

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

**Wednesday, September 21, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, September 21, 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 9:06 a.m. There was a quorum present.

Commissioners Present:

Vaughn Hartung  
Naomi Duerr (*present at 9:58 a.m.*)  
Sandra Ainsworth  
Jenny Brekhus  
Jeanne Herman  
Ron Smith

Appointed by:

Washoe County  
City of Reno  
Sun Valley General Improvement District (“SVGID”)  
City of Reno  
TMWA, Washoe County  
City of Sparks

Commissioners Absent:

Charlene Bybee  
Bob Lucey

Appointed by:

TMWA, City of Sparks  
TMWA, as successor to South Truckee Meadows  
General Improvement District (“STMGID”)

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Frank McDonough of the Desert Research Institute.

**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 FIVE (5) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**5. Approval of the Minutes of the August 17, 2016, Meeting (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 17, 2016, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BREKHUS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FIVE (5) MEMBERS PRESENT

**6. Consent (For possible approval without discussion.)**

**Approval of a no cost six month extension of time to the Interlocal Agreement (“ILA”) with Washoe County for Phase II of the Septic Nitrate Baseline Data and Risk Assessment Study, to allow for completion of the final report; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute an amendment to the ILA for that purpose – Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner. (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FIVE (5) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**7. Discussion and possible approval of the fiscal year 2015 – 2016 WRWC financial statements and audit opinion, and possible direction to staff – Ben Hutchins, Director, Finance and Administration Division, Washoe County Community Services Department; and Zeth Macy, Schettler Macy & Associates, LLC. (For Possible Action)**

Zeth Macy reviewed the auditor’s report included as an attachment to the staff report.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE WRWC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDIT OPINION FROM SCHESSLER, MACY & ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 – 2016, AND DIRECT STAFF TO FILE THE SAME AS A PUBLIC RECORD, AS REQUIRED BY LAW, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BREKHUS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FIVE (5) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**8. Discussion and possible designation of Schettler, Macy & Associates, LLC as the external auditors for the fiscal year 2016 – 2017 WRWC financial statement audit; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the related Engagement Letter, and direct staff to file the required documents with the State of Nevada – Ben Hutchins. (For Possible Action)**

The staff report recommends that the WRWC designate Schettler, Macy & Associates, LLC, as the auditors for fiscal year 2016 – 2017, approve the related Engagement Letter, and direct staff to report this designation to the State of Nevada by the March 30, 2017, deadline.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE STAFF RECOMMENDATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BREKHUS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FIVE (5) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**9. Report by the Desert Research Institute (“DRI”) on its Cloud Seeding Operations for the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe Basins for the past water year, and efforts to secure funding from other cloud seeding beneficiaries; discussion and possible approval of funding in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the Regional Water management Fund (“RWMF”) to support similar Cloud Seeding Operations for the upcoming water year; if approve, authorize the Chairman to execute an ILA with DRI for that purpose; and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel, and Frank McDonough, DRI. (For Possible Action)**

Chris Wessel provided a brief summary of the staff report and introduced Frank McDonough with DRI.

Mr. McDonough presented the findings from last year's Cloud Seeding Operations and proposals for this year's efforts. This report is included as an attachment to the staff report for the record.

The staff report recommends that the WRWC approve funding in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the RWMF to support DRI's Cloud Seeding Operations for the upcoming water year, and authorize the Chairman to execute an ILA with DRI for that purpose.

COMMISSIONER HERMAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE STAFF RECOMMENDATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH.

Council Member Brekhus discussed concerns regarding this effort and the need for a blended approach including conservation methods.

THE CHAIRMAN CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THERE WERE FOUR (4) IN FAVOR AND ONE (1) OPPOSITION BY COMMISSIONER BREKHUS.

John Rhodes, Legal Counsel, discussed the legal requirement, under the Nevada Open Meeting Law, for a majority vote of the entire body of elected officials and suggested that this item can be reconsidered at a future meeting, pursuant to procedures provided in the WRWC Governing Rules and Regulations.

Commissioner Brekhus requested a re-vote on this item in light of the information provided by Mr. Rhodes.

The Chairman called for the vote.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FIVE (5) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**10. Presentation by DRI on the project supported by the RWMF for evaluation of long-term regional precipitation / climate variability data, and continuation of regional precipitation monitoring; and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel, and Dan McEvoy, Ph.D., Climatologist, DRI. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Wessel provided a brief summary of the staff report and introduced Dan McEvoy with DRI.

Mr. McEvoy presented information on the tasks being proposed. The purpose, scope of work, and cost estimate are included as an attachment to the staff report for the record.

*[Commissioner Duerr present at 9:48 a.m.]*

COMMISSIONER HERMAN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BREKHUS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**11. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding agenda items and dates for future WRWC meetings – Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)**

The next WRWC meeting will be held in November. Agenda items that will be included are a proposal from the Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee ("SWPCC") to update the

Watershed Management Plan, and a status report on the update of the Regional Water Management Plan.

No action was taken.

**12. Commission Comments**

Commissioner Smith discussed the need to revisit the issue of filling the vacant TMWRF position on the WRWC.

**13. Staff Comments**

None

**14. Public Comment**

None

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Christine Birmingham, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on January 18, 2017.

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Chairman Vaughn Hartung