

**WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, October 18, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at Truckee Meadows Water Authority, 1355 Capital Blvd., Reno, Nevada.

**1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum**

Chairman Hartung called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. There was a quorum present.

Commissioners Present:

Donald Abbott  
Naomi Duerr (present at 9:06 a.m.)  
Vaughn Hartung  
Jeanne Herman  
Neoma Jardon  
Paul McKenzie  
Ron Smith

Appointed by:

City of Sparks  
City of Reno  
Washoe County  
TMWA (Washoe County)  
TMWA (City of Reno)  
TMWRF  
TMWA (City of Sparks)

Commissioners Absent:

Sandra Ainsworth  
Bob Lucey

Appointed by:

Sun Valley General Improvement District (“SVGID”)  
TMWA (STMGID Successor)

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Macy.

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCKENZIE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

**5. Approval of the Minutes of the June 21, 2017, Meeting (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER JARDON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 21, 2017, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) MEMBERS PRESENT.

- 6. Discussion and possible approval of the fiscal year 2016 - 2017 WRWC financial statements and audit opinion, and possible direction to staff - Ben Hutchins, Director, Finance & Administration Division, Washoe County Community Services Department; and Zeth Macy, Schettler Macy & Associates, LLC. (For Possible Action)**

*(Commissioner Duerr present at 9:06 a.m.)*

Ben Hutchins introduced Zeth Macy who presented a summary of the audit report included as an attachment to the staff report.

COMMISSIONER MCKENZIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE WRWC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDIT OPINION FROM SCHETTLER MACY & ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 - 2017, AND DIRECT STAFF TO FILE THE SAME AS A PUBLIC RECORD, AS REQUIRED BY LAW, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JARDON. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

- 7. Discussion and possible designation of Schettler Macy & Associates, LLC as the external auditors for the fiscal year 2017 - 2018 WRWC financial statement audit; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the related Engagement Letter, and direct staff to file the required documents with the State of Nevada - Ben Hutchins. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Hutchins presented the staff report. Staff is recommending that the WRWC designate Schettler Macy & Associates, LLC, as the auditors for fiscal year 2017 - 2018, approve the related Engagement Letter, and direct staff to report this designation to the State of Nevada by the March 30, 2018 deadline.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO DESIGNATE SCHETTLER MACY & ASSOCIATES, LLC AS THE WRWC'S EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018, AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THE RELATED ENGAGEMENT LETTER, AND DIRECT STAFF TO REPORT THE DESIGNATION TO THE STATE BY THE STATUTORY DEADLINE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

- 8. Report by the Desert Research Institute ("DRI") on last winter's cloud seeding operations for the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe Basins, and alternatives for operations for the upcoming winter; discussion and possible approval of funding in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund ("RWMF") to support similar limited operations for the upcoming winter; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute an interlocal agreement with DRI for that purpose - Frank McDonough, Associate Research Scientist, DRI; and Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner. (For Possible Action)**

Chris Wessel presented information included in the staff report and introduced Frank McDonough who presented a summary of last winter's cloud seeding operations for water year 2016-2017. Mr. McDonough also discussed proposed modified operations for the upcoming winter and presented an update regarding DRI's efforts to secure funding from other cloud

seeding beneficiaries and potentially interested parties. A proposal and budget for the upcoming water year Tahoe-Truckee cloud seeding project is included as an attachment to the staff report.

COMMISSIONER HARTUNG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE FUNDING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000 FROM THE RWMF TO SUPPORT DRI'S CLOUD SEEDING OPERATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WATER YEAR, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH DRI FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ABBOTT.

Mr. McDonough answered questions regarding the amount of funding requested and what it will cover specifically.

There was discussion regarding the lack of participation in funding this project from others that are benefiting from it. It was suggested that if WRWC members reach out to ski resorts regarding funding, the RSCVA should be included in that outreach effort as well.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

**9. Report on the analysis of historical precipitation data collected by Washoe County; discussion and possible approval of a proposal from DRI for continuation of the regional precipitation monitoring project; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with DRI, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from the RWMF, for that purpose - Dan McEvoy, PhD, Applied Climatologist, DRI; and Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Wessel presented information included in the staff report and introduced Dan McEvoy who provided a summary of his analysis of historical precipitation data as an attachment to the staff report.

*(Commissioners Duerr and Jardon absent.)*

The Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission ("NNWPC"), at its August 2, 2017 meeting, recommended that the WRWC approve DRI's proposal for continuation of the regional precipitation monitoring project for the 2017-2018 water year, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from the RWMF.

COMMISSIONER MCKENZIE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE DRI'S PROPOSAL TO CONTINUE THE REGIONAL PRECIPITATION MONITORING PROJECT FOR THE 2017 - 2018 WATER YEAR, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH DRI, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000 FROM THE RWMF, FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ABBOTT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FIVE (5) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

**10. Discussion and possible approval of an amendment to the Agreement for Legal Services for the WRWC and the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission ("NNWPC"), to extend the Agreement through June 2020; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute an amendment to the Agreement for that purpose - Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)**

Jim Smitherman presented information included in the staff report, and noted that Mr. Rhodes has proposed to extend the Agreement through June 30, 2020, on the same terms and conditions, including voluntary reductions in compensation, agreed upon in 2009, 2010, and 2011, during the recent recession, to coincide with similar compensation reductions for Washoe County employees. He also noted that those voluntary reductions, in a total amount of 10%, have since been recovered by County employees, but not Mr. Rhodes, and that the WRWC may consider that fact in a possible renewal of the Agreement.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE WRWC AND THE NNWPC, WITH RHODES LAW OFFICES, LTD., TO EXTEND THE AGREEMENT THROUGH JUNE 2020 AT THE RATE OF \$144,000 FOR EACH ONE-YEAR PERIOD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCKENZIE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FIVE (5) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**11. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding agenda items and dates for future WRWC meetings – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

*(Commissioners Duerr and Jardon present.)*

Mr. Smitherman suggested not meeting in November if the Commissioners do not have any requests for agenda item.

COMMISSIONER MCKENZIE MADE A MOTION TO NOT HOLD A WRWC MEETING IN NOVEMBER AND HOLD THE NEXT MEETING IN JANUARY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUERR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**12. Commission Comments**

Commissioner Duerr stated that she recommended to Mr. McDonough that in the future he include more information explaining how the funds being requested will be used.

**13. Staff Comments**

Mr. Smitherman reported that the Regional Planning Commission found the Regional Water Management Plan in conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan.

**14. Public Comment**

None

**15. Adjournment (For Possible Action)**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Christine Birmingham, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on October 17, 2018.

  
Chair Vaughn Hartung