

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 16, 2016, 6:30 P.M.
DRAFT Minutes

Directors present:

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

Directors not present:

Austin Osborne, Storey County representative
Mary Rawson

Staff present:

George Benesch, Legal Counsel
Edwin James, General Manager
Toni Leffler, Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board
Debbie Neddenriep, Environmental Specialist

Also present:

Craig Burnside, Carson Valley Conservation District
Norm Harry, Washoe Tribe

Chairman Lynn called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in Room #3137 of the Nevada 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 lead by Director Frensdorff.

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

Item #6 - Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes from February 17, 2016. *Director Schank made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting on February 17, 2016. The motion was seconded by Director Abowd and unanimously approved by the Board, with Directors Frensdorff, Jardine, and Roberts abstaining for not having been present at that meeting..*

Item #7 - Public Comment. None.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Item #9 - Payment of Bills for February 2016.

Item #10 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of the revised CWSD job descriptions.

Item #11 - Discussion for possible action regarding renewing a three year office lease agreement with Euronev, Ltd.

Item #12 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of the proposed cost of living adjustment for FY 2016-17.

Item #13 - Discussion for possible action regarding the selection of auditor for FY 2015-16, FY 2016-17, and FY 2017-18.

Item #14 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval to surplus the old note-taking laptop.

Director Schank made the motion to approve the consent agenda, including items #8-14. The motion was seconded by Director Bonkowski and unanimously approved by the Board.

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

Mr. James requested that Items #17 and #18 be moved to before Item #15 and Item #20 be before #19. Director Stodieck joined the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

Item #17 - Discussion for possible action regarding a request from CVCD to provide some funding to mitigate potential flooding along the East Fork of the Carson River. Director Lynn explained the photos he took of the East Fork streambank work being done. Craig Burnside mentioned that Ryan Crockett is the contractor who is doing the work. Mr. Crockett took the material removed from the river bank and place it on Washoe Tribal lands.

Craig Burnside gave a historical perspective on the area. East Fork Fire Chief Carlini organized a study group of concerned constituents along the river to identify flood hazards along the river from the old power dam on the East Fork and the state line on West Fork to Cradlebaugh Bridge. There were 49 areas of concern identified, some of which are known hazards for which East Fork Fire Department needed to identify how to access those areas and other areas where projects needed to be occur to minimize flood potential. This project is the prime one identified. The concern was that the river choked off with low banks so channel capacity was low. It could have flooded homes along the golf course and the a nearby hospital. This project will also try to reduce the amount of erosion and loss of land on the tribal land area.

There was a lot of vegetation and sediment built up in the old channel. The contractor masticated all the vegetation in the old channel and then started moving material. He took out

just over 12,000 yards of material so that the river is now flowing in its channel again. The southern-most channel you could see the other end of the channel because of the amount of sedimentation built up there.

Mr. Burnside explained about all the contributors to this project for \$180,000 and requested that the \$30,000 loan CWSD gave for this project become a grant from our Floodplain Management Fund. Mr. James explained how this qualifies as a flood project.

Director Roberts made the motion to authorize staff to enter into an agreement with the CVCD to provide funding, not to exceed \$30,000, for the removal of the sand bar and vegetation in the East Fork of the Carson River, and that the funds would come out of the Floodplain Management Fund. The motion was seconded by Director Abowd and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. James noted that this clearing would need to recur about every 15 years. Director Schank asked if there is ongoing maintenance which could prevent it from getting so bad. Mr. James responded that the main reason for this build up is that the State funding for clearing and snagging was eliminated from the State budget for several years. Now that funding has been re-established, we will hopefully be able to use those funds to keep it clear. Director Lynn noted that there were several challenges to this project dealing with regulatory agencies and now that there is a template for approaching projects, the next projects should be easier. Director Frensdorff mentioned an old problem with beaver dams.

Norman Harry, Environmental Director of the Washoe Tribe of NV and CA, explained his background and the tribal history with this project. They first starting talking with Fire Chief Carlini and did the mapping of problem areas. The Tribe was able to submit permits and provide the opportunity for everyone to understand the problems and allow for a turnaround of project permits of only a couple days. The major goal and major involvement came about from looking at the scoured area on east side of the river where the Tribe has lost a significant amount of land. The area needed permanent stabilization. The Tribe can approach EPA for 319 funding.

Item #18 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval to request proposals to conduct the design for the streambank project on the East Fork of the Carson River. Mr. James explained that CWSD received a grant from NDEP to do the design for this project. We are asking permission to go out for proposals with a mandatory field trip for consultants so they understand exactly what we are working with and that our limited budget may not be able to create 100% design. Mr. Harry explained about the area which needs to be revised. Mr. James noted that this is a streambank restoration, not a flood project which would still allow for flood attenuation but hopefully prevent damage. Mr. Harry noted that this project has brought a lot of agencies and funding sources together for a cooperative effort.

Director Schank made the motion to authorize staff to advertise the Request for Proposals to design for the streambank project on the East Fork of the Carson River. The motion was seconded by Director Roberts and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #15 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of the FY 2016-17 Tentative Budgets for the General Fund, the Acquisition/Construction Fund, and the Floodplain Management Fund. Mr. James thanked the Finance Committee for their work on the budget. He explained the three columns shown in the budgets beginning on p.47 of the Board package. Mr. James was recently informed that some Q1 funding may be available which would offset CWSD

funding cuts to the conservation districts. This will be brought before the Board at the April Board meeting.

Mr. James explained that the Acquisition/Construction Fund is for regional projects and to purchase water rights. We are about \$1 million short of being able to fund the identified projects. We only get funding for this account by transferring money from the General Fund. There will be no transfer this year. The Floodplain Management Fund is for flood projects.

Director Schank made the motion to approve the FY 2016-17 Tentative Budgets for the General Fund, the Acquisition/Construction Fund, and the Floodplain Management Fund as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Bonkowski and unanimously approved by the Board.

Director Lynn noted that he and not Director Johnson was at the Finance Committee meeting and the minutes from that meeting will be corrected accordingly.

Item #16 - Discussion for possible action regarding hiring the new Watershed Program Specialist including salary range. Mr. James explained that interviews for the new Watershed Program Specialist were a two-step process. First, Carson River Coalition (CRC) members interviewed six candidates. The second interview of the top candidates was to be with Mr. James and Ms. Hunt, but the interview committee recommended just hiring Shane Fryer. Mr. James and Ms. Hunt did meet with Mr. Fryer. The General Manager has the authority to offer a job within the first three steps of the position, so he hired Mr. Fryer who will start on April 1 at Step 3.

No action required for this item; receive and file.

Item #20 - Discussion for possible action regarding submitting a grant application for BLM Challenge Cost Share Grant for Treating Invasive Weeds on BLM property in the Carson River Watershed. Mr. James explained that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) invited CWSD to file for grant funding to pay for conservation districts to treat invasive weeds on BLM property. The required 1-to-1 match will be met with the noxious weed management funding CWSD already gives. The BLM grant will be about \$37,000 which will cover CWSD administrative costs and the rest will go to the conservation districts. There is a hope that more funds will be available each year. This is a much needed opportunity to treat noxious weeds on BLM lands.

Director Johnson made the motion to authorize CWSD staff to submit an application for the BLM Challenge Cost Share Grant. The motion was seconded by Director Abowd and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #19 - Discussion for possible action regarding the runoff predictions for 2016. Mr. James reported that he has been attending workshops on future projections from runoff trend lines. Global temperatures are rising. A study done by the California/Nevada Climate Application Program shows what percent comes as rain and as snow pack melting. They are anticipating that a larger percentage will be rain than snow in 2020 and 2060. Mr. James attended a Water for the Seasons workshop yesterday which showed how long term temperature changes could impact the amount of water coming out of Lake Tahoe. One scenario shows a 15% reduction to inflow and a 10% increase in the evaporation. The impact would be that outflows would decrease by 76%.

No action required for this item; receive and file.

Item #21 - Staff Reports

General Manager - Mr. James reported 1) State Lands has \$80,000 available for the Carson River under Q1. Mr. James is working with the conservation districts to select the projects. This will be brought forward to the April Board meeting. 2) Staff is working on FEMA MAS #7. FEMA got a request from the State to fund the Douglas County Stormwater Management Project which can only be funded through the CTP program which CWSD is managing. Mr. James will bring project proposals to the Board in April. 3) Mr. James attended a meeting today with US Forest Service lead by the Alpine Watershed Group for a float from Hangman's Bridge in early May.

Legal –Mr. Benesch had nothing specific to report. He did compliment Toni Leffler on the new format of the Board meeting agenda for compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Correspondence – As handed out at the meeting.

Item #22 - Directors' Reports

Director Schank reported that as of this morning, in the South Lake Tahoe areas of Kirkwood and the city of Truckee the average for March precipitation is up and Lake Tahoe is coming up slowly. Today Lahontan reached a higher level than last year.

Director Lynn reported that he is glad to have flood project on the East Fork done.

None of the other directors had anything specific to report.

Item #23 - Public Comment. None

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Abowd made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Schank and unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Leffler
Secretary