

CARSON CITY RANGE TASK FORCE
Minutes of the February 14, 2019 Regular Meeting
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A regular meeting of the Carson City Library Board of Trustees was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, 2019 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Member – Lori Bagwell
Vice Chair – Nick Fontanez
Member – Bob Blackwood
Member – Brad Bonkowski
Member – Rick Cooley
Member – Sean Giurlani
Member – David Hillis
Member – Carol Howell
Member – Aaron Keller
Member – Steve Robinson
Member – Steve Schuette

STAFF: Jennifer Budge, Parks and Recreation Department Director
David Navarro, Parks Operations Superintendent
Benjamin Johnson, Deputy District Attorney
Tamar Warren, Deputy Clerk

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the Library Board's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the Clerk during the meeting are part of the public record. These materials are available for review, in the Recording Secretaries Division of the Carson City Clerk's Office, during regular business hours. For minutes and audio recordings of this Board's meetings, please visit www.carson.org/minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bagwell called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Roll was called and a quorum was present. Member Tussey was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes for approval.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

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There were no modifications to the agenda.

3. MEETING ITEMS

A. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: PRESENTATION ON THE CARSON CITY LANDFILL

Chairperson Bagwell introduced the item. Member Cooley, Carson City Public Works Operations Manager, gave a presentation on the Carson City Landfill, incorporated into the record, and highlighted the operating hours, its current and future capacity, and staffing information. Member Cooley also responded to clarifying questions by the members. Member Hillis suggested utilizing the revenue generated by the landfill to relocate the range and Chair Bagwell believed that the relocation would be addressed during the long-range planning discussion. Member Giurlani was informed that other counties that utilize the landfill pay higher out-of-county rates. There were no public comments.

B. DIRECTOR'S REPORT: NON-SUBSTANTIVE UPDATE ON DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE CARSON RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE INCLUDING UPDATE ON NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION RANGE EVALUATION; INCREASING SHOOTING BAY OPERATIONS CONTINGENT ON THE USE OF FRANGIBLE AMMUNITION; DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS MAP; AND ASSEMBLY BILL 84 AT THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE.

Ms. Budge presented the Director's Report which is incorporated into the record and responded to clarifying questions by the members. Discussion ensued regarding a Nevada Division of Wildlife (NDOW) bond and Ms. Budge believed "it could be a potential for the long term". She also noted that she had not yet received the NRA report; however, she had been in contact with them. Ms. Budge thanked Member Blackwood for suggesting the use of frangible ammunition and as a result bays 2, 3, and 4 will be open Wednesdays through Saturdays, available for reservation through the Carson Rifle and Pistol Club and with appropriate insurance forms filled out. She also noted that the information was posted on the Club's website and would be posted on the City's website as well. Member Hillis inquired about the engineering quotes and Ms. Budge noted that they were expected by the end of the week and the City Manager had already authorized the expenditure for engineering and design. Member Blackwood cited the example of an East Coast Range that used tires as stops and Chairperson Bagwell noted it was "not a bad idea" and suggested Mr. Cooley look into the availability. Member Bonkowski was informed that the engineering estimates and reports would be presented to the Task Force as soon as they were available. Ms. Budge also informed Member Howell that fencing would be handled in-house. Member Robinson suggested looking into "skewing" the range away from the landfill; however, Ms. Budge believed that would reorient the range towards the recreation areas. There were no public comments.

C. MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION-DISCUSSION ONLY

Chairperson Bagwell introduced the item.

A. REPORT FROM MEMBER HOWELL REGARDING SIGNAGE.

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Member Howell noted that the NRA signage was mostly directed towards trespassers and not warnings about shooting areas. However, she was able to find inexpensive signage on Amazon. There were no public comments.

B. REPORT FROM MEMBER FONTANEZ REGARDING OPERATIONS.

Vice Chair Fontanez explained the Member Giurlani was responsible for Operations. Member Giurlani noted that there were many examples of tire usage as backstops. He also suggested a fee structure which could subsidize a new range in the long run, and inquired about the signage budget. Member Hillis suggested separate fee structures for Carson City, Nevada, and out-of-state residents. Ms. Budge explained that the City had notified the Rifle and Pistol Club of the termination of the agreement in April, which she called outdated. She also explained that Staff was meeting with the Club to discuss the nature of their involvement in the operation of the facility. Member Hillis acknowledged that the Club wished to work with the City; however, he called their involvement “taxing” and did not know at what capacity, adding that they were not able to conduct a match or a target competition at this point. He also wished to have the City consider the ability to hold controlled competition and believed that the stray bullets were due to improper shooting.

Member Howell was in favor of fees for out of area users and inquired about the requirements of having a Range Safety Officer (RSO) at the range. Member Hillis gave background on Club members who were RSOs and explained that private entities also offered RSO training which lasted nine hours. Vice Chair Fontanez inquired about hiring an RSO once a fee schedule is established. Ms. Budge thanked the Rifle and Pistol Club for training both the City park rangers as RSOs and noted that Washoe County has a range master and RSOs that manage the fee-based range. She also clarified that any range staffing would have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Budge believed that RSOs who were members of the Club would be covered by the Club’s insurance. Discussion ensued regarding managing the range and Ms. Budge explained that they do have a sports association they work with for the parks; however, she expressed concern that they would all be volunteers. In response to a request by Member Hillis, Ms. Budge offered to look into having the volunteer RSOs operate as City volunteers for liability issues. There were no public comments.

C. REPORT FROM MEMBER BAGWELL REGARDING FUNDING.

Chairperson Bagwell reported that the engineering fees for the report would be paid by the City after which the projects will be prioritized. She also requested that the Operations group look into fee structures at ranges around the country. Member Bonkowski suggested looking into the fee collection mechanism as well. Discussion ensued regarding the Rifle and Pistol Club assisting with fee collection versus providing RSOs. Ms. Budge announced that she had a Capital Improvement placeholder for budgeting purposes. Chair Bagwell believed that the community, especially those profiting from utilizing the range would be able to raise funds. Vice Chair Fontanez was in favor of raising seed money by having local businesses such as his barber shop sponsor bays at the range. Ms. Budge noted that the Parks and Recreation Department already has fee structure for sponsorships of sports fields. Member Keller stated that hunter education funding by the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) was also available. There were no public comments.

D. REPORT FROM MEMBER BLACKWOOD REGARDING LONG TERM ISSUES.

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Member Blackwood explained that in his opinion the range would have to be relocated and suggested consolidating “all shooting entities into one spot” similar to Clark County. He believed that long range would consist of a one-to-five-year plan and that enhancements should be planned accordingly. Member Blackwood suggested the Mustang Range facility which was ready to be used; however it would be “30 to 40 miles away” and was unsure how an agreement would be structures with another county. Member Robinson inquired about safe areas within the confines of Carson City and Ms. Budge noted that a site adjacent to three BLM properties may be appropriate; however, she had been unable to reach them to discuss the possible lease of the three surrounding BLM properties. Discussion ensued regarding the location. There were no public comments.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION ONLY

Chairperson Bagwell listed the RSO discussion and having them become City volunteers, the possibility of leasing land from BLM, the fencing discussion, and the possibility of moving the range prior to investing the funds as possible items to be placed on upcoming agendas.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Barrie introduced himself and spoke in favor of relocating the range and believed that the City will receive complaints from residents of the upcoming housing development in the area.

Chairperson Bagwell inquired about the next meeting date and Member Hillis wished to have the RSO discussion as soon as possible in two weeks. Ms. Budge noted that the two RSOs were required during the public session on Sundays. Member Howell preferred meeting in two weeks. Ms. Budge cited the Open Meeting Law requirements and Member Giurlani preferred to keep the previously-agreed meeting date and time of March 6, 2019, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Bagwell adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

The Minutes of the February 14, 2019 Carson City Range Task Force meeting are so approved this 3rd day of April, 2019.

LORI BAGWELL, Chair