

CARSON CITY RANGE TASK FORCE
Minutes of the January 31, 2019 Regular Meeting
Carson City Sheriff's Office, Ormsby Room
911 East Musser Street, Carson City
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A regular meeting of the Carson City Range Task Force was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 31, 2019 in the Carson City Sheriff's Office Ormsby Room, 911 Musser Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Member – Lori Bagwell
Member – Bob Blackwood
Member – Brad Bonkowski
Member – Rick Cooley
Member – Nick Fontanez
Member – Sean Giurlani
Member – David Hillis
Member – Carol Howell
Member – Aaron Keller
Member – Steve Robinson (partial attendance via phone)
Member – Terry Tussey
Member – Steve Schuette

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

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the Range Task Force'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

Member Bagwell called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Member Bagwell entertained public comment and noted that it will be limited to three minutes. She also explained that the general comment period would be at the beginning and at the end of the meeting; however, members of the public would be able to comment during specific agenda items as well.

Terry Tussey (Task Force member) introduced himself and spoke about the range helping a large number of people and encouraged everyone to "worry about fixing it and not worry about finger pointing".

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Kristy Scott, owner of Battle Born Ammunition and Firearms, introduced herself and recounted an emotional incident in her life that led her to become an instructor of a combination ladies-only self-defense and weapons classes, which have waiting lists. Ms. Scott expressed concern that she could not conduct her classes due to the range closure. She also noted that range access for two hour blocks would not work for her because CCW (carrying a concealed weapon) standards were for one eight-hour block or for two four-hour blocks. Member Bagwell assured Ms. Scott that the Task Force was “committed to working to solve this particular issue” and was interested in providing “safety for the whole community”. Ms. Scott also left home invasion statistics behind for those who were interested in reading them.

William Bryant introduced himself as a local CCW instructor and stated that he had received 30 enrollments in one day, many from elderly women, following the murders in Douglas and Washoe Counties. Mr. Bryant explained that he was traveling out of town to meet students now, and that many instructors were going out of business because many were going to other communities and spending their money there.

David Moore introduced himself as “retired and a pot stirrer”. Mr. Moore noted that should housing developments or the landfill expansion happen, BLM would take their land back due to restricted uses as part of the land use agreement. He also was interested in finding out about an environmental impact report should the landfill expand.

Dave Lester noted that he has been shooting at other ranges and wished to have published rules because he did not know what the rules were.

1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve, as this was the first meeting of the Range Task Force.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no modifications to the agenda.

3. MEETING ITEMS

A. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ELECT CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE RANGE TASK FORCE.

Member Bagwell introduced the item.

MOTION: Member Howell moved to nominate Member Bagwell to the position of Chair. The motion was seconded by Member Hillis. Motion carried 12-0-0.

MOTION: Member Giurlani moved to nominate Member Fontanez to the position of Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Member Schuette. Motion carried 12-0-0.

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A member of the public inquired about the list of Task Force member and Chairperson Bagwell explained that it would be placed on the City's website.

B. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ON THE PURPOSE, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE RANGE TASK FORCE AS DIRECTED BY THE CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

Chairperson Bagwell introduced the item. Member Bonkowski reassured the attendees that the Board of Supervisors wanted the range to be open; however, they also wanted to ensure the public's safety. He also countered the rumors regarding a housing development replacing the range. Chairperson Bagwell reiterated Member Bonkowski's comments, and invited all the attendees to help resolve the issues. She also referenced the Staff Report and its attachments that contained the Task Force goals, and explained that further down the agenda committees will be formed and chairs will be assigned in order to report back to the Task Force at later meetings.

Member Tussey recommended closing the landfill for one day, "since the City owns it"; however Member Bonkowski clarified that contractual obligations with Waste Management would prevent closures.

Ms. Scott wished to see better compromise from the landfill closing the landfill for a day or more to accommodate the users of the range.

Member Howell suggested bi-weekly meeting in order to expedite issue resolution and in order not to "drag" the issue.

Member Giurlani inquired about opening the smaller bays, which were safer on the far end of the range. Chairperson Bagwell indicated the Task Force would explore every avenue.

Ms. Budge suggested staying on topic and giving input when two reports and the grants will be discussed. She also recommended reviewing the late materials.

Member Blackwood wished to continue searching for another location for the range, further away, because residences would continue to encroach on the range.

C. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: PRESENTATION ON THE BACKGROUND OF THE CARSON RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE AND INFORMATION RELATED TO THE CREATION OF THE TASK FORCE.

Ms. Budge gave background and presented the Staff Report, incorporated into the record. She highlighted the Range milestones and the funding sources including grants and matches. Ms. Budge also referenced the current use agreement with the Rifle and Pistol Club noting that it would be terminated in April, 2019, calling them a great partner. Ms. Budge also provided data from a Public meeting and reviewed the area maps and introduced all the members and those who had appointed them. There were no public comments.

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D. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW OF THE RANGE EVALUATION REPORT PREPARED BY TACTICAL SERVICES GROUP AND STATUS UPDATE ON RANGE EVALUATIONS REQUESTED BY THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION AND THE NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION.

Chairperson Bagwell introduced the item. Ms. Budge presented the Staff Report which included a Range Evaluation Report and the NRA findings, and responded to clarifying questions. Discussion ensued regarding what the Range looks and Member Bonkowski clarified that the recommendations will go the Board (of Supervisors). Chairperson Bagwell entertained public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Lester suggested having Public Works do all the work since the "landfill had caused many of the issues".

Ms. Scott inquired about OSHA reporting and received confirmation that the closure and the open hours revolved around the landfill.

Member Bonkowski reminded the meeting attendees that this meeting was about resolving issues and not finger pointing. He also described the conflict between the land use and public safety that required a resolution. Ms. Budge noted that they must achieve safety when keeping the landfill hours and opening the Range. She also stated that the goal is to meet the minimum standards for the range areas according to the NRA representative and the Santos report. The Chair entertained final public comments on the report; however, none were forthcoming.

D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUPS, ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITIES TO MEMBERS OF THE RANGE TASK FORCE, AND DEVELOP A MEETING SCHEDULE.

Chairperson Bagwell introduced the item. Discussion ensued regarding prioritizing the recommendations. Ms. Budge explained that hiring an engineer with range design experience would be one of the highest priorities, and Chairperson Bagwell advised starting immediately.

Member Hillis offered to head the operations working group.

Member Howell received confirmation that the working groups will work separately and the chairs will report regularly to this Board. She also voiced her objection that a member of the Carson City Rifle and Pistol would be in charge of the Operations Working group and that the same group will be in charge of making the rules. Mr. Reece reviewed the Open Meeting Laws that applied to working groups, noting that the chairs could talk to key stakeholders and report back to the Task Force. Member Blackwood suggested talking to the Capitol City Gun Club as well. Chair Bagwell reviewed the priorities which consisted of hiring the design engineer and working on the bays as priorities. She also offered to handle the funding and fundraising, and Member Hillis volunteered to chair the operations efforts. Chairperson Bagwell entertained public comments.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Pattison wished to see the bays open not just to classes and clubs but to the public and Chairperson Bagwell was in agreement.

Mr. Moore inquired about having shotgun designator.

Ms. Scott offered to help the City and her customers by doing fundraising. She also wished to have four-hour training at the Range; otherwise she would have to cancel her Saturday classes.

Member Howell inquired about using a Nevada sheriff's shooting range and the Chair offered to inquire with Law enforcement about its use.

Chairperson Bagwell entertained public comments and when none were forthcoming, a motion.

MOTION: Member Hillis moved to appoint himself as the operations workgroup Chair. The motion was seconded by Member Howell. Motion Failed 2-9-0.

MOTION: Vice Chair Fontanez moved to appoint Member Giurlani as the operations workgroup chair. The motion was seconded by Member Howell. Motion carried 11-0-0.

MOTION: Member Howell moved to appoint Member Blackwood as the long range workgroup chair. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Fontanez. Motion carried 11-0-0

MOTION: Member Fontanez moved to appoint Chairperson Bagwell as the fiscal lead. The motion was seconded by Member Howell. Motion carried 11-0-0

MOTION: Member Bonkowski moved to move forward with hiring an engineer to have the work done in phases; phase one being the bays, phase two being the short range, and phase three, long range. The motion was seconded by Member Howell. Motion carried 11-0-0.

MOTION: Vice Chair Fontanez moved to appoint Member Howell as the signage lead. The motion was seconded by Member Giurlani. Motion carried 11-0-0.

4. MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Member Howell inquired about a recommended fence mentioned in the report and Ms. Budge offered to return with clarifications in the next meeting.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION ONLY

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The next meeting will take place on February 14, 2019 to discuss the NRA Report followed by a meeting on March 6, 2019.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

An edit to the Carson Rifle and Pistol Club resolution was presented in the form of public comment.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Bagwell adjourned the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

The Minutes of the January 31, 2019 Carson City Range Task Force meeting are so approved this 6th day of March, 2019.

LORI BAGWELL, Chair