

**CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 28, 2019, 8:30 – 2pm
Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present:

Brad Bonkowski, Carson City
David Griffith, Alpine County (for Don Jardine)
Barry Penzel, Douglas County
Ernie Schank, Churchill County
Mike Workman, Lyon County

Committee Members Not Present:

Don Jardine, Alpine County

Staff Present:

Edwin James, General Manager
Catrina Schambra, Secretary to the Board

Others Present:

Gregg Berggren, Carson City Open Space (CCOS)
Steve Berris, United States Geological Studies (USGS)
Ann Bollinger, CCOS
Daniel Bright, USGS
Julie Fair, American Rivers (via teleconference)
Marcia Gipson, USGS
Joan Grover, Sierra Nevada Journeys (SNJ)
Mike Hayes, Carson Valley Conservation District (CVCD)
Sean Hill, SNJ
Rob Holley, Dayton Valley Conservation District (DVCD)
Andy Hummel, Carson City Public Works
Chris Mahannah, Churchill County
Kimra McAfee, Alpine Watershed Group
Angela Paul, USGS
Darcy Phillips, River Wranglers
Christy Sullivan, Lahontan Conservation District (LCD)
Rich Wilkinson, CVCD

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Committee Member Bonkowski, CWSD Treasurer. The meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Carson Water Subconservancy District, 777 E. William St., #110, Carson City, Nevada. A quorum of the Finance Committee was present.

Item #3 - Public comment: None

Item #4 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting on March 5, 2018: *Committee Member Penzel made the motion to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on March 5, 2018. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Bonkowski and approved unanimously.*

Item #5 - Discussion regarding the Tentative General Fund FY 2019-20 budget and hear presentations for proposed projects; review the Tentative Acquisition/Construction Fund FY 2019-20 budget; and review the Tentative Floodplain Management Fund FY 2019-20 budget:

Mr. James explained the General Fund Budget spreadsheet and the committee process as he noted that Director Workman is new this year. The committee will reach consensus on budget recommendations to be brought to full Board for action at the March 20, 2019 meeting.

Starting in the income section he explained that the proposed county taxes are based on a conservative 3% increase over last year, but the official numbers from the state will not be available until March 25. The increase may be as high as 5.5%, but we will base our proposed tentative budget at 3%. He further explained grant income and interest income on the spreadsheet. On the expense side, he noted an increase in salary based the assumption of a 2% cost of living and merit increase, benefit cost increases due to health insurance changes with staff and increase in PERS contribution. There was a discussion regarding reimbursing all Directors for mileage. (This would require a policy change and is planned for the to be discussed at a future Administrative Committee meeting.)

Mr. James reviewed all the grant expenses that are offset by the grant income. He also noted that it is required by law that there be a minimum 4% of expenses in our ending balance.

Presentations of Proposed Projects

Carson River Projects:

Carson Valley Conservation District - Bioengineering, Maintenance and Debris Removal

Mike Hayes, CVCD Coordinator

Project to stabilize vertical cutbanks throughout Carson Valley as well as stabilize soil, improve water quality, reestablish vegetation and removal of woody debris. Asking \$60,000. Pictures showing extent of erosion of rivers banks over a ten-year period (2007-17) were distributed and it was also reported that this is a priority for landowners who are willing to put money into this project as well.

Carson Valley Conservation District - Genoa Bank Stabilization

Rich Wilkinson, CVCD Coordinator

Project to restore vertical cutbanks along a ¾ mile long and 12 to 15 feet high. Asking for \$100,000. Goal to also stabilize soil, improve water quality and reestablish vegetation for wildlife. CVCD considers this a high priority project since this area was severely impacted by the recent flooding events in 2017.

Carson Valley Conservation District - Time Extension Cradlebaugh Stabilization

Rich Wilkinson, CVCD Coordinator

Mr. James explained this is a carryover from last fiscal year (2018-19) because of some permit issue. Director Penzel questioned carry-over funds and how we account for them in budget. Mr. James explains how the carryovers are tracked but agrees there needs to be a better process.

River Wranglers- Carson River Work Days

Darcy Phillips, Executive Director

Conserve Carson River Work Days and Vegetation Management. This is educational outreach program serving students in six watershed counties. Asking \$26,000. Would like to expand program to get to more schools and also work with at-risk kids, too. Is partnering with parks and recreation to start middle school pilot program. Program had participation of over 1400 students this year. Mr. James explains money is used to match another grant.

Alpine County Watershed Group- Upper Carson River Watershed Programs

Kimra McAfee, Executive Director

This is a community outreach program to restore and monitor the Alpine County watershed. Asking \$25,000. Treasurer Bonkowski asked about funding and Ms. McAfee explained the timeline of funding approvals. Alpine County is fully grant dependent. Director Workman asked how community outreach is done with only 30 students in Alpine County. Ms. McAfee described Adopt-a-Highway, Willow Planting, Family Projects, etc. as well as Sorenson and Bentley being supporters and donors.

Dayton Valley Conservation District – Bank Stabilization/Channel Restoration Upstream from Dayton Bridge

Rob Holley, District Manager

Project to remove cottonwood trees that pose a threat to irrigation diversions and to the Dayton Bridge. Asking \$100,000. In addition this project addresses the severe and ongoing bank erosion, loss of mature cottonwood trees (into the river), loss of private agricultural land, and the accumulation of cottonwood and willow growth within the river channel.

Dayton Valley Conservation District – Fort Churchill Project – Time Extension

Rob Holley, District Manager

Mr. Holley asked that the unused funds for FY2018-19 be carried over to FY 2019-20. The Fort Churchill Project had to be delayed because the contractor backed out.

Lahontan Conservation District – Carson River Channel Clearing

Christy Sullivan, LCD District Manager

Project to prevent and minimize property loss and other damage during flood condition. Also to maintain a clear channel to enable citizens to utilize the river for recreation and maintaining river flow velocity to prevent stagnant pools that pose health risks. Asking \$35,000.

Community Projects:

Churchill County - Dixie Valley Water Level Measurement & Precipitation Gage Monitoring

Chris Mahannah for Jim Barbee, County Manager

Project continues long-term gauging of precipitation and water levels that is important for water to the Lahontan Valley. Asking \$65,000. Director Penzel wondered aloud why BOR is not contributing and why Churchill is contributing so little. Director Schank believes this is a watershed issue with regional benefit to everyone and noted that BOR was the original funder for this project. Director Bonkowski asks about the water quality. Mr. Mahannah says it will need to be treated. Director Bonkowski thinks quality and quantity are important and wants to make sure that this is part of the project study.

Truckee-Carson Irrigation District - Carson Diversion Dam Repairs

Rusty Jardine, General Manager (No representative present.)

Carson City - Carson City Reclaimed Master Plan (Update)

Andrew Hummel, Wastewater Utility Manager, CCPW

Project to update Reuse Master Plan to understand the current and long-term issues related to reclaimed water reuse as Carson City continues to grow. Asking \$50,000 (50% Match)

Carson City - Mexican Dam Ditch Intake Structure Improvement (Mexican Ditch Bridge)

Gregg Berggen, Trails Coordinator

Project to make structural improvements to the Mexican Ditch intake that would construct a 7 ½ foot wide bridge to permit safe passage of small watercraft around the Mexican Dam as well as being equestrian, bicycle and pedestrian friendly. This would eliminate the current public safety issues and allow for the Carson River Aquatic Trail to extend into the Carson Valley. Asking for \$25,000. Bridge would provide safe passage for people to get around dam without going on private property. Project is shovel ready and the plan is to be done by December 2019. Presentation included four letters of support for this project: Douglas County Community Services, Carson Valley Trails Association, Muscle Powered, and Resource Concepts, Inc.

USGS:

USGS Monitoring Hg, Ar, Ld & Sediment in Carson River

Angie Paul, Hydrologist, USGS Nevada Water Science Center

This project is a continuation of 2017-18 Mercury Monitoring Program. Asking \$3,000 (Matching funds)

7500-00 USGS Stream Gage Contract

Steven Berris, Nevada Networks Chief

This project is a continuation of the cooperative monitoring program. Asking \$78,405 for FY 2019-20 and \$78,405 for FY 2020-21.

7508-00 USGS Douglas & Lyon Counties Co GW Collection Data

Steven Berris, Nevada Networks Chief

This project is a continuation of the cooperative monitoring program. Asking \$16,890 for FY 2019-20 and \$16,890 for FY 2020-21

New Projects:

Sierra Nevada Journeys – Family Watershed Nights & Watershed Map Project

Joan Grover, Grants Manager

This Watershed Education project is for Douglas County and Carson City. The events have great participation that are targeted to elementary school kids and their parents. Asking for \$2,976.48 to conduct 2 events in Carson City and 2 events in Douglas County. They are also asking for \$1,500 to help CWSD identify education standards so teachers can use CWSD website and watershed map for class assignments.

American Rivers - Faith Valley Meadow Restoration Planning

Julie Fair, Associate Director, California Restoration (via phone conference)
Project to restore hydrological and ecosystems processes. Asking for \$10,500.

During lunch Mr. James reviewed the Acquisition/Construction and Floodplain Management Funds.

Item #6 - Make recommendations for the Tentative General Fund, Acquisition/Construction Fund, and Floodplain Management Fund FY 2019-20 budgets.

Mr. James mentioned that the committee needs to cut \$195,000 from the funding requests. Based on further discussion the committee proposed the following cuts:

- \$13,000 from CVCD genoa Bank Stabilization Project
- \$10,000 from DVCD Bank Stabilization Project
- \$10,000 from LCD Channel Clearing Project
- \$3,000 from USGS Hg Monitoring
- \$50,000 from TCID Carson Diversion Dam Repairs
- \$50,000 from Transfer to Floodplain Management Account
- \$50,000 from Transfer to Acquisition/Construction Account
- \$10,500 from American River Meadow Restoration

Treasurer Bonkowski made the motion that the Finance Committee recommend that the tentative budgets for the General Fund, the Acquisition/Construction Fund, and Flood Management Fund be approved as adjusted above. Committee Member Schank seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. Mr. James was directed to send a clean copy to committee members before sending to the entire Board for review.

Item #7 - Public comment: None

There being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, Treasurer Bonkowski moved and Committee Member Schank seconded motion to adjourn which passed unanimously. Treasurer Bonkowski declared the meeting adjourned at 1:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catrina Schambra
Secretary to the Board