

COUNTY OF NEVADA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Supervisor Heidi Hall, District I

Chair Ed Scofield, District II

Supervisor Lisa Swarthout, District III

Supervisor Susan Hoek, District IV

Vice-Chair Hardy Bullock, District V

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board

Alison Lehman, County Executive Officer

Katharine L. Elliott, County Counsel



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 200

Nevada City, CA 95959-8617

(530) 265-1480

Fax: (530) 265-9836

bdofsupervisors@nevadacountyca.gov

SUMMARY MINUTES

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, January 26, 2023	9:00 AM	Gold Miners Inn Ballroom 121 Bank Street Grass Valley, California 95945

CONTINUED SPECIAL MEETING 9:00 A.M.

BOARD WORKSHOP: Estimated 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Rollcall. The following Supervisors present:

Heidi Hall, 1st District

Ed Scofield, 2nd District

Lisa Swarthout, 3rd District

Sue Hoek, 4th District

Hardy Bullock, 5th District

STANDING ORDERS:

Chair Scofield called the second day of the three-day special meeting back into order

9. [SR 23-0134](#) Welcome and Review

ACTION TAKEN: Facilitator Lori Burkhart Frank reviewed the agenda for the day, and Supervisor Bullock requested additional time be set aside for Board questioning and discussion during each topic.

County Executive Officer: Alison Lehman

10. [SR 23-0123](#) Legislative Advocacy

ACTION TAKEN: Jeffrey Thorsby, Senior Management Analyst, and Ariel Lovett, Project Administrator, introduced representatives from the County's legislative advocates: Paragon Government Relations - Joe Krahn, Hasan Sarsour, and Tom Joseph; Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer and Lange - Karen Lange; National Association of Counties - Jonathan Shuffield; California Association of Counties - Catherine Freeman; Rural County Representatives of California - Tracy Rhine; Sierra Business Council - Steve Frisch; and Mountain Counties Water Resources Association - Justin Caporusso. The Panel recapped their efforts throughout 2022 on behalf of Nevada County and reviewed the outlook for 2023.

Board discussion and questioning took place following the updates.

11. [SR 23-0124](#) Economic Development and Cannabis Objectives

ACTION TAKEN: Following the lunch break, the meeting was called back into order. Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director; Kimberly Parker, Economic Development Program Manager; Brian Foss, Planning Director; Ariel Lovett, Project Administrator; and Stephanie Grisby, Design Workshop, provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting their efforts throughout 2022 to address the Board's Economic Development, and Cannabis Objectives and Initiatives.

2023 Economic Development Objective: Promote economic development by emphasizing resiliency and entrepreneurship; retaining and attracting high quality jobs; investing in major infrastructure projects; and working in partnership with our municipalities to support our small business and tourism sectors.

Initiatives: 1) Cultivate economic diversification, sustainability, and equity; 2) Construct infrastructure and further projects and plans to support economic vitality; 3) Support business attraction, retention, and growth; 4) Support potential high growth sector development; and 5) Funding and advocacy.

2022 Cannabis Objective: Maintain and continue to improve the cannabis permitting and enforcement program to promote permitted cannabis activities while implementing additional on-site supply chain license types and tools to mitigate impacts.

For 2023, staff recommended ongoing permitting and ordinance maintenance as needed per the Board's direction. Cannabis permitting has become a Core Service.

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

12. [SR 23-0125](#) Recreation Objective

ACTION TAKEN: Erika Seward, Recreation Senior Administrative Analyst, provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the County's efforts throughout 2022 to address the Board's Recreation Objective and Initiatives.

Objective: Promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community provides and other jurisdictions to enhance recreational access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities, and preserve natural resource assets.

Initiatives: 1) Finalize and approve the Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan; 2) Identify, coordinate and implement strategies to promote health and safety; 3) Collaborate to leverage resources and optimize efforts to enhance recreation access, health and safety, economic development, and resource conservation; 4) Build capacity and provide administrative support for western County organized recreation; 5) Identify funding and act on advocacy priorities to sustain recreation; and 6) Staff and manage collaborative effort to identify immediate high-level projects and promote coordination.

13. [SR 23-0126](#) Broadband Objective

ACTION TAKEN: Steve Monaghan, Information and General Services Agency Director; Kristin York, Sierra Business Council; Patrick Blacklock, President/CEO, Rural County Representatives of California; and Sarah Holyhead, Administrative Analyst, reviewed the Broadband Objective, stressing that Broadband is essential infrastructure and needs to be available and affordable. Although the importance of broadband was identified prior to the COVID outbreak, the pandemic truly identified its importance as a need in rural counties.

2023 Initiatives: 1) Complete the internet service provider 'tool kit' to help facilitate broadband expansion; 2) Manage County-funded grant programs to support local broadband expansion; 3) Implement the County's broadband strategy; 4) Engage and inform the community about County efforts to expand broadband; 5) Seek grant funding and advocate at the State and Federal levels for rural broadband expansion and digital equity; and 6) Establish partnerships to advance and undertake broadband expansion and digital equity projects.

2023 Objective (remains the same as 2022): Equitably expand broadband to support economic development, distance-learning, telework, telemedicine, and general quality of life for all residents by championing the implementation of Nevada County Broadband Strategic Plan policies and last-mile infrastructure projects.

Board questioning and discussion ensued.

14. [SR 23-0127](#) Climate Resilience

ACTION TAKEN: Supervisor Bullock started off the discussion on Climate Resilience. Supervisor Hall saw the issue as a complex topic, and highlighted clear, local level activities that could be implemented to create a positive impact on the County as well as the larger community.

The Panel comprised of Ariel Lovett, Project Administrator, Jeffrey Thorsby, Senior Management Analyst and Steve Frisch, Sierra Business Council, reported on policy strategies to access resource opportunities and funding to strengthen Nevada County's economic resilience, and to safeguard health and safety. Funding that is set aside for climate investment include: \$48 billion dollars in the state budget; and \$47 billion for Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and \$369 billion Inflation Reduction Act funding in the federal budget. As extreme weather events continue to impact the health, safety, economy, and quality of life in Nevada County, now is the time to limit the negative effects of climate change and take advantage of the opportunities provided by a changing climate. Nevada County's policy background aligns the County with state and federal governments, including the General Plan Safety Element (2020); Energy Action Plan (2019); and Local Hazards Mitigation Plan (2017).

Nevada County's current efforts include: Facilities Solar Project; Transit/Transportation ZEV efforts; SB 1383 organic waste efforts; Office of Emergency Services prevention and preparedness; Energy Action Plan Community Workgroup; Recreation and Resilience Master Plan; legislative partnerships; and the Sustainability Summit.

Five Proposed Initiatives: 1) Protect and harden critical infrastructure; 2) Enhance carbon storage and sequestration on natural and working lands; 3) Enhance collaboration to increase community capacity and achieve climate goals; 4) Pursue funding and advocacy opportunities; and 5) Align strategies in coordinated strategic plan.

Climate Resilience Objective:

Safeguard Nevada County's economic durability, environmental integrity and public health and safety by preparing for, adapting to, and mitigating changing climate conditions.

Board discussion ensued and the Panel responded to questioning.

15. [SR 23-0135](#) Board of Supervisors Debrief and Wrap-Up

ACTION TAKEN: Facilitator Burkhardt Frank reviewed the Board's Workshop expectations, reviewed the day's discussions, and reported on upcoming topics for the final day of the Workshop.

ADJOURNMENT:

ACTION TAKEN: Chair Scofield recessed the 3-day special meeting to Friday, January 27, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Signature and Attestation

Edward C. Scofield, Chair

ATTEST:

By:

Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board