

**SILVER CITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
Wednesday, April 18, 2023 at 7:05 PM  
Silver City Schoolhouse Community Center  
385 High St., Silver City, NV 89428

**1. Call to Order:**

Chair Erich Obermayr called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**2. Roll Call: Introduction of members/determination of quorum**

Present: Chair Erich Obermayr, Vice Chair Kathryn Ataman. Two out of three members constitutes a quorum.

**3. Public Comment.**

Representatives from NDEP and EPA reported briefly on the results from their soil testing pilot project in Silver City last fall. They intend to send letters to all the eight residents whose properties were tested last year. The sample collection will continue this year; they will be collecting more samples starting on June 25. Prior to that, in May (8-12), they will be in town talking to other residents about locations where they might be doing the new testing. They will also be testing in Gold Hill, Virginia City, and New Empire. They will be establishing focal areas and will concentrate on high priority areas, esp. along the creek. The NDEP website has detailed information about the sampling from last year as well as the previous work they did in Silver City. Lead, arsenic, and mercury were identified in various samples. At Carol Pool's house, there were high levels of arsenic and elevated levels of lead. At the Browns high levels of mercury as well as arsenic contamination. The threshold (action level) for mercury contamination in non-Super Fund sites is 10 (ppm?) and at Super Fund sites is 80 (ppm?). In most cases remediation is offered to homeowners above the threshold.

Don Bergstrom from the group working on the Donovan Mill restoration project reported that there will be mill tours and a display of gas engines and tractors on April 29, 9:00am to 4:00pm.

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

Kathryn Ataman moved to adopt the agenda as written, Erich Obermayr seconded, and the motion passed 2-0.

**5. For Possible Action: Approve minutes of meetings of March 22, 2023.**

Erich Obermayr moved to approve the minutes as written, Kathryn Ataman seconded, and the motion passed 2-0.

**6. Correspondence:**

Erich Obermayr reported that an email from Ibrahim from the EPA explained that there had been a delay in the dissemination of results from the soil testing last fall.

There was correspondence from Andrew Haskin that the Lyon Co. Bd. of Commissioners had approved a request for a Ferrari Hillclimb on Sept. 16/17 on the truck route.

Silver City received a large number of historical digitized photos and at least one video from Bob Thomassen, most of which had been taken by Jim McGill in the 1970s as a donation to the Silver City Archives.

**7. Reports:**

**SILVER CITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
Wednesday, April 18, 2023 at 7:05 PM  
Silver City Schoolhouse Community Center  
385 High St., Silver City, NV 89428

**A. Lyon County Board openings**

Erich Obermayr reported that there is an opening on the Lyon County Debt Management Commission. Kathryn Ataman reported that there were still openings on the Central Lyon County Parks and Recreation Board.

**B. Commissioners/County officials**

Wes Henderson reported on news from the County Commission. At the May 19 meeting they will discuss a bill before the legislature concerning county roads crossing public land in which the roads would be transferred to counties through a quiet title process. Such roads would have to have been county roads since 1974. The roads would then be maintained by the county. Prompted by incidents such as the need to close a road in Lyon County due to rock fall and use instead the road over Mason Pass that was a two track, not in good condition.

The tentative county budget for the next fiscal year is also being discussed. The budget includes 5.5 FTEs for engineering, bldg. inspection, and plan review that was contracted out previously. It also included 9 new sheriff's vehicles. Lyon Co now also has a lobbyist in Washington D.C \$120,000 for 16 months.

Wes Henderson explained that there currently is no lands bill. There is however discussion underway to develop a lands bill, the parameters of which have not been agreed upon. The intent is to identify lands that the county wants for county purposes, as well as lands that could be used for development. A map was displayed from the contractor hired by the county to prepare a report. Wes will keep us apprised as the effort continues.

The bill that would have shared revenue from Tesla taxes in the future outside of Storey County, died in the legislature. The discussion about the possible Lands Bill will be described in Item 8.

**C. Lyon County Planning Commission**

There were none given.

**D. Lyon County Sheriff's Dept.**

There were none given.

**E. Lyon County Parks & Recreation**

Kathryn Ataman reported that the new fence has been installed. The trees for the park should be planted soon, but the Parks maintenance crew is behind because of the late spring.

**F. Silver City Volunteer Fire Dept.**

Noel reported the SCVFD would soon be doing wildland fire training.

**G. Silver City Arts Group**

Meg reported that the Silverpalooza fundraiser will be held on July 2, two bands are confirmed. The results of the community survey on needs and wants will be delayed until next month.

**SILVER CITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
Wednesday, April 18, 2023 at 7:05 PM  
Silver City Schoolhouse Community Center  
385 High St., Silver City, NV 89428

**H. Silver City Preservation Society**

There were none given.

**I. Cemetery Committee**

This item was discussed under the main agenda, No 11.

**H. Lyon County Buildings and Grounds**

There were none given.

**8. For discussion only: Presentation on Community Needs and Wants Survey**

This item will be delayed until the June meeting.

**9. Update on NDEP/EPA superfund sampling in Silver City**

This item was discussed under Public Comment to accommodate the NDEP/EPA guests.

**10. Update on OHV Commission Grant Program Chair/Member Comments:**

After a brief discussion, the Board voted 2-0 to investigate the availability of grants for signage. There was some general discussion about Jonathan Byrnside not being able to attend the next Advisory Board meeting due to being out of town and that Kathryn Ataman will act as Secretary for the meeting.

**11. For Discussion and Possible Action: Update on Reconstituting the Silver City Cemetery Committee**

There was a discussion about the future of the Cemetery Committee. The Board voted 2-0 to reconstitute the committee but after some discussion, no decision was reached about the most practical way to do it. The motion reads: The SCCAB shall appoint the Silver City Cemetery Committee as an Ad Hoc Committee with the purpose of Assisting Lyon County in the Development of the modern Silver City Cemetery. The Committee shall consist of at least three members.

A second motion, which also passed 2-0, was to appoint Erich Obermayr and Grahame Ross, and others to the Silver City Cemetery Committee.

Further discussion involved whether the committee be part of the Town Board directly, or work through the Preservation Society Board? Currently, Erich Obermayr and Grahame Ross will serve as members, but more members should be recruited. Acceptable protocols for accepting donations were also discussed, including whether affiliation with the Board or Preservation Society would work better, but no decisions were reached. As the hour was getting late, the Board voted 2-0 to table consideration of this item and to agendize it for the June meeting.

**12. Public Comment:**

**SILVER CITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
Wednesday, April 18, 2023 at 7:05 PM  
Silver City Schoolhouse Community Center  
385 High St., Silver City, NV 89428

There was no additional Public Comment.

**13. Adjournment:**

Chair Erich Obermayr adjourned the meeting.