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

October 21, 2026

Minutes

Chairperson Ernie Schank called the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) Board of Directors Meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Churchill County Administrative Building, Room #102, 155 North Taylor Street, Fallon, NV 89406. A roll call determined a quorum was present.

CWSD Directors present:

Stacey Giomi *(via Zoom)*
Sharla Hales *(via Zoom)*
Tammy Hendrix *(via Zoom)*
Jim Hindle *(via Zoom)*
Doug Johnson
Ernie Schank
Lisa Schuette
Lee Sterrett *(via Zoom)*
Fred Stodieck *(via Zoom)*
Mike Workman

Directors Getto, Koerner, and Tolbert were absent. The roll call included CWSD Committee Members present, Charlie Dobson and David Griffith *(via Zoom)*.

CWSD Staff & Guests present:

Reed Cozens, CWSD
Brenda Hunt, CWSD
Steve King, CWSD Attorney
Michael Miller, Public *(via Zoom)*
Debbie Neddenriep, CWSD
Robin Orla, Public *(via Zoom)*
Tim Bardsley, NWS *(via Zoom)*

Committee Member Dobson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #4 – Discussion Only: Public Comment –

Ms. Hunt reported that there are 4 seats available for the bus tour and reminded Board members to let her know if they would like to attend.

Item #5 – For Possible Action: Approval of Agenda

Mr. Cozens reported that on advice of counsel he would like to pull Item #10 from the Consent Agenda. As the office lease was a second amendment to the original agreement, the November agenda and include all necessary recitals which were not included in the October Board agenda package.

Director Giomi motioned to approve the Agenda for October 21, 2026, with Item #10 pulled as requested. Director Schuette seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Item #6 – For Possible Action: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of Sep. 16, 2026

Director Workman motioned to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2026, as presented. Committee Member Griffith seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item #7 – For Possible Action: Approval of Treasurer's Report for September 2026

Item #8 - For Possible Action: Approval of Payment of Bills for September 2026

Item #9 - For Possible Action: Approval of 2026 Nevada Flood Awareness Week Proclamation

Item #10 - For Possible Action: Approval of 2nd Amendment to CWSD Office Lease Agreement 2026-2030 *(PULLED)*

END CONSENT AGENDA

Committee Member Griffith made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 7, 8, and 9 as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Giomi and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item #11 - For Discussion Only: Pre-Winter Presentation by National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration/National Weather Service

Tim Bardsley, Senior Service Hydrologist, National Weather Service, reported a strong to very strong El Niño is expected to contribute to a wetter-than-normal winter across much of the California-Nevada region, particularly in the south, though temperature outcomes remain uncertain. Seasonal forecasts indicate elevated potential for increased precipitation, but the overall impact will depend on the frequency and characteristics of individual storms, including atmospheric rivers, storm temperature profiles, and precipitation spillover patterns. While El Niño does not have a direct or consistent relationship with flooding, significant flood risk can still arise from a series of intense storms. Because these localized impacts cannot be predicted months in advance, the most actionable forecasts will occur within the 5- to 14-day timeframe. Stakeholders should use the seasonal outlook to assess potential wet-weather risks and ensure appropriate preparedness measures are in place for homes, businesses, and communities.

Tap here to view presentation slides.

No action taken.

Item #12 - For Possible Action Approval of Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR) Proposed Interlocal Contract for Carson Desert Water Availability Study

Mr. Cozens explained the need for approval of an Interlocal Contract associated with a grant previously awarded to the Nevada Division of Water Resources during the last funding cycle. The contract process was delayed several months due to state administrative requirements. As a local government, the organization is required to utilize the state's contract format, which incorporates the locally approved agreement as an attachment. The contract has undergone legal counsel review, and minor revisions identified during that process have been incorporated into the final draft presented to the board. He recommended approval of the contract as submitted.

Director Workman motioned to approve the Interlocal Contract with NDWR as presented. Director Schuette seconded the motion and the

Board unanimously approved.

<u>Item #13 - For Discussion Only</u>: NV Water Resources Association (NWRA) Fall Symposium

The 2026 NWRA Fall Symposium brought together more than 70 water professionals for two days of discussion on Nevada water policy, river decrees, and water quality. Highlights included Reed Cozens's presentation on the Alpine Decree, sessions on state water-quality programs, and a screening of *Flowing Forward: The Water Masters*. Initial attendee feedback was positive, and the symposium drew new participants from across Nevada.

No action taken.

<u>Item #14 - For Discussion Only</u>: Staff Reports

Mr. Cozens reported the following:

- He presented on the Alpine Decree's operations, history, and future challenges to an OCAP revision working group that included federal agencies and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. The presentation was well received.
- Staff submitted the NDEP 319 grant application; the MAS 14 FEMA application is still pending.
- Outreach included the upcoming bus tour and a successful Snapshot Day with River Wranglers.
- The annual audit had gone well, and results are expected by the next board meeting. He thanked Catrina for her work preparing the audit materials.
- CWSD received a 2026 recognition award from the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee for its substantial, dedicated service to the Carson City Open Space Program.

Ms. Hunt reported on the following:

- CWSD submitted a joint 319 planning grant application with Kelly, Lyndsey, and Reed, requesting nearly the $80,000 maximum. No match is required for planning grants; an award decision is expected by late December or early January.
- She is addressing U.S. EPA comments on the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), aiming to resubmit by Friday and secure approval within the next month or two.
- The Regenerative Agriculture Soil Health project with Rambling River Ranches and Break-a-Heart Ranch was also progressing.
- We are also working on other grant opportunities and beginning an update to the Carson River Adaptive Stewardship Plan with support from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program, whose team was also working with Carson City on its Carson River Master Plan.

Ms. Neddenriep reported on the following:

- CWSD was invited to an early-November FEMA grant awardee meeting, even though the award decision had not been announced. She took the invitation as a

hopeful sign, not confirmation of funding.

- CWSD was asked to join a technical advisory committee for CAMPO's planned Dayton bridge project.

Legal –

Counsel reported that the Ninth Circuit's September 30, 2026, *Baker Ranches v. United States* decision may support enforcement of Nevada water-right decrees involving federal reserved rights. The Alpine Decree is not in the same procedural posture, though the ruling could be relevant to future Carson River matters.

Item #13 - For Discussion Only: Directors & Committee Members Reports

- Committee Member Griffith said it was difficult to hear participants in the room over Zoom, though the NOAA presentation had come through clearly. He suggested considering an Owl device to improve audio and video for remote attendees.

Item #14 - For Discussion Only: Public Comment – None

There being no further business before the Board, Chairperson Schank adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catrina Schambra

Secretary to the Board