

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
CARSON RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE MEETING
November 17, 2021

Minutes

Chairman Giomi called the meeting of the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) to order at 6:30pm in the Bonanza Room at the Carson City Community Center at 851 East William Street in Carson City. Roll call of the CWSD Board was taken and a quorum was determined to be present.

CWSD Directors present:

John Engels (*via Zoom*)
Mark Gardner (*via Zoom*)
Stacey Giomi
Ken Gray (*via Zoom*)
Jim Hindle
David Nelson (*via Zoom*)
Pete Olsen (*via Zoom*)
Lisa Schuette
Fred Stodieck (*via Zoom*)
Mike Workman

Directors Absent: Ernie Schank

Roll call of the Carson River Watershed Committee included CWSD Directors and Committee Members present - David Griffith and January Riddle (*via Zoom*).

CWSD Staff & Guests present:

Kathy Canfield, Storey County (*via Zoom*)
Shane Fryer, Watershed Program Specialist
Brenda Hunt, Watershed Program Manager
Edwin James, General Manager
Patrick King, CWSD Attorney
Kyle LaRue, Casey Neilon, Inc.
Kimra McAfee, Alpine Watershed Group (*via Zoom*)
Ramone Naranjo, USGS (*via Zoom*)
Debbie Neddenriep, Water Resources Specialist 2
Nicola Neilon, Casey Neilon, Inc. (*via Zoom*)
Catrina Schambra, Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board
J.T. Cavalier, Alpine County (*via Zoom*)
Candace Stowell, Alpine County (*via Zoom*)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brenda Hunt.

Item #4 – Discussion Only: Public Comment –

Director Engels mentioned USGS had given a highly informative presentation to the Douglas County Board of Commissioners regarding nitrate blooms in the Carson Valley. The presentation was recorded and available to view on the Douglas County website and he suggests anyone living in the Carson Valley would find it interesting.

Item #5 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agenda

Chairman Giomi announced Item #11, Update to the CWSD Bylaws, will be pulled for further discussion from the Consent Agenda, and if there are no objections, the agenda will stand approved.

Item #6 – For Possible Action: Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2021

Director Workman made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2021, as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Gardner and unanimously approved by the Board.

****CONSENT AGENDA****

Item #7 - For Possible Action: Approval of Treasurer’s Report for October 2021

Item #8 - For Possible Action: Approval of Payment of Bills for October 2021

Item #9 - For Possible Action: Designation of Nondiscrimination Program Coordinator; Adoption of Nondiscrimination Program & Policy; and Approval of Notice of Nondiscrimination Statement for posting

Item #10 - For Possible Action: Adopt Resolution #2021-1 to Accept CWSD/Storey County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Committee Member Griffith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, excepting Item #11 which was pulled for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Director Schuette and unanimously approved by the Board.

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

Item #11 - For Possible Action: Approval of Amendment to CWSD Bylaws to include addition of Storey County members

Mr. James explained the CWSD Bylaws needed to be updated to include Storey County Directors and to replace outdated language. In addition to the proposed edits shown in the Board package, the heading “KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS” on page 4 of the document needed to be removed.

Director Hindle made a motion to approve the amendment to the CWSD Bylaws as presented with additional edit described above. The motion was seconded by Director Gray and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #12 - For Possible Action: Presentation by Casey Neilon on CWSD FY2020-21 Audit

Nicola Neilon presented the FY 2020-2021 Financial Statement Report to the Board. She pointed out key areas of the financial documents and reported there were no findings. She commended CWSD staff on their diligence and great work.

Director Hindle made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Audit as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Griffith and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #13 – For Possible Action: Approval of USGS Concept Proposal for 3-Year Climate Change and Future Growth Study in an amount of \$100,000

Mr. James introduced this item, explaining this is the proposal for the 3-year Climate Change and Future Growth Study Grant. Under this Agreement the USGS will update their middle and upper Carson Models, incorporating future water demands, and run various climate change scenarios. CWSD will be hiring a consultant who will incorporate the information from the USGS to create a regional water plan. CWSD is hoping to get a Hazard Mitigation Grant to help cover the cost of the study. Director Giomi states this study will help to promote other mitigation projects in the future.

Director Workman made a motion to approve moving forward with the Concept Proposal and to authorize the General Manager to sign the Agreement. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Griffith and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #14 – For Possible Action: Update on the Proposed Interim Plan by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for the Carson River Mercury Super Fund Site

Brenda Hunt reported the deadline for Public Comments has been extended by 90 days to February 14, 2022. She is working with NDEP to hold an additional meeting before January with stakeholders to formulate comments. The initial meeting was more informational and did not have any comments shared. She has been reaching out to interested parties for input. CWSD may hold a CRC meeting before the draft comments letter is developed. The plan is to have a draft letter to present to the Board by the January meeting. Then it will be shared with counties for their use as a template.

Mr. James has been keeping county managers informed.

No action was taken.

Item #15– For Possible Action: Update on the USACE determination that the Carson River is a navigable water of the United States pursuant to the Rivers and Harbors Act

Mr. James reported a Permit Workshop has been set for December 8, 9am – noon in the Robert ‘Bob’ Crowell Room (previously the Sierra Room) at the Carson City Community Center to address this issue. The goal is to coordinate permit requirements and streamline the process for all those working for the conservation of the Carson River.

No action was taken.

Item #16 – For Discussion Only: Update on the Markleeville Creek Restoration Project

Mr. James stated that the California Department of Water Resources notified us that since CWSD is not a California agency, we cannot receive the MCRP funding. The Alpine Watershed Group can receive the funding. J.T. Chevalier from Alpine County thanked CWSD for their help with this project. Kimra McAfee, AWG Executive Director, reported that the Cal Trans portion of the grant will help them with their cash flow issue. She again wanted to thank CWSD for the 15-year commitment to this project.

No action was taken.

Item #17 – For Possible Action: Watershed Moments Pollinator Video

Staff previewed the Watershed Moments videos clips for the Board of the Pollinator video.

No action was taken.

Item #18 – For Discussion Only: Staff Reports –

Mr. James reported the following:

- Administrative Committee Meeting will be scheduled soon to bring recommendations to December Board meeting.
- The December Board meeting will be a return to our Annual Christmas Dinner! Details are being finalized and we will update you soon.

Ms. Neddenriep reported the following:

- 11/23/21 is the Churchill County Physical Map Revision Presentation.

Ms. Hunt reported the following:

- Staff met with Joe Frey for a Ranch Tour and talk about Regenerative Ag Practices and putting together the Ag Working Group. She thinks a ranch tour would be a great field trip idea for 2022

Legal – Mr. King reported that he has been in touch with The Attorney General’s office (Ott) regarding new laws passed by the legislature that may impact CWSD. Mr. Ott told Mr. King there is nothing new to report, except that Zoom meetings can be continued until further notice.

Correspondence – None

Item #19 – For Discussion Only: Directors Reports –

- Chairman Giomi reported the Carson City will be issuing bonds to upgrade the Quill Water Treatment Plant.

Item #20– For Discussion Only: Update on activities in Alpine County –

- Committee Member Griffith reported that there was some debris flow after the last two storms, but not as much as he thought there would be.
- Committee Member Riddle reported it is a Watershed Weekend and the community would be installing waddles and seedings on Saturday and Sunday starting at 9am. Contact her for details. The community is concerned about debris flow. There is great momentum to come together as a community to help each other.

Item #21– For Discussion Only: Update on activities in Storey County –

- Kathy Canfield reported that Storey County wrapped up work for winter in Mark Twain neighborhood.
- Director Hindle reported on the Innovation Zone proposal. The funder has pulled out, but the legislative Committee has not disbanded.

Item #22 – For Discussion Only: Public Comment – None

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Giomi adjourned the meeting at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catrina Schambra

Secretary to the Board