



## Sun Valley G.I.D. Board Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2011

### **Board Members Present:**

Margaret Reinhardt	Chairperson
Linda Woodland	Vice-Chair
Sandra Ainsworth	Secretary
Garth Elliott	Treasurer
Robert Fink	Trustee

### **Board Members Not Present:**

### **Staff Present:**

Darrin Price	SVGID, General Manager
Jon Combs	SVGID, Field Supervisor
Jennifer Merritt	SVGID, Staff
Bill Short	SVGID, CPA
Maddy Shipman	SVGID, Legal

### **Others Present:**

Jim Ainsworth	Audience	Susan Severt	Audience
Marge Cutler	Audience	Debra Luddy	Audience
Glenda Walls	Audience	Dale & Janice Embree	Audience
Jeanie Harrison	Audience	Dave Sawyer	Audience
Debbie Medina	Audience	David Perry	Audience
Vicky Maltman	Audience		
Joseph Barstow	Reverend, H.O.P.E. Church		
Doug Maloy	Project Manager, Regional Transportation Commission		
Grady Tarbutton	Director, Washoe County Senior Services		
Doug Cordova	Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows		
Warren Brighton	Chair, Sun Valley Citizens Advisory Board		

**The meeting of the Sun Valley GID was called to order by Chairperson Margaret Reinhardt at 6:00 p.m. in the Sun Valley District Administrative Building, 5000 Sun Valley Blvd, Sun Valley, NV.**

#### **Item#1. Roll call and determination of a quorum.**

Board members present; Robert Fink, Linda Woodland, Margaret Reinhardt, Sandra Ainsworth, Garth Elliott. A quorum was present.

#### **Item#2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

#### **Item#3. Motion to approve agenda**

*Linda Woodland made a motion to approve the agenda. Robert Fink seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### **Item#4. Certify posting of agenda.**

Jennifer Merritt certified posting of agenda.

**Item#5. Public comments for items not on the agenda.**

Chair of Sun Valley Citizen Advisory Board "CAB" Warren Brighton thanked Darrin Price for attending the recent CAB meeting and giving a District update.

Audience member Susan Severt was disappointed in the small article that was published in RGJ announcing the Sun Valley Fun Sunday. Susan commented she thinks the District pays too much for the District's Public Relations.

Audience member Debbie Medina commented she lives in Highland Ranch and wants to know why she pays so much for water.

Reverend Joseph Barstow for H.O.P.E. Church of the Nazarene made an announcement of an upcoming fundraiser. The fundraiser will be held July 30, 2011 from 8 am until 11 am at the Sparks Church of the Nazarene located on El Rancho Boulevard. All proceeds will support the Sun Valley local food pantry.

**Item#6. Discussion and motion to approve payables and customer refunds for July 14, 2011.**

Treasurer Garth Elliott gave a brief report of the accounts payable for July 14, 2011.

*Garth Elliott made a motion to approve the accounts payable for July 14, 2011 in the total amount of \$231,131.30, noted there were no refunds for July 14, 2011. Linda Woodland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#7. Discussion and motion to approve minutes from June 23, 2011.**

*Linda Woodland made a motion to approve the minutes of June 23, 2011. Robert Fink seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#8. Final report regarding the 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session from District's lobbyist Fred Hillerby.**

Fred Hillerby with Hillerby and Associates gave a final report on the 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. The session adjourned on June 7, 2011. During the session over 1,100 bills and resolutions were introduced with 550 bills passing. The big issues for this session were related to the budget, education, and revenue.

Fred reported at the beginning of the session Governor Sandoval was proposing a budget that included no taxes or fees, with one of the taxes that was passed in 2009 to sunset. The offset would be using funds from local government agencies. However, during the session the Supreme Court issued a decision on a case stemming from the 2010 special session and a Legislative grab of \$62M from a southern Nevada water project. The Court ruled that taking of local and specific purpose funds was unconstitutional. Governor Sandoval then decided he could support an extension of the sunsets for only 2 years, and wanted reforms he had included in his budget and legislative priorities as part of the budget package. Some of the reforms that were approved are; Teacher layoffs will now be determined by factors, such as performance reviews and student achievements, other than last in, first out. They also changed some of the union negotiating and the tenure for the teachers. Another reform that was passed was regarding state employees. State workers will have a mix of 2.5% pay cuts and 6 furlough days a year equaling another 2.3% reduction.

Fred reported this is the first time that water was not a high priority for the legislative session. Hillerby and Associates monitored 25 various bills for the District, of those bills that were being monitored 9 of them passed and 16 of them did not. The 9 bills that passed include; AB59 Various changes to the Open Meeting Law, AB73 Revises provisions governing the appropriation

of water for beneficial use, AB76 Various changes concerning the Public Employees' Benefits Program, AB115 Revises provisions governing the appropriation of water for beneficial use, AB168 Revises provisions governing the formation of general improvement districts, AB237 Authorizes counties to issue securities for projects and programs concerning public water and sewer systems, AB257 Revises provisions relating to the Open Meeting Law, AB410 Revises provisions relating to the filing by a governmental entity of a protest against the granting of certain applications relating to water rights, AB422 Provides specific authority for bodies to lease water rights to certain owners or holders of water rights.

Fred reported the revisions regarding the Open Meeting Law are technical revisions such as; an increase in violation fees and it is now required to have public comments for items on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting prior to discussing any discussion items. The District can still hear public comments during the meeting on each item as currently practiced.

Fred briefly reported on one bill that did not pass regarding the creation of a new general improvement district for renewable energy.

Garth Elliott inquired why the District continues to pay for a Lobbyist during off session months/years.

Fred reported the Legislature has interim committees that discuss ongoing issues, some concerning general improvement districts. Fred attends the interim committee meetings and gets involved in the regulatory process. Fred commented several years ago it was agreed upon by both parties, for Fred to bill a flat rate monthly rather than trying to figure out how many hours he spent at the legislative sessions and other committee meetings as a District representative. This agreement was made to assist with the District's budget process for lobbyist services.

Darrin Price thanked Fred Hillerby for his representation for the District during the legislative session and for his time to give a brief report of the session.

Both Linda Woodland and Margaret Reinhardt thanked Fred Hillerby for his updates.

**Item#9. Update by RTC on the Pyramid/US 395 Connection.**

Margaret Reinhardt made an announcement that RTC is here to give an update presentation, not a workshop, regarding the Pyramid/US 395 Connection.

Darrin Price reported that Doug Maloy with the Regional Transportation Commission is here to provide an update on the proposed Pyramid/US 395 connection. The District has been following this project because the District is a community partner and the proposed project will affect the Sun Valley community. The District recognizes that the majority of the impacts involve the residents south of the District.

Doug Maloy with the Regional Transportation Commission "RTC" commented the purpose of the Pyramid/US 395 Connection is to alleviate current and future traffic congestion stemming from growth in Sparks, Spanish Springs while improving east-west connectivity. The project limits are from Calle de la Plata to Queens Way and US 395 to Vista Boulevard. The north and south portion of the project on Pyramid HWY will be considered a freeway with speed limits set at 65 miles per hour. The east and west connector will have a speed limit of 55 miles per hour. Both the freeway and the connector will have various interchanges.

There are currently four design concepts for the connector. Two of the designs are classified as the north crossing, located south of the District following the existing power lines along Rampion Way. The difference between the two designs is the interchange location for Sun Valley. One design has an interchange on Sun Valley Boulevard, and other design has an interchange west of

Chocolate Drive. The two other designs are classified as the south crossing, located on El Rancho Boulevard. Again the two differences are the interchange locations, one on Sun Valley Boulevard, and the other located on Dandini Boulevard. Depending on which design, the project has the potential to relocate 80 to 100 Sun Valley residents. Other impacts that still need to be reviewed are visual, noise, and environmental impacts in addition to the alternative at Sun Valley and Pyramid there will also be a "No Build" alternative.

Doug reported at the last workshop that was held on January 19, 2011 at the Sun Valley Neighborhood Center, there was approximately 120 attendees made up of residents and elected officials. A few attendees are opposed of the project, but overall attendees saw some benefits and possible opportunities for the Sun Valley community. Most of the attendees were generally in support of the project, but expressed concerns regarding impacts and mitigation strategies. The opinion for the connection design was split between northern and southern crossings, but the preference appeared to be more towards the southern crossing north of El Rancho Boulevard. No clear preference was determined for the interchange location.

Doug gave a brief study and project schedule broken up into four phases. The first phase known as the Initial Planning took place from 1998 to 2005 starting with the study requested by the City of Sparks in 1998; Pyramid Corridor Master Plan and the 2030 RTP in 2001; Sun Valley Area Plan in 2004; and updates to the 2030 RTP in 2005. The second phase known as the NEPA is scheduled from 2007 to 2014. This phase includes the Pyramid EIS kick off in 2007; Purpose and Need Development in 2008; Alternative Screening Complete in 2011, Draft EIS in 2012; Final EIS in 2013; and Record of Decision in 2014. The third phase known as the Final Design is scheduled from 2015 to 2017. This phase includes the Beginning of the Final Design of Initial Segments in 2015; and the Right-of-Way Acquisition Begins in 2017. The last phase is the beginning of construction initial segments scheduled for 2018 to 2020. Future segments are scheduled for 2020 to 2030.

Robert Fink inquired at what time will RTC start thinking about purchasing properties. He also inquired how and when does RTC determine property value. Robert commented that individuals need to be considered during this process and that is his main concern.

Doug commented once a decision has been made, RTC will start purchasing properties using strict guidelines set for by the Uniform Act that must be followed.

Garth Elliott thanked Doug for his presentation. Garth commented he is still in favor of the alternate route that was studied in 2003 that would by-pass Sun Valley and go around the homes instead of through the homes. He also commented he doesn't like Sun Valley being in the middle of the east and west connector to help relieve the traffic congestion from other valleys.

Audience member Debra Ludy commented she just purchased a home on Rampion Way. She has never heard of the project and wanted to know how RTC notified residents about the January workshop. She was never informed by her realtor or lender about the workshop.

Doug commented RTC sent out a large quantity of notices including inserts in District billings and other mailings for areas not in the District regarding the January workshop. There is still a public hearing that will be held for everyone to provide formal comments. Doug also commented RTC has to follow strict guidelines when it comes to determining fair market value when it is time to purchase properties.

Audience member Vickie Maltman attended a prior RTC meeting and at one time there were 16 alternative designs. Why is RTC targeting the Sun Valley area? Vicky commented that she understands that individuals will be paid for their properties, but that doesn't pay them back for

the money that individuals already have spent with improvements to their homes. She also thinks that the project might be good for some commercial businesses, but it will bring more crime to the valley.

Audience member Susan Severt inquired; if only 15% of the design work has been done so far, does that mean that there will be greater impacts later in 2015 when RTC prepares the final design? She also inquired about the environmental justice to the minority population. Susan commented the project is not wanted, it may bring in some additional money, but it will bring more impacts to the valley and she is not in favor of it.

Doug reported that RTC is very confident that they have the maximum amount of area identified for the footprint. Environmental Justice guidelines are used to determine whether minorities are disproportionately impacted.

Audience member Marge Cutler commented she has been a participant with the project for many years. At the beginning the original route was to take traffic from the Spanish Springs area starting at Eagle Canyon Road, the route went around the north of Sun Valley and west of Chocolate Drive. This alternate route had fewer impacts to individuals. Why has the project changed and what is the purpose of this project?

Doug reported the project is to help eliminate traffic off of Pyramid Hwy and to connect the east and west areas. This project is considered a regional project that is intended to provide regional benefits.

Audience members Dale and Janice Embry commented they live on Rampion Way. They never heard of the project. They have put a lot of money into their property and given the economy, they will never see a return on their investment. They recommended having the route take off from Highland Ranch and go west.

Audience member David Perry inquired if there will be provisions built into the project. He also inquired what guidelines are used to determine property values. He commented RTC needs to improve their notification process.

Doug reported he does not handle right-of-way acquisitions, but if there is a situation where economically an individual was upside down if they were to receive fair market value, RTC would look into that and see how to get clear title that could require some kind of administrative settlement. RTC uses guidelines when acquiring properties.

Audience member Jeanie Harrison commented she lives on Rampion Way and she is against the project. It is already difficult getting onto Sun Valley Boulevard from Rampion Way. The Boulevard is already congested without any additional traffic. She is concerned it will bring more accidents and fatalities.

Audience member Dave Sawyer commented he doesn't like the idea that the project will bring more commercial business to the area when it is at the expense of the property owners. He is not in favor of the project and would recommend no build.

Chair of the Sun Valley CAB Warren Brighton requested Doug with RTC to be present at the next CAB meeting for a progress update. Warren doesn't understand why RTC continues to pay for consultant fees for a project that is not supported by the community. He would like for RTC to consider alternative projects (Western Arterial) that have less impacts on individuals.

Darrin commented the District is a community partner and the District board directed staff to become actively involved and try to get the word out regarding the project. The District mailed a flyer provided by RTC, to all of the District customers with their monthly bill to promote the January workshop.

Robert Fink suggested for everyone to contact their Commissioner and provide their comments on the project.

Linda Woodland inquired why RTC doesn't start on Eagle Canyon and use undeveloped land to head towards US 395. This project is going to increase the existing traffic jam.

Garth suggested for RTC to send out survey cards to everyone for their input on the proposed project.

Margaret Reinhardt commented she sympathizes with everyone. There was a proposed project at one time on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue that would have impacted a lot of individuals. She also commented that the southern crossing would have fewer impacts on individuals.

Darrin thanked Doug for providing an update.

Sandra Ainsworth commented she has only heard opposition regarding this project. She is still in favor of the route that is west of Chocolate Avenue. She has lived in Sun Valley for many years and raised her family in Sun Valley. They have put their heart and soles into their home and she knows that with the current market values, she would never be paid back what her family has put into their home.

Doug commented trying to balance transportation and community issues is very challenging. He apologized to anyone who was not notified of the prior workshop. He encouraged everyone to attend the public hearing to provide comments to RTC.

It was requested by various members for RTC to hold another workshop and making sure that all residents located on Rampion Way and surrounding areas are invited.

**Item#10. Discussion and possible motion to consider amendment to Interlocal Agreement with Washoe County regarding cost sharing of utilities for the Sun Valley Neighborhood Center prior to renewal.**

Darrin Price reported both the District's attorney and Washoe County District attorney are corresponding back and forth regarding interpretation of the original Interlocal Agreement deeding the parks to the District and the original Lease Agreement for the use of the neighborhood center. Darrin made a recommendation to continue with the current Lease Agreement between the District and Washoe County as is, and to consider amending the agreement next year prior to renewal. The County currently pays the District \$300.00 per month to help cover garbage and janitorial services. The proposed amendment requiring Washoe County to pay a portion of the utilities, estimated to be \$2,700.00 annually, will not hurt the District to pay for one more year.

Grady Tarbutton with Washoe County Senior Services commented he agrees with Darrin's recommendation. He too asked to continue with the current Lease Agreement to allow the attorney's time to review both agreements and negotiate any amendments as needed.

Garth Elliott commented his only concern is that the residents are paying twice for the parks. They pay a portion on their property taxes for recreation and they pay the District for recreation. He

would have liked the County to share a portion of the property taxes with the District to help fund the park operations.

Darrin requested to renew the Lease Agreement, as is, until April 30, 2012.

*Sandra Ainsworth made a motion to renew the Lease Agreement, as is, between the District and Washoe County and to continue with the negotiations for utilities. Robert Fink seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following;*

*Yea: Robert Fink, Linda Woodland, Sandra Ainsworth, Margaret Reinhardt  
Nay: Garth Elliott*

**Item#11. Progress report from the Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows on the Community Garden.**

Doug Cordova with the Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows gave a brief update on the community garden. He has been finalizing the grant that was awarded. The kids have done some weed control and have done some seeding. He thanked Jon Combs for his help for really cleaning up the lot and making it accessible for the kids. Doug commented that the garden is not a short term project it is considered an ongoing project. They are looking into purchasing a storage shed and possibly a greenhouse too for the site.

**Item#12. Discussion and possible motion regarding article ideas for consideration requested by Patricia Lancaster.**

Darrin Price received a request from Patricia Lancaster regarding some article ideas for future newsletters. The ideas are to recognize members of the military whose families reside in the District. Another idea is to honor Sun Valley students for their achievements.

Robert Fink commented he spoke with Patricia regarding her request and her goal is to keep the community aware of some of the good things that take place in the community.

Margaret Reinhardt commented she thinks these are good ideas, but did not want to make a formal commitment at this time because the newsletter has limited space. Margaret reminded the Board that the District participated last year honoring the military and their families during the Veteran's Day event at the Sun Valley Neighborhood Center.

Garth Elliott commented he hopes to never see a newsletter again now that the District's website is up.

**Item#13. Discussion and possible motion per District personnel policy 5.11, the board to determine percentages for annual reviews and salary increases and consideration of alternative incentives.**

Darrin Price reported that at the end of each fiscal year, the Board determines the percentage calculations on which raises are to be based. Evaluation scores set by management and supervisors will determine the individual employee's raise. He made a recommendation not to raise any wages this year based on the economy and for budgetary reasons.

Darrin reported per the District's personnel policy, the Board can consider alternative incentives for employees during years they are unable to give raises. He reported last year the Board graciously approved personal days in lieu of raises as a reward for excellent work, performance, and dedication. Darrin requested for consideration to award employees who meet expectations 1 paid personal day, and employees who are above expectations 2 paid personal days. Any

approved personal days must be used within one calendar year and employees must seek approval from management or supervisor to use a personal day.

Robert Fink commented he does not feel now is the time to give any raises.

*Robert Fink made a motion to approve 2 personal days.*

Garth Elliott inquired if employees get their birthdays off, if not he thinks it should be considered. He also inquired if the District has a cost savings incentive program for the employees, example; if an employee came up with an idea to save the District \$10,000 dollars, the District could reward the employee by splitting the savings with him/her and pay them \$5,000 dollars.

Darrin reported as a public entity the District does not split savings with employees. Any savings the employees contribute are reward in other ways such as; an employee implemented a recycling program for the District office. The Board honored that employee and rewarded them with paid personal days as an incentive.

*Robert Fink restated his motion to approve the 2 personal days in lieu of a raise with the employees giving management or supervisor 2 week notice. Linda Woodland seconded the motion.*

Darrin reported management's recommendation is in lieu of annual raises for employees, if an employee's annual evaluation score meets expectations they would receive 1 paid personal day off. If the employee's annual evaluation score is above expectations they would receive 2 paid personal days off.

Margaret Reinhardt asked Robert if that is what his motion was.

Robert commented that is not what his motion was, but he wants to follow policy.

*After some discussion the motion carried unanimously.*

Maddy Shipman commented that Robert's motion does not match staffs recommendation and if he wants to approve staffs recommendation then he should reconsider his motion.

*Robert Fink made a motion to reconsider the motion. Linda Woodland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Linda Woodland made a motion to continue with the policy that the Board took last year, to reward employees who meets expectations 1 paid personal day off, reward employees who are above expectations 2 paid personal days off, there will be no annual raises, and personal days must be taken within one calendar year. Sandra Ainsworth seconded the motion.*

Sandra inquired if the motion is for just annual raises. Does that mean if an employee goes and gets further education, would they not get a merit raise for that?

Darrin reported the Board is only voting on annual raises.

*The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#14. Discussion and motion regarding General Manager's performance review process.**



Darrin Price requested for direction on how the Board would like to perform the General Manager's performance review. Last year the District performed a 360° evaluation on the General Manager in lieu of an evaluation from the Board. Darrin asked what method would the current Board like to do for this years review process of the General Manager.

Linda Woodland commented she thinks the Board as a whole should be the ones to evaluate the General Manager. She didn't like the 360° evaluation process.

Margaret Reinhardt agreed with Linda.

*Garth Elliott commented he thinks there is great value in the 360° evaluation process and made a motion to perform a 360° evaluation on the General Manager. Motion died for lack of second.*

*Linda Woodland made a motion to bring the review of the General Manager back to the Board. Sandra Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following;*

*Yea: Robert Fink, Linda Woodland, Sandra Ainsworth, Margaret Reinhardt  
Nay: Garth Elliott*

**Item#15. Financial report by Bill Short.**

None

**Item#16. Legal report by Maddy Shipman.**

Maddy Shipman provided some helpful tips, one regarding public comments. She encourages public comments, but be careful when the public comments start to become the discussion. Once it starts becoming more of a discussion, the Board should consider adding that particular topic to a future agenda. The other tip she offered is with the motion process. The standard motion process is to have a motion made and seconded, following discussion if any, and then the vote. Since the District Board allows for public comments on all agenda items, she recommended calling for public comments prior to making a motion, so that if the Board does have discussion they would have a better understanding what their discussing.

**Item#17. Field report by Jon Combs.**

Jon Combs reported on the following;

- When ever there is vandalism to the parks irrigation, the landscaper makes all the repairs. All repairs are charged to the District by the landscaper.
- Field staff is continuing to work on the meter change out to FlexNet and it has been it going well.
- Staff has been learning how to operate the pool equipment at the pool and it has been challenging at times.

**Item#18. Managers report by Darrin Price.**

Darrin Price reported on the following;

- Provided a Customer Service report for June 2011. The District received half of the monthly payments in person or over the phone; and the other half were via mail, drop box or automatic withdrawal. There are a total of 68 District customers taking advantage of the Recreation Discount.
- Provided an RGJ article regarding the City of Reno proposing a sewer increase. The increase is to help fund current and future sewer improvements.

- Sun Valley Fun Sunday is July 17, 2011 from 9 am until 4 pm at the Sun Valley Community Park.

**A. Update regarding activity of on-going commissions and committees.**

- July 9, 2011 Darrin attended and gave a District update at the Sun Valley CAB meeting. At the CAB meeting he heard that Washoe County has provided a flyer how to deal with graffiti, Darrin will look into this flyer. The Sun Valley CAB started a petition regarding the repairs and maintenance of the Clock Tower. Also on the CAB agenda was discussion regarding the request for a 75 unit mobile home park to be developed off of east 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The CAB did not approve the request for the development.

**Item#19. Public Comments.**

Audience member Vicky Maltman commented on some overwatering she saw at the Sun Valley Neighborhood Center and requested Jon Combs to look into it.

Audience member Susan Severt commented she has issued a formal request with both Sun Valley Commissioners to put it on the Washoe County Commission agenda to revoke the Special Use Permit for the Clock Tower. She is pursuing Washoe County School District regarding revamping some of the elementary schools in the community. Susan also reported she and some other individuals are working on a potential graffiti remedy.

**Item#20. Board Comments.**

Robert Fink commented since Washoe County originally approved the Special Use Permit for the Clock Tower; the County can take it away too. Robert reported on July 26, 2011 the Washoe County Commissioners will be discussing how they are going to payback the property taxes to residents of Incline Village. He also reported on August 4, 2011 the Washoe County Community Development will be reviewing the Valle Vista application for a 75 unit mobile home park. He would also like for staff to research how much a score board would cost for the ball field at the Sun Valley Community Park.

Garth Elliott commented on Mike Ariztia Field report. He commented he would have liked for the District to have implemented a Volunteer Program this year, since it is getting later in the year he hopes to see the program implemented next year. He also commended the office staff for being very professional. He would like to see more information to be provided to customers regarding leak detection. He also would like to challenge the board members to come up with some topics for the District's website.

Margaret Reinhardt read some suggestions that were received in the suggestion box.

- I just paid my bill and usually that is an unpleasant event. But today Muriel was so pleasant and it was a pleasure.
- Suggestion to clean up of some of the waste on the side streets and dirt roads to improve the environment.
- Comment was made that a customer pays too much for their water and sewer and hopes not to pay too much in the future.

**Item#21. Future Agenda Items.**

- Garth Elliott would like for the District to look into a manual reader board for the front of the office building to announce meetings.
- Garth would like to discuss graffiti at the next meeting.

**Item#22. Adjournment.**

*Linda Woodland made a motion to adjourn at 9:10 pm. Sandra Ainsworth seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously.*