



# Gerlach/Empire Citizen Advisory Board



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Minutes of the meeting of the Gerlach/Empire Citizen Advisory Board held October 21, 2010 at the Gerlach Community Center, 401 Cottonwood, Gerlach, Nevada.

- 1.\* **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Karen Valitzski, Chair.
- 2.\* **MEMBERS PRESENT** – Bobbie Barlow, At-Large, Secretary, Dave Cooper, At-Large, Sylvia Fascio, Senior Citizen, Vice Chair, Karen Valitzski, At-Large, Chair and Tina Walters, At Large Alternate  
**MEMBERS ABSENT** – Jeffrey Barker, At-Large, Alternate, unexcused
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Bobbie Barlow moved to approve the October 21, 2010 agenda as posted. Tina Walters seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Tina Walters moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2010 as submitted. Bobbie Barlow seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously
- 5.\* **UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE** - (CAB files and correspondence which are part of the public record are on file in the Washoe County Department of Community Development and are available for public review. Written correspondence and testimony will be included in the public record when a request is made to make the document a part of the public record and when a copy is provided to the CAB Chair, who forwards the document to the County. Copies of correspondence should be on file in the Washoe County Department of Community Development and are available for public review).
  - Karen Valitzski announced that Commissioner Bonnie Weber is unable to attend this meeting.
- 6.\* **WASHOE COUNTY UPDATE**
  - A. Commissioner Bonnie Weber was not available to present a report.
  - B. Lorrie Adams, County Liaison for Districts 4 and 5, is available to answer your questions and concerns. Please feel free to contact her at [ladams@washoecounty.us](mailto:ladams@washoecounty.us) (775) 328-2720. To sign up to receive email updates from the County, visit [www.washoecounty.us/cmail](http://www.washoecounty.us/cmail). Monthly updates on County issues in your area are available online at [www.washoecounty.us/cab](http://www.washoecounty.us/cab) (follow the link to your CAB).
  - C. Coffee with Commissioner Weber on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Sierra Sage Golf Course, 6355 Silver Lake Road in Stead
- 7.\* **GERLACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE** – Fire Chief Bill Gooch, Gerlach Volunteer Fire Department was available to report on fire safety issues. Chief Gooch reported that there was an incident that required that the HazMat team respond to a reported meth lab. There was a 62 hundred acre wildfire on Granite Mountain. The department now has a new ambulance and a UTV, that were funded through grants.
- \* **WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ITEMS** – Deputy Cole Bunyard, Washoe County Sheriff's Department was available to report on law enforcement and safety issues and recent calls for service. Deputy Bunyard reported that a hunter reported missing was found alive. The Washoe County non-emergency Dispatch phone number has changed to 832-9276.
9. **NEW BUSINESS** - (The staff contact listed on items for Community Development may not be in attendance but can be contacted with code and policy questions.)
  - A.\* **Nevada Health Centers (NHC) Clinic Closure** – Gabrielle Enfield, Community Support Administrator for Washoe County Manager's Office, will lead a discussion of Washoe County staff from (the Health District, Social Services, and Adult Services), community health providers, and community members regarding the Nevada Health Centers clinic closures. The purpose of the discussion was to identify potential health care partners and options to address gaps in services due to the NHC clinic closures. Ms. Enfield asked citizen interested in receiving NHC information to sign up on the list that she provided. It was announced that the clinic will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays through November 23, 2011. Kevin Schiller, Director of Social Services, Ken Retterath, Washoe County Social Services, Deputy Marsden, Community Outreach Services, Washoe County Sheriff's Department, Lance Taylor-Warren, Chief Information Officer HAWC Community Health Center. Shirley Hampton, Chief Development Officer for Nevada Health Centers reported that they currently have no other use for the X-ray machine and it could be kept in Gerlach. (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB.)

## Comments and Concerns

- It was noted that the only charge is for the utilities and there is no rental fees. Also, that the X-ray machine was donated to Gerlach.
- Citizens were asked to list the priorities and the Health Department would see that those are sustainable.
- Ms. Enfield confirmed that \$64320.00 is available for Gerlach services.
- It was stated that citizens of Gerlach need a health services representative every day.

- Support was stated for keeping the equipment in place in the Gerlach.
- Opposition was stated to gutting the clinic and support for leaving the equipment where it is.
- It was stated that the X-ray machine is not currently working. Also, the other equipment may or may not stay in Gerlach.
- A health worker and mental health worker was requested to serve the Gerlach citizens.
- Jason Walter stated concern that Washoe County will collect increased revenues from Gerlach but is cutting the services to its citizens. Mr. Walters stated that his primary 'beef' is with Washoe County. Mr. Walters added that Washoe County needs to comply with ADA requirements.
- A sign up sheet was available for citizens interested in participating in a community committee to address the concerns and seek solutions.
- Concerns were raised that there is no school nurse available to treat injuries to local student.
- It was asked if the 'Access to Health Care' program could be available to serve the community.
- It was suggested that the community could provide housing for visiting medical personnel.
- A student stated concern that there are no medical services available.

**B.\* Nevada State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program** – Gabrielle Enfield, Community Support Administrator with the Washoe County Manager's Office, provided a brief overview of the CDBG Program and provide information on past projects. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has made approximately 3 million dollars available for grants in rural Nevada for community facilities, planning and capacity building, economic development, micro-enterprise programs, and housing rehabilitation. Washoe County will be considering projects for submission to the 2011-2012 Nevada CDBG Program. Ms. Enfield led the discussion with CAB members and the public to solicit their ideas, comments and suggestions concerning potential projects. Ms. Enfield stated that Gerlach is eligible for grant funds. The deadline for submission of proposed projects is November 5, 2011. The application is available on the Washoe County web-site. (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB.)

**Comments and Concerns**

- In response to questions raised, Ms. Enfield stated that the program assists for area-wide services.

**10. OLD BUSINESS** – There were no Old Business items scheduled for review.

**11.\*PUBLIC COMMENT** - Comment heard under this item will be limited to items not on the agenda and will also be limited to two minutes per person. This two-minute rule shall also apply to public testimony given during an agenda item. The Chair may modify this time limit for all public comment and testimony at the beginning of the meeting, but the time limit per person shall be no less than two minutes. Testimony during an agenda item shall be limited to the subject of the agenda item. Comments are to be made to the CAB as a whole.

- Gary Schmidt urged Gerlach citizens to bring community issues and concerns before the GECAB and the GEGID and to participate in the public process. Mr. Schmidt urged citizens to vote.
- Karen Valitzski asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this item.

**12. CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS** - (This item limited to announcements of topics/issues posed for future workshops/agendas).

- **Next Agenda Items:** There were no items submitted for the February 17, 2011 agenda.

**13. ADJOURNMENT** – With no further business Karen Valitzski adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Allayne Donnelly-Everett, Recording Secretary