

Western Regional Water Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 9, 2023
TO: Chairman and Members, Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC)
FROM: Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager
SUBJECT: Report, discussion, and possible direction to staff regarding the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) public at large position vacancy and recruitment

SUMMARY

The NNWPC public at large member position, which expires March 31, 2025, is vacant due to the recent resignation of Mickey Hazelwood. The public at large member represents environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns. On February 1, 2023, the NNWPC directed staff to advertise the vacancy with a deadline of March 3, 2023, recruit applicants, and develop criteria to evaluate applications. On March 1, 2023, draft evaluation criteria (Attachment 11a) was approved by the NNWPC and the recruitment deadline was extended until April 7, 2023. The NNWPC directed staff to review applications utilizing the approved criteria and submit the top five candidates' applications for review and selection. The NNWPC will make a recommendation to the WRWC for the public at large member appointment.

The vacant position recruitment has been advertised on the NNWPC and WRWC websites, in the Reno Gazette-Journal, and to the following committees: the TMWA Standing Advisory Committee, Sparks Citizens Advisory Committee, Reno Neighborhood Advisory Boards, Reno Citizens Institute, Washoe County Citizen Advisory Boards and the Washoe County Leadership Academy. As of March 9th, two applications have been submitted.

BACKGROUND

The Western Regional Water Commission Act (the "Act"), Chapter 531 Statutes of Nevada 2007, Section 36, provides for the WRWC to appoint to the NNWPC, a member of the public at large to represent environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns. Section 36 also requires that any vacancy on the NNWPC must be filled for the unexpired term by the appointing entity.

Section 38 of the Act provides that members of the NNWPC may not hold any elective governmental office, but may be engaged or employed in private enterprise or be employees of state or local government, and each member must be qualified pursuant to at least one of the following subsections:

1. A professional engineer licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 625 of NRS;
2. Experienced in comprehensive planning, natural resources or environmental protection;
3. A specialist in hydrologic science;
4. Experienced in law, management or planning related to water;
5. Experienced in municipal finance or resource economics;

6. Experienced in construction, planning or operation of facilities or systems for supplying or treating water, for collecting or treating sewage, for drainage of storm water or for control of floods; or
7. Knowledgeable in the areas of water conservation, biology, natural systems, water quality and water management.

BW:KR:jp

Attachment: 11a Criteria to Evaluate NNWPC Public at Large Applications

Criteria to Evaluate NNWPC Public at Large Applications

Each candidate will be evaluated for their experience, knowledge and/or education in the following subject areas:

1. Environmental, biological, and/or conservation background and experience (education and/or work experience) (up to 30 points)
2. Water management planning; including water supply and distribution, drinking water and wastewater treatment, water reuse, flood management, water quality and watershed planning; (up to 20 points)
3. Knowledge and/or experience specific to water resource planning in the Truckee Meadows; (up to 10 points)
4. Developing, implementing, and/or interpreting State, regional and/or local regulations and policies; (up to 10 points)
5. Residency or employment in the planning area, community involvement, and/or public outreach and engagement; (up to 10 points)
6. Governmental process experience including public meetings and local planning issues; (up to 10 points)
7. Project management, building and overseeing budgets, and data analysis and interpretation; (up to 10 points)