

# Memo

**To:** Berlin City Council  
**From:** Jim Wheeler, City Manager  
**Date:** 11/5/2018  
**Re:** City Manager's Report

1. With the unusually persistent cold weather and early snowfalls, Spohn Ranch has demobilized and requested a winter shut down period for the skatepark project. They will return in the spring to complete the project and have assured us they will come as soon as the weather permits.
2. The City welcomes two new Public Works employees; Brian Middleton and Aaron Blais. Both employees are scheduled to start within the next couple of weeks. These hires will bring the complement of employees to full staff as budgeted.
3. Attached is the Final Report of the HB 324 Commission. The attachment excludes minority reports which can be provided electronically. The report was just received today so I have not had time to digest all of the recommendations. At face value, it is nice to see that the recommendation of the ASB, which was a 75% Original Cost plus 25% Net Book Value formula was only modified by 5% on each factor (70%-30%). The utilities had argued for a 50%-50% formula. This would have detrimental and unfair to municipalities. In addition, the report indicates that legislation does not need to address land that is owned in fee by utilities. There was much opposition to this during ASB proceedings. It is nice to see that the Commission recognized the logic of it.
4. We are working with Matrix Consulting on finalizing their draft report on EMS integration. We are still a few weeks away from a final report.
5. We have tentatively scheduled Wilson Engineering to give a presentation on the Snow Melt Feasibility Study on December 10, 2018.
6. The Police Department Statistics Report for September is attached.