

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
CARSON RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE MEETING
February 16, 2021

Minutes

Chairman Giomi called the meeting of the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) to order at 6:32pm 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:

Stacey Giomi
Ken Gray
Jim Hindle
Lisa Schuette
Ernie Schank
Fred Stodieck
Mike Workman

Directors Absent: John Engels, Mark Gardner, David Nelson, and Pete Olsen.

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:

Geoff Brownell, Kimley-Horn
Kathy Canfield, Storey County Planner
Shane Fryer, Watershed Program Specialist
Brenda Hunt, Watershed Program Manager
Edwin James, General Manager
Patrick King, CWSD Attorney
Kaylee Maples, AmeriCorps/CWSD Watershed Technician
Catrina Schambra, Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brenda Hunt.

Item #4 – Discussion Only: Public Comment – None

Item #5 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agenda

Director Schank made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Griffith and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #6 – For Possible Action: Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes of Jan. 19, 2022

Director Gray made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2022, as presented with correction to typo. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Griffith and unanimously approved by the Board.

****CONSENT AGENDA****

Item #7 - For Possible Action: Approval of Treasurer's Report for January 2022

Item #8 - For Possible Action: Approval of Payment of Bills for January 2022

Item #9 - For Possible Action: Modify the Andy Aldax criteria to establish who is eligible for the award

Item #10 - For Possible Action: Approval of Agreement #2021-30 with Jungle Designs for High-Water Mark Mural project not to exceed \$6,495

Director Schank made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Gray and unanimously approved by the Board.

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

Item #12 - For Possible Action: Update on the Watershed Literacy Campaign

Ms. Hunt reported on the successful outreach of the first two PSA videos in series (1) "Bag-It," released 1/9/2022 and (2) "Motor Oil" released 2/9/2022. Combined over 29,000 people have been reached via social media sites Instagram and Facebook. The next video will be "Use a Carwash" to be released March 9, 2022. The Board viewed a rough cut of this video.

Brenda Hunt and Kaylee Maples were also guests on the broadcast Nevada Newsmakers on February 4 and were interviewed on the video campaign and what CWSD hopes to achieve with the outreach project.

Ms. Hunt also announced the stickers that are being distributed throughout the watershed to be placed on public dog poop bag dispensers that thank dog owners for being responsible and has a QR Code taking them to the film. Carson City was given 200 dog poop stickers and there are 300 more available to be distributed in other locations, including BLM and USFS trailheads.

No action was taken.

Item #13 – 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 on the January 28 Permit meeting. There were about 30 people on the Zoom and great participation, but it's clear that CWSD will need to take the lead on this. CWSD is currently working on a map that shows all the diversion structures. If we can develop a General Permit for the Carson River then the farmers would not have to get their own permit to work on their diversions. The USACE would like information on all the diversions that include the age of the structures (if known), locations, and pictures. CWSD will use the General Permit from Utah as the template to help develop a General Permit for the Carson River. CWSD will continue to gather the information needed. The next meeting will be late March.

No action was taken.

Item #11 - For Discussion Only: Presentation by Geoff Brownell from Kimley-Horn regarding the Smelter Creek Flood Study

Geoff Brownell gave an overview of the Smelter Creek Letter of Map Revision in Douglas

County which covers the Ruhenstroth Area Drainage Master Plan. The report was submitted to FEMA in January.

No action was taken.

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

MS. Hunt reported there were approximately 50 attendees on the last meeting call and from that came this final draft she was submitting for Board approval on the comments letter to the USEPA.

Chairman Giomi gave her kudos for doing such a great job of putting CWSD concerns front and center and still deep diving into further issues throughout the letter. He states it's a very well written research document and should be sent to legislators and their Public Lands representative. Kathy Canfield agrees the letter is very good and especially the point of asking the EPA to identify the mercury hotspots. There was further discussion on mercury and the issues it causes in the river.

Vice Chairman Gray made a motion to approve Chairman Giomi sign the letter with minor edits as discussed. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Griffith and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #15 – For Discussion Only: Staff Reports –

Mr. James reported the following:

- The runoff on the East Fork is above average flows and the West Fork is flowing at average. The concern is the flows have been increasing due to the warm temperature and not due the heavy snowpack. The snow levels are at the same levels as they were last year on this date.
- He met with Chairman Giomi and Vice Chairman Gray to discuss a possible Strategic Planning Session that would be held in-lieu of the April Board meeting. It will be after Day Light Savings and if we start early in the day (4pm?) we could have the Board Members back home before dark. This will be an in-person meeting and would not be available via Zoom. More details to follow.

Ms. Hunt reported the following:

- Planning the annual Forum for the end of March or early April, in-person since mask requirements have been lifted.
- CWSD staff and AWG staff went out to landowners on the West Fork and were given tours of what they have done on their property.

Legal – None

Correspondence –

- ***Engineer received Andy Aldax Award*** - Record Courier
- ***Bruce Scott to receive the 2022 Andy Aldax Carson River Watershed Award*** – Nevada Appeal
- ***Carson River watershed video offers the scoop on dog poop*** – Nevada Appeal

- ***“Bag it” asks pet owners to protect river, lakes*** – Reno Gazette Journal (front page)
- ***Watershed officials: It’s your duty to pick up your pet’s doody*** - Reno Gazette Journal

Item #19 – For Discussion Only: Directors Reports –

- Director Stodieck reported he has missed meeting because the call on zoom was dropped. He discussed open Douglas County seat that is hard to fill because it must be an Ag member.

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

- Alpine County will receive a grant of \$2,000,000 to help homeowners after Tamarack Fire from the Forest Service.

Item #21– For Discussion Only: Update on activities in Storey County – None

- Storey County got 3-6” of snow from the storm.

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

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Giomi adjourned the meeting at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catrina Schambra

Secretary to the Board