

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**COALITION BOARD**

**SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION**

**September 28, 2021**

**In attendance:** Commissioner Justin Jones, Chair, Clark County  
Councilman Brian Knudsen, Vice Chair, City of Las Vegas  
Councilman Scott Black, City of North Las Vegas  
Councilwoman Claudia Bridges, City of Boulder City  
Councilwoman Olivia Diaz, City of Las Vegas  
Councilman Richard Cherchio, City of North Las Vegas (Via Zoom)  
Councilman Dan H. Stewart, City of Henderson  
Trustee Katie Williams, Clark County School District

**Absent:** Councilman Dan Shaw, City of Henderson  
Commissioner Tick Segerblom, Clark County

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**Agenda Item 1. Call to Order; notice of agenda conformance with Nevada Open Meeting Law Requirements**

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Board was called to order by Commissioner Jones of Clark County at 4:05 P.M., on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, in the Clark County Commission Chambers at 500 Grand Central South, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155.

**Agenda Item 2. Roll Call**

Members of the SNRPC Coalition Board, as listed above, were present at the time of roll call, with the exception of Councilman Dan Shaw, City of Henderson and Commissioner Tick Segerblom, Clark County.

**Agenda Item 3. Public Comment**

No public comment was made.

**Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Agenda for May 25, 2021**

A motion was made by Councilman Knudsen to approve the agenda for the September 28, 2021 meeting approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 5. Approval of the Minutes for the May 25, 2021 meeting.**

A motion was made by Councilman Knudsen to approve the minutes for the May 25, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Black and was approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 6. CBER Long-Term Population Forecast for Clark County, Nevada 2021-2060.**

Ayoub Ayoub with Southern Nevada Water Authority briefly went over the report for the projections from the CBER Long-Term Population Forecast for Clark County, Nevada 2021-2060 and stated that their shows a continued population growth in Southern Nevada

The report was received by the board.

No other questions were asked.

**Agenda Item 7. Receive an update on updates and amendments to the SNRPC Plant and Tree List.**

Marco Velotta stated in 2015, SNRPC developed a regional list of plants and tree species that are appropriate for the Mojave Desert and followed up with several reports regarding fruit trees and best practices for developers to increase the Urban tree canopy. The plant list is commonly used by local jurisdictions for zoning and development codes. For example, the City of Las Vegas references the list in their Title 19 development code. In 2020, SNWA and other stakeholders that are a part of the SNRPC got together and assessed the potential impact of heat and drought on the tree species. Some of the tree species might not survive extreme heat events going forward, and recommendations were made to refine the plant list and to tailor it for future extreme heat events also, to right size it for the appropriate species for the Mojave Desert environment, appropriateness of the canopy coverage, and the amount of water they consume. The idea is to have a healthy urban forest that will cool the urban environment and conserve water. The contributors assessed the impact of heat and drought. The list provided to the board gives rating and recommendations that consider heat tolerance, survivability, and potential species lost.

Councilwoman Diaz asked when allergy season is in full bloom, if there is a way the list can provide information on what triggers peoples' allergies, and where are they in terms of depicting what plants heighten allergies and asthma?

Marco Velotta stated that he doesn't believe that was one of the variables that was previously or currently assessed. The plant species assessed in 2011 might have taken that into consideration, but he is not sure if that was taken into consideration for the updated list and doesn't believe it was. The plant list is to have a diverse pallet of species that are resistant to drought, infestation, disease, and other factors but it is something Mr. Velotta can follow up with the SNWA.

Commissioner Jones stated that mulberry and fruiting olive trees have been off the list for a long time, but beyond that, he doesn't believe there was additional consideration of pollen.

Councilwoman Diaz stated that it is a question that they should keep thinking about because there are those who are being affected by different allergens in the air and it is something they should investigate as another data point and air quality.

**Agenda Item 8. Discussion regarding the future structure of the SNRPC and the possible transfer of certain functions of the SNRPC to the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada.**

Mario Bermudez with Clark County stated that at the May 25, 2021 SNRPC Coalition Board meeting, the board gave them direction to look at possible transfer of duties from the SNRPC to the RTC being the coordination with the Regional Open Space and Trails, the CBER Population Forecast, and the Conformity Review of Master Plans with the SNS Regional Plan. The RTC believe those three duties fit within their scope that could be transferred from SNRPC and indicated that any transfer of duties would not take effect until the next fiscal year - July 1, 2022. Additional conversations among staff for the future of SNRPC continued discussion on the transfer of those functions, amending the current local agreement to address the current operation of SNRPC, pursue an amendment to NRS to make SNRPC more permissive, pursue an amendment to NRS to modify the duties of the SNRPC, pursue the amendment to dissolve the SNRPC or any of the combination listed, or any other direction the board deems appropriate. Mario Bermudez asked the Board for direction.

Commissioner Jones stated with his RTC hat on that the RTC Board is open to take over the three functions that were identified, Regional Open Space and Trails, CBER, and Review of Master Plan for the SNS Regional Plan. Commissioner Jones encourages the SNRPC Board to take action to transfer those functions to the RTC and understands that it won't be in effect until the middle of next year. Regarding further direction, is to mothball the SNRPC as much as possible and only do the functions that are necessary, reducing the meeting schedule to once a quarter.

Councilman Stewart asked for more clarification to better understand the process and what they are trying to accomplish.

Commissioner Jones stated the Board will keep doing the functions that are necessary and then go to the legislature in 2023, decide then, and receive direction from legislature if they need to keep SNRPC.

Councilman Knudsen stated that actions taken today would be to transfer the three bullet points to the RTC, if they accept them and would create an action that would bring back the interlocal, for the SNRPC Board to approve and go to all the jurisdictions to approve, and that would be the process.

Commissioner Jones stated that is his understanding and asked Mr. Bermudez.

Rob Warhola, DA for Clark County stated that is the correct characterization

Councilman Knudsen stated that this action, the RTC will take over in July of 2022 and the interlocal changing process would be 2 to 6 months, and one of the jurisdictions to take on the

process to go to legislation and will be up for conversation a year from today.

Rob Warhola stated that the interlocal would go to RTC and doesn't believe it would need to go to every jurisdiction for approval. It would be between the RTC and SNRPC. Staff will receive direction, negotiate with RTC, and the interlocal agreement would go before the SNRPC Board for approval.

Councilman Knudsen asked if there are no adjustments to the interlocal between the jurisdictions and the RTC, would there be a separate interlocal between the RTC and SNRPC.

Rob Warhola stated that is correct.

Mario Bermudez added that part of the discussion with RTC included a fiscal impact. One of the things the RTC looked at is the need for a full-time position to review any plans with the conformity with the SNS Regional Plan.

Commissioner Jones stated that will be a decision made by RTC and its board members as to how they will pay for that, and not the SNRPC Board.

Councilwoman Diaz stated that if the SNRPC shifts to the RTC, then the current members of SNRPC are no longer apart of the body that hears these subject matters and no longer financially contributing. Councilwoman would like a better understanding of the transition.

Commissioner Jones stated that there will be a new interlocal between SNRPC and RTC to transfer those three functions. The SNRPC still has a few functions such as the budget etc. The SNRPC will be around even though it will have fewer functions. When the legislature comes around, that is when a determination will be made if the board goes away entirely or remains in some aspect, but until then, the SNRPC board still functions.

Mario Bermudez stated that the RTC would be looking at the SNRPC Board to fund the full-time position.

Commissioner Jones stated that is understood, but this board will not fund the full-time position.

Councilman Knudsen stated the motion is to direct staff to work with the RTC to transfer the bullet points, Regional Open Space and Trails coordination, CBER Population Forecast coordination, and conformity review of master plans for and with the SNS Regional Plan and incorporate it with an interlocal agreement between the SNRPC body and the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada.

Mario Bermudez asked if they wanted staff to amend the current interlocal agreement to address how the board is currently functioning, such as reducing the number of meetings, and the school district dissolving their membership.

Commissioner Jones stated his concern with amending the current interlocal agreement is that it must go back to every jurisdiction, his recommendation is to simply administratively meet once

every quarter, and recalls under the current interlocal, they are only required to meet once a year.

Mario Bermudez stated that he believes the interlocal states once a month or it's based on the adopted calendar, which shows once a month. Administratively it can be addressed.

Commissioner Jones stated that he recommends to administratively meet once every three months, instead of every month.

Councilman Knudsen stated that Commissioner Jones as Chair would essentially give direction to cancel every meeting, unless there is an item not related to the three bullet points in the motion.

Mario Bermudez stated that next year they will address the budget issue and will call a meeting at that time.

Commissioner Jones stated that at the next meeting they will have an agenda item to adopt the Interlocal with the RTC and there shouldn't be much on the agenda.

Mario Bermudez stated, instead of stating at the next meeting, to say future meeting to avoid confusion.

Councilman Black stated that Councilman Cherchio is attending the meeting through Zoom. He has been attending the meeting but is experiencing technical issues and cannot communicate. Councilman Cherchio, via text, supports the motion.

Rob Warhola stated to let the record reflect that Councilman Cherchio supports the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Knudsen to approved to direct staff to work with the RTC to transfer the bullet points, Regional Open Space and Trails coordination, CBER Population Forecast coordination, and conformity review of master plans for and with the SNS Regional Plan and incorporate it with an interlocal agreement between the SNRPC body and the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 9. Citizens Participation.** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Board. No subject may be acted upon by the Commission that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action.

No citizens participation occurred.

### **Agenda Item 8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 P.M.