

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 31, 2017  
CONCURRENT MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE OF  
THE TRUCKEE MEADOWS WATER AUTHORITY AND  
THE LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE OF  
THE WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION**

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The concurrent meeting of the Legislative Subcommittee of the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and the Legislative Subcommittee of the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) at TMWA, 1355 Capital Blvd., Reno, Nevada in the Independence Conference Room. Chair Vaughn Hartung called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

**1. ROLL CALL**

TMWA Members Present: Chair Vaughn Hartung and Member Jenny Brekhus

TMWA Legal Counsel Present: Debbie Leonard

TMWA Staff Present: John Enloe, Mark Foree, Andy Gebhardt, Steve Walker (Walker & Associates), Michele Sullivan, and John Zimmerman

A quorum of the TMWA Legislative Subcommittee was present.

WRWC Members Present: Chair Naomi Duerr, Member Donald Abbott, and Member Sandra Ainsworth.

WRWC Legal Counsel: John Rhodes

A quorum of the WRWC Legislative Subcommittee was present.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Upon motion duly made and seconded, and carried unanimously, the TMWA Subcommittee approved the agenda.**

**Upon motion duly made and seconded, and carried unanimously, the WRWC Subcommittee approved the agenda.**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2017**

**Upon motion duly made and seconded, and carried unanimously, the TMWA Subcommittee approved the minutes of March 24, 2017.**

**Upon motion duly made and seconded, and carried unanimously, the WRWC Subcommittee approved the minutes of March 24, 2017.**

5. PRESENTATION OF STATUS REPORT ON LEGISLATION OF INTEREST TO TMWA AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION REGARDING TMWA'S POSITION ON LEGISLATION

Steve Walker, TMWA Lobbyist, and John Zimmerman, TMWA Water Resources Manager, summarized the status of key bills. Mr. Walker and Mr. Zimmerman referred to the table of reviewed bills and provided an overview of the bills and staff recommendations.

Mr. Walker stated AB280, relating to preferences in bidding for certain contracts for businesses based in this State, was not originally on the list, but was added as a *watch*. Discussion followed regarding the provisions related to bids by a Nevada based business and potential impact on local governments.

Member Brekhus inquired if Mr. Walker had provided a position on behalf of TMWA on AB403, AB404 or AB406. Mr. Walker replied no, he had not except for AB406 because he provided public comment in opposition for all his clients and mistakenly included TMWA and offered to retract that position at the next meeting for the record.

Discussion followed regarding SB462, which authorizes the board of county commissioners to create a committee to review general improvement districts, and SB494, which revises provisions relating to grants for water conservation and capital improvements to certain water systems. AB193 has not been heard since March 7, but the deadline for all bills to pass the first house is April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Duerr asked for a complete list of all bills at the next meeting.

**Upon motion made and seconded, and carried by unanimous vote of the members present, the TMWA Subcommittee approved staff's recommendations on all bills, except AB403, AB404, AB406, and SJR9.**

6. PRESENTATION OF STATUS REPORT ON LEGISLATION OF INTEREST TO WRWC AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION REGARDING WRWC'S POSITION ON LEGISLATION

John Rhodes, WRWC Legal Counsel, discussed several bills and bill draft requests (BDRs) being monitored and staff recommendations. Mr. Rhodes stated SB74 was added to the list per the last meeting's discussion with a position of *support*, which applies to Section 1 of the Bill, allowing collection of rainwater for certain purposes. Mr. Rhodes recommended including a position of *support* to SB74 for Section 14, which eliminates the member of WRWC appointed by the Chief of the Water Planning Division of Water Resources. Mr. Rhodes recommended deleting BDR 48-934 (now SB461), as it does not apply to WRWC, and adding AB479 with a *neutral/watch* recommendation. AB205 and AB375 have been added with *neutral/watch* recommendations. SB494 has been added with a *support* recommendation.

Discussion followed regarding AB375 to fund flood control projects, including concern about keeping within the scope of the local flood project so as not to lose federal funding, and the issue of taxing citizens subject to voter approval. Additional discussion followed on SB494, for cloud seeding funding, and the Governor's budget for funding cloud seeding through the Desert Research Institute.

**Upon motion made and seconded, and carried by unanimous vote of the members present, the WRWC Subcommittee approved staff's recommendations on all bills, except for Section 14 of SB74, which was changed from *support* to *neutral/watch*.**

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING CERTAIN SUNSET PROVISIONS OF THE NEVADA REVISED STATUTES CONCERNING ELEVATION OF HOMES IN FLOODPLAINS

Discussion regarding certain sunset provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) concerning elevation of homes in floodplains. Chair Duerr commented that the provisions sunset in 2019, and if WRWC wished to take the opportunity to support removal or extension of the sunset provisions applicable to Hidden Valley and Steamboat Creek, it may wish to do so this legislative session if possible. And if such an opportunity presented itself, Chair Duerr requested that staff bring it back to the WRWC legislative subcommittee for consideration.

8. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

There were no committee comments.

9. STAFF COMMENTS

Mark Foree, TMWA General Manager, informed the subcommittee that proponents of the wastewater treatment plant that is part of the proposed West 2<sup>nd</sup> project is trying to include an amendment to AB72, which revises provision to the Uniform Plumbing Code. Mr. Enloe reported the amendment would allow a package plant within a publicly owned treatment works service area, where currently, NRS does not allow it. They want to build their own on-site water treatment plant and use the effluent water for onsite landscaping, cooling and toilet flushing in a commercial/residential area.

Mr. Walker stated he testified for TMWA supporting the GIDs along river corridors.

Mr. Rhodes informed the subcommittee AB494 has an amendment to the language on cloud seeding; to support water augmentation projects related to drought resiliency including groundwater recharge.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, to discuss, Chair Hartung adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

*Approved by the Legislative Subcommittee of the Truckee Meadows Water Authority on June 21, 2017.*

*Approved by the Legislative Subcommittee of the Western Regional Water Commission on*  
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Submitted by,

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Sonia Folsom, Recording Secretary