

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

**Wednesday, March 16, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at the Sparks Council Chambers, Legislative Building, 745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada.

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

Chairman Hartung called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. There was a quorum present.

<u>Commissioners Present:</u>	<u>Appointed by:</u>
Vaughn Hartung	Washoe County
Naomi Duerr	City of Reno (Present at 8:03 a.m.)
Jeanne Herman	TMWA, Washoe County WRWC member
Jenny Brekhus	TMWA, City of Reno WRWC member
Charlene Bybee	TMWA, City of Sparks WRWC member
Geno Martini	Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (“TMWRF”)
Ron Smith	City of Sparks
Bob Lucey	TMWA, successor to South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District (“STMGID”)

<u>Commissioners Absent:</u>	<u>Appointed by:</u>
Sandra Ainsworth	Sun Valley General Improvement District (“SVGID”)

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Nadu led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Public Comment**

None

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

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

**5. Approval of the Minutes of the January 20, 2016, Meeting (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER LUCEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 20, 2016, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) MEMBERS PRESENT

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- 6. Discussion and possible approval of a request by The Nature Conservancy (“TNC”) to revise the budget for the contract for “Optimizing Restoration Investments in the Truckee [River] Watershed”, at no additional cost; and, if approved, authorize the chairman to execute an amendment to the contract for that purpose – Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)**

Jim Smitherman explained that the project budget as specified in the contract needed to be revised to shift funding from staff expenses to consultant expenses.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BYBEE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) MEMBERS PRESENT.

*(Commissioner Duerr present at 8:03 a.m.)*

- 7. Discussion and possible approval of a scope of work and funding request by TMWA in the amount of \$100,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund to continue the Water Usage Review Program for fiscal year 2016-2017; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute an Interlocal Agreement with TMWA for that purpose – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Smitherman reviewed information included in the staff report for this funding request.

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

- 8. Review, discussion, and possible approval of the draft Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017, and possible direction to staff regarding the time and place for a public hearing on the tentative budget – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Smitherman reviewed information included in the staff report for the tentative budget and answered questions from Commissioners regarding the various projects included in the budget and who manages them. Mr. Smitherman explained that some of the projects have not been presented yet to the WRWC but are included in the budget as placeholders. Mr. Smitherman also explained the role of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) in prioritizing projects and preparing a final draft budget.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE STAFF RECOMMENDATION WITH A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TENTATIVE BUDGET SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BYBEE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) MEMBERS PRESENT.

- 9. Report and discussion on the process and steps required to dissolve the WRWC; the duties and responsibilities of the WRWC; and possible options for entities to which the duties and responsibilities could be distributed; and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman and John Rhodes, WRWC Legal Counsel. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Smitherman summarized the information included in the staff report, including a history of regional water planning in Washoe County.

John Rhodes, Legal Counsel, reviewed the steps for dissolution of the WRWC included in the staff report.

Chairman Hartung stated that TMWA [through its customers] is funding the majority of the WRWC budget, and that melding the WRWC into TMWA's Board would be beneficial.

Commissioner Brekhuis expressed concern that local government operations issues going to the legislature can get tied up in other issues with unpredictable results.

Mr. Smitherman and Mr. Rhodes explained the functions and duties of the NNWPC in response to questions from Commissioners. Mr. Rhodes stated his opinion that the duties of the NNWPC could not be transferred to the TMWA Standing Advisory Committee, or any other TMWA subcommittee, without a change in the WRWC legislation. There was discussion regarding the projects related to water quality and storm water and whether the nature, scope and authority of TMWA would need to be broader in order to take on those and other responsibilities. There was also discussion regarding the need to make a decision with agreement from all of the entities represented on the WRWC Board.

*Public Comment* – Darrin Price, SVGID, stated that the SVGID is a separate entity with no joint powers agreement with any of the other entities, and that SVGID did request a seat on the TMWA Board in 2000.

COMMISSIONER BYBEE MADE A MOTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO CONDUCT A CLOSER EXAMINATION OF ALL OF THE DETAILS OF WHAT THE WRWC DOES AND WHAT IT WOULD MEAN IF IT WERE DISSOLVED OR MOVED TO TMWA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUERR.

Mr. Smitherman summarized the motion stating that staff will put together a report on what the ramifications would be of a complete dissolution of the WRWC including the [Regional Water Management] fund going away and what holes would be left; and what the ramifications would be if there were a change to the WRWC legislation, rolling the functions into the TMWA or another regional governing Board.

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

**10. Direction to staff regarding agenda items for a possible April 20, 2016, meeting and other future meetings – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Smitherman stated that he will be out of town on April 20, 2016, and added the next meeting would be in May, and include the budget hearing.

**11. Commission Comments**

None

**12. Staff Comments**

None

**13. Public Comment**

None

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Christine Birmingham, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on \_\_\_\_\_ 2016.

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Chairman