

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 19, 2016, 6:30 P.M.
Minutes

Directors present:

Karen Abowd, Vice Chairman
Brad Bonkowski
Ray Fierro, Treasurer
Don Jardine
Doug Johnson
Greg Lynn, Chairman
Austin Osborne, Storey County representative
Barry Penzel
Chuck Roberts
Ernie Schank

Directors not present:

Carl Erquiaga
Don Frensdorff
Mary Rawson
Fred Stodieck

Staff present:

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

Also present: None

Chairman Lynn called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in Room #3137 of the Nevada State Legislative Building, 401 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV. 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 led by Director Abowd.

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

Item #6 - Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2016. *Director Bonkowski made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting on September 21, 2016. The motion was seconded by Director Abowd and approved by the Board.*

Item #7 - Public Comment – None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item #8 - Approval of Treasurer's Report for September 2016. -

Item #9 - Payment of Bills for September 2016.

Director Schank made the motion to approve the consent agenda, including items #8-9. The motion was seconded by Director Penzel and unanimously approved by the Board.

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

Item #10 - Discussion for possible action regarding releasing the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to Restudy and Remap the Floodplain for Voltaire Canyon in Carson City. - Mr. James explained that this is a request from Carson City's Flood Administrator Robb Fellows who identified this area as still needing to be studied, especially with the new freeway going through. Director Abowd asked how the water from the freeway get to the river. Mr. James explained that it goes down Clear Creek and through the Saliman drainage. Director Abowd also asked how soon the residents will be notified who are currently paying flood insurance in that area. Mr. James explained the process and concluded that the residents will be notified within a year and a half.

Director Abowd made the motion to release the Request for Qualifications to Restudy and Remap the Floodplain for Voltaire and Saliman Canyons in Carson City. The motion was seconded by Director Fierro and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #11 - Discussion for possible action regarding releasing the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Johnson Lane Area Drainage Master Plan in Douglas County. - Mr. James handed out revisions to the RFQ and Scope of Work and identified corrections and changes need to be made to those documents in the Board package. He explained that this is a unique project and new to FEMA Region IX. Douglas County was trying to find a funding source to develop this master plan, but FEMA Region IX staff initially said FEMA couldn't fund it. After further review at Region IX, FEMA determined that they could fund this project. This may also work in other counties in the watershed. Look at drainage issues and find methods of dealing with them instead of mapping FEMA floodplains. Mr. James noted that he met with Director Penzel earlier about his concerns and has included language to the RFQ to address them. Mr. James is hopeful that John Cobourn from the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension can help provide input during scoping.

Director Lynn asked how Mr. James got FEMA to accept this. Mr. James explained that Region IX has a new staff member who transferred from another region where he has done this and knew it could be approved.

Director Penzel thanked Mr. James for seeking comments and adopting them. He was glad to learn that Douglas County staff were included in the planning of the project. He complimented Mr. James on his expertise in handling all this.

Director Penzel made the motion to release the Request for Qualifications for the Johnson Lane Area Drainage Master Plan in Douglas County. The motion was seconded by Director Fierro and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #12 - Discussion for possible action regarding a summary of the 2016 Water Year. – Mr. James gave a presentation showing the precipitation in the Carson River basin for water year 2015 and how it compared to the historic low, average, and wettest years on record. He noted that 2015 was such a dry year that when 2016 had close to normal precipitation it felt like a wet year. Mr. James compared pictures of snowpack between 2015-16 and streamflow comparisons. Lahontan Reservoir didn't get to half way full and it will take several normal years to fill again. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts average precipitation in our area and above normal temperatures. The recent storm brought a lot of rain to the valleys and snow at higher elevations but not as much as hoped because of warmer temperatures. The good news for municipalities is that the water supply is holding and they are not mining groundwater.

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

Item #13 - Staff Reports

General Manager - Mr. James reported:

- The Carson Valley new floodplain maps had a monkey wrench thrown into the process this week. For six or seven years Mr. James had been told that Douglas County had adopted a one-half foot rise for the regulatory floodway. When that was questioned recently, research found that the Douglas County ordinance is for a one-foot rise for the regulatory floodway. The floodway will be smaller than originally thought. The consultant is concerned about the ramifications downstream in Carson City, Lyon and Churchill Counties. The good news is that Douglas County has an active land conservation program to preserve the floodplain.
- Lost Lakes water has been released. Since Lost Lakes is on Forest Service land, Mr. James has been talking to the Forest Service about what we would need to do to the area if we move the Lost Lakes water rights. He realized that they needed to take a tour of the area to give reasonable suggestions, but the tour which was scheduled for last week had to be postponed due to weather.
- Mr. James will give presentations to the Dayton Republication Committee on 11/5 on water rights and to the Good Governance Group (GGG) in Douglas County about water issues.
- The December Board meeting falls on 12/21/16, during Christmas week. Mr. James asked whether the Board would like to keep that meeting date or have the Board meeting and Christmas dinner a week earlier, on 12/14/16. The Board decided on 12/14/16.
- Mr. James noted that it is time to request nominations for candidates to receive the Andy Aldax Award for 2017. Nominations will be collected by 11/18/16 to allow time for an Administrative Committee meeting to review the candidates. Then the Board will vote on the nominations at the December Board meeting, and the winner will receive the award at the January Board meeting on 1/18/17.
- Mr. James encouraged Board members to attend the Nevada Water Resource (NWRA) Symposium in Reno on Monday and Tuesday of next week, 10/24-25, to learn about the history of water resources in the northern Nevada area.
- Mr. James had a meeting with the Washoe Tribe and project consultants regarding the Virginia/Rocky Diversion design. The Tribe wanted the Tribal Council to give approval of the consultant's recommendation, with subsequently took Mr. James to the Dresslerville Tribal Community who is effected by the project. The consultant's recommendation was ultimately approved with the inclusion of rocks. These meetings have delayed the project two months.

Brenda Hunt reported:

- On November 1 from 1:00-4:00 p.m., there will be a tour of the Mercury Superfund Site in Lyon County conducted by Andy Bain from EPA and Dave Friedman from NDEP. They will discuss the history, remedial investigation plans, feasibility studies, timeline, and proposals for remediation.
- The annual Snapshot Day will be on November 4. Ms. Hunt briefly explained what is done on the river that day.
- Staff is hoping to hear about acceptance of the 319 grants next week.
- The Alpine Aspen Festival went well. She and Shane ran the flood model non-stop for two days which created lots of “ah ha” moments for people.
- The restoration project in Hope Valley going on and held up well against the recent storm.
- Staff is taking suggestions for ideas for the Christmas roast.

Legal –Mr. Benesch did not have anything specific to report.

Correspondence – As handed out at the meeting.

Item #14 - Directors' Reports

Director Osborne reported that as the last hold out to become a signatory to the FEMA Charter for the Carson River Watershed, Storey County has finally joined the Charter.

Director Schank reported that he was invited with other TROA parties to attend the CA/NV Stream Forecasting Center workshop last Monday, 10/17/16, to see how NOAA forecasts runoff. He felt it was an interesting workshop which happens once or twice a year. He discovered that the three agencies who create the forecasts have no interpersonal relationship with each other. Since coordination would save a lot of money, he suggested that he would like to invite Mr. James to the next one since he has done such a good job of bringing collaboration to our watershed.

Director Jardine thanked Ms. Hunt and Mr. Fryer for helping in Hope Valley. He also noted that he will be attending the Regional Water Quality Control Board Conference in Sacramento.

Director Bonkowski reported that he has been working with a contractor about building around the airport and has discovered that part of the airport is in the Goni Creek floodway.

Director Abowd reported that Carson City just held the ribbon cutting marking the completion of construction for the Road to the Future Downtown Redevelopment project.

Item #15 - Public Comment. None

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Schank made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Penzel. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Leffler
Secretary