



Laughlin Town Advisory Board

February 09, 2021

MINUTES

Board Members: Kathy Ochs – Chair
Kathleen Hoss – Vice Chair
Fred Doten
Hermon Walker
Pamela Walker

Secretary: Tammy Harris, (702) 298-0828 tammy.harris@clarkcountynv.gov

Town Liaison:

I. Call to Order by Kathy Ochs, Invocation by Pastor Doug Westly, Pledge of Allegiance led by Kathy Ochs.

II. Public Comment: James Maniaci read the following report.

James Maniaci said “About your agenda item to appoint a new representative to the County’s Advisory Committee, I point out when I accepted the initial appointment, it was for the length of the project slated for the end of 2022. Since you are determining otherwise, I wish your new appointee the best in catching up to the commission adopting a new Master Plan in the next few months while work escalates to revise the onerous Title 30.”

Mr. Maniaci said in part the process is at the end of the 4th of eight steps. At the Advisory Committee meeting, twelve of the County’s 19 Boards and Councils were represented. The common theme remained making the appropriate allowances for the differences among the various townships and communities, different from the fast growing urban valley township’s needs.

The Master Plan will be reduced in size and will be a text-oriented document. Much of the Development Code text will be replaced with charts, matrixes, illustrations, and photos.

James Maniaci appreciated the opportunity to serve Laughlin.

(To receive a copy of the full report call Laughlin Administration office at (702) 298-0828)

III. Appoint a Laughlin Town Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair to serve a two - year term and take any action deemed appropriate. (For possible action)

Pamela Walker motioned to nominate Kathy Ochs as the Chair and Kathleen Hoss as the Vice Chair. Kathy Ochs accepted the nomination as Chair and Kathleen Hoss accepted the nominations as Vice Chair. Motion passed 5-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes for November 10, 2020 (For possible action)

RECEIVED

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COUNTY CLERK

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MARILYN KIRKPATRICK Chair • JAMES B. GIBSON, Vice Chair
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YOLANDA T. KING, County Manager

Moved by: Herm Walker
Action: Approved as written
Vote: 5-0

V. Approval of agenda for February 09, 2021 and hold, combine or delete any items (For possible action)

Moved by: Pamela Walker
Action: Approved
Vote: 5-0

VI. Informational Items

1. Receive a report from Lt. Jeff Hewes with Metro Police regarding activity and statistics during the past month and other area crime concerns. (For discussion only)

Sgt. Gino Briscoe provided the February 2021 report.

January 2021 Statistics:

Calls for Service: 337, increased 1.20% from this time last year
Traffic Citations: 264
DUIs: 4
Battery Domestic Violence Arrests: 6
Bookings: 41
Juvenile Citations: 0

Chair Ochs inquired about the number of calls taking in consideration of the 25% occupancy rates at the Hotels, the number seems high. Sgt. Briscoe said working in the field, even though the visitor population is down the suspects tend to stick out more and makes them easier to spot.

2. Receive a report from Nevada Highway Patrol regarding activity and statistics during the last month and other public safety concerns. (For discussion only)

No report

3. Receive a report from Clark County Fire Department regarding calls for service during the past month and other fire prevention issues. (For discussion only)

Battalion Chief Thomas Touchstone provided the report for November, December and January.

Statistics November 2020:

Station 76:
Total responses: 115

Station 85:
Total responses: 89
Total November calls: 204

Statistics December 2020:

Station 76:

Total responses: 126

Station 85:

Total responses: 125

Total December calls: 251

YTD Responses 2020:

Station 76:

Total responses: 1,569

Station 85:

Total responses: 1221

Water craft responses: 3

Total 2020 calls: 2793, down 5%.

The Fire department established a vaccine site at the Aquarius Hotel to administer the vaccine to the Laughlin residents who fell into the Tier 1 eligibility. A total of 1,971 vaccines were administered on February 3rd and 4th. The fire department will be back the first part of March to administer the second dose.

Hermon Walker inquired about the enclosures at gated community complexes and if there was any requirements on how many exit gates the complex should have. BC Touchstone said he was not prepared to answer that question but he will find the answer. He suggested asking that question to the fire inspector since that would be the best person to answer the question, but he will follow up and bring the answer to the next meeting.

4. Receive a report from Greg Turner with Clark County Water Reclamation District regarding the status of the wastewater system. (For discussion only)

In Greg Turners absence Chair Ochs read the February report.

Statistics: January 2021

The Laughlin Water Reclamation Facility had an average of 1.47 MGD, producing clean water returned to the Colorado River. Flow decrease of 380,000 gallons per day from this time last year.

Sewer Service Complaints: None

Odor Complaints: None

Call Before You Dig: 34 C.B.Y.D. Laughlin tickets received for January 2021.

5. Receive a report from Jason Bailey with Big Bend Water District regarding the status of the water system. (For discussion only)

Diversions:

January 2021: 201 acre-feet

2020 YTD total diversions: 3,509 acre-feet

2019 YTD total diversions: 3,638 acre-feet

There are no major leaks or issues to report.

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Mr. Bailey addressed a question from Chair Ochs from the last meeting in November 2020, regarding drop boxes for payment at the Laughlin Market and other locations. He said after speaking with customer service they want the customers to engage with them on-line, using the Kiosk at their site or pay by phone or mail. At this time the water district won't be adding a drop box at the Laughlin Market.

Mr. Bailey reported some good news, the Big Bend Water District was awarded a \$1.5 million in grant funding. This is a state revolving fund and a capital improvement grant. The money will be used to increase system reliability, upgrade the hardware / software and replacing old pipelines and electrical systems.

Hermion Walker inquired about water usage. Mr. Bailey said Laughlin was in good shape and uses approximately 3,500 acre feet out of the 15,000 that is allocated. Mr. Bailey explained an acre foot and said imagine an acre of land with a foot of water, that would an acre foot.

Chair Ochs clarified the water usage stating Laughlin uses one fifth of the water that is allocated which is good. She said at one time the water usage was higher, using one third. Ms. Ochs requested a report on the improvements since the rate increase.

Ms. Ochs asked due to the pandemic if the number of households have decreased. Mr. Bailey said that was a good question and will find out.

As COVID-19 activities continue to affect communities, the commitment to provide a safe and reliable water supply remains a top priority for the Big Bend Water District.

6. Receive a report from University of Nevada Cooperative Extension regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

Hayley Maio, Extension Educator, provided the report. She wanted to express her thanks to everyone who participated with the survey in November. It provided a lot of good feedback on what the community wants to see from the extension and she said she is working hard to get some of the programs put together for the public.

The 4-H after school program is currently being offered to the youth of Laughlin and is being held at the library.

The Master Gardner program may expand from Laughlin to Fort Mohave. It will provide home gardening with tips and tricks, with classes.

Chair Ochs inquired about capital improvements and what the public is asking for. Ms. Maio said she has been working on Grants and other sources. One of the Grants she was able to receive a portion from was the SNAP-ED Grant, which she will be bringing to the Laughlin Public Schools.

7. Receive a report from Jackie Mazzeo with Laughlin Chamber of Commerce regarding current and upcoming business activities in Laughlin. (For discussion only)

Chair Ochs acknowledge and recognized the Laughlin Chamber, the VIP's and the Fire Department for their work during the vaccine clinic that was held at the Aquarius Hotel. Everyone was amazing and did a great job. Jackie Mazzeo said she appreciates the acknowledgement and said they are more than happy to continue to help in any way they can.

Laughlin Chamber Water Flow Committee:

This committee was founded in March 2020 to address the unexpected low water levels on the lower Colorado River that negatively affected the Tourism Industry and recreation. The board, led by Brea Chiodini, is made up of stakeholders in AZ/NV, government, Resorts, small and large business, real estate, recreation, BHC pest

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abatement and Clark County vector control, tourism, citizens, and the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation.

The Water Flow Committee has added objection to the Lake Powell Pipeline Project and a Caddisfly Mortality Pilot Program to the list of projects and has acted very quick to implementing programs and communication regarding both.

Next Meeting scheduled for February 17th.

The Connie Davis 5K Walk & Roll for Cancer – March 6th, 2021

Efforts are being made to create a virtual walking event commencing on the same day to ensure that our support of the River Fund, Inc. Cancer Connection Funds benefit as much as possible.

Ribbon Cuttings:

We continue to schedule and perform grand openings, re-openings, and anniversary celebrations with limited attendance of 25 people.

Volunteers in Partnership (VIPS):

The VIPS presented donations to qualifying non-profit organizations again on January 12th in the amount of \$4000. The money distributed was earned from fund-raising events in 2020.

Mixers:

Networking and Educating: ZOOM network schedules are being created for the virtual education of the community and provide businesses in attendance to share their services or products to those in attendance. The breakfast mixer and educational opportunities were limited by space in the past and now more people can attend with more convenience.

Membership:

Services have increased with additional marketing opportunities, such as newsletters, email blasts, COVID focused resource guide by state, and enhanced social network postings. New members took advantage of the 30-day trial and discovered that our Membership Services Menu was a great value for their restricted budgets. Notary services, Registered Agent and Fishing License issuance are being added this quarter.

- Total Members – 291
- % of Laughlin – 28%
- New Members QTD 2021 – 3

Board of Directors:

Elections were held in January and the Executive Board officers have been voted

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| • Chairman of the Board | Fred Doten |
| • Past Chair | Sean Hammond |
| • Co-Chair | Brie Tyler |
| • Treasurer | Chuck Copeland, CPA |
| • Secretary | Robert Church |

Grants:

The Tourism grant projects were fully executed per the NCOT Guidelines, the vendors have been compensated and reimbursement has been requested. Measuring the impact of the projects will be difficult but the phone calls, emails and visits to the website have been encouraging.

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- Digital Billboards in CA, AZ, NV
- Distribution of Community guides in WA, OR, CA, UT, AZ
- Website redesign with video and inclusion of Tourism Events and Visitor's Center Info

The PETS Grant was awarded in January

The Paycheck Protection Program application, now eligible to 501c6 organizations, will be submitted.

COVID 19 Partnerships:

Staff and Volunteers in Partnership (VIPS) provided support for:

- COVID 19 Testing – Friday, January 8, 2021 at Laughlin Jr/Sr High School
- COVID 19 Moderna Vaccinations – Wednesday, February 3 – Thursday, February 4, 2021 at the Aquarius Casino Resort 9a -5p

To schedule an appointment for vaccinations <https://registration.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/covid-vaccine?id=601490975fb6f937fcba08c6>.

Note: A release date for the PBS Outdoor Nevada Segment has not been released.

Chair Ochs inquired if the Chamber was going to help people schedule their second vaccine appointments again. Ms. Mazzeo said yes, three full days have been dedicated with staff and volunteers to help people schedule their appointments. A waiting list has been established so staff can call and help whoever needs assistance with scheduling.

Chair Ochs inquired about a previous question regarding NDOT renaming of the Colorado River Highway and the exit sign off of Interstate 11 going towards Laughlin and adding the word Laughlin. Ms. Mazzeo said they sent an email to NDOT. NDOT and ADOT has put a hold on both request due to COVID for the renaming of Highway 68 and Highway 163 and adding the word Laughlin to the exit sign.

Pam Walker asked if there would be a charge for the notary service. Ms. Mazzeo said there will be no charge to members. The hours will be the same as the business hours of the Chamber.

8. Receive a report from Jackie Mazzeo with the Laughlin Tourism Commission regarding current and upcoming events and activities. (For discussion only)

BEST IN THE DESERT – All Terrain Concepts UTV Legends Champions “Race of Champions”

Off Road Races Motorcycle, Quad and UTV

No Spectators – 100% mask mandate

March 25-28, 2021

<https://bitd.com/race-events>

Concerts:

All entertainers have been moved to dates after June 2021 for spring and Fall Concert Series in the LEC and E Center.

Tourism Grants:

Billboards in CA, AZ, NV

Distribution of guides in WA, OR, CA, UT, AZ

Website redesign with video and inclusion of Tourism Events and Visitor's Center Info

9. Receive a report from Parks & Recreation regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For

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discussion only)

Due to COVID-19, zero monthly building visits.

Spirit Activity Center remains closed.

Boys & Girls Club day camp programs is still being offered at the Spirit Mountain Activity Center.

Senior Programming currently does not have an opening date.

Contact Info:

Shelly Gulotta, Supervisor

A'Lonn Bilbray, Recreation Specialist

Laughlin Office: (702) 298-3413

10. Receive a report from Laughlin school system regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

No report

11. Receive a report from Tanya Brown-Wirth with Laughlin Library regarding current and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

No report

12. Announcements of upcoming neighborhood meetings and County or community meetings and events. (For discussion only)

Chair Ochs provided information for CERT virtual training to be held February 18, 25, and March 4, 11, and 18, 2021.

Chair Ochs advised there has been a Senate Bill put forth regarding the incorporation of Laughlin. SB 79, sponsored by Senator Hardy and Assemblyman Leavitt. Ms. Ochs stated Senator Hardy put forth this Bill without hearing from this Board or the community. Chair Ochs asked to get permission to put Senator Hardy's contact information on the website so Laughlin can share their thoughts and add input regarding the proposed incorporation.

13. Discussion regarding long range development plans for street / road improvements. (for discussion only)

A discussion was held regarding complaints and road issues. The TAB members requested to have Public Works attend a future meeting to address issues and questions. A suggestion was made to have one or two people from the TAB to work with Public Works on a monthly basis.

Fred Doten commented about the past Public Works Committee that provided a list to Public Works which worked out well and would like to possible do something like this again.

Chair Ochs suggested to provide a number or email address in the local paper for the public to call when there is an issue with the roads and infrastructure.

Fred Doten requested a special meeting to include Flood Control, Public Works and the Water Districts to provide an annual briefing of upcoming projects.

VII. Planning & Zoning: None

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VIII. General Business:

1. Discuss a request from Mike Jackson, Executive Director, Southern Nevada Transit Coalition (SNTC) Silver Rider, for support of SNTC's request for continuation of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding for the community of Laughlin, send a letter of support to the Board of County Commissioners, and take any other action deemed appropriate. (For possible action)

Herm Walker motioned in support of the letter, motion passed upon a voice vote, 5-0.

2. Appoint one member as the Laughlin Town Advisory Board representative to participate in the Transform Clark County - rewrite of Clark County's Development Code Title 30 (For Possible Action).

Pamela Walker moved to nominate Kathy Ochs to continue with the Clark County Development Code / Title 30 committee. Kathy Ochs accepted, Motion passed upon a voice vote, 5-0.

3. Discuss the 2021 Laughlin Citizen of the Year, and take any action deemed appropriate. (For possible action)

Chair Ochs commented that this board are some of the individuals who are seen during community events, and would like for the community to not feel shut out and would like to have more community involvement.

The TAB members discussed the pros and cons as to when the next Citizen of the Year should commence and it was decided to resume at the end of this year (2021). The TAB members would like for the community to get a chance to participate and be involved during the next nomination process, which starts November 2021 and ends January 2022. The new Citizen of the Year will be announced and recognized February of 2022. Chair Ochs motioned to have the next Citizen of the year start at the regular scheduled time, November 2021. Motion passed upon a voice vote, 5-0.

IX. Public Comment:

Hermon Walker commented on Senate Bill 79 which was filed January 26, 2021. Mr. Walker said he has read all 35 pages more than once, and spoke about the wording described in the Bill and how it was difficult to understand. He observed that maps should be provided to identify the boundaries of the proposed incorporation of Laughlin. He states there is not any transparency to this Bill and his concern is the Laughlin residents would not know the boundaries of the proposed incorporation. Additional concerns is SB 79 is one sided and the residents of Laughlin have not been heard or input requested from the entire community.

Chair Ochs read an email received from a Laughlin resident Bruce Henry.

"My name is Bruce Henry and I reside at 2004 Mesquite Ln Unit A #201 in Laughlin. I would like to comment on Agenda Item dealing with selection/election of Chair and Co-Chair of this board. 10 plus years ago my late wife and myself moved to LAUGHLIN in that process and since I have met some of the nicest people ever and I have had no regrets in making Laughlin my home. However I can say without reservation if I had met 2 of this current board members might say I might still be living in California. What really distresses me is according to or alluded to in a recent Laughlin Times Article that selection process has already taken place of one of those people mentioned above. Clearly a violation of Nevada open meeting law, which this member made a big stink about at the Jan 2017 LTAB mtg. She even accused me of being part of that which was totally false. A quality that is essential in leadership is when you are wrong promptly admit it and apologize. This member NEVER did that. As you members make this decision to elect your new Chair and Vice Chair remember you represent the Citizens of Laughlin not the Chamber or the Laughlin Times but those citizens in the zip code 89029 and 89028. My trust is in God that you will make the Prudent Choice. Your Neighbor Bruce Henry."

Fred Wells a resident of Laughlin voiced his concerns about a complaint he submitted over a year ago regarding the condition of the roads. He said he received a letter from Carson City that stated there were not any funds to repair

the streets, but there is money for a second bridge, a walking bridge and the possibility of Billboards in Laughlin. He said he would like to see something done.

Jerry Bender commented about SB 79 and who are the qualified electors that will be able to vote. He has a concern about the maps and the boundaries, and revenue to sustain the “City” if the incorporation was passed. He is requesting additional information regarding SB 79, and would like to request Senator Hardy to attend a TAB meeting to answer questions and concerns.

X. Next Meeting Date: March 9, 2021.

XI. Adjournment: 3:15 pm

***These minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the March 9, 2021 meeting.
Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the meeting minutes of the April 13, 2021 meeting.***

To listen to the audio recording of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board go to:
<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/administrative-services/laughlin/Pages/LaughlinTownAdvisoryBoard.aspx>

To see live stream of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board meeting, go to You Tube and in the search bar type:
LaughlinTown as one word. Or use address <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWo5ABfxMjLhtQ5keDBhEQQ>