



MOUNTAIN SPRINGS CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 15, 2012
7:00 p.m.

MOUNTAIN SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT
State Highway 160
Mountain Springs, NV 89161

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Berg, Chair
Bob Monaco, Vice-Chair
Paul Whissel
Tanya Harrah
Carol Hignite, Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Draper

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. This meeting was legally noticed and posted in conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.
- B. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. by Berg. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. The Council welcomed LVMPD Officers Hoffman and Bicsanszky, BLM Ranger Ryan Pall, James Caviola (CA Group, Inc.), Paul Doerr (Clark County Dept. of Comprehensive Planning), and Ed Byrge (Optica Network Technologies).
- B. The August 15, 2012 agenda was unanimously approved, with changes to switch the order of V. A. and B. Motion by Berg; second by Monaco.
- C. The Draft meeting minutes for July 11, 2012 were unanimously approved and are now in final form. Motion by Harrah; second by Monaco.

III. PLANNING AND ZONING

None

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SUSAN BRAGER, Chair – STEVE SISOLAK, Vice Chair
LAWRENCE L. BROWN, III – TOM COLLINS – LAWRENCE WEEKLY – CHRIS GIUNCHIGLIANI – MARY BETH SCOW
DONALD G. BURNETTE, County Manager

Meeting Location: Mountain Springs Fire Station State Route 160 Mountain Springs, NV 89161

V. COMMUNITY CONCERNS

B. Paul Doerr, Senior Planner, Clark County Department of Comprehensive Planning, was present to let us know that the NW Land Use Plan, with updated maps, will be presented at an open house at the Blue Diamond Quonset Hut, sometime in October 2012. No changes affecting Mountain Springs were noted, but schools and places of worship will be rezoned from Public Areas to Institutional Categories. Notifications will not be mailed out to residents, but will be posted at all the designated county posting locations.

A. James Caviola, of the CA Group, Inc., was present to discuss the preliminary engineering and environmental assessment process of the upcoming SR160 Road Widening Project. Biologists have already come out and assessed the endangered species situation and will produce documents by spring of 2013. The federal government will produce the findings results by June, 2013. Tanya questioned whether the findings assessed now will even be valid by the estimated start of this project, 2017. James said that the findings would not likely change and that the Federal Government could possibly come up with a stimulus package that would expedite the project. The final decision on which design to go with was a hybrid of the alternatives, in hopes of appeasing both the residents and through traffic. The portion of the new road through Mountain Springs will have a design speed of 55 mph. NDOT can post the speed limit at the design speed or up to 15 mph below, although there is no specific policy, they usually post speed limits at 10 mph lower than the design speed. Pinon and Benedict, north side of SR160, will be combined to one entrance/exit access road. There will be left turn pockets with 6" curbs implemented in the road widening design. USPS is open to the option of placing mail clusters on either side of the highway and CCSD is open to picking up children on the south side of SR160, if needed. After a lengthy discussion with the community's expressed concern over the reduction of the speed limit, the main summary on the road widening project is as follows:

- They are going to review various turning radius' to accommodate horse trailers, hay transportation vehicles, and such
- Add another turn intersection at the input of the main mail boxes, school bus zone and MSVFD
- Consider various Helipad options
- Consider NDOT snow removal issues
- Submit rubberized pavement request
- Retaining wall and excavation on the hillside, south side of SR160, across from the saloon

Meggan spoke directly to Kent Sears, NDOT, and was told that the speed limit along the Mountain Springs Pass would not be lowered. They will abide by the safest speed allowed on the roadway, yet decreasing that speed by as much as 15mph is allowed. The concession from NDOT would be the ability to post signage at the entrance of the community stating something to the fact of *Welcome You are Now Entering the Mountain Springs Community*.

Monaco asked if the community could go to legislature to reduce the speed limit up here and Meggan said she would check on that.

B. Ed Byrge, Right of Way Agent for Optica Network Technologies, was present to discuss their involvement in rural Nevada hospitals and their intention of installing fiber optic cables along the currently existing Valley Electric transmission lines. This will not impede our community and will be installed with existing electrical lines. Completion estimated by 2013.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Request from the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, for representative nominees for the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC). This is a yearly appointment and deadline to apply is August 30, 2012. Terms start October/November 2012 and end February 2013.

Bob Monaco expressed an interest in applying for this committee and Carol stated she would get him the appropriate information and application.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Officer Hoffman presented the statistics from the finding on the speed limit flashing board that has been up at the fire station. First week results indicated 16,682 motor vehicles passed by and 85% were at 60 mph or less with the average speed being 54 mph. The lowest speed vehicle passed at 24 mph and the fastest vehicle passed at 87 mph. These results were for the week of 7/23-7/30 and peak travel time was 6-8 pm. Additional results will be presented when findings are made available.

VIII. REPORTS BY STAFF

Rural Towns Liaison, Meggan Holzer

- A. As a follow up to last month's meeting on lowering the speed limit along the Spring Mountain pass, Meggan said that the County cannot impede road work, only NDOT.
- B. And as to the question on how many children up here use the school bus; CCUSD statistics indicate that there are currently 6 students living up here that take the bus.
- C. Last month Paul Whissel asked about the status on trapping in the SMNRA and Meggan stated that she will be scheduling a meeting with either the president or vice-president of the NV Trappers Association so that she can get a clear understanding of this issue.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

LVMPD Officer Bicsanszky was asked his opinion on the speed limit and other issues pertaining to the road widening discussion at tonight's meeting. His general thoughts were that if the community were to create a more defined community setting to the passerby, such as signage upon entering Mountain Springs Community with population and elevation stats, drivers might take notice and slow down. He also agreed that raised curbs (however slight), reflective strips, and such other means of making our community more visible, do indeed reduce automobile accidents.

Meggan asked the board members if they felt any different after hearing Officer Bicsanszky's thoughts and most agreed that it did make sense.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
Mountain Springs Volunteer Fire Department

XI. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:08 p.m.