

# Western Regional Water Commission

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** October 10, 2019

**TO:** Chair and Members, Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”)

**FROM:** Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the appointment or reappointment of two voting members to the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) for a term of three years (April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2022): a public at large member to represent environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns; and, a member to represent owners of domestic wells.

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### **SUMMARY**

Chapter 531, Statutes of Nevada 2007, the Western Regional Water Commission Act (the “Act”), Section 36, requires the WRWC to appoint two voting members to the NNWPC: one public at large member to represent environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns, and one member to represent domestic well owners. The positions had initial terms of two years and subsequent terms of three years. Both terms expired on April 1, 2019.

### **PREVIOUS ACTION AND BACKGROUND**

On April 11, 2008, the WRWC appointed Michael DeMartini as the member to represent domestic well owners. In addition, on October 9, 2009, the WRWC appointed Mickey Hazelwood as the public at large member to fill a vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term. Both appointments were renewed by the WRWC in May 2010, September 2013 and May 2016.

Both Mr. DeMartini and Mr. Hazelwood have indicated to staff that they are willing and able to serve another term. Section 36(2) of the Act states that a member may be reappointed.

On October 8, 2019, staff received an email and curriculum vitae from Michael Widmer, a local hydrogeologist and domestic well owner, requesting that he be considered for appointment to the NNWPC seat representing domestic well owners.

Both Mr. Widmer and Mr. DeMartini meet all requirements for appointment to the NNWPC under Section 36 (Nevada residency) and Section 38 (professional experience) of the Act.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None

**RECOMMENDATION**

Under the circumstances explained above, staff recommends that the WRWC provide specific direction as to how to proceed at this point. Options include, but are not limited to: reappointment of either or both Mr. DeMartini and Mr. Hazelwood to their prior positions; appointment of Mr. Widmer to replace Mr. DeMartini; or, directing staff to solicit applications from qualified candidates for either or both vacancies.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

“Move to direct staff to take the following action...[as desired by the WRWC]”.

JS:jp