

**CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 15, 2013, 6:30 P.M.
Minutes**

Directors present:

Carl Erquiaga
Ray Fierro
Don Frensdorff
Don Jardine
Doug Johnson
Greg Lynn, Vice Chairman
John McKenna, Treasurer
Barry Penzel
Mary Rawson
Joe Ricci
Ernie Schank, Chairman
Fred Stodieck

Directors not present:

Karen Abowd
Austin Osborne, Storey County

Staff present:

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

Also present:

Tom Dullaie, Town of Gardnerville
Garry Stone, U.S. Federal Water Master (retired)
Susan Stone, private citizen
Jack Van Dien, private citizen

Chairman Schank called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. in the Douglas County Commission Chambers, 1616 Eighth St., Minden, 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 Penzel.

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

Item #6 - Approval of March 20, 2013, Board Meeting Minutes. *It should be noted that there was no Board meeting held on April 17, 2013. Director Fierro made the motion to approve the March 20, 2013, Board meeting minutes, which were seconded by Director Stodieck and*

unanimously approved by the Board, with Director Johnson abstaining as not being present at that meeting.

Item #7 - Public Comment. None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item #8 - Approval of Treasurer's Report for March and April 2013.

Item #9 - Payment of Bills for March and April 2013.

Item #10 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of the March 9, 2013, Strategic Planning meeting notes.

Item #11 - Discussion for possible action regarding an update on CWSD's water right applications to correct the Lost Lakes water rights with California State Water Resources Control Board.

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

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

Item #12 - Discussion for possible action regarding Resolution 2013-1 in recognition of Garry Stone for his years of service working in the Carson River Watershed. Director Schank introduced Garry Stone and recalled when they first met. Mr. Stone gave a little history of his more than 50 years in the Carson River Watershed and introduced his wife, Susan, as his partner through all of his varied experiences. Director Schank commended Mr. Stone for the many things he has helped accomplish for the benefit of Nevada and the Carson River Watershed in particular and gave him a framed Resolution of Commendation which read:

"RESOLUTION 2013-1 OF THE CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT COMMENDING GARRY STONE FOR DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CARSON RIVER WATERSHED. WHEREAS, from 1957 through 1964, Garry Stone served as Water Master for the Pershing County Water Conservation District; and WHEREAS, from 1965 through 1984, Garry Stone served as General Manager for the Carson Water Subconservancy District during negotiations for building the Watasheamu Dam on the East Fork of the Carson River, considered the Carson Division of the Washoe Project; and WHEREAS, from 1967 through 1984, Garry Stone also performed services for the Water Master's office to administer the East and West forks of the Carson River, eventually extending his area of responsibility to Lahontan Reservoir; and WHEREAS, from 1974 through 1978, Garry Stone served on the Board of Commissioners for Douglas County; and WHEREAS, in 1984, Garry Stone was appointed by the Federal Court to be the Federal Water Master for the Carson and Truckee Rivers and has continued in this position until his retirement in Jul of 2012; and WHEREAS, Garry Stone has given the State of Nevada, and more specifically the Carson River Watershed, a lifetime of conscientious and faithful service protecting Nevada's scarce water resources. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Carson Water Subconservancy District extends to Garry

Stone its sincere thanks and appreciation for his outstanding service, and expresses best wishes and much success as he embarks on what is hoped to be a long and happy retirement. ADOPTED this 15th day of May, 2013."

Director Stodieck made the motion, seconded by Director Lynn, to approve Resolution 2013-1. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Item #13 - Discussion for possible action regarding a request from Town of Gardnerville for funding to reduce the flooding potential along the Cottonwood Slough. Mr. James introduced Tom Dullaie, Town Manager for Town of Gardnerville who explained that this request is in response to some homeowners' complaints about overgrowth along the Cottonwood Slough. Mr. Dullaie explained that the first stage of the project was for the contractors, Bar Tree Works, to top off trees in preparation for the felling of those trees which will then be cut up for firewood. An excavator will have to remove one very large tree. The total cost is estimated to be about \$12,000, and the request to CWSD is \$3,500.

Director Lynn asked beginning and end locations of the project. Mr. Dullaie responded that it would be from about Scottsdale Plumbing to the diversion structure before the Park Ranch. Director Lynn said that he had an experience on a ditch a few years ago where a couple trees fell in a windstorm, causing the ditch to back up a couple miles and flood several neighborhoods. Mr. Dullaie said the plan is to request NDEP to clean out the riverbed after the debris is removed. It was 10 years ago when it was last cleared, but the hope is to keep it cleared annually.

Director Fierro asked how wide the area is. Mr. Dullaie responded that they will clear the main channel, bank-to-bank, leaving some vegetation on the banks for erosion control.

Director Lynn made the motion to approve the request from the Town of Gardnerville for funding not to exceed \$3,500 for removing debris in the Cottonwood Slough to reduce flooding hazard near the State Route 756 Bridge and surrounding area. The motion was seconded by Director Stodieck and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. James noted that the funds will come out of the Floodplain Management Fund, not the General Fund.

Item #14 - Discussion for possible action regarding a review of the proposed final FY 2013-14 budgets. Mr. James explained that tonight he was going to go over the changes made to the final FY 2013-14 budget, but actual approval of the budget would not occur until tomorrow's special Board meeting. Before the final budget can be adopted, Nevada law says that CWSD must have a public hearing on our tentative budget on the third Thursday in May, which usually falls after our May Board meeting. Mr. James reminded the Board that the FY 2013-14 tentative budget was approved in March. Instructions are on page 102 of the Board package to call in to the tentative budget hearing in the morning. It is important that a quorum of Directors be present, either in person or by phone, to adopt the final budget after the hearing.

Mr. James explained that the changes to the income portion of the final budget are due to timing changes of when we get funding from various grants. Mr. James anticipates that MAS #2 will not be completed this fiscal year, so funds need to be carried over to next year. MAS #3 won't be as far along as anticipated and will be carried over into FY 2014-15, so the budget is reduced for FY 2013-14. Staff has been told that there is a very good chance that of getting a grant from FEMA in FY 2014-15 for MAS #4 to complete the mapping. CWSD may also get funding from NDEP under the Clean Water 208 grant.

The budget has been increased for gauges to pay for more frequent readings. There may be some other changes to our funding agreement with USGS. The Carson Truckee Water Conservancy District (CTWCD) can no longer afford to fund some of the gauges on the Carson River. Carson City will pick up the cost for the West Fork gauge. The Dayton gauge is short \$5,400 in funding. Mr. James will talk with Lyon County and DVCD to see if they can pick up the shortfall. As history on that gauge, DVCD originally requested installation of that gauge to know how much water come into Dayton Valley, obtained CTWCD funding, and requested the balance from CWSD. That gauge has been troublesome for the USGS. Other gauges are more critical. Mr. James will ask DVCD whether the \$5,400 is more valuable to them supporting the gauge or as additional funding for their river projects.

There are no changes to the budgets for the Acquisition/Construction Floodplain Management Funds.

Director Schank asked why the USGS stream gauge budget is \$88,460 for FY 2013-14 when the FY 2012-13 budget \$85,500 but the actual projected amount was \$101,483.76. Mr. James explained that the difference is in work done in FY 2011-12 which was billed after audit adjustments were made by the auditors for FY 2011-12.

Director Schank asked what the maintenance cost is annually. Mr. James responded that it costs \$20,000 annually, and CWSD has paid \$10,000. Part is for real-time data \$2,400. Mr. James suggested taking out real-time and have DVCD take daily readings. Director Fierro suggested contacting the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) to help fund it since NDOT owns the bridge.

No action was taken on this item at this meeting.

Item #15 - Discussion for possible action regarding legislation that may have interest to CWSD or the watershed. Mr. James went over the list of legislative bills on page 110 of the Board package. Many of the bills do not impact CWSD. Mr. James did testify on behalf of SB 134 which would allow temporary permit for stock watering. Mr. James also supported SB 489 which extends the deadlines for the sale of the general obligation bonds for Q1. Director Fierro asked regarding SB489 to extend the bonds for Q1, if the federal government is thinking about taking away tax exempt status from municipal bonds, would CWSD ever lobby if it got to that level? Mr. James responded that we probably could lobby against that since CWSD supported Q1 in the first place, and those bonds have been very beneficial to communities in the CR watershed.

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

Item #16 - Discussion for possible action regarding 2013 water runoff predictions. Mr. James went through a PowerPoint presentation about current water runoff predictions. His concern at the East Fork at Gardnerville gauge is running about 90% of normal. The Carson City gauge is running consistently below normal. At the Ft. Churchill gauge the level has also been well below the average compared to the upper watershed. Lahontan Reservoir has already peaked at 125,000 af and is coming down. The Truckee Canal is open and running under the restricted capacity. The allocation for ranchers below Lahontan is 75% this year. Less water is expected out of Marlette Lake this year. Snow Water Equivalent in Sierra Nevada on April 1, 2011, 2012, and 2013 has decreased significantly in those three years. We will be probably have 100,000 af less than average coming down the river at the Gardnerville gauge.

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

Item #17 - Discussion for possible action regarding the General Manager's review process.

Mr. James explained that every Board member is asked to rate the General Manager. The completed forms on page 121 of the Board package should be passed in to the Board Secretary, Toni Leffler. The Administrative Committee will review the evaluations and report to the full Board in June.

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

Item #17 - Staff Reports

General Manager - Mr. James reported that the Governor has not yet appointed Mr. James to the Carson Truckee Water Conservancy District (CTWCD) Board, but he has been attending the meetings. The Corps of Engineers came out and did an inspection on the upper Truckee River. CTWCD may have to spend some money to remove some vegetation in the floodway. The concern is that the Carson River conservation districts have received funding for river projects which may not be available in the future, so the conservation districts may be coming to CWSD for more funding.

Brenda Hunt reported: 1) The Nevada Department of Agriculture will be holding a workshop on noxious weeds on May 24, and staff may be asking the CWSD Board to state a position on noxious weed management at a future Board meeting. 2) Ms. Hunt handed out the new "Don't Move a Mussel" brochure which CWSD helped to fund. Today in the Reno Gazette there was an article about the New Zealand Mud Snail being found in the Truckee River. These snails are prolific and can reproduce asexually, so there is a concern about them being transported to the Carson River. She asked the Nevada Division of Wildlife if there is testing on the Carson River. 3) There is a Grazing as Weed Management workshop this Saturday, May 18., at River Fork Ranch. 4) The CWSD "Get on the Bus" Watershed Tour will be June 13-14. CWSD Directors are encouraged to come. 5) We have gone through the interview process for the Watershed Assistant and offered the position to someone who will be brought to the meeting next month for introduction to the Board.

Legal - Mr. Benesch had nothing to report.

Correspondence – Correspondence as in the Board package and handed out at the meeting.

Item #18 - Directors' Reports

None of the director had reports to make.

There was no public comment. There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Johnson made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Penzel, and unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Leffler
Secretary to the Board