

1 The Honorable Board of Lander County Commissioners met in  
2 regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Lander County  
3 Courthouse and Administration Building in Battle Mountain,  
4 Nevada, 50 State Route 305, on October 22, 2020, at 9:02 a.m.  
5 Transcript produced by Tiffany Elkington, C.C.R., #930.  
6

7 **PRESENT: PATSY WAITS, COMMISSIONER**  
8 **ARTHUR "ART" CLARK III, COMMISSIONER**  
9 **BRYAN SPARKS, COMMISSIONER**  
10 **KATHLEEN "KATHY" ANCHO, COMMISSIONER**  
11 **BARTOLO "BERT" RAMOS, COUNTY MANAGER**  
12 **SADIE SULLIVAN, COUNTY CLERK**  
13 **THEODORE "TED" HERRERA, DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
14  
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16 (Let the record reflect the presence of a quorum of four  
17 commissioners. Let the record reflect the meeting was broadcast  
18 using GoToMeeting. Let the record reflect the presence of  
19 Austin via teleconference.)  
20  
21

22 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Going ahead and call the Lander County  
23 Commission Meeting, Town Board of Battle Mountain and Austin,  
24 Board of County Highway Commissions to order.

25 Bryan, you want to lead us in the --

26 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Absolutely.

27 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- Pledge of Allegiance, please.  
28

29 (Pledge of Allegiance)  
30

31 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. We're going to go ahead and  
32 have a moment of silence.  
33

34 (Moment of silence)  
35

36 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.

37 Lander County Commissioners -- Commissioners may break for  
38 lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Any agenda item may be taken  
39 out of order, may be combined for consideration by the public  
40 board, and items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any

1 time.

2  
3  
4 **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Commission reports on meetings,  
7 conferences, seminars attended.

8 Art, do you have any?

9 COMMISSIONER CLARK: No.

10 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: I have not had any.

11 Bryan?

12 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: No report.

13 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.

14 Patsy?

15 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Actually, we did cancel our airport  
16 advisory meeting. So I -- we didn't have that.

17 But I did attend the hearing that the Division of Water  
18 Resources held in our community room. This was the -- regarding  
19 the proposed order within the Smith Creek Hydrographic Basin.

20 And, actually, the basin that they were proposing was  
21 everything in -- in my district, actually, everything from  
22 Antelope Valley all the way down into Nye County. So I -- I did  
23 attend that one. And -- and who knows what's going to happen  
24 with it.

25 But they're doing all kinds of -- of new proposals for  
26 different basins throughout the state. So I thought that was  
27 im- -- important.

28 But that's all I have. Thank you.

29 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Very good.

30  
31  
32 **STAFF REPORTS**

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Moving forward.

35 Staff reports on meetings, conferences, and seminars  
36 attended.

37 BERT RAMOS: Alrighty. I will start with COVID.

38 So Lander County has, to date, 101 confirmed cases; 14 of  
39 them are active; 84 of them have recovered; three deaths with  
40 one of them deaths last night.

1           And I'd like the -- the family of -- of the -- to know that  
2 our thoughts and prayers of Lander County go out to them.

3           I believe it's probably the first true COVID-associated  
4 death.

5           The other two, as we all know, more questionable.

6           With that said, the state has reached back out and said  
7 that they are -- on the previous COVID death that was in  
8 question in Lander County that the doctor even had said it was  
9 a -- it was definitely a heart attack. And he was the provider  
10 on hand -- that the state is only taking these for number  
11 purposes that they -- that -- that they are not actually  
12 reporting this on the death certificate, that that's actually  
13 the doctor.

14           So I don't know why they're taking them for reporting  
15 purposes if they aren't going to be reporting the truth.

16           But that's here nor there and just part of what I wanted to  
17 add to the other two so everybody's aware of that.

18           So I want you to -- our Lander County health officer has  
19 resigned. She will continue being our health nurse, but will no  
20 longer be the health officer.

21           I'm assuming that position until we get somebody that's  
22 willing to take that. We're reaching out to different members  
23 of the hospital -- doctors and nurses -- that may be interested  
24 to hopefully take that over.

25           And they do -- they do all the COVID-related reports and --  
26 and do the community type of responses.

27           So I think that that's -- that's an important thing and a  
28 good thing for -- for the county all in all. It takes a lot of  
29 weight off of our health nurse that has -- has caused some --  
30 some strain. So it's better all the way around, I believe.

31           So let me read on down here. We will convene our -- our  
32 health board in order to appoint that. Probably I'm going to  
33 try to get that on the 12th. And if we can't find somebody on  
34 the 12th, then we will make that part of our meeting for the  
35 16th with the canvassing of votes.

36           So hopefully by the 16th we have somebody sitting in that  
37 position, outside of myself.

38           Our middle school will be closed until November 2 due to  
39 COVID and close contacts and I -- and I believe some positives.  
40 I don't know where the facts of that lie, but I do know that the

1 school -- the entire school is closed until November 2.  
2 Our rapid test machines. We are -- we're expecting them by  
3 the 15th. And then the state reached back out and said, Sorry,  
4 we're giving them to government-funded agencies first.  
5 And they pushed us out further. And then our hospital  
6 reached back out to him and said, Hey, we are government funded.  
7 We would like these machines. We need -- we need our results  
8 faster. And last I heard, as of yesterday, we had not heard  
9 back from them on if they were going to bump us up or if that  
10 moved our status one way or the other.  
11 But right now, we're typically seeing about eight days to  
12 find out on a test result. We have some that have stretched out  
13 as far as 11 days. And it's -- it's hard to contain this if  
14 that's the -- if that is the true concern of the 11-day  
15 turnaround -- on 10-, 11-day turnaround for tests.  
16 Then, in Austin, we did have a -- a few weeks ago -- I was  
17 just brought into this last week -- we had a water leak, not --  
18 not per se a water leak. We had a water meter that was turned  
19 on, presumably by a contractor, and it flooded a -- a old  
20 building downtown. The meter read 167,000 gallons ran through  
21 it.  
22 Now I -- I don't believe that that reading is probably  
23 correct. I believe that they probably added a zero. I think  
24 there was probably 16,000 gallons that ran through it. And the  
25 building had been winterized so the sinks and things like that  
26 were left on. And I -- and not all that water actually went  
27 into the building.  
28 So after speaking with legal, we did hire somebody to go up  
29 there and, you know, do some water damage repairs to stop the  
30 molding and to -- the basics. We will -- we were going to try  
31 to attach this to the bond of the contractor and then have the  
32 contractor pay for this at -- at the end. They -- they were the  
33 responsible party.  
34 But being's it's a Lander County job, we had to -- we did  
35 have to step in.  
36 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Bert, was this a county building?  
37 Or --  
38 BERT RAMOS: No.  
39 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Residential? Commercial?  
40 BERT RAMOS: Commercial.

1           And then we did take over. So this is for update purposes  
2 only. And I will bring the numbers out. They're sitting in  
3 there on my desk.

4           The contract that we took over with Austin Water and Sewer,  
5 we have an amendment that has been made. I would have put it on  
6 the agenda for discussion, possible action, but there can be no  
7 action taken. Since we took over the water and sewer district,  
8 we took over the contracts that were included with it.

9           And so there were some adjustments, I believe, from 700,000  
10 and some change to 1 point -- 1,119,000 and some change was --  
11 was the change. And that's in different -- we added meters. We  
12 added backflow preventers and pressure-regulating valves, a  
13 bunch of other things that were added to the job after we took  
14 it over and seen what it was going to become if we just went  
15 back in the ground. We don't want to be cutting new asphalt to  
16 come back and put the proper stuff in the ground.

17           So we reviewed the plans, made some changes. And that  
18 is -- is at our expense.

19           The -- I want to read a -- the update from the state for  
20 COVID. I know that this is getting to be a little bit long on  
21 the COVID, but I -- I want everybody in the -- in the community  
22 to know where -- where the state stands as a whole for COVID.

23           And this was given to me on the 20th so it's -- it's fairly  
24 new.

25           The summary is: As of today, Nevada has logged at 92,064  
26 cases, an increase of 565 new cases; 356, approximately 63  
27 percent were in Clark County; 143 or approximately 25.3 percent  
28 were in Washoe County; 66 or approximately 11 percent were  
29 spread throughout the rest of the state.

30           For the most recent seven-day period, cases are growing at  
31 a rate of point oh -- or a .8 or 679 new cases per day.

32           Nevada has now completed a total of 1,165,414 molecular  
33 tests since beginning of COVID. That is an increase of 9,385.

34           I don't know where they're basing their increase off of  
35 because it didn't give me any more information.

36           The test positive rate over the last 14 days is 9.3.

37           Statewide hospital occupancy rates are at 76 percent.

38           Ventilator use is at 21 percent statewide for all patients.

39           There have been an increase in confirmed COVID-19  
40 hospitaliz- -- hospitalizations; however, the hospital

1 infrastructure remains in good condition with the relative  
2 demand placed on hospitals by COVID patients being 10 percent.

3 Nevada has approximately 535 total hospitalized COVID-19  
4 patients as of October 20. This number includes 425 confirmed  
5 patients. There are 110 suspected patients.

6 The number of COVID-19 patients requiring ICU -- ICU levels  
7 care has remained essentially flat during the month of October.

8 The number of ventilators required to treat COVID-19  
9 patients continues to have a declining trend.

10 So, in short, it's not the gloom and doom there. We do  
11 have a lot of occupancy throughout the state of Nevada. We have  
12 room for four more people.

13 And I believe that, from what I -- everybody is saying  
14 and -- and the emails I'm getting from the governor's office,  
15 we're preparing for a COVID vaccination for, you know, elderly,  
16 fire, EMS should be coming very soon. They're -- they're  
17 putting together plans of inoculations.

18 So we will see where this goes in the future.

19 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.

20 COMMISSIONER CLARK: (Off microphone) Thank you, Bert.  
21 That was --

22 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.

23 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- pretty darn detailed.

24 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Thanks. All right. Moving forward.

25  
26  
27 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

28  
29 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: For public comment for nonagendized items  
30 only.

31 Persons are invited to submit comments in writing and/or  
32 attend and make comments on any nonagendized items at the  
33 board's meeting, if any, that discussion of those comments at  
34 the discretion of the board. All public comments may be limited  
35 to three minutes per person, again at the discretion of the  
36 board. Reasonable restrictions may be placed on public comment  
37 based upon time, place, or manner, but no public comment based  
38 upon viewpoint may be restricted.

39 Is there any public comment?

40 (No comment.)

1 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. I'm hearing none.  
2 VOICE RECORDING: Muted. Unmuted.

3  
4

5 **CONSENT AGENDA**

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7

CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Consent items.  
8 All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered  
9 routine and may be -- be acted upon by the Board of County  
10 Commissioners with one action, without extensive discussion.  
11 Any member of the board or any citizen may request that an item  
12 be taken from the consent agenda, discussed, and acted upon  
13 separately during the -- this meeting. Consent agenda materials  
14 are available at the Lander County Clerk's Office for viewing,  
15 and copies are available for a nominal charge.

16 Number 1, approval of October 22, 2020, agenda notice; two,  
17 approval of May 7, 2020, special budget workshop meeting  
18 minutes; three, approval of May 14, 2020; meeting minutes; four,  
19 approval of May 19, 2020, special budget workshop meeting  
20 minutes; Number 5, approval of July 23, 2020, meeting minutes;  
21 Number 6, approval of August 13, 2020, meeting minutes;  
22 Number 7, approval of August 27, 2020, meeting minutes; Number 8,  
23 approval of September 10, 2020, meeting minutes; Number 9, approval  
24 of September 24, 2020, meeting minutes; ten, approval of October 8,  
25 2020, meeting minutes; 11, approval of payroll change requests.

26 So that I'm aware of, we haven't received any meeting  
27 minutes, have we?

28 Okay.

29 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Madam Chair, I will make a motion that  
30 we approve the consent agenda for Number 1, the agenda notice  
31 and Number 11, the approval of payroll change requests.

32 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.

33 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I'll second the motion.

34 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.

35 Patsy made the motion. Bryan second.

36 All in favor?

37 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Aye.

38 COMMISSIONER CLARK: (Off microphone) Aye.

39 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.

40 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.  
2 Moving forward.  
3  
4 1) **COMMISSIONERS: For possible action to approve/disapprove the**  
5 **payment of bills.**  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: For possible action to approve, disapprove  
8 the payments of bills.  
9 Within that, we're going to pull Check #209350 and 209432  
10 from the bills.  
11 COMMISSIONER CLARK: (Off microphone) 209- --  
12 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: 209- --  
13 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- -276.  
14 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- -276. All right. We're pulling those.  
15 COMMISSIONER WAITS: I will make a motion that we approve  
16 all of the bills except for those three that you have just  
17 noted.  
18 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I'll second the motion.  
19 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.  
20 So Patsy made the motion. Bryan seconded.  
21 All in favor?  
22 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Aye.  
23 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.  
24 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.  
25 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.  
26 I will now make a motion that we approve Check #209276 for  
27 Commissioner Clark.  
28 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I'll second the motion.  
29 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Patsy made the motion. Bryan second.  
30 All in favor?  
31 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Aye.  
32 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.  
33 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.  
34 Aye.  
35 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I --  
36 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Abstain?  
37 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- abstain.  
38 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All righty.  
39 So --  
40 COMMISSIONER WAITS: And I now make a motion that we



1 approve Check #209350 and 209432 for Point S.  
2 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Second.  
3 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Patsy made the motion. Art  
4 seconded.  
5 All in favor?  
6 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.  
7 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.  
8 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.  
9 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: And I --  
10 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Abstaining?  
11 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: -- and I abstained because they were  
12 made --  
13 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.  
14 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: -- to my employer.  
15 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Very good. Moving forward.  
16  
17 2) **COMMISSIONERS: For discussion and possible action regarding**  
18 **placing Plexiglas partitions between commissioners during**  
19 **commissioner meetings.**  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: For discussion and possible action  
22 regarding placing Plexiglas partitions between commissioners  
23 during commissioners' meetings.  
24 So --  
25 All right. Who wants to start that conversation?  
26 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Thank you.  
27 Yes. I -- I had requested that we take a look at that with  
28 the partitions. A couple of reasons. It's a -- it's a good  
29 safety factor that people are using. I also think it sends a  
30 kind of a signal to the fact that this is a very serious COVID.  
31 And anything we can do that might reduce the risk in any way  
32 might be beneficial.  
33 I know there are some -- some other thoughts on that so  
34 we'll take a look at the rest and see what works out.  
35 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.  
36 Bryan?  
37 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: So this is my two cents on it is I  
38 don't think we need to.  
39 With this whole COVID thing, I think we -- we either  
40 believe or we don't believe.

1           And it's like I'm not saying that it's not an illness, no  
2 different than SARS was, H1N1 was, any of these things.

3           And it's like, if we're going to do this, we should be  
4 wearing masks.

5           And, again, if -- if you're concerned about getting an  
6 illness, wear a mask. That's my choice, too. If people are  
7 worried about getting sick, that's your choice. Wear a mask. I  
8 choose not to.

9           To do something to give the appearance of, when you don't  
10 really fully believe it, I feel is wrong. And I'm not a  
11 believer. So outside of -- I mean, if it's an infectious  
12 disease, I mean, it's -- honestly, we go into restaurants. We  
13 wear a mask. We sit down to eat. We take our mask off to eat.  
14 Because you can't catch COVID when you're eating food, right?

15           There's holes all over the place with this thing.

16           And it's just -- and it's just -- I'm able to think and  
17 speak for myself. I can do my own research. And that's where I  
18 stand on it.

19           CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. So --

20           As Bry- -- I do a lot of research on, you know. And I have  
21 had people I know and family members who have had COVID. Do I  
22 believe it's an illness? I absolutely do be- --

23           Do I believe that -- I don't if the pl- -- I think the pla-  
24 -- Plexiglas, especially in this -- in this area will hinder  
25 things because it makes it too hard to hear one another when  
26 the -- we already have an issue with people being able to hear  
27 each other. And I think by putting up the Plexiglas makes it  
28 that much harder for us to hear each other when one has spoken  
29 And the other is trying to hear what the other is saying.

30           I think that if we feel that we need to wear masks, then we  
31 may -- wear a mask, if we stay six feet apart.

32           But I think that that's, you know, up in -- entirely up to,  
33 you know, a person if they want to wear a mask. But I think --  
34 I don't think so much that those do anything but cause it harder  
35 for us to hear. And at this point, that's kind of my -- my  
36 opinion.

37           COMMISSIONER SPARKS: And I'll also add that we actually  
38 were visited by OSHA and that question was specifically asked in  
39 our work format: Can we put Plexiglas partitions between us and  
40 be okay? And the answer was no. You will wear a mask.

1           So that's what I'm saying is the inconsistencies that  
2 it's -- it's just -- and that's -- that's from a state  
3 enforcement agency that told us that.

4           So I think it would be a waste.

5           COMMISSIONER CLARK: When I found out that this item was on  
6 the agenda, I read a few articles. And one of the articles was  
7 about stale or rancid air within the Plexiglas enclosures  
8 promoting COVID.

9           Okay.

10          What do you believe?

11          It's everywhere. The conflicting information is just  
12 overwhelming.

13          Went out in the desert yesterday, just kicking around.  
14 Can't get away from COVID. I picked up a can -- COVID ointment  
15 for horses. Must have been 50 years old. Or, I mean, it was a  
16 corona -- corona --

17          COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Right.

18          COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- ointment, not COVID.

19          So it keeps coming at you all the time.

20          And if you look at the numbers, Dr. Peters says that the  
21 numbers do not warrant a pandemic.

22          I'm -- I -- I have great admiration for Dr. Peters.

23          South Dakota, Sweden, Uganda. Forty-five million people.  
24 Nine confirmed deaths from COVID. Forty-five million people in  
25 a third world country. Nine people died of COVID because  
26 everybody's taking hydroxychloroquine, the malaria -- the  
27 malaria drug.

28          So I -- I -- I'm a hundred percent with Commissioner --  
29 Commissioner Sparks.

30          COMMISSIONER SPARKS: And I'd like to point out too, you  
31 know, Bert -- Bert was reading us the updated numbers for the  
32 state.

33          But, again, we -- we -- we heard it firsthand that we have  
34 three -- three deaths, one legitimate, is how I feel about it.

35          Why was -- why was the other one? The one that just, you  
36 know, the massive heart attack? When we have a doctor of record  
37 who states, it was -- died of a massive heart attack. But it  
38 was still reported. The state uses it. Why? Why do they use  
39 it? For what purpose? That's not what the -- that's not what  
40 the person passed away of.

1           So it's just -- again, it's another hole. So just want to  
2 point that out.

3           CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Well, and -- and with that being said,  
4 there's actually two cases of, you know, that same issue of them  
5 having an ill -- a -- a prior illness, severe prior illness that  
6 was only given so long to live. And they passed away like it  
7 was going to be diagnosed. And it was diagnosed as COVID.

8           And -- and I just -- I struggle. I really struggle with  
9 that because you're messing with numbers.

10          And so it can -- it's very confusing to people. And I do  
11 believe COVID is real. But I don't believe when you -- when you  
12 start skewing numbers, even on the smallest amount, doesn't  
13 matter if it's this small of a number or this big of a number,  
14 when you start skewing the numbers, they're all -- then they all  
15 blend in together and nothing means anything.

16          So that's kind of my opinion.

17          COMMISSIONER CLARK: The last thing I want to say is I  
18 don't put my faith in a piece of plastic or a piece of cloth. I  
19 put my faith in a higher position.

20          BERT RAMOS: One thing I would like to point out is the CDC  
21 says that for every COVID death that the average person that  
22 dies from this has 2.6 underlying conditions.

23          This is something that I -- I forgot to add to my update.  
24 And out of that 2.6, the highest risk factor for them -- is what  
25 they're seeing -- is diabetes and obesity.

26          Them seem to be the -- the larger factors, you know, of  
27 having a strong effect on you.

28          Something else I'd like to point out to make sure that  
29 everybody's aware of is that, you know, we do have the -- the  
30 call in -- anybody can always call in. It's the -- the freedom  
31 of choice, you know. So anybody can call in. And we do have  
32 face shields. If anybody, you know, if -- if somebody chooses  
33 to wear a face shield that -- that is the freedom of choice.

34          So it's -- I just want to make sure that everybody knows we  
35 aren't trying to neglect anybody or put our -- our patrons at  
36 any sort of risk. But we do like to have the -- the freedom of  
37 choice.

38          COMMISSIONER WAITS: Thank you. I'll just say I appreciate  
39 the discussion.

40          Like I said, I was just hoping we might mitigate a risk.

1 That's all.

2 But I appreciate everyone's freedom and appreciate your  
3 comments today.

4 So we'll just move on with that.

5 I think part of why we choose not to use a mask is because  
6 it is very difficult to record and to understand everybody.

7 So we did make that -- that choice.

8 So I was just looking for another way. But that's fine.  
9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: And appr- -- appr- -- that's appreciated  
11 as well.

12 So are we good? We just take -- for that one, we just  
13 don't go anywhere?

14 Okay.

15

16 3) **COMMISSIONERS: For discussion and possible action to plan an**  
17 **annual event with regards to the Lander County Christmas**  
18 **festivities.**

19

20 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.

21 For discussion and possible action to plan an annual event  
22 with regard to the Lander County Christmas festi- --  
23 festivities.

24 So last year is when we got this started. And it was  
25 something that I was hoping that we could continue on every  
26 year. And that was the idea behind it is that between here in  
27 Austin and Kingston that we continue to have festivities.

28 It was so enjoyed by the community last year. It was  
29 over -- it was actually -- it was kind of funny when you walked  
30 through the park and even with the COVID issue that, you know,  
31 at the park, people can stay. They can choose to come or they  
32 cannot choose to come and kind of -- it's kind of up to them to  
33 go into the park if that's, you know, what we all decide to do.

34 But it was so nice for the community to come together and  
35 how appreciative they were.

36 And it was funny because the majority of the -- the women  
37 you would hear, and some of the men, it was like, "Oh, my gosh.  
38 It looks like a Hallmark movie."

39 And it's just uplifting. And -- well, I believe it's  
40 uplifting. And it's -- was fun.

1           And the people from the rec center, you know, did a heck of  
2 a job. And they worked their butts off. And they were all --  
3 they were all involved and they enjoyed it, as did the -- we did  
4 for the tree -- the parade.

5           I mean, but there was a bunch of people from the -- from  
6 the center and from here that joined into it, which we'll want  
7 to do again this year.

8           And when you start bringing people together like that and  
9 it's fun, it just -- it was a fun time.

10          So I thought instead of having to revisit it every year,  
11 unless we're going to plan some massive change to it, edit a  
12 time, then that could be brought forward.

13          But from here on out, for here and Austin and Kingston, in  
14 that we -- from here -- can also if Austin needs help, we can  
15 have volunteers if they're interested to go up there and help  
16 them with their stuff if they so need. If they don't and want  
17 to do it themselves, then by all means.

18          But I just kind of wanted to do it as an annual thing  
19 instead of having to come and revisit it every year.

20          And if, like I said, there's any major costs that go with  
21 it that have to be brought back and forth and brought in front  
22 of us, yes, I would like to see that done.

23          But moving forward -- make this an annual kind of tradition  
24 going forward.

25          So anybody else have any comments?

26          COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, I think it was a great program.  
27 I think it should be continued. My only question is: Can we  
28 plan an event past a term? That's my only question?

29          CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Oh, that I don't know.

30          COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah.

31          I mean, we can go ahead and say, yeah, it's going to be an  
32 ann- -- annual event. But in the future --

33          CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Oh, I see.

34          COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- someone can say, "Hey. We don't  
35 have the money." Or "Hey. You know, we're not going to  
36 celebrate Christmas because that's a tradition" or whatever  
37 the --

38          CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Oh, I see. Okay.

39          COMMISSIONER CLARK: So --

40          CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Well --

1 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- I'm all for it. I -- I --  
2 Uplifting? Very much so.  
3 Enjoyed? You couldn't measure it.  
4 And to keep it going? Absolutely.  
5 BERT RAMOS: I think even with it being an -- an annual  
6 event that it would have to still be agendized to make sure that  
7 we can provide county staffing to -- to --  
8 COMMISSIONER CLARK: However --  
9 BERT RAMOS: -- help --  
10 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- you --  
11 BERT RAMOS: -- assemble --  
12 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Oh. Absolutely.  
13 BERT RAMOS: -- it.  
14 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Nothing --  
15 BERT RAMOS: So -- so we could -- you know, it'll be -- be  
16 at -- back before every commission. Moving forward, it will  
17 just be labeled as an annual event.  
18 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay. Pa- --  
19 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'll make a --  
20 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I'm -- I'm --  
21 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- motion.  
22 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: -- for it. Yeah.  
23 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Any- --  
24 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.  
25 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Anybody else?  
26 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Patsy? Do you have anything?  
27 COMMISSIONER WAITS: No, I -- I -- I, again, appreciate  
28 what you're doing on this because the Chamber of Commerce in  
29 Austin was considering our tree lighting too and will be  
30 handling that.  
31 And I was concerned with what we were going to do as far as  
32 activities here.  
33 So if we're going to go ahead and just say, absolutely,  
34 let's -- let's go ahead and -- and do Christmas. This is --  
35 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.  
36 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- wonderful.  
37 So -- but I agree. We can just make the motion for, you  
38 know, an annual event because it's the second one. But it  
39 doesn't mean it will continue. So we'll just do it for this  
40 year.

1 Is that what you're saying?  
2 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Is that what --  
3 COMMISSIONER CLARK: (Off microphone) That's fine.  
4 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.  
5 That's fine.  
6 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Good.  
7 COMMISSIONER CLARK: (Off microphone) Just as long as  
8 we're -- (on microphone) this is --  
9 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERRERA: Commissioners?  
10 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Yes?  
11 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERRERA: This is Ted.  
12 You can -- you can schedule an annual event. You just  
13 can't finance it for -- for -- except for the next four years.  
14 So what you would do is say, Yes, we'll get established an  
15 annual event. But it has to come in front of each commissioner  
16 each year, actually, or maybe at the budget to finance it.  
17 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.  
18 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah. We could put a line item in the  
19 budget and --  
20 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.  
21 COMMISSIONER CLARK: When we do that --  
22 And that way we can have it --  
23 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: That's fine.  
24 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- an annual.  
25 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So we can make sure that when it comes --  
26 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah.  
27 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- up that --  
28 Maybe we can combine the line item for this and for the  
29 Fourth of July? Because we do that --  
30 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Sure.  
31 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- to put together.  
32 BERT RAMOS: You bet.  
33 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So the holiday festivities type thing.  
34 BERT RAMOS: Yeah. Make a --  
35 COMMISSIONER CLARK: A holiday --  
36 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.  
37 BERT RAMOS: -- holiday line item?  
38 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Yeah.  
39 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah.  
40 BERT RAMOS: Okay.



1 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Very good.  
2 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Uh-huh.  
3 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. So do we have a -- a -- a  
4 motion for this year's?  
5 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah. I'll make a motion that we plan  
6 an annual event with regards to the Lander County Christmas  
7 festivities and to be included in the Fourth of July budget line  
8 item.  
9 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.  
10 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I'll second.  
11 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. So Art made the motion.  
12 Second by Bryan.  
13 All in favor?  
14 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.  
15 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Aye.  
16 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.  
17 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.  
18 All right. Very good. Thanks. Very good.  
19

20 **4) COMMISSIONERS: Discussion and possible action regarding a**  
21 **letter of protest regarding the withdrawal of AT&T "Provider**  
22 **of Last Resort" from Lander County.**  
23

24 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Number 4.  
25 Discussion and possible action regarding letter of protest  
26 regarding the withdrawal of AT&T's provider of last resort from  
27 Lander County.  
28 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Thank you.  
29 I had asked for this to be on again. This is one that we  
30 took on some time ago, actually.  
31 Sean Bakker was our chair the last time we -- we took AT&T  
32 on because a provider of last resort is what they have been  
33 throughout the whole country.  
34 And they started pulling out and pulling out. And -- and  
35 then when we got a hold of this a few years ago, the whole idea  
36 was if nobody else will service you, they will.  
37 So they will go back in and -- and repair your lines and so  
38 forth and so on.  
39 So we said "What's happening here?" And we went to the  
40 Consumer Affairs Division. And they said, yes, this is what

1 they're doing. Why don't you think about a survey or something  
2 to go before the PUC?

3 The whole thing is AT&T is saying we have full coverage and  
4 they can show that by -- excuse me -- by the maps of other cell  
5 phone operators.

6 Look. Lander County is totally covered.

7 So we actually did over 139 surveys that said, No, my cell  
8 phone is not available in this area or it keeps cutting out, and  
9 so forth and so on.

10 So we actually testified before the PUC. And they allowed  
11 Lander County to be exempt.

12 So AT&T is our provider of last resort.

13 They also exempted some other areas. But we were the only  
14 full county that pulled out.

15 Now I see they have filed to do that again. And if you  
16 read everything, they say, "Oh. But it's not affecting any of  
17 your customers."

18 Well, if it's not affecting us, why are they doing it?

19 Of course it's affecting us.

20 So I asked -- we aren't going to go through the -- the  
21 whole thing with the survey and everything. And it is a virtual  
22 hearing. But one thing I did want to do was a protest letter.

23 So I did finish that last night. And, unfortunately, I  
24 have no internet. And I thought everything was sent and it  
25 wasn't.

26 And when I call Miteshell, this morning, my internet is  
27 still down. And I can't access the letter that I wrote.

28 But it's just an exemption letter. It references back to  
29 our information from last time.

30 It also has a copy of the letter that we wrote last time,  
31 which was signed by our chair. And it asks us to be exempted  
32 again and says that the -- the information is incorrect, that we  
33 are not covered all over the whole state of -- of our county.

34 And what I will do, when I get back home, hopefully,  
35 internet is up so I can send this letter out again so Kaitlyn  
36 can put it on letterhead. We'll run it by our legal, of course,  
37 to make sure everything's proper.

38 But basically, that's all I'm saying.

39 And the other thing I would like us to do, I think for --  
40 since it is a virtual meeting and it's fairly easy to attend, I

1 think perhaps we should ask Sheldon from NNRDA to represent us  
2 on that virtual meeting.

3 It does affect all of the other counties. And I thought  
4 that might be kind of a nice addition to have him speak -- he's  
5 so well spoken on this -- and kind of represent us, give him  
6 copies of the --

7 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Oh.

8 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- letter as such.  
9 So that would be our representation.

10 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: And that's a good idea. And he is very  
11 well spoken.

12 COMMISSIONER WAITS: But --

13 COMMISSIONER CLARK: So let --

14 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- that was just --

15 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- me get this right, --

16 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- picky.

17 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- Patsy.

18 COMMISSIONER WAITS: I'm sorry?

19 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me get this right. AT&T was ready  
20 to pull out of Lander County?

21 COMMISSIONER WAITS: A few years ago. Oh, yes. We thought  
22 that very -- it took months -- months for us to fight that. And  
23 we testified before the PUC and we won.

24 COMMISSIONER CLARK: And so everybody that has A&T will ha-  
25 -- AT&T will have no service?

26 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Well, the thing is, is that doesn't  
27 mean they will pull out from service. It just means they no  
28 longer are designated by the --

29 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Provider --

30 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- federal --

31 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: -- of --

32 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- government --

33 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: -- last resort.

34 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- as provider of last resort.  
35 Because you have service.

36 So if someone moves in an area and the cell phone doesn't  
37 work in that area, AT&T doesn't have to -- have to repair the  
38 service. They don't have to give you new service.

39 If they're provider of last resort, they do.

40 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, I know from my internet service

1 and my phone service, every time there's a windstorm, service is  
2 interrupted.

3 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Well --

4 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I mean, that's --

5 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- it isn't just that. We have to  
6 think about the businesses that use it as protection for their  
7 credit cards. I mean, they don't want to use cell phones.  
8 Those can be hacked too easily. So they want to keep landlines.  
9 And, of course, the whole idea is --

10 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Oh.

11 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- we're going to do away with  
12 landlines.

13 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Landlines.

14 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Oh.

15 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Because they're --

16 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.

17 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- too expensive --

18 COMMISSIONER WAITS: That's the --

19 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- to --

20 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- whole --

21 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- maintain.

22 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- point.

23 COMMISSIONER CLARK: That's --

24 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: That's why they don't want to do them.

25 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.

26 There -- that --

27 COMMISSIONER WAITS: So --

28 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- that therein is --

29 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Okay.

30 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- the issue --

31 COMMISSIONER WAITS: So --

32 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- because --

33 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- if you're --

34 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- landlines --

35 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- in --

36 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- are more expensive than --

37 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Uh-huh.

38 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- cellphones.

39 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Uh-huh.

40 COMMISSIONER WAITS: So if you're -- you're in favor of

1 just the -- it -- it's a -- it's a protest letter and saying, we  
2 would like to be excluded again because we still do not have the  
3 service that they claim we do.

4 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Well, and that's -- goes -- and not --  
5 this year, last su- -- last summer, there -- when there was the  
6 fire by Rye Patch, it burned those lines. And you couldn't  
7 access your money at the banks. Everybody was cash only. You  
8 couldn't. No, you couldn't get money. You couldn't access  
9 stuff because the line -- they -- they -- all their stuff was  
10 fiber optic, burned it. And so you -- everywhere in town, you  
11 had to use cash.

12 Well, -- but you couldn't get cash from the bank because --  
13 So that -- that really -- it really is a big deal that they  
14 maintain those lines because --

15 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Fiber optic's --

16 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- we're kind of --

17 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- in the ground. How did it burn?

18 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I know. That's what I was --

19 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: They --

20 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: -- saying.

21 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- they -- because it did. They said it  
22 was the burning of the fiber optics. But I don't think those  
23 were ground -- grounded --

24 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Huh.

25 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- fiber-optic lines that burnt.

26 So -- but the grounded ones are the ones you want to keep  
27 so they can be protected from stuff.

28 But I don't think these were grounded because it was -- it  
29 burned through them. And we didn't -- I don't know if anybody  
30 remembers that, but you couldn't use your card. You couldn't  
31 get money from the bank. You couldn't do anything for about a  
32 day and a half.

33 COMMISSIONER WAITS: I --

34 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So --

35 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- will go ahead and make the motion  
36 that we do send the letter of protest regarding the withdrawal  
37 of AT&T provider of last resort and authorize our chair to sign.

38 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.

39 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I will second your motion, Patsy.

40 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. So Patsy made the motion.

1 Bryan second.  
2 All in favor?  
3 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Aye.  
4 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.  
5 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.  
6 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.  
7 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Very good. Thank you, Patsy.  
8 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Thank you.  
9 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right.  
10  
11 5) **LANDER COUNTY CLERK: Update only from the Lander County**  
12 **Clerk regarding the 2020 elections.**  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So Number 5. For the Clerk's Office.  
15 Update only on the Lander County Clerk regarding the 2020  
16 elections.  
17 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Good morning.  
18 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Good morning.  
19 RICHARD GREEN: Good morning. It's Richard Green, for the  
20 record.  
21 How's everybody doing?  
22 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Good.  
23 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Good. How are you, Sir?  
24 RICHARD GREEN: I'm fair. I'm fair.  
25 I've got some numbers for you.  
26 We have 3,343 voters that have totally checked in. 1124  
27 have -- we've got absentee ballots for and in-person total.  
28 In-person total is 648. And the absentee is 476.  
29 So in the last four -- four days over there at early vote,  
30 we've had 648 people show up.  
31 So it's been a pretty good turnout so far.  
32 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Yeah.  
33 RICHARD GREEN: The total is 33.6 out of all of them that  
34 are eligible to vote.  
35 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Nobody speaking Russian or Chinese?  
36 RICHARD GREEN: Not that I'm aware of.  
37 We've had -- had a little problem with the -- the internet  
38 service. It kind of bounced.  
39 So I -- I fashioned an AP, an access point, and did  
40 basically a weapons-grade encryption on it so we can get it out

1 of here.

2 Because it was -- it was bouncing up and down.

3 So -- and it was throwing -- throwing the numbers off.

4 So --

5 Not the numbers were inaccurate. It -- they would just  
6 queue and wait for a signal.

7 So the -- the -- the numbers that we're running would- --  
8 wouldn't be actually accurate to the minute.

9 So I fashioned this AP so the numbers would be per second,  
10 not per whenever we had signal.

11 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Oh.

12 RICHARD GREEN: If that makes any sense.

13 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Uh-huh. It does.

14 RICHARD GREEN: Okay.

15 Any questions for me?

16 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Thank you for the update. And then are  
17 you here -- are you going to be upstairs all day? Or are you o-  
18 -- back and forth?

19 RICHARD GREEN: I'm -- I'm back and forth everywhere. I  
20 was -- I was hoping to clone myself because -- well, I was  
21 actually going to clone myself three times, you know. One of me  
22 is going to stay at home.

23 So -- but --

24 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Well, good luck with that.

25 RICHARD GREEN: Yes.

26 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So --

27 RICHARD GREEN: I'll let you know that turns out.

28 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Thank you so much for --

29 RICHARD GREEN: Okay.

30 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- the update. It's appreciated.

31 All right.

32

33 6) **GREAT BASIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE: For possible action to**  
34 **approve/disapprove the lease agreement between Lander County**  
35 **and Great Basin Community College for the building and**  
36 **grounds adjacent to North Second and Scott Street.**

37

38 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So Great Basin Community College.

39 For possible action to approve, disapprove the lease

40 agreement between Lander County and Great Basin Community

1 College for the building and grounds adjacent to North Second  
2 and Scott -- Scott Street.

3 BERT RAMOS: This is -- this is a renewal. And it's been  
4 reviewed by our legal.

5 Seems to be good, I believe.

6 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Everything's fine with it?

7 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'll make a motion that we approve the  
8 lease agreement between Lander County and Great Basin Community  
9 College for the building and grounds adjacent to North Second  
10 Street and Scott Street.

11 I -- I have a question about -- as I read this, the  
12 grounds? The grounds around that building are used by the  
13 county. Is that --

14 BERT RAMOS: Correct. I'm not exactly sure what they have  
15 included in the grounds because the --

16 COMMISSIONER CLARK: We have --

17 BERT RAMOS: -- college there --

18 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- search and --

19 BERT RAMOS: -- really does not --

20 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- rescue --

21 BERT RAMOS: -- take up --

22 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- in the green. We have a search and  
23 rescue in green --

24 BERT RAMOS: So --

25 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- building and --

26 BERT RAMOS: Well --

27 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- we have county properties parked  
28 there.

29 ELIZABETH BARELA: It's the parking lot.

30 COMMISSIONER CLARK: The -- oh.

31 ELIZABETH BARELA: It's part of the parking lot.

32 COMMISSIONER CLARK: The parking lot. Okay.

33 KAITLYN McCONVILLE: Diagonal from the building across the  
34 street.

35 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Gotcha.

36 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.

37 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.

38 BERT RAMOS: Thank you.

39 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'll read my motion again.  
40 To approve the lease agreement between Lander County and



1 Great Basin Community College for the building and ground  
2 adjacent, meaning the parking lot, to North Second and Scott  
3 Street.

4 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I'll second.

5 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. So Art made the motion. And  
6 Bryan seconded.

7 All in favor?

8 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.

9 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Aye.

10 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Very good.

13 Easy peasy.

14  
15 7) **CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence, reports, future agenda**  
16 **items.**

17  
18 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So correspondence, reports, future agenda  
19 items.

20 So can I start off with that? Something?

21 I have a -- I'd like -- I would like to see the update on  
22 the geothermal money, what's going on with that issue, please.

23 And then also the update on the in- -- on the -- the  
24 invoices for the -- for Summit, please. And thank you.

25 Do you have anything that you want to put on there for next  
26 time that you think of?

27 COMMISSIONER CLARK: No, I --

28 BERT RAMOS: I -- I do have some -- some limited  
29 information. I know that this -- this isn't the forum to -- but  
30 I do have limited information on both if you want to stop by my  
31 office. But --

32 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.

33 BERT RAMOS: -- we will put it on the agenda for the  
34 entire -- for the entire board because it's in progressive  
35 stages right now. So there's really not a bunch to update on,  
36 but just that we are moving forward. It hasn't been dropped.

37 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Very good.

38 SHERIFF RON UNGER: (Off microphone) Fire ban.

39 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Pardon me?

40 SHERIFF RON UNGER: Fire ban.

1 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: The fire ban. The fire ban.  
2 SHERIFF RON UNGER: Oh.  
3 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. So -- so then do we have --  
4 with that -- nothing more on that.  
5 Do we have any more public comment?  
6 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: What about as far as RS 2477 roads?  
7 Where are we at on that? Or what do we need to be doing?  
8 BERT RAMOS: Ted?  
9 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Ted?  
10 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERRERA: I -- (indiscernible).  
11 Bert and I have discussed this. And I gave a blueprint on  
12 what the county has to do to follow the statutory obligations.  
13 We are waiting for that to happen.  
14 So you would have to ask Bert how far that process has gone  
15 in his department.  
16 ELIZABETH BARELA: Keith and Kyla.  
17 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So --  
18 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: What did he say? I didn't hear.  
19 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: So let's -- so Keith and Kyla?  
20 BERT RAMOS: Well, the -- at one point -- I'm not pointing  
21 a finger at my predecessor. This falls squarely on my plate  
22 because it's been here since I've been here. So it's -- it's  
23 more of a Bert and Kyla at this point.  
24 I need to get with Kyla, I guess, and push this forward.  
25 There are a variety pack of options to choose from. All of  
26 them are probably going to require us hiring outside legal to  
27 move forward with.  
28 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I --  
29 Six years ago, I brought back the Nye County handout on the  
30 2477 roads. Theirs were -- were completed and accepted.  
31 So you can dig that up. That's a good template.  
32 Now, this has been six years we've been on this.  
33 I've -- you know, through PLUAC and SLUAC.  
34 This is a really time-consuming issue. And we want to make  
35 sure that we get all the roads that we want, all the two tracks.  
36 So --  
37 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Uh-huh.  
38 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- this is going to be perhaps  
39 expensive. But we need to do this.  
40 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: In the past, ha- -- I thought there

1 was a catalog started of roads in Lander County if I'm not --  
2 COMMISSIONER CLARK: It was --  
3 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: -- mistaken.  
4 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- started.  
5 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: It was started?  
6 COMMISSIONER CLARK: It was started.  
7 But we're probably going to have to --  
8 My thought -- I'm not a mapmaker -- but I'm thinking we're  
9 going to have to fly drones and -- and do it that way.  
10 I think that's the best way to do it.  
11 BERT RAMOS: So some of the concerns that are involved with  
12 that are some of these roads that were mapped go through private  
13 property. And segregating them out and making sure that we  
14 aren't trying to assert claim on a 2477 road or anywhere going  
15 down that road on private property and get the county in hot  
16 water is it's -- it's a time-consuming process to make sure that  
17 we are on private and that we aren't.  
18 And the other concern that I have is by asserting claim on  
19 these roads, any roads that we miss, we aren't asserting claim  
20 on.  
21 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Right.  
22 BERT RAMOS: And at that --  
23 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Right.  
24 BERT RAMOS: -- point, --  
25 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: You lose them.  
26 BERT RAMOS: -- you lose them.  
27 I don't know who the enforcement is going to be if somebody  
28 is using them roads that haven't had claim asserted on them, if  
29 they're -- if the BLM's going to go out and block them or what  
30 the -- the process would -- would entail.  
31 But it is something of concern.  
32 My opinion differs slightly from legal's. And legal  
33 obviously trumps anything that -- that my thoughts are.  
34 However, when we start down this of -- of asserting claim,  
35 we're -- we're starting down a very dangerous road.  
36 I don't know that they can't say that it's not Lander  
37 County's right now.  
38 They would have to prove that it does not belong to Lander  
39 County at this point is -- is my position that -- that it should  
40 be --

1           The proof of the benefit of the road should be -- the  
2 burden shouldn't lie on the county itself to prove that that  
3 road belongs to us because it's within the borders of Lander  
4 County, and it's on public land.

5           That should not be our -- my -- my personal stance -- that  
6 should not be our position to prove that that belonged to us.

7           If -- if they want to prove that it doesn't, I think that  
8 they should be the one that should bear the burden of the  
9 expense.

10          COMMISSIONER SPARKS: And that's where the -- that's where  
11 it changed with the law was the burden of proof went on them,  
12 correct?

13          BERT RAMOS: Went on -- well, that's that Senate Bill  
14 316, --

15          COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Yes. Right.

16          BERT RAMOS: -- which is it -- it -- it goes onto the  
17 property owner.

18          If somebody is -- is to be trespassing on -- on a property  
19 owner, they have to prove that that road was not open and freely  
20 used and all these other things.

21          And -- and is what that does in a nutshell is it really  
22 puts a burden on a property owner to post their ground as  
23 private and to eliminate any free access, which if anybody gets  
24 on to onX maps and looks at the State of Nevada, you will -- or  
25 even the Lander County, you will see the -- there's a tremendous  
26 amount of private property that we would all be blocked from  
27 using the minute that we start trying to assert claim on some of  
28 these roads that are going through private property.

29          And I think these are -- these are valid concerns that we  
30 need to consider our public in when we move forward on these  
31 type of --

32          COMMISSIONER CLARK: If I remember correctly, listening to  
33 Ken Brown, there's two issues.

34          One, if you missed a road and it washed out, you couldn't  
35 repair it for travel.

36          And the second thing was on the private property issue, the  
37 county can go iss- -- road by road by road and the county  
38 commissioners can decide if that road's going to be opened up,  
39 if it's really a benefit to the citizens or if it's a better  
40 benefit to the ranchers.

1 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I'm just thinking like the North Fork  
2 Road. You know, the one I'm talking?  
3 COMMISSIONER CLARK: That -- that's been the one --  
4 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: It's been a --  
5 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- that's stuck --  
6 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: It's --  
7 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- in mine --  
8 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Yeah.  
9 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- throat.  
10 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: I know. It's been a debate for many  
11 years.  
12 COMMISSIONER CLARK: The gate, we found out, is on BLM  
13 property. I've told BLM about that.  
14 They're not doing a thing.  
15 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Uh-huh.  
16 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I mean, that's -- I think that's  
17 the -- the glowing star in the complaints as far as the roads  
18 around here.  
19 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Uh-huh.  
20 COMMISSIONER CLARK: A great example.  
21 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERRERA: Can I (indiscernible)?  
22 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Yes.  
23 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERRERA: There are two separate issues  
24 in -- in this particular case.  
25 One is there's a statutory process to give notice to the  
26 Department of Transportation on which roads we are saying belong  
27 to Lander County. When Mr. Bonner came in, he talked -- he  
28 wasn't talking about that process. He talked about using quiet  
29 title or recordation.  
30 But the first step is to follow the statute and see if the  
31 Department of Transportation will accept our map of -- of these  
32 2477 roads.  
33 And that's what Keith was supposed to be doing for the last  
34 so many years, but he hasn't done it.  
35 So I -- my advice to Bert was that we need to follow the  
36 statute and declare which roads belong to Lander County and we  
37 declare that to the Department of Transportation.  
38 And I agree with him as far as the quiet title action and  
39 the rest in the recordation action. That -- that would require  
40 a lot of money.

1 But we should have a map of all the roads. And we just  
2 follow the statute and send that to the Department of  
3 Transportation.

4 Now I'm not so sure the Department of Transportation will  
5 even do it because of -- of the politics in the state right now.  
6 But we have to do that. And -- and that's what I'm suggesting.  
7 And that's my advice.

8 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, Nye County got theirs done  
9 quickly because most of Nye County is the test site.

10 So they didn't have as many roads as us, I would think.

11 But I -- I -- I would entertain a motion or an item on the  
12 agenda to address this and to possibly hire an agency, an  
13 outside agency, to get this done.

14 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Or maybe just information based, you  
15 know. Try to gather information so we're all very clear as --  
16 where does it go? What's it entail? You know. Our options.

17 BERT RAMOS: Most certainly. I -- I will gather some  
18 information and then -- and then this might be a -- a much  
19 better item to budget for because I -- I do --

20 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Hold on.

21 BERT RAMOS: -- believe that the cost is going to be steep.

22 COMMISSIONER CLARK: (Off microphone) And checking your --  
23 (on microphone) Check into the possible cost.

24 BERT RAMOS: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER CLARK: (Off microphone) If you can.

26 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Because, well, yeah. We're going to start  
27 budgeting again here in January.

28 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERRERA: Commissioners, the cost would  
29 not be the -- excuse -- the cost would not be legal expenses at  
30 this point. It would be ascertaining which roads we are going  
31 to declare.

32 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay. All right.

33 COMMISSIONER WAITS: So we just have basically the one  
34 meeting. And then we have a tentative that we're looking at the  
35 16th of November if we need it. Is that what we're doing? Or  
36 are we just setting the 16th and going with the voting and the  
37 health --

38 BERT RAMOS: The --

39 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- situation?

40 BERT RAMOS: -- the 16th will be a canvass of the votes.

1 And we may add the health officer to that.  
2 COMMISSIONER WAITS: And do a health board meeting along  
3 with it?  
4 BERT RAMOS: Correct. We have to close that --  
5 COMMISSIONER WAITS: So we are --  
6 BERT RAMOS: -- and open --  
7 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- advertising --  
8 BERT RAMOS: -- a health board meeting.  
9 COMMISSIONER WAITS: -- the 16th, right?  
10 BERT RAMOS: Yes.  
11 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Okay. Thank you.  
12 KAITLYN McCONVILLE: (Off microphone) Bert, I -- I think I  
13 sent an email and saved the 12th. It's because they have to do  
14 it by the 16th and (indiscernible) at the latest.  
15 BERT RAMOS: What's that?  
16 KAITLYN McCONVILLE: I got an email -- I think it -- from  
17 the Clerk's Office. The meeting on the 16th, I think their  
18 deadline is at 10:00 a.m. that they have to do the can- --  
19 canvass of the votes.  
20 So they mentioned doing it the 12th.  
21 So I can get some more information. And --  
22 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: If we can do --  
23 KAITLYN McCONVILLE: -- up- --  
24 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- it on the 12th --  
25 KAITLYN McCONVILLE: -- -date you.  
26 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- that would be better.  
27 KATHY DUVALL: No. Not the 12th.  
28 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Not the 12th?  
29 KATHY DUVALL: It's the 16th.  
30 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: It's the 16th?  
31 KATHY DUVALL: Yeah.  
32 BERT RAMOS: Okay. My -- yeah, my understanding is we had  
33 to canvass on the 16th.  
34 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Okay.  
35 BERT RAMOS: I will -- I will make sure of that.  
36 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Share what you --  
37 BERT RAMOS: -- and let --  
38 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: -- picture that.  
39 BERT RAMOS: -- everybody know.  
40 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Yeah.

1 BERT RAMOS: But the -- the canvassing of the votes, if it  
2 is on the 16th, which I do believe it is, I would just schedule,  
3 if I were you guys, for the 16th and possible the health board  
4 convening, which would be Sheriff Unger and the commissioners.  
5 COMMISSIONER WAITS: So have we set a time or anything on  
6 that?  
7 BERT RAMOS: Yes, --  
8 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Did you --  
9 BERT RAMOS: -- it -- it will be -- it will be at 9:00 a.m.  
10 is when the meeting will -- the 16th, the canvassing of the  
11 votes.  
12 COMMISSIONER WAITS: On the 16th?  
13 BERT RAMOS: Correct.  
14 At this point, that is where it stands.  
15 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Because you have seven days to count  
16 everything that's postmarked --  
17 BERT RAMOS: Correct.  
18 COMMISSIONER CLARK: -- November 3. That was a -- the  
19 decision in this state or was that federal?  
20 BERT RAMOS: That would be a good Sadie question.  
21 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Yeah.  
22 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.  
23 Because I know there's a seven-day rule on the --  
24 COMMISSIONER WAITS: That -- that's this state. Every  
25 state has a different rule.  
26 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.  
27 COMMISSIONER WAITS: Or could have.  
28 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.  
29 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: (Off microphone) So are we --  
30 Any more public comment?  
31 (No comment.)

32  
33

34 **ADJOURNMENT**

35  
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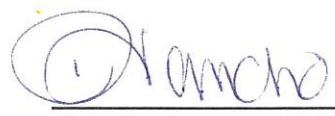
COMMISSIONER SPARKS: (Off microphone) Motion to adjourn.  
CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All right. Second?  
COMMISSIONER CLARK: Second.  
CHAIRMAN ANCHO: All in favor?  
COMMISSIONER WAITS: Aye.



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COMMISSIONER SPARKS: Aye.  
COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.  
CHAIRMAN ANCHO: Aye.  
Thank you, guys.

(Meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.)



**CHAIRMAN OR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
BOARD OF LANDER COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS AND THE LANDER  
COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD**

**ATTEST:**

  
**LANDER COUNTY CLERK**

*Note: The Board of Lander County Commissioners serves as the Town Board for the unincorporated towns of Battle Mountain and Austin, Nevada.*

1 STATE OF UTAH )  
2 ) ss.  
3 COUNTY OF DAVIS )  
4  
5  
6

7 I, TIFFANY ELKINGTON, A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER, DO HEREBY  
8  
9 CERTIFY I TRANSCRIBED THE FOREGOING PROCEEDINGS FROM A "JAVS"  
10  
11 DIGITAL AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING OF A MEETING WHICH TOOK PLACE  
12  
13 THE 22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020, AND SAID RECORDING AND INFORMATION  
14  
15 PERTAINING TO PARTICIPANT NAMES WAS PROVIDED TO ME BY THE LANDER  
16  
17 COUNTY CLERK SULLIVAN; THAT THE SAME IS FULL, TRUE, AND AS CORRECT AS  
18  
19 THE AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING ALLOWED.  
20

21  
22 DATED AT \_\_\_\_\_  
23 THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_  
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27 TIFFANY ELKINGTON, CCR #930  
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<p>BERT RAMOS: [51] 2/37 4/38 4/40 12/20 15/5 15/9 15/11 15/13 15/15 16/32 16/34 16/37 16/40 24/3 24/14 24/17 24/19 24/21 24/24 24/26 24/38 25/28 25/33 26/8 26/20 27/11 27/22 27/24 27/26 28/13 28/16 30/17 30/21 30/24 30/38 30/40 31/4 31/6 31/8 31/10 31/15 31/32 31/35 31/37 31/39 32/1 32/7 32/9 32/13 32/17 32/20 CHAIRMAN ANCHO: [131] 1/22 1/27 1/31 1/36 2/6 2/10 2/13 2/29 2/34 6/19 6/22 6/24 6/29 7/1 7/7 7/32 7/34 7/39 8/1 8/7 8/12 8/14 8/19 8/24 8/29 8/32 8/36 8/38 9/3 9/7 9/10 9/13 9/15 9/21 9/35 10/19 12/3 13/10 13/20 14/29 14/33 14/38 14/40 15/12 15/14 15/18 15/24 15/26 15/35 16/2 16/4 16/10 16/17 16/20 16/23 16/25 16/27 16/31 16/33 16/36 16/38 17/1 17/3 17/9 17/11 17/16 17/24 19/7 19/10 20/13 20/15 20/17 20/19 20/21 20/24 20/39 21/4 21/16 21/19 21/21 21/25 21/34 21/38 21/40 22/5 22/7 22/9 22/14 22/18 22/23 22/32 23/11 23/13 23/16 23/24 23/26 23/28 23/30 23/38 24/6 24/36 25/5 25/10 25/12 25/18 25/32 25/37 25/39 26/1 26/3 26/9 26/17 26/19 29/22 30/20 30/26 30/32 31/22 31/24 31/26 31/28 31/30 31/34 31/36 31/38 31/40 32/21 32/29 32/37 32/39 33/3 COMMISSIONER CLARK: [97] 2/9 6/20 6/23 7/38 8/11 8/13 8/23 8/35 8/37 9/2 9/6 11/5 11/18 12/17 14/26 14/30 14/34 14/39 15/1 15/8 15/10 15/19 15/21 15/23 15/25 16/3 16/7 16/18 16/21 16/24 16/26 16/30 16/35 16/39 17/2 17/5 17/14 19/13 19/15 19/17 19/19 19/24 19/40 20/4 20/10 20/14 20/16 20/23 20/25 20/28 20/30 20/32 20/34 20/36 20/38 21/15 21/17 22/4 22/35 24/7 24/16 24/18 24/20 24/22 24/25 24/27 24/30 24/32 24/35 24/37 24/39 25/8 25/27 26/28 26/38 27/2 27/4 27/6 27/21 28/32 29/3 29/5 29/7 29/9 29/12 29/16 29/20 30/8 30/22 30/25 32/15 32/18 32/22 32/26 32/28 32/38 33/2 COMMISSIONER SPARKS: [51] 1/26 2/12 7/33 7/37 8/18 8/22 8/28 8/31 9/9 9/11 9/14 9/37 10/37 11/17 11/30 15/20</p>	<p>15/22 17/10 17/15 19/29 19/31 19/33 20/37 21/18 21/20 21/24 21/39 22/3 22/22 25/4 25/9 26/6 26/18 26/37 26/40 27/3 27/5 27/23 27/25 28/10 28/15 29/1 29/4 29/6 29/8 29/10 29/15 29/19 30/14 32/36 33/1 COMMISSIONER WAITS: [58] 2/15 4/36 4/39 7/29 7/40 8/15 8/25 8/33 8/40 9/8 9/26 12/38 15/27 15/36 16/6 17/17 17/28 19/8 19/12 19/14 19/16 19/18 19/21 19/26 19/30 19/32 19/34 20/3 20/5 20/11 20/18 20/20 20/22 20/27 20/29 20/31 20/33 20/35 20/40 21/33 21/35 22/6 22/8 22/17 25/11 30/33 30/39 31/2 31/5 31/7 31/9 31/11 32/5 32/8 32/12 32/24 32/27 32/40 DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERRERA: [6] 16/9 16/11 26/10 29/21 29/23 30/28 ELIZABETH BARELA: [3] 24/29 24/31 26/16 KAITLYN McCONVILLE: [5] 24/33 31/12 31/16 31/23 31/25 KATHY DUVALL: [3] 31/27 31/29 31/31 RICHARD GREEN: [10] 22/19 22/24 22/33 22/36 23/12 23/14 23/19 23/25 23/27 23/29 SHERIFF RON UNGER: [3] 25/38 25/40 26/2 VOICE RECORDING: [1] 7/2 - -276 [2] 8/13 8/14 -date [1] 31/25 . .8 [1] 5/31 <b>1</b> 1,119,000 [1] 5/10 1,165,414 [1] 5/32 10 [3] 4/15 6/2 7/23 101 [1] 2/38 10:00 [1] 31/18 11 [4] 4/13 5/28 7/25 7/31 11-day [2] 4/14 4/15 110 [1] 6/5 1124 [1] 22/26 12:00 [1] 1/38 12th [7] 3/33 3/34 31/13 31/20 31/24 31/27 31/28 13 [1] 7/21 139 [1] 18/7 14 [3] 2/38 5/36 7/18 143 [1] 5/27 15th [1] 4/3 16,000 [1] 4/24 167,000 [1] 4/20</p>	<p>16th [15] 3/35 3/36 30/35 30/36 30/40 31/9 31/14 31/17 31/29 31/30 31/33 32/2 32/3 32/10 32/12 19 [5] 5/39 6/3 6/6 6/8 7/19 1:15 [1] 1/38 <b>2</b> 2.6 [2] 12/22 12/24 20 [1] 6/4 2020 [14] 1/4 7/16 7/17 7/18 7/19 7/20 7/21 7/22 7/23 7/24 7/25 22/12 22/15 34/13 209 [2] 8/11 8/12 209276 [1] 8/26 209350 [2] 8/9 9/1 209432 [2] 8/9 9/1 20th [1] 5/23 21 [1] 5/38 22 [2] 1/4 7/16 22ND [1] 34/13 23 [1] 7/20 24 [1] 7/24 2477 [4] 26/6 26/30 27/14 29/32 25.3 [1] 5/27 27 [1] 7/22 276 [2] 8/13 8/14 <b>3</b> 3,343 [1] 22/26 305 [1] 1/4 316 [1] 28/14 33.6 [1] 22/33 356 [1] 5/26 <b>4</b> 425 [1] 6/4 476 [1] 22/28 <b>5</b> 50 [2] 1/4 11/15 535 [1] 6/3 565 [1] 5/26 <b>6</b> 63 [1] 5/26 648 [2] 22/28 22/30 66 [1] 5/28 679 [1] 5/31 <b>7</b> 700,000 [1] 5/9 76 [1] 5/37 <b>8</b> 84 [1] 2/39 <b>9</b> 9,385 [1] 5/33 9.3 [1] 5/36 92,064 [1] 5/25 930 [2] 1/5 34/27 9:00 [1] 32/9 9:02 [1] 1/4 9:54 [1] 33/6</p>	<p><b>A</b> absentee [2] 22/27 22/28 abstain [2] 8/36 8/37 abstained [1] 9/11 Abstaining [1] 9/10 accept [1] 29/31 accepted [1] 26/30 access [5] 18/27 21/7 21/8 22/39 28/23 accurate [1] 23/8 acted [2] 7/9 7/12 action [15] 5/6 5/7 7/10 8/4 8/7 9/17 9/21 13/16 13/21 17/20 17/25 23/33 23/39 29/38 29/39 active [1] 2/39 activities [1] 15/32 add [4] 3/17 10/37 12/23 31/1 added [4] 4/23 5/11 5/12 5/13 addition [1] 19/4 address [1] 30/12 adjacent [4] 23/36 24/1 24/9 25/2 adjourn [1] 32/36 adjourned [1] 33/6 adjustments [1] 5/9 Administration [1] 1/3 admiration [1] 11/22 advertising [1] 31/7 advice [2] 29/35 30/7 advisory [1] 2/16 Affairs [1] 17/40 affect [1] 19/3 affecting [3] 18/16 18/18 18/19 agencies [1] 4/4 agency [3] 11/3 30/12 30/13 agenda [15] 1/38 1/40 5/6 7/5 7/8 7/12 7/13 7/16 7/30 7/30 11/6 25/15 25/18 25/33 30/12 agendized [1] 15/6 ago [5] 4/16 17/30 17/35 19/21 26/29 agree [2] 15/37 29/38 agreement [4] 23/34 23/40 24/8 24/40 air [1] 11/7 airport [1] 2/15 Allegiance [2] 1/27 1/29 allowed [2] 18/10 34/19 along [1] 31/2 Alrighty [1] 2/37 always [1] 12/30 amendment [1] 5/5 amount [2] 12/12 28/26 ANCHO [1] 1/10 ann [1] 14/32 annual [12] 13/17 13/21 14/18 14/23 14/32 15/5 15/17 15/38 16/12 16/15 16/24 17/6 answer [1] 10/40 Antelope [1] 2/22 AP [2] 22/39 23/9 apart [1] 10/31 appearance [1] 10/9 appoint [1] 3/32</p>
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<p><b>A</b></p> <p>appr [2] 13/10 13/10          appreciate [4] 12/38 13/2 13/2 15/27          appreciated [2] 13/10 23/30          appreciative [1] 13/35          approval [12] 7/16 7/17 7/18 7/19 7/20 7/21 7/22 7/23 7/23 7/24 7/25 7/31          approve [10] 7/30 8/4 8/7 8/15 8/26 9/1 23/34 23/39 24/7 24/40          approve/disapprove [2] 8/4 23/34          approximately [4] 5/26 5/27 5/28 6/3          area [4] 10/24 18/8 19/36 19/37          areas [1] 18/13          aren't [6] 3/15 12/35 18/20 27/14 27/17 27/19          ART [5] 1/8 2/8 9/3 17/11 25/5          ARTHUR [1] 1/8          articles [2] 11/6 11/6          ascertaining [1] 30/30          asphalt [1] 5/15          assemble [1] 15/11          assert [2] 27/14 28/27          asserted [1] 27/28          asserting [3] 27/18 27/19 27/34          associated [1] 3/3          assuming [1] 3/21          attach [1] 4/31          attack [3] 3/9 11/36 11/37          attend [4] 2/17 2/23 6/32 18/40          attended [2] 2/7 2/36          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