

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
January 21, 2015, 6:30 P.M.  
Minutes

Directors present:

Karen Abowd, Vice Chairman  
Brad Bonkowski  
Carl Erquiaga  
Ray Fierro, Treasurer  
Don Frensdorff  
Don Jardine  
Greg Lynn, Chairman  
Barry Penzel  
Chuck Roberts  
Ernie Schank  
Fred Stodieck

Directors not present:

Doug Johnson  
Austin Osborne, Storey County  
Mary Rawson

Staff present:

George Benesch, Legal Counsel  
Brenda Hunt, Watershed Coordinator  
Edwin James, General Manager  
Toni Leffler, Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary  
Debbie Neddenriep, Water Resource Specialist

Also present:

Laurie Livermore, private citizen

Chairman Lynn called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in Room 1214 of the Nevada State Legislative Building, 401 S. Carson St., Carson City, Nevada. The CWSD/Alpine County Joint Powers Board was convened. Roll call was taken and a quorum was determined to be present. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Director Roberts.

Item #5 - Approval of Agenda. *Director Schank made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Jardine and unanimously approved by the Board.*

Item #7 - Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes from December 17, 2014. *- Director Penzel made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting on December 17, 2014. The motion was seconded by Director Abowd and unanimously approved by the Board, with Directors Bonkowski and Roberts abstaining for not having been present at the meeting.*

Item #7 - Public Comment None

## CONSENT AGENDA

Item #8 - Approval of Treasurer's Report for December 2014.

Item #9 - Payment of Bills for December 2014.

Item #10 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of an Addendum to extend Agreement #2014-1 with River Wranglers to Provide a Carson River Conservation Tours Program.

Item #11 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of Agreement #2015-1 with River Wranglers to Conduct the Carson River Environmental Education Program.

Item #12 - Discussion for possible action regarding modifications to the FY 2014-15 budget.

*Director Penzel made the motion to approve the consent agenda items #8-12. The motion was seconded by Director Frensdorff and unanimously approved by the Board. There was no public comment.*

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

Director Erquiaga joined the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Item #13 - Discussion for possible action regarding award of the 2015 CWSD Andy Aldax Award for Exemplary Service in Conservation and Protection of the Carson River Watershed posthumously to Pete Livermore. Directors Lynn and Abowd presented the CWSD Andy Aldax Award for 2015 to Laurie Livermore, widow of Pete Livermore. Mrs. Livermore commented that CWSD was one of Pete's favorite boards to serve on when he was a Carson City Supervisor, and he would be so pleased to receive this award.

*No action was required on this item; receive and file.*

Item #14 - Discussion for possible action regarding selection of Board committees for 2015. Mr. James explained that in the past an incoming Director would simply replace their outgoing counterpart on the same committees. However, this is at the discretion of the Board. There must be less than a quorum of six Nevada members present on any committee, and we like to have each county represented on each committee. Mr. James mentioned that the Legislative Committee would be meeting more this year since the Legislature is in session, and a meeting will be set up soon to review the list of BDRs which Mr. James is watching. Director Lynn noted that there will be some challenging items before the Legislature. Lack of water will drive some legislative issues. Mr. James suggested that the Regional Water System Committee be expanded to include regional flood issues.

After conversation, it was determined that Director Roberts will replace Director Ricci on the Administrative and Legislative Committees. Director Bonkowski will replace Director McKenna on the Finance Committee and Director Abowd on the Legislative Committee. Director Abowd will replace Director McKenna on the Regional Water System Committee. Therefore, committee assignments for 2015 are as follows:

- Administrative Committee - Directors Abowd, Erquiaga, Frensdorff, Rawson, and Roberts.
- Finance Committee - Directors Fierro, Lynn, Bonkowski, Rawson, and Schank.

- Legislative Committee - Directors Bonkowski, Johnson, Lynn, Osborne, Roberts, and Schank.
- Regional Water System Committee - Directors Abowd, Erquiaga, Fierro, Jardine, Osborne, Penzel, and Stodieck.

*Director Abowd made the motion that the committee assignments be as shown above and that the Regional Water System Committee be expanded to include regional flood issues. Director Jardine seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.*

Item #15 - Discussion for possible action regarding an update on the runoff predictions for 2015.

Mr. James explained a slide of cumulated precipitation at Tahoe City. We have lost over a year of precipitation during the time period from 2012 to 2014. Also, even though this year started off fast, precipitation has dwindled and is lower than last year. It is only about 42% of normal with a projection of spring runoff of 171,000 af from April-August. Looking down river at East Fork at the Gardnerville gage, the flow is about 58 cfs which is 53% of long-term average. Flow at the Carson City gage is at 75 cfs which is only 38% of normal. Flow at the Fort Churchill gage is at 55 cfs which is 28% of normal. Lahontan Reservoir only has 20,000 af of storage, which is 30,000 af less than last year. Unless we get a major storm, we will be in a world of hurt. This could be one of the worst years for allocation of water deliveries in the Newlands Project history. Mr. James is hoping for improved precipitation in March.

Director Lynn noted that since records have been kept, Nevada has never had four dry years in a row. Compared to 1977, 1977 was worse than this year. In 1992, the gage at Carson City was dry. The difference is that we are having more dry years in a row.

*No action was required on this item; receive and file.*

Item #16 - Staff Reports

General Manager - Mr. James reported: 1) We are going to set up a Strategic Planning Session lasting one day to determine what the Board wants to hear from staff and where the Board wants CWSD to head in the future. 2) Staff has held water purveyor meetings in the middle and upper Carson River areas. They have been going well, and Mr. James believes CWSD will see funding requests for consideration in the FY 2015-16 budget as a result. 3) Mr. James has heard that there is a concern about arsenic levels increasing at the Town of Minden wells. The USGS may be asked to do an arsenic transport study around those wells to see if the wells are pulling arsenic into wells. If arsenic treatment is needed, it could be very expensive and increase the cost of the water they are selling to surrounding areas.

Brenda Hunt reported: 1) Eagles and Ag will be February 19-22. 2) There is a Snowshoe Thompson hike scheduled on February 22, assuming there is snow. 3) Staff is considering dates and venues to have a floodplain management focused forum, maybe on April 22-23. 3) The bus tour is scheduled for June 9-10.

Legal –Mr. Benesch had nothing specific to report.

Correspondence – As included in the Board package and handed out. Mr. James pointed out the CWSD 2014 list of activities and accomplishments which follows the format of our website. He praised Ms. Hunt, Ms. Walker, and Ms. Neddenriep for their hard work on this.

Item #17 - Directors' Reports

Director Penzel suggested using Doodle polls for setting up committee meetings.

Director Lynn commented that when we have a Strategic Planning Session we should think about taking advantage of the drought to get projects done in the river.

Directors Roberts, Frensdorff, Schank, Jardine, Fierro, Abowd, Stodieck, Bonkowski, and Erquiaga had nothing specific to report.

*There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Schank made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Frensdorff and unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Leffler  
Secretary