

**Beatty Town Advisory Board  
100 A Avenue South  
P.O. Box 837  
Beatty, NV 89003**

**Minutes  
01/28/19**

**THE BEATTY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 PM IN THE BEATTY COMMUNITY CENTER.  
THE BEATTY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD HEREAFTER WILL BE REFERRED TO AS THE (BTAB)  
THE BEATTY TOWN ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS HEREAFTER WILL BE REFERRED TO AS THEIR RESPECTIVE INITIALS.**

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**Dick Gardner (DG) – Chair  
Randy Reed (RR) – Vice Chair  
Erika Gerling (EG) – Treasurer  
Kelly Carroll (KC) – Member  
Crystal Taylor (CT) – Member - AB**

**1 Pledge of Allegiance**

Meeting called to order 6:30 pm

**2 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (Three-minute time limit per person.) Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an action item.**

Mike Hengel; Communications with Valley Electric and Valley Communications– Stated first off I wanted to say that we appreciate the opportunity to serve you here in Beatty for your energy and for communication broad band needs. I wanted to address a couple of things with you this evening; Beth my colleague has a few things she wants to share with you as well. Effective in February we're going to have a rate adjustment for broadband, it's the first rate adjustment that we've had in three years that we've been in the communications, broadband services. The original rate, which everybody is paying here, who has our service, was set as we entered the market back in 2016. It was established, really, to prompt consumers to give us a try while we worked through the challenges that every new business ends up having and we certainly had some challenges and we worked through most of them. Our fiber strategy, which you're familiar with, continues. We are installing fiber wherever possible. Beatty, of course, was the very first and Beatty consumers enjoy more bandwidth than any community that we serve. Once a community, like Beatty and some areas in Pahrump, makes the transition to fiber the wireless option goes away. Mountain Falls for example, if your familiar with that area in Pahrump, it is now fiber and previously they had the option of wireless, but once the fiber goes in they no longer have the option for wireless. Our goal at Valley Communications is to provide the best value and we feel like the new pricing represents the most bandwidth at the lowest cost that can be had. As such VCA consumers enjoy also no installation costs, no contracts, and no data caps. The Board last month approved the rate adjustment and recognizes that it's a significant capital investment that the co-op made over the past three years to bring this high-speed broadband to rural members of Valley Electric. We believe that the market supports this rate adjustment while allowing Valley Communications to remain competitive. The capital investment that our members were willing to stand behind to make this critical communications infrastructure was substantial. VCA is well on its way to becoming a business that can stand on its own in fewer than three years, we are very proud of that fact and we believe it is essential that VCA pay its own way. The rate will go into effect at the beginning of February; most people won't see the rate change until their March bill.

KC – Asked the new rate is?

Mr. Hengel – Stated the new rate for residential is going to be \$65.95.

DG – Asked what's the old one?

Mr. Hengel – Replied \$49.95.

DG – Stated holy cow.

EG – Stated we here in Beatty we've had our broadband for less than a year and I might as well have stayed with AT&T for \$70.00. Valley Electric is my co-op but here I am same place as I was before.

Mr. Hengel – Stated we'd like to emphasize that the bandwidth that you get with Valley Electric is substantially more than what most people enjoy with any other service in the area and that's the reason people in our service territory really were clamoring for broadband all along, was to get the kind of bandwidth, the speed, the volume of downloads and uploads.

**2 Public Comment - Continued**

EG – Stated I don't think so. I'll speak as a 40 year resident that's been paying AT&T ever since we've had internet, the price and this being my co-op that was the most important thing to me. That I didn't have to pay this exorbitant rate to some huge company.

Carrie Radomski; Town Secretary – Asked will the rates be published somewhere?

Mr. Hengel – Stated yes in the magazine that all members get and it will be on the bills; Discussion followed.

Beth Lee; Key Accounts Coordinator Valley Electric – Stated that from now until March 1<sup>st</sup> VEA is accepting scholarship applications and reviewed the flyer. The annual poster contest starts February 4<sup>th</sup> and goes until March 4<sup>th</sup>. We are expanding our internship program, we want to start including our outer districts in the program and we're going to start here in Beatty. Applications for the internship program start February 15<sup>th</sup> with a start date around March 1<sup>st</sup>. The Beatty District will be on March 5<sup>th</sup> and the Annual meeting will be on April 27<sup>th</sup>; Discussion followed.

**3 Approval of the Agenda for the BTAB meeting of January 28, 2019**

*Staff – Pulled item 5 emergency items.*

**4 For Possible Action – Approval of the Workshop Minutes dated January 14, 2019**

*RR – Motion to approve the meeting minutes dated January 14, 2019; EG – 3-1 (KC abstain)*

**5 For Possible Action – Emergency Items**

*Pulled*

**6 Board Member's Comments (This item limited to announcements or topics/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas)**

KC; RR; DG - None

EG – Stated we have a whole lot of stuff going on, the mining stuff, I-11 all of those things. We have a lot of work ahead of us.

**7 Consent Agenda Items**

**a. Action – Discussion of any item from the Consent Agenda Items that need review before a decision is made.**

**b. Approval of Town Vouchers**

*RR – Motion to approve the Town Vouchers in the amount of \$1,927.96; Second EG; 4-0*

**8 Reports**

**a. Secretary**

Carrie Radomski; Town Secretary – Reviewed the upcoming Veterans' Extravaganza in Pahrump on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**9 General Business**

- a. For Possible Action – Discussion, deliberation and decision to set Monday February 25, 2019 and or March 11, 2019 for a Beatty Budget Workshop, all Beatty Departments for fiscal year 2020, times to be determined and all matter pertaining thereto. – Erika Gerling**

EG – Stated whatever you guys would like to do... maybe we should have both meetings. Maybe the first one just a half an hour before the regular meeting to get a feel and the second one for what we are actually (doing) for when we meet with the County. I'll have all of my homework done so it'll be pretty painless.

DG – Clarified you want to do a half hour on the 25<sup>th</sup> and an hour on the 11<sup>th</sup>?

EG – Replied yes, that would be great.

DG – Clarified you won't have the numbers then?

EG – Replied no we won't have the numbers that they generate for us but we can go from last year's budget, it'll be pretty similar. So, 6pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 3:30pm on the 11<sup>th</sup> and then I'll ask Carrie to send an email to all of our departments to have their budgets, staff changes they may have and even if they're not going to ask us to fund projects that I would like them to let us know what projects they might be considering.

*RR – Motion to approve up to set Monday 02/25/19 at 6pm for one of our budget workshops and Monday 03/11/19 at 5:30pm for another budget workshop; Second EG; 4-0*

**10 General Public Comment**

None

**11 Adjournment**

*KC – Motion to adjourn at 6:54pm; Second RR; 4-0*