



Laughlin Town Advisory Board

March 10, 2020

MINUTES

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

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

Town Liaison: Dr. Brian Paulson, (702) 298-0828 bkp@clarkcountynv.gov

- I. Call to Order by Vice Chair Kathy Ochs, Invocation by Pastor Doug Westly, Pledge of Allegiance led by Herman Walker.
- II. Public Comment: None
- III. Approval of Minutes for January 14, 2020 (For possible action)
Moved by: James Maniaci
Action: Approved as amended
Vote: 3-0

Approval of Minutes for February 11, 2020 (For possible action)
Moved by: Herman Walker
Action: Approved as written
Vote: 3-0
- IV. Approval of agenda for March 10, 2020, and hold, combine or delete any items (For possible action)

Moved by: Herman Walker
Action: Approved as written
Vote: 3-0
- 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)

Lt. Jeff Hewes provided the February report.

February 2020 Statistics:

Calls for Service: 329, down 2.81 percent from this time last year

Traffic Citations: 608

DUIs: 3

Battery Domestic Violence Arrests: 1

Bookings: 50 with one resident juvenile booking

Juvenile Citations: 11, all residents

There has been an increase of auto and home burglaries. People are leaving their windows and doors open because of the nice weather. This makes easy access for criminals. People are not locking their vehicles at night and making an easy target. On casino surveillance, a burglar was observed checking car doors until an unlocked door was found and he could gain access. Lt. Hewes stressed the importance to lock your doors and please drive safe.

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

Sgt. Wayne Dice provided January and February statistics. He said for 2019 their district wrote over 7,000 citations.

January Statistics:

Citations: 611, with 688 violations

Arrest: 5

DUI: 3

Felony Drug Arrest: 1

Warrants: 1

February Statistics:

Citations: 525, with 595 violations

Arrest: 9

DUI: 3

Felony Drug Arrest: 2

Warrants: 4

Sgt. Dice said they are short a trooper until next year. There are six troopers as of now.

Vice Chair Kathy Ochs inquired about residents without a Nevada registration and if the NHP is still seeing that.

Sgt. Dice said all the time and has tried to get the information out by the media stating if you live and work here, you need to have a Nevada registration and driver license.

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)

Battalion Chief Richard Reid provided the 2020 February report.

Statistics February 2020:

Station 76:

Total responses: 145

Station 85:

Total responses: 97

Total February calls: 242

Battalion Chief (BC) Reid said he passed on the questions from the last LTAB meeting regarding service to the other entities and to Chief Touchstone, who wanted to come down but was unable to get the numbers that was requested by the LTAB. He asked for clarification on the runs. Regarding EMS calls and fire calls, he asked if it was preferred to obtain numbers “when we ran with them or when they ran with us or both. The more we ask of them the longer it takes to get the information.”

James Maniaci said what is requested is “the number of times that Bullhead City comes over to help,” and added, “I suppose you could break it down to fire and non-fire.” Chief Touchstone will address these questions when he has all the information requested.

Regarding the recent fire, BC Reid said the unit was involved heavily and was in the attic. “It was fortunate that we were able to get a handle on it and no other units were involved.”

Vice Chair Kathy Ochs asked for additional information for the audience. BC Reid said it was a townhome with some smoke damage to other units but no fire damage. He did not know the cause of the fire since the report is not yet complete.

Mr. Maniaci asked which engines from Laughlin responded. BC Reid said all of them and Bullhead City responded as well but the fire was out before they arrived. Mr. Maniaci asked how long it took to put the fire out.

“Approximately 25 minutes from the time the call went in and the fire was under control. This is only approximate since the report is not completed,” BC Reid said.

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

Greg Turner provided the February report.

Statistics:

February 2020:

The Laughlin Water Reclamation Facility had an average of 1.85 million gallons per day producing clean water returned to the Colorado River. Flow saw an increase of 80,000 gallons per day from this time last year. In February 2019 the Laughlin Water Reclamation Facility had an average of 1.77 million gallons from last year at this time.

Sewer Service Complaints: None
Odor Complaints: None
Call Before You Dig: 34

James Maniaci asked if there is construction underway. Mr. Turner said there is not. Mr. Maniaci asked about the right-of-way by the Mohave Generating Station, and Mr. Turner said yes they still have the right-of-way but is undetermined yet where to put the lines.

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

Jason Bailey provided the February report.

Diversions:

February 2020: 238 acre feet

2020 YTD total diversions: 486 acre feet

2019 YTD total diversions: 453 acre feet

No major leaks or issues to report. Mr. Bailey said he wanted to report on a question that Mr. Maniaci had last month about what happens to the unused water allotment.

“The Big Bend has a water allotment of 15,352 acre feet every year. Last year, the diversion was a little over 3,600 acre feet that was pulled from the river. The water is not lost, it is not a use or lose it, as part of the SNWA cooperative agreement. There is a provision that says if other member agencies need to use that water, they can; however, that has not happened for many years. One of things they can do and as of May of last year, the drought contingency plan was signed, and we are now banking our water in Lake Mead so the water stays in the lake and credited for future use. The water is not lost but stored for the future,” he said.

Mr. Maniaci asked about a rate increase from SNWA and if Laughlin would be accessed this increase.

Mr. Bailey said this has not been approved yet by the committee but the fee would be \$1.00 a year for seven years and it will include all SNWA members.

Ms. Ochs asked that water credit be defined. Mr. Bailey said it is water accumulated each year. Ms. Ochs stated that Laughlin has a lot of water banked over the years. She asked if Mr. Bailey could get the numbers on the amount of accrued water that is banked for Laughlin. Mr. Bailey said yes.

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

Will Douglas acknowledged Patricia Fisher who made a donation to help kids go to summer camp. He said the 4-H program is ahead in progress compared to last year.

Mr. Douglas spoke about the STEM workshop and partnering with the Library for after-school activities.

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

Jackie Mazzeo provided the February report. She acknowledged and thanked the UNRCE for their offer to do classes for the small businesses through the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce. Social Media Marketing was requested as the first class to be held in June if there is twelve or more students. This class is free.

Events:

The 7th Annual Connie Davis 5K Walk and Roll for Cancer was held March 7th and broke another record with an excess of 540 people registered. Breakfast was provided by Cinnabon and lunches were provided by LTC and other properties.

The 33rd Annual Chef's Food Fest tickets go on sale April 1st and will benefit the River Fund, Inc. This year's theme is "Flavors of New England".

Mixers:

A Networking and Education Breakfast will be held on March 27th at the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce at 8:30 a.m. featuring Child and Human Trafficking Awareness. Tickets are free of charge but space is limited. Please RSVP at (702) 298-2214.

Members (Quarter one, Month two)

Active Members: 287

New Members: 7 new members to date. Twenty-six percent are Laughlin members.

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

Jackie Mazzeo provided a handout with upcoming Laughlin events through the end of the year.

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

Richard deClercq provided the February report.

Statistics: February 2020

40 programs

Servicing 2,604 patrons

Richard deClercq, Supervisor
Laughlin office (702) 298-3413

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

No report

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

No report

Upcoming Library events for adults, teens, children and toddlers can be found on the Laughlin Library calendar located at www.lvccld.org or by phoning the Library at (702) 507-4064.

12. Receive a report from Steven DeStefano with Republic Services to discuss trash and recycling practices in Laughlin. (For discussion only)

Steven DeStefano, Project Manager, Republic Services, introduced himself and said jokingly he was here to “talk trash.” More specifically, he wanted to talk about recycling and how it works. A few years ago, Republic Services changed the trash service and the recycling service to once a week, and bulk trash gets picked up every other week.

Mr. DeStefano introduced Jeremy Walters, Community Relations Manager, Republic Services, who spoke about recycling and the confusion with what is recyclable. With changes of the bins, there is a lot more participation. Republic has the largest recycling center in North America but still has to separate the items individually. Mr. Walters provided a PowerPoint presentation which showed how the trash is broken down and the types of paper, plastic, cardboard, metal, and glass that can be recycled.

Charts with pictures were provided illustrating what can be recycled and what cannot. He explained and showed pictures of how soft plastic, cloth, and diapers can clog the machinery.

Mr. Walters said to not bag your recyclables with plastic trash bags, which are not recyclable. Rather, “rinse the cans and plastic bottles before throwing them in the bin. It is estimated that if one person uses reusable bags, they could eliminate more than 22,000 single use bags in their lifetime. In closing, it’s how well you recycle the right things,” he said.

James Maniaci requested a two-year report on operations at the Laughlin Landfill. He also asked what happened to the old recycling center. Mr. Walters said, “The center is still there, but the equipment inside no longer exists and was converted to a compactor rebuild facility. Republic refurbishes their equipment in-house.”

Mr. Maniaci asked if there is any commercial recycling. Mr. Walters said yes.

Vice Chair Kathy Ochs asked if Republic Services was familiar with Germany's programs since they are vastly different.

A Laughlin resident said he lives in a condominium and said they have no containers at his complex. He asked if they could get this service. Mr. Walters asked him if the complex provided the large front loader dumpster. Those are different than the residential collections which would not be available to the residents in the complex.

Resident Fred Wells asked about Green Waste Services but was advised that was not available in this area.

Mr. Walters said he left stickers on the back table for residents to place on their trash containers on what can be recycled.

13. Receive a report from Dr. Brian Paulson, Laughlin Town Manager, regarding update for Casino Drive Special Improvement District. (For discussion only)

Laughlin Town Manager provided the following Casino Drive updates for February 2020 from Clark County Public Works:

To date, the engineering consultants are still determining which properties have existing water and wastewater and are also coordinating with the utility companies to determine which properties will benefit from which improvements. The engineering consultants are GC Wallace. Once this portion is completed, we will have a better idea which properties will be included in the footprint of the SID.

Once the footprint has been determined, the consultants can begin the estimated improvement cost for the properties.

The project has received \$900,000 from the Fort Mohave Valley Development funds to fund the SID design portion.

Once the Engineering Consultants have established the footprint for the SID and have the estimated costs for the improvements, Public Works will order an appraisal for the properties.

Laughlin resident Patricia Fisher questioned funds from the Fort Mohave Valley Development Fund. She said on May 14, 2019, "\$800,000 in loans from the Fort Mohave Fund was authorized for consulting and engineering on the wet utilities project. Then in August there was a further expenditure approved for \$60,000 from the fund for appraisal services. The question is, if the \$900,000 was in fact the loans that will be rolled into the SID?"

Vice Chair Ochs said she does not have an answer for that question. Dr. Brian Paulson said yes that was his understanding and that's how much the Board of County Commissioners approved.

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

Dr. Brian Paulson said since January, the Department of Comprehensive Planning have been meeting with consultants to update the master development code (Title 30). Comprehensive Planning is requesting all town boards to appoint a member as a town board representative to be involved in the update of the County's comprehensive master plan. This will be an action item at the next town board meeting.

At the last town board meeting, Dr. Paulson said there was to be progress on the re-paving of Thomas Edison Road. He said he has received assurances from Public Works that they are getting closer to getting this done and should start within a week, but is remaining hesitant to provide any definitive date.

James Maniaci said on March 21st, the Laughlin Community Church is having a block party start at 4:00 p.m. with everyone invited.

VI. Planning & Zoning: None

VII. General Business: None

VIII. Public Comment:

Starting Friday, Kathleen Whitehead said this weekend will be the American Cancer Relay for Life. The event will be held at the Anderson Field House in Bullhead City. On March 22nd, Silver Rider is having a bowling tournament to raise money for their paratransit service who need help getting to chemo treatments and dialysis. The tournament starts at 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required and the fee is \$20.

Fred Wells commented about needing new streets in the El Mirage Estates area. He said he is getting a signed petition from the residents. He asked about getting a monument moved across the street.

James Maniaci read a statement:

An unacceptable situation has arisen in which Clark County senior management in Las Vegas is attempting to dictate to the Laughlin and Searchlight Town Advisory Boards. I believe the memo from Alex Ortiz of the Administrative Services Bureau, who works for Assistant County Manager Randy Tarr, violates the County's one size fits all By-Laws which clearly state the Advisory Board members have full authority to place items on an upcoming agenda. County documents also clearly state it is the responsibility of advisory boards to let the Clark County Commission know what are the concerns and desires of the residents of a community.

For several months, I have submitted an agenda item about the proposed Avi Kwa Ame – Spirit Mountain – National Monument. Ortiz rejected all of them and ordered that it not be placed on either board's agenda in the future. My last one was submitted in time for this meeting and was worded:

“Recommend to the Clark County Board of Commissioners which areas in Laughlin Township should be excluded from the boundaries proposed by the National Parks Conservation Association at the February 12th LTAB meeting for the commission to propose to the Nevada Congressional Delegation on the pending Avi Kwa Ame (Spirit Mountain) National Monument.”

Ortiz's reply concluded: "Do not include any agenda item, about this issue, on either TAB agenda. If you have any questions, please let me know."

Mr. Maniaci's statement concluded...

If senior management continues to escalate its attacks against the advisory boards fulfilling their responsibilities, the battle then must be taken directly to the Commission at its semi-monthly meetings in Las Vegas so that the entire Vegas Valley and its media can be aware of senior management's treasonous work against local community betterment, especially in Laughlin.

IX. Next Meeting Date: June 9, 2020

X. Adjournment: 3:00 p.m.

***These minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the June 9, 2020 meeting.
Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the meeting minutes of the July 14, 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>