



## GENERAL MEETING June 26 2013

President Dan Kruger called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Vicenta Montoya led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President introduced the speaker, Steve Sibelius, who is known from his columns in The Review Journal as well as numerous TV and radio appearances. He talked about what has happened in the Legislature in the 130 days they met in 2013. 130 days every other year is never enough, and a resolution was passed to meet every year.

Steve Sibelius divided the last session's work into good, bad, and ugly.

### **Good:**

The Legislature tried to get rid of the ban on gay marriage and allow specifically for gay marriage. This will be on the ballot in 2016.

The tax on mining is in the Constitution and an attempt to raise it will be on the ballot in 2016.

Illegal immigrants can now get driver's licenses and buy car insurance.

The Hate Crime Law now includes gender.

Medical marijuana is now allowed and dispensaries are coming.

The Legislature wants more police officers but that is hard to get.

### **Bad:**

The Governor's veto of background checks on guns. The NRA bombarded senators. Every year 6.6 million guns are transferred without background checks.

DNA can now be taken from any felon to create a DNA dragnet.

A law that could have done a lot of good died on the Senate floor: comprehensive, age appropriate sex education.

Ward voting was vetoed.

A campaign transparency bill was voted down.

NV Energy will get rid of all coal-fired power plants in Nevada and build new ones with renewable energy. While they are ahead of the curve here, it will cost Nevada tax-payers a lot of money.

### **Ugly:**

On certain bills, like the gay bills, the testimony was really ugly and invoked sex with animals and infringement on religious freedom.

As usual, we got no meaningful tax policy. The Corporate Tax proposal died.

The Democrats wanted an entertainment tax, Nascar tax, and a tax on the Electric Daisy Carnival, 5 % overall. This went nowhere.

It is clear that the state needs a business tax. Our neighboring states have a tax like that and that has not prevented business there from doing well. However, it looks like no business tax will ever make it through the Nevada Legislature.

An inheritance from our former governor, Gibbons, is that it now requires 2/3 majority to raise taxes.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

The pot of gold was won by Dan Ebihara

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

Lisa Kershaw

Recording Secretary 2013