

**WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION  
AND  
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION**

**CONCURRENT MEETING DRAFT MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021**

The concurrent meeting of the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) Board of Trustees and the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) was held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, via Teleconference, and conducted the following business.

**1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum**

Chair Hartung called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. There was a quorum present.

<u>WRWC Commissioners Present:</u>	<u>Appointed by:</u>
Paul Anderson	Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) (Sparks)
Jenny Brekhus	TMWA (Reno)
Kristopher Dahir	City of Sparks
Naomi Duerr ( <i>present at 8:04 a.m.</i> )	City of Reno
Vaughn Hartung	Washoe County
Alexis Hill	TMWA (Washoe County)

<u>WRWC Commissioners Absent:</u>	<u>Appointed by:</u>
Sandra Ainsworth	Sun Valley General Improvement District (SVGID)
Bob Lucey	TMWA (STMGID Successor)
Bonnie Weber	Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF)

*NNWPC Commissioners Present:* Bill Hauck, John Martini, Jon Combs, Michael Drinkwater, John Enloe, John Flansberg, Danielle Henderson, Dwayne Smith (*for David Solaro*), Mervin Wright, John Zimmerman (*present at 8:10 a.m.*)

*NNWPC Commissioners Absent:* David Solaro (*proxy present*), Mickey Hazelwood, Michael Widmer

*Staff Members Present:* Chris Wessel; Michael Pagni, Legal Counsel; and Jennifer Purgitt

**2. Public Comment**

*(WRWC Commissioner Duerr present at 8:04 a.m.)*

None

**3. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)**

WRWC COMMISSIONER BREKHUS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY WRWC COMMISSIONER DUERR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) WRWC COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

NNWPC COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY NNWPC COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) NNWPC COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

**4. Approval of the Minutes for the February 17, 2021 meeting. (For Possible Action)**

WRWC COMMISSIONER DAHIR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, SECONDED BY WRWC COMMISSIONER HILL. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) WRWC COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

**5. Workshop: Presentation, discussion and action on the Truckee Meadows Storm Water Program and Regional Storm Water Planning projects recommended by the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission's (NNWPC) annual budget for ongoing and future projects and studies for Fiscal Year 2021– 2022; and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner and Theresa Jones, Associate Environmental Engineer, City of Reno. (For Possible Action)**

*(NNWPC Commissioner Zimmerman present at 8:10 a.m.)*

Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner, stated that the budget reflects the priorities and about 80% of the budget is going to three planning categories including Stormwater Planning, Reclaim Water Planning, and Closed Basin Hydrology. A series of workshops will be held over the next three regularly scheduled WRWC meetings. Today's workshop topic is related to the Truckee Meadows Stormwater Program and the Storm water Permit Coordinating Committee (SWPCC). The April 21 workshop will cover the Regional Effluent Management Team efforts. The May 19 workshop will cover Closed Basin Hydrology.

Theresa Jones, Associate Civil Engineer, and SWPCC Coordinator for the City of Reno, presented an overview of the Storm Water Program and answered questions from commissioners regarding the SWPCC activities and focus.

**Public Comment:**

Michael DeMartini stated the wording of the agenda item appears to extend to items of a regional nature outside of the stormwater pollutant aspect and he was planning on presenting a regional solution for floodwater volume mitigation in the closed basins. He stated that he would like to participate in the future.

Nick Brothers, Associate Civil Engineer, City of Reno, and Chad Praul, Environmental Incentives, provided an overview of the proposed water quality crediting and offset program. The presentation included information regarding the contractor's experience, the scale of the program, and the scope details. The SWPCC and the NNWPC unanimously recommended this program for approval by the WRWC. Mr. Praul answered questions from commissioners regarding details of the proposed program.

WRWC Commissioner Brekhus suggested moving this to the next meeting. If Reno staff is reallocated toward this when they could be moving more on the Reno City Council priority of the stormwater utility, she would like to have a discussion with their City Manager who is

working on retooling a utility division to understand what his priorities are because this is a new step in a new direction.

WRWC Commissioner Dahir asked NNWPC Commissioner Martini to comment.

NNWPC Commissioner Martini discussed the program's benefits and expressed support for this program.

WRWC Commissioner Duerr stated that the program sounds intriguing but it is the first time she is hearing about it and would like to have 30 days to get a better understanding of the briefing before voting.

Mr. Wessel responded to questions regarding any timing requirements for the program. He stated that if more time is needed, that should not be a problem as long as the contract is approved before the start of the next fiscal year.

WRWC Chair Hartung stated he is completely on board with this project and he feels the NNWPC did a good job of vetting it.

WRWC COMMISSIONER DAHIR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF RENO FOR THE PROPOSED WATER QUALITY CREDITING AND OFFSET PROGRAM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEED \$200,000, FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021-2023, UPON APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET, AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY WRWC COMMISSIONER ANDERSON.

WRWC Commissioner Duerr stated she will not be able to support the motion and clarified that her vote should not be interpreted as if she does not support this type of program.

WRWC Commissioner Brekhus stated she will not support the motion.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH FOUR (4) IN FAVOR AND TWO (2) OPPOSITIONS BY WRWC COMMISSIONERS BREKHUS AND DUERR.

**6. Report, discussion and action on legislative activities, including Bill Draft Requests and Bills pending in the 2021 session of the Nevada Legislature that may affect or are of interest to the WRWC / NNWPC; and possible action on WRWC Legislative Subcommittee recommendations regarding pending legislation – Michael Pagni, Legal Counsel. (For Possible Action)**

Michael Pagni, Legal Counsel, stated that none of the bills being tracked at this time have a material effect on the Commission.

No action was taken.

**7. Review, discussion, and possible action on the WRWC tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022, and time and place for a public hearing on the budget, and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Wessel requested a motion to set the time and date of the budget meeting for May 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

WRWC COMMISSIONER DAHIR MADE A MOTION TO SCHEDULE THE BUDGET MEETING FOR MAY 20, 2021 AT 9:00 A.M., SECONDED BY WRWC COMMISSIONER HILL. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SIX (6) WRWC COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

**8. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding agenda items and dates for future WRWC meetings. (For Possible Action)**

WRWC Chair Hartung requested a future agenda item to discuss creating a policy on unsolicited proposals.

WRWC Commissioner Dahir requested a future agenda item to further discuss the water quality crediting and offset program that was approved today.

No action was taken.

**9. Commission Comments**

None

**10. Staff Comments**

Mr. Wessel stated all commissioners are welcome to contact him if they have questions or need more information on anything. The next two workshops should answer any questions related to the proposed budget.

**11. Public Comment**

None

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Christine Birmingham, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on \_\_\_\_\_ 2021.

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WRWC Chair Vaughn Hartung