

NOT APPROVED

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
CITY COUNCIL AND HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 21, 2015**

The Winnemucca City Council met in a special joint meeting with the Humboldt County Commission on Monday, September 21, 2015 at 11:25 AM in the Humboldt County Courthouse meeting room at 25 West Fifth Street. City Officials present: Mayor Di An Putnam, Councilmen Ken Tipton and Mike Owens. City Officials absent: Councilmen Theresa Mavity, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks. City Staff present: City Manager Steve West. County Officials present: Commission Chairman Garley Amos, Commissioners Mike Bell, Jim French, Ron Cerri, and Marlene Brissenden. County Staff present: County Administrator Dave Mendiola, County Clerk Tami Spero and Assistant District Attorney Gabrielle Carr.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Putnam called the City Council portion of the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m.

PUBLIC-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION

There were no public or personal communications.

DISCUSSION / ACTION ON ITEMS OF BUSINESS & OTHER REPORTS:

BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION

After review and consideration of the effect each item could potentially have on a “business,” as the term is defined by statute, the Council agreed that no item on this agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or appears to directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business. Councilman Tipton moved to make a finding that no item on this agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or appears to directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business. Motion carried unanimously.

SILVER STANDARD MARIGOLD MINE PRESENTATION:

Ron Leiken, Marigold Mine Environmental Projects Manager, presented a brief history of the Marigold Mine which is located in the southeast corner of Humboldt County. The mine operation started in 1988 and now employs about 381 employees; it is the fourth largest employer in Humboldt County with payroll/wages at \$41.6M per year; and, it is responsible for about \$7.4M in local taxes. Leiken presented information regarding their planned Mackay Optimization Project which requires an amendment to their current Plan of Operation. All work will remain within their current mine boundaries and involves expanding their leaching pads and mining pits. Six of the seven pits created will ultimately be backfilled during the life of the project, leaving only one pit lake (which is in oxidized rock, making the water easier to chemically balance when the pit fills). In order to mine at a level below the water table, the area will have to be dewatered at a rate of 6,000 gallons per minute, using deep water wells. The water will be re-injected into the water aquifer through rapid infiltration ponds located to the west of the site. The project will add about ten years to the mine life, increasing from nine years to nineteen years. Silver Standard recently acquired 7,000 acres of property from Newmont Mining that is located on the

