

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
CARSON RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE MEETING
November 18, 2020

Minutes

The CWSD November 18, 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.

Director 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
Jack Jacobs, Director
Barry Penzel, Director
Ernie Schank, Director
Fred Stodieck, Director
Steve Thaler, Director
Larry Walsh, Director
Mike Workman, Director

Absent Director: Ken Gray

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

CWSD Staff & Guests present:

Michael Beers, Eide Bailly LLC
Beth Farley, Eide Bailly, LLC
Shane Fryer, Watershed Program Specialist
Brenda Hunt, Watershed Program Manager
Edwin James, General Manager
Patrick King, CWSD Attorney
Debbie Neddenriep, Water Resource Specialist II
Catrina Schambra, Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board

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 Schank 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 October 21, 2020

Director Penzel made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2020. The motion was seconded by Director Jacobs and approved by the Board 12-0-1.

****CONSENT AGENDA****

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

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

Item #9 - For Possible Action: Extend Agreement #2019-13 with River Wranglers to Dec.31, 2020

Item #10 - For Possible Action: Renew the General Manager’s Employment Contract

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

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

Item #11 - For Possible Action: Presentation by Eide Bailly on the CWSD FY 2019-20 Audit

Beth Farley and Michael Beers from Eide Bailly, LLC presented the draft report of the Single Audit they performed for FY 2019-20 financial, grant, and contract records. Each page of the report was reviewed in detail to explain their findings to the Board. There was discussion of the issue with FEMA MAS 10 procurement of contractors, which CWSD is currently awaiting a decision by FEMA on how to move forward. Because the issue was discovered during the audit procedure, if a resolution is received from FEMA before the audit submission due date of November 30, 2020, the language will be modified in the audit record.

Director Schank made a motion to accept the CWSD FY 2019-20 Single Audit as presented, with allowing for the addition of any resolution received from FEMA by November 30, 2020. The motion was seconded by Director Jacobs and approved by the Board 10-2-0.

Item #12 - For Possible Action: Modify the process for selecting Officers & Committee Members for 2021

Mr. James explained that next year is unique in that we will have 5-7 new Board Members. They will not be appointed by their counties until January. Because almost half the Board will be new to the Board, Mr. James suggests we wait until our regular January Board meeting to name the Chairperson and Treasurer and select committee assignments. Usually the selection of the Officers would be discussed at the Administrative Committee meeting in December; however, due to the large turn over there is an uncertainty who may be eligible to serve as an Officer.

Director Giomi made a motion to accept the recommendation to waive the Administrative Committee meeting in December and select officers and committee members at the January 20, 2021 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Griffith and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #13 - For Possible Action: Modify CWSD Procurement Policy

Mr. James explained that the auditors have identified the need to modify CWSD Procurement Policy. The change includes adding in the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200 language as part of CWSD policy.

Director Jacobs made a motion to accept the modification of the CWSD Procurement Policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Workman and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #14 - For Possible Action: Revision to Contractor Agreement Template when using Federal Funds

Mr. James explained that this revision to the contractor agreement template to incorporate the language of Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards under our Section 7: Independent Contractor, was recommended by our auditor.

Director Thaler made a motion to accept the Revision to Contractor Agreement Template when using Federal Funds as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Schank and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #15 – For Discussion Only: Staff Reports –

Mr. James reported on the following:

- Staff will be meeting with Eide Bailly to discuss some issues that came up regarding how the audit was conducted this year. Staff is also considering beginning the process of hiring a new accountant/consultant so CWSD will be better prepared for a single audit in the future.
- Although we are still waiting for a resolution from FEMA as stated earlier, CWSD was given authority to move forward with the projects that had already been started under FEMA MAS 10. They had been previously halted pending resolution.
- BDR: Steve Walker and Mary Walker talked with State Senator James Settlemeyer about introducing a bill regarding Storey County becoming a member of CWSD. Mr. Walker expressed some concerns adding Alpine County into the bill at this time. He recommends that we move forward with Storey County now and address Alpine County later. There was concern among the Board and discussion including that we should set up a meeting with Mr. Settlemeyer to clarify exactly what the issues are. Committee Member Griffith offered to attend the meeting. Mr. James reminded the Board that Storey County is not yet official, but Alpine County is under authority of a yearly Memorandum of Understanding.
- Douglas County is in the process of updating their Master Plan. The Planning Commission has recommended removing the Stewardship Plan from the Master Plan. Their concern is none of them has seen the Stewardship Plan. Staff realizes that there are many new people in the watershed, and it is important to start going to each of the counties to give them an update on the various regional water studies and plans. Hope to start meeting with the various counties in early 2021.

- December Board meeting will not be our usual Christmas Party this year due to COVID, but we are planning to recognize our departing Board Members in our customary friendly roast way.

Legal – Patrick King thanked Ed and Catrina for their great work on the contract revisions.

Correspondence –

- Letter of support for the Washoe Tribe for the project proposal “East Fork Carson Riverbank Stabilization and Restoration” to BOR
- Letter of concern to LRWQCB re: Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Exemption to Waste Discharge Prohibition for the Faith Valley Meadow Restoration Project, Alpine County
- Letter of support to NSF Proposal Review Committee re: proposal submitted by Dr. Anne Nolin [PI] entitled Enhancing Resilience in the Mountain-to-Dryland-Continuum: Co-Developing Adaptation Pathways through Transdisciplinary Practices and Social-Environmental Systems Modeling

No action was taken.

Item #16 – For Discussion Only: Directors Reports –

- Director Giomi reported that Rural Nevada is suing the State Water Engineer. He has designated a Basin via a zoom meeting and there is concern that it was being rushed thru without input from Rural Nevada. This does not affect our region at all, but he wanted to point out how fortunate we are to have the cooperative system we enjoy here.
- Director Bonkowski reported the multi-use path along the river has been completed. The Commissioners will hear the new storm drainage rates tomorrow. The new rate will generate about \$1 million a year and will help with point source pollution.
- Director Jacobs just wanted to mention that the Douglas County Chamber of Commerce would like Mr. James to speak to their group regarding water issues.

No action was taken.

Item #17 – For Discussion Only: Update on activities in Alpine County –

- Committee Member Griffith reported AWG has completed the Hope Valley project.

No action was taken.

Item #18– For Discussion Only: Update on activities in Storey County –

- Kathy Canfield reported Storey County held a virtual public meeting regarding the Vista Narrows project and 20 residents called in to participate!

No action was taken.

Item #16 – For Discussion Only: Public Comment – None

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Erquiaga adjourned the meeting at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catrina Schambra, Secretary to the Board