

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

City of Fallon Council Chambers
55 W. Williams Ave., Fallon, Nevada
November 3, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Churchill County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:17 a.m. on the above date by Chairman Olsen.

PRESENT: H. Peter Olsen, Jr., Chairman
Carl Erquiaga, Vice-Chairman
Harry Scharmann, Commissioner
Benjamin D. Shawcroft, Civil Deputy District Attorney
Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager
Alan Kalt, Chief Financial Officer
Kelly G. Helton, Clerk of the Board
Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board

ABSENT:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Olsen inquired if there were any public comments on issues that were not listed on the Agenda but there were none.

VERIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA:

It was verified by Deputy Clerk Moore that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 26th day of October, 2016, between the hours of 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. at all of the locations listed on the Agenda, in accordance with NRS 241.

ACTION ITEMS:

AGENDA:

Commissioner Erquiaga made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Scharmann seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Scharmann made a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 1, 2016 as submitted. Commissioner Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by majority vote with Chairman Olsen abstaining due to his absence from that meeting. Commissioner Scharmann made a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 21, 2016 as submitted. Commissioner Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

APPOINTMENTS:

THE BOARD MAY REQUIRE THE PROVISION OF AN OATH OR AFFIRMATION BY ANY PERSON PROVIDING ORAL TESTIMONY AT A PUBLIC HEARING.

8:15 a.m. Consideration and possible action re: Proposed amendments to Article III, Section 2, of the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) Bylaws and update on NACO's activities on legislative issues, Jeff Fontaine, Executive Director, NACO.





Jeff Fontaine, Executive Director of the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO), thanked Churchill County for its support over the years and reported that, on September 23, 2016, the NACO Board of Directors voted unanimously to propose amendments to Article III, Section 2, to NACO's Bylaws regarding dues. Specifically, the amendments: (1) clarify that the board may, if deemed necessary, determine appropriate dues for government partner membership; and (2) add an additional assessment to county membership dues which would be based on a percentage, as determined by the board to apply to all counties, equivalent to the most recent federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) payment made to each county. The proposed assessment would be used to support NACO's programs and services to counties related to public lands and natural resources policy and management, which have been enhanced considerably in the past year. The NACO Board decided that using each county's PILT payment as a basis for the assessment would be the most equitable and efficient way to generate the additional revenue needed to keep NACO in the forefront on issues that impact our state and are a priority for our members. Attachments 1-4 include the proposed amendments, current NACO dues formula, and the 2016 dues for each county. Also attached was a spreadsheet that outlines assessment amounts based on a projected range of possible scenarios. While the annual assessments could be lower or higher than the amounts shown, they would be determined annually by the NACO Board as part of NACO's budget process.

Pursuant to Article XI, after a Bylaw amendment has been proposed, it may be adopted at any properly noticed association meeting. At the meeting, each county may cast the same number of votes that are equal to the number of Commissioners elected to their respective Board of County Commissioners. The Bylaw amendment will be considered for adoption at the NACO membership meeting on Wednesday, November 16th at 8:00 a.m. during the 2016 annual conference at the Pahrump Nugget in Nye County.

Churchill County's dues for the past five years have been: FY 2016 \$15,008, FY 2015 \$15,025, FY 2014: \$15,019; FY 2013 \$15,109 and FY 2012: \$15,109. PILT payments for the past five years have been: FY 2016 \$2,384,202, FY2015 \$2,003,488, FY 2014 \$2,199,782, FY 2013 \$2,053,174 and FY 2012 \$2,151,359. The board has approved 15% of PILT payments for the next 30 years or until the jail bonds are paid off as partial repayment of the jail construction loan. This estimated amount of this restricted revenue is \$318,750 annually.

Due to this commitment by the board and the uncertainty that all three Commissioners will be present at the NACO membership meeting, staff recommends the board take action on the proposed Bylaw amendment and additional assessment for membership dues at this meeting.

The fiscal impact will be based on the assessment level charged and Churchill County's percent total of PILT payment of 8.61%. The range of annual assessment for \$50,000 would be \$4,305 to \$8,610 for an assessment of \$100,000. The Public Land Dues Component of \$4,305 to \$8,610 to support public lands issue would not have a material impact on the Churchill County budget. The \$8,610 dues for a \$100,000 assessment represents 0.37% of the county's FY 2016 PILT revenues. It should be noted that this proposed public land dues component is based on a formula using the PILT percentage of the state total. The NACO regular dues are based on Audited S-1 Revenues and Population. These are just formulas. See the attachments for more specific details. The actual payment of the public land dues component does not directly have to come from the PILT revenues; general resources could be used to pay the dues if approved by the NACO Board.

The pooling of the 17 counties' resources to support research and advocacy of public land issues would be more economical than having each individual county attempt to research the