

Board of County Commissioners

Lyon County, Nevada

The Honorable Board of Lyon County Commissioners met this day, Thursday, August 28, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. in the LYON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX, 27 S. MAIN STREET, YERINGTON, NV 89447.

1. Roll Call

Present: Chair David Hockaday, Commissioner Scott Keller, Commissioner Robert Jacobson, and Commissioner Tammy Hendrix

Via Zoom: Vice-Chair Wes Henderson

Staff Present: County Manager Andrew Haskin, District Attorney Steve Rye and Deputy District Attorney Ilyssa Fogel, Community Development Director Louis Cariola, Code Enforcement Officer Michael Johnson

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Participation

Jim Denning expressed the questions he had with red tag, transients, speeding vehicles and, access to farm roads. He questioned who is in charge of the golf course and maintenance.

Jimmy Richards expressed his concern of health and welfare of the area in which he lives. It could be a fire hazard and requested Code Enforcement review the area.

4. For Possible Action: Review and Adoption of Agenda

Comm. Keller moved to approve the agenda, Comm. Hendrix seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

5. Workshop

5. a. A Workshop of the Lyon County Board of Commissioners to review and discuss current Code Enforcement regulations and processes and potential amendments to both. No action will be taken.

Community Development Director Louis Cariola gave a presentation of code enforcement. He gave an overview of code enforcement issues, compliance with code, prioritizing and expectations of cases, pictometry aerial imaging, challenges with code, process and associated challenges, process recommendations, proposed penalty and compliance structure, and administrative goals.

The Commissioners shared with staff their questions and concerns if reporting is confidential, jurisdiction, mental health awareness and Human Services support, assessment and process, criminal prosecution and confidentiality, nonuse of drones, citation authority, compliance letters, possible fines, appeal process, waving of fees, lien on properties, and the hearing and appeal process.

Comm. Hockaday asked for public participation.

Public Participation:

Patsy Soukup asked if there are multiple offenses is it per property.

Louis Cariola answered it could be by offenses and to focus on the worse offences and exercise discretion in identifying which offenses are serious.

Jimmy Richards has a concern with property maintenance code and the empty lots with large weeds and the fires that could be started.

Jim Denning wants to know who is responsible for the golf course and keeping it maintained. He gave his recommendation for process. He asked if Code Enforcement takes the entire property into consideration when assessing or if they are only looking at the front yards. He also asked if Code Enforcement is allowed to go in if its red tagged to make assessments.

Louis Cariola said he's not aware of any provision that Code Enforcement would only be concerned with the front yards. The Code Enforcement does not walk through red tagged homes due to safety.

Andrew Haskin stated a warrant would be needed to go through a residence that has been red tagged.

Jim Denning said there are people living in travel trailers and motor homes. Transient people in the community are a nuisance and concern.

Melinda Cash voiced concern with anonymous calls and she is directed to a form that asks for her name and phone number and asked if staff is aware it is anonymous.

Andrew Haskin stated they are asked to fill out a form and although keeping it anonymous can create some challenges, it is necessary for the court process but it is not shared with the resident.

Michael Johnson stated it is probably the neighbor who is assumed to have made the complaint because of the interactions or conversation on the street.

District Attorney Steve Rye reviewed the anonymous process and that Lyon County can be the reporting party to keep the anonymous status.

Betty Retzer asked if RV complaints within a HOA go to the HOA or Lyon County Code Enforcement. She is concerned with safety and a rodeo in her neighborhood.

Louis Cariola stated the County Code Enforcement would apply and also contact the HOA.

Michael Hawkins recommended for Lyon County to have more forums for the public awareness.

Melinda Cash reported of an incident that it was revealed a woman made the complaint and recommended it be refreshed with staff.

Louis Cariola stated public comment engagement would be best at the time of the ordinance adoption and also at the Planning Commission meeting.

Comm. Hockaday asked for the Advisory Boards to also be made part of the process.

Jim Richards stated that VIP program with the sheriff's office could be a helpful resource.

Comm. Keller got up from the dais and walked to the District Attorney Steve Rye to ask a question.

Comm. Hockaday expressed concern that because the meeting is in session, the statements between Comm. Keller and DA Rye should be public and made part of the record.

Comm. Keller came back to his seat and stated his question was related to whether he could publicly discuss the task force that was discussed prior to COVID and whether it would be appropriate to bring it up in the workshop.