



# Laughlin Town Advisory Board

November 12, 2019

## MINUTES

---

Board Members:	Gina Mackey – Chair Kathy Ochs – Vice Chair James Maniaci	Nile Smith Vacant
Secretary:	Tammy Harris, (702) 298-0828 tammy.harris@clarkcountynv.gov	
Town Liaison:	Dr. Brian Paulson, (702) 298-0828 bkp@clarkcountynv.gov	

---

I. Call to Order by Gina Mackey, Invocation by Pastor Ryan Stotler, Pledge of Allegiance led James Maniaci.

II. Public Comment:

Kathleen Whitehead commented on the Silver Rider report and her concern of not having public transportation going to and from Laughlin High School on a daily route.

Ashlyn Bilbray-Sainz announced the grand opening of the North Pointe Market convenience store to be held on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

III. Approval of Minutes for October 8, 2019 (For possible action)

Chair Mackey pointed out two errors missed by the Town Manager's Office on the October minutes. The errors were noted.

Moved by: Gina Mackey motion to approve with the corrections.

Action: Approved with the corrections.

Vote: 4-0

IV. Approval of agenda for November 12, 2019, and hold, combine or delete any items (For possible action)

Moved by: James Maniaci

Action: Approved

Vote: 4-0

V. 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)

Lt. Jeff Hewes provided the October report.

October 2019 Statistics:

Calls for Service: 317, up by 9.69 percent from this time last year

Traffic Citations: 570

DUIs: 1

Battery Domestic Violence Arrests: 7

Bookings: 66

Juvenile Citations: 1

Lt. Hewes stated violent crimes are down by 60 percent.

Chair Mackey inquired about loud noises near her neighborhood and if gunshots or fireworks were fired recently in town. Lt. Hewes said Metro takes those calls very seriously and the area was canvassed and checked for any shell casings. None were found and said fireworks could have been the cause.

Vice Chair Ochs expressed a concern about the uptick in graffiti and if someone(s) is using a glass cutter to carve into the window glass of her business. She is currently waiting on security camera footage to determine who is causing the vandalism.

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)

Captain Scott Taggard provided the 2019 October report.

Station 76: 45 calls for service, with rescue having 115

Station 85: 87 calls for service, with rescue having 71

Total October calls: 249

James Maniaci and Nile Smith had concerns about the lack of fire fighters during the recent large brush fires and the availability of fire fighters if additional calls were received. A request for a report was made for what staffing levels and equipment are needed so as to not be heavily dependent on outside sources.

Captain Taggard said an engine was dispatched and brought down to be available if there were any additional calls other than the brush fire.

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

Laughlin Water Reclamation Facility (LWRF) had an average of 2.01 million gallons per day producing clean water returned to the Colorado River. Flow saw an increase of 200,000 gallons per day from this time last year.

Sewer Service Complaints: None

Odor Complaints: None

Call Before You Dig: 25 tickets received for October 2019

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

Jason Bailey was unable to attend but provided a written report.

Diversions:

October 2019: 311 acre feet

2019 YTD total diversions: 3,121 acre feet

2018 YTD total diversions: 3,345 acre feet

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

Due to other obligations, Mr. Douglas was unable to attend the meeting. He will provide a full report in December.

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

Events:

Connie Davis 5K Walk and Roll for Cancer

March 7, 2020

All are welcome.

Laughlin Chamber Christmas Mixer Event

Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

Tickets are a \$10 donation to the Feed a Family Program which prepares meal boxes for tri-state families during Christmas. The donation includes a buffet dinner, raffle items, gift from Santa, and a holiday selfie station.

Mixers:

Networking and Educating Breakfast will be held on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. with Grand Canyon West at the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce. Admission is free but space is

limited.

Joint mixer in the Laughlin Outlet Mall will be held with Eagle Motorcycles and Off Road at 4:30 p.m.

Members (Fourth Quarter, Month One)

Active Members: 278  
New Members: 4 for Q4  
26 percent are Laughlin members

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

Events:

Spartan Games  
November 16-17, 2019, 8:00 p.m. with gates opening at 6:30 p.m.  
Laughlin Event Site / Park

Run Laughlin 5K and Half Marathon - "Two States, Two Time Zones and One Dam Great Race,"  
Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

S.N.O.R.E. "McKenzie's Rage at the River" racing event will be held December 12-15.  
Laughlin Event Site / Park

9. Receive a report from Richard deClercq with Parks & Recreation regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

Richard deClercq provided the October report.

Statistics: October 2019

44 programs  
3 special events  
Servicing 1,500 patrons

National Night Out: Approx. 200 participants  
Senior Center Murder Mystery: 36 participants, sold out  
Park after Dark: Approx. 600 patrons with special thanks to the Laughlin High School Athletic Department, Student Council, Metro Volunteers, and Metro VIPs.

Upcoming Special Events:

Holiday Tree Lighting to be held on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Center White Elephant to be held on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Richard deClercq, Supervisor  
Laughlin office (702) 298-3413

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

Ashlyn Bilbray-Sainz, chairperson of Laughlin's School Organization Team, said Principal Dawn Estes had requested that she provide the school update. Ms. Bilbray-Sainz said the secondary campus will be installing new security gates. The new gates will not have an entry but rather an exit in case of an emergency and the students need to exit immediately. Fifty-four thousand dollars has been raised locally for the playground at the secondary campus for 4-6 grade students.

School supply donations are being accepted at Kruz-n-Kuts, Bennett Elementary, and the secondary school during business hours.

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

Tanya Brown-Wirth provided information on upcoming events.

Native American Dance & Music with Derrick Suwaima Davis will be held today at 4:00 p.m. Suwaima Davis is a master at maneuvering five rattan hoops around his body while he conveys the Hopi story of creation.

On Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m., U.S. Citizenship and Immigration will be at the Library for a program called Naturalization 101. The program will cover the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship, the eligibility requirements, and the naturalization process.

Ms. Brown-Wirth expressed thanks to Will Douglas from Nevada Cooperative Extension for bringing a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) workshop for parents and grandparents to the Library. The workshop will be held on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. The Let's Discover Workshop will feature STEM activities for preschoolers and will include a free book and materials.

The Annual Book Sale will be held on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The sale will include books, music, magazines, and movies at bargain prices.

A reminder that the Library carries many different newspapers. However, papers must be read only at the Library and cannot be checked out.

12. Receive a report from Mike Jackson with Southern Nevada Transit Coalition regarding the status of the Silver Rider Bus System. (For discussion only)

Mike Jackson, executive director, provided the quarterly report.

**Fixed Route Ridership: (Increase of 23.5%)**

Sept: 2019:	26,486	Sept: 2018:	20,166
Aug 2019:	22,705	Aug 2018:	21,802
July 2019:	29,376	July 2018:	21,612

**Paratransit & Intercity Ridership Reports: (Increase of 17.1%)**

Sept: 2019:	1,216	Sept: 2018:	1,021
Aug 2019:	1,281	Aug 2018:	1,171
July 2019:	1,260	July 2018:	1,016

Mr. Jackson said the SNTC received approval letter from NDOT for grant funding during October 2019 through September 2020. The SNTC was awarded the full 100 percent of the request.

**New Vehicle Update:**

The new vehicle bid was reviewed and both bus manufacturers did not meet the specs. Bids were not accepted.

Two new 14-passenger cutaways were received on October 16, 2019. The buses are currently being painted and prepped for service. Only one will be in service for Laughlin.

**Events and Community Outreach:**

Trunk and Treat had a great turnout. A 40-foot bus was turned into a haunted house with ADA access ability. Silver Rider provided children with balloons, pencils and lots of candy.

The SNTC held its annual Employee Appreciation BBQ and First Annual Rodeo at the Laughlin facility. The turnout was a success and employees as far away as Mesquite attended.

The Rodeo included an obstacle course with prizes and trophies awarded to the top three drivers.

**Health Fair:**

SNTC participated in this year's health fairs which were held at the Aquarius, Colorado Belle, and Edgewater Hotels.

Nile Smith asked about the possibility of a bus route to the Laughlin High School. Mr. Jackson said as of right now, the SNTC would be unable to change any of its current routes but will look into it for future consideration.

13. Receive a report from Kate McDonald with U.S. Census Bureau regarding the 2020 U.S. Census count. (For discussion only)

Kate McDonald, a partnership specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, provided LTAB members and the general public with packets of information regarding the upcoming U.S. Census Count, including jobs that will be made available during the count. As a partnership specialist, Ms. McDonald reaches out and makes contact with agencies and organizations about the upcoming 2020 census.

Ms. McDonald said the count has been historically undercounted. In the last count, Laughlin was undercounted by 23 percent. She explained why it is important to the community as undercounting can result in a community loss in federal dollars. The actual Census Day is April 1, 2020 and residents should anticipate receiving a post card in March asking them to visit the 2020 Census website. For the first time, people will be able to complete their census online as well as by phone or paper.

Judith Brown, a Laughlin recruiter assistant, spoke about the temporary part time jobs available and provided a flyer with information on how to apply and the pay scale. All positions available in Laughlin are field positions which means working from your home and going out door-to-door in the community to take the census, she said.

**CHAIR MACKEY CALLED A 10 MINUTE BREAK.**

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

Dr. Brian Paulson provided an update regarding the re-paving of Thomas Edison Drive.

James Maniaci read a financial statement provided by Clark County Finance regarding the Fort Mohave Valley Development Fund. Complete financial statement available upon request.

- a) Clark County is currently taking applications to fill a vacancy on the Laughlin Town Advisory Board (TAB). The appointment will be for the remainder of the current term ending January 4, 2021. The Laughlin TAB holds regularly scheduled public meetings. Applicants must be eligible to vote and live within the town boundaries.

Functions of the Laughlin TAB include: hearing matters pertaining to the town (long range planning, land use, zoning, public works projects, new ordinances, etc.), providing input regarding these matters to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), forwarding community concerns/problems to County Staff for resolution, and disseminating information received from the BCC and County staff to town residents.

Applications can be obtained online at [clarkcountynv.gov](http://clarkcountynv.gov) or by calling Clark County Administrative Services at (702) 455-3530 or the Laughlin Town Manager's Office at (702) 298-0828. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 pm on November 15, 2019.

- b) Laughlin Town Advisory Board will begin accepting nominations for the 2020 Laughlin Citizen of the Year on **November 12, 2019**, and nominations will close on **December 31, 2019**.

Nomination forms are available at the Laughlin Library, Community Resource Center, Spirit Mountain Activity Center, the Laughlin Town Manager’s Office, or on the Clark County website at

<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/administrative-services/laughlin/Pages/default.aspx>.

Nomination forms must be turned into the Laughlin Town Manager’s Office, Laughlin Regional Government Center, 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, NV 89029, by **December 31, 2019**, 5:00 p.m. Only nominations utilizing the nomination form will be accepted.

The Laughlin Citizen of the Year Award is given annually in honor of the late Jim Edwards and is intended to recognize and thank the outstanding citizen of Laughlin who has given his/her private time and effort to help local government make Laughlin a better place to live.

It is expected that the 2020 Citizen of the Year recipient will be announced and honored at the Tuesday, **February 11, 2020**, meeting of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board, at 1:30 p.m.

VI. Planning & Zoning: None

VII. General Business:

2. Discuss and recommend one person to fill the current vacancy on the Laughlin Town Advisory Board to the Board of County Commissioners. (For possible action)

James Maniaci commented that the person that he has in mind is well thought of in the community, not only locally, but also in the County and at the state and federal level. This person has lived here at least 30 years and knows the community very well and has been active in a variety of functions. For these reasons, Mr. Maniaci nominated Cheryl Crow with Nile Smith concurring the nomination.

Vice Chair Kathy Ochs said she “absolutely cannot stand behind that recommendation and here is the reasoning why. It has nothing to do with all due respect to Ms. Crow, whom I have served with on the advisory board for many years. It simply has to do with, if I can remind everybody of the first meeting of this board which was January of 2018, when I drew to attention at that point and time that Gina Mackey, James Maniaci, and possibly Bruce Henry were members of the LEDC.” Ms. Ochs said she believed this would be a “conflict of interest and having three members that are actively involved with the LEDC. When they (LEDC) have their meetings, they would be impaired of discussing things.”

She said she brought this up as a conflict of interest and “Dr. Paulson took that to the Clark County District Attorney for an opinion and that opinion was such that they tried to create the situation she was concerned about not being named the chair.” She said it had nothing to do with that, it had to do with what she felt would be a conflict of interest.



Ms. Ochs said, “We are well aware of the public meeting law, three individuals discussing anything that sits on this town advisory board agenda would be a rolling quorum.” Ms. Ochs said she believes that adding one more LEDC member in addition to the two active LEDC members already serving on the town advisory board would be a conflict of interest on an ongoing basis.

Ms. Ochs said she cannot stand behind that and “in addition, this has never been done before and we as a governing body have never made a recommendation to Clark County on an individual for any appointment.” She said she has “sat on this board for decades and it has never happened as it has always been at the sole discretion of the Clark County Commissioner to appoint that individual. It was the same when Commissioner Sisolak was elected governor of this state that he appointed Commissioner Naft. That has clearly and precisely been the jurisdiction and the domain of our Commissioner.”

Ms. Ochs said if she were to recommend anyone on the list of applicants, and that individual was not chosen, then she takes the risk of offending the other individuals. Additionally, she said she is grateful there were seven individuals who applied in this community as it is sometimes easier to be appointed than run for this position with the paper work that is required and financial disclosures which concerned her as a business owner. She said she would like to see these individuals apply to run for this office, but she said she does not “want to offend anyone who would be willing to volunteer and do what they do. From that stand point, Ms. Ochs said she will not make a recommendation and that she will be abstaining.

Chair Mackey said she too was amazed of all the people who submitted applications as it takes a very special individual to give their service to this community, but that she would recommend Cheryl Crow because of her “being in this town, her connections, and her experience, and she is just a great person.”

Nile Smith said he agreed with Ms. Ochs 100 percent and also with the Chair and asked how this could be resolved. He said because this is an action item, “we are required to do something with this.” Mr. Smith said the application process is not finished and is still open until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. He said they are being placed in a very unfair process and position which means the board will be unfair to somebody or known as the ‘do nothing board’ from Laughlin. The County has put this on the agenda in the current form and is forcing us to do something,” he said with the board looking bad either way.

He said though he is comfortable with recommending Cheryl Crow and will go ahead with this even though he also agrees with Ms. Ochs.

Ms. Ochs stated she will call for a point of order and an opinion. Mr. Smith said this should probably go to the District Attorney’s office for an opinion.

Dr. Brian Paulson said the bylaws allow for a town board to make a recommendation. Ms. Ochs said she understands that but said it’s a “conflict of interest, a rolling quorum, a violation of the public meeting law.”

Mr. Smith said this should go to the County attorneys as “an abusive process, they are asking us to do something before the close of the deadline, and this is structured to make us look like fools.”

Ms. Ochs said this was requested by a board member and Dr. Paulson said the County is “not making you make a recommendation.” The request came from a town board member.

James Maniaci stated he asked for this to be put on the agenda because of the bylaws “which are really centralized bylaws from Administrative Services saying we have the right to recommend an appointment.” He said he felt they should exercise that right since they “as the elected board in Laughlin have the responsibility, and it says so in the bylaws, to provide the County Commission with what we feel the citizens of Laughlin tell us is important and we need to go ahead and pick the best person among these,” which he thinks is Cheryl.

Originally, Mr. Maniaci said he submitted placing on the agenda as a special call meeting after November 15<sup>th</sup> and before the County Commission would meet to vote on Commissioner Naft’s selection. However, he said it was unfair to them to set the dead line after the town board meeting. He said the board “should make their recommendation to the Commissioner and there are some very good candidates and there are some we know nothing about.”

Chair Mackey asked for a motion. Nile Smith made a motion to recommend Cheryl Crow for the appointed position. Motion passed upon a voice vote, 3-0, with Ms. Ochs abstaining from voting.

1. Review, discuss, and approve 2020 Laughlin Town Advisory Board meeting dates, and take any action deemed appropriate. (For possible action)

After a brief discussion, James Maniaci moved to approve the Laughlin dates as presented. Motion passed upon a voice vote, 4-0.

#### VIII. Public Comment:

Kathleen Whitehead suggested in the future that the following organizations provide a monthly or quarterly report to the LTAB and the public – Constable’s Office, West Care, and the Colorado River Food Bank and Community Clothes Closet.

Ms. Whitehead had a concern regarding a crosswalk at Las Palmas and Needles Highway and offered suggestions for the LTAB work with NDOT for a safer crosswalk.

Robert Bilbray, as LEDC strategic adviser, provided an LEDC report providing an estimated Casino Drive SID timeline which will be monitored every quarter by the LEDC. He also voiced his concern regarding the condition of Needles Highway in California and said he had three meetings with the mayor and the development coordinator of the City of Needles as they are working to fast track the repair of the highway.

For the full report of the SID timeline, contact the Laughlin Town Manager’s Office.

- IX. Next Meeting Date: December 10, 2019

- X. Adjournment: 3:28 p.m.

*These minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the December 10, 2019 meeting.  
Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the meeting minutes of the January 14, 2019, 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>

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MARILYN KIRKPATRICK, CHAIR - LAWRENCE WEEKLY, Vice-Chair  
LARRY BROWN - JAMES GIBSON - JUSTIN JONES – MICHAEL NAFT - TICK SEGERBLOM  
YOLANDA KING, County Manager