

WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

The meeting of the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) was held on Thursday, May 21, 2009, at City of Sparks Legislative Council Chambers, 745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada.

- 1. Roll Call and Determination of presence of a Quorum** – Chairman Carrigan called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. There was a quorum present.

Commissioners Present:

Mike Carrigan, Chair
Dave Aiazzi, Vice-Chair
John Breternitz
Bob Cashell
Steve Cohen
Geno Martini
Ron Smith

Representing:

Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA)
City of Reno
Washoe County
Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA)
South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District (STMGID)
Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF)
City of Sparks

Commissioners Absent:

Patricia Lancaster
Bob Larkin

Representing:

Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID)
Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA)

- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Martini led the Western Regional Water Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 3. Public Comment**

Chairman Carrigan called for public comments and hearing none, closed the public comment period.

- 4. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Aiazzi made a motion to approve the May 21, 2009 WRWC agenda as posted. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- 5. Approval of the Minutes of the April 10, 2009 meeting.**

The minutes of the April 10, 2009 Western Regional Water Commission meeting were submitted for approval. Commissioner Martini made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Breternitz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- 6. Report on legislative activities, including Bills introduced in the 2009 Nevada Legislature that may affect the WRWC / NNWPC; discussion, and possible direction to staff.**

Chairman Carrigan welcomed John Rhodes, Legal Counsel, to speak on this item. Mr. Rhodes referred to

the staff report, which lists the bills that the WRWC has supported or opposed. He provided a brief summary of the actions taken to date by the Legislative Subcommittee and the outcome, which are as follows:

- Assembly Bill (AB) 442, which prohibits local governmental entities (including the WRWC) from making expenditures for lobbyists. The Subcommittee opposed the Bill as written. The Bill died in Committee.
- Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 2, which encourages entities that are engaged in water quality monitoring to coordinate certain activities. The Subcommittee supported the Bill. The Bill passed both Houses. The Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to the Bill; the MOU will be presented to the WRWC at the next meeting.
- Senate Bill (SB) 345, which makes an appropriation to the Truckee River Flood Project to support ecosystem restoration activities in the amount of \$5 million (which is not currently available). The Subcommittee supported the Bill. The Bill is still alive; however, the prospects do not look good.
- SB 175, which makes provisions for facilitating the flood control district. The Subcommittee supported the Bill, which is alive in the Assembly but would result in a political mandate.
- SB 111, which relates to technical amendments to the Western Regional Water Commission. The Subcommittee supported the Bill, which passed and is in the Governor's office.
- SB 224, which revises provisions governing voting and abstentions by public bodies composed of elected officials only. The Subcommittee opposed the Bill, which has been dropped.
- AB 119 by Assemblywoman Leslie, which requires the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan to include policies that are based on identified and sustainable water resources within Washoe County (based on the approval of Washoe County Ballot Question 3). The Subcommittee supported the Amended Bill. The Bill passed both Houses and has gone to the Governor as a political mandate.

Mr. Rhodes suggested that the WRWC make a motion to dissolve the Legislative Subcommittee. Commissioner Aiazzi made a motion to dissolve the Subcommittee. Commissioner Cohen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman Carrigan opened the Public Hearing at 10:06 a.m.

7. Review and possible approval of the WRWC Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Mr. Smitherman stated that State Law requires that governmental entities hold a Public Hearing to adopt their budget on the third Thursday in May. He reported that a preliminary budget was presented to the Commissioners at the April meeting, which Commissioners approved without amendment. He reported that a tentative budget was filed with the State on April 14, 2009 and now the final proposed budget is being presented. He added that no changes to the budget were made since the last meeting.

Mr. Smitherman summarized that the budget consists of revenue in the amount of \$1.476 million; expenses totaling approximately \$2.533 million; with an ending RWMF balance of approximately \$2.44 million. He stated that the net decrease in cash reserves is \$1.056 million. He clarified that the portion of the budget that is not covered by projected revenues will be covered by the cash reserves.

Mr. Smitherman stated that professional services total approximately \$1.96 million; staff accounts for approximately \$481,000 and non-staff operating items are approximately \$92,000.

Mr. Smitherman welcomed questions or comments. Chairman Carrigan asked for clarification of what percentage of the ending fund balance would be held in reserve. Mr. Smitherman stated that Commissioners approved keeping two quarters in reserve.

Chairman Carrigan called for questions or comments from commissioners or the public, of which there were none.

Commissioner Martini made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 budget as outlined by staff. Commissioner Breternitz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman Carrigan closed the public hearing at 10:10 a.m.

8. Update on the status of evaluation work considering the possible integration of TMWA and the Washoe County Department of Water Resources (DWR); possible direction to staff.

Chairman Carrigan welcomed Rosemary Menard, Director of Washoe County Department of Water Resources (DWR), to present this item.

Ms. Menard reported that she and Mark Foree, General Manager of TMWA, developed a brief status update on the possible integration of DWR and TMWA, which was presented to Commissioners. She referred to the schedule of next steps, which includes presentation of an evaluation by staff working groups at the August WRWC meeting with possible direction to staff on whether to proceed. She reported that from August to October, staff would work on an implementation schedule and plan, with a proposed joint meeting of the TMWA Board, the WRWC and the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Aiazzi stated that it might be a good idea for some Board members to form a subcommittee to assist in the process and evaluate the issues. Commissioner Cohen agreed it would be a good idea for another group to evaluate the possible integration and to provide preliminary input and guidance. Chairman Carrigan agreed that option could be explored in July or August by the WRWC.

Chairman Carrigan thanked staff for the update.

9. Review and possible approval of an Interlocal Agreement with TMWA for administrative services for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 and Fiscal Year 2010/2011.

Mr. Smitherman reported that TMWA has been providing in-kind administrative services for the WRWC since its inception. He stated that the TWMA Board approved an Interlocal Agreement at the morning meeting. He added that this contract would cover two years. He reported that services include preparation of and posting agenda packets, meeting minutes, and secretarial support. He stated that Corrine Cassell does an excellent job and also maintains the official meeting records.

Chairman Carrigan welcomed questions or comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Aiazzi made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement for administrative services. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

10. Discussion and possible approval of an Interlocal Agreement with Washoe County, in amounts not to exceed \$10,594 for the current fiscal year, and \$20,000 for Fiscal Year 2009/2010, for development and maintenance of a website for the WRWC and NNWPC; and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement.

Chris Wessel reported that the NNWPC recommended approval of the scope of work and funding for a website for the WRWC. Commissioner Smith asked for clarification that this process was done last year. Mr. Wessel stated the process began last year but was not implemented.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Washoe County. Commissioner Cashell seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

11. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the date of next meeting and agenda items for that meeting.

Ms. Menard stated that staff proposes canceling the June WRWC meeting and scheduling the next meeting for July 10, 2009. She stated that the upcoming meetings in July and August would include a few contractual items and an update on the proposed integration of TMWA and DWR.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to cancel the June meeting. Commissioner Aiazzi seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

12. Commission Comments

None

13. Staff Comments

None

14. Public Comment

Chairman Carrigan called for public comments and hearing none, closed the Public Comment period.

15. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Niki Linn, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on July 10, 2009.

Mike Carrigan, Chairman