

Minutes of the Committee Meeting
COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
January 25, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was held at the Department of Taxation, 4600 Kietzke Lane, Ste L235, Reno, Nevada and via Zoom.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marvin Leavitt
Gina Rackley
Tom Ciesynski
Jeff Cronk
Josh Foli
Abigail Yacoben
Jim McIntosh
Paul Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jessica Colvin
Marty Johnson
Felicia O'Carroll

COUNSEL TO COMMITTEE:

Kayla Dorame, Deputy Attorney General

ITEM 1. ROLL CALL AND OPENING REMARKS.

Chairman Leavitt opened the meeting. Members Jessica Colvin, Marty Johnson, and Felicia O'Carroll were absent.

Chairman Leavitt thanked Mary Walker for her service to the Committee and welcomed new member, Josh Foli.

Member Foli gave a brief description of himself and his qualifications.

Chairman Leavitt noted he would like to appoint someone from the Committee on Local Government Finance to serve on the Economic Forum to replace Mary Walker and asked all interested members to contact Kelly Langley, Supervisor of Local Government Services, Department of Taxation (Department).

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT.

No public comment.

**ITEM 3. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: FINANCIAL CONDITION REPORTS BY THE DEPARTMENT;
CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND ORDER.**

(a) Report from Esmeralda County regarding the status of the 2022/2023 Audit and the County's ability to deliver timely bank reconciliations in accordance with NRS 354.280.

Ms. Langley introduced Keri Gransbery, Budget Analyst with the Department. Ms. Gransbery stated she reviewed Esmeralda County's audit. She stated that Dan McArthur, Chairman Windsor, and Vera Boyer, all representing Esmeralda County, should be on the line. Ms. Gransbery added that Lucinda Elgan submitted a letter to the Department.

Mr. McArthur spoke on the bank reconciliations and improvements in the audit. Chairman Leavitt commented that he is pleased with the progress.

Member Yacoben asked Mr. McArthur how the County has had the sudden success. Mr. McArthur replied that training and extra efforts on the part of staff to make sure the findings went away were the reason.

Member Ciesynski acknowledged the County's progress as well.

Ms. Boyer thanked the Department for helping the County through its struggle.

Chairman Leavitt noted that the County will not need to be on the Committee's next agenda.

(b) Report from Nye County regarding the status of the 2022/2023 Audit and the County's ability to deliver timely bank reconciliations in accordance with NRS 354.280.

Ms. Langley introduced Evelyn Baragan, Budget Analyst with the Department.

Ms. Baragan noted Nye County submitted extension requests for the last few years.

Helen Bae, Comptroller for Nye County, introduced herself. Chairman Leavitt asked when the audit would be completed and she replied it would be completed March 15, 2024, adding she will ask for an extension at the end of the month. He asked her what has caused the delays. She replied that there has been significant turnover in leadership positions that prevented them from completing the audit. Chairman Leavitt asked what they plan to do about the delays. Ms. Bae explained the plan is to meet weekly and perform reconciliations as well as keep on top of reporting.

Chairman Leavitt asked Mr. McArthur his feelings on the delays. Mr. McArthur noted the OPEB report has been a problem, and further explained some other issues. He added it will take continuous efforts to complete the audit by the deadline.

Chairman Leavitt noted if the County goes past March 15, it will have to file an untimely budget also and it will affect other entities. Mr. McArthur agreed noting several entities should have completed audits prior to March 15.

Chairman Leavitt explained when there is a delay on an audit, everything along the line is affected. He is hopeful to see the audit by March 15 and for this not happen to again next year.

Raelynn Powers, Nye County Treasurer, noted she realigned everything on November 22 and submitted the bank reconciliation to the County's Board in a timely matter. Chairman Leavitt commented he is happy the bank reconciliation issue is better.

Member Ciesynski suggested continued monitoring of Nye County to make sure issues are resolved. Chairman Leavitt requested Nye County to be placed on the Committee's next agenda.

ITEM 4. BRIEFING BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE STAFF, INCLUDING:

(a) Status update on the FY 22/23 Annual Audits.

Ms. Langley noted a few counties audits are delayed and that delay has caused two school districts, Elko County School District and Nye County School District, from submitting their audits. The Department expects those audits by February 28, 2024 with Elko County School District's audit expected by Jan 29, 2024. The Department has only received one audit for Nye County. She commented that even though they have made improvements, it's delays are preventing other entities from getting their audits submitted timely.

Ms. Langley added the Department is waiting for just under 20 audits, and due to the delays, Ms. Barragan will be reviewing those audits at the same time as the budgets. Ms. Langley listed some other General Improvement Districts and Cities that have not yet submitted their audits to the Department.

Ms. Langley also recommended placing Incline Village General Improvement District on the Committee's next Agenda.

ITEM 6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

(a) For Possible Action: CLGF Meeting – October 17, 2023.

Member Rackley motioned to approve the minutes. Member Cronk seconded the motion.

Ms. Langley suggested confirming whether Mary Walker attended the last meeting. Member Paul Johnson wanted it on record that he joined this meeting just after roll call.

ITEM 7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: SCHEDULE DATE AND REVIEW AGENDA TOPICS FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

Chairman Leavitt requested the next meeting be held at the end of March, and if there are any issues, the Committee could push the meeting to the end of April or beginning of May.

ITEM 8. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Member Rackley welcomed Member Foli to the Committee. Chairman Leavitt stated he was looking forward to meeting him in person.

No other public comment.

ITEM 9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: ADJOURNMENT.

Meeting adjourned.