

SMITH VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD (SVAB)

Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2020

Advisory Board members present at meeting: Donald Smith, Tosca Renner, Maralyn Abrott, Donnette Huselton.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Don Smith. Three board members were present at 7:00 p.m., constituting a quorum. Pledge of allegiance was recited. Tosca Renner arrived at 7:05 p.m.

1. **Public Participation**: None.
2. **Review and adoption of agenda** – moved by Donnette Huselton, and seconded by Maralyn Abrott, to approve the agenda, passed 3-0.
3. **Review and adoption of March 4, 2020 meeting minutes**: After review, Donnette Huselton made a motion to approve minutes from the March 4, 2020 meeting with the correction that a transmittal letter was to be sent to the county commissioners with the members/officers of the cemetery board and Maralyn Abrott appointed as director. Correction will be made before the minutes are forwarded to county manager's office. Motion was seconded by Maralyn Abrott and passed 3-0.
4. **Review of correspondence/email/ and/or faxes received by board**: Correspondence received was as follows:
 - a) An e-mail was received announcing board openings throughout the county
 - b) County Manager – Master plan meetings are being set up with advisory boards. The county is going to the boards to work out a schedule. Don will send Erin an e-mail regarding attendance of the appropriate county official at the September, 2020 meeting.
5. **Board Member Comments** – Donnette thanked everyone for coming back to the meeting.
6. **Elected Officials/Public Entity Representative's Reports** – Reports were given as follows:
 - a) **County Commissioner** – Jay Dini was in attendance. He commented on the mail in vote bill that recently passed in the special session of the legislature. He also discussed the county in general, and the COVID 19 issues instilling fear in the public.

b) Harold Ritter, Planning Commission – Harold reported that planning commission had been pretty slow, with no new development or issues in Smith Valley.

c) Sheriff's office –No representative was in attendance. Don presented the statistics for July, 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:** A lengthy discussion ensued regarding pursuing the community litter pickup project. Before Rob Dunbar left the county, he advised that there was no program for litter pickup, no vests available, and no litter bags. Robin Delaney was in attendance and again reiterated that NDOT will provide bags and vests for cleanup on the state highways in the area. Robin also shared that Mr. Weibold of the Buckboard store wanted to do something in October for the community, and she suggested community trash pickup, with Mr. Weibold providing meals for all workers for free. It needs to be determined how many he is willing to feed for free. It was also suggested that Larry Talbott of S.V. Notes and S.V. Rotary be contacted for possible assistance with the project. Don also discussed contacting Phil Worley of Desert Pigs. Don will coordinate with him to see what that group would be willing to do. Don also deferred to the Friends of the Library to organize any event of this nature. No action was taken.
- 8. Recommendations and Comments on Planning Commission items:** None.
- 9. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Master Plan Zoning in Smith Valley:** Since the county manager had sent an email regarding setting up workshops with each advisory board, Harold suggested that a representative be contacted to attend the September meeting. Don will follow up regarding this item. No action was taken.
- 10. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Community Development Block Grant Program:** Research had been done regarding the grant program with potentially \$200,000 coming to Lyon County. Areas to be considered are Smith Valley, Mason Valley, Yerington, two tribes, Mineral County, and Walker River Corridor. No action was taken.
- 11. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Hudbay Mine Site located in the Singatse Range:** A review of the area of the newest proposed mine site in the Yerington area was made. The site is west of Bluestone, and it is estimated that 1.4 billion tons of copper are potentially in the area, with the mine to be active for an estimated 21 years. Proposed plans show an open pit mine. Harold said that a special use permit would be required in Lyon County, but that the state needs to take priority to set up public hearings involving the public. It was the consensus

of the group that it is way too early to try to have input on the project. Item was tabled with no action.

12. **Donnette Huselton representing the Western Nevada Water Preservation Foundation** – No information except that we are still in a drought.
13. **Advisory Board Member Comments:** Chairman Don announced that the next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2020. After discussion, a motion was made by Tosca, and seconded by Donnette to hold the meeting that date. Maralyn checked and saw the first Tuesday was September 1, so our meeting should be September 2, 2020. Tosca amended her motion to hold the meeting September 2, 2020, Donnette seconded. and amended motion passed 4-0.

RECESSED TO CONVENE AS SMITH VALLEY CEMETERY BOARD

14. **Public participation** – None.
15. **Discussion regarding signage issues the cemetery** – There was no report on signs. Item was tabled, no action.
16. **Review of duties of cemetery board and its members:** Matter was covered at the March, 2020, meeting. A letter of transmittal will be sent to the county with the action taken at the March meeting.
17. **Update on Cemetery operations, maintenance and activities**
Maralyn reported updates since the March meeting. The squirrel abatement is done and working well. Through a series of events, there was no pre-emergent put down at the cemetery. Maralyn's husband, John Abrott has been doing the maintenance at the cemetery since there is no employee/contract caretaker at the cemetery right now. John advised he had a good working relationship with Rob Dunbar before he left and hopes to continue to work with the county maintaining the cemetery. More clean up is needed, and signs are needed to advise that no glass containers nor dogs are allowed at the cemetery. John will continue to maintain the cemetery and finish fixing drip lines, clean out the ditch on the highway side of the cemetery, and like projects. He also said he will get a copy of the map of the cemetery so he knows where the rebar is in the open area. Weed control is still a problem. Maralyn and John are working on it.
18. Discussion and possible action regarding mapping and database: Don gave an update of information he received regarding the county database for all cemeteries in the county. Discussion was held, and no action was taken.

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 August 2, 2020 of \$1,780.65 remaining for the year. Maralyn reported that Rob Dunbar had ordered trash cans prior to leaving the county at a cost of \$3,118.75. A discussion was held as to whether the cans were ordered and purchased in fiscal 2020, or purchased in fiscal 2021, since the bill was paid July 24, 2020. Commissioner Dini said he would look into this and get back to the board. After review, a motion was made by Donnette to approve the financial report with the contingency that Maralyn investigate the trash can charge and see if it can be moved back to fiscal 2020. Motion seconded by Tosca, and passed 4-0.

20. **Public Participation** – Tosca thanked John and Maralyn Abrott for all the work and effort they are putting into maintaining the cemetery.

ADJOURNED TO RECONVENE AS THE SMITH VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD

21. **Public participation** – None.

22. Board Member Comments – Donnette spoke about the issues with the Douglas County Sheriff and the Black Lives Matter group.

23. There being no further business before the meeting, the same was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.