

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
October 15, 2014, 6:30 P.M.  
Minutes

Directors present:

Karen Abowd  
Carl Erquiaga  
Ray Fierro  
Don Frensdorff  
Don Jardine  
Doug Johnson  
Greg Lynn, Vice Chairman  
John McKenna, Treasurer  
Austin Osborne, Storey County  
Barry Penzel  
Mary Rawson  
Ernie Schank, Chairman

Directors not present:

Joe Ricci  
Fred Stodieck

Staff present:

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

Also present: None

Chairman Schank called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. in Room #4100 of the Nevada State Legislative Building, 401 S. Carson St., Carson City, 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 agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Jardine and unanimously approved by the Board.*

Item #7 - Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes from September 17, 2014. - *Director Lynn made the motion to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting on September 17, 2014. The motion was seconded by Director Abowd and unanimously approved by the Board.*

Item #7 - Public Comment. None.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Item #8 - Approval of Treasurer's Report for September 2014.

### Item #9 - Payment of Bills for September 2014.

*Director Jardine made the motion to approve the consent agenda items #8-9. The motion was seconded by Director Penzel and unanimously approved by the Board. There was no public comment.*

### \*\*END OF CONSENT AGENDA\*\*

Item #10 - Discussion for possible action regarding Nevada Flood Awareness Week, November 10-15, 2014. Courtney Walker explained that Nevada Flood Awareness Week, which will be the week of November 10-15, 2014, had a kickoff event at Wingfield Park in Reno where Gov. Sandoval read a Flood Awareness Week Proclamation. To advertise the Week billboards are going up in Carson Valley and Sparks; Proclamations are being created by Douglas County, Carson City, and CWSD; and radio and television ads will run from October to November. There will also be a question and answer time conducted by Erik Nilssen on Nov. 10 and 14 at the Douglas County Library, and Carson City is having a sandbag demo at Mills Park on Nov. 13 from 10am-1pm. Ms. Walker showed a picture of the billboards which will be going up in a week and staying up for a month.

Director Penzel commented that putting a billboard up in the Johnson Lane area could cause some angst since they were recently flooded and are very flood aware. Ms. Walker assured the Board that CWSD staff has been working with the State Public Information Officer. Director Penzel noted that flood insurance is useless unless it floods inside the house and won't cover landscaping. He felt that it should be emphasized that flood insurance does not cover the outside of the house.

Mr. James noted that the main focus of the campaign is flooding along the Carson River. Director Lynn noted that there a lot of circumstances that we have difficulty controlling. As an example, the Johnson Lane flooding came off of BLM public lands.

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

Item #11 - Discussion for possible action regarding adopting Proclamation #1-2014 promoting November 10-15, 2014, as Nevada Flood Awareness Week. Mr. James drew the Board's attention to the CWSD Proclamation #1-2014 on page 36 of the Board package.

*Director Lynn made a motion to adopt Proclamation No. 1-2014 promoting November 10-15, 2014, as Flood Awareness Week. Director Abowd seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.*

Item #12 - Discussion for possible action regarding a presentation on the new CWSD website. Ms. Walker showed the new CWSD website live from the internet. She explained the various pages and links. the "What You Can Do" page is to encourage people to take action. Developing the website is still a work in progress so we can change the content as necessary. She encouraged the Board to tell staff if they wish changes to be made. The website is pretty easy to navigate. CWSD staff is working to increase the number of library documents which are online.

Director Rawson congratulated the staff on their success with this daunting task. The website is visually pleasing and functional. Director Lynn noted that he spent some time going through the website when it was first uploaded and was very impressed.

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

Item #13 - Discussion for possible action regarding having POOL/PACT assist in reviewing and rewriting CWSD job descriptions. Ed James explained that POOL/PACT encouraged updating the job descriptions. Even though they usually do not help with job assessments, they will help with the job assessment and descriptions since CWSD has so few employees.

Director Lynn asked how duties like work at Lost Lakes will be noted. Mr. James responded that we can't use the phrase "and other duties as assigned" any longer, but we can note that some outside work will be required.

*Director Johnson made the motion to authorize CWSD staff to work with representatives from POOL/PACT to review and update the various CWSD job descriptions. Director Fierro seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.*

Item #14 - Discussion for possible action regarding an overview of the 2014 water year in the Carson River Watershed and predictions for 2015 water year. Mr. James reported that from Sept. 1 to today the Gardnerville gauge shows the flow at about 35 cfs, instead of an average of 80 cfs. The flows on the West and East Forks are less than the last two years but still greater than the low flow in 1977. For some unknown reason, the flows at the Carson City gauge have been higher than the last two summers.

Director Schank asked whether staff saw the result of the Lost Lakes water release. Mr. James reported that he did see the increase and then Mother Nature brought a storm to supplement that. It hasn't gotten to Fort Churchill gauge yet. Bently is to start taking water out of the West Fork to fill Mud Lake at the diversion and keep the water in the river to maintain flows in the West Fork.

The Marlette Lake level is down. Carson City stopped pumping on Sept 19. The reduction since then is seepage. Lahontan Reservoir is going down quickly and is expected to reach 4,000 af by the end of October. Director Schank reported that it was at 5,000 af when he checked it on his way to the meeting tonight. TCID expects to release water for another week.

As a report of where we are headed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) drought outlook through December 31, 2014, is that we will not receive any significant precipitation.

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

#### Item #15 - Staff Reports

General Manager - Mr. James reported: 1) CWSD received the full FEMA grant request for MAS #5 in the amount of \$375,000. Staff is working on the Request for Proposals (RFP) to go out in Douglas County to remap the Alpine View Estates Drainage areas, in Carson City to in the Eagle Valley A & B Drainages, and Churchill County to do a feasibility study to shunt water into desert area if flooding occurs. 2) TMWA is planning to do some cloud seeding this year. We don't have funding to do that in the Carson Watershed. DRI claims a 7-12% increase from cloud seeding in the

Tahoe and Walker River areas. We may be getting some benefit from Eldorado Irrigation District's cloud seeding. Mr. James is trying to get a cost/benefit analysis. There may be a BDR introduced in the Nevada Legislature this next session for cloud seeding. The cloud seeding equipment has been put into storage. 4) The Judge signed the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA). Mr. James wants to keep the Board informed that once TROA goes through, TROA creates an Administrator who will also be the Federal Water Master, appointed by Federal government, the State of Nevada, the State of California, and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. We may be able to have a separate Federal Water Master for the Carson River. Mr. James may be going around to the various groups about concerns and issues with that. He will bring more information back to the Board at the next Board meeting. George Benesch said he hasn't seen the ruling yet. 5) Mr. James thanked Mr. Benesch for bringing his chain saw to Lost Lakes to do cleanup work with Mr. James and a couple of people who work for the conservation district. 6) Mr. James reminded the Board that our November Board meeting will be a week early, on Nov. 12.

Legal –Mr. Benesch had nothing to report. He did mention that when the Legislature comes into session, if we have any problem with using rooms at the Legislative building, NACO has a nice meeting room where we may be able to meet. On the subject of TROA, Director Schank speculated that Senior Judge George is going to retire soon and made the decision on TROA anticipating that it would be appealed.

Correspondence – As handed out.

#### Item #16 - Directors' Reports

Director Erquiaga reported that he had just spent a couple weeks in Idaho where they are also experiencing drought conditions.

Director Osborne reported: 1) Storey County has given Comstock Mining a 35% discount on their water rate over a five year period to pay them back for Comstock Mining's investment in the Storey County water system. Comstock Mining has indicated that they will use that money for additional improvements. 2) Storey County is looking at the feasibility of purchasing effluent from Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA). Farr West Engineering is doing the feasibility study. 3) Storey County is writing a moratorium on water use in the American Flats area since they are having wells drying up.

Directors Jardine, Rawson, Penzel, Johnson, Fierro, Lynn, Frensdorff, Abowd, and Schank had nothing specific to report

*There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Lynn made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Penzel, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Leffler  
Secretary