



## Sun Valley G.I.D. Board Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2014

### **Board Members Present:**

Sandra Ainsworth	Chairperson
Garth Elliott	Vice-Chair
Margaret Reinhardt	Secretary
Joseph Barstow	Treasurer
Susan Severt	Trustee

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

### **Staff Present:**

Darrin Price	SVGID, General Manager
Mike Ariztia	SVGID, Public Works Director
Maddy Shipman	SVGID, Legal
Jennifer Merritt	SVGID, Staff

### **Others Present:**

Rodney Bloom	Audience
Vicky Maltman	Audience
Michael Rider	Audience
Mr. & Mrs. Castello	Audience
Chief Moore	Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District
Stephen Romero	Wells Fargo Insurance
Doug Smith	POOL PACT
Harry Dixon	Boy Scouts Troop 585, Scout Master
Jim Ganyon	Boy Scouts Troop 585, Assistant Scout Master
Johnathan B.	Boy Scouts Troop 585, Senior Leader

**The meeting of the Sun Valley GID was called to order by Chair Sandra Ainsworth 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; Treasurer Barstow, Vice Chair Elliott, Chairperson Ainsworth, Secretary Reinhardt, Trustee Severt. A quorum was present.

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

Led by Trustee Severt

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

*Secretary Reinhardt made a motion to approve the agenda. Vice Chair Elliott 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.**

None

**Item#6. Trustee/Manager's announcements, request for information, and statements relating to items not on the agenda.**

Darrin Price, General Manager announced June 13, 2014 at 6pm is the District's Dive Into Summer Event at the Sun Valley Community Park. He also reported the District received a thank you certificate from the On The Job Training Group from Hug High School.

Vice Chair Elliott reported the Appliance Center moved into the thrift shop. He stated it is always nice to see Sun Valley businesses grow as well as seeing new businesses open up in the Sun Valley community. He also stated he is concerned with the Cricket Store because there has not been much activity.

Chairperson Ainsworth reported the District received a thank you plaque from the Sun Valley Cal Ripken League.

**Item#7. Discussion and motion to approve accounts payable and customer refunds for June 12, 2014.**

Treasurer Barstow gave a brief report of the accounts payables for June 12, 2014.

*Treasurer Barstow made a motion to approve the accounts payable for June 12, 2014 in the total amount of \$150,317.33. Trustee Severt seconded the motion. After discussion the motion carried unanimously.*

Treasurer Barstow gave a brief report of the customer refunds for June 12, 2014.

*Treasurer Barstow made a motion to approve the customer refunds for June 12, 2014 in the total amount of \$954.25. Trustee Severt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#8. Discussion and motion to approve minutes of May 15, 2014.**

*Secretary Reinhardt made a motion to approve the minutes of May 15, 2014 as submitted. Trustee Severt seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following unanimously.*

**Item#9. Discussion and motion to approve minutes of May 22, 2014.**

*Treasurer Barstow made a motion to approve the minutes of May 22, 2014 as submitted. Vice Chair Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following;  
Ayes: Treasurer Barstow, Vice Chair Elliott, Trustee Severt, Chairperson Ainsworth;  
Abstain: Secretary Reinhardt (absent from meeting)*

**Item#10. Presentation from Joe Castello past operator of the Sun Valley Graffiti Park; with possible direction to staff.**

Vice Chair Elliott stated he requested this item to be placed on the agenda because he is concerned with the amount of graffiti that has taken place in the community. Mr. Elliott stated he spoke with Mr. Castello regarding the value of the Sun Valley Graffiti Park and he also has spoken with the Washoe County Sheriff's Department regarding their value of the graffiti park. There was a difference in opinions of the graffiti park. The Sheriff's Department suggested implementation of a wall of some kind to allow individuals a place to graffiti to help eliminate the amount of graffiti that is currently taking place in the Sun Valley community. Mr. Elliott thought it would be a good idea to have a presentation from Mr. Castello past operator of the Sun Valley Graffiti Park to give the District an idea of what is required to properly maintain a graffiti wall.

Joe Castello, past operator of the Sun Valley Graffiti Park stated he opened the graffiti park several years ago to allow individuals an outlet to express themselves through art. It started as a

memorial wall then evolved into something greater. The park was well known and many people came to visit the park to add their artwork, in addition to several groups visiting the park to perform studies. He stated operating the park took a lot of time, dedication, and willingness to have compassion for some of the individuals, listen to their stories, and offer advice to some of the individuals. The park brought in trouble just as much as it took it off the streets. When he closed the park he knew it was going to create a problem for the Sun Valley community. He stated one of his purposes for the park was to keep individuals off the street and give them a place to graffiti. Majority of the individuals who visited the park were under the age of eighteen and did not understand the graffiti law or the consequence that came with getting caught. Mr. Castello stated operating and maintaining the park is a big job. He always made sure the park was clean and met the expectations of the Washoe County Health Department and Sheriff's Department. He and his wife would personally dispose of the paint cans properly which was a timely process and overtime it cost a lot of money. For the most part everyone would paint in the park, but every now and then someone would paint on a nearby building and he would quickly cover it up. He stated he took the time to talk with the individuals and educate them about the laws regarding graffiti. He made sure they all knew if they got caught graffiti outside the park, they would go to jail and would have to pay fines. He stated overall the park was there because he cared about the kids and he wanted to give them something to do and help them stay out of trouble. A majority of the individuals would help keep the park clean and inviting, but then on several occasions gangs would come in and ruin it for others. Other issues that came along with the park besides gangs; some individuals brought in drugs, alcohol, and sometimes guns. He eventually closed the park because of the liability concerns and it became too much work for both him and his wife. Mr. Castello stated he would think twice about offering a graffiti wall even though it is a good thing for the majority of the individuals. It needs 24/7 surveillance and maintenance as well as it can be very costly. He does not think it would be something for the District to take on at this time.

Deloris Castello stated some good came from individuals who graffiti. Some individuals are very artistic and have received jobs through their graffiti artwork. Mrs. Castello stated it would be nice for our education system and our art community to come together and offer a volunteer program that would offer credit for individuals who volunteer hours to help monitor a graffiti park. The volunteers could help educate the young artists and help give them a place to express themselves and stay out of trouble.

After additional discussion regarding the pros and cons of a graffiti wall, the Board thanked Mr. and Mrs. Castello for their presentation and time.

There were no public comments

*At 6:45 pm Secretary Reinhardt made a motion to move to agenda item# 13 next. Vice Chair Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#13. Presentation by Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Moore and discussion with Sun Valley Board of Trustees regarding outstanding amount owed to Sun Valley General Improvement District per Tariff Rule 10.**

Charlie Moore, Fire Chief for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) gave a brief report regarding the outstanding balance for hydrant rentals. Chief Moore was advised by his legal counsel that as the Fire Chief, he does not have the authorization to approve payment for the outstanding balance. His legal counsel believes that any exchange of funds from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, particularly in this case, can be construed as a subsidy and would require action by both the Sun Valley GID Board and the TMFPD Commission. He stated he has been working with Mr. Price trying to coordinate a meeting with two Fire Commissioners and two District Trustees to

discuss the outstanding balance for the hydrant rentals. Ultimately he believes going forward it is going to take an Interlocal Agreement between SVGID and the TMFPD.

Chairperson Ainsworth inquired if the District already had an Interlocal Agreement to begin with.

Darrin Price, General Manager responded the fire hydrant rental fee has been paid to the District since the early 70's as established per the District's Tariff Rule 10,I,A., prior to the deconsolidation of the City of Reno and Washoe County's Fire Departments. He stated the District is a Quasi Municipality and the District's Tariff Rule 10, I, A states the District can charge, and has charged, a fee for hydrants. The fee is similar to a facilities charge; there is an incredible amount of infrastructure that has been installed to support fire hydrants. Over many years the fire department has revised the requirements for the residential and commercial regarding fire hydrants. The District has invested funds into the existing infrastructure to meet those fire requirements. The fee is to help cover expenses to the District's infrastructure related to fire requirements. This fee is not only charged by the District, it is charged by other utilities. He stated the City of Reno use to charge a fee for fire hydrants up until the formation of Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA). As part of the negotiations, the City of Reno would not join in the purchase of TMWA unless the fire hydrant fee went away. Prior to the formation of TMWA, Sierra Pacific charged a fee as well because there is an incredible amount of infrastructure investment behind the facilities to supply hydrants. He stated every user of water is metered but the fire department. The District built its system on a commercial fire on the hottest day of the month lasting for three hours. Mr. Price commented he is a little confused by Chief Moore's statement that it would require the District's Board and the TRMFD Commissioner to have an agreement, when there was an agreement for so many years.

Chief Moore stated he wasn't aware of any agreements since he became the Fire Chief in 2012. He stated again, he is not authorized to make any agreements with the District's Board tonight; any action will have to be done by his Commission. If there is any existing Interlocal Agreement that he is not aware of, he would be happy to have his legal counsel and Commission review it to determine if payment is required.

Maddy Shipman stated any agreement that is in place is by virtue of practice over thirty five years. This still does not resolve the issue, she believes that the District Board has asked for a meeting between the District and TMFPD to have an understanding of the issue and how it relates to the District and how it relates to the TMFPD. She believes that there has been an agreement for the last thirty five years because it is in the District's tariff and it has been paid. If the issue is having both Boards agreeing to an agreement to continue with the District's tariff or needing to work out some other arrangement, then it has to be done between the two Boards requiring both staffs to get together and come up with some recommendations to present to both the Boards.

Chief Moore responded he thinks a good place to start is to have the meeting that has been requested between the District and TMFPD with two Fire Commissioners and two Trustees along with staff to discuss the issue. If an agreement comes from that meeting then the recommendation should go before both Boards for recommendation and possible approval.

Mr. Price agreed with Chief Moore that a meeting between the two entities is needed. Mr. Price stated he has been trying to set up a meeting for the past several months as directed by the District Board. Mr. Price inquired with Chief Moore, if he is not authorized to make the payment, then how was the payment authorized to be stopped.

Chief Moore responded it would be in violation of the law if he was to authorize payment as advised by his counsel. He stated as indicated in his letter to Mr. Price that the condition of the

District's infrastructure was in very poor shape on July 1, 2012 when he took over. He stated that the fire hydrants had not been tested for several years and when he requested for a test log from the City of Reno, they could not produce one. Any fire department that performs fire hydrant test produces a record so the fire department can show ISO which is an agency that rates fire departments across the country. When TMFPD took over, TMFPD spent \$20,000.00 dollars in parts and an estimated amount of \$30,000.00 in in-kind service (labor) to restore 20 fire hydrants in the Sun Valley area.

Vice Chair Elliott commented on the repair list that was provided. Mr. Elliott's concern is that there was never any issue with the payment of the fire hydrant rental fee until there was a change in leadership at TMFPD. He stated over thirty five years of status quo, is very important and should be taken into consideration. If there is a change in the agreement he hopes that it is a very iron clad agreement.

Maddy Shipman reported that the City of Reno and the City of Sparks had no written agreements regarding fire hydrant rental fees at the time of the formation of TMWA. The agreement was based on the practice at the time to have a fire hydrant rental fee with the respect of water utilities.

Secretary Reinhardt commented she does not think the condition of the fire hydrants and the outstanding balance owed are related.

Chief Moore agrees the two items are not related and he didn't want to deflect from what the current issue is. He stated he simply wanted to share with the District Board that the TMFPD recognized a problem and solved it.

Vice Chair Elliott inquired if the District's water storage tanks are upsized for fire.

Mr. Price responded the District's water storage system tanks were designed for fire, emergency, and general use.

There was no further discussion and no public comments.

**Item#11. Request from Boy Scouts Troop 585 to consider waiver of rental fees at the Neighborhood Center for use of a room for regular meetings.**

Darrin Price, General Manager reported the District received a request from the Boy Scouts Troop 585 for the use a room at the Neighborhood Center on Tuesday evenings from 6 pm until 9 pm. Mr. Price stated on Tuesday evenings the multipurpose room is currently being utilized by Zumba Fitness and Team Martial Arts, the old Head Start room is currently being used by Community Services Agency via a Lease Agreement, leaving the small room next to the Sheriff's office available. Currently the District rents the small meeting room for \$30.00 per hour. The District has a discount policy on rentals; a 20% discount for Sun Valley nonprofit organizations and a 15% discount for all other nonprofit organizations. Mr. Price inquired if Troop 585 is considered a Sun Valley nonprofit organization or just a regular nonprofit organization. He also inquired where Troop 585 is currently meeting at.

Harry Dixon, Scout Master for Troop 585 responded the Boy Scouts themselves are a regular nonprofit organization. The Troop 585 is sponsored by the Reno Optimist Club which is currently a 501-3C. Troop 585 is currently meeting at Esther Bennett Elementary School. He stated since school is almost out of session, the Troop has to find another meeting location.

*Secretary Reinhardt made a motion to approve a 20% discount on the rental rate.*

Chairperson called for a second to the motion.

Vice Chair Elliott requested for additional discussion. He stated he thought the District had established a non-written policy accepting in-kind work in the community as an offset for rental fees.

Mr. Price responded the Board has the option to accept an exchange of in-kind service for the use of the room.

Chairperson Ainsworth inquired if any of the community service projects that the Troop has currently participated with are projects that the District has partnered with.

Mr. Price responded some of the projects are projects that the District has partnered with. The District partners with the Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful Community Clean-Up, the District partners with Washoe County Senior Services celebrating and honoring Veterans which the Troop 585 has always performed the flag ceremonies. The District partners with Safe Kids Washoe County with the Kids Health and Safety Fair. He also acknowledged other Sun Valley community projects that Troop 585 has performed. Mr. Price suggested a community project located at the Sun Valley Community Park clearing of sagebrush away from the fence line.

Mike Ariztia, Public Works Director commented on Mr. Price's suggested community project. He stated the project is hard work and a lot of labor; he would not expect the Troop to have a project of that magnitude.

Treasurer Barstow inquired how much of a savings would the Troop receive if the District honors the 20% discount. He also inquired how many boy scouts are in Troop 585.

Mr. Price responded the rental rate is \$30.00 per hour, the Troop is requesting three hours per week. The total rental rate is \$90.00 per week less 20% reducing the rate to \$72.00 per week.

Jim Ganyon, Assistant Scout Master responded Troop 585 currently has six members.

Mr. Dixon stated Troop 585 is a Scout Out Reach Group which is a special program of the Boy Scouts Association for those children who may not be financially able to join the Boy Scouts or have a parent to participate in the program. He stated he and Mr. Ganyon fill in for those parents who cannot participate in the program. Both of them perform fundraising events to assist with those children who cannot afford the program.

Vice Chair Elliott commented he thinks it would be a win-win situation for Troop 585 and the District by offering an exchange of in-kind services.

Treasurer Barstow is in favor of an exchange of in-kind services for the use of a meeting room. It teaches the troop members responsibility and gives them a chance to earn what they want.

Trustee Severt stated one of the ways the community is going to stop litter, vandalism, and graffiti is to get the youth of Sun Valley to accept ownership of the park. She believes Troop 585 is the perfect group to take ownership of the park, assisting with trash removal and graffiti cleanup around the park. She thinks the removal of the sagebrush along the fence line would be a great Eagle Scout project. The more the Troop acts as stewards of the park; she believes the less negative activity will happen in the park. She is in favor of the exchange of in-kind service.

Chairperson Ainsworth stated the Boy Scouts are an honor group; and because of that the troop members honor to do the things that are asked of them. She suggested the Troop keeping a time log of how much time is spent in the park and list what project they performed in the park (trash removal, graffiti removal, etc.).

Secretary Reinhardt inquired if the Troop would still be subject to the District's insurance and security deposit requirements.

Mr. Price responded Troop 585 would still be required to provide proof of insurance as well as provide the District with a \$250.00 security deposit prior to use of the facility.

After further discussion Secretary Reinhardt withdrew her motion.

There were no public comments.

*Vice Chair Elliott made a motion to approve the use of the small meeting room at the Neighborhood Center every Tuesday night from 6 pm until 9 pm with the exchange of in-kind services provided to the District with the assistance of project suggestions from the District's Public Works Director, Mr. Ariztia. Secretary Reinhardt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#12. Discussion and possible motion to renew insurance with Wells Fargo Insurance Services for District facilities.**

Stephen Romero, Insurance representative with Wells Fargo Insurance Services briefly went over the service agreement for 2014/2015. He gave a brief report on the POOL Program and what it has to offer. Every year he meets with District staff to review the District's current assets and discuss how the insurance market is doing. Mr. Romero briefly went over the deductibles and summary of coverage's. The District's policy has a \$500.00 dollar deductible, a deductible that goes toward every loss that is reported. It could be towards liability, property, or auto loss, and the deductible also goes towards earthquake or flood loss. In the last six years the District has seen increases to the insurance premiums and briefly reviewed some of the items that have increased over the past six years. He stated even though some items have increased over the years resulting in a higher exposure for the District, overall the premiums have stayed relatively flat. In today's market insurance premiums are increasing anywhere between 0% and -5% across the board. The District's premium came in with a decrease to the premium of -.07% and a 4% increase for the total insured property value. Mr. Romero reported the District's annual premium is \$55,637.17 dollars and the Pollution Legal Liability Policy annual premium is \$3,943.00 dollars which is the same as last year's premium. He gave a brief report of the District's POOL Claims Frequency and POOL Claims Severity. The rates have flattened out due to the drop in claims and severity is about the same.

Doug Smith with POOL PACT reported POOL PACT currently has 114 members in the POOL which is beneficial when shopping for coverage. The POOL continues to offer the District with an affordable insurance plan and continues to offer the District other service programs at no additional cost that the District currently takes advantage of. Some of those services are; Contractual Review/Risk Consulting, Human Resource Consulting, Property Appraisals, Boiler Inspections, Swimming Pool Inspections, Webinars and Training, and Risk Management Grants to name a few. Some of the trainings are; Preventing Harassment and Discrimination, Drugs and Alcohol in the Workplace, and Public Officials Liability. The POOL not only offers services to the employer, but also offers coverage for ethic violations for Commissioners and other board members. He thanked the District for being a POOL member and looks forward to continuing to work for the District.

Audience member Vicky Maltman inquired if the \$500.00 deductible includes loss adjustment.

Mr. Smith responded that the deductible include loss adjustment after the \$500.00 dollar is paid.

*After further discussion Secretary Reinhardt made a motion to approve the renewal of the District's insurance with Wells Fargo Insurance Services. Chairperson Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#14. Review of District's summer pipeline newsletter articles with possible direction to staff.**

Darrin Price, General Manager gave a brief report on the District's proposed summer pipeline newsletter articles. The articles include; Recap of the Dive Into Summer Event and Pool Opening, Recap of the Free Swim Day, Community Service Award Recipients, Water Conservation, Springbrook Software Upgrade, Sun Valley Dog Park Survey, a message from the General Manager, a message from the Chair and/or Trustees, Sponsor recognition, and anything that the Board would like to have noticed.

Secretary Reinhardt inquired what a dog park survey would consist of. She would like any cost associated with a dog park to be included in the survey to see if the customers are willing to pay it.

Mr. Price responded the survey would be similar to past surveys, a series of questions related to dog parks. The survey would be available on the District's website and hard copies available in the District's front lobby.

Secretary Reinhardt inquired about the message from the Chair and/or Trustees. In the past the District offered features on individual Trustees on a rotational basis.

Chairperson Ainsworth responded the last message she did reported on District business and she addressed it as the Chair and also on behalf of the District Board. Whatever the message is, it would be from the group.

Vice Chair Elliott stated he would like to include something regarding the photo contest depending on the outcome of the next agenda item.

There were no public comments.

*After further discussion Secretary Reinhardt made a motion to approve the proposed articles. Treasurer Barstow seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#15. Review and discussion of District's annual photo contest and consideration of canceling contest due to lack of participation.**

Secretary Reinhardt stated she does not want to see the photo contest go away. She stated photography is a form of art and she personally likes art and would participate if she could. She inquired if the District made proper announcements regarding the contest and invited youth groups for participation.

Darrin Price, General Manager reported the District has offered a photo contest for the past several years. Some years have been successful, but most recent years there has been a very small amount of participation. Staff has advertised the photo contest through its newsletters and website. Staff does not send out individual reminders, but mentions the contest in passing during



meetings. He stated because of the lack of participation he felt it was time to discuss the future of the photo contest and/or consideration of another contest.

Vice Chair Elliott stated when he recently stopped in at the office to make his payment, he did not see any applications for photo submittals. He suggested continuing the photo contest but consider creating a theme each year for photo submittals.

Trustees Severt stated a restructure of the photo contest rules and a re-launch of the contest might get more participation. She stated people take more pictures now than ever because majority of the people have a camera on their cell phones.

Audience member Vicky Maltman stated the District talks about getting information out to the public via computers and websites. She stated some people have computers but don't know how to read their email. Some have computers, but can't afford internet and others just can't afford the cost of a computer. She thinks this is the time to remind the Board that having a digital display would be worth the investment. She commented when she drives by the Community Park she has a difficult time reading the marquee.

Audience member Michael Rider inquired how the photos are submitted.

Jennifer Merritt, District staff member responded the District has always announced the photo contest in advance via the newsletter and by signs in the front lobby. There has never been an application required with a photo submittal. Individuals are provided with the photo contest instructions, and photos are submitted electronically, directly to her work address, and she indexes the photos as submitted.

Chairperson inquired if an individual can submit a photo in the District office if they don't have a computer.

Ms. Merritt responded individuals can submit their developed printed photos in person as their submittal; it is not restricted to electronic submittals only.

Mr. Rider stated he likes Mr. Elliott's idea of creating a theme for photo submittals.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the photo contest and was requested to bring back for discussion regarding the District's annual photo contest.

**Item#16. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding District's involvement and contributions to Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful.**

Darrin Price, General Manager gave a brief history on the partnership between the District and Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB). He stated since the acquiring of garbage powers in 1990; the District has contributed to the Sun Valley community and various organizations to assist in clean-up and other beautification projects. He gave a brief history of the various donations to BLM, Washoe County, and KTMB. He stated some of the beautification projects consist of Looking Great in 98, Looking Fine in 99, dumpster rentals for Sun Valley clean up days as well as dump vouchers. Over the years those projects grew larger and became more difficult to manage and that is when Washoe County Parks and KTMB stepped in to assist. He provided a report provided by KTMB regarding cleanup accomplishments for the past six years.

Vice Chair Elliott stated he requested discussion regarding this item after having numerous discussions with concerned citizens. He personally has a problem with the District donating funds to KTMB to help clean up of BLM property. He has volunteered with cleanup events on BLM

properties in the past and he knows what BLM is capable of doing as far as participating with their own cleanup efforts. He does not think that BLM is being responsible for their property located on the north end of Sun Valley. He is not saying that cleanup efforts in the Sun Valley desert is not imperative, but he thinks there are other cleanup opportunities that District could contribute to such as cleaning up private Sun Valley properties for those who are not capable of cleaning up their own properties. Mr. Elliott stated he will not be supporting donating funds to KTMB to cleanup BLM property.

Trustee Severt stated she recalls the District using a lot of beautification funds in 1998 and 1999 to go towards beautification projects and providing dumpsters. She recalls how difficult it was to get individuals to clean up their properties. If an individual wanted their property cleaned the District provided a dumpster and the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, and other organizations were involved to help clean up the properties. After those properties were cleaned it became a legal issue with Washoe County and they became responsible for monitoring properties. The District still has a dumpster program with the partnership of Washoe County Health Department. She also stated this is the first year that KTMB incorporated other areas in their great cleanup other than public open space; this year the Sun Valley Community Park was cleaned up during the Great Cleanup. She appreciates what KTMB has to offer by organizing cleanup events in the deserts because nobody else is doing it. She would be afraid of what the deserts would look like without the assistance of KTMB and their ongoing cleanup efforts and education. She will continue to support KTMB as long as they continue to provide cleanup opportunities in Sun Valley.

Secretary Reinhardt stated she is not sure that everyone knows that the District has a dumpster program.

Mr. Price responded the District does have a dumpster program and it is very successful. The dumpster program is with the partnership of Washoe County Health Department.

Audience member Vicky Maltman commented she appreciates what KTMB does, however when does the District or the Sun Valley community have to force the people who are responsible for the property that is being cleaned up, to clean up their own property. She also inquired why should the rate payers have to be a part of giving, because the funds that are being used towards cleanups is a portion of the rate payers money that is paid for garbage service. She stated that the District just made an agreement with the Boy Scouts to help clean up the park, the District already pays a landscaper to clean the park, so she does not understand why KTMB would be invited to clean up the park when the District already has organizations to clean it up. She thinks KTMB is a good program for the things they have done around the Truckee River. She does not see how it became their responsibility to step in and assist government owned property, especially when BLM is trying to take away property from our ranchers. Ms. Maltman commented she cannot see the cleanup efforts from her house, so what good did it do her nor does she visit the public land to see the cleanup efforts. She would rather see District funds used somewhere else than see it go to KTMB.

Vice Chair Elliott stated he knows what BLM is capable of doing with the assistance with the AmeriCorps Volunteers. He thinks that it is time to speak with BLM to get them more involved with cleanup efforts for their properties.

Chairperson Ainsworth stated she appreciates the partnership with KTMB; they have been able to offer assistance to the Sun Valley community to help clean up open space and the parks.

Audience member Michael Rider thinks that the District needs to hold KTMB accountable for their work in the Sun Valley community. Any donated funds from the District should be spent within Sun Valley and not anywhere else.

There was no further discussion.

**Item#17. Review and discussion regarding the District's garbage franchise fees and use towards beautification projects.**

Darrin Price, General Manager reported that the use of the garbage franchise fees is defined in the District's Tariff Rule 26; The Board of Trustees may also utilize some franchise fees for other purposes related to District operations which benefit all customers of the District, such as storm culverts, area beautification, and etc. Mr. Price stated he spoke with the District's prior counsel, who wrote the tariff, to find out more about the beautification program. He stated the storm culvert program was a program with the partnership of Washoe County to install culverts in driveways only with the hope of future sidewalks. Area beautification is cleaning up properties with the partnership of Washoe County Health Department. Washoe County Health Department and Code Enforcement determine which properties need assistance getting cleaned up, and the District supplies a dumpster for those properties.

Maddy Shipman reported the etc. portion of the beautification program; it should be considered a similar kind of a program that is listed in the tariff that can benefit all of the customers.

Mr. Price reported some of the other projects that the District assisted with regarding beautification that benefited all of the customers were the donation of trees for the Sun Valley parks (at the time parks were owned by Washoe County) and the schools, and donation of landscaping for some of the Sun Valley businesses.

Secretary Reinhardt inquired if it would be acceptable to donate to RTC trees and shrubs to help decorate the Sun Valley corridor project if it is developed.

Mr. Price responded the District could contribute materials to RTC and/or NDOT towards their projects, but would not be the responsibility of the District to maintain the landscaping since roads are not within the District jurisdiction.

Vice Chair Elliott stated he understands the current District dumpster program is popular. He sees one problem with the program, a lot of times the properties that are identified by Washoe County Health Department and/or the Code Enforcement are properties that are owned by individuals that live with a disability and cannot clean up their property. A lot of times a dumpster is ordered and nothing happens because there is no one to help clean up the property. He thinks it could be an opportunity to help assist property owners that are disabled, in efforts to clean up the community.

Mr. Price also stated the District garbage franchise fees also assist seniors, low income and/or hardship, and those with a disability by offering a discount and/or a full credit on garbage service for those who qualify.

Secretary Reinhardt stated she thought the Boy Scouts have a program assisting the seniors; all anyone needed to do was ask for the assistance.

Audience member Vicky Maltman commented she knows a person who was taking care of his mother, who has since passed away. He is overweight and cannot cleanup the yard, yet the yard is not bad enough for the Washoe County Health Department to request a dumpster. She inquired

why can't the citizens who see the individuals who need assistance with cleaning up their properties come together to help clean up a property with the assistance of the District providing a dumpster without the assistance of the Washoe County Health Department. She thinks it would be a good use of beautification funds for people who cannot help themselves.

Ms. Shipman responded she would caution the District allowing for anyone to request a dumpster. She believes a set of guidelines and/or qualifications would be need to be met.

Chairperson Ainsworth responded the District used to offer dumpsters to the residents. The program was with the partnership of Waste Management requiring a shared cost for the dumpster; the District, Waste Management, and the property owner all shared the cost of the dumpster.

Trustee Severt stated she sat on the committee for Looking Great in 98 and Looking Fine in 99. The committee wanted to go out into the community and give people the opportunity to clean their properties. There were over 100 properties that were cleaned and one of the issues with the program was a liability issue, by bringing individuals and youth groups onto private properties. The program was operated by a public/private partnership with the assistance the Washoe County Sheriff's department and nonprofit organizations who offered liability insurance. She stated there is plenty of history and notes to resurrect the program if there is somebody who has the time and effort to do it.

After further discussion staff was directed to develop a set of rules for a dumpster assistance program without the assistance of the Washoe County Health Department to be reviewed during a tariff hearing.

Audience member Michael Rider stated he utilized the 98 and 99 cleanup programs as well as using the dumpsters that were at Scolari's to clean up his property. He thinks it is a worthwhile program that needs to be done. If the issue is to keep Sun Valley clean then the community needs to find ways to do that and it does not necessarily need to always be funded by the District. He thinks it is possible to get assistance from local businesses and nonprofit organizations to help cleanup up Sun Valley so it is not solely the responsibility of one entity.

**Item#18. Review and discussion of recent survey of approved agencies regarding benefit comparison; with possible direction to staff.**

Darrin Price, General Manager provided a reported with the results of the 2014 survey the District did with the other General Improvement Districts for informational purposes. The Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID) voted on and approved the 2014/2015 budget that included no increases in benefit cost or raises for employees. He stated the report and all email correspondence were provided to the Board as information at a prior meeting. There was one correction made to the report regarding dependent coverage for Indian Hills GID.

*Vice Chair Elliott made a motion for the District to adopt Washoe County's benefit package exactly for health, dental, vision, 100% paid by employer for employee only and 50% paid by employer for dependents, life insurance, with the exception of keeping 0% for raise increases and any other benefits such as longevity that is not listed on the report.*

Secretary Reinhardt stated she is in favor of Vice Chair Elliott's motion because the District has struggled with which model to use for comparison. The Board has argued over using portions from the different entities to be used for the District benefit package. The one thing the District has in common with Washoe County is that the District is in Washoe County and the employees live in

Washoe County, some of the other Districts are in different counties. She stated she thinks it is fair and equitable because the Board has to do something to curve cost.

Vice Chair Elliott stated his motion was for new hires only.

Secretary Reinhardt responded she thinks the benefit model would create a divide between the new hires and the existing employees. She thinks if the model should be offered across the board for all employees, it would be savings to the District and the rate payers.

Audience member Vicky Maltman reported the District would not be able to adopt Washoe County's Retirement (PERS) because the District is already committed to pay 100% of PERS.

Chairperson Ainsworth requested clarification that adopting Washoe County's benefit package model would be for new hires only.

Vice Chair Elliott responded his intent for the motion was for new hires only.

Secretary Reinhardt responded she would like it for all employees, existing employees and new hires. This way it would be fair to all employees without creating a divide. The Sun Valley GID cannot keep going on being the Cadillac of insurance benefits.

Mr. Price responded to Secretary Reinhardt's comment, the survey results shows that 80% of the other General Improvement District's cover 100% of the employee and dependents insurance benefits, just like SVGID. He stated the SVGID Board, as a body, approved the comparison of all the listed of agencies. Majority of the agencies are General Improvement District's and not Counties. He also reported historically SVGID starts their employees less per hour and historical surveys showed that SVGID employees are paid less; that is one of the reasons why prior boards established a better benefit package to retain qualified employees.

Maddy Shipman reported for information purposes only, Washoe County modified their benefit coverage in 1997 for new hires only.

Mike Ariztia, Public Works Directed stated this topic came before the Board a year ago regarding new hires only. He stated had the Board approved a change in the benefit coverage for new hires only, the District would have already seen a savings.

Secretary Reinhardt responded she recalls the prior discussion for new hires only and the argument at the time that was that there was not enough turn over to even bother implementing a change.

Mr. Ariztia also stated the Board, as a body, agreed to compare themselves to the various agencies. He stated he is trying to be objective as much as possible, but it is difficult for him to listen to the Board say in the past that SVGID cannot compare themselves to Washoe County because they are so much bigger and have more customers and employees; but at this time some of the board members only want to choose to use the County's as a comparison which is contrary of what the Board has said in the past.

Secretary Reinhardt responded Sun Valley is the lowest income area in Washoe County and the least able to afford a full paid benefit package. The District is providing more to the employees than what the rate payers can provide to themselves or what they receive.

Mr. Price responded he disagrees because of the economy of scale, when you look at the other systems SVGID has so many more customers that the argument that they can't afford doesn't apply because the other systems with fewer customers, and it is more expensive for them.

Secretary Reinhardt responded in past comparisons there was a comparison of income for the different areas.

Mr. Price responded that the UNR Economist came and gave a presentation on the household income for the areas that are used for comparison.

Secretary Reinhardt responded she believes that there is a difference in opinions on what is the actual medium household income is for the Sun Valley area.

Mr. Ariztia stated it is easy to throw out a percentage when you don't understand the dollar impact not only to the District, but the dollar impact it is going to have on the employees. The impact potentially could affect an employee's salary \$1,000.00 per month.

Vice Chair Elliott stated he is not talking about cutting anything from the existing employees, he is only looking at new hires.

Chairperson Ainsworth agrees with Vice Chair Elliott, she does not want to discuss reducing existing employee's benefits. She is in favor of discussing a change in benefit coverage for new hires only.

Audience member Vicky Maltman inquired what the Lyon County Pool General Improvement District is.

Mr. Price responded the Lyon County Pool General Improvement District operates and maintains the Lyon County swimming pool only.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the purpose of the survey to show that the SVGID is in line with other agencies regarding the health benefit package and to share what the other entities were doing for cost-of-living/merit increases for employees. Mr. Price stated out of all the agencies used for comparison, SVGID is the only agency not proposing a raise this year.

Ms. Shipman commented the purpose of the agenda item was to review the comparison results. The Board can direct staff to bring back additional information for review purposes to show any impacts to the District, but the agenda item as is, does not allow for any specific action to salary or any individual benefit. She stated if the Board wants to make any recommendations, they are going to need additional detailed information to show a full comparison.

Trustee Severt stated the Board needs to look at the comparison as a full package and not in a piece meal format. She recalls this Board wanting to reach out to the existing employees to talk to them and get their input regarding health insurance.

Audience member Michael Rider commented he has managed businesses and employees for forty plus years. Just as a comment for the businesses that he has been involved in, when the employer messes with the employees benefit packages, majority of the employees leave and the employer loses out on qualified employees.

Audience member Vicky Maltman commented because the comparison involves various areas, she suggested a couple of Trustees work with the General Manager and ask for an in depth study

to see a true apple to apple comparison. She thinks it would give a better understanding of the impact to the employees, by cutting the dependent portion that is paid by the rate payers, and show how much it will save the District in the future.

After further discussion Vice Chair Elliott's motion died. The Board directed staff to bring back a full comparison of the approved agencies regarding the total compensation to employees including health benefits, wages, and any insurance including life insurance and anything else that is considered compensation for the employee.

**Item#19. Review and discussion regarding District's Personnel Policy 4.12 Career Incentive and consideration of other alternative incentives; with possible direction to staff.**

Postponed until a full comparison of benefits is completed.

**Item#20. Review and discussion regarding District's Personnel Policy 6.8 Health Insurance Coverage (Medical-Dental-Vision) for new hire's with possible direction to staff.**

*Treasure Barstow made a motion a motion to postpone until a full comparison of benefits is completed. Chairperson Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Item#21. Financial report by William Short.**

None

**Item#22. Legal report by Maddy Shipman.**

None

**Item#23. Field report by Mike Ariztia.**

Mike Ariztia reported on the following items;

- The Robert & Norma Fink Sun Valley Pool opens June 13, 2014 at 3 pm. During the health inspection the inspector commented the Sun Valley Pool is one of the cleanest and clearest pools he has seen.
- He attended the Pyramid / McCarran Intersection meeting because the District's sewer inceptor is located in the intersection. He was happy to report that none of the District's facilities will be impacted by the project other than having to raise manholes in the area. This will be a cost to the District.

**Item#24. Manager's report by Darrin Price.**

Darrin Price reported the following;

- Gave a brief report on the Illegal Dumping Task Force. The committee is continuing on working with educating the legislators the need to have stricter laws regarding illegal dumping. BLM also announced that they are working on a adopt a space to help with cleanup efforts on BLM properties.
- The Northern Nevada Planning Commission had discussion regarding its budget. The budget was passed spending more towards projects than what it takes in annually in revenue. It was discussed that if the commission continues to pass a budget spending funds toward projects, it will be out of revenue in the next several years.
- The District held its 2<sup>nd</sup> bid opening for the Gepford Park Concession Building. The bid came in higher than the grant amount again. The District's engineer is working with the bidder to value engineer the bid down to the grant amount. He stated the District has an option to use a portion of CTAX that is being held for Sun Valley, it can be used to help go towards the concession building. The District could also use some funds from the Beautification and/or Acquisition Fund to help fund the project.

**Item#25. Public Comments.**

Vicky Maltman invited everyone to her craft table Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. She is offering a paint cycle project to at the Dive Into Summer Event. She also requested permission to display some of the artwork inside the District's facility.

**Item#26. Board Comments.**

Vice Chair Elliott commented he had a meeting with Commissioner Jung regarding the future of the Citizen Advisory Boards. He was tasked to find volunteers to hold a quarterly town hall meeting. He stated everyone he has spoken with about the Health and Safety Fair said it was not as well attended as years past. He also stated he agrees with an earlier statement, it is time to invest in a bigger reader board.

**Item#27. Future Agenda Items.**

Darrin Price reported the following items will be on the next agenda;

- Review of the summer draft newsletter.
- Proclamation for Parks and Recreation Month.
- Request from Highland Ranch HOA regarding District participation with a common area project.
- Dive Into Summer Recap
- Review of Customer Service Supervisor and Public Works Director evaluation
- General Manager Evaluation
- Continuation of discussion regarding use beautification fund for community cleanup
- Continuation of a full comparison of the benefit package (2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in July or 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in August)

Vice Chair Elliott requested to bring back the photo contest for consideration to add a theme for photo submittals.

**Item#28. Adjournment.**

*Secretary Reinhardt made a motion to adjourn at 9:32 pm. Vice Chair Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*