

**CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AND
CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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A joint meeting of the Carson City Board of Supervisors and the Carson City School District Board of Trustees was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Mayor Robert Crowell
Supervisor Shelly Aldean, Ward 2
Supervisor Molly Walt, Ward 4

CITY STAFF: Larry Werner, City Manager

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: President Norm Scoggin
Vice President Joanna Wilson
Clerk Steve Reynolds
Member Lynette Conrad
Member Stacie Wilke-McCulloch

SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF: Richard Stokes, Superintendent
Mark Korinek, Operation Services Manager
Rena Cortez, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings is on file in the office of the Carson City School District Superintendent. The Board's agenda materials are on file in the Clerk's Office and available for review during regular business hours.

1 - 3. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - The Special Joint Meeting of the Carson City Board of Supervisors and the Carson City School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:30p.m. by Mayor Crowell. No roll call was taken; however, a quorum of each of the Boards was present. School Board President Norm Scoggin led the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Scoggin thanked the Board of Supervisors for the opportunity to participate in a joint meeting. He noted that both entities serve all Carson City citizens, and the intent of the meeting to share ideas and directions with the possibility of joint collaborations on items of interest.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA - The agenda was adopted as submitted.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION - There was no public comment.

6. CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION BY THE CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES, INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS, AND PROGRAMS REGARDING CARSON CITY - Mayor Crowell passed the gavel to Mayor *Pro Tem* Aldean, as he addressed the respective Boards. Mayor Crowell expressed the belief that if the community pulls together, everyone will be able to get through the current financial storm by utilizing resources, sharing common solutions, and keeping lines of communication open.

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Mayor Crowell provided an overview of the following areas relative to Carson City:

- Balanced Budget. Exhausted Stabilization Fund and used a large portion of the Ending Fund Balance; cut nearly 100 positions over the last three years; operating budget was reduced by 10%; the possibility exists of an additional \$500,000 in property tax revenue should the School Board reduce the ad valorem tax by .4 cents; steps have been taken to reduce the City's operating ad valorem tax by .4 cents. If the .4 cent reduction goes into effect, the City will save public safety department positions;
- Streets and Open Spaces. Maximize use of grants and dedicated funds to build infrastructure, with the primary source of revenue for the General Fund coming from sales taxes;
- Taxes. One-half percent increase in sales tax receipts for the month of February due particularly to a 21% increase in auto sales; other areas of employment down approximately 5%; every dollar received which exceeds the amount budgeted will go to restore the Stabilization Fund; additional positions will be filled within the projected budget, but not otherwise; unemployment rate is approximately 13%; however 300 employees were added in March, 2010;
- Employment and Unemployment. Concerned with the levels of employment; national and local economy has undergone a recession where local jobs are unavailable; unemployment rates as low as 5% may not be seen for sometime;
- Vacant Commercial Buildings. Difficult to estimate; however approximately 25% of the commercial buildings are vacant. Growth happens when a business has a market and capital to operate. Government can assist by creating a fiscal environment that fosters the willingness to live; lending institutes can offer assistance;

Mayor Crowell highlighted several areas of positive effect to the community:

- Water and Sewer Rates. Reduced water / sewer connection charges last year by 90% which helped new residential construction. There will be upcoming discussions on increasing monthly water / sewer usage charges. If approved, it will allow Carson City, Douglas County, and Lyon County to interconnect the water supply infrastructure and blend water resources to alleviate the uranium content in the current system and provide additional water for better fire protection;
- Recycling Plant at landfill to accept waste from Douglas County and South Lake Tahoe, providing the necessary volume without increasing recycling rates; also provides the opportunity to receive a dedicated source of revenue, while protecting the environment;
- Virginia & Truckee Railroad will be running three days a week between Virginia City and Carson City. Ticket sales and most of the marketing will be handled by the Convention and Visitors Bureau, while using the services of an existing and local train operator. Mayor Crowell encouraged everyone to take a ride on the train;

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- Airport Authority recently completed an \$11 million project to create a new and realigned runway. Several new jets will be relocated to Carson City;
- Final phase of the freeway is under construction. The initial phase has shown a reduction in the traffic on Carson Street. In an agreement with the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), Carson City will be taking over Carson Street allowing for positive changes to the downtown area;
- The car dealers have moved and are opening their new car dealerships on South Carson Street;
- Through the use of open space revenue, grant and federal land acquisition, Horse Creek Ranch has been protected. Silver Saddle Ranch, Prison Hill, and ranching area wetlands south of Silver Saddle Ranch have been acquired. The City is also close to acquiring open space in Brunswick Canyon;
- An opportunity to the City has been presented by the Carson Nugget. The owner of the enterprise is a trust, with the primary beneficiary being the Hop and Mae Adams Foundation. The foundation was created by Mae Adams to benefit Carson City. A plan was presented to the Board of Supervisors for development of the Nugget property, including private and public assets. The proposed public asset included the creation of a knowledge and discovery center and a 21st century library that would serve as the centerpiece of the development along with a digital media center. The proposal was made based on recommendations from the Urban Lands Institute, showing how the project might be completed. The Board of Supervisors voted to explore the project; however no vote has been taken to approve a specific project. The concept is being analyzed for financial feasibility to ensure the community's needs are met.

In closing, Mayor Crowell thanked the Board of Trustees for their continued commitment and efforts in educating the children in Carson City. The Board of Supervisors welcomes the opportunity to work together for the continued betterment of the community.

7. CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES - PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION BY THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES, INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS, AND PROGRAMS REGARDING THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT - Mr. Stokes presented information on school facilities, facts, goals, and expectations for the District:

- There are eleven schools in Carson City: 6 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 high school, 1 alternative high school, and 1 district-sponsored charter school with approximately 7,500 students;
- Each day throughout the year, the district plans to increase student achievement, keep students and staff safe, hire, train and retain highly qualified staff, maintain and/or improve buildings and grounds, and maintain financial integrity;
- Student population is comprised of a broad base of ethnic and student groups; 3.1% Native Americans, 2.9% Asian/Pacific Islander, 34.5% Hispanic, 1.4% Black and 58.1% Caucasian, Individual Education Plan (IEP) 11.5%, Limited English Proficient (LEP) 16.7%, and Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) 37.5%;

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- Comparison in the decline in enrollment from FY2009 vs. FY2010:
 - FY2010 – September 7,657
May 7,562
Total (95)
 - FY2009 – September 8,010
May 7,780
Total (230)
- Student/Teacher Ratios:
 - 1st & 2nd Grade 18 to 1
 - 3rd Grade 21 to 1
 - 4th – 12th Grade 27 to 1
- All revenue sources; general fund, and funding from federal government and grants total approximately \$103.5 million. Pursuant to the 2008-2009 Accountability Report, per pupil expenditures reflect the State average vs. District average:
 - Instruction – State 63.1%; District 67.1%
 - Instructional Support – State 10.4%; District 11.7%
 - Operations – State 19.1%; District 16.3%
 - Leadership – State 7.4%; District 4.9%
- Interesting Data:
 - 1.2 million square feet of grass and 500 square feet of landscaping
 - 1 million square feet of asphalt and buildings
 - 877 Full-Time Employees, approximately 1,100 Full and Part-Time Employees
 - Beginning Teacher Wage - \$33,100
 - High End Teacher Wage - \$64,700
 - Per pupil basic support; Distributive School Account (DSA); \$5,957, was \$6,354 in January 2010

There are four bargaining units: Certified Professionals (teachers, school psychologists, counselors, etc.), Nurses, Classified Employees (Support Staff), and Administrators. Since 2003, student enrollment has declined by 1,136. There have been \$47 million in construction bonds passed in six years without raising taxes.

Since the inception of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) in 2002, the District has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and again for 2008-2009. In comparison, the high school graduation rate for 2009 is: State 68.7%, Carson High School 88.1%, Pioneer High School 51.1% with the district being 85%. The high school drop out rate for 2009 is: State 4.7%, Carson High School 1.0%, Pioneer High School 6.9% with the district average 1.3%.

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The District and the City share in several areas:

- Playing fields, facilities, and gymnasiums;
- Emergency Response Personnel; fire fighters, etc.;
- Immunizations clinics to assist in keeping citizens healthy; and
- Safe Routes to Schools; pathways and sidewalks for increased student safety

Mr. Stokes provided information on the work of the Master Plan Committee, comprised of community members, City staff, etc. A presentation will be made during the May 25, 2010 School Board meeting regarding a bond question for the November 2, 2010 election.

Mr. Stokes presented information on roll-over bonds vs. traditional bonds:

- Traditional bonds - a specific project is identified and a certain dollar amount is asked for and paid back;
- Roll-over bond - provides an opportunity for the district to sell bonds over a ten year period for both new construction and maintenance. Voter approval is required and a dollar amount is determined and used for identified projects. Current projects would include: removal of portable classrooms at Empire Elementary School to improve the educational structure and update the facility of Eagle Valley Middle School;
- Change the tax rate from .47 to .43 cents on \$100 of assessed property value, making additional revenue available for other local government.

Mayor Crowell and Mr. Stokes introduced members of their staff.

School Board Member Conrad asked for additional information regarding the water project; joining with Douglas County and Lyon County. Mayor Crowell explained that Carson City is interconnected with Lyon County at Mound House. The proposal agreed to by Carson City and Douglas County would allow for a pipeline from Minden, Nevada through Indian Hills into Carson City, connecting the line with Lyon County. By doing so, water can be blended, additional water rights can be received, water can be moved between jurisdictions, and fire protection can be improved.

Mr. Werner explained that the other entities involved will be allocating funding to the project. The project should increase the water flow during peak times to 4,500 gallons per minute. It also creates a regional water system that allows the resource to be managed from Minden to Mound House.

At Mayor Crowell's request, Mr. Werner explained that the State of Nevada owns the water rights to the Marlette-Hobart system; a pipeline system established between 1840 and 1850. He described the route of the pipeline, and explained that the water from Marlette is on the Lake Tahoe side with Hobart being on the east side. He provided historic information on the method by which water is pumped over the hill from Marlette to Hobart. Recently a permanent pumping facility was installed to provide for improved management. The project cost approximately \$15 million, with the City paying the majority by using the bond rate paid to the State of Nevada. The next phase of the project will involve a \$5 million pipeline improvement from Hobart, with the possibility of work being completed from the white house, underneath the freeway. The project allows for another 500 to 600 acre feet of water. Allocations from Congress along with federal grants from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have been received to help

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offset some of the costs. At Supervisor Aldean's request, Mr. Werner explained the project will also allow for an increase in the storage capacity at Marlette by 3 feet. In addition, as an operational enhancement, consideration has been given to using hydro-electric power to operate the pump system.

School Board Member Wilke-McCulloch commented on the joint efforts regarding safety plans and the connection between the District and the City.

Supervisor Walt inquired as to how the City might assist the District with the upcoming bond question. Mr. Stokes explained that, in previous years, interested community members have served on the Bond Committee, which will help market the bond. The district is unable to spend district funds in order to ask taxpayers for additional money. A community-based committee has been used in the past to talk to neighbors, print signs, etc. Mr. Stokes requested interested citizens to contact the School District Superintendent's office. He reiterated that the bond will not increase taxes and will be used to increase efficiencies.

Mr. Scoggin noted the importance of communicating with the citizens regarding the wonderful job being done by staff members in the schools and the District.

Mayor Crowell commented on the recent bond work that was completed at Carson Middle School along with a presentation he attended at Bordewich-Bray Elementary School regarding solar power. At Mayor Crowell's request, Mr. Werner explained that energy audits have been completed, traffic lights and signals have been updated with LED lighting, solar panels have been installed, etc. Due to economic conditions, things have been limited; however, consideration has been given to areas where renewable energy can be generated. The City continues to consider methods by which to conserve fuel. Mr. Werner advised of an approximate 10 percent reduction in fuel costs over the last three years.

Mr. Korinek provided information on renewable energy projects in the District:

- Submitted applications with NV Energy for 30 Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Arrays with project work being done over a three year period;
- Lighting retrofit projects at two elementary school using the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds;
- Carson High School, lighting retrofit work continues;
- Al Seeliger Elementary School, installed energy efficient boilers for an approximate 40% savings in gas and electric, new heat pumps installed; and
- Eagle Valley Middle School, new heat pumps installed

Supervisor Aldean presented information on the "History in Motion" project relative to the freeway. Gardeners Reclaiming Our Waysides (GROW) received \$2 million in federal funds to enhance freeway landscape. GROW representatives have been working with the City to implement the program and reduce costs. Boulders and metal cutouts will be used to showcase various aspects of our local history. The north end of the freeway will have an eagle displayed to represent Eagle Valley, with entrances to mines possibly being used at major interchanges, etc. Meetings are planned to discuss similar projects in the historic district.

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It was suggested by several Supervisors and Board Trustees that Western Nevada College (WNC) be invited to future meetings.

Supervisor Walt addressed Mr. Stokes regarding several areas of joint efforts:

- Possibility of including a performing arts center in the Bond and/or designating the Community Center as the Carson City Performing Arts Center;
- Arts in Education to present information at an upcoming School Board meeting to address bringing more arts into the schools; and
- Mentoring students for senior projects and internships with the City.

School Board Member Reynolds commented on the current unemployment rate and the number of high school graduates looking for work. Mr. Reynolds made several suggestions: provide additional recreational and volunteer opportunities and do a better job on getting students in the community to understand the importance of education. School Board Vice President Wilson suggested offering high school student internships to allow the opportunity to participate in meetings and work in the offices of City government. Carson City Parks and Recreation Department Director Roger Moellendorf explained that, over the years, high school and college students have been hired to work over the summer and in some cases, given the opportunity to earn their first paycheck.

8. ACTION TO ADJOURN - As there was no further business to come before the members of the Board of Supervisors or the Board of Trustees in public meeting, Mayor Crowell declared the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

The Minutes of the May 18, 2010 Joint Meeting of the Carson City Board of Supervisors and Carson City School District Board of Trustees are so approved this _____ day of September, 2010.

ROBERT L. CROWELL, Mayor

ATTEST:

ALAN GLOVER, Clerk - Recorder