



## SMITH VALLEY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 7:00PM

Smith Valley Justice Court

2 Day Lane, Smith, Nevada

svcab@lyon-county.org

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**1. Call to Order:**

Chairman Ted Stec called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

**2. Roll call and Determination of Quorum**

Present: Ted Stec, Mark Jones, Jon Turner, and Tom Renner

Absent: Roger Rodarte – excused

Quorum established

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mark Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance

**4. Invocation**

Tom Renner led the invocation.

**5. Public Participation**

Rita Heidkamp for 775 Offroad & Recovery. Discussed 775OFR, organizational goals, and impact on the community. They are hosting their annual fund raiser, a “Show and Shine” at Fuji Park in Carson City on May 6 at 10AM. Admission is free.

Mark Jones commented on his personal connection to 775OFR and the good work that the organization does and that he had asked the BoCC to recognize them.

Joanne Lawson reported an opening on the South Lyon Medical Center governing board, please contact her or the hospital administrator if interested.

**6. For Possible Action: Review and adoption of agenda**

Board Member discussion:none

Public Comment: none

Mark Jones moved to adopt the agenda as written, seconded by Tom Renner, motion passed unanimously 4-0.

**7. For Possible Action: Approve Minutes of: February 8, 2023**

Board Member discussion:none

Public Comment: none

Tom Renner moved to adopt the minutes as written, seconded by Mark Jones, motion passed unanimously 4-0.

**8. For Possible Action: Approve Minutes of: March 8, 2023**

Board Member discussion:none

Public Comment: none

Tom Renner moved to adopt the minutes as written, seconded by Mark Jones, motion passed unanimously 4-0.

**9. Community Reports:**

**a) County Commissioner – Dave Hockaday**

Ted Stec reported that Commissioner Hockaday reached out to him today and indicated he would not be able to attend tonight's meeting.

**b) Planning Commission – Constantine Kuzmicki**

Mr Kuzmicki reported that he had reviewed current Planning activity and that there was nothing major affecting Smith Valley at this time.

**c) Sheriff's Report**

Commander Ryan Powell presented the March crime/activity statistics for Smith and Mason Valley and reported that they are working on separating them so that he can provide Smith Valley statistics independently in the future. [see attached]

Powell talked about the Governor having flown over the valley to see the storm impacts. Flooding is of concern as the snow melts. The canyon reopened. There is a

protective fence now that will hopefully stop a rock slide.

Powell talked about the sheriff's office focusing on response times in hopes of improving. There has been more public outreach over the past three months. Focusing on saturated patrols looking for criminal behavior; over 100 traffic stops, arrests made. There are roughly 10 new deputies but a challenge is the near year-long period of time for each one to complete the required POST academy and then field training. Dispatch hired a couple of new employees too.

Powell reported it's budget time and they are working on it. The shop-with-the-sheriff event at Walmart in Fernley before Christmas will be part of the budget talks. Last year, each child participant received a \$300 gift card to shop with. This year, they are trying to expand the outreach by adding a Summer backpack drive; probably in August – a back to school event.

Mark Jones asked how they get money for the outreach. Powell explained it was all by way of donations.

Stec asked if he knew the age of their CAD system. Powell was not sure but knew the dispatchers were still using the old card type system – probably over 30 years old he felt. Stec offered Powell to bring the dispatch manager to the CAB meeting some day too.

**d) Fire Department Report**

Not present / No report submitted

Ted Stec reported he had previously invited the Fire Chief and Mark Jones stated he had reached out as well

**e) Other Elected/Appointed Officials of Smith Valley, Lyon County, or State of Nevada.**

Not present / No report submitted

**10. For Discussion Only: Review of Correspondence, email, other communications**

Chair Ted Stec reported as of this afternoon, not seeing any emails necessary to bring forward.

**11. For Discussion Only: Chairperson & Board Member Discussion (to include ancillary duties update, if any).**

V/Chair Mark Jones talked about having spoken with sheriff and fire personnel and that morale is high. The atmosphere and communication are better.

Secretary Jon Turner talked about the new monitor having been installed and moving toward zoom capability. Feels this is a good idea as it lowers barriers for participation. Regarding the community engagement ancillary duty, moving forward, he wants to include churches, Rotary, school groups to include leaders of various school clubs, FFA, etc.

Member Tom Renner reported he's working on HWY 208 improvements. He has reached out to the GID representatives in TRE. TRE also has needs such as turn lanes. He feels SV needs turn lanes and a passing lane for safety reasons. He also mentioned HWY 208/338 that truck traffic is way up, sometimes they are waiting in line to cross. Need a left turn lane there too. He feels it will take signed petitions from both areas to hopefully get the state's attention.

Renner also talked about dropped insurance coverage here for some citizens who have been with So. Lyon County medical. He reached out and received a response that explained there was no contract established between the hospital and the insurance provider. A copy of the letter was placed on the CAB table. Renner also briefly talked about Nevada Law AB 387, placing information on the CAB table. He explained that the state wants to take control and combine water basins. The Farm Bureau is involved as well; Renner suggested SV residents get involved.

Renner talked about the county not being rich therefore, lack of services. The road survey is not current, lack of money for code enforcement, wages too low, and that we need to support our community.

Mark Jones added the highway patrol is short on funds too and there is no night watch.

Chair Ted Stec reported that he and his wife had attended the Friends of the Library dinner. Thanked those who organized the event.

He and the V/Chair met with reps from Hudbay (Matt Bingham – Executive Director Legal & Public Affairs AND Chantae Lessard – Head of Mason Project)

His takeaways – messaging received - were:

Hudbay staff is eager to keep the dialog going.

The proposed mine is still in the early stages of planning; therefore, some questions cannot be answered with certainty; 10-12 years out still.

The actual footprint of the proposed mine is smaller than what has been represented in non-Hudbay communications (not 41K).

Being interested in the Lands Bill is not in an effort to avoid regulation and government oversight. Current mining laws and the state of Nevada are more than capable of holding a mining company accountable.

They are acutely aware of water concerns and as a matter of practice in planning, include water usage research and potential alternative methods to help mitigate.

Light pollution is also considered in the planning phases and can be mitigated.

**Public Comment on this 'Chairperson & Board Member Discussion only' item including ancillary duties update?**

Mark Jones reported that Hudbay has water rights and he questioned the need for NEPA, adding the process is being evaluated. There is also a difference in old mining vs new mining. More discussion is needed.

Hudbay Chantae Lessard related that NEPA takes too long.

Leslie Sonne explained that some aspects of NEPA are being reevaluated but the key point is the state does not have the same regulations as the federal government.

Tom Renner reported that 50% of water coming to this area is actually going to Walker Lake. He feels it's going to get worse and SV is losing recharge. Without enough water, ranches could be abandoned which results in no tax revenue.

Mark Jones asked about laws to which Tom Renner explained that the water actually comes from California.

**12. For Possible Action and Discussion: Approve a request to the Board of County Commissioners to change the Smith Valley Advisory Board's meeting date and/or time.**

V/Chair Mark Jones to start: talked about the lack of planning commission material to the CAB. For busy people, it's hard to balance other responsibilities when the SVCAB time period is not consistent. He added Commissioner Hockaday feels a change would be okay. Planning could report on what they have done. Jones suggested our meetings should be on the first Wednesday of each month.

Tom Renner wasn't sure. He added that it's been working. A previous board was not successful with a request to change the dates. Jon Turner felt it would be easier to schedule if the date was consistent. He also suggested the first Wednesday of the month. He also suggested we include the time, 5:30 pm or 6:00 pm. Mark Jones felt 6:00 PM would be good.

Ted Stec clarified what has been difficult for some: currently the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday is the method. He spoke with one person who showed up on the first Wednesday only to find out the CAB was actually meeting the next Wednesday. While another person felt it has been fine for a long time and there was a good reason for that method of scheduling. Stec also mentioned that if we start too early doing so might prevent some citizens from applying – anyone commuting from Gardnerville or Carson City may not be able to make the meetings. Stec agreed with the first Wednesday, 6:00 PM, suggestions.

**Public Comment:** Leslie Sonne speculated the meeting dates may be a timing issue when looking at the dates of other boards. Stec understood that other boards have been meeting in the first week of the month.

Stec made the motion to send a LoT to the BoCC, County Administrator, and Erin Lopez requesting our meeting be moved to the first Wednesday of each month, 6pm, for consistency providing this does not interfere with county business, sharing information. Seconded by: Mark Jones. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**13. For Discussion Only: Justice Court Information Technology (IT) upgrade status from the county including installation of donated equipment.**

Jon Turner deferred to Doug Homestead, who reported new monitor installed and that Commissioner Hockaday will meet with IT to train on and test the new equipment.

**Any board member or county staff comments before public comment?** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**RECESS TO RECONVENE AS THE SMITH VALLEY CEMETERY BOARD**

**14. Public Participation:**

None at this time

Chair Ted Stec announced that Roger Rodarte was not present but that Tom Renner had received an email from him. [see attached]

Tom Renner also reported that he and Roger Rodarte had met with Maralyn and John Abrott. He added that Rodarte is a good worker. There are some headstones that have fallen over; soil needs compacting, and headstones reset. No family in some cases to take care of the grave sites. Clean up in May – reaching out to organizations to help. Squirrel bait boxes set.

Doug Homestead reported there was some flood damage. Willing to help clean up, picked up limbs today. Walker River Conservancy willing to help. Contracted with a company for bush removal, \$7,500, April 13-16. Some fences were fixed. Signed a contract for the online software, \$2,500 plus \$1,000 yearly maintenance fee, for plot registry. Will confirm where people are buried.

Tom Renner asked about grave and cremation placements; how best to organize and confirm.

Mark Jones asked if churches could help with the cleanup.

Doug Homestead said the budget was: \$3,845.50.

15. **For report only: Report on plot sales and improvements to plots requested by plot owners (who and what has been requested) – Doug Homestead.**
16. **For report only: Update on cemetery operations, maintenance and activities, including a report or information from Doug Homestead, facilities manager with review of projects that need to be accomplished.**
17. **Review and Approval of bills and Acceptance of Financial Report:**
18. **Public Participation:**

None.

**ADJOURN TO RECONVENE AS THE SMITH VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD**

19. **Public Participation:** none at this point

20. **Board Member Comments**

Mark Jones told Commander Powell that NDOT fixed the rail at 208 & Lower Colony but saw some new skid marks leading up to it already.

Tom Renner saw them too and felt they were acceleration marks instead.

21. **Motion to Adjourn**

Mark Jones moved to adjourn, seconded by Tom Renner. Chair Ted Stec seeing no additional member or public comments pending called the meeting and the time.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:36 PM**

Backup Materials

5. 775OFR flyer

**775**  
OFF ROAD AND RECOVERY

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual**

**4x4 OFFROAD**

**Show N Shine!**



**MAY 06 - FUJI PARK**  
**FREE for Spectators**  
601 Old Clear Creek Rd, Carson City, NV (across from Costco)  
**Show opens at 10am – Winners announced at 2pm**



**CATEGORIES**  
Best in Show  
People's Choice  
Ugliest Sh#tbox  
**Best Overland setup**  
**BadA\$\$ Monster Rig**  
Oldest 4x4  
Best Vanity Plate  
Best SxS

**REGISTER**  
**YOUR RIG**  
At [775OFR.COM](http://775OFR.COM)  
\$10-Pre-Reg  
\$20 after April 22

**VENDORS**  
Register at  
At [775OFR.COM](http://775OFR.COM)

**FUN FOR ALL**  
Recovery Demos  
RC Rock Crawl  
Vendors  
**Huge Raffle**  
Food Truck-Hillbilly Chili

**SWAP MEET**  
Hosted by  
Nevada Four Wheel  
Drive Association  
Contact [www.n4wda.org](http://www.n4wda.org)  
for a space



Our most generous supporters:



**All proceeds support  
775 OFFROAD and  
RECOVERY**



## 5. SLMC email on network provider

Thank you for your comments

Toni Inserra <Toni.Inserra@SLMCNV.org>

Mon 3/20/2023 10:26 AM

To: tom\_tosca@msn.com <tom\_tosca@msn.com>

Good morning,

Thank you for your comment. South Lyon Medical Center has on numerous occasions reached out to healthcare insurers to become a network provider. Unfortunately, due to their proposed low reimbursement rates or their lack of interest claiming there are not enough lives in our area, South Lyon Medical Center has been unable to negotiate a contract. The following insurers are not currently in network:

**Humana Commercial/Humana Medicare Advantage**

**Kaiser Permanente Commercial/Kaiser Permanente Advantage**

**United Health Care Commercial/United Health Care Medicare Advantage**

South Lyon Medical Center is a not-for-profit provider, and these insurers are unwilling to reimburse health care services at the same rate paid by other major health insurers in the area (including Medicare). South Lyon Medical Center needs to receive this minimum payment to provide and maintain high quality care for our patients. South Lyon Medical Center can not accept reimbursement lower than what is paid by the federal programs (Medicare and Medicaid).

Services not covered are ancillary services including clinic, radiology, laboratory, physical therapy, etc.) Patients are welcome to use our cash clinic and our prompt pay discount. We have Financial Counselor available to assist. Please know this **DOES NOT** affect a patient's ability to receive **emergency services**. South Lyon Medical Center will never turn away a patient from the emergency department regardless of their ability to pay.

For our patients who have coverage through one of these providers, we encourage them to call their insurance provider and request South Lyon Medical Center as a preferred provider. The insured individuals have more influence over these providers than South Lyon Medical Center.

Thank you,  
Toni

Toni Inserra, CPHRM  
Administrator  
South Lyon Medical Center  
P O Box 940  
Yerington, NV 89447  
775-463-6404  
775-463-7864 fax

### 9.c. Sheriff's Office Report



### LYON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE End of Month Cad Call Report March 2023

**TOTAL FOR MASON SMITH VALLEY LAW ZONE - 385**

911 Hangup	30
Accident	8
Alarm	1
Animal Call	9
Assist	43
Civil Papers	37
Criminal	23
Domestic Violence	9
Follow up	18
Mental	2
No Response	1
Non-Criminal	44
Public Service	65
Traffic	72
Unclassified	23

Total Arrests: 24  
Total Charges: Felonies: 13 - Total Misdemeanors: 17 - Total Gross Misdemeanors: 0

15-17 (Cemetery Board)

MONTH OF MARCH 2023  
REPORT FOR  
HILLCREST CEMETERY

Maralyn sold,

2 cremation plots and 1 burial plot

The Fullstone Ranch has taking care of the fence damage

The sunken gravesites due to the storms, need attention

I am working on organizing a clean-up day in May

Roger Rodarte  
Hillcrest Director

April 5, 2023

*APRIL 15 to 16<sup>th</sup>*  
*---*  
*---*

*Headstones may need to be set back up  
Square Bait Boxes set out*