Western Regional Water Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 9, 2020

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

FROM: Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager

SUBJECT: Review, discussion and possible approval of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission’s (“NNWPC”) recommendations concerning the appointment of two voting members to the NNWPC from the following list of candidates: i) with respect to the public at large member to represent environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns, Mickey Hazelwood, Arthur O’Connor, Jeanne Ruefer and Matt Sundquist; and ii) with respect to the member to represent the owners of domestic wells, Michael DeMartini, Jeanne Ruefer, and Michael Widmer; and possible direction to staff.

SUMMARY

On October 16, 2019, the WRWC directed staff to advertise and request applications for two vacant NNWPC voting member positions: one public at large member to represent environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns, and one member to represent domestic well owners, and have the NNWPC review the applications and make recommendations. All of the applicants listed above meet the statutory qualifications.

The NNWPC, at its December 4, 2019 meeting, considered the applications and voted unanimously to recommend appointment of Mickey Hazelwood as the public at large member, and Michael Widmer as the member to represent domestic well owners.

BACKGROUND

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.

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; and both terms expired on April 1, 2019. Mr. DeMartini and Mr. Hazelwood indicated to staff that they were 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 as the member to represent domestic well owners.

After receiving direction from the WRWC, advertisements for both positions were published in the Reno Gazette Journal on November 6, 10, 13 and 17, 2019, and sent by email to various interest groups in Washoe County.

**FISCAL IMPACT**
None

**RECOMMENDATION**
On December 4, 2019, the NNWPC voted unanimously to recommend that the WRWC appoint to the NNWPC, Mickey Hazelwood as the public at large member, and Michael Widmer as the member to represent domestic well owners.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**
“Move to appoint to the NNWPC: Mickey Hazelwood as the public at large member, and Michael Widmer as the member to represent domestic well owners.

JS:jp

Attachments
January 9, 2020         Via email

Hello Jim, Chris and Jennifer,

I would like to reconfirm my desire and my request to be reappointed by the WRWC to NNWPC by the WRWC.

If the meeting occurs on January 15, 2020 it is not likely that I can attend personally because I’m scheduled to be at a hearing at the Nevada Department of Water Resources to provide expert testimony in an adjudication proceeding that has already been continued once.

Absent being at the WRWC meeting on January 15, 2020, I hope to have someone there to speak on my behalf.

I believe the domestic well owners of Washoe County would like me to be reappointed to represent their interests on the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission based upon my recent personal canvassing of domestic well owners in 7 hydrographic basins in Washoe County. So far 100% of the domestic well owners I have spoken with have signed the petition asking for my reappointment.

To date the total signatures obtained exceed 113 individual domestic well owners. Copies of 93 of those signatures were previously turned over for staff verification and the confidential file. Additional signatures will be provided to staff by or at the WRWC meeting.

Please note that it is proper that the domestic well owners be allowed to nominate who they would like to represent them like has been done in the past and has been done for the other representatives on the commission in order to present a proper check and balance into the planning process. This is what the legislature intended when they established the previous Regional Water Planning Commission and the new Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission.

Domestic well owners appear to be a minority in the county and a minority on the commission and the other commissioners on the NNWPC represent entities that normally have positions that differ from the domestic well owners and accordingly their recommendation should be given little weight on the selection of the domestic well owner representative.

In summary, I request, on behalf of the domestic well owners that I be reappointed to the NNWPC.

Also, as a separate item, because I believe that the current legal counsel McDonald Carano and Michael Pagni have/has, a conflict of interest in representing the WRWC, NNWPC, TWMA and the developer of StoneGate among others, and especially because of the current proceedings at the City of Reno, TWMA, and the Nevada DWR regarding StoneGate, they and he should be precluded from advising or discussing with staff or the commission regarding this matter at any time.

Please provide this email and my previous email in the packet to the WRWC and please redact just my Email address if practical.

Sincerely,

Michael J. DeMartini, P.E.
On Nov 26, 2019, at 12:05 PM, Michael wrote:

Hello Jim, Chris and Jennifer,

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for reappointment to the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission to represent domestic well owners.

I have done some recent canvassing of domestic well owners in 7 hydrographic basins of southern Washoe County and have some information to report at the next meeting.

I would like to confirm my willingness and desire to continue serving on the commission and would like to note that in 24 years of service on the RWPC and NNWPC I have attended almost all the meetings and have only missed about 1 meeting per year on the average.

Enclosed please find attached my resume that indicates that I meet the qualifications required and have personal experience in areas of water development and supply, wastewater treatment/disposal/reclamation and drainage design, and flood analysis/protection.

Regarding experience with owning and maintaining a domestic well, I have been an owner of a rental property with an operating domestic well for the last 3 decades to present. I'm also entitled to drill a domestic well on a property that I own that was created prior to 1993.

Regarding possible redaction, the only thing necessary is just my email address I used to send this email.

Sincerely,

Michael J. DeMartini, P.E., RCE 4092

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Applications for the public at large member to represent environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns
MICKEY HAZELWOOD

OBJECTIVE
I am applying to serve a third term on the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission.

SKILLS & ABILITIES
I have strong written and oral communications skills, which make me an effective program director, as well as an effective partnership builder. I am also a skilled project manager, having successfully lead the management team, or been part of the management team, for seven multi-million dollar ecosystem restoration projects.

EXPERIENCE

EASTERN SIERRA NEVADA PROG. DIRECTOR – THE NATURE CONSERVANCY – RENO, NV
December 2018 - Present
As Eastern Sierra Nevada Program Director, I am responsible for directing and managing all aspects of TNC’s conservation efforts in the Truckee River, Carson River, and Walker River watersheds. Responsibilities include:

- Continuing duties listed under Truckee River Project Director positions (see below)
- Leading the development of TNC’s Truckee River Watershed Improvement Program – developing partnerships with US Forest Service and others in and effort to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires and their impacts to ecosystem services
- Overseeing TNC’s work at Independence Lake Preserve, including forest thinning and prescribed fire
- Overseeing TNC’s work in the Carson River watershed, including management and operation of TNC’s River Fork Ranch Preserve and Whit Hall Interpretive Center and land protection efforts (TNC holds multiple conservation easements in the Carson Valley)
- Overseeing TNC’s land protection efforts in the Walker River watershed, where TNC also holds multiple conservation easements

TRUCKEE RIVER PROJECT DIRECTOR – THE NATURE CONSERVANCY – RENO, NV
July 2007 – December 2019
As Truckee River Project Director, I was responsible for all aspects of a multi-million-dollar effort to protect and restore important river and floodplain habitats along the lower reach of the river. Responsibilities included:

- Developing and implementing strategies for protection and restoration of
important river and floodplain habitats, with the goals of not only protecting habitats but also providing water quality improvements, recreation opportunities, and flood mitigation for the benefit of people.

- Managing a suite of complex ecosystem restoration projects that involve partners and regulators at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as numerous contracts with consultants and contractors.
- Managing the budgets for a suite of multi-million dollar projects and ensuring there is adequate funding to support staff and the necessary activities to complete those projects.
- Developing and maintaining partnerships with federal, state, and local partners, as well as other stakeholders, businesses, and local communities.
- Supervising staff.
- Leading a study of forest health, wildfire risk, and potential post-fire impacts in the Truckee River watershed, including a stakeholder outreach process.

TRUCKEE RIVER PROJECT MANAGER – THE NATURE CONSERVANCY – RENO, NV
October 2006 – July 2007

TRUCKEE RIVER PROJECT FIELD REPRESENTATIVE. – RENO, NV
September 2005 – October 2006

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST – TETRA TECH EMI – RENO, NV
August 2004 – September 2005
As Environmental Scientist I had responsibilities associated with ground and surface water testing and reporting. Responsibilities included:

- Organizing and implementing ground and surface water sampling, including gaining clearance from the military, securing materials, logging data, and delivering samples to lab.
- Drafting reports outlining monitoring and cleanup effort results and recommended actions.

SITE MANAGER – HERITAGE RANCH CONSERVATION PROPERTIES – DEMING, NM
June 2003 – July 2004
As Site Manager I had many responsibilities in the development, operations, and marketing of conservation properties (small portions of important ranch lands subdivided and sold in order to pay for the conservation of the intact ranch lands) on the Lake Valley and Berrenda Creek ranches in south central New Mexico. Responsibilities included:

- Collecting baseline data and drafting a baseline report in support of the transfer of conservation easements to a local land trust and working with the landowner and trust to develop easement language.
- Locating home sites, driveways, and connecting roads in a manner that
avoided important wildlife habitats and important ranch lands and fit with the scenic landscape.

- Overseeing contractors in the construction of building pads, driveways, and roads.
- Working with federal and state wildlife agencies to identify important habitats on the properties and strategies to protect them.
- Arranging site visits with interested buyers, showing the properties, and explaining the conservation property concepts.

**EDUCATION**

**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY – LAS CRUCES, NM – MS, APPLIED GEOGRAPHY**

GPA – 3.8

Relevant coursework included: Land Use Planning, Environmental Planning, Ecology of Desert Systems, Geomorphology, Soil Science, GIS

**APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY – BOONE, NC – BS, APPLIED GEOGRAPHY**

GPA – 3.8

**COMMUNICATION**

I have demonstrated strong communication skills in working on teams with colleagues, like the Nevada Chapter’s Conservation Partnership, for which my colleagues asked me to be the first chair. I have been successful at building and maintaining partnerships key to the success of ecosystem restoration work, and I have given project tours to partners and potential donors as part of fundraising efforts. In regard to fundraising, I have also proven to be a successful grant writer, receiving grant awards for the Truckee River Project from local, state, and federal entities, as well as private foundations. I have presented to city councils, county commissions, planning commissions, and at local, state, and national level conferences on water issues and ecosystem restoration.

**LEADERSHIP**

I have demonstrated a professional attitude and natural abilities in managing staff, including dealing with performance issues with outcomes ranging from performance improvement to necessary dismissal. I have also benefited from completing The Nature Conservancy’s 18 month long Emerging Leader’s Program, receiving training on management issues from dealing with direct reports to external partners. In addition, I have been serving on the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission for eight years.

**REFERENCES**

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
RÉSUMÉ

ARTHUR C. O'CONNOR, P.E., P.L.S.

POSITION: Project Engineer and Chief of Surveying Parties

EDUCATION:

University of Nevada, Reno - B.S.C.E., 1976
University of Nevada, Reno - Graduate work in Civil Engineering and Hydrology, 36 credits
N. A. L. S. Continuing Education Courses in G. P. S. and State Plane Coordinates
Various G. I. S., Autodesk Civil 3D and AutoCAD Seminars
FEMA P154, E-74, 395 and E-909 ATC-20 certification courses

EXPERIENCE:

Mr. O'Connor's engineering experience began in 1967 with five years of service with the Engineering branch of the U.S. Navy. Since graduating from the University of Nevada at Reno, he has worked for private consulting firms in the Reno-Sparks area and in California. His main areas of specialization have in the Land Planning and Land Development. Mr. O'Connor was a member of the Southwest Truckee Meadows Citizens Advisory Board for Washoe County, Nevada from 1991 to 1995 and served as Secretary for the Board.

Mr. O'Connor is currently involved in all phases of a typical civil engineering project from the initial planning to the end of construction. As a Professional Land Surveyor licensed to practice in Nevada and California, he has maintained his field expertise with the latest surveying equipment. As a designer, he is proficient in Computer Aided Design with Autodesk’s Civil 3D software.

Since 1982, Mr. O’Connor has operated his own engineering firm, O C Engineering.
STORMWATER COLLECTION AND FLOOD ROUTING:

Donner Springs/El Rancho Buena Vista Area, Reno, Nevada
Gardnerville Ranchos Area, Douglas County, Nevada
Washoe County 208 Plan, Washoe County, Nevada
Winnemucca Drainage Study, Humboldt County, Nevada
Toll Road Drainage Report, Washoe County, Nevada
Palomino Valley housing development grading plans, Washoe County, Nevada
Palomino Valley FEMA Flood Certifications, Washoe County, Nevada
Palomino Valley FEMA LOMAR feasibility study, Washoe County, Nevada
Albemarle Silver Peak Lithium Facility Dams Safety Study, Esmerelda County, Nevada

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Nevada Registered Professional Engineer No. 5650
Nevada Registered Professional Land Surveyor No. 5650
California Registered Civil Engineer No. C32013
Jeanne M. Ruefer  
3095 Lakeshore Drive  
Washoe Valley, Nevada  89704  
Cell Phone 775 722-7395  
Email jeanneruefer@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVE

- Member of the Northern Nevada Regional Water Planning Commission
- Water Resource, Mitigation and Resilience Planning

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Ten years as the Program Management Lead for Risk MAP in FEMA Region IX, with a focus on planning and managing a $30M portfolio of flood hazard mapping production work.
- Eight years as the Planning Manager for the Water Planning Division of Washoe County Department of Water Resources, supervising up to 15 professional staff, managing four programs including the Regional Water Planning Commission, the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District, Water Quality Management, and Hydrographic Basins Investigations.
- Three years as the State Floodplain Manager and National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator for Nevada.
- Fourteen years of professional experience as a hydrogeologist and water resource scientist.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Regional Program Management Lead  
Risk MAP Program  
Oakland, California  
2009 - Present – Program Management Lead for the Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning (MAP) Program in FEMA Region IX. Responsible for managing and controlling the scope, schedule and budget for the Regional portfolio of flood hazard map production projects, including those of the Production and Technical Services team, and Cooperating Technical Partners. Key focus is on implementing flood hazard mapping policies, regulations and guidance while maintaining a high level of engagement with local stakeholders and FEMA headquarters. Participate in planning and sequencing flood risk analysis projects according to funding and acquisition guidance provided by FEMA HQ, and meeting Regional deployment, engineering and action metrics.

Water Resources Planning Manager  
Washoe County Department of Water Resources  
Reno, Nevada  
2001 – 2009 – Manager of the Water Resources Planning Division, in the Department of Water Resources. Responsible for supervising 15 professional and technical staff and administering four programs, including Hydrographic Basin Studies, Water Quality
Management, Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District, and the Regional Water Planning Commission. Conducted extensive coordination with local land use planners, engineers, elected officials of Washoe County, Tribal Nations and other local jurisdictions to implement joint programs and projects. Represented Washoe County on the Nevada All Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee, evaluating local and state hazard mitigation plans. Represented the Department at the County Emergency Operations Center during disasters. Participated in the development of the County All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Nevada State Floodplain Manager & NFIP Coordinator**  
**Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**  
**Division of Water Resources**  
**State of Nevada**  
**Carson City, Nevada**  
1998 - 2001 - Assisted 35 communities in Nevada apply for and maintain participation in the NFIP, reviewed and updated local floodplain management ordinances, provided basic floodplain management training to local officials. Coordinated with FEMA engineers to review and deliver flood hazard map products to local communities. Conducted Community Assistance Visits to assess community compliance with the NFIP and managed the Community Assistance Program and Floodplain Management Assistance grants for Nevada. Supervised the development of the ”Floodplain Management Model Ordinance” and manual for Nevada. Participated in the development of the State of Nevada Hazard Mitigation Plan. Responded to local/state disasters, participated in one Disaster declaration (Las Vegas, NV), and participated in preparation of Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team reports as needed.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

University of California  
Santa Cruz, California  
1982-1984  
B.S. Earth Science

University of Nevada Reno  
Reno, Nevada  
1986-1988  
M.S. Hydrology-Hydrogeology

**PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

Certified Project Management Professional (PMP)  
Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM)  
Chapter Director on the Association of State Floodplain Managers Board  
Co-Chair of the Arid Regions policy committee of the Association of State Floodplain Managers
Matt Sundquist
GM of Fly Ranch
San Francisco Bay Area

Experience

Burning Man Project
General Manager of Fly Ranch
April 2017 - Present
In 2016, Burning Man bought Fly Ranch, a 3,800 acre property in Nevada. The ranch is home to dozens of types of plants, hot and cold pools, antelope, horses, eagles, falcons, 800 acres of marsh, and three geysers, including Fly Geyser.

San Francisco Zen Center
Farm & Garden Apprentice
October 2017 - November 2017 (2 months)
Green Gulch Zen Center

Alteryx
Consultant
August 2017 - October 2017 (3 months)
Product management and data science consulting for new visualization and statistics features.

Water.org
Product Manager
December 2016 - October 2017 (11 months)
Kansas City, Missouri Area
Worked as the product manager for an open source microfinance platform Water.org launched for funding toilets and clean water in developing regions.

Change.org
Product Manager
November 2015 - September 2016 (11 months)
San Francisco Bay Area
Our product teams at Change.org (Growth, Starters) shipped tags, endorsements, locations, profiles, embeddable petitions, photos and videos in petition responses, and decision-maker search. Worked with executives, engineers, and designers to ship products for 150M users. Highlight: shipped
public movements, a feature used by Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai and Mexico City for crowdsourcing a constitution.

Plotly
COO, Co-founder
September 2013 - November 2015 (2 years 3 months)
Montreal, Quebec
Plotly is an open source data science platform used by Google, Tesla, NASA, and millions of users. Plotly has raised $15M and has been named one of the top four tools in visualization, a market expected to reach $8.5B by 2018. Now an advisor.

General Assembly
Data Science Instructor
2013 - February 2015 (2 years)
I have taught data science, visualization, and analysis to students at various levels at GA, Galvanize, Coursera, and Udacity.

Harvard Law School
Student Fellow
March 2012 - March 2014 (2 years 1 month)
Cambridge, MA
As a Student Fellow at the Harvard Law School Program on the Legal Profession, I was funded to research the influence that businesses and former members of the Office of the Solicitor General have on the Supreme Court. I published an article that has been cited by the NYT, Stanford Law Review, and Yale Law Journal.

Facebook
Privacy Program Manager
December 2012 - September 2013 (10 months)
Menlo Park, CA
Coordinated 5-10 privacy and settings releases a week. PM for internal tools, settings, and download tool (see: facebook.com/dyi). Worked on growth, feed, pages, and data science.

Inflection
Privacy Manager & Product Manager
March 2011 - November 2012 (1 year 9 months)
U.S. Department of State
Fulbright Scholar
March 2010 - November 2010 (9 months)
San Juan, Argentina

SCOTUSblog
Reporter
December 2009 - May 2010 (6 months)
Covered Supreme Court arguments, cases, trends, and events.

Community Charter School of Cambridge
Teacher
June 2008 - August 2009 (1 year 3 months)
History and English teacher

Harvard University
Dorm Crew Captain
August 2005 - June 2009 (3 years 11 months)
Cambridge, Mass
I oversaw large-scale sanitation engineering projects in college dorms. I accumulated over 2,500 hours of cleaning experience and expertise.

Harvard Undergraduate Council
President
January 2008 - February 2009 (1 year 2 months)

YMCA Youth and Government
Youth Governor of Virginia
April 2004 - April 2005 (1 year 1 month)
Richmond, Virginia Area

Education

Harvard University
Undergraduate, Philosophy · (2005 - 2009)

Harvard University Graduate School of Education
Undergraduate Teacher Education Program, High School History and English · (2008 - 2009)
Brief history

In high school I worked as a clown, on six Virginia political campaigns, and on a farm. My brother wrote a bestselling book about homeschooling and our family. I was the 2005 youth governor of Virginia and Senator Mark Obenshain’s Legislative Aide.

I studied philosophy at Harvard. Tommie Shelby advised my honors thesis on Tupac Shakur. I led crews cleaning bathrooms for ~2,000 hours, co-organized Harvard’s first day of service, and was student body VP and president.

I earned a high school history and English teaching degree at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and taught at a charter school in 2009.

I wrote for SCOTUSblog.com in 2010 and was a co-recipient of the American Bar’s Silver Gavel Award for reporting. I was a Fulbright Scholar in Argentina in 2011, then worked for the director of Pascua-Lama, a mine in the Andes.

In 2012 I managed a hiring program for a public records startup that received a Silver Optimas Award.

As a Harvard Law School Student Fellow in 2012, I used R, Python, and statistics to study how corporations influence the Supreme Court.

My peer-reviewed journal articles have been cited in the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, New York Times, Stanford Law Review, and Yale Law Journal. My h-index—a metric for scholarly impact and production—is 3. The average law professor’s h-index is 2.8.

In 2012–13, I worked on the Facebook Privacy Team. I used Python to build a data application and managed a few features on Facebook.com/ody. I served on the California Vital Statistics Advisory Committee for two years.

From 2013–15 I was Plotly’s co-founder and COO. Plotly is used by Google, NASA, and millions of data scientists. Plotly is one of the top three data visualization tools in a market estimated at $8.5B in 2018. We’ve raised $14M and have a $57M estimated value. I was named to the 40 under 40 for data. I wrote this Jupyter Notebook and am an adviser now.

In 2016 I was a farm and garden apprentice at Green Gulch Zen Center, a model for Betabrand, and a product manager at Change.org. Our team shipped public movements, a feature Nobel Peace
Prize winner Malala Yousafzai used for advocacy and Mexico City used for crowdsourcing a constitution.

In 2017 I consulted on a visualization tool for Alteryx. I consulted for Water.org on WaterEquity, an open source microfinance platform to fund toilets and clean water. I am now the general manager of Fly Ranch, Burning Man’s 3,800 acre ranch.

I’ve taught data science at General Assembly and citizenship for middle schoolers in East Palo Alto. I’ve given talks at the CIA, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Harvard, and Stanford.

I spent two years on the California Vital Statistics Advisory Committee.

I like nature and these books. I officiated a wedding in 2015. I’ve visited 27 countries. I eat the same thing everyday: Matt’s Plate is now on the menu at Java Supreme.

Let me know if you’d like to work on a project. You can email me at matt@mattsundquist.com
Applications for the member to represent the owners of domestic wells
EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Science. - 1971 - Civil Engineering - University of Nevada, Reno
- Associate of Arts. - 1969 - Mechanical Engineering - Sierra College, California
- Post-graduate study in Reinforced Concrete Design
- Ongoing Continuing Education as Required to Present

REGISTRATION/CERTIFICATIONS

- Registered Professional Civil Engineer - Nevada RE 4092, 1975 to present
- Registered Professional Civil Engineer - California RCE 24650, 1975 to present
- Registered Professional Geotechnical Engineer - California, GE 263, 1987 to present
- Certified Grade 4 Water Distribution Operator – Nevada, D-821, prior 2000 to present
- Certified Grade 3 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator – Nevada, NV-476, prior 2000 to present
- State of Nevada Water Rights Surveyor, Cert No. 1053 prior 2000 to present

EXPERIENCE

2008 - Present: Commissioner of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

- Mr. DeMartini, as a water planning commissioner, is one of twelve voting commissioners on the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission. The Western Regional Water Commission appointed Mr. DeMartini in 2008 and again in 2010 to provide representation for approximately 9,000 domestic well owners. The commission is involved in planning for water supply/distribution, wastewater collection/treatment/disposal and storm drainage/flood protection in Washoe County.

1995 - 2008: Commissioner of the Regional Water Planning Commission of Washoe County

- Mr. DeMartini, as a water planning commissioner, is one of nine voting commissioners on the Regional Water Planning Commission of Washoe County appointed by Washoe County Commissioners to provide representation for domestic well owners. The commission is involved in planning for water supply/distribution, wastewater collection/treatment/disposal and storm drainage/flood protection.

1995 - Present: Meridian Company, Principal Engineer and President

- Mr. DeMartini established the Meridian Company which specializes in Civil Engineering, Invention, Research and Development with particular expertise in Land Development Engineering, Water, and Wastewater System design, construction and operation.

1997 - Present: American Environmental Resources, Inc., President and Director

- Mr. DeMartini established this company as a Nevada based corporation for the purpose of manufacturing the SRBR® wastewater treatment system and other environmental related products. Additionally, the corporation has provided the operation and maintenance of systems locally and in southern Nevada. The SRBR® wastewater treatment system has received approval by the Nevada Health Department, Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, Southern Nevada Health Authority and Washoe County Health Department. Approval was predicated on producing treated water from raw sewage to a clear liquid effluent having a total nitrogen content of less than 10mg/l (the drinking water standard for nitrate nitrogen).
1970 - 1995: SEA, Incorporated, Principal Engineer and Project Manager

- Since 1970, Mr. DeMartini has served as Staff Engineer in the early 1970's, a Registered Engineer in California and Nevada in 1975, Department Manager and Project Senior Engineer/Project Manager in the early 1980's and Principal Engineer/Project Manager in 1986 through mid 1995.
- During this period, Mr. DeMartini was involved in the planning, design, construction administration, and construction review of grading, drainage, storm drain, sanitary sewer, water supply and systems, streets, utilities and engineering associated with apartment, condominium, subdivision, airport, commercial and industrial projects. Special emphasis has been in the economical evaluation and interaction of the water, drainage, flood, sewer lines, onsite wastewater treatment, grading, utilities and roadways.
- Specific water experience includes evaluation of water rights, water supply wells, water demand and patterns, groundwater, water storage, water distribution, water quantity and quality, water rates, and water company administration. Special studies involved the economic and engineering feasibility of a pumped, drought reserve, and energy peaking reservoir for the Truckee Meadows, a Solar Salt Gradient Pond System for Heating and Providing Energy for Single Family Homes, and Ground Water Protection, Analysis and Reuse.
- Specific overall development experience includes having the responsible position of Principal Engineer/Project Manager for the development of the following major projects involving civil engineering design, surveying, construction administration, inspection and testing:

> Donner Springs and El Rancho Buena Vista Residential Communities (4,000+ units)
> Reno Freeport Aircenter/Dermody Aircenter (water, wastewater, grading, roads utilities) (160 ac industrial park)
> Porsche Cars North American Distribution Center (grading, drainage, utilities and airport) (project included the construction of a reinforced concrete 747 cargo plane taxiway from Reno International Airport to the distribution center building all within a foreign trade zone so that Porsche cars could be transported via plane directly from Germany to Reno without going through customs. The entire project had to be completed within 5 months from the date of submittal to planning to occupancy permit for the distribution warehouse. The project was completed on time.)
> Willow Creek Subdivisions (water distribution, wastewater, grading, roads and utilities) (1,000 lots)
> Silver Lake Business Center (water distribution, wastewater, drainage, flood protection, grading, wetlands, roads and utilities) (500 acs) (The site was found to contain a 10,000+ ton buried hazardous waste dump that had to be cleaned up)
> Michelin Tire Warehouse infrastructure and site development (water, grading, drainage, rail) (800,000 sf building)
> Hidden Valley Ranch Facility, Reno, Nevada, infrastructure engineering (water, grading, drainage, flood, railroad and wetland environmental mitigation) (105,000 sf, 54 acre salad dressing factory) (the grading plan required that 250,000 cubic yards of soil be moved and compacted in 14 calendar days)
> Reno Park Boulevard. Approx. 2 mile 4 lane public road arterial. Civil Engineering project manager for preliminary design, right of way acquisition, engineering design and construction administration.
>Miscellaneous Subdivision Project Management - land mapping boundaries/title, preliminary design, soils, hydrology, drainage, engineering design of infrastructure, final subdivision mapping, construction observation/administration and related activities for an approximate total 13,000 lots.

1977 - 2018: CALIFORNIA PROJECTS, Principle Engineer Project Manager:

>Coan Ranch, Nevada City, CA Horizontal and vertical control survey for 100 acre engineering accuracy topographic map, and quiet title expert witness Nevada County Superior Ct.
>Empress Meadows Ranch, Nevada City, CA Horizontal and vertical control survey for 200 acre engineering accuracy topographic map. 1977-78
>Empress Meadows Ranch, tentative development for 180 acre 16 lot subdivision. 1977-78
>Site surveying, engineering and construction administration for California AAA office, Dorsey Drive, Grass Valley, CA. 1982-83
>Public road surveying, engineering and construction administration for Dorsey Drive, Grass Valley, CA 1982-83
>Loma Rica Industrial Park, 12731 Loma Rica Dr., Nevada County, CA, 12,000 sf industrial building project. surveying, engineering and construction administration 1977-78
>Loma Rica Air Park Phase I, 12759 Loma Rica Dr., Nevada County, CA, 6,000 sf industrial building project. surveying, engineering and construction administration 1988.
>Loma Rica Air Park Phase II, 12757 and 61 Loma Rica Dr., Nevada County, CA, 7,200 sf industrial building project. surveying, engineering and construction administration 1998.
>Newtown Mine cave-in 1982. Nevada City, CA, Analysis and design of concrete cap assembly to close open sink hole to 1,000 ft. deep shaft.
>Dorsey Drive, Grass Valley, CA Proposed Road Widening. Discussion with City Engineering and Caltrans officials. Review draft design plans and recommend adjustment to mitigate impacts to adjacent properties. 2009-10
>Empress Ranch, Nevada City, CA, Review and analysis of property boundaries, constraints and master planning 2009+

AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE

- City Regulations/Codes/Applicable Laws
- Principles and Practices of Municipal Public Works administration, inclusive of, but not limited to: Civil Engineering, Geotechnical Engineering, Traffic Engineering, Sewage Collection, Drainage and Water Facilities.
- Multi-Project Management
- Planning, Design, Construction, Administration and Construction Review of the following:
  - Soils/Grading/Drainage
  - Hydrology, Storm Drainage
  - Wastewater Systems
  - Water Supply and Distribution
  - Utilities/Airports/Railroads/Buildings and Streets
  - Environmental Mitigation of Wetlands and Hazardous waste dump Reno-Stead, NV
- Civil Engineering associated with Apartment, Condominium, Subdivision, Airports, Commercial and Industrial Projects
- Economical Evaluation, Interaction, and Optimization
- Evaluation of Water Rights; Supply Wells, Demand & Patterns, Storage, Distribution, Quality, Rates and Water Company Operations
- HEC 1, HEC 2 and HEC HMS modeling in Lemmon Valley and particularly in Cold Springs Valley where a HEC-HMS model was developed for the entire hydrographic basin to model, estimate and predict the response of White Lake to long term and multiple year hydrological events with regard to flooding and water accumulations. To accomplish the calibration stream and flood
flows coming into the lake along with continuous monitoring of the lake levels has been accomplished for extended periods of time. The results from the Cold Springs model has been used to estimate and compare with responses of the Lemmon Valley hydrographic basins to similar events.

- Economic and Engineering Feasibility of pumped, drought reserve and energy peaking reservoir in regards to the Truckee Meadows area.
- Hydrology, Flood Routing, Protection, and Coordination
- Plan Checking > Quantity/Cost Estimates
- Material testing > Property Surveying (Calif)
- Economical Design > Computer Literate
- Inspection > Budget Development
- Master planning > Client Contact
- Job Budget Control > Supervision of Staff

EXPERT WITNESS (Last 10 Years)

Superior Court Marin County, CA 2011
Superior Court Nevada County, CA 2013
United States District Court, Eastern District of California, 2018

AFFILIATIONS (during tenure)

- Member American Water Works Association
- Member American Public Works Association
- Member American Society of Civil Engineers
- Member National Society of Professional Engineers
  Reno Chapter President in 1981-82, Nevada State President in 1990-91
- Voting Member, Washoe Water Protection Association, WWPA, 1995-1997
- Voting Member Alternate, Regional Water Planning Commission of Washoe County, 1995-2001
Jeanne M. Ruefer  
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Washoe Valley, Nevada  89704  
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Email jeanneruefer@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVE

- Member of the Northern Nevada Regional Water Planning Commission
- Water Resource, Mitigation and Resilience Planning

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Ten years as the Program Management Lead for Risk MAP in FEMA Region IX, with a focus on planning and managing a $30M portfolio of flood hazard mapping production work.
- Eight years as the Planning Manager for the Water Planning Division of Washoe County Department of Water Resources, supervising up to 15 professional staff, managing four programs including the Regional Water Planning Commission, the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District, Water Quality Management, and Hydrographic Basins Investigations.
- Three years as the State Floodplain Manager and National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator for Nevada.
- Fourteen years of professional experience as a hydrogeologist and water resource scientist.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Regional Program Management Lead  
Risk MAP Program  
Oakland, California  
2009 - Present – Program Management Lead for the Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning (MAP) Program in FEMA Region IX. Responsible for managing and controlling the scope, schedule and budget for the Regional portfolio of flood hazard map production projects, including those of the Production and Technical Services team, and Cooperating Technical Partners. Key focus is on implementing flood hazard mapping policies, regulations and guidance while maintaining a high level of engagement with local stakeholders and FEMA headquarters. Participate in planning and sequencing flood risk analysis projects according to funding and acquisition guidance provided by FEMA HQ, and meeting Regional deployment, engineering and action metrics.

Water Resources Planning Manager  
Washoe County Department of Water Resources  
Reno, Nevada  
2001 – 2009 – Manager of the Water Resources Planning Division, in the Department of Water Resources. Responsible for supervising 15 professional and technical staff and administering four programs, including Hydrographic Basin Studies, Water Quality
Management, Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District, and the Regional Water Planning Commission. Conducted extensive coordination with local land use planners, engineers, elected officials of Washoe County, Tribal Nations and other local jurisdictions to implement joint programs and projects. Represented Washoe County on the Nevada All Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee, evaluating local and state hazard mitigation plans. Represented the Department at the County Emergency Operations Center during disasters. Participated in the development of the County All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Nevada State Floodplain Manager & NFIP Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Water Resources
State of Nevada
Carson City, Nevada
1998 - 2001 - Assisted 35 communities in Nevada apply for and maintain participation in the NFIP, reviewed and updated local floodplain management ordinances, provided basic floodplain management training to local officials. Coordinated with FEMA engineers to review and deliver flood hazard map products to local communities. Conducted Community Assistance Visits to assess community compliance with the NFIP and managed the Community Assistance Program and Floodplain Management Assistance grants for Nevada. Supervised the development of the” Floodplain Management Model Ordinance” and manual for Nevada. Participated in the development of the State of Nevada Hazard Mitigation Plan. Responded to local/state disasters, participated in one Disaster declaration (Las Vegas, NV), and participated in preparation of Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team reports as needed.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

University of California
Santa Cruz, California
1982-1984
B.S. Earth Science

University of Nevada Reno
Reno, Nevada
1986-1988
M.S. Hydrology-Hydrogeology

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Certified Project Management Professional (PMP)
Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM)
Chapter Director on the Association of State Floodplain Managers Board
Co-Chair of the Arid Regions policy committee of the Association of State Floodplain Managers
Summary of Qualifications
Thirty-seven years of professional experience in ground water exploration and development including water well construction (contracting, drilling operations, well design and testing), determination of aquifer properties, surface and groundwater resource analysis, numerical modeling of aquifers, geophysical processing and interpretations, water right appraisal, hydrogeologic investigations in support of water rights and Nevada Expert Witness testimony.

Professional Experience
Field Geologist, Bethlehem Copper, Vancouver B.C., Canada, 1979-1980
Field Geologist, Texas Gulf, Reno, Nevada, 1981
Intern/Hydrologist/Senior Hydrogeologist, Washoe County, 1982-2011
Hydrogeologist, Lumos & Assoc., 2011-2018
Owner, Senior Hydrogeologist, Hydro-Geo Consulting Services, 2012-present

Professional Affiliations
Nevada Water Resources Association, Board of Directors 2006-2013, President 2010-2012

Education
B.Sc., Geology, University of Washington, Seattle, 1980
Graduate Studies, University of Nevada, Reno, 1982-1983, 1996-2005

PROJECT MANAGER EXPERIENCE
Water Wells: contracting, construction, design and testing of numerous exploratory and municipal water wells. Water well performance testing, maintenance and rehabilitation.

Groundwater modeling: construction and interpretation of both steady state and transient models for water resource investigations and long-range resource management.

Geophysics: design, coordination, processing and interpretation of various land and airborne geophysical surveys, including satellite radar, used to define geologic structure and aquifer delineation for ground water resource investigations and for groundwater modeling input.

Groundwater resource investigations: Use of various methods and techniques for analysis of water resources including surface and airborne geophysics, isotope and geochemistry analysis, aquifer hydraulic analysis, field mapping and extensive exploratory drilling and testing.

Construction of Truckee Meadows Early Warning Flood ALERT System: Network of 26 meteorological remote stations used in monitoring real time weather and stream data for flood forecasting and precipitation recording.

Surface water evaluations: construction and maintenance of stream diversion and gauging structures, surface water resource evaluation, and synthetic record generation.

Watershed assessment: Conduct watershed assessment surveys, make recommendations on management and protection.

PUBLICATIONS


Widmer, Michael C., 2008. Geophysical Interpretation of the Verdi/Mogul Basin Geology, Washoe County. Washoe County Department of Water Resources.


Technical Reports
Numerous reports or titles available upon request.