

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

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

The regular meeting of the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, June 20, 2018, at Sparks Council Chambers, Legislative Building, 745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

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

Commissioners Present:

Vaughn Hartung

Ron Smith

Sandra Ainsworth

Donald Abbott

Kristopher Dahir

Naomi Duerr (*present at 9:02*)

Jeanne Herman

Bob Lucey

Appointed by:

Washoe County

Truckee Meadows Water Authority (“TMWA”) (Sparks)

Sun Valley General Improvement District (“SVGID”)

Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility
 (“TMWRF”)

City of Sparks

City of Reno

TMWA (Washoe County)

TMWA (South Truckee Meadows General Improvement
 District [“STMGID”] Successor)

Commissioners Absent:

Neoma Jardon

Appointed by:

TMWA (Reno)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Abbott.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the May 23, 2018 Meeting (For Possible Action)

(Commissioner Duerr present at 9:02 a.m.)

Commissioner Abbott noted an error under the roll call item. Commissioner Abbott should be listed as the representative for TMWRF and Commissioner Dahir should be listed as the City of Sparks representative.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MAY 23, 2018 MINUTES AS AMENDED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUERR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Discussion and possible approval of a Seventh Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement (“ILA”) with the City of Reno, in an amount not to exceed \$262,500 from the Regional Water Management Fund (“RWMF”), to support the Truckee Meadows Storm Water Quality Management Program for fiscal year 2018 - 2019; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute a Seventh Amendment for that purpose - Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner. (For Possible Action)

Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner, provided a brief summary of the staff report. The WRWC began providing ongoing funding for this program in 2011, in an annual amount of \$262,500 from the RWMF.

Theresa Jones, City of Reno Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee (“SWPCC”) Coordinator, reviewed various elements of the program and how the funding will be allocated. The SWPCC implements the storm water quality monitoring program to meet current requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) Storm Water MS4 permit. Ms. Jones discussed the responsibilities of the Co-Permittees included in the ILA as well as the powers and duties of the SWPCC. The program’s budget report includes a summary of each agency’s expenditures.

Ms. Jones confirmed for Commissioner Duerr that the SWPCC Coordinator was defined in the initial ILA with the City of Reno being the administrator of the program. The position of Chair for the SWPCC does rotate each year.

COMMISSIONER DAHIR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO THE ILA WITH THE CITY OF RENO, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$262,500, TO SUPPORT THE TRUCKEE MEADOWS STORM WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 – 2019, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. Discussion and possible approval of a Fourth Amendment to the ILA with the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (“TMWA”), in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the RWMF, to continue the Water Usage Review Program for fiscal year 2018 - 2019; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute a Fourth Amendment for that purpose - Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager; and Laine Christman, TMWA. (For Possible Action)

(This item was heard before Item 6.)

Mr. Wessel provided a brief summary of the staff report and introduced Laine Christman with TMWA.

Mr. Christman presented an overview of the Water Usage Review Program. TMWA’s Water Usage Review Program conducted 1,910 water usage reviews in 2017. The budget proposal indicates the total estimated costs for fiscal year 2019 to be \$228,336. TMWA is requesting

\$100,000 of the funding from the WRWC. The scope of work includes the following goals and actions: Leak detection of customers' water services; Aid customers in understanding water usage patterns on their premises; and, Educate customers on efficient water use including property-specific recommendations.

Chair Hartung expressed the desire to have this type of program service available to non-TMWA customers.

Mr. Christman discussed the need to have access to past water bills to research the history of water use.

Mr. Wessel explained that they have extended the opportunity to use this program to other agencies including Sun Valley and Utilities Inc.

COMMISSIONER DUERR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE ILA WITH TMWA, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000 FROM THE RWMF, TO CONTINUE THE WATER USAGE REVIEW PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 – 2019, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THE FOURTH AMENDMENT FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

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

Future agenda items will include: Storm water GIS mapping project update; and, Analysis and recommendation from the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) on whether or not the water resources are in balance with the consensus population forecast.

Commissioner Dahir suggested including a report with information on dams in the region, and Commissioner Duerr agreed that the WRWC should hear a presentation on regional dam issues at some point in the future.

Chair Hartung stated that the WRWC is a creature of statute, and that some Commissioners have expressed a desire to change WRWC. He requested staff to bring back an agenda item so the WRWC Board can potentially give direction to the NNWPC to explore the possibility of asking the legislature to change the WRWC into a regional storm water planning management agency that would look at storm water throughout the region. The new agency would map regional storm water flows and conveyances, potentially determine how and where storm water utilities should be planned, and how they would be funded and ultimately built. This new agency could also plan, oversee and maintain all storm water utilities, including those now existing, through a separate enterprise fund, or possibly a bonding mechanism, and could possibly be administered through an existing regional entity such as the Truckee River Flood Management Agency, the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, or the Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee. The key would be enterprise funding with no commingling of those funds with oversight agency funds, except to pay for administrative and legal expenses, and staff time. He also requested that the agenda item include information on all the current functions of the WRWC, so that the NNWPC can provide advice to the WRWC as to which tasks may no longer be needed and which agency (or agencies) might assume the remaining tasks.

John Rhodes, WRWC legal counsel, discussed Chair Hartung's use of the term "enterprise fund" with him, and clarified that the Chair intended to refer to funding generated by user fees such as the current 1.5% regional water management fee imposed by the WRWC on all regional municipal water service customers, through authority granted by the legislature in the WRWC Act. Mr. Rhodes stated that he will draft as broad an agenda item as possible, in order to allow the WRWC Board to freely discuss and give direction to staff and the NNWPC on any and all possible changes to the WRWC (including deletion or reassignment of any current statutory duties or functions, addition of new duties or functions, and potential dissolution of the WRWC).

Mr. Smitherman will poll WRWC members to schedule a meeting for July. If the selected meeting date falls on the same day as the City of Reno City Council meeting, he will look into the possibility of an early start time for the meeting.

CHAIR HARTUNG MADE A MOTION TO HAVE STAFF FOLLOW UP ON THE DIRECTION GIVEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LUCEY. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

9. Commission Comments

None

10. Staff Comments

None

11. Public Comment

None

12. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Christine Birmingham, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on June 20, 2018.


Chair Vaughn Hartung