



**Board of Mineral County Commissioners**

Hawthorne, Nevada

February 5, 2020

The Honorable Board of Mineral County Commissioners met this day in a regular session with the following people present:

Honorable Chris Hegg	Chairman
Honorable Christine Hoferer	Vice-Chairman
Honorable Christopher Nepper	Clerk-Treasurer
Honorable Sean Rowe	District Attorney

Absent: Honorable Garth Price Member

**1. Pledge of Allegiance and Safety Message**

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Emergency Manager Patrick Hughes

Safety Message was led by Charlie Mann regarding the Coronavirus.

**2. Approval of Agenda/Necessary Changes**

Item 12 to be addressed before item 13; Fire Chief Chris Lawrence evaluation was rescheduled to March 4, 2020; Public Works Director requested that item 10 and 20 be addressed together.

District Attorney Sean Rowe asked Mr. Lawrence if he needed to be served again?

Fire Chief Chris Lawrence advised that he did not need to be served again

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg\_ to approve the discussed agenda changes. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

<b>Ayes:</b>	Commissioner Hoferer Commissioner Hegg
<b>Nays:</b>	None
<b>Abstain:</b>	None
<b>Absent:</b>	Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**3. Accounts Payable Vouchers, Credit Card Approval Form Requests, Capital Outlay Purchase Orders and Auditor's Cash Report by Fund** presented for review, discussion and possible action,

Recorder-Auditors Office presented the vouchers for review.

**4. Reports and Correspondence - None**

**5. Minutes of January 15, 2020 and January 23, 2020 – for review and possible action.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve the Minutes of January 15, 2020 and the minutes of January 23, 2020. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

<b>Ayes:</b>	Commissioner Hoferer Commissioner Hegg
<b>Nays:</b>	None
<b>Abstain:</b>	None
<b>Absent:</b>	Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**6. Larry Grant, Hawthorne Utilities Director – For consideration and possible action relative to**

Board acceptance of the Hawthorne, Mina & Luning Water Conservation Plans.

Hawthorne Utilities Office Manager Ana Fitzgerald advised the plan had been approved in 2016 and is normally due every five years but there had been statute changes to the plan; she read the changes and advised the plan had been approved by the Nevada Division of Water Resources.

Hawthorne Utilities Director Larry Grant stated they usually pay Farr West about \$5,000 for the updates, this time Office Manager Ana Fitzgerald and the Nevada Rural Water Association worked together on the updates and it saved the department about \$4,800.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve the 2019 Water Conservation Plan for Hawthorne Utilities and for Mina / Luning Water as presented. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** Commissioner  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

- 7. **Chris Lawrence, Fire Chief** – For consideration and possible action relative to permission to apply for and accept a grant from the USDA in the total amount of approximately \$96,000 with a grant match of \$46,000 to replace AED’s and for the chairperson to sign all related documents on acceptance of the application and approval of the grant by the USD

Fire Chief Chris Lawrence advised his AED’s were going to be at the end of their life next year; he contacted USDA and they advised that he start the application process; they gave a trade in on four of the AED’s of \$2,500 each; the replacement cost was going to be approximately \$95,597.67.

- 8. For consideration and possible action relative to permission to apply for and accept a grant from the State of Nevada Grant Match Fund in the amount of \$46,000 to replace AED’s and for the chairperson to sign all related documents on acceptance of the application and approval of the grant by the State of Nevada Grant Match Fund.

Commissioner Hoferer advised the new state program for grant matches had already allocated \$800,000 since January; because she thought time was of the essence, she told Mr. Lawrence to go ahead and apply for this grant match.

Fire Chief Chris Lawrence advised he had received notification that they will only match \$25,000; the county has to come up with the remainder of the match of \$20,598; this is contingent upon the USDA grant application.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to allow the Fire Chief Chris Lawrence to apply for the USDA grant of approximately \$96,000 with a match of \$46,000. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

The motion was amended to read

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg

to allow the Fire Chief Chris Lawrence to apply for the USDA grant of approximately \$96,000 with a match of \$46,000 and to have the Chairman sign the needed documents. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to allow Fire Chief Chris Lawrence to apply for the State of Nevada Grant Match Fund not to exceed \$26,000. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

The motion was amended to read

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to allow Fire Chief Chris Lawrence to apply for the State of Nevada Grant Match Fund not to exceed \$26,000 and to have the Chairman sign the needed documents. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

- 9. For consideration and possible action relative to permission to apply for the Walmart Grant to pay for Fire and/or EMS supplies, and for the chairperson to sign all related documents on acceptance of the grant.

Fire Chief Chris Lawrence advised the amount you could apply for was \$250 to \$5,000; he wanted to apply for this grant for Fire prevention and Public Education.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve Fire Chief Chris Lawrence to apply for the Walmart Grant and to have the Chairman sign the needed documents. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Commissioner Hoferer advised amending the previous motions to have the chairman able to sign the needed documents.

10. **Eric Hamrey, Public Works Director** – For consideration and possible action relative to Mineral County accepting flag donations.

It was requested that items 10 and 21 be addressed together.

Mr. Hamrey advised this donation was given contingent upon the lights being taken care of, he was going to change the lights to LED's; he wanted to recognize Margaret Cavin for the donation and he would like to advertise for more flag donations.

Recorder-Auditor Cindy Nixon advised the check had been received and put into miscellaneous revenue.

Commissioner Hoferer advised having a fund set up for flag donations and to advertise on the county website for flag donations.

11. **Ana Fitzgerald, Hawthorne Utilities** – For consideration and possible action relative to Hawthorne Utilities participating in the Summer Youth Internship Program from July – August for five weeks.

Mr. Fitzgerald introduced Molly McGregor with the Youth Program and Hawthorne Utilities Clerk Kylie Berginnis. Ms. Berginnis had a shadow student and that student was going to apply for the internship.

Ms. McGregor provided the Board with information on the Youth Program.

Commissioner Hoferer asked if it was available for other County Departments.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve Hawthorne Utilities to participate in the Summer Youth Internship Program from July – August for five weeks. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

<b>Ayes:</b>	Commissioner Hoferer Commissioner Hegg
<b>Nays:</b>	None
<b>Abstain:</b>	None
<b>Absent:</b>	Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Commissioner Hoferer requested to bring back before the Board with a note for broad approval.

12. **Brenda Jones, Dolores Gallegos and Gloria Lopez** – For consideration and possible action relative to use of the USO Building for Armed Forces Activities.

Ms. Jones, Ms. Lopes and Ms. Gallegos requested the use of the Convention Center on May 2, and May 8 for the Armed Forces Pageant and Talent Show.

Mr. Mc Neill was requesting they have someone to monitor the Lobby and the aisles.

Commissioner Hegg asked if they had someone to monitor these areas; he advised that Chief Lawrence would have someone there to do a walk through.

Discussion ensued regarding the liability insurance and extra days for rehearsal.

Commissioner Hoferer asked them to provide Mr. McNeill with the additional dates.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve the use of the Convention Center for Armed forces activin which includes the Armed Forces Pageant and Talent Show, the dates to worked out with Mr. McNeill and the Board approved to waive the fees. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Mr. McNeill asked who was going to sign the contract.

Ms. Lopez advised that each would sign their own contract.

Dana Tommila stated that she was under the impression that the person using the center would sign something with Mr. McNeill and they were responsible for the cleanup not the monetary amount.

- 13. Mike McNeill** – For consideration and possible action relative to review, approval and discussion of Mineral County Convention and Tourism policies as it pertains to Mineral County Commissioner with Non-Profit joint use of Convention Center and Marquee.

Mr. McNeill advised that he was bringing this before the Board without the Mineral County Convention and Tourism Authority Board's approval; he does not think that it is clear as to who is going to sign the rental policy and be responsible for the cleanup or insurance as it pertains to the Board of Commissioners with Non-Profit joint use of Convention Center and Marquee.

District Attorney Sean Rowe stated that he thought this had been addressed at the last meeting; the Board of Commissioners would identify who the responsible party was and would communicate to the entity they were partnering their responsibilities. They would communicate this to Mr. McNeill.

Cherrie George asked what is considered a non-profit; what if a non-county just wants to use the marquee.

Mr. Rowe advised the marquee can be used to advertise an event.

The Board advised the county offices are classified at the county but would have to come before the Board.

- 14. Glenn Carns** – For consideration and possible action relative to the Firework display for AFD Celebration Friday night May 15, 2020 at dusk, around 9:00 PM. (Public comment following.)

Mr. Carns advised he was advising the Board they were doing the Firework display using the same vendor they had last year. They will have all the insurance they need and they will get with the Fire Chief.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve the Firework display for the Armed Forces Day Celebration for Friday May 15, 2020 as presented by Glen Carns. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

- 15. Honorable Christopher Nepper** – For consideration and possible action relative to Housing and Community Development Survey.

Mr. Nepper advised this was a web-based survey but was unable to bring the survey up on the laptop; he advised that it was on housing and community needs.

The Board advised sending the survey to the Board and department heads.

16. For consideration and possible action relative to State Beach Agreement Cost.

Public Works Director Eric Hamrey advised the Board there was a State Parks land transfer fee of \$150 and an annual fee for the boat ramp of \$250.

Commissioner Hoferer advised paying the fees out of General Miscellaneous.

17. For consideration and possible action relative to the purchase of Mobile Ballot printer for the 2020 Elections.

Clerk-Treasurer Chris Nepper advised that the purchase of the ballot printer would allow them to print between 500 and 700 ballots for the mail in precincts; the price of having the ballots printed was 15 and 1700 to have them printed and mailed. The cost of the paper was \$120 for 1000 sheets; the savings would be about \$4,500 a year; the price of the printer was \$5,285 with a yearly license of \$450; he has money in his election budget but he may have to come back to the Board to ask for help for the primary election.

Commissioner Hoferer asked District Attorney Sean Rowe if he had looked over the agreement.

Mr. Rowe advised that he had reviewed the previous agreement in its entirety and this had the addition of the printer.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve the Clerk-Treasurer to purchase from Dominion a Mobile Ballot printer for the 2020 election charge to election budget and would review budget at budget time not to exceed \$6,000. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner  
Commissioner  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Commissioner Hoferer asked to add to the motion not to exceed \$6,000.

Richard Niedzwiecki asked about the number of voters and how many ballots it would print.

Clerk-Treasurer Chris Nepper advised him it was only for the mail-in precincts.

District Attorney Sean Rowe advised the oral arguments for the Walker Lake Case was being heard at the Supreme Court on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00AM; he would like the Board to attend.

18. **Honorable Garth Price, Commissioner** – For consideration and possible action relative to waving building permit fees for the High School Football Field Light project.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to waive the Building Permit fee for the High School Football Field Light project. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

19. **Honorable Christine Hoferer, Commissioner** – For consideration and possible action relative to a Proclamation supporting the United States 2020 Census.

Commissioner Hoferer would like to combine 19 and 20.

Commissioner Hoferer advised she was working with a state and federal representative.

Clerk-Treasurer Chris Nepper read a proclamation supporting the United States 2020 Census.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hegg and seconded by Commissioner Hoferer to accept the Proclamation for supporting the United States 2020 Census. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

<b>Ayes:</b>	Commissioner Hegg Commissioner Hoferer
<b>Nays:</b>	None
<b>Abstain:</b>	None
<b>Absent:</b>	Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

She has been working with the State representative and Federal agent. There is going to be Census workers on foot at Walker Lake; she was advised the government would not mail the questionnaire to a P.O. Box; she was still working on how to get the information to the people in Hawthorne.

District Attorney Sean Rowe asked if the process was to send out a postcard directing them to go on line and if they are not responsive, they will send a paper form.

Commissioner Hoferer advised that this was their plan.

Put back on the agenda in two weeks.

20. For consideration and possible action relative to an update from the County Commissioners on the 2020 Census.

This item was addressed with item 19.

21. **Honorable Board of County Commissioners** – For consideration and possible action relative to the electrical needs/maintenance/upkeep for the lighting of the “Big Flag” at the Veterans Memorial park.

Item was addressed with item 10.

22. For consideration and possible action relative to adopting an official response to the Navy’s final Environmental Impact Statement for the Fallon NAS expansion.

District Attorney Sean Rowe advised the Navy released their EIS for the Fallon NAS expansion; it does impact Mineral County by encumbering nearly 4% of the public lands and withdrawing them for the Fallon Naval Station; there is a thirty-day waiting period for comments before they can do anything. In the NEPA process they have to propose multiple alternatives, release a draft describing the alternatives; invite comments and continue to hold meetings; the county submitted comments and Commissioner Price, District Attorney Sean Rowe and Planning Commission Chairman Mark Nixon have been attending these meetings. Mr. Rowe provided the Board with the proposed three alternatives. Alternative one and two would close Rawhide; restrict Ormat; grazing rights and mineral rights. Alternative three which is The Navy’s preferred alternative encompasses Gabbs Valley; SR 361 and a portion of Mineral County and would impact geothermal, mining and grazing. He has been working on a response.

Mr. Nixon advised the response needed to be in by February 10, 2020.

Commissioner Hoferer wanted to see the draft of the response.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to authorize District Attorney Sean Rowe to continue adopting an official response to the Navy Environmental Impact Statement for the Fallon NAS Expansion, for the chairman to sign and to provide the Board with a copy of the response. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

- 23. Closed Session** – Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 241.015(2)(b)(2) to receive information from legal counsel relative to potential or threatened litigation against Mineral County.

None

- 24. Open Session** – Discussion and possible action relative to existing/pending litigation involving potential or threatened litigation against Mineral County.

None

#### **TIME SPECIFIC ITEMS:**

- 10:00 AM Public Hearing** – For consideration and possible action relative to proposed rate increases for Hawthorne Water System, Sewer Operations, Garbage Department and the Mina/Luning Water Systems.

Hawthorne Utilities Ana Fitzgerald provided a power point presentation for the budget and rate increases for the Hawthorne Water System, Sewer Operations, Garbage Department and the Mina/Luning Water System. They were proposing a 1% increase for the Mina/Luning and Hawthorne Water System and 5cent increase per year for Sewer Operations and Garbage Department.

Ms. Fitzgerald advised the Nevada Rural Water Association said the rates for the Hawthorne Water System was too low to be able to apply for a loan; she was waiting to find out what their recommendation for the rates; she will provide the information to the Board.

- 11:00 AM Kevin Monaghan, LP Insurance** – For consideration and possible action relative to health Insurance projections for 2020-2021.

Kevin Monaghan with LP Insurance provided the Board with an update on the claim experience for this year; he advised that the claims had more than doubled since this time last year; for budget purposes a conservative estimate might be a 15% increase.

Commissioner Hoferer advised that she thinks that there should be some credit for the years that there was a decrease and that she was not happy that they took away the Health Fair; they will make adjustments at budget time if needed.

- Immediately Following Eric Hamrey, Public Works Director** – For consideration and possible action relative to fuel tank removal at Hawthorne Industrial Airport. Proposal for removal of fuel tanks from Bramco Construction.

Mr. Hamrey advised

Chris Knox and Allison Thomas from Armstrong Consulting advised the fuel tank removal project had been on the books for about 10 years; last year Hawthorne was approved 100% for the Grant match. They submitted this plan to FAA and the grant could not be used for the removal of the tanks. They have to move the taxi way for find a way to remove the tanks for \$35,000.



Mr. Hamrey advised he had \$10,000 that had previously been budgeted for the YCAC Roof.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve to move forward with the tank removal at the airport with the cost not to exceed

\$35,000, currently \$10,000 allocated for the YCAC roof to be used for this project and to have further discussion in March. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**1:30 PM Sheryl Gonzales** – For consideration and possible action relative to Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) – 2020 Rewrite Update and request for Mineral County Input and Projects.

Ms. Gonzales provided a power point presentation with information and updates on WNDD. Instead of a list of projects it required to fill out a form with the name of the project, description, location, potential cost and how it fits the criteria. The projects needed to be in by February 28, 2020

Commissioner Hegg advised that he sent the applications for the managers.

Place back on the agenda for the nineteenth.

**2:30 PM Cherrie George, Senior Services Director** – For consideration and possible action relative to Mineral County Senior Services Program (MCSS): (Public comment full

1. Acceptance of Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) FY 2019 Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP) supplemental award of \$2,176 (Document signed 1/16/20)

Ms. George advised this was a forgiveness item, she had Commissioner Hegg sign; it was

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) FY 2019 Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP) supplemental award of \$2,176 as presented by the Senior Services Director. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

2. Status of vehicles, facility, equipment, and grant reporting/funding.

Ms. George advised that one of their vehicles was in an accident, the insurance company was going to repair but she does not know when; so, they are down to one vehicle for the meals on wheels for the Seniors.

Commissioner Hoferer asked what the Insurance hold up was since the accident was in December.

Ms. George advised that it was a non- controlled intersection so the claim had to go to Pool Pact. Their newest vehicle at the center is 2007 and the oldest is 2001, the vehicles are starting

to have maintenance problems; they had a bus in the shop; they have a vehicle that they have to use and the speedometer and the fuel gage doesn't work. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Hoferer advised working with the state of Nevada; they would have to take one vehicle at a time because there was no money to buy a vehicle; she advised looking at a lease program.

Ms. George advised the facility and equipment was fine; the state had made changes on Grant funding and reporting; one of the issues was the accounting switch in the County, she has been working with Tammy and Hillary and she was getting what she needed to do the reporting.

3. Wage increases for hourly employees to align with the classified employees wage schedule (approval necessary for accurate preparation and submission of grant applications.)

Ms. George advised that she got the local 39 wage schedule from the Records Office; she thinks it's time to change this, it is very hard to hire paying minimum wage; she would like to raise in line with the classified Local 39 schedule; she needs a decision so she can apply for grant funding and so she can do an accurate budget. There are two people that are not covered under grants.

Commissioner Hoferer advised she would like to see a list with the position, entry wages and what she was proposing for the hourly wage.

Ms. George advised that she needed to submit her grants on February 17, 2020 and the Board meets on the 19<sup>th</sup>; she advised she was going to submit her grants with the higher rates and then she will submit the list to the Board on the meeting on March 19, 2020.

4. Approval to apply for grant match funds from the Nevada Grant Matching Fund (GMF) Pilot Program.

Ms. George advised no need to address.

5. Approval to apply for multiple Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) FY21 grants to provide transportation and senior assistance services.

Ms. George advised the State has changed the way they are allocating grant funding; they are allotting so much to each county; they will not fund more than \$85,168 for the transportation program in Mineral County. They visit the centers and talk to the Seniors and they are funding by the need. This year she is going to put in for \$85,168 but it may be reduced because of the amount that RSVP receives. The Case Management program that provides Medicare assistance was going to be two roles now; it will be a Case Management grant and a Medicare Assistance grant; she is probable going to apply for the Case Management grant; The state is trying to have the county provide their own services in house.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve Senior Services Director Cherrie George to apply for the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) FY21 grants and to have the Chairman or Vice Chairman sign.

A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

<b>Ayes:</b>	Commissioner Hoferer Commissioner Hegg
<b>Nays:</b>	None
<b>Abstain:</b>	None
<b>Absent:</b>	Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Ms. George advised that there is a section that the county's Financial Officer would need to fill out.

6. Consideration of applying for a William N. Pennington Foundation grant for the MCSS program.

Ms. George advised that she was not going to apply for this grant at this time. The grant requirement is to be non-profit with a 501C-3.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to approve Senior Services Director Cherrie George to apply for the William and Penning Foundation grant as her schedule allows.

A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

Mike McNeill wanted to comment on item 3 regarding everyone being treated equally in the county; he has not been given a pay increase in several years and has been lobbying to receive retro pay to back July 1.

**Immediately Following** For consideration and possible action relative to Mineral County Senior Services Program (MCSS):

Ms. George stated that she received a phone call from a Cooperative Extension Coordinator in Las Vegas asking for a letter of support for them to apply for an ADSD Grant to provide services to the Seniors in Esmerelda; then she asked if she would be interested in providing services in Esmerelda County. She sent a draft letter of support for the Esmerelda County Commissioners and attended their meeting.

1. Results of meeting with Esmerelda Board of County Commissioners held on February 4, 2020 to discuss potential partnership and letter of support required to provide Medicare Assistance and/or Case Management services to seniors residing in Esmeralda County.

The Board was all for it and was going to commit up to \$6,000 grant match for services to be provided in Goldfield, Dyer, Fish Lake Valley and Silver Peak. She was going to write the grant and if they are awarded the grant and then the two District Attorneys would do a formal MOU.

Commissioner Hoferer was great that they were partnering together. She asked Ms. George to provide the other two Board members with a copy of the draft letter.

Ms. George advised she would put in for a part time advocate in Hawthorne while the other advocate who is Medicare certified does the traveling.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to authorize the Senior Services Director to apply for a grant to provide Senior Services to Esmerelda County with the required grant match to be provided by Esmeralda County. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

2. As necessary – approval to apply for additional funding/grants to provide such services with required match to be provided by Esmeralda County.

**3:30 PM Honorable Board of Commissioners** – For consideration and possible action relative to conducting the annual Performance Evaluation of Chris Lawrence, Mineral County Fire Chief, including, but not limited to possible promotion, endorsement engagement, retention, termination, suspension, demotion, and reduction in pay, reprimand or “no action.”

Item was rescheduled to March 4, 2020.

**5:30 PM Public Hearing** – For consideration and possible action relative to proposed rate increases for Hawthorne Water System, Sewer Operations, Garbage Department and the Mina/Luning Water Systems.

No public attended.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to adopt Resolution 20-001 for the Mina/Luning Water System which indicates a 1% rate increase effective July 1, 2020 as read into the record. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to adopt Resolution 20-002 Hawthorne Water System indicating a 1% rate increase effective July 1, 2020 as read into the record. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to adopt Resolution 20-003 for the Hawthorne Wastewater System indicating a 5-cent rate increase effective July 1, 2020 as read into the record. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Commissioner Hoferer and seconded by Commissioner Hegg to adopt Resolution 20-004 for the Garbage Department indicating a 5-cent rate

increase effective July 1, 2020 as read into the record. A vote of the Board disclosed the following:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Hoferer  
 Commissioner Hegg  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Price

Motion carried and so ordered

Public Comment: None

**Board of Highway Commissioners - None**

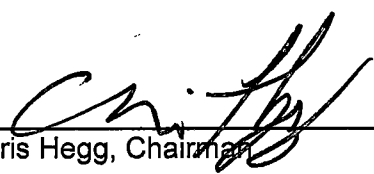
**Public Comment:** Library Director Courtney Oberhansli was representing the Library Board of Trustees to advise the Board that there were working on issues that had caused damage to the Library. They would be changing the landscaping around the library. Public Works would be removing Roses around the Library but it would not affect the Rose Garden.

**Commissioner Recognition -** Commissioner Hoferer asked if Commissioner Price changed his phone number because he was not getting her phone calls. Hawthorne Utilities Director gave her a new number. She had been trying to get hold of him to set the dates for budget week. She will contact him and then provide the information to the Recorders Office for the dates.

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting of the Board adjourned until Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 9:00 AM.

A verbatim recording of this meeting has been prepared and by reference becomes a part thereof.

**Approved: Board of County Commissioners**

By:   
 Chris Hegg, Chairman

Date: March 4, 2020

**Attest:**

  
 Christopher Nepper, Clerk of the Board

Mineral County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).