

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
Board of Directors
& Carson River Watershed Committee Meeting

Mar. 18, 2026

Minutes

Chairperson Ernie Schank called the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) Board of Directors Meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Carson Water Subconservancy District Conference Room, Carson City, NV 89701. A roll call of the CWSD Board of Directors determined a quorum was present.

CWSD Directors / Committee Members present:

Charlie Dobson
Stacey Giomi
David Griffith
Sharla Hales - Zoom
Tammy Hendrix
Jim Hindle
Doug Johnson

Cassi Koerner
Ernie Schank
Lisa Schuette
Lee Sterrett
Fred Stodieck - Zoom
Nathan Tolbert
Mike Workman

CWSD Directors / Committee Members absent:

Myles Getto

CWSD Staff & Guests present:

Reed Cozens, CWSD
Brenda Hunt, CWSD
Steve King, CWSD Attorney
Lindsay Budija, CWSD
Debbie Neddenriep, CWSD
Kelly Nicholas, CWSD
Michael G., Zoom

Item #3 – Pledge of Allegiance

Director Hendrix led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #4 – For Discussion Only: Public Comment

None.

Item #5 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agenda

Director Giomi moved to approve the Agenda for March 18, 2026, with Items #7 and #13 pulled. Committee Member Griffith seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved (motion carried).

Item #6 – For Possible Action: Approval of Feb. 18, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Director Giomi moved to approve the Feb. 18, 2026 Minutes as presented. Director Koerner seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved (motion carried).

The Board recessed the Board Meeting and convened the Finance Committee meeting at 6:34, reconvening at 6:37; see [March 18 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

****CONSENT AGENDA****

Item #7 – For Possible Action: Approval of the Treasurer’s Report for Jan. and Feb 2026

Item pulled.

Item #8 – For Possible Action: Approval of Bill Payment for Jan. and Feb. 2026

Item #9 – For Possible Action: Authorization for the Board Chair to prepare a letter recommending CWSD General Manager Reed Cozens’s appointment to the Carson Truckee Water Conservancy District.

Item #10 – For Possible Action: Approval of the 2026 Water Rate Report.

Item #11 – For Possible Action: Authorization for the General Manager to approve the 3-Year Auditing Services proposal by Sorren CPAs P.C. for FY 25-26, FY 26-27, and FY 27-28 (\$19,425, \$20,400 and \$21,500 respectively). Comment: Committee Member Griffith suggested in the future to consider changing auditing firms for an independent outlook. However, it was pointed out that 1) There are limitations as to who can do the audit and 2) Sorren under a previous name did not go out to bid and it was also considerable cost savings.

Committee Member Griffith moved to approve the corrected Consent Agenda, Director Giomi seconded, and the motion passed unanimously (motion carried).

****END CONSENT AGENDA****

Item #12 – Watershed Literacy Survey Presentation – Mark Duda, founder of Responsive Management, presented results of a Dec 2025-Jan 2026 follow-up and updated survey originally administered in 2015. More than 800 respondents were asked general questions about: their watershed attitudes and knowledge; their influence on environmental outcomes; and specifics about “I Am Carson River Watershed” campaign exposure and any resulting actions. Surveys were by phone in English and Spanish. Results reflect a good baseline of familiarity with watershed issues. Of the people who have seen or heard the PSAs, an extremely high proportion have incorporated the everyday actions suggested; the most common are picking up litter, picking up pet waste, and altering water use and plant placement. Several critical areas have improved since 2015. Given the demographic reflected in the survey, incorporating messaging into utility bills and real estate materials may extend audience reach. These results will inform an update of the watershed literacy strategic plan.

[Read the report here](https://www.cwsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/NV-2026-Carson-River-Report-2026-01-28.pdf) (https://www.cwsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/NV-2026-Carson-River-Report-2026-01-28.pdf).

~~Item #13 – For Possible Action: East Fork Carson River Hot Springs USFS and Partner Memorandum of Understanding~~

Item pulled.

Item #14 – For Possible Action: Approval of the Tentative Budget for FY 26-27 for the General Fund, Floodplain Management Fund, and Acquisition/Construction Fund

Reed acknowledged that in the budget some links were inactive and text that was supposed to be highlighted was not, but everything was accounted for. There were some discrepancies between grant monies awarded and amount asked for. According to the General Fund (p 2 in the item) for the current fiscal year (25/26), AWG was allocated \$30K. Under 26/27 New Projects (p 3 in the item), AWG will receive \$35K, but the amount that was requested (and approved?) during this February’s finance committee meeting was \$40K. Some money has already been transferred from other accounts, but more will have to be to fully fund the \$40K request. Chairperson Schank recommended doing some research and reviewing the spreadsheets to see if this can be granted while ensuring the budget stays balanced, keeping in mind the entire budget has been scaled back. Director Johnson moved to approve the tentative budget, Director Hindle seconded, and the board voted unanimously (motion carried).

Item #15 – For Discussion Only: Staff Reports

General Manager: Reed outlined how staff is covering Catrina’s duties during her absence. He has reviewed computer usage and inventory, and CWSD will ask the Board to surplus equipment. He has submitted materials for a workmen’s comp audit and is working with IT professionals to ensure staff admin access and user account privacy. A timesheet review revealed the extensive time spent preparing board packets, but now he understands why it takes time. Director Giomi asked if we should bring in temporary help, but uncertainty on multiple fronts doesn’t make this a viable option. Updating QuickBooks from a desktop version to online opens remote-work possibilities, but it’s a monthly subscription and costs will need to be evaluated. Chairperson Schank asked about our current version. \$7K is available for computers in the tentative budget.

For next board meeting Reed hopes to have investigated a QuickBooks migration and have the books caught up, as well as the potential for professional outside services and contingency funds pay for this expenditure. The Board is potentially open to receiving board packets online versus mailed hard copies. Ed will be back on Apr. 7.

Senior Watershed Clerk: Kelly reported on the progress of Watershed Forum planning. The event runs Apr. 1 & 2.

Water Resource Specialist 1: Lindsay gave the water purveyors and Reed kudos and thanks for their reporting, which helped her compile the water rate report.

Legal: None

Correspondence: None

Item #16 – For Discussion Only: Directors & Committee Members Reports

Director Tolbert: The lands bill before Congress is very close; he and Director Hales spent six hours with Washington legislators. He sent a special thanks to the Utah congressperson.

Director Koerner: There will be Ag in the Classroom for two elementary schools: one in the fall and one at Genoa Western Heritage Days in April.

Director Hales: She met with Sen. Mike Lee of Utah, prioritizing the lands bill that was introduced by Rep. Mark Amodei. Sen. Catherine Cortez-Masto will present it to the Senate.

Director Johnson: He has put in his name for East Fork Fire Board and is unopposed.

Committee Member Griffith: Alpine Co. is seeking a new CEO and made an offer yesterday to Alpine Co. Community Development Director Sam Booth. Brenda reported AWG received a 319 grant and will create a nine-element watershed plan. AWG is in the process of signing a contract with Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Item #17- For Discussion Only: Public Comment

None.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairperson Schank adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Nicholas
Senior Watershed Clerk