

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
CARSON RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE MEETING
February 21, 2018, 6:30 P.M.
Minutes

Chairman Abowd called the meeting of the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Bonanza Room of the Carson City Community Center, 851 E. William St. (Hwy. 50), Carson City, NV. Roll call of the CWSD Board was taken and a quorum was determined to be present.

CWSD Directors present:

Karen Abowd, Chairman
Brad Bonkowski
Carl Erquiaga, Vice Chairman
Don Frensdorff
Ken Gray
Doug Johnson
Barry Penzel
Chuck Roberts
Steve Thaler

Directors not present:

Ernie Schank
Fred Stodieck

Staff present:

George Benesch, Legal Counsel
Shane Fryer, Watershed Program Specialist
Edwin James, General Manager
Toni Leffler, Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board
Debbie Neddenriep, Water Resource Specialist II

Also present:

John Cobourn, UNCE
Linda Conlin, River Wranglers
Sarah Green, AWG
David Griffith, Alpine County
Don Jardine, Alpine County
Dan Kaffer, private citizen
Julia Keane, AWG/RW
Michelle Lewis, private citizen
Steve Lewis, UNCE
Austin Osborne, Storey County
Andrew Roberts, private citizen
Judy Wickwire, Alpine Watershed Group/Friends of Hope Valley

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Abowd.

Item #4 – Discussion Only: Public Comment – Sarah Green reported: 1) She will be stepping down as Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) Executive Director and moving to Truckee to be near her mother. 2) In 2017, AWG had 150 volunteers participate in 40 monitoring and restoration projects, contributing over 780 volunteer hours on 130 acres of land in Alpine County. Ms. Green thanked CWSD for its participation in AWG and noted that Brenda Hunt and Debbie Neddenriep were at the AWG appreciation celebration. Director Abowd thanked Ms. Green for her service.

Item #5 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agenda. Items #20 and #23 are pulled from the agenda. *Director Erquiaga made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Director Bonkowski and unanimously approved by the CWSD Board.*

Item #6 – For Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2018. *Director Bonkowski made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Board meeting on January 17, 2018. The motion was seconded by Gray and unanimously approved by the CWSD Board, with Directors Frensdorff, Johnson, and Thaler abstaining for not having been at that meeting.*

CONSENT AGENDA

Item #7 – For Possible Action: Approval of Treasurer’s Report for January 2018.

Item #8 – For Possible Action: Payment of Bills for January 2018.

Item #9 – For Possible Action: Approval of Salary Range Modification for General Manager and Administrative Assistant positions.

Item #10 – For Possible Action: Approval of Cost of Living Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2018-19 of 1.75%

Item #11 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agreement with JE Fuller to conduct the Dayton Valley Area Drainage Master Plan in an amount not to exceed \$340,498.00.

Item #12 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agreement #2018-4 with Lyon County to cover part of the Dayton Valley Area Drainage Master Plan in an amount not to exceed \$22,498.00.

Item #13 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agreement #2018-5 with Storey County to cover part of the Dayton Valley Area Drainage Master Plan in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Item #14 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agreement #2018-6 with Robert Loveberg to review and propose revisions to County/City Ordinances and Design Standards to advance Low Impact Development (LID) Implementation in the Carson River Watershed in an amount not to exceed \$32,000.00.

There was no public comment. *Director Gray made the motion to approve Items #7-14 of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Frensdorff and unanimously approved by the CWSD Board.*

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

Item #15 – For Possible Action: Presentation of the 2018 Andy Aldax Carson River Watershed Award to Steve Lewis. Director Abowd thanked Steve Lewis for all his service. She noted that he stepped aside last year to let Juan Guzman have the Andy Aldax Award before his retirement. Mr. James noted that Steve Lewis and John Cobourn started the Integrated Watershed Process movement in 1998, which later became the Carson River Coalition (CRC). Many of the things that we are now known for doing in this watershed were started by these two gentlemen.

Dan Kaffer read the nomination letter from him and John Cobourn. It captured the many ways in which Mr. Lewis has served for many years in the Carson River Watershed.

John Cobourn reminisced about how Mr. Lewis was already an extension educator when Mr. Cobourn was hired 26 years ago. Mr. Lewis will be very missed when he retires and moves to Idaho.

Linda Conlin noted that Mr. Lewis' presence has also been felt by the River Wranglers, a small non-profit organization.

Director Johnson commented that Mr. Lewis was most known for creating unity throughout the watershed and thanked him for bringing people together.

Mr. Lewis recalled that he moved to Douglas County in 1990, and the first producer he met was Andy Aldax who welcomed him with open arms. Ed Sarman, Sr., took Mr. Lewis around the valley and encouraged him to get in tune with the flooding issue. Mr. Lewis and Mr. Cobourn began the Citizen's Task Force for Flood Control which leaked into the Master Plan. The Buckbrush Safety Coalition resulted in reverse 911 for notifying the citizens of Douglas County of impending flooding. The 1997 flood led to two conferences in 1998 addressing the central question: "What kind of citizens and interaction group would best serve the Carson River Watershed in addressing the flooding problem?" From there the effort mushroomed. Ira Rackley was the consultant who ran CWSD, then Mr. James was hired. The CRC developed, creating the Guiding Principles, the Education and River Corridor Working Groups, etc. Mr. Lewis stressed that nothing that he's done is solo; everything that gets done is a joint effort.

Director Abowd presented Mr. Lewis with the Andy Aldax Award plaque and showed him his place on the perpetual plaque that resides in the CWSD office.

**RECESS TO CONVENE AS
THE CARSON RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE**

Item #16 – Roll Call – Director Abowd convened the Carson River Watershed Committee and a roll call was taken.

Committee Members present:

CWSD Directors as presented in roll call above
David Griffith, Alpine County
Don Jardine, Alpine County

Committee Members not present:

Ernie Schank
Fred Stodieck

Item #17 – Discussion Only: Public Comment – None

Item #18 – For Possible Recommendation: Modify Interlocal Contracts #2017-15 and #2017-16 with Carson Valley and Dayton Valley Conservation Districts to allow the Districts to use some of the funds to assist ranchers with the summary reports and permits necessary to do work in the river. Mr. James explained that over the last several months he has been meeting with water regulators and users in Douglas and Lyon Counties. The regulators would like to have a description of what a user wants to do even if they do not need a permit. There are a lot of details to work through, so the conservation districts could be able to work with the users to submit information for permitting. Brad Crowell, Director of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, is also interested in getting people together. This agenda item is for modifying the agreements we already have with the conservation districts to be able to pay them to help the water users.

Committee Member Griffith made the motion that the Carson River Watershed Committee recommend CWSD Board approval of the Addendums to Interlocal Contracts #2017-15 and #2017-16 with Carson Valley and Dayton Valley Conservation Districts to allow the Districts to use some of the funds to assist ranchers with the summary reports and permits necessary to do work in the river. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Penzel and unanimously approved by the Carson River Watershed Committee.

Item #19 – For Possible Recommendation: Discussion regarding inviting Storey County to have a voting representative on the Carson River Watershed Committee and other CWSD Committees as appropriate. Mr. James explained that the Administrative Committee met and discussed inviting Storey County to become a voting member of CWSD committees. Mr. James referred to the draft Administrative Committee notes with Item #9 for more detail. Austin Osborne offered to work with CWSD to foster Storey County’s participation.

Mr. Roberts asked if there is a place for Storey County in the Carson River Watershed Committee formation policy. Mr. James believes there is but will bring the policy to the next Board meeting.

Committee Member Jardine made the motion that the Carson River Watershed Committee recommend that the CWSD Board invite Storey County to have a voting representative on the Carson River Watershed Committee and other CWSD Committees as appropriate. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Gray and unanimously approved by the Carson River Watershed Committee.

Item #20 – For Possible Recommendation: Discussion regarding the proposal to modify the language in future CWSD contracts to enhance liability clauses and requiring the entity receiving funding from CWSD to fill out a Project Summary Worksheet. This item was pulled from the agenda for tonight’s meeting.

Item #21 – Discussion Only: Public Comment. None.

**ADJOURN TO RECONVENE AS THE
CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Item #22 – For Possible Action: Modify Interlocal Contracts #2017-15 and #2017-16 with Carson Valley and Dayton Valley Conservation Districts to allow the Districts to use some of the funds to assist ranchers with the summary reports and permits necessary to do work in the

river. This item was discussed earlier in the meeting under Item #18. There was no further Board or public comment.

Item #23 – For Possible Action: Discussion regarding the proposal to modify the language in future CWSD contracts to enhance liability clauses and requiring the entity receiving funding from CWSD to fill out a Project Summary Worksheet. This item was pulled from the agenda for tonight’s meeting.

Item #24 – For Possible Action: Discussion regarding inviting Storey County to have a voting representative on the Carson River Watershed Committee and other CWSD Committees as appropriate. This item was discussed earlier in the meeting under Item #19. There was no further Board or public comment.

Director Gray made the motion that Items #22 and #24 be approved as discussed in one motion. Director Johnson seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the CWSD Board.

Item #25 – For Possible Action: Approval of River Wrangler’s request to pay Dayton Valley Conservation District for their work on Conserve Carson River Work Days 2016 from the FY 2017-18 grant. Mr. James explained that Dayton Valley Conservation District (DVCD) realized that they had done some work on the Conserve Carson River Work Day (CCRWD) for River Wranglers in 2016 but did not submit an invoice for the work. River Wranglers has submitted a letter to CWSD requesting that they be able to utilize this year’s funding from CWSD to reimburse DVCD’s 2016 expense. Director Penzel noted that it is a small amount to pay and is necessary funding for DVCD. Director Bonkowski commented that agreement partners should be responsible to get their invoices to CWSD for payment in a timely manner or not get paid. He suggested including a clause for timely submission of invoices in all future agreements.

Director Johnson made motion to pay \$2,828.80 to Dayton Valley Conservation District for work under the CCWRD 2016 grant. The motion was seconded by Director Erquiaga and approved by all Directors except Director Bonkowski who opposed the motion.

Item #26 – Discussion Only: Staff Reports

General Manager - Mr. James reported:

- The Water Summit on 1/30/18 was well attended. It focused on the future water supply. Many of the speakers discussed how water runoff in the future is expected to occur sooner in the year, and planning should begin for future runoff changes.
- The USGS is to give a presentation on what they’ve been analyzing at the April CWSD meeting.
- One of the handouts is looking at the snow level at February 1 and what is anticipated for April. Snow levels will not get to the average even if we have a “miracle March.”
- Mr. James attended a workshop in Stagecoach. A developer was proposing to bring water for development in Stagecoach. The community likes the open space and doesn’t want their population tripled. Director Gray mentioned that low income and HUD housing was proposed to be built first which caused some residents to be upset.
- He attended a joint workshop between Lyon County and Churchill County with the State Engineer and asked the Churchill and Lyon County representatives to report further under Directors’ Reports.

- He instructed staff to pass around the River Wrangler thank you cards from students for CWSD support of work days.
- On page 125 of the Board package is a letter to Rob Pyzel stating that the State Engineer will determine if water is available before issuing a permit in the Silver Springs area.

Debbie Neddenriep reported:

- Save the date for April 11-12 for the CRC Forum.
- June 22 will be the 20th Anniversary of the CRC at Fuji Park.
- The Bus Tour will be in the fall.

Shane Fryer reported:

- There will be a weed workshop at the UNCE office in Carson City on March 20, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Legal –Mr. Benesch announced that he was stepping down as CWSD legal counsel. He will work with CWSD through the transition as CWSD finds new legal counsel.

Item #27- Discussion Only: Directors' Reports

Director Erquiaga reported on the joint meeting of Churchill and Lyon County Commissioners with the State Engineer, Chris Mahannah, and Mike Workman. He said it dispelled misconceptions about where wells are located upstream of Lahontan Reservoir. There was a presentation by USGS on the work they are doing on the Humboldt watershed. Director Gray agreed that it was well worth the time and another meeting is expected to happen.

Item #28 – Discussion Only: Update on activities in Alpine County.

Supervisor Jardine reported:

- He enjoyed the Water Summit which he attended.
- STPUD is provided funding to Alpine Watershed Group to collect water quality samples.
- The annual Pony Express ride will be going through Woodfords in April.

Supervisor Griffith reported:

- There is a possibility of hundreds of millions of dollars for forest health, however, the Forest Service doesn't have the capacity to fill out the paperwork. Alpine County is in discussion with the Forest Service to help them fill out the application.

Item #29 – Discussion Only: Update on activities in Storey County. Austin Osborne had nothing to report

Item #30 – Discussion Only: Public Comment. None.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Bonkowski made the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Leffler
Secretary