

**WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Thursday, May 23, 2019

The Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Thursday, May 23, 2019, at the Sparks Council Chambers, Legislative Building, 745 Fourth St., Sparks, Nevada, and conducted the following business.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Chair Hartung called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. There was a quorum present.

<u>Commissioners Present:</u>	<u>Appointed by:</u>
Donald Abbott (“TMWRF”)	Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility
Sandra Ainsworth	Sun Valley General Improvement District (“SVGID”)
Paul Anderson	Truckee Meadows Water Authority (“TMWA”) (Sparks)
Kristopher Dahir	City of Sparks
Naomi Duerr	City of Reno
Vaughn Hartung	Washoe County
Jeanne Herman	TMWA (Washoe County)

<u>Commissioners Absent:</u>	<u>Appointed by:</u>
Jenny Brekhus	TMWA (Reno)
Bob Lucey	TMWA (STMGID Successor)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sophia Cardinal.

3. Public Comment

Tammy Holt-Still commented on possible solutions to address the North Valley flooding issue.

4. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

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

5. Approval of the Minutes for the March 20, 2019, Meeting (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. PUBLIC HEARING on the WRWC Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2019 - 2020; discussion and adoption of the WRWC Final Budget for FY 2019 - 2020 - Jim

Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager; Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Wessel reviewed the State of Nevada budget forms included in the staff report showing revenues of \$1,598,742, and expenditures of \$2,354,342. The balance of \$755,600 will come from cash reserves.

Mr. Smitherman answered questions regarding the budget process.

COMMISSIONER DUERR MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT AND CERTIFY THE WRWC FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 – 2020, AND DIRECT STAFF TO TRANSMIT A COPY TO THE NEVADA TAX COMMISSION, TOGETHER WITH AN AFFIDAVIT OF PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. Consent Items (For Possible Approval without Discussion)

- A. Second Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement (“IA”) with the University of Nevada, Reno (“UNR”), to readjust certain task completion dates, and reallocate previously approved funding from the Regional Water Management Fund (“RWMF”), in an amount not to exceed \$96,926, to continue the Advanced Water Treatment Technologies Demonstration Project for FY 2019 – 2020; and if approved, authorize the Chair to execute a Second Amendment for that purpose. (For Possible Action)
- B. Fifth Amendment to the IA with TMWA, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the RWMF, to continue the Water Usage Review Program for FY 2019 – 2020; and if approved, authorize the Chair to execute a Fifth Amendment for that purpose. (For Possible Action)
- C. Eighth Amendment to the IA with the City of Reno, in an amount not to exceed \$262,500 from the RWMF, to support the Truckee Meadows Storm Water Quality Management Program for FY 2019 – 2020; and if approved, authorize the Chair to execute an Eighth Amendment for that purpose. (For Possible Action)
- D. Sixth Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement with Washoe County to provide staff services for the WRWC and the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”), extending the Agreement for a term of two years; and if approved, authorize the Chair to execute a Sixth Amendment for that purpose. (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

8. Discussion and possible approval of a proposal by the Regional Effluent Management Team for funding, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 from the RWMF, to evaluate the feasibility of discharging Reno-Stead Water Reclamation Facility effluent to Long Valley Creek; and if approved, authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Stantec Consultants for that purpose - Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman explained that while discussing various effluent management options, the Regional Effluent Management Team (the “Team”) asserted that planning for future effluent

management must include multiple options. The Team has concluded unanimously that the feasibility of discharging effluent to Long Valley Creek should be among the alternatives studied. The Long Valley discharge option could help bridge a timing gap between capacity needed in the next few years and the possible future option of using Category A+ reclaimed water for purposes such as underground storage and aquifer recharge.

The Team recommends that a proposal provided by Stantec Consultants to City of Reno staff would form the basis of the feasibility scope of work. The proposed tasks related to investigating the feasibility of securing the necessary permits for a Long Valley Creek discharge alternative are included in the staff report.

Commissioner Duerr stated that she had voted against this on the Reno City Council, but after careful consideration since that time, expressed her support for the study, with a request that the possibility of some type of water exchange agreement with California be explored as well.

Commissioner Dahir expressed support for the feasibility study stating that this is an important strategy in looking at the bigger picture.

Commissioner Anderson asked for clarification regarding the location of Long Valley Creek. Mr. Smitherman explained that the Creek is in the valley west of Cold Springs Valley, and that it flows ultimately to Honey Lake.

Commissioner Herman asked how much the pipeline would cost.

John Enloe, Truckee Meadows Water Authority ("TMWA"), explained that they do not know yet what the pipeline would cost.

Commissioner Herman asked how long it will take to determine the feasibility.

Mr. Enloe responded stating that they expect the feasibility study to take six months.

Chair Hartung expressed his support for the option of using Category A+ reclaimed water. He also expressed support for the proposed feasibility study.

Public Comment:

Tammy Holt-Still expressed appreciation for the efforts to try and address the situation but felt that \$75,000 is a lot of money for a feasibility study.

John Flansberg, City of Reno Director of Public Works, discussed his direction from the Reno City Council to not pursue this study. He added that the flexibility provided by understanding options is important, not only for the City of Reno, but for Washoe County and its Cold Springs facility, which is located closer to Long Valley Creek. From a regional perspective, it would be important to understand this option.

COMMISSIONER DAHIR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE FUNDING, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000 FROM THE RWMF, TO EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY OF DISCHARGING RENO-STEAD WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY EFFLUENT TO LONG VALLEY CREEK, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH STANTEC CONSULTANTS FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

9. Discussion and possible approval of a proposal by Washoe County for funding, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the RWMF, to support a project to restudy and remap current designated flood zones in Lemmon Valley; and if approved, authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Washoe County for that purpose – Jim Smitherman and Dwayne Smith, Director, Engineering and Capital Projects Division, Washoe County. (For Possible Action)

Dwayne Smith, Director of Engineering and Capital Projects, Washoe County Community Services Department, presented the proposal and request to partially fund a project to restudy and remap the FEMA designated flood zones associated with the East and West Lemmon Valley hydrobasins.

Mr. Smith answered questions from Commissioners regarding the project. He stated that there are local professionals with a lot of knowledge and skills that they plan to utilize for the project but nobody is under contract at this time. He confirmed that the project will focus on more than just the 100 year flood plain. He also discussed grant program opportunities to help with funding.

Public Comment:

Tammy Holt-Still discussed concerns regarding levee roads and flood insurance issues.

Denise Ross noted that DRI is already doing a full study and questioned the need for it to be done twice.

COMMISSIONER DUERR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WASHOE COUNTY'S FUNDING REQUEST TO SUPPORT A PROJECT TO RESTUDY AND REMAP CURRENT DESIGNATED FLOOD ZONES IN LEMMON VALLEY, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000 FROM THE RWMF FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO EXECUTE AN IA WITH WASHOE COUNTY FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

10. Report on the Request for Proposals/Qualifications to provide legal services for the WRWC/NNWPC; discussion and possible direction to the WRWC Chair and Water Resources Program Manager to review submittals and present qualified candidates for interview and possible selection at the June WRWC meeting – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman presented information included in the staff report regarding the various publications that have posted the Notice to Attorneys concerning the Request for Qualifications ("RFQ") and Proposals ("RFP"), and Legal Counsel Position Scope of Work. Responses are due by May 31, 2019.

Chair Hartung stated he would like to see all of the qualified applicants address the WRWC.

No action was taken.

11. Report on legislative activities, including Bills pending in the 2019 session of the Nevada Legislature that may affect or are of interest to the WRWC / NNWPC; discussion and

possible approval of Legislative Subcommittee recommendations; and possible direction to staff — John Rhodes, WRWC Legal Counsel. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Rhodes reported that the Legislative Subcommittee met two times since the last WRWC meeting. He provided a summary report of all of the Bills they have been tracking and requested a motion from the Board approving and adopting the recommendations taken by the subcommittee on AB371, SB280, SB250, and SB499. Mr. Rhodes will bring a final report to the June WRWC meeting.

COMMISSIONER HARTUNG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ABBOTT. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

12. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding agenda items and dates for future WRWC meetings - Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

The next WRWC meeting will be held on June 19, 2019. The agenda will include a final legislative report and presentations from legal counsel applicants. The following week, on June 26, there will be a tour lining up that will include the A+ treatment units at South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility.

No action was taken.

13. Commission Comments

None

14. Staff Comments

None

15. Public Comment

None

16. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Christine Birmingham, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on June 19 2019.


Vaughn Hartung, WRWC Chair