

**Smith Valley Citizens Advisory Board  
Minutes of the Meeting on  
Wednesday, July 6, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.  
Smith Valley Justice Court  
2 Day Lane, Smith, Nevada**

**1. Call to order:**

Chair Tom Renner called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**2. Roll call: Determination of a Quorum:**

Present: Tom Renner, Roger Rodarte, Maralyn Abrott, Ted Stec (absence approved), Nettie Lawson (via phone)

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Invocation**

Roger Rodarte led the invocation.

**5. Public Participation:**

These statements had been read but not recorded. Chair Tom Renner realized the mistake and asked if anyone would like to share their comments again.

Judith Harker stated that Rotary is putting together a Welcome Packet for new residents of Smith Valley. Friends of the Library and the Historical Society are sharing their information. She suggested the Cemetery Board and SVCAB submit a flier for the packet (30 copies) to the library by July 27, 2022 to the attention of Barbara Brooks.

Joanne Lawson stated that an email dated June 25, 2022 to Tom Renner and Dave Hockaday was not read into the June minutes as record and she read it, as follows. "It is really too bad that neither of you attended this community meeting about lands bills and mining impacts! Over 80 of your neighbors (including Dr. Titus) found the time to get some hard facts on what may well happen to our valley if our county commissioners continue to support the sale of our Public Lands to mining companies." Jim Kinnerger

Bruce Bohlin stated that several Americorp volunteers are working with Walker Basin Conservancy. Their goal is to have young men volunteer in the communities. If the Cemetery

Board needs assistance with the cemetery, they can contact him through Walker River Basin Conservancy at 253-442-3742.

Jim Kinninger was wondering how many on the advisory board have gone to training provided by the Commissioners as stated on page 14 of the handbook. He hopes the board will be open minded about the sale of lands for mine.

Richard Sorley is concerned about the playground equipment at the park. Doug Homestead said next week at the Park Board meeting they will be discussing it. There is new playground equipment ready to go in.

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

Roger Rodarte moved to adopt the agenda, Maralyn Abrott seconded and the motion passed 4-0

#### **7. For Possible Action: Approve minutes of March 2, 2022, May 4, 2022, and June 8, 2022**

Roger Rodarte moved to adopt the minutes of March 2, 2022, seconded by Maralyn Abrott and approved with 4 ayes. Roger Rodarte moved to adopt the minutes of May 4, 2022, seconded by Maralyn Abrott with correction to Ted Stec's last name spelling and motion passed with 4 ayes. Roger Rodarte moved to adopt the minutes of June 8, 2022, seconded by Maralyn Abrott and motion passed 4-0

#### **8. Community Reports:**

##### **a) County Commissioner-Dave Hockaday**

Dave Hockaday stated that Jim Kinninger keeps saying how eager the Commissioners are to sell land to Hudbay. He would like to hear what, where and who it is that provided this information. The Commissioners have requested a meeting with Hudbay and the date Hudbay said they would come wouldn't work because 3 of them would be at a meeting in Denver. There hasn't been any other communication with Lyon County and Hudbay. Commissioner Hockaday is NOT eager to sell anything to anybody. Nothing can be said until Hudbay does a presentation at a meeting. He said to get it straight that the commissioners have not talked to Hudbay. Until there is a presentation he can't say anything and that is the bottom line. "Hudbay can pull a lot of shenanigans" and it has been a "dog and pony show. I love Smith Valley and it is my home. My response to the March 2, 2022 meeting was I was in the back room where there was a man yelling and screaming and I asked him to settle down or he would have to leave, with an officer if need be. The man settled right down. There were people giggling and flipping off the presenters and they were talked to. I am tired of being called a liar," Commissioner Hockaday said. Dave also stated that he's waiting for a presentation from the agency they hired to study the lands bill needs and requests.

At this point he went on to talk about how Congress approved the PILT funds, which will be 2.4 million next year. ARPA is already in the hole at 6.8 million. Inflation has eaten up funds so the BOCC had to make budget cutbacks. There is no way to cut fire departments. Money coming in is the budget set for next year. Wifi is supposed to be installed this week. There is a BOCC meeting tomorrow that you can get on ZOOM to attend.

Jim Kinninger commented that the lands deal has bypassed the community. He stated that Jeff Page insinuated that the lands bill has already gone to the federal level, and it appears that the BOCC hasn't directed the county manager. He said he believes that the personal feelings of the advisory board are taking precedence over public concerns. Members of community are gravely concerned about the mine, and the advisory board makes no effort to pass the feelings of the community to the BOCC.

Commissioner Hockaday again reiterated that no meeting or information has been relayed to the BOCC with regard to Hudbay. He said the BOCC is waiting on a meeting involving Hudbay and their presentation on what they are requesting as far as public land. Mr. Hockaday explained process of how the public lands issues will progress, and they are by no means even close to making any decisions regarding the public lands bill. He also advised that the timeframes on these meetings and public hearings will be reviewed and held over a period of time.

Judith Harker asked if when the meetings or public hearings are held involving Hudbay would notification be made to the communities for individuals to attend. Dave once again advised that public will be advised of any meeting that will be held, via social media, agendas, and in usual public notification means.

Joanne Lawson commented that she was not laughing because she thought it was funny that a woman was flipping people off at the March 2, 2022 meeting, but that she couldn't believe that someone would act in such a juvenile manner.

Later in the meeting, Dave further reported regarding preparedness for evacuations at the school, especially from the west side of Smith Valley. There is an effort to coordinate fire departments, law enforcement, and other emergency personnel. It was also mentioned regarding Code Red Emergency availability, and notification will be sent from the county to all people in the valley.

**b) Planning Commission**

No report. Mr. Kuzmicki was not in attendance

**c) Sheriff's Report**

No report available. Comment – Don Smith had spoken with Sheriff Frank Hunewill. He said that there is work being done to attempt to get reports that are area specific.

**d) Fire Department Report**

Rob Loveberg, SV FPD Chief - Friday is last day with SVFPD. He has been proud and honored to serve community after 23 years. Firemen's bbq is Saturday night. He also reiterated that the budget was passed in May, but is very tight, and it's the volunteers that make the district work. Jim Kinninger commented and commended Rob Loveberg for a job well done.

**9. For Discussion Only; Review of Correspondence, email, other communications**

a) Email from County regarding vandalism countywide in county facilities. Doug Homestead advised that there was \$7,000 worth of damage in Dayton, the fairgrounds were vandalized, and batteries were taken out of tractors at Dressler Park. It was advised that everyone needed to keep an eye out for suspicious activity.

b) Erin Lopez request on training – Tom reported that he had discussed with Erin that any training will be coordinated and give board members an opportunity to finesse county procedure regarding agendas, minutes, and other like documents and information.

**10. For discussion and Presentation: Kelli Nevills, Nevada Division of Forestry:**

Ms. Nevills did not attend the meeting.

**11. For report only: Chairperson and Board Member Comments – None**

**12. Action regarding next meeting – August 3, 2022.**

Maralyn moved, Roger seconded to set next meeting on August 3, 2022. Passed unanimously.

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

**13. Public Participation – none**

**14. For Possible Action – Review of Cemetery Plot Prices**

Chairman Tom reviewed cemetery plot fees issues and how the county is on hold with regard to the fees as Josh Foli, Lyon County Comptroller, is attempting to standardized fees countywide. Doug was going to talk to him, but the intention is to try and cover costs of operating the cemeteries by sales. Matter will be continued to next meeting, and Dave and Doug will talk to Josh Foli.

**15. Maralyn Abrott report on plot sales**

Maralyn reported no sales or improvements.

**16. Maralyn Abrott report on cemetery activities, Doug Homestead review of projects**

Cleanup still going on, and Fulstones allowing debris dumping at their place. Spraying has been done by Soil Conservation for \$300 plus cost of chemicals. The drip system is in, timers are on, and several helpers have been working along with John Abrott, who is putting in four to five days a week. Doug reported Nathan completed the drip system, is putting in a pressure tank, and he expressed his thanks to Maralyn and John for what they have accomplished. Trees will need to be evaluated to see what work needs to be done with those.

**17. Mapping and Database update:**

Doug reported that since it was a new budget year, hopefully Far West will be completing the countywide project of mapping. Goal for this fiscal year will be to get the software program up and going.

**18. Review and Approval of bills and Acceptance of Financial Report:**

Doug reviewed last year's budget, and with excess money, the pump was worked on, and the tractor was repaired, Last year building was redone and drip system was put in. Tom thanked Doug for all of his work, and Doug commented that it was nice that the community participates in the maintenance of the cemetery. Dave commented that involvement of organizations like Rotary has helped immensely. The president has offered the group to assist in the Valley Grove cemetery cleanup. The project will be labor intensive, with removal of sagebrush necessary to see tombstones. This cemetery used to have problems with a high water table, and Tom shared on the history of water usage in Smith Valley, the recent Nevada Supreme Court ruling on Diamond Valley Ranches, and discussed how water at cemetery at Valley Grove cemetery has diminished to where work can be accomplished there.

**19. Public Participation:**

No public participation.

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

**20. Public Participation**

No public participation.

**21. Board Member Comments**

None.

**22. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.