

THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOVELOCK MET IN A JOINT SESSION WITH THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF PERSHING AND THE HONORABLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PERSHING COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ROOM ON JANUARY 31, 2019 AT 5:00 P.M.

Present for City of Lovelock:	Mayor	Mike Giles
	Council members	Dan Murphy Pat Rowe Starlin Gentry
	City Clerk	Lisa Booth
	Legal Counsel	Kent Maher
Present for Pershing County:	Chairman	Larry Rackley
	Commissioners	Robert McDougal Carol Shank
	District Attorney	Bryce Shields
Present for School District:	Chairman	Walter Brinkerhoff
	Board members	Joe Crim Cindy Plummer James Evans Michael Mancebo
	Superintendent	Russell Fecht

Visitors: Terri Wilcox (City Police Clerk) , Karen Wesner (County Administrative Assistant), Tom Donaldson (former City Council member), Lacey Donaldson (County Clerk), Maury Nelsen (former City Council member), Carol Nelsen, Jim Rowe, Dave Skelton, Rene Childs (County Recorder), Ted Bendure, Sandra Arias, Lori Basso-Cerini (County Assessor), Glenn Rose, Dave Ayoob (former County Commissioner), Shea Murphy, Lisa Clark, Jill Steele, Claire Brown, Cassidie Fuller, Debra Reid (Lovelock Review-Miner), Tammie Montes, Darrell Mancebo (City Police Sergeant), Tom Brooks, Todd Banks, Stephanie Jaramillo, Karen Lerner and Jerry Allen (County Sheriff).

Mayor Giles, Chairman Rackley and Chairman Brinkerhoff called the City, County and School Board meetings to order at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION-CORRESPONDENCE:

There were no comments from the public.

BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION:

After review and consideration of the probable effect that each agenda item for this meeting could have on a “business” as defined by statute, Council member Murphy moved to make a finding that no item on this meeting agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business.

Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner McDougal made and Commissioner Shank seconded the same motion for Pershing County to make a finding that no item on this meeting agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business.

Motion carried unanimously.

////////

PERSHING COUNTY RECREATION BOARD / FUNCTION-OPERATIONS-FUNDING PROPOSALS:

Mayor Giles noted it has been several years since the three entities have met concerning the recreation board. This meeting was called because there appear to have been some changes which have caused concern among some persons.

Giles reminded that the recreation board was set up with annual contributions of one cent (\$0.01) of the city tax rate collected at the county rate and one cent (\$0.01) of the county tax rate (the tax rate contributions amount to approximately \$15,000 for each entity). The school district and the tourism board (formerly known as the fair and recreation board) each contributed \$7,500 annually (a total of \$15,000). Once the initial contributions were collected the funds were held and board operated on a cash only basis.

Councilman Rowe said the school district was involved because most of the recreation programs and events are held on the school premises.

Giles remarked that all the elected officials were in agreement that a recreation board was needed to administer the recreation functions in the community and that all the involved entities would help out. For example, the city has procured and administered grants for the swimming pool maintenance and repair. The recreation board has always taken care of the daily running of the ballfield and pool, with any major items being taken care of by the entity that owns a facility. It is understandable why the recreation board was surprised when they received a bill for \$14,000 in repairs that they knew nothing about.

Superintendent Fecht said even with the combining of the tourism board functions and the recreation board functions, the funds are still separated. The priority is keeping the pool and ballfield operating with room tax proceeds and any funds remaining are designated for tourism. The school district wants to make sure that the \$7,500 they contribute is going toward the recreation functions.

Giles noted that when the recreation board received responsibility for the pool and ballfield there was never a problem with taking on the obligation, the only concern was how to fund the operations.

District Attorney Shields explained that when the recreation board assumed the tourism board functions, the recreation board was an advisory board. The tourism board had operated under NRS chapter 244A, thus when the functions were combined, the recreation board continued as an advisory board.

Councilman Murphy said he has concerns about the recreation board as an advisory board because there are projects the recreation board is trying to put together, but without the ability to expend budgeted funds as needed it is not possible. The recreation board understood that the pool repairs were an emergency but the board didn't know anything about the repairs until the bill was received. The board had no input in the matter.

Shields agreed that communication is a big problem, noting that the bill for the pool repairs was incurred after the pool closed for the season.

School Board member Mancebo questioned why anyone would want to sit on a board that has no voice to be heard.

Commissioner McDougal commented that the commission has approved 99% of the vouchers and expenses of the recreation board. McDougal suggested the recreation board needs to identify what their budget is and what areas, repairs, and capital expenses come out of their budget. The recreation board paid for the restroom at the race tracks as it promotes tourism even though the

race track is operated by a private entity. McDougal said the new restroom and lights at the ballfield which are estimated to cost \$35,000 should be paid out of the county building and grounds budget not the recreation board budget.

Giles noted the recreation board has put money into capital projects, for example, the weight room, but it took a couple of years to get the funding together.

Shields said the tourism funds collected pursuant NRS 244A are to be used only for tourism.

Legal Counsel Maher advised that NRS 244A contemplates use of the funds collected for many recreation functions in addition to the promotion of tourism; the room tax (transient lodging tax) is a city and county imposed tax which was previously collected for the city and county by the tourism board (before it was dissolved). The funds are now collected by the city and transferred to the county for use by the recreation board.

Shields suggested the funds should be used for large capital projects.

Commissioner Shank said the recreation board wants to be independent and not be an advisory board.

Shields noted the recreation board has always had the authority to write checks, and as an advisory board it has more authority than any other county advisory board.

School Board member Evans said former Deputy District Attorney Bullock advised the recreation board they had no authorization over anything. Evans remarked that the school district only contributes \$7,500 and it is returned to the school for programs; it cost the school \$70,000+ to have recreation events at the school. The recreation board doesn't have a voice in anything.

Fecht was a recreation board member for 12 years; when the board voted on a project it was a certainty. As a member now in an advisory board capacity, there is no skin in the game. The board needs to feel their voices are equal, there is a need to keep the events that are in currently place, the board needs to have a budget that the members agree upon, and there is a need to have a choice on what funding goes toward capital outlay and what funding is allocated for repairs.

Commissioner McDougal said he believes the board does have that authority.

County Clerk Donaldson said all three boards (school board, city and county?) should make that decision.

Giles commented there is only one department (county buildings and grounds) that has an issue with everything the recreation board tries to do.

Shank said those problems were taken care of.

Giles reminded that the funds are tax money (room tax) that is being spent. Paying for a prison crew and similar expenses should have been done in-house (by the entity contracting for the services). Communication seems to be the problem.

Murphy commented that most of the persons serving on the recreation board have a responsibility to their respective governing boards, and if there are problems they should be taken back to the respective governing boards.

Fecht acknowledged the contributions to the school district help with school programs, and suggested it is crucial to work together because it is not cheap to host the various events. If the school were closed to those events, the costs (to host them at another venue) would be significant.

No action was taken.

Mayor Giles and Commissioner McDougal thanked everyone for coming.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maury Nelsen questioned why the county did away with a board (the tourism board) that was working under the state law and turned over the functions to a county board (the recreation board).

County Clerk Donaldson commented there were a lot of joint meetings at which the combining of the functions of the two boards (tourism board and recreation board) was discussed. The tourism board experienced frequent difficulties with getting members to sit on the board and most of the time they didn't have the quorum necessary for a meeting.

Nelsen said he believes the tourism board always functioned well, and now it seems that the rules are made up as they go along. Under the state law there are representatives for hotel, motel or business people, which is why the language was changed for small communities.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Michael R. Giles, Mayor

Lisa Booth, City Clerk