

**CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM COMMITTEE
February 14, 2013, 1:00 P.M.**

Meeting Minutes

Directors Present:

Carl Erquiaga, Churchill County (by teleconference)
Ray Fierro, Lyon County
Don Jardine, Alpine County
John McKenna, Carson City
Austin Osborne, Storey County (by teleconference)

Others Present:

Ed James, CWSD General Manager
Toni Leffler, CWSD Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary
David Eisenhower, Douglas County landowner

The meeting of the Regional Water System Committee called to order by Director McKenna at 1:03 p.m. at the CWSD Conference Room, 777 E. William St., #110A, Carson City, Nevada. A quorum of the Committee was present and introductions were made of others present at the meeting.

Item #2 - Approval of the Regional Water System Committee's Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2012. *Director Jardine made the motion to approve the November 7, 2012, Regional Water System Committee meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Osborne and approved Directors Jardine, McKenna, and Osborne as the remaining members of the Regional Water System Committee from that time and Directors Erquiaga and Fierro abstained for not being present at that meeting.*

Item #3 - Public Comment. None.

Item #4 - Discussion for possible action regarding a request from David Eisenhower to lease 20 acre feet of water from CWSD. Mr. James explained that David Eisenhower had contacted CWSD about leasing water for a stock pond on his property near Craddebaugh Bridge. Mr. Eisenhower explained that he recently moved here from Oklahoma and purchased 40 acres to be a gentleman rancher for a small herd of long horn cattle. This is his first step to obtain water. Once he has the water he will talk with someone about having the pond dug. The pond may be about 10' deep covering 1 to 1.5 acres.

Mr. James noted that if the pond is strictly used for stock water, Mr. Eisenhower may be able to get a stock water right. Because our water would have to go to a different segment of the river than its original point of use, our water right will lose its priority date and will not be available once the river goes on regulation. Therefore, Mr. Eisenhower might not be able to pump water after June. Mr. Eisenhower may want to request a Temporary Transfer with the State of Engineer, and Mr. James would help him through the process. Mr. Eisenhower would have to put a pump in the river below Craddebaugh Bridge. There will be a lot of expenses to him but the Temporary Transfer would be less expensive and may be a better option.

Director McKenna asked where the water is coming from. Mr. James responded that we have about 20 acres of water rights which we were given by the Allegetti's. There are a lot of questions to answer to determine whether this is going to work for him. Mr. James suggested trying it for one-year to see how it will work. If this process does not work, Mr. Eisenhower may need to pursue a groundwater right.

Director Fierro made the motion that the Regional Water System Committee recommend to the Board approve pursuing the lease of 20 acre feet of water to David Eisenhower at \$10.00/acre foot. The motion was seconded by Director Jardine and unanimously approved by the Regional Water System Committee. Director McKenna offered CWSD's help in any way to Mr. Eisenhower if he needs through this process.

Item #5 - Discussion for possible action regarding CWSD's response to the Bureau of Reclamation's Truckee Canal Study. Mr. James explained that the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) recently completed about a 450-page study looking at the reliability of the Truckee Canal at various flow rates. Mr. James went through the draft response letter to BOR regarding the Truckee Canal Study. The draft letter was sent to all the Board members. Director Schank sent his comments regarding the letter. He supports investigating storage on the upper Truckee but noted that TCID was promised water in Boca in the 1930s but never received that. He wants to make sure there is no negative impact to farmers and that the costs are spread out over time.

Mr. James asked if the committee members had any comments to be incorporated in the draft letter. Director Fierro asked what the percentage of loss is due to seepage or evaporation. Mr. James mentioned that he does not know what the percentage of loss is, but the report indicates that the seepage in the Truckee Canal is between 10,000 and 35,000 acre feet. Director Fierro had questions regarding the comment on lining the Truckee Canal and its impact to the City of Fernley.

Director Jardine noted that we need more info on flow rates at the various locations to get a better idea of loss. Director Fierro agreed that we must start with correct information before modeling the results of any alternative.

Director Osborne commented that they need to determine what effects the seepage has on Fernley, Storey County, etc., and what the impact of lining the canal would be. BOR understands that water rights belong to the Newlands Project, but everyone is depending on recharge. If lined, are there impacts to TCID or CWSD? Mr. James suggested that we let Churchill County respond to the issue of lining and have CWSD comment on the regional impacts.

Director McKenna made the motion for the Regional Water System Committee to recommend to the Board that the General Manager continue to draft the comment letter, discuss the comments with other interested parties, and finalize the letter for the Chairman to sign as revised at the February 20, 2013, Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Fierro and unanimously approved by the Regional Water System Committee.

Item #6 - Discussion for possible action regarding Lost Lakes. Mr. James gave an update on Lost Lakes to the committee. For the last three years he has been working with the California Water Board

to correct an error made by the engineer in the 1920s when he estimated the storage capacity of the lower reservoir. Mr. James wanted to make sure our water rights are accurately reflected. The final draft permit came in for final comments. The California Water Board has some stipulations which are not possible to meet. Mr. James is responding to the draft permit. Once we get the final permit we then need to set up a meeting with various entities in the watershed to discuss how we want to utilize the Lost Lakes water rights in the future.

This was an update; no action was required by the Regional Water System Committee.

Item #7 - Discussion for possible action regarding the Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan budget. Mr. James explained that CWSD received a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to create a Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan. We hired Resource Concepts Inc. (RCI) to help with a portion of the report with the intent that CWSD staff would put the whole report together. However, CWSD staff's current workload doesn't allow enough time to do that, so staff would like to have RCI help more. Part of staff salaries budgeted for this grant will cover the cost of hiring RCI for additional time. No one on the Regional Water System Committee had any objections to this.

No action was required on this item.

Item #8 - Public Comment. None

There being no further business to come before the Regional Water System Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Leffler
Secretary