

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
**Regional Water System & Flood Committee**

June 9, 2021, 10 am

**Minutes**

*The CWSD Regional Water System & Flood Committee meeting was held via Zoom Videoconference and teleconference due to Governor Sisolak's statewide Emergency Directive in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.*

**Committee Members Present:**

Jack Jacobs  
January Riddle  
Lisa Schuette  
Mike Workman

**CWSD Staff Present:**

Ed James  
Debbie Neddenriep

**Absent Committee Members:**

Pete Olsen  
Fred Stodieck

**Also Present:**

Nick Charles

Director Jacobs called the video/teleconference meeting of the CWSD Regional Water System & Flood Committee to order at 10 am. Roll call determined a quorum of the committee was present.

**Item #3 – Discussion Only: Public Comment** - None

**Item #4 - For Possible Action: Approval of Agenda**

*Director Schuette made a motion to approve the Regional Water System and Flood Committee Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Workman and unanimously approved by the Regional Water System and Flood Committee.*

**Item #5 - For Possible Action: Approval of the Regional Water System and Flood Committee Minutes of August 12, 2020**

*Director Workman made a motion to approve the Regional Water System and Flood Committee Minutes from March 30, 2021. The motion was seconded by Director Schuette and unanimously approved by the Regional Water System and Flood Committee.*

## **Item #6 For Possible Action: Discuss expanding the CTP Program**

Mr. James explained how FEMA funding has helped counties identify and mitigate their flood risks. These grants cover 100% of study costs, so it has provided a substantial amount of funding. CWSD is currently applying for its 12<sup>th</sup> round of funding. The counties are interested in adding areas outside the Carson River Watershed. For Douglas and Lyon Counties, that includes the East and West Fork of the Walker River, including Topaz Lake. Storey County has residents that also live in the Truckee River Watershed. Alpine County is dealing with a recent flood study completed by FEMA in Bear Valley. The process will involve an updated Discovery plan (a document that names potential projects to apply for FEMA funding in each county). This document must be completed before any given project is eligible for cooperating technical partners (CTP) funding.

*Director Workman made a motion to recommend CWSD expand FEMA projects to areas outside of the Carson River Watershed but within Watershed Counties to expand funding area to have broader access to FEMA CTP funding. The motion was seconded by Director Schuette and unanimously approved by the Regional Water System and Flood Committee.*

## **Item # 7 For Possible Action: Discussion the Water Marketing Study and next steps**

Mr. James presented more information about the Water Marketing Study (see attached presentation) and next there was a discussion prompted by questions posed by Committee Member Jacobs:

- Slides 5, 6 - How variable is the Carson Valley diversions during this period and has this measurable influenced the river flow variability? *The committee discussed this question and concluded that additional work is needed to answer this question.*
- Slide 8 - This graph is for Carson City...is there a similar graph for a higher point in the watershed? *Mr. Charles explained that at this point, there is not within the Carson River Watershed. However, similar trends were seen at Marlette Lake. Mr. James also noted that Twin Lake, California data indicated a similar trend in an earlier DRI study conducted in the Carson River Watershed. Committee member Jacobs pointed out there are subtleties that need to be captured, such as 'what is the amount of water lost by farms that are being developed?*
- Slide 11- When looking at the annual groundwater usage from each basin, it would be interesting to see it as a percentage of the basin capacity. For example, if the Carson Desert basin is very small, this overdraft must have a greater impact on its ability to withstand long term droughts. *After discussion, it was concluded it was doable and that this information would be helpful to track drought impacts.*
- Slide 12- Does this projection include consideration for water conservation between now and 2040? *Mr. Charles replied no, assumptions are based on state demographer's numbers and noted water use trends were going downward. This study did not include specify*

*causes, but Mr. Charles speculated the continued trend of smaller lots, people moving to the watershed from places where water conservation is a way of life. Future water savings from water conservation is something that will need to be considered in a future study.*

- Slide 16,20, 21 -What is the actual yield from these conceptual options considering the potential for recharge water to return to the river or be lost from future recovery for some other reason? Mr. James responded this is a question he would like to answer if CWSD receives the USBR funding.

After discussion about these questions concluded, Committee member Workman asked why the USGS collects so much data from municipalities but doesn't include it into its studies. He stated he would like to see this information captured in USGS studies since so much institutional knowledge is being lost. He also wanted to underscore importance of correct data and that it needs to be fact-checked. Mr. James concurred and hoped to address these concerns if CWSD gets the next round of USBR funding.

**Item # 8 – Discussion Only: Public Comment - None**

There being no further business to come before the Regional Water System and Flood Committee, Director Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 10:54 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Neddenriep  
Water Resource Specialist 2