, the town should continue to prosper in the long run; and
- Public and private partnerships are not limited only to private corporations but also with local citizens doing the things that benefit the whole community, not just their own self interests.

WHAT THIS MEANS:

- Specifically, although we do not know what 2011 and beyond will hold, as long as we have commitment to our town to see its growth, well-being and sense of continued community rather than strife, the town should be able to survive and prosper in spite of the challenges it faces. Remember, no place or person has ever been without challenges.

More quotes to consider: 'Democracy is the only system that persists in asking the powers that be whether they are the powers that ought to be.' ~**Sydney J. Harris**. 'When government accepts responsibility for people, then people no longer take responsibility for themselves.' ~**George Pataki**. 'Losers live in the past. Winners learn from the past and enjoy working in the present toward the future' and 'My interest is in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life there.' ~**Charles F. Kettering**

NEXT STEPS – THE NEW YEAR:

- The question is – are we prepared and flexible enough to adapt and work for the betterment of this community? Be encouraged, I believe we are!
- This year, the Laughlin Town Manager’s Office will continue its pursuit of economic development possibilities.”

Deborah Murray presented a Laughlin Regional heritage Greenway Trail update:

“I’d like to provide you with a brief report on the Laughlin Regional heritage Greenway Trail construction activities, also known as the ‘North Reach’ project.

The ‘North Reach’ is forty-one days into a three hundred calendar day project. The construction tasks being performed are either on time or ahead of schedule.

On February 3, 2011, the North Reach Construction Management Team held a meeting to notify stakeholders of future traffic restriction plans related to the trails project construction.

A DRAFT traffic detour plan was distributed and discussed and information pertaining to traffic was exchanged. There have been no formal approvals of the plan at this time.

Not unusual for this project and generally for projects of this type, I am hearing questions, comments and opinions about the trail project money being better spent elsewhere.

I’d like to provide some information about the grant funding for this project. Approximately \$17.8 million dollars was awarded to the contractor to construct the North Reach. Clark County received these funds from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), a Federal agency. The BLM acquired the money from public land sales in the Las Vegas Valley under the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, the acronym being SNPLMA, where a percentage of these funds derived from the Las Vegas Valley land sales are allocated by law – for Parks Trails and Natural Areas. As an aside, the Laughlin BLM land sale in 2005 was not held under the SNPLMA law because at the time, that law only applied to Las Vegas Valley land sales. The Laughlin land sale was held under the Federal Lands Transaction Facilitation Act. Thus, Laughlin’s land sale did not contribute to the SNPLMA Parks Trails and Natural Areas (PTNA) account funds. But, we were able to benefit and request grant funding, none-the-less.

With regards to the money being spent elsewhere, I recently read a good summarization by our Town Manager, **Jackie Brady**, that is worth repeating: ‘A bill passed by Congress encompassing a program or department will have dedicated allocations. If allocations involve a grant, then those applying for grants specify their intents for using the money. After grant award, the grantee cannot spend the money differently. Nor can money from one program be transferred to an unrelated program in another agency.’

This SNPLMA money as it relates to Needles Highway funding – it cannot. Trails money was allocated to trails projects via BLM in Nevada, not for roads in California via Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Yes, we need Needles Highway and have been pursuing it for fifteen plus years, like we pursued the bridge and trails project.

The question – should we only pursue on thing at a time?”

James Vincent stated that there are a lot of different opinions in the Laughlin area and if anyone tells you that the Laughlin Town Manager's Office and her team (**Jackie, Deborah, Leslie, and Rose**) don't do anything, they're wrong. They work very hard for us. Also, you hear opinions that the money should be spent here or there, but what **Deborah Murray** just told you is true, the money is allocated for trails and that's where the money has to go, and we are fortunate enough to get a project of this magnitude in Laughlin.

Janet Barela stated that she seconds **Mr. Vincent's** comments. She was fortunate enough to go on a small tour with **Jackie Brady** and she can tell you that the North Reach Project is impressive and it's just dirt, but it's easy to see the amount of work that's been done in such a short period of time. Similar to "Laughlin Remembers", what a wonderful visitor attraction and quality of life asset the North Reach Project will be for Laughlin visitors and residents.

"I want to applaud you" and I hope you will continue to keep us informed on the wonderful projects you and your staff are working work on stated **Ms. Medina**.

Michael Bekoff asked if there are going to be equestrian facilities in this phase, or will they come later? **Deborah Murray** responded that there are equestrian facilities in this phase but they are separate from the multi-use trail area that the pedestrians and bikers will use. The equestrian area does not co-mingle with the area that the pedestrians and bikers will use or with the pedestrian overpass.

- B.** Clark County Water Reclamation Dist. Report: **Jake Jacobson Assistant Manager
Laughlin Services**

January Statistics:

Wastewater Treated:	1.86 million gallons/day-up 210,000 gal/day from 2010
Wastewater Flows:	57.65 million gallons treated and returned to the river-up 6,370,000 gal/month from 2010
Spills/Overflows:	None
Complaints:	None
Call Before You Dig:	31 mark-out requests.

Project Updates. Casino Drive pipe lining from manhole to manhole is nearly complete, manhole linings are in progress, manhole replacements are in progress, and pipeline point repairs, small repairs within the pipeline, are completed.

Janet Medina thanked **Mr. Jacobson** for being so diligent in completing the Casino Drive work that was blocking the Chamber of Commerce driveway for four months, but has now been completed.

- C.** Big Bend Water District Report: **Jordan Bunker, Public Services**

Construction Update. There are two major projects that are underway. Contract 1316 for more than 300 Polyethylene service line replacements are currently being conducted in Laughlin Estates. They will also take place in El Mirage Estates and El Mirage Park. The contractor, JNJ Engineering Construction, is currently working in Laughlin Estates

upgrading the service laterals that connect each water main to each water meter. There are

approximately 250 service lines to be upgraded under this contract. The project is dirty, messy, dusty and inconvenient for the residents that are living in this area, but we ask those residents to bear with us. The project is approximately 25% complete. The roads are being open cut to access the water mains to the water meters for each and every house on both sides of the street. If residents have an alternative route to come in and out of your neighborhood if you live in Laughlin Estates, you are encouraged to use it during the construction. Temporary asphalt is being laid until there are ten to twenty patches, they come back and put the finish asphalt in on the whole ten to twenty patches at one time. Approximately 5-8 services are being done each work day, so they are moving quite quickly.

Casino Drive Project. The 42" diameter pipeline being installed on Casino Drive and Thomas Edison in conjunction with the Clark County Public Works project is basically finished with only a few interconnections. The contractor is moving up Thomas Edison to the tank at the top of the hill from Casino Drive. Harbor is the contractor for the Big Bend Water District and a sub-contractor of Wisner, the primary project contractor. There have been a few minor issues come up, but G. C. Wallace, Harbor and Wisner have been able to resolve those issues. If there are any other concerns with regard to the Casino Drive construction project, they be handled through the Clark County construction management team. It is expected that the Thomas Edison pipeline should be installed within the next few weeks.

Service Leak. On Friday February 4, 2011, there was a minor service leak on Paloma Avenue and the homeowner called the Big Bend Water District at about 3:00 AM to report the leak, but when they called the after-hours number it rolled to voice mail. Normally there is someone to answer the after-hours calls, so not sure why this call wasn't answered because the attendant said he did not hear the phone ring. The message was received by 8:00 AM and someone was dispatched to assess the situation that was determined not to be an emergency leak, so a call went out for line locations to other utilities (electric, water, cable, gas, phone, etc.), which takes two days. The line locations were completed on Sunday afternoon and the crews completed the work on Monday. Unless a leak is determined to be an emergency and taken care of immediately, it is a two-day 48-hour process for utility line locations.

Michael Bekoff asked about the road closure at Thomas Edison and Bruce Woodbury Drive because casino employees use that route to access the back road into the Tropicana employee parking area. People are bypassing the road closure sign, so would suggest that the road closure signs be moved several hundred feet south to allow access to the back entrance of the Tropicana. **Mr. Mack** responded that he will make the contractor aware of that, but there is an approved Traffic Control Plan that goes through Clark County Traffic Engineers and they are the ones who deem whether an existing traffic control setup is a viable one.

D. Bullhead City Report: Brenda Richardson, Senior Administrative Analyst

5th Annual Bullhead City River Regatta. Bullhead City is making a call out to all artists for a design for the back of the Regatta t-shirts. The design contest winner will receive \$500 and the design must include the phrase "5th Annual Bullhead City River Regatta" and this year's theme is the "Pirates of the Colorado". Applications can be made online at the

Bullhead City website.

9th Annual Spring Senior Softball Tournament. The 9th Annual Spring Senior Softball Tournament is scheduled for March 7-8-9, 2011, and is one of the regions largest softball tournaments sponsored by the Aquarius Casino Resort. The tournament is expected to attract more than forty senior softball teams from over thirty different states including Hawaii and Canada.

1st Annual Tri-State Teen Film Festival and Workshop. A partnership between the City of Bullhead and the Boys and Girls Club of the Colorado River for teenagers from age 12-17 to participate in the 1st Annual Tri-State Teen Film Festival and Workshop to enter their short films with a chance to win trophies and prizes.

Curbside Recycling. A curbside recycling program is being considered in Bullhead City and the project is currently in the public outreach phase. There are some nay-sayers, but there are also a lot of people in favor of curbside recycling. There are currently three drop-off locations in Bullhead City, and Allied Waste is willing to purchase the 17,3000 recycling carts at a cost of \$900,000, and in turn Bullhead City will be doing the billing for the trash service. If passed, this will be a big benefit to the community.

E. Director Clark County Laughlin Senior Center Report: **Richard Declercq, Recreation**

No report.

F. HopeLink Family Resource Center: **Robyn Kelley, Executive Director**

Statistics. For the month of January 19 new cases were opened with 5 on-going case management cases from previous months. Energy assistance is the largest demand with people getting ready for the summer months to come. The application takes six to ten weeks to process.

House Safety and Activity Fair. On February 26, 2011, a House Safety and Activity Fair, in partnership with Clark County Parks and Recreation and the Boys & Girls Club, will be held.

Silver Rider. There is a new partnership with Silver Rider and the Clark County Urban League to provide free toiletries to be delivered to low-income seniors. The Urban League brings down the toiletries, Silver Rider delivers once a month, and HopeLink Family Resource Center handles all the paperwork. Twenty-one seniors are eligible, so we are waiting to get the supplies then we can start.

Budget. Now that the Nevada State budget is out, the HopeLink Family Resource Center is gearing up for a substantial loss to the budget. The Family-to-Family Program did not make the Governor's budget at all so July 1, 2011, the program will no longer be available to the community. This is unofficial until the budget is passed, but we are preparing. A reduction in staff is also possible, and other things may be affected. HopeLink Family Resource Center is searching for new grants to help offset the funding losses.

Janet Barela asked if the HopeLink Family Resource Center could continue to offer the

Family-to-Family services if funding were found. **Ms. Kelley** responded that if nearly \$29,000 were found privately to replace the state grant, the programming could be continued,

but that amount would be needed every year to continue privately because all three Family-to-Family employees are paid out of the grant. It is the only program that services both sides of the river to teach families with 0-4 year olds parenting skills, health tips, education and is a place where parents can go with their children and find new fun ways to learn basic learning skills.

Janet Barela asked that a letter of support for funding of this program be on the March 8, 2011 Laughlin Town Advisory Board Agenda for discussion and possible action.

Michael Bekoff asked if Clark County could assist with the funding, and **Ms. Kelley** responded that Clark County has not been contributing funding for some time with the budget deficit and doesn't feel that Clark County has the money for such a request.

Jackie Brady asked about possible funding from the Legacy Foundation, and **Ms. Kelley** responded that she is exploring every possibility but there is nothing definite yet.

Michael Bekoff asked if the River Fund, Inc. could assist with the funding, and **Debbie Dauenhauer**, Chair of River Fund, Inc., responded that she would encourage **Ms. Kelley** to make application for funding to the Grants Committee headed by **Wanda Keenan** of the Pioneer Hotel & Gambling Hall. In the next month or so grant funding will be released and a grant would not be in the amount of \$29,000, but application should be made for some possible grant funding consideration from River Fund, Inc.

G. Laughlin Chamber of Commerce: Connie Davis, Director of Operations

New Programs. As we enter into a new phase of the organizations evolution, the Chamber of Commerce is planning to implement new programs to support upcoming projects and initiatives.

Annual Meeting. On March 10, 2011, at Harrah's, the annual meeting is a kick-off event for the Colorado River Region Ambassadors. **Barry Moniak**, founder of End in Mind Empowerment, developed the four corners of empowerment program to assist audiences and clients in learning how the mind and body function together in developing the skills necessary to optimize attitude, communication, relationships and leadership. These are the four essential components needed to increase effectiveness in all fields of personal and professional endeavors. **Mr. Moniak** is the keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting, and in addition he is doing business coaching. He is slated to provide training to the newly founded Colorado River Region Ambassadors. As Chamber of Commerce members interested in learning how to truly develop networking skills to enhance their business bottom line, **Mr. Moniak** is an active member of an ambassador program of Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce and has learned firsthand how to harness and use the power of networking.

Network Partners. On April 14, 2011, at the Edgewater Hotel/Casino there will be a Network Partners from the Rural Nevada Development Corporation, Nevada Micro Enterprises Initiative, Small Business Administration, Procurement Outreach Program, and others, will be on hand to offer information about their programs and communicate with

business owners and entrepreneurs. The format will be a small business showcase with displays for each network partner. Our goal is to help our members and other businesses to understand the resources that they can access through the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce.

Regional Economic Development Summit. On May 5, 2011, at the Aquarius, the Regional Economic Development Summit is planned and co-sponsored with BRENDA. This summit promises to provide valuable information to business owners and entrepreneurs. Thanks to the leadership of **Director Timmons, Mike Skaggs**, State Director of Nevada Economic Development Commission, will be the speaker. Other summit participants will include **Al Balloqui**, Economic Development Specialist, and **Buddy Borden**, UNR Cooperative Extension Community Economic Development Specialist.

Community Achievement Awards. The Community Achievement Awards are scheduled for Saturday, June 11, 2011, at the Tropicana Express Hotel/Casino. Planning is underway and nomination forms are ready for release on February 10, 2011. Staff from both Chambers of Commerce developed an event timeline and assumed responsibilities for this year's celebration.

Today In America. The *Today In America* television program camera crew will be in Laughlin on March 28, 2011, for the production shoot to begin at 8:00 AM with interviews and progress throughout the day. If you are interested in participating as a business person in a meeting or a staged "around town" event, please let either **Connie Davis** or **Janet Barela** know at 298-2214.

Press Release. The Chamber of Commerce has enlisted the economic development professional, **Al Balloqui**, to lead Laughlin development initiatives. After years of participation in economic development efforts in Laughlin, the Chamber is fortunate to have found the right professional to lead Laughlin into a new development arena. **Mr. Balloqui** comes to the Chamber with a high recommendation from one of our most trusted economic development partners at Cooperative Extension, **Buddy Borden**. **Mr. Balloqui** brings numerous years of hands on diverse experience in various areas of economic development. Not only does he bring extensive work history and accomplishments, his experience with local, state, and federal government entities in the economic development arena are broad and will prove invaluable in his work for the community. Success in other cities is exactly what **Mr. Balloqui** plans to accomplish for Laughlin. **Mr. Balloqui** will attend the February 10, 2011 Chamber Mixer 5:30 PM, in the Starview Room at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort/Casino.

Michael Bekoff asked about the *Today In America* program being filmed, and **Janet Barela** responded that Laughlin has been selected to be featured on *Today In America* in a five-minute segment narrated by **Terry Bradshaw**. The program will be aired on CNN and nineteen other markets, including Fox Business News. During economic development research, Laughlin stood out in economic development pursuits. The benefit of the segment, in addition to having the national and regional showings, is that we will own and be given the rights to the five-minute segment so it can be posted on websites and used for economic development and marketing. It has taken months to develop the script for the segment

H. Laughlin Tourism Commission: **Jena Morga, Executive Director**
No report.

I. Laughlin Library: **Karen Lassen, Branch Manager**
No report.

J. Bennett Elementary School: **Dawn Estes, Principal**
No report.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. **Community Development** **Janet Barela, Co-Chair**

The next meeting of the Community Development Committee will be February 23, 2011, 3:00 PM, Laughlin Regional Government Center.

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

No Parks & Recreation Committee meetings in January 2011. The dog run project contract, however, has been awarded and construction should be starting soon.

The next meeting will be February 23, 2011, 3:30 PM, Laughlin Regional Government Center.

C./D. **Public Safety** **Candice FitzGerald, Co-Chair**
Public Works: **Michael Bekoff, Co-Chair**

Public Safety. **Candice FitzGerald** reported.

The Public Safety and Public Works Committees met on January 18, 2011, and we have pretty much covered what we discussed in that meeting with the separating of the committees.

Public Works. **Fred Doten** reported.

The Public Safety and Public Works Committee met on January 18, 2011. **Mr. Doten** recommends that the February 15, 2011, meeting of the committees be a combined meeting to come up with goals, etc. At the last meeting only two agenda items were covered because a quorum was lost before the end of the meeting. Separating the committees and establishing goals were agenda items that were not discussed.

The next meeting will be February 15, 2011, 10:00 AM, Laughlin Regional Government Center.

E. **Social Services:** **Rosemary Munger, Co-Chair**

The Social Services Committee met on January 13, 2011, and the members discussed a tour of the Colorado River Food Bank taken on December 9, 2010. Comments were made about food from Nevada going to Arizona, and the Colorado River Food Bank clarified that all food is divided within the bank and designated for either Nevada or Arizona depending upon

which state funded the purchase of the food. The meeting was then adjourned and the members attended the Mental Health Planning Board meeting. The grant writer, **Roger Mobry**, was there and went into an in depth discussion about what the needs of Laughlin are. The Laughlin Junior/Senior High School Principal was also in attendance and expressed concerns about the emotional problems of the children.

The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be February 10, 2011, 8:30 AM at the Laughlin Regional Government Center.

9. COMMUNITY INPUT/PUBLIC COMMENTS (No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken).

Document(s) Submitted: None.

Speaker(s) Present: 1. **Debbie Marcusson**, 55 Civic Way, Laughlin, NV.

1. University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: **Debbie Marcusson, Extension Educator**

Funding. According to the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, the Laughlin program should continue to be funded because Laughlin is rural, the program is brand new, and **Ms. Marcusson** is needed here. No additional staff, however, will be funded and that will be challenging for **Ms. Marcusson** in the coming year.

Needs Assessment Community Survey. The Needs Assessment Community Survey has been completed, packaged and mailed to all 5,888 residents. There were some postage issues, so the survey should be mailed out by the end of this week. Surveys are also available at the Laughlin Regional Government Center, Spirit Mountain Activity Center, and the Laughlin Library. Community meetings will also be held in February on the 14, 2011, at the Library 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM and February 18, 2011, at the Laughlin Regional Government Center 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM if anyone has questions or would like to complete a survey and turn it in.

Community Garden. **Ms. Marcusson** met with the head of the Clark County Parks & Recreation Department and has preliminary approval to use one-quarter acre in the southwest corner of the Spirit Mountain Activity Center Park for a Community Garden. The water for the garden is still undecided, but it is hoped that Clark County will gift the water for the project. A grant is being written to get the Community Garden built and get funding for the first year, then the garden should be able to sustain itself, except for the water issue, after that. **Ms. Marcusson** is also looking for a local contractor to build the park.

Janet Barela asked if **Ms. Marcusson** would consider attending the Community Development Committee every month. **Ms. Marcusson** stated she will be unable to attend the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting on February 23, 2011, due to her being gone for a week for training, but she would like to attend both committee meetings in the future.

10. NEXT POSSIBLE MEETING DATE: The next possible meeting date is Tuesday, February 22,

2011, and the next regular meeting is Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at 1:30 P.M., Regional Government Center, 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada. Agenda items due no later than February 16, 2011, and March 2, 2011, respectively.

11. ADJOURNMENT: **Janet Barela** declared the meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.

These meeting minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the March 8, 2011 meeting. Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the meeting minutes of the April 12, 2011 meeting.