

# Western Regional Water Commission

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** March 9, 2017

**TO:** Chairman and Members, Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”)

**FROM:** Jim Smitherman, Water Resources Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** Presentation on the 2016 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan, recommended by the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) for adoption by the WRWC, including a report on the public hearing held March 1, 2017, discussion on the public review and adoption process, and possible direction to staff

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### SUMMARY

The development of the proposed 2016 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan (the “Plan”) has been completed and the final draft was presented to the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) for review and direction to staff at its meeting on March 1, 2017. That meeting also included a public hearing, and the approval of a Resolution to recommend the adoption of the Plan by the WRWC (attached). Notice of the public hearing was given as required by law. No comments from the public were submitted during the public hearing. Both the public hearing and the Resolution are required by statute.

The draft Plan is an update of the initial Plan adopted in January 2011. It consists of nine chapters, an Introduction, various charts, graphs and maps, and 10 Appendices. The draft Plan can be viewed at: <http://www.wrwc.us/draft.html>

The schedule for Plan adoption is as follows:

- Mar. 15, 2017 Deliver attested copy of the Plan to the WRWC (on or before March 15)
- Mar. 20, 2017 Deliver copy of the Plan to the County Clerk for 30-day public inspection period, and publish notice, as required by statute
- Mar. 30, 2017 Hold afternoon / evening public workshop
- Apr. 8, 2017 Publish notice of public hearing, as required by statute (on or before April 8)
- Apr. 19, 2017 Public hearing required by statute, and possible adoption of the Plan

After the Plan is adopted, the statutes require that it be submitted to the Regional Planning Commission for a review for consistency with respect to the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chapter 531, Statutes of Nevada 2007, the Western Regional Water Commission Act (the “Act”), required the NNWPC to develop an “initial Comprehensive Plan” on or before January 1, 2011. In addition, the initial Comprehensive Plan must be reviewed by the NNWPC within five years after its adoption and at least every five years thereafter. After each review, the NNWPC must submit to the WRWC Board any proposed amendment to the Plan or report that there are no amendments.

The five-year review was completed on November 18, 2015 when the WRWC accepted a report on the review of the 2011-2030 Plan. Staff then began the process of compiling and reviewing pertinent information for the development of a Plan update. The review focused on how well the existing Plan and other available information would satisfy the statutory requirements outlined in the Act. Staff also worked with the staff members of WRWC member agencies, the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, and a small number of consulting firms to receive current information and input on the required elements of the Plan. Staff also requested information from other entities as required by the Act for consideration while developing the Plan update.

**PREVIOUS ACTION**

On January 14, 2011, the WRWC approved and adopted the 2011-2030 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the WRWC accept the report on the 2016 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan, and schedule a public hearing on April 19, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., for the possible adoption of the Plan.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

“Move to accept the report on the 2016 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan, and direct staff to schedule and provide legal notice of a public hearing on April 19, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., for the possible adoption of the Plan.”

JS:df

Attachment

## **NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION**

### **Resolution No. 17-01**

#### **Submitting the 2016 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan to the Western Regional Water Commission**

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of Chapter 531, *Statutes of Nevada 2007*, the Western Regional Water Commission Act (the "Act"), Section 41(1) requires the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission to develop, and as necessary recommend revisions to, a comprehensive regional water management plan (the "Plan") for the entire area within the boundaries of Washoe County, except certain lands excluded by Sections 22(1) and 22(2) of the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan includes the items required by Section 41 of the Act, and the elements required by Section 42 of the Act, and, without limitation: identifies the boundaries of the region; includes surface water and groundwater policies and criteria; covers municipal and industrial water supplies, water quality and wastewater, sanitary sewerage, treatment of sewage, flood control and storm water drainage, watershed management and protection, projections of population, water demand and wastewater flow, legal and regulatory constraints, conservation, issues identification, a financial analysis, and an action plan with proposed action items; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan includes written text, maps, goals and policies to deal with current and future issues affecting the region with respect to the subjects of the Plan, and will become effective, pursuant to the provisions of the Act, upon adoption by the Board of Trustees of the Western Regional Water Commission, and review by the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission for consistency with the Regional Plan, pursuant to sections 48 and 49 of the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, all subject matter in the Plan has been reviewed, accepted, and recommended for adoption by the voting members of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing on the Plan was duly noticed on February 18, 2017, and held on March 1, 2017, by the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission.

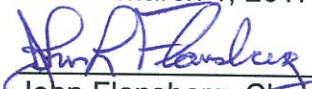
**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED** that the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission hereby finds that the 2016 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan provides a reasonable updated and amended necessary general plan for the management of the region's water resources and wastewater disposal until such time as future amendment is required; and

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**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 2016 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees of the Western Regional Water Commission for approval and adoption, and to the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Commission for consistency review.

Dated: March 1, 2017



John Flansberg, Chairman  
Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission