

Minutes from the May 5th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission Meeting Minutes

on; We are waiting for information from Fire Department and Emergency Management Services about the septic tank in Fish Lake Valley; we have one spot in maintenance is open.

Carl Shrider – Road Dept. Supervisor – In the Packet
Carl Shrider – Solid Waste Supervisor – In the Packet

Maureen Glennen – Commissioners' Administrative Assistant – we have a civil right class taken to do commodities; attending the legislation meetings; learning how the process the bills; looking for new car & copier.

Sylvia Rich – Public Administrator – None

Robert Glennen – Public Guardian – None

Esmeralda County Land Use Advisory Committee – None

Fish Lake Valley Park Board – we had a board meeting about the bylaws and other discussions. about community center being used and possible having fees when using the community center.

Esmeralda County Library Board – None

Goldfield Visitor Center – Natalie Colunga – we had 172 visitors in March; I went to Rural Roundup in Elko this year, I received award for recognized by her dedication to tourism; I'll be going to the quarterly frontier meeting/general meeting as well; the GOED meeting is Reno this year.

Goldfield Water Advisory Committee – Sharon Artlip – None

Esmeralda County Manager – Joe Dunn – In the Packet

7. **Update of Current and Future Meetings and Activities of Commissioner's Zakas, Holt, and Perez.** (This is only an update. No decisions will be made.)

Commissioner Zakas for the record, attended some meetings; trying to figure out budgets – gathering information.

Commissioner Holt for the record, attended some meetings (Centerra) (Silver Peak Revolving Fund); attended the booze walk last weekend; will be attending the mock trial on May 7th, 2026.

Commissioner Perez for the record, April 23rd, 2026, attended the rural roundup – had a very good experience and what they do in opening ceremonies, very cool. April 24th, 2026, NACO meeting; April 25th, 2026, meetings for the development agreements, been talking with David Deck from BLM about the development agreements.

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ELECTED OFFICIAL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR / GENERAL PUBLIC ACTION ITEMS:

8. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Sign Proclamation Declaring May 2026 – National Treatment Court Month. (Judge Johnson)

Danielle Johnson for the record, I will read in the Proclamation:

**Esmeralda County
Proclamation
Board of County Commissioners**

WHEREAS the County of Esmeralda recognizes the critical importance of addressing substance abuse and mental health issues within our County; and

WHEREAS addiction and mental health disorders affect individuals, families, and communities, leading to adverse consequences such as crime, unemployment, and strained relationships; and

WHEREAS treatment courts, including our County Justice Court Co-Occurring Treatment Court, offer an effective alternative to traditional justice system processing for individuals with substance use disorders and mental health challenges, emphasizing rehabilitation and recovery over punishment; and

WHEREAS Esmeralda Township Justice Court Co-Occurring Treatment Court provides a comprehensive approach to addressing the underlying issues contributing to criminal behavior, offering participants access to treatment, counseling, education, job training and other supportive services to facilitate their successful reintegration into society; and

WHEREAS the dedicated Judge, Bailiff, court staff, treatment professionals, law enforcement agencies, community organizations and volunteers who support the Esmeralda Township Justice Court Co- Occurring Treatment Court play a crucial role in helping participants achieve lasting recovery, improve public safety, and reduce recidivism rates; and

WHEREAS treatment courts demonstrate that when one person rises, we all rise; and

WHEREAS Esmeralda County recognizes the month of May as National Treatment Court Month, a time to raise awareness about the effectiveness of treatment courts in transforming lives and communities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Esmerald County declares that Treatment Court Month be established during the month of May.

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Commissioner Perez for the record, what happens after this, I hope this isn't forgotten.

Danielle Johnson for the record, mental health is hard to see, but be kind, I'll keep doing this and we are a treatment court now and receiving fund now from the Supreme Court.

Commissioner Zakas made the motion to approve to sign proclamation declaring May 2026 – National Treatment Court Month; Commissioner Holt second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

9. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Approve dates for the Esmeralda County Budget, Esmeralda Fire District Budget, Goldfield Town Budget, and Silver Peak Town budget workshops and approve the Clerk to do a bulk agenda distribution once this agenda item is approved. (Angela Jewell)

After discussion between the board with the list of dates that Angela provided and the list of dates that Dan provided as well, the board came up with these dates for budget workshops with having the County Manager doing them and having Dan on coming up on May 14th, 2026, to help with any questions if the board may have. Here is the list of dates for the budget workshops and public hearing of the budget per NRS 354.5964:

May 11th, 2026 – Budget Workshop at 9am

May 12th, 2026 – Budget Workshop at 9am

May 14th, 2026 – Budget Workshop at 10am

May 18th, 2026 – Budget Workshop at 9am

May 22nd, 2026 – Budget Workshop & Public Hearing Budget per NRS at 10am

May 27th, 2026 – Budget Workshop at 9am (if needed)

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve dates for the Esmeralda County Budget, Esmeralda Fire District Budget, Goldfield Town Budget, and Silver Peak Town Budget workshops and approve the Clerk to do a bulk agenda distribution and Maureen do a letter of direction of the dates to Dan McArthur's Office as well; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

10. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discussion, Decision, and possible approval to enter into an agreement with Shaw Engineering for the Goldfield Landfill Volumetric Study – Study and permitting with cost to come from professional fees. (Carl Shrider)

Carl Shrider for the record, Cody Black from Shaw Engineering is on the phone to help present and answer any questions you may have. The Nevada Division of Environmental Project – Bureau of sustainable materials management recently informed Carl the solid waste department needs to have an engineer prepare, sign, and stamp a five (5) year volumetric survey and resubmit the application by July 10th, 2026. I reached out to Shaw Engineering to get

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an agreement for Shaw to help comply with NDEP's request. Cody provided the agreement found in your packet which includes two tasks for a total of \$14,000. The cost of this agreement would be paid from professional fees as the landfill is in Goldfield but a county landfill. Cody, do you have anything to add, or commissioners do you have any questions for Cody?

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve to enter into an agreement with Shaw Engineering for the Goldfield Landfill Volumetric Study – Stude and permitting with cost to come from professional fees along with a letter of direction; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

11. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discussion, Decision, and approval to advertise the re-bid of the Silver Peak Road Permanent Repair Project PWP 2026-2026 re-bid necessary due to bid bust for the first bid. Funding for this project to come from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). (Carl Shrider)

Susan Dudley for the record, I AM PRESENTING THIS ITEM FOR CARL. CODY BLACK FROM SHAW ENGINEERING IS ALSO ON THE PHONE TO ASSIST.

AS YOU WILL RECALL WE OPENED BIDS FOR THE SILVER PEAK PERMANENT ROAD REPAIR PROJECT ON APRIL 5, 2026. WE ONLY RECEIVED ONE BID AND THE BID AMOUNT EXCEEDED WHAT WE HAD FUNDING FOR. SINCE THAT TIME CODY, CARL AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ON HOW TO PROCEED. THREE POSSIBLE OPTIONS: OPTION ONE: REDUCE THE SCOPE OF WORK AND THEN BID REDUCED SCOPE OF WORK OPTION TWO: MOVE CERTAIN ITEMS FROM THE BASE BID TO ALTERNATE BID ITEMS WHICH BASICALLY WOULD MEAN THE BASE BID COULD BE AWARDED IF FUNDING AVAILABLE AND THE ALTERNATE BIDS IF FUNDING AVAILABLE. IF FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE JUST AWARD THE BASE BID. OPTION THREE: IF FUNDING NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE ALTERNATIVE BIDS WE COULD REACH OUT TO USDA AND REQUEST THEM TO FUND THE AMOUNTS OVER THE FHWA FUNDING. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH USDA TO INQUIRE IF NEEDED COULD WE REVISE OUR APPLICATION TO THEM TO INCLUDE THE ITEMS WE DID NOT HAVE FUNDING FOR THROUGH FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMN. WE INFORMED THEM WE WOULD GET BACK TO THEM IF THE APPLICATION NEEDED TO BE REVISED. AFTER RESPONDING TO A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE BID OPENING ON APRIL 16TH FHWA REACHED OUT TO SAY THEY ARE VERY HOPEFUL THEY CAN FIND ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT. MUCH CORRESPONDENCE BACK AND FORTH SINCE WITH FHWA AND CODY TO SUPPORT THE NEED FOR THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING. THE LAST DATED APRIL 23 WHICH STATED IT LOOKS LIKE PER NDOT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT THERE SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT FUNDING FROM THE OTHER PROJECTS COMPLETED WITH REMAINING FUNDING TO COVER THE COSTS.

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IN ADDITION TO THE COUNTY MATCHING FUNDS IN THE BUDGET FOR ROAD CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$411,900, THE REGIONAL STREET AND TRANSPORTATION FUND BALANCE IS \$337,183 THAT COULD BE USED FOR THIS PROJECT IF NEEDED. THIS FUND RECEIVES MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL TAX EVERY YEAR AND CAN ONLY BE USED FOR LARGE PROJECTS. IN 24-25 THAT TAX GENERATED \$35,154. In 25-26 THAT TAX IS PROJECTED TO PRODUCE \$94,717 AND IN 26-27 ACCORDING TO THE DEPT. OF TAX IS PROJECTED TO GENERATE \$113,339. AS YOU CAN SEE IT INCREASES DUE TO LOVE'S AND NOW IT WILL INCREASE MORE DUE TO THE OPENING OF THE GOLDFIELD TRUCK STOP WITH THAT SAID WE HAVE FUNDING SOURCES AVAILABLE TO BID THIS PROJECT, WITH HOPEFULLY ALL BUT THE 5% MATCHING DOLLARS TO COME FROM FHWA. IF YOU APPROVE TO ADVERTISE THIS BID, WE WILL OPEN BIDS ON JUNE 16TH. AS MENTIONED, CODY IS ON THE PHONE WITH US SO HE CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS OR PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION THAT I MAY HAVE MISSED.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve to advertise the re-bid of the Silver Peak Road Permanent Repair Project PWP 2026-2026 Re-bid necessary due to bid bust for first bid funding for this project to come from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

12. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discuss and possibly approve the Asset Management Plan for Silver Peak Water System. (Adrian Roberts)

No action at this time, board of commissioners would like to take the time look through it and put on the next meeting on May 19th, 2026, meeting.

13. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Consideration of whether Commissioner Perez should be reimbursed for health insurance premiums and H.S.A. contributions paid during a period in which neither he nor his spouse had active coverage. The supporting documents provide detailed evidence that, despite premiums being paid, no coverage was in effect for an extended duration. The Board is being asked to review the matter and determine whether reimbursement to Commissioner Perez is warranted to correct this situation. (County Manager Joseph Dunn)

Commissioner Perez for the record, per Bob advice, I will be recusing myself from voting or whatever and I kind of would like to make a statement, would that be good thing to do or not?

District Attorney Robert Glennen for the record, with any statement or argument for or against might not be a good thing for you to do, you have your hands tied.

Sharon Artlip for the record, I couldn't be here earlier, I, unfortunately, I got a whole lot of things going on, I know that all of these, I've not heard of somebody having to pay for

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something and not getting their benefits. It just, if they paid it and it's been accepted by whatever place and everything, I don't understand why it never came through. And I truly think that all our commissioners and all our employees, if they paid something should get it. I kind of find it hard that this is even a question, but that you even had to go this far that you get the benefits for what you paid for. So, if you didn't get any benefits and you didn't, you know, get reimbursed for anything or whatever, see that if there's any question that. He should be reimbursed or have what he's asking for made holes, so to speak, but that's my opinion.

LaCinda Elgan for the record, there's a process of doing H.S.A. process, the process for our office is that we will get the paperwork from Vera's office and input the H.S.A., then we have a system called CIP to make sure the employee is cleared to receive benefits, but I have spoke with Commissioner Perez about this, we got his CIP cleared after receiving his driver's license and it cleared on our side with the correct documentation from Commissioner Perez.

Commissioner Perez for the record, I have sent multiple emails to that department and have copied Joe as well, but nothing happens.

LaCinda Elgan for the record, I went to Vera's office about this and explained to her that his CIP cleared but we are missing additional information that I need his I9 paper work and explained to Vera that you and I talked and gave me permission to get such document I needed with a your permission, so on July 21st, you started getting H.S.A. so in the meantime, to make the book balanced correctly, I can only pay for who's on the list or they know we're going to be on that list and it takes about thirty days for benefits to kick in, so if understand correctly, March should have been your first month that you should have received your H.S.A information and as soon your CIP cleared, the money they had was applied. So, we are talking March, April, May, and June, that's four months that technically you should have received the benefit from the county because you have no money taken out of your account.

Commissioner Holt for the record, my question to you Fred, we have Sierra Health & Life, then Vision and Dental, which one(s) were you missing?

Commissioner Perez for the record, as far as I know we, didn't had nothing, because we had our private insurance.

Commissioner Holt for the record, no, just making sure I'm understanding because again, that's three different bundles, so I have no problem, if you should have had it, you should have it and it shouldn't have come out of your check but end of the day, if you didn't have insurance and it was taken out of your check, then it should go back to you.

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Commissioner Holt for the record, I'll making two different motions so it's clear.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to do a letter of direction to Cindy for the H.S.A. in the amount of nine hundred four dollars and fifty cents (904.50) to Fred Perez account; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to reimburse Fred Perez in the amount of four thousand four hundred dollars and eighty-three cents (\$4,406.83) because the insurance was not correct and will go on the next payroll; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

14. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discuss and decide whether Esmeralda County, the smallest in the state with less than 60 employees, should keep a position entitled "County Manager". (Commissioner Zakas)

Commissioner Zakas for the record, we have had some good years, we have had money flowing in from mining in the tune of 3 million, back up a little, 2 million, back up again, another couple million and that dried us up. What we must live within our next budget is how much money we're going to bring in property taxes, so Vera, do you think that would be approximately at stretch, 3 million?

Commissioner Zakas for the record, I reaffirmed that this agenda item was to consider our affordability regarding the position of County Manager and not about the person in that position and not set aside to wait for more specific budget numbers but was decided on non-financial factors.

LaCinda Elgan for the record, the proforma report showed you what the estimated property taxes are going to be for the County, and we have yet to get that from the State what the certified work in progress is going to be, okay.

Commissioner Zakas for the record, a county budget proposal that relies conservatively on slightly under \$3 million from real property taxes to cover county salaries. The core challenge is downscaling county operations to a \$2 million to \$3 million tax baseline after being instructed not to repeat the much larger \$6 million to \$7 million budget of the previous year. The Sheriff's Office alone requires nearly \$2 million, meaning the county must rely on additional non-tax revenue streams. External funding sources like grants and gas station revenues are excluded from this general calculation because they are earmarked for specific departments (e.g., Carl's department).

Commissioner Zakas for the record, I'm not talking about Adrian's department, because his is pretty much on the sewer and stuff like that, but his wages do come out of the general fund. So

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your budget. You have to live within what we can afford. And that's going to be the hardest decision to look at them and say, you can't have this and you can't have that and you can't have that. We have to do this so we get through.

Commissioner Perez for the record, we don't even know what the budget looks like and you're already cutting and you're cutting right at the county manager. And I would say if we were to cut the county manager, we would have to immediately hire one back. I was told originally that there was 16 projects coming into our county as far as developers and then it got updated and expanded and not, I'm going to say that this isn't all counting, but you'll get a picture of what's coming. I was told that there's 42 developments coming to our county and I know that Joe has been at my side, trying to direct where do we go as a county to handle this and you want to cut this position, I think, I would guess, I would project possibly in, I'd just say five years, give or take some time, that we're going to have these same problems arguing over where does the money get spent. That's my feeling. He just talked about the solar people coming in with all this budget. I have always said that there's a gap between where we are right now and where we potentially may be out in front. But it looks to me like you want to throw him right out of the lifeboat, right out of the thing and we don't even know how rough the seas are at this point. So I don't know. You know when I was reading this backup, I kind of thought, you're after him here. You're after him over here. You're going personal. I'm just saying this. But it's not personal. You say that Mary Jane, but why is it always recurring like that? We approved a chart that gave him huge authority everywhere, doing the budget, doing this, doing that. When we originally sought after having a county manager, Ralph said we needed somebody in the BLM watching all of this, we could have a consultant. We could have somebody fill that gap, but for somebody to do everything on that chart and do it effectively.

Commissioner Holt for the record, I sent this agenda item to Pool-Pact and after I also included my attempt at justifying a county manager, Pool-Pact said this looked good but here are some other points and here are some handouts that Pool-Pact that I wanted to present that as more educational and benefits of having a county manager. Now, also Mary Jane, I talked to Marshall from Pool-Pact is extending an offer that and I said was in line with something you had brought up in the past. They said, as a board, if we sit and agree on three to five items, reasonable items, that we'd like Joe to accomplish or have a milestone in a quarter, then they would help us format something if we give them that list, some kind of way to monitor and showing that Joe made those steps and if he didn't, what we can we do as a board to help him, I think Joe has done a good job and with everything thrown at him at once, he has done good. He has been working with Vera, Cindy, Angela, and other county employees as well, but if we just get rid of him and his position, I think down the road it will be worst.

Commissioner Perez and Holt are in favor of Joe Dunn.

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Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve Joe Dunn as the County Manager and keep his position as it is; Commissioner Perez second the motion with Commissioner Zakas said no at this time because we don't have the money at this time; all in favor; motion carried.

15. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discuss and approve for the FLV Park to auction equipment: two 30ft x 10ft old camp trailers and a 30ft by 10ft old concession stand and approve the proceeds of the sale to go back into the Park Fund 259-000-36125-000 (verified by Auditor Vera Boyer). (Commissioner Zakas)

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve for the FLV Park to auction equipment: two 30ft x 10ft old camp trailers and a 30ft by 10ft old concession stand and approve the proceeds of the sale to go back into the Park Fund 259-300-36125-000 with approving to advertise as well; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

16. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discuss and decide to confirm Dan McArthur's, the County Outside Auditor to chair the necessary number of Budget Workshops to finalize a balanced budget and be present for the Public Viewing on May 19th with paying at his regular rate of pay & mileage and to submit the balanced budget to the State by May 29th, 2026. (Commissioner Zakas)

Agenda items #16 & #17 were open together.

Agenda item #16:

There were discussions about Dan McArthur coming to do budgets and what dates he was available for, the board decided on dates May 14th, May 22nd, and possible date for Mr. Arthur to come on May 27th, 2026, if needed.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to have Dan come to the county budget workshops on May 14th, 22nd and 27th, 2026 with having Maureen Glennen doing a letter of direction to Dan McArthur's Office; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

17. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discuss and sign engagement letter for Mr. Dan McArthur to assist with all three budgets (General County, Goldfield, and Silver Peak) and ensure they meet the state requirements and submit final budget to the State. Signing this agreement will acknowledge Mr. Arthurs participation in the Workshops. (Commissioner Zakas)

Agenda items #16 & #17 were open together.

Agenda item #17:

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Commissioner Zakas for the record, handed everyone a copy of the engagement letter for Mr. Dan McArthur to assist with all three budgets (General County, Goldfield, and Silver Peak) and ensure they meet the state requirements and submit final budget to the State and we will enter on budget forms budget information provided by County offices including: revenue projections prepared by the Nevada Department of Taxation, Revenue projection provided by County Officers/Departments and expenditures projections provided by County Officers/Departments.

Discussion on how to incorporate the County Manager Joe Dunn to do the work as well, we had Nancy Boland talked about having Joe be like (Karen) when she worked here, she would do the spreadsheet/data entry to make sure everything was put in correctly and then have Dan look at it, that would be similar to what Joe would do and then Joe and Dan can talked to see what needed to be fixed or added as well. Then you as the board would have Dan here on the selected dates to present and go from there, Joe would do facilitate the meetings and spreadsheet.

Vera Boyer for the record, suggested that we change the second quarter and make any changes that the board suggest doing and talk to Dan as well.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to approve to sign the engagement letter with changes to be added to the letter and that we will utilize Joe Dunn to do the spreadsheets and will do the meetings for the workshops and get the final budget to the State; Commissioner Perez second the motion and Commissioner Zakas said no because of the added amends; all in favor; motion carried.

18. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Discuss and direct the County Manager provide to Auditor Vera Boyer all the departmental budget requests previously submitted to the County Manager. (Commissioner Zakas)

Commissioner Zakas for the record, I'm asking Joe to provide department requests to Vera's Office.

County Manager Joe Dunn for the record, I'll take all documents to Dan McArthur, all department heads & the leadership team as well.

No action on this agenda item.

19. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Resolution of loneer water change applications Numbers #93949, 93950, and 93951. Approve agreement setting forth terms and conditions between County and Applicant resolving County's Protest Issues. Approve Chair of Esmeralda County BOCC to file agreement with conditional stipulations to State Engineer, and other matters properly related thereto. (Commissioner Perez)

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No action on this action agenda: move to next meeting on May 19th, 2026, for the board to review the documents.

20. **CORRESPONDENCE:** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

None

21. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

Commissioner Holt for the record, May 15th & May 16th, we will have a chiropractor coming to Goldfield, so if you like any information, please contact Vanessa Tolson to schedule an appointment, email is vannessatolson31@gmail.com.

Natalie Colunga for the record, during the booze walk our winner as the Assay Office "Steve Roberts".

Sharon Artlip for the record, has fantastic firework show at the car forest, no problems, lasted about an hour and it was done by Gold Rush Fireworks and wholesale company.

Angela Jewell for the record, sample ballots, voting ballots have been sent out. Registered list is on the website, if you don't see your name, please call me and we will get it figured out.

22. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conducting labor negotiations, conferring regarding labor negotiations, issues, and other personnel matters.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to close of meeting; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Commissioner Holt made the motion reopen the meeting; Commissioner Zakas second the second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

23. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision on labor negotiations, issues, and other personnel matters.

Commissioner Perez for the record, we discussion about working on the tentative budget to be cleared up and follow up on concerns from Dan McArthur's Office.

24. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Recess meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.015(2)(b)(2) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation.

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Commissioner Perez made the motion to recess meeting; Commissioner Holt second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Commissioner Perez made the motion to open from recess meeting; Commissioner Holt second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

25. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision on conference with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation presented in recessed meeting.

Commissioner Perez for the record, we discussed about looking over documents and moving the agenda item to the next meeting on May 19th, 2026.

26. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

None

27. ***ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Holt made the motion adjourn the meeting at 4:15pm; Commissioner Perez second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

From Rachel

County Manager One-Page Handout for Board Packet and Public Meeting

Purpose Show how the full-time County Manager absorbs technical, continuous duties that would otherwise fall to elected officials in a small-staff county and how the Manager, working with the DEM Coordinator, preserves emergency readiness and operational continuity.

Job description excerpts "Under policy direction of the Esmeralda County Board of Commissioners, acts as chief administrative officer of Esmeralda County. Responsible for managing the overall operations and administration of the County Government and Board-Governed Special districts." "Plans, directs, manages, and oversees the activities and operations of the County. Coordinates county activities with elected officials in accordance with direction provided by Board of County Commissioners (Board)."

Duty comparison

Duty area	County Manager (current JD)	If shifted to elected officials
Budget preparation & monitoring	Develops budgets with Auditor/Recorder; monitors expenditures and reports variances.	Commissioners must lead technical drafting and daily monitoring; higher risk of missed deadlines and errors.
Grant management & CDBG liaison	Oversees grant policy; prepares applications; ensures compliance and reporting.	Elected officials manage complex grant rules and reporting; risk of lost reimbursements and disallowed costs.
Contracts & procurement	Negotiates and enforces contracts; supervises execution.	Commissioners pulled into routine procurement; slower policy work and greater legal exposure.
Human resources & personnel	Administers hiring, discipline, classification, training.	Elected officials handle personnel disputes without HR expertise; increased liability and morale risk.
Emergency coordination	Collaborates emergency coordination in partnership with the DEM Coordinator; activates plans and documents after-action reports.	Commissioners manage operational response ad hoc; slower activation, documentation, and reimbursement processes.
Land, resource, development	Manages public-land notices; development agreements; water-rights actions.	Commissioners negotiate technical agreements; risk of poor terms, missed deadlines, or lost fees.
Daily operations & public interface	Prepares agendas; represents county; responds to public inquiries.	Routine service and constituent work consume commissioners' time for policy and leadership.

Key consequences of shifting duties

- **Time diversion:** Commissioners' policy work and constituent leadership would be reduced by operational tasks.
- **Skill mismatch:** Procurement, grant, HR, and emergency duties require specialized knowledge not typically held by elected officials.
- **Continuity loss:** A full-time manager preserves institutional memory and uninterrupted execution.

- **Increased legal and financial risk:** Errors in grants, procurement, or HR can trigger audit findings, penalties, or forfeited funding.
- **Emergency readiness gap:** The Manager's partnership with the DEM Coordinator ensures rapid activation and documentation; without that partnership, response times and reimbursement eligibility decline.

KPI Scorecard Snapshot for Accountability

Metric	12-month Target	Reporting
Adopted budget on schedule	Adopt by statutory deadline	Annual
Grant dollars secured	+10% net grant revenue	Quarterly
Contract processing time	≤ 21 days average	Monthly
Audit findings	Zero material findings	Annual
Emergency response activation	Activate within 2 hours; after-action report within 14 days	Per incident
Customer response time	Initial response ≤ 3 business days	Monthly
Policy initiatives completed	80% of Board-approved initiatives	Quarterly

Accountability mechanism: Quarterly KPI dashboard to the Board; KPI results tied to annual performance review and any bonus.

Three concise speaking lines for the meeting

- “Our County Manager already performs the technical, continuous work—budgeting, grants, contracts, HR, and emergency coordination in partnership with the DEM Coordinator—that would otherwise fall to the Board and Clerk, pulling us away from policy and constituent leadership.”
- “Removing or downgrading the position shifts specialized legal and financial risk onto elected officials and increases the chance of lost grant dollars, audit findings, and slower emergency response.”
- “Keeping a full-time manager preserves continuity, speeds emergency response through the Manager/DEM Coordinator partnership, and protects county revenue; we will hold the position accountable through KPI reporting and an annual Board review.”



ESMERALDA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 12 Goldfield, NV 89013
(775) 277-0047

Esmeralda County, Nevada

Deputy Chief /DEM Coordinator J.Paul Melendrez

5/5/2024
Submitted



To: Esmeralda County Board of County Commissioners
From: Paul Melendrez, Deputy Chief / DEM Coordinator
Subject: April 2026 Department of Emergency Management Monthly Report

Dear Commissioners,

The month of April was a very productive and milestone-driven period for the Department of Emergency Management and the Esmeralda County Fire Protection District. Below are key activities, meetings, and progress updates for the month.

Key Activities and Meetings

- The month began with a special Board meeting regarding the Rural Healthcare Transformation (RHT) Act. I was in attendance and would like to thank Chief Bushnell for his presentation, along with all members of the Esmeralda County RHT Task Force for their continued work.
- On April 2, Chief Bushnell and I attended the BRIC Grant application kickoff meeting. This meeting provided valuable insight into hazard mitigation funding opportunities. We are currently evaluating whether this grant cycle aligns with current county needs.
- On April 3, the RHT Esmeralda Task Force met with the Great Basin College grant writer to confirm project direction. We anticipate reviewing a draft application for clinic development and EMS system upgrades in the near future.
- We have coordinated with the Nevada Office of Emergency Management regarding upcoming training focused on public notification systems and communication platforms as outlined in the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Additional details will follow.
- The April 7 Board of County Commissioners meeting was a significant success. Key accomplishments included:
 - Adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - Authorization of matching funds for the EMPG program
 - Delivery of the American Red Cross shelter trailer

This was a major milestone for the County's preparedness capabilities.

Rural Healthcare Transformation (RHT) Update

- Weekly RHT meetings continue to be held on Wednesdays, with strong collaboration between internal staff, Great Basin College, and grant writing partners.
- On April 15, we participated in a local RHT team meeting to finalize key components of the grant application. Progress remains positive and on schedule.
- Additional coordination meetings were held throughout the month with Great Basin College administrators and grant writers. The application is nearing completion for submission and review.
- The County has submitted multiple letters of support and required documentation. We appreciate the support from all partners and look forward to the outcome of this effort.

Agency Coordination and Partnerships

- Chief Bushnell and I met with Sharp Ambulance Billing to discuss improvements in EMS billing and revenue recovery. The meeting was productive and reinforces a strong working relationship.
- We met with Renown Health regarding potential telehealth service agreements. This discussion, led by Noah Walker and Chief Bushnell, is expected to result in a proposal in the near future.
- On April 14, I attended the Esmeralda County School Board meeting to support the use of the Goldfield Annex Building for the proposed Wellness Center under the RHT program. The meeting was productive, and we look forward to receiving supporting documentation from the school district.
- Participation in the LEPC special meeting resulted in approval of grant funding recommendations. These will be presented to the Board for final approval to support needed equipment within the Fire District.
- On April 16, a county coordination meeting was held with Commissioner Perez, County Manager Joe Dunn, Sheriff Melendez, Carl Schrider, Chief Bushnell, and myself. The discussion focused on the WK Mining developer agreement and broader needs assessments for future projects within the County.

Grant and Financial Updates

- EPWG reimbursements for the first and second quarters have been received in full. We are currently preparing third-quarter submittals. The program continues to perform well.
 - Budget development remains a priority. We are looking forward to implementation of improved financial systems that will provide real-time tracking and transparency for all departments.
-

State and Local Coordination

- We continue to strengthen our working relationship with the Nevada State Fire Marshal's Office. Their support and collaboration on projects within the County are greatly appreciated.
- The County Safety Program continues to move forward. Thank you to County Manager Joe Dunn and Marshal Smith for their leadership. The next meeting will include expanded information and continued progress on implementation across departments.

Closing

Thank you for your continued support and leadership. If you have any questions regarding this report or any ongoing projects, please feel free to contact myself or Chief Bushnell.

Please note that I will not be in attendance at the May 5, 2026 meeting. I am available directly should any questions arise.

Respectfully,
Paul Melendrez
Deputy Chief / DEM Coordinator
Esmeralda County Fire Protection District

One County, One Fight



ESMERALDA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 12 Goldfield, NV 89013
(775) 745-3647

Esmeralda County, Nevada



Chief Jeffrey Bushnell - jbushnell@esmeraldacountynv.gov

May 4, 2026

Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 517
Goldfield, NV 89013
(775) 485-3406
bocc@esmeraldacountynv.gov

*Read an email
will send to Angela
to incorporate into
minutes*

Dear Board of Fire Commissioners,

April was a very busy month for our department presenting multiple grant applications, culminating in Esmeralda County's first application for the Rural Health Transformation Grant. In between, I accompanied our volunteers at multiple trainings, and emergency response throughout the county. In addition, the following highlights represent several key accomplishments and meeting across the past few weeks:

- **Goldfield Fire Station Drainage Project CDBG Presentation**

I presented the drainage issues and repair project for the Goldfield Fire station to the Governor's Office of Economic Development - CDBG group. We were awarded in full \$100k to make the repairs to prevent further deterioration and damages to our station and ensure response readiness.

- **State Fire Marshall Site inspection**

I accompanied the State Fire Marshall's office to walk through and perform follow up site inspection for both the Goldrush fireworks wholesale facility and Goldfield truck stop. Both locations have remaining approvals once all paperwork has been properly submitted.

- **NSRS Radio Installs:**

I have completed installation of all of new P25 radios into the sheriff's office patrol vehicles, Fire and Ambulances. This now brings our county communication system into state and federal compliance.

- **Nevada Rural Health Transformation Program:**

Our initial two applications for the flex fund category comprising the Esmeralda county clinic locations and increased emergency medical service capabilities have been submitted. This momentous accomplishment comprises months and months of effort from our RHT team. We look forward to hearing back the status of our applications in the coming weeks.

- **Goldpoint Fire Station:**

Shaw Engineering has completed the stamped plans for the new Goldpoint Fire Station building. I have sent the plans to the State Fire Marshall's office for plan and occupancy approval. Once approved we will begin compiling the bid package to begin the formal bidding process.

- **Developer Agreement Meetings:**

In conjunction with our County Manager, we participated in multiple developer agreement discussions with WK mining, and have upcoming meeting with Leeward Energy to ensure our emergency services are prepared and equipped to support their future projects.

- **OPTE Grant Submittal:**

This past month our Local Emergency Planning Committee meet and approved the OPTE grant application ratified by the BoCC to purchase vehicle stabilization struts and airbags for stations 2 & 3. This will now equip each of our stations with essential scene stabilization equipment across the county.

- **"United We Stand" Grant Submittal:**

Our Local Emergency Planning Committee meet and completed this year's "united we stand" terrorism grant. We focused this year's application on emergency protection equipment to protect our responders against possible assailants. Thank you as a board for your support towards these grant opportunities.

- **ACLS / PALS Training**

In conjunction with Mineral county we hosted an Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support training at Station 3. This training will conclude the requirements to allow our newest volunteers certification as an EMS-RN, as well as increasing training and continuing education for our Advanced EMTs.

- **Nevada Shared Radio System Users Meeting:**

I participated in the Monthly Nevada Shared Radio System Users Meeting to stay up to date on any system alerts or updates.

- **Safety Committee Meeting:**

I participated in our quarterly Esmeralda County Safety Committee Meeting along with Marshall Smith, and the Esmeralda County Safety team to report on any safety concerns or issues that have arose since our last meeting.

- **ERMEP Meeting:**

We have continued to meet with Marshall Smith from PoolPact on the "Esmeralda County Fire Services Risk Management Plan". This is an ongoing project to ensure our department has the proper policies and procedures in place to run smoothly, safely and efficiently, and in compliance with industry standards.

If you have any questions about the accomplishments noted above or other matters, please feel free to reach out directly.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey Bushnell
Chief
Esmeralda County Fire District

Fwd: Letter of Support

From Jeffrey Bushnell <jbushnell@esmeraldacountynv.gov>

Date Tue 5/5/2026 10:35 AM

To Angela Jewell <ajewell@esmeraldacountynv.gov>

Cindy asked me to forward the email below to you that commissioner Prez asked me to read into the record.

Thank you

Jeffrey G. Bushnell

Chief

Esmeralda County Fire District

P.O. Box 12

Goldfield, NV 89013

Esmeralda County, Nevada

Cell: (775) 745-3647

eMail: jbushnell@esmeraldacountynv.gov

ARSON HOTLINE: 1-844-NV ARSON (682-7766)

Confidentiality Statement: This e-mail and any attachment(s) are intended only for those to which it is addressed and may contain information which is privileged, confidential and prohibited from disclosure and unauthorized use under applicable law. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking any action in reliance upon, this information by anyone other than the intended recipient is not authorized. If you are not the intended recipient the release to you of this privileged information is inadvertent. If you have received this transmission in error, please return the material received to the sender and delete all copies from your system.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Maher, Nicole" <nicole.maher@gbcnv.edu>

Subject: Re: Letter of Support

Date: April 22, 2026 at 12:44:33 PM PDT

To: Jeffrey Bushnell <jbushnell@esmeraldacountynv.gov>, "John (Paul) Melendrez"

<pmelendrez@esmeraldacountynv.gov>, Joseph Dunn <jdunn@esmeraldacountynv.gov>, Rachel Holt

<rholt@esmeraldacountynv.gov>, Susan Dudley <sdudley@frontier.com>, Noah Walker

<noahwalker268@gmail.com>, Danielle Johnson <daniellej@esmeraldacountynv.gov>

Cc: Amy Hyne-Sutherland <ahs@nvnaco.org>, Sheree Beard <sheree.beard@gbcnv.edu>

Hi all. We have submitted the Esmeralda Clinics and EMS grants. Fingers crossed for the best outcomes possible. Sheree and I just want to tell you that we have never worked with a group that has been so focused, so united, and so willing to work for a great cause. We are glad to be part of your team. I'll keep you updated on any future communications. --N.



Nicole Maher

Grants Director

Winnemucca Campus
5490 Kluncy Canyon Road
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

✉ nicole.maher@gbcnv.edu

☎ 775-761-2624

🌐 www.gbcnv.edu

5/5/2026



Esmeralda County Clerk/Treasurer
P.O. Box 547
403 Crook Ave Second Floor of Courthouse
Goldfield, Nevada 89013
(775) 485-6309

May 4, 2026, Treasurer/Clerk Update

Month of April 2026

Treasurer's Office

- Reconciliations: Completed bank reconciliations and general fund (GF) water company recons (including re-doing data lost during a system crash).
- Payments & Deposits: Managed daily register operations, took water and tax payments, processed Justice Court fees, and handled bank deposits.
- Accounts Payable: Processed, packed, and mailed vendor checks; filed vendor copies.
- Reporting: Completed month-end receipts for the Justice Court, Recorder's Office, and Auditors. Managed Room Tax receipts.
- Payroll: Separated and packed payroll for distribution.
- Delinquency Kick-off: Coordinated with Roxane (Devnet) to print, fold, stuff, and mail the 1st Delinquent notices.
- Payments: Processed multiple tax payments in Devnet, managed the tax collection bank account deposits, and updated the apportionment file.
- Legal Docs: Handled Certificates of Redemption, recorded them with the Records Office, and processed/filed 3 court documents in Benchmark.
- Record Searches: Completed and responded to several email-based record search requests.
- Payroll & Payables: Prepared payroll envelopes, took checks to the Auditor's Office, and handled expense sheets for Quill invoices.
- Post Office Runs: Multiple trips to pick up/drop off mail and manage the postage machine.
- Counter Service: Took water payments (including assisting Ben Colvin) and handled incoming phone calls and internal email routing (Sheriff Melendez).
- ☑ Mass Notifications: Completed the massive task of printing, labeling, folding, and mailing the 2nd and Final Delinquent notices. You also handled the high-stakes certified mail paperwork and filing of 2nd and 3rd-year notices.
- ☑ Auction Prep: Organized and handed off the unsold property file folders to Angela to begin preparations for the August land auction.
- ☑ Payments & Reconciliations: Managed a steady stream of PNP (Pay-and-Post) entries in Devnet, processed phone/counter payments, and consistently updated your Tax Apportionment files. You also balanced the March 2026 tax bank statement.



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- ☑ Legal & Redemptions: Processed Certificates of Redemption, handled court filings for Louise, and even assisted with voter registration.
- ☑ Banking: Daily register management, safe deposits, and monitoring online banking for cleared deposits.
- ☑ Payables: Processed vendor checks, managed the NSB credit card late fee expense sheet, and personally delivered reimbursement checks to courthouse employees.
- Reconciliation & Refunds: Investigated a complex bank deposit discrepancy from a Friday check that resulted in a \$394.00 refund due to a property owner. Coordinated with Cindy to draft the refund letter and correct the tax payment records.
- Daily Collections: Managed a high volume of PNP (Pay-and-Post) and credit card payments. You consistently updated the Tax Apportionment folders and maintained the daily deposit cycle.
- Delinquency & Redemptions: Logged and filed multiple Certificates of Redemption, ensuring property owners received their mailed copies and the Recorder's Office was updated.
- Special Research: Investigated a cancelled check for Road and Solid Waste and resolved a query regarding a missing/uncashed tax payment check.
- Training: Completed a specialized Teams meeting/class with Roxane (Devnet) alongside Angela to learn how to process "complete tax changes."
- Enforcement: Identified late room tax payments from Clark's Custom Camp and Santa Fe Motel (Feb/March); drafted and mailed formal letters regarding the 10% late fee.
- Refunds & Reconciliation: Processed a tax refund, wrote the accompanying letter and check, and ensured it was signed and mailed.
- Audit Prep: Managed high-volume file cleanup by stapling certified receipts and preparing Certificates of Redemption for parcels paid in full.
- Payroll & Vendors: Managed the secure password entry for both payroll and vendor check run in the Auditor's office. Prepared payroll for distribution and mailing, ensuring direct deposits reached Angela's desk.
- ☑ Audit & Redemption: Conducted a comprehensive audit of the March delinquency letters. You identified and processed Certificates of Redemption for parcels paid in full, coordinating with Austin for recording and mailing copies to property owners.
- ☑ Tax Apportionment: Finalized and totaled all tax collection apportionments for the month in your digital folders, ensuring PNP and mail-in payments were fully reconciled.
- ☑ Banking: Monitored the online tax collection account daily and prepared deposit slips for check payments signed by Angela.
- *Certified Mail: Managed the intake of 8+ returned certified letters (green cards), ensuring they were filed in the correct tax delinquency folders to maintain a legal paper trail.



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*Supplies: Placed a new order with Quill and created address labels for yourself and Renee.

*Public Postings: Managed the legal posting and removal of BOCC Meeting Agendas at the post office and courthouse.

☐ Mass Mailing: Took on the substantial task of labeling, folding, and processing a "good-sized stack" of Sample Ballots.

☐ Logistics: Coordinated with Vera on postage for the ballots, handled manual stamping for items the machine couldn't process, and transported two full postal bins to the Post Office.

☐ Public Postings: Managed the physical posting of BOCC Agendas at the Commissioner's chambers, the courthouse entrance, and the Goldfield Post Office (including the "Please do not remove" notices).

☐ Court Records: Scanned and entered dockets/documents into Benchmark and handled incoming UPS/FedEx deliveries.

☐ Audit Prep: Completed expense sheets for Quill and coordinated with the Auditors Office.

☐ Security: Monitored the updating of Poll Pads in the jury room; once complete, you packed up the units, cradles, and cords, secured them in the office vault, and coordinated with maintenance (Mr. Tolson) for room cleanup.

☐ Agendas: Managed the physical posting and removal of multiple BOCC Special Meeting agendas at the courthouse and post office.

- Court Records: Handled Benchmark entries for court docs, including scanning, file-stamping, and mailing attorney copies.
- Public Inquiries: Managed a high volume of phone calls, including a significant lead for a customer planning to pay their property taxes in full on Friday.
- Post Office & Logistics: Continued the "twice-daily" mail rotation and handled a signature-required FedEx delivery.
- Payroll: Safely managed the final steps of the payroll cycle—distributing checks to courthouse employees and processing those destined for the mail.
- Agendas: Continued your rotation of legal postings for the BOCC Agendas, including the removal and disposal of old notices and the mailing of new ones.
- Inter-Departmental Support: Directed customers to the Assessor's Office with their parcel numbers and assisted Renee with water account lookups.



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- Logistics: Performed the daily "mail run" and managed the postage machine for bulk mailings, including the BOCC agenda envelopes and attorney copies.
- Organization: Maintained your daily reports and ensured all safe-bound items (tax envelopes, payroll) were secured.
- ☐ Courtroom Coordination: Attended the 11:30 AM court session on April 27. You managed a Zoom appearance and coordinated with Louise, though the session ultimately had to be postponed due to a JAVS technical failure.
- ☐ Records Management: Handled a high volume of legal filings, including scanning and processing divorce record searches, name searches, and general court documents for attorneys.
- ☐ BOCC Preparation: Built the official BOCC Binder for the upcoming May 5th meeting and staged it in the Commissioner's chambers.
- ☐ Court Documentation: Managed court orders for Judge Kosach and Louise and obtained Bob's signature on an order from the April 21st BOCC meeting.

Water Department Side

- ☐ Billing & Notices: Input water bills, managed mailing for standard and haul water, and prepared/verified 10-day shut-off notices.
- ☐ Account Maintenance: Extensively updated customer files and account information; processed work orders and meter sheets.
- ☐ Penalties & Estimates: Calculated water penalties and provided account estimates for staff/public inquiries.
- *Collections: Handled a high volume of water payments (counter, mail, and phone), ensuring they were logged in binders and rung up correctly.
- *Customer Service: Managed everything from explaining remaining tax balances to customers to directing callers to the Justice Court and Road Department. You even helped Judge Wanker at the counter!
- Shut-off Prevention: Acted quickly on a phone payment to notify Maria (Public Works) to cancel a water shut-off, ensuring the customer's service remained active.
- Daily Billing: Managed phone and counter payments, ensuring Renee had all receipts for her binders and customers received emailed or printed confirmations.
- ☐ Collections: Processed multiple water payments (phone and counter), ensuring Renee had the data for her binders.
- ☐ GFU Support: Completed and emailed a GFU work order to Public Works to ensure field tasks were synchronized with office records.



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- **Tax Deeds:** You identified the necessary files and completed 5 Deeds for Cindy's signature, moving those parcels further along in the legal process.
- **Delinquency Audit:** Met with Cindy to provide a full "catch-up" on the status of delinquent letters and Certificates of Redemption. You've already mapped out the May 4th plan to post all weekend payments and trigger the next round of delinquency notices.
- **Redemptions:** Continued to process redemptions immediately as payments arrived, ensuring binders were logged and property owners were notified.
- **Inter-Departmental Coordination:** Worked with the Assessor's Office (Carina) to update property addresses and requested information regarding mining claims.
- **Month-End Reconciliations:** Maintained your daily PNP and Devnet close-outs, deposit slips, and tax apportionment folders.
- **Special Services:** Processed a Marriage License, including the recording fee and coordination with the Recorder's office.
- **Banking Security:** Spent time on professional development by watching NSB fraud tip videos and continued managing the secure password entry for check runs in the Auditor's office.

*For the month of February, the office did deposits for the monies that was received from Goldfield Utilities, Silver Peak Utilities, Tax Collections and general inside/outside of the county.

*For the month of April, the office received different calls about water bills, customers paying property taxes, water estimates any customer service as well over the counter.

*April 27th, 2026 – Did deposits for Goldfield, Silver Peak, Taxes, Treasurer Receipts as well the Clerk deposit, all monies went to the bank on this day for the closing of end of the month of April 2026.

Clerk's Office Side

- ☑ **Meeting Support:** Clerked the Board of Equalization (BOE) meeting and attended multiple Commissioners meetings (one running until 4:05 PM).
- ☑ **Record Keeping:** Labeled Treasurer files (Feb–April 2026) and bound official meeting notes.
- ☑ **Special Projects:** Dedicated significant time to the HSA (Health Savings Account) Project and reconciliation.
- ☑ **Problem Solving:** Resolved scanner connectivity issues, printing errors, and batch consolidation errors within the Tyler system.
- ☑ **Professional Growth:** Mastered the process for correcting transposed numbers in tax payment entries.



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- **Field Coordination:** Handled a walk-in at the Assessor's office to initiate a water work order, then coordinated the details with Renee to ensure the field work was clear.
- **Counter/Phone Service:** Maintained a high volume of tax payments via phone and counter, ensuring all customers received proper credit and receipts.

*April 12th, 2026, Sent Water Meter Sheets/USB to Adrian Office for the guys to read meters for Silver Peak & Goldfield.

*April 21st, 2026 - Applied penalties to Goldfield & Silver Peak Water Accounts

*April 16th, 2026 – Meter Sheets came back to our office – enter the USB into the system to get all the data off so we can generate bills at the end of the month.

*April 26th, 2026 – I (Angela Jewell) stayed late to get the agenda & packet out for the meeting on May 5th, 2026, commissioner's meeting.

*April 27th, 2026 – Print water bills out for Goldfield and Silver Peak.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT

May 5, 2026

Tax Cap Claim forms were printed and mailed out mid-April. If you qualify, the form must be signed and returned to the Assessor's office by June 15th to receive the lower tax cap of 3%.

We are continuing to work on the 2027/2028 costing tables. The Rural Cost manual and the Marshal & Swift Residential Cost and Valuation Service manuals have been received. Once all the costing tables have been updated, the costing file will be sent to Devnet for upload into our database. This needs to be completed as soon as possible.

During the months of May and June, the Assessor's office will be out in the field updating partially complete construction and adding new construction to the tax roll prior to July 1st.

DMV Personal Exemption renewal forms were mailed out near the end of April. The forms need to be signed and returned to the Assessor's office to receive the 2026/2027 DMV exemption.

The Unsecured Statistical Analysis of the Roll (SAR) report for 2026 was sent to the State Department of Taxation on 4/21/2026.

Barbara has completed the Notary class, passed the test, and has received her Notary Certificate. Her Notary Stamp should arrive by May 1st. Everyone in the Assessor's office is now a certified Notary Public.

Kathleen R Keyes

5/5/2026
submitter and
read into minutes



Danielle Johnson
Justice of the Peace
ESMERALDA TOWNSHIP JUSTICE COURT
ESMERALDA COUNTY, NEVADA

P.O. Box 370
Goldfield, Nevada 89013
Office: (775) 485-6359 Fax: (775) 485-3462
Email: justicecourt@esmeraldacountynv.gov

Esmeralda County Commissioners

In March, we had 203 new civil traffic cases filed, the end of the month we had 467 pending traffic cases, cases are pending as they are required to be dealt with within 90 days of the issuance of the citation. We had 50 new misdemeanor cases filed, at the end of March we had 621 pending misdemeanor cases. I held 217 hearings in March.

In April, we had 213 new civil traffic cases filed, the end of the month we had 623 pending civil traffic cases. We had 35 new misdemeanor cases filed, at the end of April we had 623 pending misdemeanor cases. We had 264 hearings in April.

We also have the Goldfield Neighbors helping Neighbors shed almost completely set up, we will be holding a grand opening on Monday May 11th, at 11 am if anyone would like to come support this amazing effort. Thank you to my staff for all of their hard work in getting this done. I would also like to thank Jewish Family Services out of Las Vegas for bringing us non-perishable food to put in the shed. We intend on doing this in all of the other communities in the County, if anyone would like to donate a shed in Silver Peak or Fish Lake Valley, please contact me!

Starting today at 11 am, Nevada Behavior Health will be in Goldfield, providing mental health to the citizens of Esmeralda County. I will have a schedule of times they will be here sometime today, I will be mailing a flyer out to the residence of Esmeralda County, so be on the look out for that.

Thursday May 7th, the 5th through 8th Grade students from Esmeralda County School District will be in the Courthouse and presenting their Mock Trial, if anyone wants to come, it is open to the public. I am very proud of the students that I get the honor of teaching. I want to thank the Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's office, Public Defender, and Supreme Court for coming out and teaching these students about their role in the Criminal Justice System. Without you all, this could not be done! So thank you!

Sincerely,

Danielle Johnson
Justice of the Peace



Esmeralda County

Road and Solid Waste

CARL B. SHRIDER, SUPERVISOR

PO Box 129 · 266 Bellevue Ave N

Goldfield, Nevada 89013

P 775-485-3448 · F 775-485-3457

Road Dept update 05/05/2026

Roads Maintained-

Mustang Alley, Wild Horse, Boland, Kirby, Davis Meadows, Gillum, Little Philly, Settlers, Chatavitch Road, Sand Piper, Arlemont, Mountain Water Ranch, Mt Creek, Park, Sage Hen, A Lazy L, Cave Springs, Hot Box, Nevada Eagle Road, N 5th Ave, G-Thomas Road, Coyote Road – East side and West side, Billy Wright Road, Tule Canyon, 5 Mile Road, Blade FLV Park for School Track Meet

Flood Damage Repair-

Tule Canyon – Dozer work Completed

Maintenance Performed-

Unit 23- Replace Water Pump and Power Steering

Unit 207- Side Shift Cylinder Replacement and Back Up Alarm

Other projects and communications-

Communications with DA Robert Glennon on Road Maintenance Agreement for Mineral Ridge

Communications with Quartz Lake Mining on opening County Road north of Goldfield

Communications with Silver State Hydraulics for water pump rebuild

Inspect Coyote Road portion that Mineral Ridge is using

Meeting with BLM Tonopah on Lida Airport

Communications with Fish Lake Geothermal on Road Maintenance Agreement

Inspect water job on Blake for road closure
Placed new sock at Lida airport
Continued work on Budget FY27
Communications with Jason from NDOT and Cody from Shaw about Silver Peak
Road bidding
Communications with Best in the Desert about Silver State 300 race
Road & Solid Waste Departments Crew had MSHA refresher course
Communications with WK Mining about development agreement
Communications with Kinross exploration on scope of work
Communications with Mineral Ridge on Road Maintenance
Communications with LEHR on towbars and lights installation quotes on proposed
and approved new trucks purchase
Communications with MRLE Recyclables on metal
Completed Monthly Fire Extinguisher Inspection
Pool Pact Training for 1 employee – Incident Investigation
Monthly Manpower for April at 30.76%
Coyote Road washed out, removed and replaced Colvert on West side



Esmeralda County Road and Solid Waste

CARL B. SHRIDER, SUPERVISOR
PO Box 129 · 266 Bellevue Ave N
Goldfield, Nevada 89013
P 775-485-3448 · F 775-485-3457

Solid Waste Update 05/05/2026

1. No April monthly total due to agenda request due before month end.
2. Total waste disposed at Landfill including transfer stations for the month of March totals 1140 yards.
3. Continuous Work for opening of new cell.
4. Currently have one drop box rented out.
5. Position for Solid Waste Operator is filled and attending CDL School.
6. Position for 50%/50% Solid Waste/Road Operator has been filled.
7. Alternating Road employees to cover Landfill.
8. Completed NDEP Financial Assurance Update for the Goldfield Class II Landfill Report for 2026
9. Communications with Shaw Engineering about Completing Volumetric Survey and putting their stamp on it.
10. Replaced Batteries & Repaired Cable – Compactor Unit 706
11. Turned in Agenda Item for Roll off mileage increase.
12. Grizzlie set for metal sorting
13. Replaced Front King Pin & Brakes - Unit 708
14. Conducted permitted Burn @ Fish Lake Valley Transfer Station



Joseph Dunn
County Manager

403 Crook Avenue ,Box 517 .P.O
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775-566-9225 :Cell

jdunn@esmeraldacountynv.gov www.accessesmeralda.com

*5/5/2026
Submitted
and touched
upon the mining
Potential
& Geo thermal*

Esmeralda County Monthly Report

Reporting Period: April 1st – April 30th, 2026

Summary:

Financial Overview. (Note – These values are a snapshot of dollars loaded into Tyler as of April 30th, 2026. End of month adjustments made by Recorder/Auditor or Treasurer/ Clerk may impact these values.)

YTD Revenues: \$7,840,970

YTD Expenses: \$7,579,340

Liabilities: Stable and well managed.

Fund Balance YTD: Overall, has increased by 2.2% (approximately \$261,630). Increasing from the beginning fund balance of \$11,961,877 to \$12,223,507.

Revenue pace: 84.4% of the projected annual budget at 83.3% of the budgeted season indicating we are behind the straight-line budget curve however, it is not unusual because county revenues are often seasonal/lumpy (property taxes, state distributions, grants). Not necessarily a red flag.

ESMERALDA COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND PROVIDER



Joseph Dunn
County Manager

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Expense pace: \$7,579,340 over 10 months gives an avg spend rate of \$757,934/month with a run-rate (12 mo.) projection of \$9,095,208 in annual expenses.

Conclusion:

YTD surplus: +\$262k — operations are positive.

Fund balance growth: +2.2% YTD — slightly down from previous months.

Fund balance to annual spend (run-rate): \$12.22M / \$9.10M $\approx$ **134%**. That's very strong (for context, many policies target approx. 2–6 months of expenditures; we are well above that, even if a portion is restricted).



Joseph Dunn
County Manager

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General County Funds



ESMERALDA COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND PROVIDER



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Financial Opportunity's

After meeting with one of several potential solar developers, I was encouraged by the potential revenues expected to come to the county. Based on the 3rd party economic analysis Esmeralda County is expected to receive nearly \$5 M in tax revenue from construction activities alone from just the one developer. During the life of the project (apprx 35 years) the county will receive up to \$500 K/year.

Most of the interested solar developers, size wise, will fit into this category providing similar revenue streams.

Human Resources

The revised Esmeralda County Employee Policy Manual has been completed. The revised policy is still waiting for Vera to take action. She feels that a team of 5 people should review the updated manual prior to releasing it to the remainder of the Leadership Team for review. No action has taken place since.

The new organizational chart was finally approved by the Board of Commissioners despite much resistance from some department heads. This chart is intended to help clarify the County's structure by outlining managerial and administrative responsibilities. While elected officials maintain oversight of their respective departments, there remains an administrative structure that must be followed. Oversight of this structure falls under the responsibility of the County Manager.

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Grants and Loans

The Arsenic Treatment Plant project is progressing well. Susan, Adrian, and their team are working with Shaw Engineering to finalize the necessary documentation so the County can move forward with soliciting contractor bids. These upgrades are intended to strengthen the system and ensure a more reliable, long-lasting treatment plant.

The Silver Peak Road project is also advancing. After going for bid the county received bids that exceeded funding. Carl's team, with support from Susan, is preparing bid documents for a second round of bids.

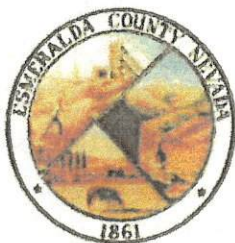
Funding for the drainage improvements were secured through USDA. Due to the higher-than-expected construction cost USDA is working with the county to secure additional funding.

Projects for the Goldfield Community Center and Firehouse have been approved by CDBG. However, due to the lack of funding the community was not funded for the entire amount asked for. Commissioner Holt and Susan have worked with the engineering company to streamline cost and reduce some of the job scope.

Developer News

The WK Mining Development Agreement was presented to the Board of Commissioners but was tabled to get better clarification on the ask and to give the LUAC an opportunity to review

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the agreement. Additional meetings will be held during May with the developer to better frame the ask. Both the Hasbrouck and Three Hills Projects are being reviewed together.

No additional information is available on several geothermal projects in the pipeline. Earlier this month, the Land Use Team met with Ormat for a pre-application meeting regarding the Lone Mountain Geothermal Project. If advanced, this project could provide Esmeralda County with substantial long-term revenues through taxes and royalties. The Lone Mountain site is located on the northwest end of Fish Lake Valley.

The meeting with the American Battery Company (ABTC) went well. They are still away from being ready to sit-down with the Development Team to negotiate terms. ABTC, located just north of Tonopah, is proposing a lithium extraction and processing facility with integrated lithium-recycling capabilities. This development has the potential to generate significant revenue opportunities for the County.

The Development Team including Commissioner Perez completed a high-level review with several potential solar developers. Since the meeting several have reached out to the county to discuss their projects. Each developer will be required to apply for an individual pre-application meeting.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to illustrate how to evaluate whether Esmeralda County should retain the County Manager position. The evaluation focuses on cost, operational efficiency, enterprise risk management, statutory authority, return on investment, and is intended to support the Board's decision-making consistent with the Board's fiduciary duty to the County and its taxpayers.

County Context

Esmeralda County operates with approximately 70 employees across all departments, delivering core public services with limited redundancy and limited specialization. In an organization of this size, centralized professional management plays a materially different role than in a larger county with multiple administrative layers. A small organization has fewer opportunities to absorb errors, fewer backup positions when key staff are unavailable, and less internal capacity to manage compliance risk across grants, personnel, procurement, and emergency operations.

Statutory Authority for the Position

The County Manager position is expressly contemplated under Nevada law. NRS 244.125 provides that the county manager "shall perform such administrative functions of the county government as may be required by the board of county commissioners. Two points follow from this statutory framework. First, the position exists to perform administrative functions on behalf of the Board, the Board sets the scope. Second, the Board retains full authority over the manager's appointment, scope of duties, salary, staffing, and continued service. Eliminating or modifying the position is the Board's prerogative; so is retaining it under defined terms.

Executive Summary

Although the County Manager position carries an annual cost of approximately \$175,000, eliminating the position does not eliminate the associated duties. Those duties are statutory, contractual, and operational in nature, they must be performed regardless of whether a manager is in place. Eliminating the position shifts the work to elected commissioners on a part-time and fragmented basis, which pulls commissioners away from their core role as policymakers, increases legal and financial risk, slows operations, and diffuses accountability. Retaining a single accountable administrator under direct Board control is the more efficient, lower-risk, and more fiscally disciplined approach for a county of this size.

Commissioners Are Policymakers — Not Day-to-Day Administrators

The single most important governance principle underlying the County Manager position is the distinction between policymaking and administration. Commissioners are elected to set policy and adopt ordinances (NRS 244.117 and NRS 244.146), to exercise oversight of county government and address matters of local concern (NRS 244.137 and NRS 244.146), to control the budget (NRS 354.598), to levy taxes (NRS 244.150), and to represent their constituents through their elected office. They are not elected to run the day-to-day operations of a 70-employee organization, and the law does not require them to. Day-to-day administration — personnel actions, procurement, grant compliance, vendor management, payroll, contract execution, risk management, and emergency reimbursement — is professional, technical, and continuous work. It is a full-time function. Commissioners hold part-time elected office. Treating these two functions as one undermines both.

The 2020 Nevada County Commissioner Handbook, published by the Nevada Association of Counties, recognizes this practical reality. The Handbook describes commissioners as the chief executives of the county organization but observes that "most commonly... executive duties are delegated to the county administrator or county manager," and that "most, but not all, counties in Nevada have a staff person assigned or appointed to assist them with their executive duties." The reason is straightforward: policy and administration are different functions, requiring different skills, different time commitments, and different accountability structures. The County Manager is how the Board exercises its executive authority efficiently — not a substitute for it.

This division is the same one that fiscally conservative governance has long endorsed in other contexts. A corporate board sets direction and holds the chief executive accountable; it does not run operations. A school board sets policy; the superintendent runs the schools. A legislature writes the laws; agencies execute them under oversight. The same principle applies to county government: the Board governs, the Manager administers, and the line between them is what makes both functions work. Erasing the line does not produce smaller government — it produces less-disciplined government, with commissioners doing administrative work they were not elected to do and with administrative work being done less consistently and at higher legal risk.

Published guidance from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) reaches the same conclusion. ICMA describes the council-manager / commission-manager form as one that produces government that is “effective, transparent, responsive, and accountable” by recognizing the role of elected officials as policymakers while ensuring a qualified professional is devoted to the delivery of services under the elected officials’ direction.

Key Considerations and Illustrative Examples

1. Risk Management and Cost Avoidance

Function: grants administration, contracts, personnel, emergency reimbursement, compliance oversight.

Illustrative example: The County receives a state or federal grant requiring quarterly reporting and strict procurement documentation. Without centralized oversight, a reporting deadline is missed or documentation is incomplete. As a result, the County forfeits \$80,000 in reimbursement or must repay funds already spent. A single such occurrence equals nearly half the annual cost of the County Manager position. The County Manager reduces this risk by tracking deadlines, coordinating departments, and ensuring documentation is complete and defensible — work that requires daily attention and that commissioners cannot reasonably perform on a part-time basis.

2. Cost Shifting, Not Cost Savings

Function: budget development, monitoring, procurement support, HR administration.

Illustrative example: Following elimination of the County Manager, budget development shifts largely to commissioners working directly with department heads. Technical errors or late submissions require emergency corrections, special meetings, or external consulting support. Commissioners spend substantial additional time on operational tasks, reducing attention to policy, long-term planning, and constituent leadership. The cost is not eliminated; it is absorbed inefficiently through higher opportunity cost, greater error risk, and outside professional services. The commissioners’ time spent on administration is time not spent on the policy and oversight work they were elected to perform.

3. Return on Investment Is Primarily in Avoided Losses

Function: internal controls, consistency, documentation, early problem detection.

Illustrative example: A personnel dispute arises after inconsistent disciplinary actions across departments. With limited centralized HR administration, the County faces a grievance or claim alleging unfair or non-uniform treatment. Defense costs and settlement exposure can quickly reach six figures, and POOL/PACT exposure is increased correspondingly. When a County Manager oversees personnel policy consistently and documents actions uniformly, many disputes are resolved informally or prevented entirely.

4. Role Clarity Protects Individual Commissioners and the County

Function: separation of policy from administration, Open Meeting Law compliance, individual-liability protection.

When commissioners step into day-to-day administration, two specific risks attach — and both attach to commissioners personally, not just to the County. First, individual commissioners may be named in claims arising

from operational decisions they directed personally, such as hiring, discipline, contract negotiations, or vendor disputes. The protections that ordinarily attach to legislative and policymaking acts are weaker when commissioners are functioning as administrators. Second, when commissioners coordinate operational matters individually — by phone, email, or successive one-on-one conversations among colleagues — they create serial-communication and walking-quorum risk under Nevada's Open Meeting Law (NRS 241), particularly where the operational matter has policy implications. The County Manager preserves clear lines: commissioners set policy and provide oversight in properly noticed public meetings; operations are executed within established authority by an accountable professional. Role clarity is not just good practice — it is a meaningful legal protection for each commissioner individually.

5. Small Organizations Require More, Not Less, Central Coordination

Function: continuity, institutional knowledge, cross-department coordination.

Illustrative example: In a 70-employee organization, the loss of one key staff member or the mismanagement of one major process can disrupt multiple departments simultaneously. A missed emergency reimbursement, an uncoordinated land-use action, or a delayed contract affects the entire operation. The County Manager provides continuity, cross-department coordination, and institutional memory that is difficult or impossible to replicate informally in a small organization — and that no part-time elected official can provide while also performing the policy and constituent work the office requires.

Illustrative ROI / Avoided-Cost Estimates

The figures below are illustrative and intended to support Board discussion. They reflect public-sector cost ranges commonly observed by risk-management professionals and are not a representation of any particular [County] claim or matter.

Annual cost of County Manager position: approximately \$175,000.

Examples of single-event avoided costs: partial grant loss due to missed compliance, \$50,000 to \$150,000; personnel claim including legal defense and settlement, \$75,000 to \$250,000; procurement error or contract dispute, \$25,000 to \$100,000; missed emergency reimbursement, \$50,000 or more.

Avoiding or mitigating one moderate adverse event every one to two years equals or exceeds the full annual cost of the position. This is the core fiscally conservative argument for retention: a small, predictable annual cost protects the County against larger, unpredictable losses.

Conclusion

The County Manager position should not be evaluated solely as a salary line item. It is the structural mechanism that allows commissioners to do the job they were elected to do — set policy, exercise oversight, and represent constituents — without being drawn into day-to-day administration they were not elected to perform and that exposes them personally and the County institutionally. Eliminating the position does not reduce government; it redistributes the same work to elected officials in a manner that is less efficient, less consistent, more legally risky, and less accountable.

Retaining the position reflects principles that fiscally conservative constituencies have long emphasized: controlling costs through professional oversight, minimizing waste and duplication, enforcing accountability under direct elected-official control, transparency, while preserving the Board's full authority over policy and direction.

Appendix A — Anticipated Questions and Responses

The following questions and responses are intended to support Board discussion. Each response is grounded in statutory authority, published guidance, or established risk-management practice.

Q1: Why does a county this small need a County Manager?

Smaller counties with approximately 70 employees have less redundancy and less specialization, which increases — not decreases — the impact of administrative errors. A single missed grant deadline, personnel misstep, or procurement issue can affect the entire organization. Professional management provides the centralized coordination and risk control that a small organization cannot absorb informally, and it allows commissioners to focus on policy and oversight rather than daily operations.

Q2: Isn't this just an expensive administrative layer?

No. The County Manager consolidates functions that would otherwise fall to commissioners individually and inconsistently. Eliminating the position does not eliminate the work; it redistributes it to elected officials, increasing risk and reducing efficiency while pulling commissioners away from policy and oversight. NRS 244.125 expressly authorizes the position and gives the Board full control over its scope, salary, and staffing — the position exists to serve the Board, not to constrain it.

Q3: Where is the return on investment? Residents don't see it.

The return on investment is primarily in avoided losses, not in visible line items. Grant reimbursements preserved, litigation avoided, emergency funds documented correctly, and compliance errors prevented rarely appear as “savings,” but each routinely exceeds the annual cost of the position when something goes wrong. Public-entity claims experience consistently shows that one moderate adverse event can equal or exceed the annual cost of the position.

Q4: Why can't commissioners just handle these duties themselves?

Because commissioners are policymakers, not administrators. Commissioners are elected to set policy, exercise oversight, control the budget, and represent constituents — not to run day-to-day operations of a 70-employee organization on a part-time basis. Day-to-day administration is professional, technical, and continuous work. Treating policy and administration as one function undermines both: the policy work suffers because commissioners are pulled into operational details, and the administrative work suffers because it is being done part-time, inconsistently, and without the controls a single accountable administrator provides. The 2020 Nevada Commissioner Handbook recognizes that most Nevada counties delegate executive duties to a county manager or administrator precisely because policy and administration are different jobs.

Q5: Doesn't this reduce accountability to voters?

No — it increases accountability. The County Manager serves at the pleasure of the Board and can be removed at any time by Board action. This model preserves voter accountability for policy decisions while ensuring day-to-day operations are handled by a qualified professional under direct Board oversight. The voters elect commissioners; the commissioners control the manager. Accountability runs in a clean line.

Q6: Isn't this “big government”?

Limited government means government that does its core functions efficiently, transparently, and within its means — with strong controls and clear accountability. A County Manager position serves exactly those goals. Eliminating professional administration does not produce smaller government; it produces less-disciplined government, with more errors, more duplication, more outside consulting costs, more legal exposure, and less accountability. The fiscally conservative position is to retain the controls, not remove them.

Q7: Doesn't having a County Manager weaken the commissioners' authority?

No. The Board's authority is unchanged. NRS 244.125 places the manager under Board direction; the Board sets the scope of duties, sets the salary, approves staffing, and may remove the manager at any time. The manager has no independent authority — only delegated authority that the Board can adjust or withdraw. What the position does is allow commissioners to exercise their authority more effectively by focusing on policy and oversight rather than on day-to-day administration.

This governance model controls costs through professional oversight, minimizes waste and duplication, enforces accountability, and limits political interference in routine government operations — while preserving the Board's full authority over policy and direction.

Sources Referenced

Nevada Revised Statutes 244.125 (county manager; administrative functions; appointment of assistants).

Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 241 (Open Meeting Law).

Nevada Association of Counties, Nevada County Commissioner Handbook (2020 edition), section addressing the role of commissioners and the delegation of executive duties to a county administrator or county manager.

International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Council-Manager Form of Government: What it is, how it works, and the benefits to your community (published guidance).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Marshall...

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

May 19th, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Esmeralda County Courthouse

403 E. Crook Ave., 2nd Floor

Goldfield, Nevada

Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

All Public Comments have a three-minute time limit per person

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.**

Commissioner Mary Jane Zakas – Present

Commissioner Rachel Holt – Present

Commissioner Fred Perez – Present

County Manager Joe Dunn – Present

District Attorney Robert Glennen, III – Present

Clerk of Board LaCinda Elgan/Renee Maxwell

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

Cindy Elgan for the record, if you like to have anything added in the minutes, please write them down or even email them to us to we can make sure they are in the minutes per how you said it.

County Manager Joe Dunn for the record, we received a donation from Mastec (Green Link Project) in the amount of five thousand dollars and zero cents (\$5,000.00), but they still owe us ten thousand dollars per their agreement.

Sheriff Melendez for the record, we had an incident over the weekend, with the help from Jeffrey Bushnell and Paul Melendrez, we just wanted to let the public know the person has been found and is okay and thank you Bushnell & Melendrez for your help.

3. ***APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES.**

County List of Expenditures
FY25-26

General Batch 1	\$184,232.59
General Batch 2	\$37,648.14
Road Batch 1	\$180.67
Road Batch 2	\$5,331.29
NV Energy Payables	\$4,886.07

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

H.S.A./Garnishments/Ins	\$62,427.12
Payroll	\$214,625.09

Grand Total	\$509,330.97
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Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve the county list of expenditures FY25-26 in the amount of \$509,330.97; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

4. ***DISCUSSION/DECISION/APPROVAL:** Rejected Vendor Bills from Auditor's Office.

May 5th, 2026

TO: The Honorable County Commissioners

RE: Rejected Vendor Bills

We have received four invoices for Daniel C. McArthur, Ltd., from the Auditor/Recorder's Office. The total is \$71,024.60. I have rejected these invoices according to NRS 244.210, 244.215, and 244.250. These invoices are past the time frame to be paid along with the other County bills.

I have researched the following-referenced invoices and found that they have not been previously paid.

Invoice 28756 - \$34,254.00

Invoice 28757 - \$25,112.80

Invoice 28760 - \$7,272.80

Invoice 28763 - \$4,385.00

These invoices can be approved by the County Commissioners if they so order, and only by a unanimous vote of its members and certified by the Clerk of the Board that they all voted for their passage.

Please review the invoices and determine if \$71,024.60 is approved or rejected for payment. It is to be paid out of account 100-112-52246.

Sincerely,
Vera Boyer
Auditor & Recorder

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve the rejected vendor bill from Daniel C. McArthur, Ltd., in the amount of \$71,024.60 and to be paid out of account 100-112-52246; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

May 11th, 2026

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

TO: The Honorable County Commissioners

RE: Rejected Vendor Bills

We have received an invoice for AXON Enterprise Inc., from the Sheriff's Office. The total is \$8,107.31. I have rejected this invoice according to NRS 244.210, 244.215 and 244.250. This invoice is past the time frame to be paid along with the other County bills.

I have researched the following-referenced invoice and found that it has not been previously paid.

This invoice can be approved by the County Commissioners if they so order, and only by a unanimous vote of its members and certified by the Clerk of the Board that they all voted for their passage.

Please review the invoice and determine if \$8,107.31 is approved or rejected for payment. It is to be paid out of account 100-150-52210-000.

Sincerely,
Vera Boyer
Auditor & Recorder

Sheriff Melendez for the record, the annual payment is \$21,142.53 but we only paid on the body cam in the amount of \$13,035.20 so the remaining balance is what we still owe.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve the rejected vendor bill from AXON Enterprise Inc in the amount of \$8,107.31 and to be paid out of fund account 100-150-52210; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

5. *FINANCIAL REPORTS

April 2026

Office	Amount	Date Submitted
Assessor	\$323.89	5/5/2026
Clerk's	\$732.33	4/28/2026
Justice Court	\$48,701.00	5/4/2026
Recorder	\$0.00	
Sheriff's	\$1,665.00	5/8/2026
Tax Collector	\$41,918.03	4/28/2026
GF Utilities	\$28,679.75	4/28/2026
SP Utilities	\$7,632.47	4/28/2026
Total	\$129,652.47	

Cindy Elgan read in the financial reports to the board and public.

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Holt for the record, I would like these to be included in with the minutes.

6. ***TREASURER'S REPORT**

Commissioners approved on the treasurer's report and put in the minutes as well.

7. ***AUDITOR'S REPORT**

No report from the auditor currently.

8. ***APPROVAL OF MINUTE: April 21st, 2026, Board of County Commissioners, Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Meeting Minutes and May 5th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners, Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Meeting Minutes and May 8th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners Special Meeting Minutes.**

Commissioner Zakas for the record, I have some issues with May 5th commission meetings that I spoke with Angela already about and she said, will work on making those corrections and adding what I talked to about as well.

Commissioner Holt for the record, I as well had some issues with April 21st minutes and as well talked to Angela as well and she will fix them as well.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to not approve the April 21st, 2026 & May 5th, 2026, meeting minutes but will approve the May 8th, 2026, Commissioners Special Meeting Minutes; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

9. **Update of Current and Future Meetings and Activities of Commissioner's Zakas, Holt, and Perez.** (This is only an update. No decisions will be made.)

Commissioner Holt for the record, attended budget workshops and will be heading to Carson with Michael Anderson and Adrian Roberts for the USDA loan.

Commissioner Zakas for the record, we had a park board meeting on May 13th, 2026, we discussed few items: 1. Auction for the old concession stand will be June 13th, 2026, with an opening bid of \$300.00 to be held at the site. 2. Okay on the boundary lines on the basketball court to be painted on the court for pickle ball. 3. Attending our budget workshops.

Commissioner Perez for the record, May 20th, 2026 we have NDOT meeting, Friday 29th, 2026 NACO in Carson City, June 8th, 2026 meeting Genoa, June 9th, 2026 teams meeting on the nuclear tour and community project update – reach out for development plan meetings once a week with Cage, Lenel, Scott Knickles and Marisa but will have more information later on this and we are trying to get developer meetings form a team path to inform all community project such as Gemfield project, to build houses, expand on the growth of Esmeralda County.

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

10. **Update of current and Future meetings and activities of Elected Officials and Department Supervisors as needed.** (This is only an update. No decisions will be made.)

None

11. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Permission to use and temporary close county for the event participants and the public safety on June 27th, 2026, for the Baja Nevada Off Road Race. Event Insurance, Route and Emergency Action Plan have been submitted to County Officials. (Donald Jackson)

Donald Jackson for the record, this is a two day race this year, June 26th from Lincoln County to Tonopah Airport, we are asking to that we are going to be pro active and to stay off the man roads, we do have road maintenance agreement and to be finished by July 10th, 2026.

Carl Shrider for the record, been working with them on this and I have no issues with them at all and we have had a lot of communication with them as well.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve the permission to use and temporary close county for the event participants and the public safety on June 27th, 2026, for the Baja Nevada Off Road Race with having event insurance, route and emergency action plan has been submitted to County Officials; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

12. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Formal notice for approval for road closures for the Goldfield Days Parade on Saturday, August 1st, 2026. (Patty Huber-Beth)

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve for road closures for Goldfield Days Parade on Saturday, August 1st, 2026; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

13. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Requesting Fifth Ave closed on August 1st, 2026, from 9am to 1pm to facilitate Goldfield Days Parade. (Patty Huber-Beth)

Carl Shrider for the record, we need to have say fifth street not Fifth Ave.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve Fifth Street closed on August 1st, 2026, from 9am to 1pm to facilitate Goldfield Days Parade; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

14. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Approve Road closures for Goldfield Days Weekend, July 31st, to August 2nd, 2026, for Euclid Ave from Myers to US 95 and US 95 to Ramsey. Also, Columbia Ave from Myers to US 95 for activities. (Patty Huber-Beth)

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve road closures for Goldfield Days Weekend, July 31st, to August 2nd, 2026, for Euclid Ave from Myers to US 95 and US 95 to Ramsey, also Columbia Ave from Myers to US 95 for activities; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

15. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** 1.) District Attorney to cite all statutes relied upon in rendering the legal opinion contained in the April 7th, 2026, agenda item 8 minutes, specifically how the statutes apply to ANONYMOUS individuals. 2.) District Attorney to cite statutes that exempt Kirk Fowler from equal legal protections. 3.) Correct the record to reflect the ACTUAL wording of the 4/7/2026 minutes agenda item 8 as submitted. (Kirk Fowler)

District Attorney Robert Glennen for the record, no legal work for the public but I can be asked or requested by the board of commissioners to do such work.

Commissioner Holt and Perez asked for a request for Robert Glennen to answer these for him and direct him as a request from both commissioners.

16. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Authorize and approve purchase of two re-certified Stryker power cots from FY25-26 approved Emergency Service Capital Project amount. (Chief Jeffrey Bushnell)

Chief Jeffrey Bushnell for the record, we are asking the board to approve purchase of two re-certified Stryker power costs from FY25-26 approved Emergency Service Capital Project amount.

Commissioner Holt for the record, looking and reading the fund budget from last year, was this down as a grant or MTO?

Commissioner Perez for the record, Paul is on the line, he can explain.

Paul Melendrez for the record, we need to get these two cots and there is still money in the fund for these two items in the FY 25-26 budget.

Commissioner Holt for the record, there are two quotes, which one is lower and litter higher than the other one and should we go with the one lower quote and which fund is are we looking at for these two cots to come out of?

Commissioner Holt for the record, we don't even know what's in this budget year, yet.

Commissioner Perez for the record, can we investigate Tyler now to see, if possible?

Commissioner Holt for the record, the sheet says \$260,000 approved with \$185,000 remaining on the sheets.

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve purchase of two re-certified Stryker power cots from FY25-26 approved Emergency Service Capital Project amount with clarifying the funds that are available; Commissioner Zakes second the motion; All in favor; motion carried.

17. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Resolution of loneer water change applications numbers 93949, 93950, and 93951. Approve agreement setting forth terms and conditions between County and Applicant resolving County's protest issues. Approve Chair of Esmeralda BOCC to file agreement with conditional stipulations to State Engineer, and other matters properly related thereto. (Fred Perez/Sev Carlson)

Sev Carlson for the record, this is an agreement for the water rights, clarity & conception designed to provide a policy for standpoint to not overuse water, loneer discussion to an agreement to make sure they follow the obligations.

Commissioner Perez for the record, I don't have any questions, unless Dwight had any questions pertaining to this?

Dwight Smith for the record, I don't have any questions, but I am here for the board for any questions though.

Commissioner Zakas for the record, is this for protection just case we can choose to deny this?

Sev Carlson for the record, yes, that's correct, as is identified in any agreement.

Commissioner Perez made the motion to approve resolution of loneer water change applications numbers 93949, 93950, and 93951. Approve agreement setting forth terms and conditions between County and Applicant resolving County's protest issues. Approve Chair of Esmeralda BOCC to file agreement with conditional stipulations to State Engineer, and other matters properly related thereto; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

18. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Approval of the amended consultant agreement between Esmeralda County and Elise Reynoso, with funding to come from professional services. The agreement will cover the completion of 3 CDBG grants. (Commissioner Holt)

Commissioner Holt for the record, amend the current agreement, some projects have dropped off and need to add phase 2 and Gold Point.

Susan Dudley for the record, doesn't increase, adding to the CDBG grant, some cost doesn't increase, it happens with projects, some drop off and some are added with no extra money to be

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

added, just in change of certifications for the Goldfield Phase 1 and Goldfield Phase 2 for those documents.

Commissioner Zakas for the record, question can we ask if she's going to be our grant person?

Susan Dudley for the record, she will be doing other grants for the \$7.3 million grant for arsenic grant and other work for the county but only under grants.

Commissioner Zakas for the record, thank you.

Commissioner Holt made the motion to approve of the amended consultant agreement between Esmeralda County and Elise Reynoso, with funding to come from professional services. This agreement will cover the completion of 3 CDBG grants; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

19. ***PUBLIC COMMENT.** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

None

20. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

21. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Closure of meeting, pursuant to NRS 288.220 for purposes of conducting labor negotiations, conferring regarding labor negotiations, issues, and other personnel matters.

None

22. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision on labor negotiations, issues, and other personnel matters.

None

23. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Recess meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.015(2)(b)(2) for purposes of conferring with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation.

Commissioner Perez made the motion to recess meeting; Commissioner Holt second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Minutes from the May 19th, 2026, Board of County Commissioners and Board of Highway Commission and Fire Board Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Perez made the motion to re-open recess meeting; Commissioner Holt second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

24. ***FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Discussion, deliberation, and possible decision on conference with legal counsel regarding potential or current litigation presented in recessed meeting.

Commissioner Perez for the record, we talked about open meeting law counsel from Bob.

25. *** PUBLIC COMMENT.** (Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item. It must be placed on an agenda, at a later meeting for action.)

None

26. ***ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Holt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:42pm; Commissioner Zakas second the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

OFFICE

MONTH

AMOUNT

DATE SUBMITTED

Apr-26

ASSESSOR
CLERK'S
JUSTICE COURT
RECORDER
SHERIFF'S
TAX COLLECTOR
GF UTILITIES
SP UTILITIES

323.89
732.33
48,701.00
-
1,665.00
41,918.03
28,679.75
7,632.47

May 5, 2026
April 28, 2026
May 4, 2026
May 8 th , 2026
April 28, 2026
April 28, 2026
April 28, 2026

129,652.47



ESMERALDA COUNTY CLERK/TREASURER
PO BOX 547
GOLDFIELD, NV 89013
(775) 485-6309

Dear County Board of Commissioners,

Here are the following reports for our treasurer's report on April 2026:

Treasurer's Report from April 1st – 30th, 2026, in summary form.

Outstanding Vendor Checks and Payroll Checks from April 1st – 30th, 2026.

Receipt Listing Report all cash reports collected from April 1st – 30th, 2026.

I acknowledge that I have received February Treasurer's Report, which was presented to the Board of County Commissioner on May 19th, 2026.

Helinda Elgan 5-19-26
Clerk of the Board Date

Paul H. 5-19-26
Chairman Date

Reed Helt 5-19-26
Commissioner Date

Mary Jane Latas 5-19-26
Commissioner Date

Robert E. Helt 5/19/26
District Attorney Date