

**WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES**

Thursday, May 21, 2020

The Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2020, via Teleconference, and conducted the following business.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Chair Hartung called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. There was a quorum present via telephonic and/or Zoom meeting participation.

Commissioners Present:

Bonnie Weber (*at 1:48 pm*)
Sandra Ainsworth
Paul Anderson
Jenny Brekhus
Kristopher Dahir
Naomi Duerr
Vaughn Hartung

Appointed by:

Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (“TMWRF”)
Sun Valley General Improvement District (“SVGID”)
Truckee Meadows Water Authority (“TMWA”) (Sparks)
TMWA (Reno)
City of Sparks
City of Reno
Washoe County

Commissioners Absent:

Jeanne Herman
Bob Lucey

Appointed by:

TMWA (Washoe County)
TMWA (STMGID Successor)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

None (Due to technology constraints)

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

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

5. Approval of the Minutes for the WRWC meetings of January 15, 2020 and February 19, 2020 (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUERR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Report on the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC)

recommendations on annual priorities for ongoing and future projects and studies for Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021; and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel, WRWC Water

Management Planner and Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)

On November 6, 2019, the NNWPC conducted its annual workshop to develop a prioritized list of identified projects and topics for Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2020-2021. Historically, the outcome of the workshop has been used as the basis for development of the professional services portion of the WRWC tentative budget. The professional services budget worksheet details priority topics to be addressed by projects funded fully, or in part, by the Regional Water Management Fund (“RWMF”). Staff recommends that the WRWC review and discuss recommendations from the NNWPC and approve, with or without changes, the recommended priorities for the upcoming year.

Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner, explained for Commissioner Brekhus he does not have a record of which NNWPC commissioners voted for each project as individual roll call votes were not taken on a project by project basis. He also confirmed there is a feasibility study being done on the Long Valley Creek project.

Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager, stated we have a contractor working on a permitting feasibility analysis for discharge to Long Valley Creek in California. He confirmed for Commissioner Brekhus that the NNWPC voted to approve the contract for the feasibility analysis.

Commissioner Brekhus stated if the feasibility analysis is contemplating that some of the effluent is coming from the Reno Stead Plant, that is not the direction of the Reno City Council. Reno City Council said they would not be exploring sending effluent to Long Valley. She asked when the study will be done and stated she would like a copy of the scope of the contract.

Mr. Smitherman explained that the project is on a backburner at this time, as we are collecting water quality data from Long Valley Creek. He confirmed that City of Reno staff are not participating in this. He also explained the feasibility contemplates discharge not only from the Reno Stead Water Reclamation Facility but also from the County’s Cold Springs Facility.

Commissioner Brekhus stated if it involved Reno Stead effluent, it may be wasting money.

Mr. Smitherman confirmed this budget does not consider additional investigation into that.

Chair Hartung stated this is just a ranking and they are looking at all possible options with a study to determine feasibility.

Commissioner Brekhus discussed a previous administrative scoping on the issue.

COMMISSIONER BREKHUS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED PRIORITIES FOR FY 2020-2021 WITH A PROVISION THAT IF ANY RECOMMENDATION OF PROCUREMENT OF ADDITIONAL FEASIBILITY FOR LONG VALLEY IS PROPOSED, IT COMES TO THE FULL BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUERR.

Chair Hartung stated he is hesitant to carve anything out and would rather give direction.

Commissioner Duerr confirmed the City of Reno ranked Long Valley Creek as the third lowest priority for disposal of effluent. She does not think it is unreasonable to ask that the information come back and does not view it as carving anything out.

Commissioner Dahir stated if it was in Sparks, he would want it to come back at least to know what's going on.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. Public Hearing

- a. Discussion and action on the WRWC Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year ("FY") 2020 – 2021 and discussion and action on adoption of the WRWC Final Budget for FY 2020 – 2021 - Chris Wessel and Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

(Commissioner Weber present at 1:48 p.m.)

The WRWC is required to prepare and submit a tentative budget to the Nevada Department of Taxation on or before April 15, and to hold a public hearing on the tentative budget not sooner than the third Monday and not later than the last day in May. The staff report includes an attached tentative budget for WRWC review, discussion, adoption, and possible direction to staff. Staff recommends that the WRWC adopt and certify the WRWC Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2020– 2021, and direct staff to transmit a copy to the Nevada Tax Commission, together with an affidavit of proof of publication of the notice of the public hearing.

Mr. Wessel explained for chair Hartung that he has a zero for the Stormwater GIS Mapping Project because we don't have an update from the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA). He anticipates we will have an update at the next meeting.

Commissioner Dahir asked if any projects will be impacted by COVID-19.

Mr. Wessel stated he thinks all the projects will go forward unless something happens to TMWA's revenue stream.

COMMISSIONER BREKHUS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT AND CERTIFY THE WRWC FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 – 2021, AND DIRECT STAFF TO TRANSMIT A COPY TO THE NEVADA TAX COMMISSION, TOGETHER WITH AN AFFIDAVIT OF PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAHIR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

- b. Public Comment

There were no requests to speak.

8. Consent Items (For Possible Action)

- a. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for a Sixth Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the Truckee Meadows Water Authority, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund ("RWMF"), to continue the Water Usage Review Program for FY 2020 – 2021 (For Possible Action)

- b. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for a Ninth Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Reno, in an amount not to exceed \$262,500 from the RWMF, to support the Truckee Meadows Storm Water Quality Management Program for FY 2020 – 2021 (For Possible Action)
- c. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for an Interlocal Agreement with the Desert Research Institute, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from the RWMF, to continue the Washoe ET Program (For Possible Action)
- d. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for a Contract Agreement with the Nevada Landscape Association, in an amount of \$12,500 per year for two years, not to exceed \$25,000 from the RWMF, to continue the Certified Landscape Technician Program for FY 2020-2021 and FY 2021-2022 (For Possible Action)
- e. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for a Scope of Work and funding, not to exceed \$30,200 from the RWMF, for Hansford Economic Consultants to update the Cost and Finance Chapter of the Regional Water Management Plan (“RWMP”) (For Possible Action)
- f. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Reno, in an amount not to exceed \$15,655 from the RWMF, to contract with NCE consultants to provide support for updating the Storm Water and Watershed-based Water Quality Planning Chapter of the RWMP (For Possible Action)
- g. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for a Third Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the University of Nevada, Reno, in an amount not to exceed \$64,655 from the RWMF, to continue the Advanced Water Treatment Technologies Demonstration Project for fiscal year 2020 – 2021 (For Possible Action)
- h. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for a Scope of Work and funding, not to exceed \$40,000 from the RWMF, for Carollo Engineers to manage and facilitate an Independent Expert Panel to review certain aspects of the OneWater Nevada advanced purified water demonstration project and to participate in a workshop with the OneWater Nevada Project Team (For Possible Action)
- i. Discussion and action on NNWPC recommendations for a Fifth Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the Desert Research Institute in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from the RWMF, to continue the Regional Precipitation Monitoring Program for FY 2020 – 2021 (For Possible Action)
- j. Discussion and action on a recommendation from the Executive Director of the Truckee River Flood Management Authority (“TRFMA”) for the reappointment of Danielle Henderson to the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission to represent TRFMA for the term April 1, 2019 – March 30, 2022 (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER DUERR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ALL ITEMS IDENTIFIED FOR ACTION IN THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WEBER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

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

Mr. Smitherman stated the next meeting will be June 17, 2020. Agenda items will include: a presentation from Regional Planning on the Consensus Population Forecast; a recommendation from the NNWPC as to the comparison of the Consensus Forecast and Sustainable Water Resources identified in the Regional Management Water Plan; a report from Regional Planning on the stormwater infrastructure GIS coverage; recommendations from the NNWPC on an analysis of Steamboat Ditch and flood prone areas; the One Truckee River Support Project; and possible revisions to the procedures for conformance review.

10. Commission Comments

None

11. Staff Comments

Mr. Smitherman stated that he changed his retirement date to July 17, 2020.

12. Public Comment

None

13. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Christine Birmingham, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on _____ 2020.

Chair Vaughn Hartung