



Laughlin Town Advisory Board

September 8, 2020

MINUTES

Board Members: Gina Mackey – Chair
Kathy Ochs – Vice Chair
James Maniaci
Nile Smith-unexcused absence
Herman Walker

Secretary: Tammy Harris, (702) 298-0828 tammy.harris@clarkcountynv.gov

Town Liaison: Mark Robledo, (702) 298-0828 mark.robledo@clarkcountynv.gov

- I. Call to Order by Chair Gina Mackey, Invocation by Pastor Doug Westly, Pledge of Allegiance led by Kathy Ochs
- II. Public Comment: None
- III. Approval of Minutes for August 11, 2020 (For possible action)

Moved by: Herm Walker
Action: Approved as written
Vote: 3-0 Kathy Ochs abstained due to not attending last month's meeting. Nile Smith unexcused absence.
- IV. Approval of agenda for September 8, 2020, and hold, combine or delete any items (For possible action)

Moved by: James Maniaci
Action: Approved
Vote: 4-0
- V. Informational Items
 1. Receive a report from Lt. Jeff Hewes with Metro Police regarding activity and statistics during the past month and other area crime concerns. (For discussion only)

August 2020 Statistics:

Calls for Service: 370, down 8.42% from this time last year
Traffic Citations: 347
DUIs: 2
Battery Domestic Violence Arrests: 7
Bookings: 44
Juvenile Citations: 0

Lt. Hewes said grand theft auto is down approximately 50% right now and the residential burglaries are also down 37.5%. Car break-ins are the same as last year, no change. Lt. Hewes advised to always lock your car, most of the vehicle burglaries are from unlocked vehicles.

Vice Chair Ochs asked if the vehicle burglaries are more prominent in business areas or residential areas. Lt. Hewes said it's been mixed, but since the businesses have opened back up we have seen more on Casino Drive.

2. Receive a report from Nevada Highway Patrol regarding activity and statistics during the last month and other public safety concerns. (For discussion only)

No report

3. Receive a report from Clark County Fire Department regarding calls for service during the past month and other fire prevention issues. (For discussion only)

No report

4. Receive a report from Chris Bramley, Clark County's Vector Control Supervisor, and Michael Cavallaro, Bullhead City's Pest Abatement Manager. (For discussion only)

Christopher Bramley with Clark County Public Works, and Co-Manager with the aquatic insect suppression program and Michael Cavallaro, Bullhead City pest Abatement Manager, provided an in-depth PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Cavallaro introduced himself and said he started the caddisfly research program in Bullhead City and has been with Bullhead City for about a year. He explained the life span and how the caddisfly feeds and why the river can be infested with them. Some of the projects that are ongoing is larval control, installing an artificial fish habitat and trout stocking, lowering the Colorado River to expose the caddisfly habitat, pesticide paint trials and Biomonitoring.

James Maniaci asked when to expect the caddisfly peaks. Mr. Cavallaro said there are typically two peak emergence periods. The first peak is April and May and the second peak is September and October. There was a small peak in August this year.

Chair Mackey inquired about the effects of the pesticide paint trial on other animals. Mr. Cavallaro said part of this trial is looking at the potential environmental risk, which includes leaching from this product and the dangers to fish and other wildlife. Another potential risk is what happens if another animal eats the caddisfly that has died by the insecticide paint and causes secondary poisoning.

Chair Mackey asked how often the river will be lowered. Mr. Cavallaro said the pilot program is just the two days but he hopes this turns into a regimented lowering program three or four times a year to reduce the larva.

Chris Bramley said black flies are symbiotic with the caddisflies. He showed pictures of the BTI that

was dispersed into the river to treat dock structures and combat the black fly larva. This is the only program in the United States that releases the BTI under water and can treat smaller sites, which saves time and money by only treating the infected area. This program started in 1975 and the research took ten years. He said they have been treating the river for a long time and the BTI has not shown to be harmful to animals. This program has been monitored by the state of Nevada since 2004, and said this product is only specific to the black fly. The black fly populations is mostly non-existent in this area thanks in part to this program. Mr. Bramley said people can see the boat they use and they answer a lot of question while out on the river. He has provided the community with reports with ongoing projects.

Vice Chair Ochs inquired about the scheduled lowering of the river and if any negative effects have been seen with other species and could there be a schedule for lowering the river if it reduces the amount of chemicals put in the river, and if this board can help. Mr. Bramley said lowering the river would be a benefit and would recommend at least four times a year. He said he didn't have any negative complaints and spent the day at the river talking with residents and handing out his card.

James Maniaci asked if this program is limited to the Laughlin area. Mr. Bramley said the aquatic insect inter local agreement that was signed with Bullhead City is for all of Clark County.

For a copy of the full PowerPoint presentation call or stop by the Laughlin Town Manager's Office.

5. Receive a report from Greg Turner with Clark County Water Reclamation District regarding the status of the wastewater system. (For discussion only)

Statistics: August 2020

The Laughlin Water Reclamation Facility had an average of 1.98 MGD, producing clean water returned to the Colorado River. Flow increase of 40,000 gallons per day from this time last year.

Sewer Service Complaints: None

Odor Complaints: None

Call Before You Dig: 23 C.B.Y.D. Laughlin tickets received for August 2020.

6. Receive a report from Jason Bailey with Big Bend Water District regarding the status of the water system. (For discussion only)

Diversions:

August 2020: 388 acre-feet

2020 YTD total diversions: 2,373 acre-feet

2019 YTD total diversions: 2,467 acre-feet

Jason Bailey followed up with a question asked by James Maniaci last month regarding water usage and if the LVVWD has ever used water in excess of what is allotted. The answer was no for customer demand.

There are no major leaks or issues to report.

As COVID-19 activities continue to affect communities, the commitment to provide a safe and reliable water supply remains a top priority for the Big Bend Water District.

7. Receive a report from University of Nevada Cooperative Extension regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

Hayley Maio provided the report.

Hayley Maio said they are fully functional as of September 1st. The programs will follow University and County COVID guidelines. Will Douglas has been working with the schools and the library to move forward with the 4-H programs. October is the start of the new 4-H year. Ms. Maio has been working with the Master Gardner program in Las Vegas and will bring it to Laughlin.

8. Receive a report from Jackie Mazzeo with Laughlin Chamber of Commerce regarding current and upcoming business activities in Laughlin. (For discussion only)

Updates:

The Chamber Colorado River Region Community Guide has been delivered and available to anyone who wants some. We can deliver if you call and request the number of copies you desire.

The Chamber would ask the Board to assist in recovering the Marriage License services at the Government Center. Destination Weddings are very difficult to book when the Bride and Groom are required to travel to LV first.

Laughlin Chamber Water Flow Committee:

This committee was founded in March 2020 to address the unexpected low water levels on the lower Colorado River that negatively affected the tourism industry and recreation. The board, led by Brea Chiodini, is made up of stakeholders in AZ/NV, government, resorts, small and large business, real estate, recreation, BHC pest abatement and Clark County vector control, tourism, citizens, and the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation.

The Water Flow Committee has added objection to the Lake Powell Pipeline Project.

Community Achievement Awards – October 24, 2020

Planning for this event continues. The First meeting for the judges is tomorrow. They will be given the nomination/bio binder and instructions then return on the 16th to discuss the four finalists in each category. The event itself has been planned for production at Laughlin Ranch Gold Club and Spa from 10am – 6pm. A category will be recognized every ½ hour and the whole event will be live streamed on The BEE News with an electronic program available online. It is our desire to ensure that the finalists and the final award winner still experience the spirit of the event thru the magic that the chamber is planning.

Freedom of Expression – Tentative Date November 5, 2020

Golden Nugget Casino Resort Gold Diggers

Jingle Mingle Christmas Celebration – December 10, 2020

Aquarius Casino Resort Windows on the River Buffet 5-8pm

Ribbon Cuttings:

The Market at Laughlin - Soft Opening September 21st. Grand Opening Saturday, September 26th.

Purple Cup Coffee – Soft Opening planned upon receipt of the final permit with Grand Opening to Follow.

Mixers:

Networking and Educating – None planned at this time

Membership 3rd Quarter:

Total Members – 279

% of Laughlin – 28%
New Members this Quarter – 10

James Maniaci inquired of the ten new businesses how many are in Laughlin. Ms. Mazzeo answered one. Mr. Maniaci asked if she could include that in future reports.

9. Receive a report from Jackie Mazzeo with the Laughlin Tourism Commission regarding current and upcoming events and activities. (For discussion only)

ROCKETS OVER THE RIVER – Fireworks Displays
Christmas Night at 7:00 pm
New Year’s Eve for 2021 – at midnight
www.Visitlaughlin.com

BEST IN THE DESERT – The Jagged X National Desert Cup \$18K Prize Money
Off Road Races Motorcycle, Quad and UTV
4WP Youth UTV Race Championship Series
Moved to Glen Helen, CA
<https://bitd.com/race-events>

SPARTAN GAMES - Obstacle course event for competitors Elite, Para and kids - **CANCELLED**
<https://www.spartan.com/en/race/detail/5208/overview>

Run Laughlin 5K, 12K and Half Marathon “Two States, Two Time Zones and ONE DAM GREAT RACE”
Saturday, December 5, 2020
www.mercuryevent.com

SNORE – McKenzie’s Rage at the River – Off Road Races
December 10-13, 2020 Laughlin Event Site/Park
<https://www.snoreracing.net>

Concerts:

Kane Brown and Pitbull have been moved to 2021

10. Receive a report from Parks & Recreation regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

Due to COVID-19, zero monthly building visits.
No upcoming events and Spirit Mountain Activity Center remains closed.

Contact Info:
Shelly Gulotta, Supervisor
A’Lonn Bilbray, Recreation Specialist
Laughlin Office: (702) 298-3413

11. Receive a report from Laughlin school system regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

Principle Dawn Estes provided an update for the Laughlin school system. Ms. Estes said they kicked off the new school year on August 24th with virtual learning. Currently, the school is being evaluated

as to when students can come back as a hybrid model. A lot of that is dependent on the direction of the Clark County School District, and our ability to social distance, which includes transportation of students and staggering the times.

Chrome books have been distributed to every student that needed one. The district has provided Hotspots by T-Mobile which have been disbursed to families who have requested them.

Current enrollment is above the projected enrollment. The CCSD lost \$40 million of their budget and that will impact each local student by \$125.

The construction projects for some of the major facilities will include a roof repair at the High School, and at the elementary school an HVAC, roof repair and drainage. The cost of these projects is between 4-6 million dollars. Ms. Estes is asking the district to re-evaluate the old portables that were put there in 1986 and requesting the campus to be relocated closer to the secondary campus.

Ms. Estes wanted to recognize her staff, students and families with the challenges they have faced with the pandemic and how proud she is of everyone.

James Maniaci inquired how long it will take for the district to honor the 40 year promise of building a permanent school. Ms. Estes said that it was difficult to answer but believes that they are getting closer to that goal.

Chair Mackey asked for the number of the current students. Ms. Estes said at the elementary there is 354 students and the middle / high school combined have 373 students, for a total of 727 K-12 students.

12. Receive a report from Tanya Brown-Wirth with Laughlin Library regarding current and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

No report

13. Announcements of upcoming neighborhood meetings and County or community meetings and events. (For discussion only)

Mark Robledo announced the ribbon cutting for the Market of Laughlin will be held Saturday, September 26th at 10:00 am. Clark County Commissioner Michael Naft and Congresswoman Susie Lee will be in attendance. A flyer will be distributed when the itinerary has been finalized. James Maniaci provided an updated for the number of COVID-19 cases.

14. Receive a report from County Liaison Mark Robledo regarding updates on the second bridge, Casino Drive SID, 8minute solar energy and the Lake Powell Pipeline Diversion. (For discussion only)

Mark Robledo spoke regarding the second bridge and said in part the County is waiting on a notice to proceed in order to start the advertisement process.

The Casino Drive SID has received the 30% submittal from the consultant GC Wallace and staff is working on finalizing the design.

8minute Solar Energy indicated they had been performing preliminary topographical and boundary survey work for potential routes for transmission lines.

Lake Powell Pipeline Project, which entails 140-mile underground pipeline is a concern for the affects it would have on the lower Colorado River basin. To voice your opinion visit the following link:

https://conserveswu.org/lake-powell-pipeline/?fbclid=IwAR2kdli2cRPY2kt5XFDGIT84nNcUGoB_gRJXbxCSyBxvcdWGfJSiW MmQPKA

15. Receive a presentation to recognize and honor a recipient for their dedication and extensive community service. (For discussion only)

The Laughlin Chamber presented Vice Chair Kathy Ochs with a plaque in appreciation and recognition for her hard work and dedication to the Laughlin Community. Jackie Mazzeo said Ms. Ochs sets a good example and is an amazing advocate for this community.

The certificate reads:

“We want to recognize your commitment to the town of Laughlin.

“You set a great example for present and future entrepreneurial investors.

“You are an amazing advocate for community services and organizations.

“You provide a diverse voice to the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce.

“You support your Tri-State community selflessly in time of need or celebration.

“You continue to be a voice for the citizens as a respected LTAB member.

“You are generous with your canine training talent and resources to public safety.

“You have a bipartisan approach to conflict and practice great diplomacy.

“You have been a mentor and trainer for young entrepreneurial business owners.

“You have worked tirelessly with Clark County staff to bring county services to the local community.

“You should know that we are grateful for your partnership and dedication to our community and we should have said it sooner!”

Kathy Ochs said this comes as a surprise and much appreciated. She said this is nothing in comparison to what this community has given her and her companies, and wished to thank the community.

VI. Planning & Zoning:

Current Zoning Items: None

Previous Zoning Actions:

(For additional information see Clark County web site on the Internet at:

http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/public_communications/Pages/Agendas.aspx then go to NOFA (Notice of Final Action) on the month and date the item was heard and look for the item number (i.e. UC-0000-11).

1. **WS-20-0282-SHIPKEY A H & B A JAN 12 1989 TR & HERRICK HAL TRS:**
WAIVERS OF DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS for the following: 1) eliminate parking lot landscaping; and 2) permit alternative landscaping adjacent to streets.
DESIGN REVIEW for landscaping areas in conjunction with marijuana establishments on 20.0 acres in a C-2 (General Commercial) Zone. Generally located on the north side of Bruce Woodbury Drive and the east side of Thomas Edison Drive within Laughlin.

This item was approved by the BCC.

Chair Mackey read the details on the approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

VII. General Business:

1. Review FY 2021 budget request(s) and take public input regarding suggestions for FY 2022 budget request(s). (For possible action)

Chair Mackey read the items on the list and opened to public comment. Jackie Mazzeo from the Laughlin Chamber asked the board to consider the repaving of the Chamber parking lot and expressed her concerns for the continued eroding and uneven surface. After no more comments from the public, and a brief discussion among the TAB members, James Maniaci moved to table the item until the October's meeting.

VIII. Public Comment:

Robert Bilbray representing the LEDC. Provided the board with an update on separate COVID-19 standards for Laughlin Township. According to Mr. Bilbray there will not be any changes to the standards for the local businesses.

Jackie Mazzeo, Laughlin Chamber commented on Robert Bilbray's update and said letters were written to the Nevada Governor by the Laughlin Tourism Commission Governing Board to request the separation of the Laughlin community with greater Clark County. She said the Riverside has been very instrumental in creating the employer / employee testing site at the old pharmacy and has been very progressive.

IX. Next Meeting Date: October 13, 2020.

X. Adjournment: 3:10 pm

These minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the November 10, 2020 meeting. Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the meeting minutes of the December 8, 2020 meeting.

To listen to the audio recording of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board go to:

<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/administrative-services/laughlin/Pages/LaughlinTownAdvisoryBoard.aspx>