

The Honorable Board of Lyon County Commissioners met this day with the following present: Comm. Vida Keller, Comm. Ken Gray, Comm. Wes Henderson, Comm. Robert Jacobson, and Comm. Dave Hockaday. Also present: County Manager Jeff Page and District Attorney Steve Rye.

1. Roll Call

Present: Vida Keller, Ken Gray, Wes Henderson, Robert Jacobson, and Dave Hockaday

2. Invocation given by Archie or Travis Walker of the Smith Valley Baptist

Travis Walker gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Participation

Travis Walker thanked the Commissioners for their efforts to better the County under the current circumstances.

5. For Possible Action: Review and adoption of agenda

Jeff Page requested to remove item 6.b from the agenda.

Comm. Henderson moved to approve the agenda minus 6.b. Comm. Gray seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

6. Time Certain

6.a. Time Certain at 9:15 AM: For Possible Action: Presentation and Proclamation declaring April 2021 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Lyon County, Nevada.

Human Services Director Shayla Holmes presented regarding child abuse prevention efforts in Lyon County. Nationally, April has been recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Prevention of child abuse requires a community effort – federal, state, and local governments, as well as community service providers, teachers, businesses, health care professionals, clergy, families, friends, and neighbors – to work together to protect children and support the well-being of families.

Division Manager of Children Services Jenna Dykes gave a review of the service available which includes Differential Response, Family Support Program, Nevada Home Visiting, Cribs for Kids, Car Seat Installation and education, Women Infants and Children (WIC), Parenting Classes, and Opioid Education & Naloxone Distribution.

Division of Child and Family Services Kandee Mortenson gave a report of her services. Child Protective Services (CPS) is the first step to ensure the safety and permanency of children who are reported as being abused or neglected. The focus of CPS is on protecting the child from harm or risk of harm and to make it safe for the child to live with the parent or caretaker. Last year there was a total of 136 Investigate Reports.

District Attorney Steve Rye works with DCFS on child protection cases assisting in protecting children and removing them from abusive environments. He also works with the Lyon County Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement agencies to successfully prosecute child abuse and neglect, child sexual abuse and child exploitation cases and protect children from these offenders. From 2019 to 2020 there was a decrease in cases. He encouraged the public to report and generally the families are provided with services. He recognized law enforcement, church groups, City of Yerington, City of Fernley for their efforts.

CASA Representative Kelcy Meyer stated her organization is to help assist children with their volunteer work. They collaborate with several entities to make recommendations. All volunteers are welcome. In 2020, Lyon County CASA served 87 abused and neglected children removed from their homes in Lyon County. Their 10 CASA volunteers dedicated over 1,500 hours in 2020 advocating for the best interests of these vulnerable children.

Shayla Holmes will be providing promotional pinwheel displays to community partners for awareness, and as a reminder of their involvement in the prevention of child abuse. LCHS will also be planting pinwheel gardens in the local community to serve as a reminder to the public that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Comm. Jacobson asked if after a school makes a report, if there could be a follow-up afterward. He gave a description of services the schools provide.