

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF NEVADA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUMMARY MINUTES, JANUARY 25, 2017

Workshop held at The Foothills Event Center, 400 Idaho Maryland Road, Grass Valley, CA

ADJOURNED SPECIAL MEETING: 8:30 A.M.

WORKSHOP: No formal action will be taken by the Board of Supervisors; only direction to staff. Any action items will be agendaized for a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

STANDING ORDERS:

Chairman Weston called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The following Supervisors present:

Heidi Hall, 1st District
Ed Scofield, 2nd District
Dan Miller, 3rd District
Hank Weston, 4th District
Richard Anderson, 5th District

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Weston.

Richard A. Haffey, County Executive Officer

I. Introductions.

Mr. Richard Haffey, County Executive Officer, reviewed the Workshop schedule, and explained that items on the agenda had been identified as topics of interest to the Board members, and would provide direction to staff for the upcoming year. He added that prior to the end of the workshop there would be an opportunity for the Board members to discuss additional items they would like to be considered as a priority for 2017.

Ms. Lori Burkart Frank, Facilitator, provided announcements. She reviewed the flow of the agenda and the Board formulated guidelines and expectations for the next two days.

II. Review of Board Process.

- Order and Decorum

The Board reviewed the Order and decorum of Board Business for 2016.

Ms. Alison Barratt-Green, County Counsel reviewed proposed revisions to Resolution 13-050, the Board's current public comment policy, which provides for a specific amount of time allowed for public comment. The amount of time per individual remains at 3 minutes; the revision allows the Chair to limit the amount of time set aside for public comment and standardizes the time period to be consistent for matters on the agenda, matters not on the agenda, and public hearings, to a total of 15 minutes. She stressed that the proposed changes would provide for consistency during all public comment opportunities.

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Board discussion ensued. The Board came to a consensus to update the Order and Decorum as suggested by Counsel.

- Role of the Chair and Vice Chair

No changes or discussion necessary at this time.

- Vision, Mission and Value Statements Review.

No changes or discussion necessary at this time.

- Core Service Definition Review

No changes or discussion necessary at this time.

- Brown Act

Ms. Alison Barratt-Green, County Counsel, reported on a case that is currently in front of the State Superior Court regarding public officials using their private cell phones for work-related business. Ms. Barratt-Green encouraged Board members to use their official county phones and computers for all County-related emails, and stressed the importance of using County devices for all official County business.

Ms. Barratt-Green cautioned the Board about serial meetings, and suggested that one-way communication between a department head and a board member allows information to be distributed to each Board member, as long as they do not share what was discussed with the other members. When meeting with members of the public that are planning to speak with other Board members, be careful that the meeting cannot be perceived as participating in a serial meeting. She stressed the importance of protecting yourself against even the appearance of a Brown Act violation, and clarified that it is the Board members' responsibility to obey the Brown Act, not the public's responsibility.

Ms. Barratt-Green spoke to the importance of providing the public due process, and advised the Board members to avoid engaging in discussions regarding items outside of a public hearing. If Board members take in information outside of a public hearing, this action does not provide due process for the public. For potential land use projects, it can be useful to visit the site. She suggested visiting with a staff member, rather than with the project proponent or opponent, and to be careful about expressing personal opinions on a project prior to the hearing.

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

Supervisor Scofield suggested the need for clarification regarding members of the public directing their questions and comments to the Board rather than to staff or the audience. Supervisor Anderson noted that the Board's Order & Decorum, Section 8, does provide that direction.

8. REQUEST FOR INPUT OR DIALOGUE

Requests by Board members during a meeting for the opportunity to speak, for public input, or for additional staff input, should be made through the Chair.

Chairman Weston suggested the language be updated to direct speakers to direct their comments to the Chairman of the Board, rather than to staff.

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Supervisor Hall's understanding was that members of the public do not have to provide their names or addresses. Although the Board can encourage it, members of the public cannot be required to provide the information in order to make public comment. It was suggested that the language be clarified to encourage speakers to provide their name and address rather than require it.

- Serving on Boards and Commissions

Ms. Alison Barratt-Green, County Counsel, advised the Board that the Brown Act also applies to Committee members and Commissioners. She clarified that it is fine for Board members to express concerns to their own Planning Commissioner; however, they should not be directed on how to vote on any particular item.

III. Review of 2016 Board Objectives.

Ms. Alison Lehman, Alison Lehman provided an overview of the Board's 2016 Objectives, and the Board completed an initial poll of their priorities for 2017. Ms. Lori Burkhart Frank, Facilitator, clarified that the Board would have an additional opportunity to review their 2017 Priorities prior to the end of the Workshop.

Board discussion ensued.

IV. Financial Update and Fiscal Report.

Mr. Martin Polt, Deputy County Executive Officer/Chief Fiscal Officer, presented the financial update for Nevada County through a PowerPoint presentation. He reviewed the County's current position, and provided a review of the Fiscal Year 2016/17 budget. Mr. Polt presented the upcoming year's fiscal challenges and provided recommendations for the 2017/18 budget plan.

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

V. Presentation by the Public Health Officer on Public Health Trends.

Dr. Kenneth Cutler, Public Health Officer, provided a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Opioids and the Community Health Perspective."

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

VI. Housing Issues.

Housing First/Homeless Intervention

Mr. Michael Heggarty, Health and Human Services Agency Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding homelessness in Nevada County. He reviewed the reasons people become homeless, including: being in a position of chronic stress that causes brain chemistry to be altered; the results of being in a perpetual fight or flight mode; mental illness disorders; impaired decision-making; substance abuse; and other disabilities. Mr. Heggarty spoke to the need for additional affordable housing throughout the State of California.

Mr. Heggarty reported that according to the 2015 point-in-time count, Nevada County's homeless population is approximately 279, although the actual number may be twice as high. He stressed that

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many of Nevada County's homeless grew up here or have family here. Mr. Heggarty spoke to the importance of providing housing first, and then looking to provide other necessary services after the individual is no longer homeless.

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

Staff was directed to work together to come up with a recommendation focusing on housing and short-term 24 hour/7 days per week housing opportunities. Mr. Richard Haffey, County Executive Officer, agreed to reword existing objectives, and would bring the language back the following day of the Workshop for the Board's review and potential inclusion in their 2017 Objectives.

Regional Housing Authority of Sutter and Nevada Counties

Mr. Gustavo Beccera, Executive Director, Regional Housing Authority of Sutter and Nevada Counties, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the services and programs his organization provides to Nevada County, including: Housing Choice Vouchers Federally Funded Section 8 Program, providing 1,644 Housing Choice Vouchers in four counties (Sutter, Nevada, Yuba, and Colusa); HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing, providing 21 vouchers in Nevada County; Trio Program, which allows for the lease of a home with the option to buy; and Affordable Housing Development, which develops and provides quality and affordable housing to the public.

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

Nevada County Sphere of Influence Policy Review

Discussion regarding Nevada County's Sphere of Influence Policy was postponed to the following day of the Workshop, Thursday, January 26, 2017.

Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)

Mr. Brian Foss, Planning Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). He reviewed background information regarding the County's RHNA, explaining that the purpose of RHNA is to quantify an objective housing goal, demonstrating that the County provides proper zoning and density that provides for inventory to accommodate very-low and low income category sites (16 units per acre).

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

Panel Discussion.

Mr. Michael Heggarty, Health and Human Services Agency Director, Mr. Gustavo Beccera, Executive Director, Regional Housing Authority of Sutter and Nevada Counties, and Mr. Brian Foss, Planning Director, participated in a panel discussion and responded to Board questioning.

VII. Legislative Update.

Ms. Karen Lange, Peterson Consulting, County Legislative Advocate, reviewed some of the items going through the legislature that may affect Nevada County.

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

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VIII. Recap.

Ms. Lori Burkart-Frank, Facilitator, reviewed the items discussed by the Board members throughout the first day of the Workshop.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Weston adjourned the meeting to Thursday, January 26, 2017, 8:30 a.m. at The Foothills Event Center, 400 Idaho Maryland Road, Grass Valley, CA.

Hank Weston, Chairman

ATTEST:

By: Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board

DRAFT