

**CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
February 27, 2025, 8:30 am – 2 pm  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Committee Members' Present:**

David Griffith, Alpine County  
Jim Hindle, Storey County  
Doug Johnson, Douglas County  
Ernie Schank, Churchill County  
Lisa Schuette, Carson City  
Mike Workman, Lyon County

**Staff Present:**

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

**Guests:**

Lyndsey Boyer, Carson City Parks, Rec & Open Space  
Julie Fair, American Rivers  
Rebecca Feldermann, River Wranglers (ZOOM)

Mike Hayes, Carson Valley Conservation District (ZOOM)  
Jena Huntington, USGS  
Austin Lemons, Dayton Valley Conservation District  
Mareena Lovejoy, Carson City Parks, Rec & Open Space  
Chris Mahannah, Churchill County  
Kimra McAfee, Alpine Watershed Group  
Karin Peternel, Carson City Public Works  
Joseph Sanford, Churchill County District Attorney  
Kurtiss Schmidt, USGS  
Rachel Schmidt, Dayton Valley Conservation District  
Ben Shawcroft, Truckee-Carson Irrigation District  
Amanda Singleton, Carson City Parks, Rec & Open Space  
Christy Sullivan, Lahontan Conservation District  
Rich Wilkinson, Carson Valley Conservation District(ZOOM)

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The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Committee Member Schuette. The meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Carson Water Subconservancy District, 777 E. William St., #209, Carson City, Nevada with a Zoom option available. Roll call determined the quorum of the committee present.

**Item #3 - Public comment:** None

**Item #4 – For Possible Action: Approval of Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2024**

*Committee Member Griffith made a motion to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on May 14, 2024. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Workman and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee.*

**Item #5 - For Discussion Only - Review the Tentative General Fund FY 2025-26 Budget and Hear Presentations for Proposed Projects; Review the Tentative Acquisition/Construction Fund FY 2025-26 Budget; and Review the Tentative Floodplain Management Fund FY 2025-26 Budget**

Mr. James announced that due to a doctor's appointment Rich Wilkinson requested to move up his presentation and participate via Zoom. Mr. James explained we would start with the CVCD presentations and afterwards he will give his budget and staffing overview.

**Carson Valley Conservation District (1)– Upper Carson River Flood Damage Repairs & Restoration**

Rich Wilkinson, District Manager

This project is directly upstream of four previous restoration projects that were completed between 2020 and 2024. The location experienced flooding damage in 2017 and more recently in 2023. CVCD staff noted that the head cut has expanded 18 feet to the west resulting in severe erosion, impacts to water quality, and loss of vegetation and large Cottonwoods. In addition to the environmental impacts the landowner has lost property, trees, and a fence to the most recent flood damage. CVCD will cut back and fill the vertical bank and shape it to a 3 to 1 slope. Although the project will utilize bioengineering techniques, CVCD also intends to use rock riprap to protect the toe of the bank and to slow flows through this project reach. Once the bank is reconstructed and prepared for planting, CVCD will install COIR fabric, willow mats, willow poles, and willow fascines. All areas where materials or equipment have been staged will be reseeded. If funding allows, CVCD would like to plant several large cottonwood trees and shrubs along the upland areas. This project will serve to benefit the Carson River Watershed through the stabilization of riverbanks and concurrent reduction of erosion at the two proposed project

sites. This will also result in a reduction in sedimentation and turbidity of the river in these areas. Rock stream barbs and rock ripraps placed on the toe of the bank encourage sediment deposition and riverbank vegetation benefit from the trapped soil and nutrients. The stabilization of the bank will create a gradual slope connecting the river to the floodplain which allows for establishment of riparian vegetation and wildlife access to the river. This stable connection of river to floodplain also allows for gradual flooding and groundwater recharge in the floodplain. Riverbank stabilization is a project type identified as needed in the Carson River Adaptive Stewardship Plan (CRASP). **Funding request: \$150,000**

### **Carson Valley Conservation District (2) – CVCD Staff Salary Support & Vegetation Management**

Rich Wilkinson, District Manager

CVCD would like to request funding assistance with Staff salaries and operational costs that do not fall directly within the river restoration project's scope of work. In addition to these costs, we would like to ask for your financial support with our Vegetation Management program which helps protect our vital Cottonwood Gallery. Each year, the Carson Valley Conservation District provides significant staff time and support for consulting services to multiple agencies and landowners working in the Carson River Watershed. In the past, district staff have not been able to bill for these services since they do not fall within a particular project scope. As a result, the district has had to volunteer time or the CVCD board has had to pay for staff time without the ability to get reimbursed. The CVCD is a partner with many Federal, State, County and Municipalities and we are considered an excellent source for consulting on matters concerning the health and function of the watershed. CVCD will assist local landowners and agency partners with events/plans/projects that do not directly affect our contracted projects. These tasks include 1) assisting Douglas County with all erosion and stormwater related concerns, 2) assisting CWSD with Carson River Coalition functions, Education Outreach and staff projects, 3) assisting Carson City Open Space with river and tributary erosion and water quality issues, 4) working with local agricultural producers and NRCS on improving irrigation efficiency, crop management and issues with water conveyance, 5) assisting state agencies with water related issues that may arise following high water events or land use concerns, and 6) providing technical assistance for all agencies and landowners with permitting requirements. **Funding request: \$60,000**

## **Budget & Staffing Overview**

Mr. James noted the committee will need to cut \$295,500 from the proposed budgets to reach the 4% required ending balance. He went over the proposed budgets with the committee describing each category of income and expense.

## **Presentations of Proposed Projects**

### **Carson River Projects:**

#### **Dayton Valley Conservation District – Middle Carson River Hazard Removal**

Austin Lemons, District Manager

The Middle Carson River has faced significant erosion in the past few years. As a result, a significant accumulation of woody debris as well as other waste materials have found their way into the stream channel. This debris disrupts the natural flow of the water, harms aquatic ecosystems, and creates hazardous conditions for local wildlife and communities. This project aims to remove debris from the river to restore proper function, enhance water quality, prevent further debris accumulation downstream, and improve the safety and aesthetic value of the surrounding areas. DVCD holds a current grant from the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP 22-019) for river monitoring; the data collection for this grant will be completed by August 2025. We will use this river monitoring data to prioritize stretches of the Middle Carson River that are most laden with debris and require critical attention. Currently, we have 2 areas selected: 1) An approx. 1-mile stretch spanning from Minor Ranch

to Kinkel properties in the Dayton Valley 2) An approximately 2-mile stretch spanning from Weeks Bridge to Scout Camp by Fort Churchill State Historic Park. More projects will be added or reprioritized as the river monitoring is completed, for a total of 5 project areas. This project is easily scalable up or down depending on funding. Project goals and benefits:

- Debris removal: safely and effectively remove large woody debris from the stream bed and water surface to increase aesthetic value and safety for recreation.
- Water quality improvements: reducing pollution and turbidity in the water surface therefore reducing the potential for superfund mercury to travel downstream.
- Restoration of the aquatic ecosystem: The removal of debris helps to prevent further erosion of the stream bank, helping to protect and restore habitat for the entire aquatic ecosystem.
- Prevention of future blockages: removal of the debris from the riverbed prevents any blockages of the river, bridges, or irrigation structures downstream. This helps prevent future flood events and mitigates flood damage by letting the river efficiently manage its own stream flows.
- Protection of cultural and historical resources: Fort Churchill and Buckland Station state historic parks are downstream of the project area. Removing debris from the river will help prevent future flooding events, therefore protecting the cultural and historical resources at these sites..

**Funding request: \$100,000**

**Lahontan Conservation District –Clearing & Snagging Carson River**

Christy Sullivan, District Clerk

The project is an ongoing effort to create a river channel that is clear of obstructions and provides a free flow at natural choke points. For example, Highway 50, Highway 95 and Bafford Bridges has historically been clogged by debris during high water flooding events. Obstructions in these locations causes back up and overflow that moves into residential housing areas in both the county and city of Fallon. Locations where sediment caused islands that changed the flow, eroded banks, or blocked flows under bridge. Removal of sediment will provide debris obstructions to flow downstream more freely. It takes a combination of debris, foliage, beaver dam and sediment removal to maintain a clear channel. This work effort provides the following benefits on an annual basis and must also be maintained and continued to overcome the normal foliage growth, discarding of manmade debris and natural obstructions that enter the channel repeatedly. Downstream benefits to improve the Carson River Watershed:

- Minimize stream bank erosion, improve water quality, and re-establish native vegetation.
- Reduce flooding risk along the Carson River, particularly to residential and commercial development.
- Reduce flood damage risk to water and sewage infrastructure installed in Churchill County.
- Improve the administration and management of the river and stream system.
- Improve the opportunities for citizens to use the river for recreational purposes.
- Maintaining a clean/clear river channel will improve water quality and aid the overall stewardship plan.

**Funding request: \$32,700**

**Churchill County - Dixie Valley Water Level Measurement & Precip Gage Monitoring**

Chris Mahannah, PE, WRS

This ongoing project has regional benefits since most of the surface supply for the Newlands project and hence recharge come from the Carson River which are augmented by the Truckee River. The Churchill County Water Resource Plan Update has identified the local intermediate aquifer as the near term quasi-municipal supply and the length of time it can sustain development is contingent upon recharge from the surface water system and downward gradients from the Shallow aquifer to the Intermediate aquifer in the western portion of the basin. Due to the relative slow movement of groundwater, impacts

to the Intermediate aquifer due to reductions in recharge from the Shallow aquifer were thought to take years or decades to fully manifest, however recovery of water levels in 2016 - 2017 seem to contradict this. Ongoing monitoring is critical to further understand the rate of decline in water levels during drought years and subsequent recovery during wetter years. Furthermore, the State Engineer relies on water level data when making many water resource and water rights decisions. At such a time that the intermediate aquifer can no longer support the demand, other resources will need to be developed which are identified in Chapter 12 of the Updated Water Resource Plan. Some of these alternatives such as the Wildgoose Farm or Dixie Valley importation may be regional in nature and others involve conjunctive use and artificial recharge of surface waters. This program will provide an early warning as to when some of these other regional types of alternatives will need to be pursued.

**Funding request: \$81,000 (3 Years – FY 25/26 \$26,000; FY 26/27 \$27,000; FY 27/28 \$28,000)**

**River Wranglers- Conserve the Carson River Workdays/Field Days**

Rebecca Feldermann, Executive Director

River Wranglers continues to host Conserve the Carson River Workdays (CCRWD) throughout the Carson River watershed, as well as hosting multiple field days and events at the river or within the watershed. In the past year, we have continued to commit to expanding our program to include various field days and events aligned with NGSS with different grades and age groups, including Washoe Tribal students, adult special needs groups, Home School Groups, and younger elementary school classes. Additionally, we have expanded our workdays and field days in an effort to include schools who have never participated in these events or have not been able to in years. For CCRWDs, as allowed, we continue to go into high school FFA and science classrooms to teach high school students the necessary information and skills so that they in turn can teach elementary students at the river in a combined workday. The high school students are trained in activities that teach children about our watershed, the importance of clean water, the water cycle, and nonpoint source pollution. At the river, they become “mentors” to the younger students, spending the day with them, leading them through the activities. For the past three years, this has been our model for students in Churchill County, as the teachers are incredibly supportive and receptive. If high school students are unable to participate, we still provide an enriching workday with the assistance of professional volunteers from many of our partners including CWSD, NOER, NDEP, CCP&ROS, NDOW, UNR, TNC, RCI, HSFC, as well as trained community volunteers. In addition to the educational stations, we partner with conservation districts, Parks & Recreation, and Nevada State Parks to include river work projects that the students complete together. This year, students helped to line trails, plant native plants, paint trees to protect against beaver predation, remove trash from Nevada State Parks sites, and assist in fertilizing plants at Dayton State Park. After workdays, elementary students are visited by River Wranglers staff to do a “wrap-up,” which reinforces the messages they learned at the river. We once again discuss nonpoint source pollution, the geography and features of the watershed with the utilization of the Carson River watershed map, and the importance of the river and watershed to their own lives, while also reinforcing the concept of stewardship. We do a pre- and post-test with all students involved to track their increase in knowledge about the watershed and nonpoint source pollution to gauge the effectiveness of our programs. River Wranglers continues to be passionate about and committed to providing environmental education to students in our watershed and looks to find new ways to interact with students who might face a multitude of barriers to receiving the education we provide. This past year we worked with new first grade classes in our Seasonal Changes program and were able to provide work/field days for 3 schools who had not participated in these opportunities within the last 3 years. This year, we look forward to co-hosting a water quality event for students of the Washoe Tribe, as well as providing continued interactive educational opportunities for all students within the Carson River watershed. **Funding request: \$30,000**

**Alpine County Watershed Group (1) - Upper Carson River Watershed Programs**

Kimra McAfee, Executive Director

Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) seeks funding for the fiscal year 2025-26 from CWSD for the coordination of its Upper Carson River watershed programs. AWG's mission is to protect, conserve, and restore the watersheds of Alpine County by promoting sustainable community and science-based collaborative solutions. For 24 years, AWG has organized volunteers and inspired widespread participation to address water quality monitoring and restoration needs in Alpine County. To further the stewardship of our county's natural resources, our organization has developed diverse partnerships around watershed issues. As the nonprofit environmental organization for the Carson River headwaters, our positive impacts extend downstream, where the Carson River flows into Northern Nevada. Through this project, AWG staff will: 1) involve local citizens in watershed stewardship; 2) plan and implement priority watershed monitoring and restoration activities; 3) recruit diverse stakeholders and strengthen community partnerships; and 4) support local watershed education and community outreach.

**Funding request: \$30,000**

**Alpine County Watershed Group (2) – East Fork Carson Prioritization Project**

Kimra McAfee, Executive Director

AWG seeks funding for the fiscal years 2025-27 from CWSD to support completion of a geomorphological assessment and sediment budget analysis and development of a project prioritization plan for the upper East Fork Carson River watershed. This project has been approved by the State Water Resources Control Board for funding through the 2024 Clean Water Act 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and requires a 25% match. The purpose of this project is to identify sediment inputs and prioritize future projects to address such impairments. Addressing sediment concerns will also address other nonpoint source pollutants as other pollutants often travel through watersheds along with sediment. Prioritized projects will restore aquatic ecosystems of the Carson River and its tributaries. These projects have the potential to reduce sediment and other nonpoint source pollutants; have positive impacts on water temperature, pH, and dissolved oxygen; and reduce flood risk. AWG is currently completing the same project on the Upper West Fork of the Carson River, to build towards the shared goal with CWSD of completing this analysis and planning throughout the entire Carson River watershed. The East Fork Carson River carries a lot of sediment that collectively leads to many issues downstream. The river navigates through public lands that are used for camping, fishing, and river rafting. There are several known problem areas such as the East Fork Carson River hot springs and the Leviathan Mine EPA Superfund Site. For a majority of the watershed, assessments are not robust, and assessment coverage is spotty. Vegetation on the banks has been denuded due to erosion and incision causing water quality concerns, habitat and property loss, and risks to infrastructure. Further incision increases the velocity during high-flow and flooding events causing even more erosion and cyclical damage. This planning project will provide information on where to begin the geomorphological assessment and what follow-up data is needed to design solutions for water quality impairments. The analysis will lead the way to development of a 9-element plan for the East Fork and help us make informed decisions. We will better understand how future actions will impact upstream and downstream areas in relation to nonpoint source pollutant reduction and ecosystem impacts. The goals of this project are to:

- Identify knowledge gaps and summarize existing data and research
- Provide a scientific geomorphological assessment
- Provide a scientific sediment budget analysis
- Provide information to augment the *Carson River Adaptive Stewardship Plan (CRASP)* and/or for development of a 9-element plan
- Prioritize locations and best ecosystem restoration methods to address nonpoint source pollutants for bank, riverbed, and riverine habitat improvements, and associated floodplain protection/conservation
- Identify and prioritize infrastructure maintenance and upgrades (roads, bridges, driveways, and irrigation) to reduce nonpoint source pollutants, protect ecosystems, and reduce flooding

- Determine a logical rating/ranking prioritization system based on the geomorphology/ sediment budget information **Funding request: \$83,350 (2 Years)**

## **New Projects:**

### **American Rivers – Faith Valley Restoration Project**

Julie Fair, Program Director, CA Headwaters Conservation

American Rivers is working with the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Alpine Watershed Group, and others to restore Faith Valley meadow, a 200-acre meadow located along the West Fork Carson River. Faith Valley emerged as a priority during a watershed-wide assessment of meadows in the Carson watershed because of its degraded hydrologic condition and potential benefits for special status species, including the California endangered Willow Flycatcher. The meadow supports active beaver whose dams are raising the water table locally, aggrading the channel and helping restore the meadow, but their dams are frequently blown out during high flow events due to channel incision. To address degraded conditions, in 2022-2023 the project team installed 40 features that mimic natural beaver dams called beaver dam analogs (BDAs). They were built to better persist under high flows to help reverse channel incision and reconnect the stream with the meadow floodplain, restoring the meadow's hydrologic function. The project also installed a rocked grade control structure at the downstream end to help upstream BDA features persist and repaired the dirt road adjacent to the meadow to protect the meadow and improve recreational access. The project also included robust monitoring to quantify the effects of restoration toward project goals and objectives, which included mapping and measuring beaver dams and BDA structures, groundwater, greenhouse gas emissions, photo points, and streamflow monitoring, which was also used to evaluate the effect of the project on the CWSD water release that flows through the project reach. The project is one of the first BDA projects in the Sierra implemented on a high-energy mainstem river and the robust monitoring associated with the project will provide a valuable case study to inform subsequent restoration projects. The project included \$1.6 million in funding from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, California Wildlife Conservation Board, and California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. However, the last implementation funding source is ending in March 2025. We request CWSD funds to: 1) extend the duration of streamflow and beaver structures monitoring in Faith Valley by one season (2025 field season) to better quantify the effects of the project toward project goals and evaluate the effects of the project on the CWSD water right release; and 2) provide funding for small-scale adaptive management that may be warranted at the conclusion of the high-flow 2025 winter/spring season to ensure the project's durability and ability to provide lasting ecological benefits for the Carson watershed over the long term. This work will include partnering with Alpine Watershed Group to engage local volunteers to contribute to adaptive management. Project deliverables will include updated streamflow monitoring and beaver monitoring reports, a summary of adaptive management actions, and updated as-built drawings. **Funding request: \$45,629**

### **Carson City Parks, Recreation & Open Space – Empire Ranch Trail Ecological Restoration**

Mareena Lovejoy, Senior Natural Resource Specialist

The objective of this project is to determine the best restoration strategy for combating noxious and nuisance weeds within a segment of river corridor using a combination of herbicide application and planting, taking into account the specific soil types found. The long-term goal is to reduce dependence on herbicide, reduce nonpoint source pollution, and improve water quality as it relates to invasive species control and improved health, structure, and composition of desirable riparian vegetation. This project will take the form of a pilot study that will be used to inform future management actions within CCPROS and the larger Carson River Watershed, where applicable. Funding will be used to purchase approximately 1,000 plants and two educational signs and will formulate the revegetation and education/outreach components of a larger restoration project along the Empire Ranch Trail, which abut the Carson River and Eagle Creek in Carson City, NV.

Funding request: \$15,000

## USGS Projects:

### United States Geological Survey (1) – Surface Water Monitoring Program in West-Central Nevada

Kurtiss Schmidt, USGS

Surface-water O&M costs include maintaining the stream gaging equipment at 10 gaging stations, real-time monitoring and display of water information, making streamflow measurements, computing streamflow, quality assurance, and data publication and archival in the USGS Water Data for the Nation database. The stream gaging stations include:

1. E FORK CARSON RV BLW MARKLEEVILLE CK NR MARKLEEVILLE
2. W FORK CARSON RV AT WOODFORDS, CA
3. DAGGETT CK NR GENOA, NV
4. CARSON RV NR GENOA, NV
5. CLEAR CK NR CARSON CITY, NV
6. CARSON RV NR CARSON CITY, NV
7. CARSON RV AT DEER RUN RD NR CARSON CITY, NV
8. CARSON RV AT DAYTON, NV
9. CARSON RV NR FORT CHURCHILL, NV
10. FRANKTOWN CK NR CARSON CITY, NV

The following tasks are included in the funding request for the above stations:

- Operation and maintenance of the streamflow gaging stations. Two gages are seasonal: Carson River at Dayton operates from Dec. 1 to Mar. 31, and Franktown Creek is operated from May 1 - Oct. 31.
- Streamflow measurements on a 6-week schedule or as conditions warrant. Additional (approx. 5) measurements on a biweekly schedule at West Fork Carson River at Woodfords and Carson River near Carson City during the summer when flows are lower than other periods of the year.
- Evaluation and analysis of stage data.
- Input of stage and measurement data to the Water Data for the Nation database.
- Development of stage/discharge relations (ratings).
- Computation of continuous streamflow, quality assurance, and final approval.
- Publication of the approved data. Data will be reviewed, compiled, and disseminated throughout the year and annually as water year summaries on the USGS Water Data for the Nation web interface. Real time (updated every hour) provisional data from the streamflow gaging stations will continue to be provided through NWIS web, except the two Genoa gages, where only daily values will be available.

Streamflow information and flow measurements provided at real-time and non-real-time gages in the Carson River Basin define hydro logic conditions throughout the basin, such as sources, sinks, and fluxes of water. Accurate flow data from stream gages provide critical information for water accounting for legal agreements, river and project operations, hazard forecasts, water-quality assessments, and research (such as interaction of water systems; groundwater/surface-water interactions).

**Funding request: \$195,703 (2 Years: FY 25-26 \$95,629; FY 26-27 \$100,074)**

### United States Geological Survey (2) – Carson River Watershed Groundwater Monitoring Program

Jena Huntington, USGS

In 2023, several long-term groundwater monitoring networks within the Carson River watershed were combined into one. Data generated from this collaboration have been crucial for developing groundwater resource models, used to manage water resources within the watershed. The monitoring network has been divided into four subnetworks: Douglas County, Middle Carson, Newlands, and Bulk Precipitation. Currently, each subnetwork is monitored for groundwater levels and select wells within two subnetworks (Douglas County and Newlands) are sampled for water quality (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, major ions, nutrients, arsenic). Funding the Carson River Basin

Groundwater Monitoring Program will maintain the long-term monitoring of groundwater resources within the Carson River watershed. Monitoring bulk precipitation, water levels, and water quality provides data needed to evaluate any effects of increased demand on aquifers within Carson River watershed. Data generated from the proposed monitoring furthers the understanding of the influences of changes in land-use, pumping, and water-resources management practices on groundwater resources. Data collected as part of this monitoring effort will provide useful information for the CRASP update.

**Funding request: \$82,450**

## **CWSD Projects:**

### **CWSD – Flood Hazard Web Viewer in the Carson River Watershed (1)**

Debbie Neddenriep, Water Resource Specialist 2

At the request of watershed county staff, CWSD was applied for and was awarded \$174,000 in 2020 by FEMA to create a Flood Hazard Viewer digital system to view Area Drainage Master Plans. Michael Baker International was contracted to create the flood hazard viewer and has housed it and maintained it for the past 3 years. CWSD held a series of meetings to gather county input about the usefulness of this system. As a result, of their input and support, CWSD is requesting money to keep this information available to county staff and watershed residents. These funds will be used to migrate this system to CWSD and renew the contract to maintain it.

**Funding request: \$144,084 (3 Years – FY 25/26 \$83,404; FY 26/27 \$30,340; FY 27/28 \$30,340)**

### **CWSD – Carson River Watershed Telephone Survey of Residents (2)**

Kelly Nicholas, Senior Watershed Clerk

CWSD Staff proposes to conduct a follow-up telephone survey and response analysis of the watershed to determine how our "I am Carson River Watershed" campaign is changing knowledge and behavior. CWSD spent significant resources on the campaign. The survey/analysis will determine our success level and provide the next steps. The key to refining marketing and communications strategies is to evaluate efforts by determining their outcomes. Evaluation should be considered a general rule for any and all marketing and communications efforts undertaken. **Funding request: \$50,000**

### **CWSD – Carson River Watershed Web Viewer & Partner Portal Maintenance (3)**

Kelly Nicholas, Senior Watershed Clerk

CWSD recently created the CRASP Web Viewer and Partner Portal. This request allows the hiring of a contractor to maintain ESRI licensing, keep map layers current and fix any unforeseen glitches. The web viewer/partner portal was funded by NDEP 319 grant. It is a requirement to track 319 funded and other water quality projects. These funds will be used to maintain the CRASP Web Viewer & Partner Portal. The map viewer tracks project implementation in the CR watershed and allows project implementers to directly input their projects via the Survey123 app on their phone at the project site. The public viewer is available on the CWSD website. [Click here to view.](#)

**Funding request: \$33,163 (3 Years – FY 25/26 \$16,560; FY 26/27 \$8,129; FY 27/28 \$8,474)**

## **Acquisition/Construction & Floodplain Management Funded Projects:**

### **Truckee-Carson Irrigation District – Carson River Diversion Dam**

Benjamin Shawcroft, General Manager

This project consists of the application of a product, Aqualastic to the concrete surfaces of the Carson River Diversion Dam (Dam). The Dam is located approximately five (5) miles downstream of Lahontan Dam in Churchill County, Nevada. Aqualastic™ is a polyurea elastomeric coating that when applied to concrete serves to seal cracks preventing damage to facilities, check undesired flows, and prevent water loss. We have used this product extensively in the Newlands Project and with particular success on the Truckee Canal. The Dam is a United States Bureau of Reclamation facility constructed in 1906. It serves

to divert water released from Lahontan Dam, flowing in the Carson River channel, in one of three (3) ways: 1. Through a series of gates directing continuing flow in the Carson River Channel; 2. Through the head-works of the V-Line Canal; and, 3. Through the head-works of the T-Line Canal. The Dam is 24 feet long with a 225-foot long, 31-foot high concrete control section. In flood operations conducted in 2017, it diverted approximately 3,320 cfs of flow from Lahontan Dam. Then, at the Carson Diversion Dam, TCID diverted as much as 1,700 cfs. into the V-Line Canal, 1,200 cfs. in the Carson River Channel (the Carson River gates are capable of 1,950 cfs), and approximately 200 cfs in the T-Line Canal. Pivotal to continuing water management of water on the Carson River, is our ability to make diversions through the Diversion Dam. In this application we seek to apply Aqualastic™ to cracks in the concrete of the dam thus encapsulating degraded sections of concrete. As stated previously, the Diversion Dam is very old; and, the useful life of its concrete was exceeded long-long ago. While our hope is to replace the Diversion Dam in the future, its use in both regular operations and in flood operations remains absolutely essential. Application of Aqualastic™ will serve to prolong the life of the Diversion Dam-protecting it against potential failure particularly amidst flood operations. Protecting the dam from failure serves, ultimately, to protect all property owners on the Carson River below it from flood waters that could not be controlled. This proposed project is consistent with the Carson River Regional Floodplain Management Plan in that it improves aging infrastructure which if left undone would increase the threat of uncontrolled flooding along the Carson River. Preserving the life of this important concrete structure will ensure many more years of valuable flow controls below Lahontan Dam. The benefits resulting from this project similarly satisfy the qualification criteria required in this funding application by reducing the risk of flooding along the Carson River and improving the management of the river.

**Funding request: \$50,000**

**Carson City Public Works – HWY 50 Floodway Capacity & Conveyance Restoration**

Darren Anderson, City Engineer

The objective of this project is to remove accumulated sediment and debris from the floodway adjacent to Highway 50. The storm drain infrastructure begins near the Eagle Valley Golf Course, carrying very high sediment loads in a 7-foot culverts under Highway 50 and then south along the highway until it enters private property and is no longer in the NDOT right-of-way. The entire reach is completely full of accumulated sediment to depths of 7 feet, with these culverts barely visible due to the high sediment, water and vegetation content. NDOT would like to restore the channel along Highway 50 and Akron Way in order for it to operate as flood conveyance, to maintain safety of the traveling public and pedestrians. There is currently no capacity for runoff in the channels, it will all back up onto the highway in this area. However, without also restoring the conveyance capacity of the downstream section, the efforts by NDOT are in vain, as sediment and water will be blocked due to the infrastructure. Removing the sediment and debris from the channel will also prevent this material from being transported to the Carson River located directly downstream. The coordination between NDOT and Carson City is essential to maintain safety of the traveling public and prevent flooding. The project will consist of removing vegetation and sediment from the 54" culvert outlet on Parcel APN 008-37-150 for approximately 250 feet in the channel downstream as shown in Attachment A. Work will include re-grading the channel flowline, contractor mobilization, demobilization, any preparatory work, cleanup, temporary erosion BMPs, permit coordination, traffic control, and all other work associated with removing vegetation and sediment from the channel. This drainage is relatively large receiving storm runoff from multiple sources including large offsite watersheds on BLM Land, private properties and developments, Parks, State right of ways, and other City properties. This drainage acts as a regional conveyance passing through these many jurisdictions from where the flows originate in the hills to the north to where the flows terminate into the Carson River to the south. The solution in this particular area needs a big picture solution and a cohesive holistic approach that will address all the interconnected parts so the system will function as a whole again. It doesn't work to piece-meal or part out independent fixes on different portions of the drainage at different times, as the system as a whole will fail if any one part is not functioning properly.

**Funding request: \$39,375**

**Michael Baker International – Web Access System – Web Access System Additional Studies Update**

This proposal is for Michael Baker International, Inc. to prepare, format, and upload data for six additional studies into the Web Access System, a GIS-based application created by Michael Baker for CWSD and its affiliated counties. There was no presentation given on this proposal.

**Funding request: \$30,021**

**Item #6 - For Possible Action – Make Recommendations for the Tentative General Fund, Acquisition/Construction Fund, and Floodplain Management Fund FY 2025-26 Budgets**

During a working lunch, Mr. James reviewed the General, Acquisition/Construction and Floodplain Management Funds with the committee and announced they need to cut \$295,500 from the General Fund to have a balanced budget for FY 2025-26. This assumes that CWSD will transfer \$75,000 to the Flood Account and \$75,000 to the Acquisition/Construction Account. The projected income from Ad Valorem assumes a 4% increase over FY 2024-25. The actual projected tax figures from the State will not be available until March 25. The proposed Cost of Living Adjustment for FY 2025-26 is 2.8% less an offset for the increase in PERS costs. The offsets for Employer/Employer and Employee/Employer are 0.875 and 0.25, respectively. This follows Carson City PERS reduction policy. The proposed budget included an increase in monthly legal retainer of \$500 as requested by Steve King. Based on further discussion, the committee proposed the following adjustments to reach that goal:

- Do not transfer any funds to the Acquisition/Construction Fund
- Do not transfer any funds to the Flood Fund
- Do not fund Alpine Watershed Group East Fork Geomorphological Study
- Do not fund American Rivers Faith Valley
- Fund CWSD Watershed Campaign Survey \$50,000 from Outside Professional Services Account
- Fund CWSD Flood Hazard Web Viewer Project from the Flood Fund

*Committee Member Schank made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend that the Tentative Budgets for the Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund be approved as adjusted above. Director Hindle seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Finance Committee.*

*Committee Member Schank made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend that the Tentative Budgets for the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Floodplain Management and Acquisition/Construction Funds be approved as modified. Committee Member Griffith seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Finance Committee.*

**Item #7 - Public comment: None**

The meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Catrina Schambra*

Secretary to the Board