

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Administrative Committee Minutes

September 2, 2026, 11 am

Committee Members Present:

Myles Getto (*via Zoom*)
Stacey Giomi
David Griffith (*via Zoom*)
Mike Workman

CWSD Staff & Guests Present:

Reed Cozens, CWSD
Kimra McAfee, Alpine Watershed Group
Catrina Schambra, CWSD

Committee Members Absent:

Cassi Koerner

Director Workman called the meeting of the CWSD Administrative Committee to order at 11:01 am in the CWSD Conference Room, 777 E. William Steet, Suite 209, Carson City, NV 89701. 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**

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

Item #5 - For Possible Action: CWSD Participation in the Alpine Watershed Group East Fork Carson River Watershed Plan Project

The Committee discussed challenges associated with reimbursing Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) staff for work performed in support of the Alpine Watershed Group's (AWG) East Fork Carson Prioritization Project. Mr. Cozens explained that CWSD initially assisted with project development in April and incurred approximately \$1,500 in staff time related to preparing project materials. As discussions progressed toward a larger scope of work, AWG developed a professional services agreement intended to reimburse CWSD for staff assistance. Before execution, the agreement submitted for legal review.

Mr. King explained that his concerns were not with the project itself but rather with the legal authority for CWSD, as a Nevada political subdivision operating under Nevada Revised Statutes and its enabling legislation, to enter into a professional services contract with a California nonprofit corporation. He noted that local governments have limited authority to act beyond powers expressly granted by statute and expressed concerns regarding both the contractual structure and practical issues associated with a Nevada governmental entity providing compensated services to a private nonprofit organization operating in another state. As a result, work under the proposed agreement was paused pending further discussion.

Committee members emphasized their continued support for the East Fork Carson Prioritization Project and the longstanding partnership between CWSD and AWG. Mr. Cozens noted that a similar level of assistance had previously been provided on the West Fork prioritization effort as an in-kind contribution and suggested that option could remain available. At the same time, he expressed interest in exploring potential reimbursement mechanisms that would comply with legal and administrative requirements.

Several potential alternatives were discussed, including the possibility of working through an interlocal agreement with Alpine County or modifying future funding arrangements. Committee Member Griffith suggested examining whether CWSD grant funding to AWG could potentially

be structured to account for staff services rather than direct reimbursement. However, AWG representatives explained that grant and matching funds associated with the East Fork project are already committed to specific project tasks and deliverables, making modifications difficult without affecting other program activities. Director Workman suggested that future budget structures could potentially incorporate project support costs at the outset, although members acknowledged that such an approach would not resolve the current situation. The Committee agreed that additional discussion and evaluation of potential options would be necessary before determining a path forward.

Members sought clarification on whether treating CWSD's participation as an in-kind contribution, like its previous support of the West Fork prioritization effort, would affect AWG's grant and matching fund commitments with the California State Water Resources Control Board. Ms. McAfee explained that the revised grant budget currently identifies the funds intended for CWSD as matching contributions within the approved project budget. As a result, any change to that funding arrangement could require additional review and potentially affect grant administration requirements.

The Committee explored several potential paths forward, including whether Alpine County could serve as an intermediary through an intergovernmental arrangement. Members discussed the possibility of modifying funding flows so that project support funding would be directed through Alpine County, allowing subsequent reimbursement to CWSD through an interlocal agreement rather than a direct contractual relationship between CWSD and a private nonprofit organization. Legal counsel indicated that interlocal agreements between governmental entities represent a more clearly authorized and established mechanism for cooperative work and cost recovery than a direct professional services contract with a private corporation.

Additional discussion focused on future project support and CWSD's role in assisting watershed partners. Members emphasized the importance of maintaining CWSD's reputation as a collaborative regional partner and ensuring that counties, watershed groups, and conservation organizations continue to view CWSD as a resource for technical assistance. While acknowledging the legal concerns surrounding the current reimbursement structure, members expressed support for developing policies or procedures that would provide greater clarity regarding when staff assistance should be provided as an in-kind contribution and when cost recovery may be appropriate.

Committee members agreed that the immediate challenge remains identifying a legally and administratively acceptable mechanism to address the current project. Potential options, including an interlocal agreement involving Alpine County, will require additional evaluation by staff, legal counsel, and project partners. The Committee also recognized the value of establishing a longer-term framework for future collaborative projects to help avoid similar issues and ensure that CWSD can continue supporting watershed initiatives while operating within its statutory authority.

The Administrative Committee took no action.

Item # 6 – For Discussion Only: Public Comment – None

There being no further business to come before the Administrative Committee, Director Workman adjourned the meeting at 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Catrina Schambra

Secretary to the Board