

Gary Perea, Chairman
Carol O. McKenzie, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson
Commissioner Richard Howe
Commissioner Mike Coster

297 11th Street East, Suite #2
Ely, Nevada 89301
(775) 293-6561 or
(775) 293-6562
Fax (775) 289-2066

Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

White Pine County
Board of County Commissioners
RESOLUTION 2016-14

commissioners@whitepinecountynv.gov

Courthouse Security/Jail Expansion

WHEREAS, the District Judges of the Seventh Judicial District of Nevada, in and for the Counties of Eureka, Lincoln and White Pine are charged with presiding over litigation, both civil and criminal, arising out of Ely State Prison; and

WHEREAS, Ely State Prison is the designated maximum security prison for the State of Nevada where the most violent, dangerous inmates in the prison system are incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, inmates incarcerated at Ely State Prison are regularly transported to the White Pine County Courthouse to make appearances in District Court for such litigation; and

WHEREAS, the White Pine County Courthouse, built in 1906, has served the citizens of White Pine County for over one hundred years; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Rural Courts empaneled by the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada issued its Report in 2003 identifying serious security flaws arising out of the age and design of the White Pine County Courthouse which negatively affects the ability of the District Judges to ensure a safe, secure environment for such prison litigation; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice System in Rural Nevada and Transitional Housing for Released Offenders (S.C.R. 32) Committee empaneled by the 2003 Nevada Legislature listened to testimony, toured the White Pine County Courthouse, and expressed its concern over the security flaws identified in the aged Courthouse, and further expressed its concern over the District Judge's ability to safely conduct and preside over prison litigation in the Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Marshall's Service conducted a facility survey in 2007 which concluded in part that the White Pine County Courthouse "should no longer be used for any

courthouse related matters either civil or criminal"; and

WHEREAS, the extreme need for a new court facility in White Pine County has clearly been shown; and

WHEREAS, the County of White Pine is able to partially fund the construction of a new court facility; and

WHEREAS, it is widely recognized across the State of Nevada that Judges of the Seventh Judicial District provide a vital service to all of the citizens of Nevada by presiding over cases arising out of Ely State Prison;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE WHITE PINE COUNTY COMMISSION that the State of Nevada should recognize the critical need for a new court facility in White Pine County and should further recognize the State's moral responsibility to assist with this critical need;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND RECOMMENDED that the Nevada Legislature should appropriate sufficient monies to assist White Pine County in the construction of a new courthouse facility in White Pine County, Nevada.

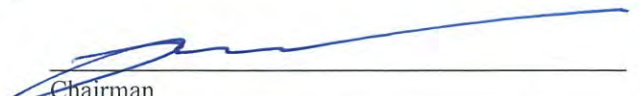



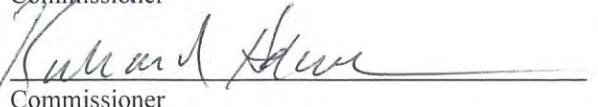
Passed and adopted this 11th day of May, 2016

By a vote of 5 Ayes
_____ Nays
_____ Absent

ATTEST:


Clerk of Said Board




Chairman

Vice Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner