

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND  
CARSON RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE MEETING  
May 20, 2020

**Minutes**

***The CWSD May 20, 2020 Board of Directors meeting was held via Zoom Videoconference and teleconference due to Governor Sisolak's statewide Emergency Directive in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.***

Chairman Erquiaga called the meeting of the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) to order at 6:30 pm. Roll call of the CWSD Board was taken and a quorum was determined to be present.

**CWSD Directors present:**

Brad Bonkowski, Treasurer  
Carl Erquiaga, Chairman  
Stacey Giomi, Director  
Ken Gray, Director  
Jack Jacobs, Director  
Barry Penzel, Director  
Ernie Schank, Director  
Fred Stodieck, Director  
Steve Thaler, Vice Chairman  
Larry Walsh, Director  
Mike Workman, Director

Roll call of the Carson River Watershed Committee was taken which included CWSD Directors and Committee Members Kathy Canfield, David Griffith, and Don Jardine.

**CWSD Staff present:**

Brenda Hunt, Watershed Program Manager  
Shane Fryer, Watershed Program Specialist  
Edwin James, General Manager  
Debbie Neddenriep, Water Resource Specialist II  
Catrina Schambra, Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board

**Others present:**

David Bruketta, Lyon County Utilities Director  
Nick Charles, Lumos & Associates Inc.  
Patrick King, CWSD Attorney  
David Merrill, Vidler Water Company

*The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Erquiaga.*

**Item #4 – Discussion Only: Public Comment** – None

**Item #5 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agenda**

*Director Gray made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion*

*was seconded by Director Thaler and unanimously approved by the Board.*

**Item #6 – For Possible Action: Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2020**

*Director Bonkowski made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2020 as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Penzel and unanimously approved by the Board.*

**\*\*CONSENT AGENDA\*\***

**Item # 7 - For Possible Action: Approval of Treasurer’s Report for March 2020**

**Item # 8 - For Possible Action: Approval of Payment of Bills for March 2020**

**Item # 9 - For Possible Action: Approval of the five-year Mud Lake Agreement with Carson City**

**Item # 10 - For Possible Action: Approval of the one-year Lost Lake Agreement with Carson City**

**Item # 11 - For Possible Action: Approval of the HDR Contract to Restudy and Remap the Churchill County Floodplains in an amount of \$253,824**

**Item # 12 - For Possible Action: Approval of time extension with Rob Loveberg to complete the Low Impact Development Watershed Ordinances and possibility increase the agreement by \$2,000**

**Item # 13 - For Possible Action: Ratify approval for the Watershed Program Manager to attend the StormCon Conference in Seattle, August 17-19, 2020**

**Item # 14 - For Possible Action: Approval of the funding agreement from Alpine County, California to Carson Water Subconservancy District to conduct the Mesa Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program in the amount not to exceed \$6,500**

*Director Schank made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Giomi and unanimously approved by the Board.*

**\*\*END OF CONSENT AGENDA\*\***

**Item # 15 - For Possible Action: PUBLIC HEARING - Carson Water Subconservancy District will hold a Public Hearing on its FY 2020-2021 Tentative Budget**

Chairman Erquiaga declared the Public Hearing open. Chairman Erquiaga asked if there were any questions or public comment for the Public Hearing. There being none, Chairman Erquiaga declared the Public Hearing closed.

*No action taken.*

**Item # 16 - For Possible Action: Approval of funding request from Lyon County to obtain a Utility Right-of-Way from Dayton to Silver Springs in an amount of \$125,000**

David Bruketta, Utilities Director for Lyon County had presented the funding request to the May 4, 2020 Regional Water System & Flood Committee and it was recommended by the committee to be brought to the full Board for approval. Mr. Bruketta and Mr. Merrill (Vidler Water Company) were both present to give an overview of the project to the Board. The

Highway 50 Corridor Right-of-Way Project would run between Dayton and Silver Springs and be used for water, sewer, and reclaimed water. Mr. James stated the funding must come from the Acquisition/Construction Fund per the Regional Water System & Flood Committee Policy and there is approximately \$700,000 earmarked for these types of projects. This funding request is for a total of \$125,000. There was a brief discussion before a motion was called.

*Director Gray made a motion to approve the funding request from Lyon County Highway 50 Corridor Right-of-Way Project for a total not to exceed \$125,000 or actual costs over a 2-year period to be paid from the Acquisition/Construction Fund. The motion was seconded by Director Workman and unanimously approved by the Board.*

**Item # 17 - For Discussion Only: Discussion on the Carson River Water Marketing Study Update Memorandum from Lumos and Associates**

Nick Charles from Lumos & Associates gave a second data presentation on the Water Marketing project, that he first presented to the Regional Water System & Flood Committee earlier this month. This project is funded through a Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) grant. The project is about 1/3 complete and he showed the data that has been gathered and what has been learned at this point. There has been a decrease trend in flows and more variability in the river. The data also shows the trends in use of the water. The study is scheduled to be completed in June 2021.

There was robust discussion regarding data included in study, 1940 records, perennial yield determination, phosphorus sewer treatment and who owns wastewater per Nevada law. Mr. James, in response to the latter topic reported that municipalities still owns that water. Most is used in agriculture because it is co costly to treat and put back into source.

Committee Member Griffith is a member of the Forest Management Task Force and suggested his group see this presentation. Director Walsh asked that the presentation be sent to the Board members for further review.

Mr. Charles then presented extra slides showing trends in flows. Director Penzel questioned whether the more variability in flows is good or bad and can we control this? Mr. Charles responds higher highs and lower lows is not a good thing. More dramatic flows are a cause for concern. There followed more discussion regarding lack of storage in the Carson River Watershed as the biggest issue.

*No action taken.*

**Item # 18 - For Possible Action: Approval of the CWSD Fiscal Year 2020-21 Final Budgets for the General, Acquisition/Construction, and Floodplain Funds**

Mr. James presented the final Budgets to the Board, reminding them that we had already approved the Tentative Budget in March while awaiting the final Ad Valorem information from the Tax Department. He explained the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Final Budgets for the General, Acquisition/Construction, and Floodplain Funds in detail to the Board of Directors.

*Director Gray made a motion to approve the CWSD Fiscal Year 2020-21 Final Budgets for the General, Acquisition/Construction, and Floodplain Funds as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Thaler and unanimously*

*approved by the Board.*

**Item # 19 - For Discussion Only: Presentation by CWSD Staff on the River Monitoring Using a Drone**

Shane Fryer, Watershed Program Specialist, gave a presentation on his work using a drone in monitoring the Carson River. Mr. Fryer is excited at the possibilities for future projects with this new tool. In fact, the new drone he is using is a result of NDEP seeing his work using his personal drone and suggesting a grant project to expand the use and further his expertise in this new and exciting technology to benefit our work in the Carson Watershed. The Board members were excited, too, for this new opportunity available to CWSD.

*No action taken.*

**Item #20– For Discussion Only: Staff Reports –**

Mr. James reported on the following:

- Mr. James is working closely with Loren Secor (AmeriCorps) on analysis of groundwater levels and diversion records. The goal is to give water purveyors throughout the watershed a presentation based on this data: to them know what is occurring and give them the best information available. His plan is to first present to the Board, possibly at June meeting, and then take it on road, or virtual road.

Ms. Hunt reported the following:

- She is still working on the LID project which will go into the fall. Watershed Literacy will be moving forward to the next steps in the video project with a new contract with NEON next month and her team is working on a newsletter.

**Legal** – No report, but kudos to Shane for a great presentation!

**Correspondence** – Letter to Julie Fair (American Rivers) from Edwin James regarding Beaver project in Faith Valley.

*No action was taken.*

**Item #21 – For Discussion Only: Directors Reports –**

Director Gray reported that he is up for reelection next month and his continuing as a member of the Board depends on the outcome. Regardless of the election, he wanted to state for the record what a pleasure it has been to serve with CWSD and this group of people, and just say thank you!

**Item #22 – For Discussion Only: Update on activities in Alpine County –**

Committee Member Jardine reported the following:

- California Fish & Wildlife will be planting fish soon after delaying Fish Season until May 15 due to the COVID-19 Emergency.
- The Lahontan Water Quality Control Board is planning a Leviathan Mine tour later this year, date to TBD.
- The Alpine County Local Area Management Plan is at a level 2 for monitoring pharmaceuticals in the water – an issue on the California side.

*No action was taken.*

**Item #23 – For Discussion Only: Update on activities in Storey County –**

Committee Member Canfield reported the following:

- Water tank replacement is in progress.
- The Storey County Water Resource Plan is ongoing.
- Public Works projects, including the Gold Hill Treatment Plant ongoing.
- Storey County Hazard Mitigation Plan is being updated to go to Board in June.

*No action was taken.*

**Item #24 – For Discussion Only: Public Comment – None**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Erquiaga adjourned the meeting at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Catrina Schambra*

Secretary to the Board