

SMITH VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD (SVAB)

Meeting Minutes As Corrected

March 4, 2020

Advisory Board members present at meeting: Donald Smith, Tosca Renner, Maralyn Abrott, Donnette Huselton. Absent - Todd Silviera (unexcused).

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Don Smith. The four board members were present constituting a quorum. Pledge of allegiance was recited.

1. **Public Participation**: None.
2. **Review and adoption of agenda** – moved by Donnette Huselton, and seconded by Tosca Renner, to approve the agenda, passed 4-0.
3. **Review and adoption of February 5, 2020 meeting minutes**: After review, Donnette Huselton made a motion to approve minutes from the February 5, 2020 meeting. Motion was seconded by Maralyn Abrott and passed 4-0.
4. **Review of correspondence/email/ and/or faxes received by board**: Correspondence received was as follows:
 - a) An e-mail was received announcing Open Meeting Law training to be held on March 5, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. and March 7, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. in Silver Springs. Members planning to attend need to sign up with the county manager's office.
 - b) County Manager – Board positions on the Smith Valley Park & Recreation board and the advisory board were announced.
5. **Board Member Comments** – None.
6. **Elected Officials/Public Entity Representative's Reports** – Reports were given as follows:
 - a) **County Commissioner** – Jay Dini was in attendance. With regard to the roadway cleanup being proposed in our area, he advised of a group called Desert Pigs, and recommended that someone call Jeff Page to get their contact information. He further discussed roads and infrastructure issues the board of county commissioners were address, and potential tax increases on commercial, industrial, and other buildings from \$.65 per square foot permit to the City of Fernley wanting \$1.00/square foot permit fee. Builders are in an uproar about this. The commissioners are also implementing a \$.05 diesel fuel tax to raise approximately

\$400,000 for Fernley and approximately \$90,000.00 for Yerington. There are definitely budget issues when it comes to road maintenance in the City of Yerington. The tax may affect the three truck stops in Fernley where truck drivers will go into Reno rather than fuel up in Fernley. This is definitely a target tax. Jay also discussed the coronavirus and where this is going with state closures, and growth issues regarding wells in Smith Valley.

b) Harold Ritter, Planning Commission – Not in attendance.

c) Sheriff's office –No representative was in attendance. Don presented the statistics for February, 2020.

d) Fire department – Not in attendance.

e) Other elected/appointed officials – none

f) Code Enforcement Officer – none.

7. **Discussion and possible action regarding community litter pickup project:** Don had requested that the board again discuss setting up a litter pickup project on the roads of the valley. Robin Delaney, representing the Friends of the Library, discussed the NDOT problems, but that they had picked up trash from the school to the Buckboard by contacting NDOT the day before. NDOT will pick up the bags in a central location off the shoulder of the highway, and anyone participating under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. They also need vests. After discussion of the board, Don will reach out to the Desert Pigs, and the trash item will remain on future agendas. Donnette reported on ROP, and they will not send students out for trash pickup.
8. **Recommendations and Comments on Planning Commission items:** None.
9. **Discussion and Possible Action regarding Master Plan Zoning in Smith Valley:** Comment was that people in Smith Valley do not want development. John Abrott suggested that someone from the Planning Department attend a future meeting to explain the Master Plan Zoning changes in our area. It was determined that the item needs to be on the next agenda.
10. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Community Development Block Grant Program:** Kathy Eckart had informed chair Don Smith that there was a \$200,000 grant application that had gone in for economic development plan regarding a railroad feasibility study. Jeff Page is working on this. The board, after discussion, will be continuing to monitor where the railroad would go to and from and if it will affect Smith Valley.
11. **Donnette Huselton representing the Western Nevada Water Preservation Foundation** – Donnette advised that the Nevada Supreme Court is hearing the Walker River public trust issues. She had viewed pictures of the watersheds from Christmas to now, and the outcome of water for this

season is not good. With regard to the pending lawsuit, Judge Jones has been removed and Judge Cobb is now the sitting judge. Time limits have been put into place on the parties to accomplish filings.

12. **Advisory Board Member Comments:** Chairman Don announced that the next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2020. After discussion, a motion was made by Donnette, second by Maralyn and passed 4-0 for the meeting to be held on the scheduled day in April.

RECESSED TO CONVENE AS SMITH VALLEY CEMETERY BOARD

13. **Public participation** – None.
14. **Discussion regarding signage issues the cemetery** – Don reported that names were already done, with Maralyn adding that additional signs to be put up will be no animals and no glass containers. The SVCAB Cemetery Board will be paying for all signs, with the county making them. Discussion was held regarding the board putting in the signs themselves. No action was taken on the item
15. **Review of duties of cemetery board and its members:** Don reported that Erin at the county manager's office had not done the research into the history of the cemetery board and appointment of members and director. He then determined that we needed to move forward with what we do have in place. Maralyn read an email she received from. Upon motion by Don, a letter of transmittal would be sent to the county commissioners naming the cemetery board as the current members and Maralyn as the director. Tosca seconded the motion, and motion passed 4-0.
Donnette brought up that the duties of the director may be too much for one person and was concerned that the duties should be split up between the board members. The board discussed work to be done at the cemetery, and specifically the pre-emergent that needs to be applied. John Abrott suggested that the purchase of the chemical and application should be funneled through the county. Donnette's concern was the timeline involved as weeds needed to be abated sooner than later. Don made a motion to enlist the services of Donnette with some of the duties at the cemetery. Motion was seconded by Donnette. The motion was then rescinded by Don, and he made another motion to have Donnette look into the pre-emergent issues with the county. Donnette second the motion, and motion passed 3-1, with Maralyn in opposition.
16. **Update on Cemetery operations, maintenance and activities**
Maralyn reported the squirrel abatement boxes and squirrel bait were in place, and the costs had been covered by a Smith Valley resident for the squirrel bait boxes and bait to start the season. Maralyn has also scheduled the Nevada Division of Forestry inmates to come to the

cemetery on March 12, 2020, at no cost to the county or Smith Valley. She will furnish lunch for them. She also discussed that there were problems with the drip system and that possible outreach to Rotary or another organization might be a good way to get the system repaired and updated. This item is to be reagendaized when more information is available on how much work needs to be done and how much cost will be involved in repairing the system. No other action was taken.

17. Possible Action on Selecting a Clean-up day prior to Memorial Day for the cemetery – Donnette reported that ROP will not be sending any students out to help with cleanup. Since Memorial Day is May 25, 2020, it was suggested that the cleanup with Rotary be held May 23, 2020. Maralyn will coordinate with them and Donnette to scheduled the date.
18. Discussion and possible action regarding mapping and database: Tabled until the next meeting of the board.
19. **Review and approval of bills and acceptance of Financial Report** – the financial report was provided by Maralyn with a balance in the cemetery budget as of March 4, 2020 of \$3,688.89. After review, a motion was made by Donnette to approve the financial report, seconded by Tosca, and passed 4-0.
20. **Public Participation** – None.

ADJOURNED TO RECONVENE AS THE SMITH VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD

21. **Public participation** – None.
22. Board Member Comments – Don thanked everyone for coming.
23. There being no further business before the meeting, the same was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.