

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: November 30, 2017
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
LOCATION: Carson Water Subconservancy District Conference Room
777 E. William St., #110
Carson City, NV

Please Note: A quorum of the CWSD Board of Directors will not be present at this committee meeting. Any action on the part of the committee is for recommendation to the full CWSD Board of Directors for ultimate action. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting. Please contact Toni Leffler at (775) 887-7450 (<mailto:toni@cwsd.org>), at least three (3) days in advance so that arrangements can be made.

AGENDA

- 1) Call to order of the Carson Water Subconservancy District's (CWSD) Administrative Committee
- 2) Roll Call
- 3) Discussion Only: Public comment - Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under public comment until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting.
- 4) For Possible Action: Approval of the Administrative Committee minutes from November 3, 2017.
- 5) For Possible Action: Selection of a candidate to receive the 2018 Andy Aldax Carson River Watershed Award.
- 6) For Possible Action: Selection of CWSD committee members for 2018.
- 7) Discussion Only: Public comment - Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under public comment until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting.
- 8) For Possible Action: Adjournment

Supporting material for this meeting may be requested from Toni Leffler at 775-887-7450 (<mailto:toni@cwsd.org>) and is available at the CWSD offices at 777 E. William St., #110A, Carson City, NV 89701 and on the CWSD website at www.cwsd.org.

In accordance with NRS 241.020, this notice and agenda has been posted at the following locations:

-Dayton Utilities Complex
34 Lakes Blvd
Dayton, NV

-Minden Inn Office Complex
1594 Esmeralda Avenue
Minden, NV

-Lyon County Administrative Building
27 S. Main St.
Yerington, NV

-Churchill County Administrative Complex
155 N Taylor St.
Fallon, NV

-Carson City Hall
201 N. Carson St.
Carson City, NV

-Carson Water Subconservancy District Office
777 E. William St., #110A
Carson City, NV

-Alpine County Administrative Building
99 Water St.
Markleeville, CA

-CWSD website:
<http://www.cwsd.org>

-State public meetings website:
<http://notice.nv.gov>

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

The undersigned affirms that on or before 9:00 A.M. on November 22, 2017, he/she posted a copy of the Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda for the November 30, 2017, meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Carson Water Subconservancy District in accordance with NRS 241.020; said agenda was posted at the following location:

_____.

SIGNATURE

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date & Time of Posting: _____

MEMORANDUM

TO: Administrative Committee
FROM: Edwin James
DATE: 11-30-17
SUBJECT: Agenda Items Background Information

Item #5 - For Possible Action: Selection of a candidate to receive the 2018 Andy Aldax Carson River Watershed Award.

So far there have been several nominations of candidates for the 2018 Andy Aldax Award. Attached are the nominating letters for the following people:

- Alpine Watershed Group - nominated by David Griffith.
- Steve Lewis - nominated by John Cobourn.
- Lynn Zonge – nominated by Donna Inversin, Mark Kimbrough, and Jeff Potter.

Item #6 - For Possible Action: Selection of CWSD committee members for 2018.

Under CWSD's new committee selection policy staff sent an email to all the CWSD Board members and Alpine and Storey County representatives to see if anyone wants to serve on a different committee in 2018. CWSD only received a few responses, all indicating they wanted to stay on the same committees as in 2017. Based on this, staff is recommending the committee membership stay the same as in 2017, see list below:

1. **Administration Committee - Directors Abowd, Erquiaga, Frensdorff, Griffith, and Roberts**
2. **Finance Committee - Directors Bonkowski, Gray, Jardine (as Treasurer), Thaler, and Schank**
3. **Legislative Committee - Directors Abowd, Johnson, Osborne, Roberts, Schank, and Thaler**
4. **Regional Water System & Flood Committee - Directors Bonkowski, Erquiaga, Gray, Jardine, Osborne, Penzel, and Stodieck**

Andy Aldex Award Nomination

Nominee: **Alpine Watershed Group**

Submitted by: David Griffith, Alpine County District 5 Supervisor

Date: 17-nov-2017

Overview

The Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) has served a critical role in collaborative watershed planning and restoration in the upper Carson River watershed in Alpine County since 1999. The AWG is a community based non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and enhance the natural system functions in Alpine County's watersheds for future generations. For 18 years AWG's role has been to monitor water quality, conduct needed restoration projects and engage community participation in order to maintain healthy watershed systems. The group facilitates agency collaboration and community participation to proactively implement projects that benefit the County's watersheds.

AWG has three primary program areas – water quality monitoring, stream restoration, and community outreach and education. AWG's programs serve to: 1) involve local citizens in watershed stewardship, 2) plan and implement watershed monitoring and restoration activities, 3) recruit diverse stakeholders and strengthen community partnerships, and 4) support local watershed education and community outreach.

2017 Accomplishments

AWG engaged dozens of volunteers in water monitoring and stream restoration. Last year alone, AWG involved 112 volunteers in 33 different restoration and monitoring activities contributing 2,088 volunteer hours.

AWG coordinates a Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program which characterizes trends in water quantity, quality, biologic diversity and resiliency of stream habitat in the upper Carson River watershed in Alpine County. AWG's monitoring efforts have created an important baseline data set, which documents watershed health. Parameters assessed include basic water chemistry (temperature, pH and dissolved oxygen), bacteria sampling, stream discharge monitoring and bioassessment surveys.

AWG's primary restoration event every year is Markleeville Creek Day. On Saturday, September 9, 55 volunteers worked on eight watershed restoration projects throughout the Carson River watershed at the 18th Annual Markleeville Creek Day. Representatives from various local organizations served as team leaders and project coordinators, including Alpine County, Alpine Garden Club, Alpine Trails Association, American Rivers, California Conservation Corps, California State Parks, Friends of Hope Valley, Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership, and community members were all present for this collaborative work day.

The group accomplished the following in the Carson River Watershed:

- 50 feet of streambank stabilized, 1 acre of trail revegetated, and a footbridge built at Turtle Rock Park near Markleeville
- 475 feet of streambank stabilized and 375 willow stakes planted in Hope Valley
- 400 additional willow stakes procured for future restoration and education
- 150 pounds of native seed spread and 200 pounds of invasive weeds removed from Grover Hot Springs Meadow
- 50 native trees protected from beavers
- 24 storm drains stenciled, 6 picnic tables stained, and trail maintenance in downtown Markleeville
- 27 pounds of trash removed from local rivers and stream.

AWG's newest community event is the annual Alpine Aspen Festival which is a celebration of the beauty and vital role of aspen groves in providing clean water to millions of Californians and Nevadans. Offered in partnership with the Friends of Hope Valley, the event offers educational hikes, artist workshops, conservation projects, music, and more. Over the weekend of October 7 and 8, the 4th Annual Alpine Aspen Festival attracted about 1,000 people of all ages from as far away as England and as close as Woodfords, along with over 200 canine guests. A total of 38 workshops, hikes, events, and tours were offered while over 20 environmental and community group partners offered educational booths at the festival.

Multi-year Projects Completed in 2017

East Carson River Restoration – California State Parks Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation grant, 7/2014 – 6/2017: This project protected 3.65 acres of riparian habitat at 7 sites along the East Fork Caron River directly being affected by improper Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) use, including 1.2 miles of OHV trail. Additionally, this project included signage regarding limits to motorized use off the Barney Riley Trail.

Hope Valley Meadow Restoration Project – American Rivers lead, 2011 – 2017: Restoration of 400 acres of upper Hope Valley has been completed, including 1.8 miles of streambanks in order to enhance the full range of meadow ecosystem services. In October 2015, contractors installed a logcrib structure to stabilize a high, eroding bank and enhance fish habitat along 130 feet of stream channel on California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) land. From August-October 2016, root wads, boulders, and logs were strategically placed to stabilize banks and reduce sediment on U.S. Forest Service land.

Planned and In-Process Projects

Hope Valley Aquatic Habitat Restoration Planning – Lahontan Water Board funding planning, 11/2016 – 6/2018: This project continues restoration planning in Hope Valley by addressing a section of the West Carson just downstream of Highway 88 on CDFW land (upstream of the 2015 restoration project). This project proposes to stabilize over 800 feet of eroding banks and improve aquatic habitat along nearly 0.5 miles of river. Implementation: funding being pursued.

Markleeville Creek Restoration: The purpose is to re-establish the natural form and function of Markleeville Creek through the site of the former U.S. Forest Service Guard Station. The project will re-create the streamside habitat by removing the floodwall and re-vegetating the floodplain. It will also provide various community benefits including utility improvements and public access for recreation. Planning completed, implementation funding being pursued for Phase 1 sewer replacement.

Grover Meadow Restoration & ADA Access Project – California State Parks lead, 1/2016 – 12/2019: The purpose of the Grover Hot Springs Meadow Restoration Project is to reduce user impacts throughout the meadow and to rehabilitate the existing impacted areas. By decommissioning user-created trails and stabilizing banks along Hot Springs Creek, the project will reestablish the continuity of flow through the meadow. The project will also develop interpretive signage along an elevated ADA trail in order to educate visitors about the local ecology and sensitivity of the wetland area.

Markleevillage Fuels Reduction – Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant thru Alpine County, 8/2016 – 1/1/2020: This project ensures community wildfire protection by continuing the implementation of the Markleevillage Fuels Reduction Project. Treatment involves using mechanical mastication to reduce fuel loads around rural, residential areas near Markleeville. The 234 acres that will be treated are located in Pleasant Valley and Thornburg Canyon and are part of a larger 1,200-acre Forest Service plan. Fuels work completed November 2, 2017.

Faith and Forestdale Project – American Rivers lead, 6/2017 – 1/1/2020: The overarching goal of this project is to improve hydrologic and ecosystem processes in these two meadows located in the headwaters of the West Carson River Watershed. Currently in the planning stage, American Rivers will continue to assess the 890 projected degraded acres and prepare the restoration project. AWG's involvement includes outreach, education, and monitoring of the sites.

Summary

For 18 years the AWG has worked diligently to monitor and improve the health of the upper Carson River watershed, engage the public about watershed health, and educate our youth about the importance of the river. Although the AWG has had the benefit of some paid staff, it has largely been a volunteer organization that has had a positive impact on the Carson River watershed and the people who live here. Recognition of the AWG's accomplishments is overdue and I enthusiastically nominate the AWG for the Andy Aldax award.

Respectfully submitted

David Griffith
Markleeville, CA
2017.11.17 17:33:39 -08'00"

**Nomination of Steve Lewis for the
2018 Andy Aldax Carson River Watershed Award**

Nominated by John Cobourn

Steve Lewis has been the Extension Educator in Gardnerville, Nevada since 1990 and is well-known for his tireless dedication to serving the Carson River community. Shortly after the New Year's Flood of 1997, Dr. Lewis joined a small group of local educators, natural resource managers, and community members to organize the first Carson River Watershed Conference, held in early 1998. This conference drew over 200 participants and was followed two weeks later by a Workshop to determine whether a watershed management coalition should be formed. Dr. Lewis was one of the facilitators for the workshop, and he led the group through a process to make decisions about the future watershed group. The outcome of these two meetings was the formation of the Carson River Coalition (CRC) and the choice of the Carson Water Subconservancy District to house and support the new community group.

Since 1998, Dr. Lewis has regularly attended meetings of the Coalition, serving on the River Corridor Working Group and the Education Working Group. In 2003, he led a Delphi Technique survey process to determine the most important single message or "Main Message" of the CRC for the general public. Using his exceptional facilitation skills, he gathered input from all CRC members, led discussions about the many nominations, and conducted a consensus building process which resulted in agreement that protecting the natural floodplains in the watershed was the most important single message of the group. Since that time, Steve has worked for 13 years with other members of the CRC to get that message out to the public.

Steve's work on floodplain management actually began in the early 1990s, when he and John Cobourn formed the Citizens Task Force for Flood Control and wrote "Flood Hazards and Planning in Douglas County: Citizens Involved in Creating Solutions." His efforts brought the local hazard of flash flooding to the awareness of Carson River Watershed residents and businesses. Through the years, Steve has authored numerous brochures and fact sheets about floodplain management and other best management practices for our watershed community. Most recently, Dr. Lewis co-authored the special publication, "Floodplain Protection Inventory for the Carson River Watershed." This publication uses GIS maps to show the public how much riverine floodplain is currently protected from future development. The publication articulates floodplain protection as a community goal and provides a baseline for measuring future progress toward that goal.

Steve has served the CRC in many other ways. He is regularly sought after for his leadership and group process skills. For example, he led the Education Working Group in its creation of mission and vision statements. He works each year as one of the key organizers and leaders of the Eagles and Agriculture bus tours and presentations. He can be counted on to participate actively in community events to raise public awareness of the principles of integrated watershed management.

2018 Andy Aldax Carson River Watershed Award

We would like to nominate Lynn Zonge, CPESC, PG for this years award.

Lynn is a specialist in fluvial geomorphology, surface water hydrology and geology of the Sierra Nevada and Great Basin Regions. Through her work at Resource Concepts, Inc (RCI) she has worked on numerous projects in the Carson River and other watersheds.

Lynn is devoted to protecting the resources of the Sierra Nevada and Great Basin and their watersheds, especially her 'home' watershed, the Carson River. One of her most noted projects was the Carson River Aquatic Trail. She was instrumental in introducing and mapping this undeveloped primitive section of the Carson River which has become one the best river runs in Nevada. The results of her planning efforts are evident in Carson City Open Space's trailhead/picnic park site designed for launching watercraft and an educational/safety brochure for the watercraft enthusiasts.* Her work on the Open Space Plan for Carson City sets the planning for years to come to protect the watershed of the Carson River. She was a resource team member for the highly popular waterfall trail interpretive and resource protection project that developed a conservation theme to preserve the King Creek watershed. This project was an educational opportunity to enlighten the hundreds of trail users that the Kings Creek is a Carson City point source water supply and their stewardship was necessary to protect the drinking water of Carson City.

Lynn not only spends her working day protecting our watershed, she frequently provides volunteer assistance to Muscle Powered and the Eagle Valley Trails Committing [EVTC] assisting with trail design and development that will protect our watershed.

Much of what these organizations have accomplished could not have happened without Lynn's tireless effort. And she always does it with a smile, while energizing all around her.

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