

**NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, October 6, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) was held on Wednesday, October 6, 2010 in the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada.

- 1. Roll Call and determination of presence of a quorum** – Chairman Erwin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. There was a quorum present.

Voting Members Present:

John Erwin, Chairman  
Jerry Schumacher, Vice-Chairman  
George W. Ball, Jr.  
Michael J. DeMartini (arrived at 1:34 p.m.)  
Rosemary Menard  
Stan Shumaker  
Wayne Seidel

Voting Members Absent:

John Flansberg  
Mickey Hazelwood  
John Jackson  
Darrin Price

Non-Voting Members Present:

Jon Palm

Non-Voting Members Absent:

John Bird  
Mark Clarkson  
Harry Fahnestock  
Kelvin Hickenbottom

Staff Members Present:

Jim Smitherman  
Chris Wessel  
June Davis  
John Rhodes, Legal Counsel

**2. Approval of the agenda.**

Jim Smitherman clarified that item 7d was pulled from the agenda because no Truckee Meadows Water Authority Standing Advisory Committee meeting was held. Commissioner Ball made a motion to approve the October 6, 2010 NNWPC agenda as amended. Commissioner Seidel seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**3. Approval of the minutes from the September 1, 2010 meeting.**

The minutes of the September 1, 2010 NNWPC meeting were submitted for approval. Commissioner Schumacher made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Ball seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**4. Public Comments.**

Chairman Erwin called for public comments and hearing none, closed the public comment period.

**5. Overview of the requirements set forth in the new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) for stormwater. Discussion and possible recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commission for funding in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund for consultant services to assist in updating the Truckee Meadows Storm Water Quality Management Program, John Buzzone, P.E., Washoe County and Terri Svetich, P.E, City of Reno.**

Chairman Erwin invited Terri Svetich to present this item. Ms. Svetich stated that according to the local news, record rainfalls were recorded on October 4, 2010. She stated that the previous record at the airport was .23 inches set in 1994; the rainfall on October 4 was measured at 1.09 inches. She stated that the purpose of her presentation was to provide an update on the Stormwater Quality Management Program in the Truckee Meadows, which is summarized as follows:

- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“USEPA”) – NV Division of Environmental Protection (“NDEP”) issued permits to the Truckee Meadows to manage stormwater quality in 1990, 2000, 2005, and May 26, 2010 with the Cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County as Co-permittees.
- The Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee (“SWPCC”) implemented the permit with two representatives from each entity with Reno as the lead agency focusing on watershed management.
- The website for the Regional Stormwater Quality Management Program is [www.tnstormwater.com](http://www.tnstormwater.com).
- The 2000 Permit required the development of a Truckee Meadows Stormwater Quality Management Program (“TMSWQMP”) which created a roadmap to implement the required key elements with a schedule and implementation strategy.
- The TMSWQMP has been evaluated and amended annually until the key elements have been substantially implemented.
- The Truckee Meadows Storm Water Quality Management regulatory requirements targeted “non-point” source pollution.
- The 2010 Permit requires the update of the Truckee Meadows Stormwater Quality Management Program which will entail:
  - Evaluating all previously obtained monitoring data to assess the effectiveness of the TMSWQMP and determine whether the data collection program should be improved and whether stormwater discharges contribute pollutants to tributaries to the Truckee River that are identified by NDEP as impaired,
  - Determining if stormwater contributes pollutants of concern to the Truckee River for which a Total Maximum Daily Load (“TMDL”) has been established by NDEP.
  - Identifying any new best management practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants

Ms. Svetich summarized that the Cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County have a modest budget for Stormwater Quality Management and respectfully requested on behalf of the SWPCC consideration of \$75,000 toward the update for this regional program.

Ms. Svetich added that this is a regional program that has been very successful in implementing all the required elements. However, with the issuance of the new permit in May 2010, an update to the Stormwater Management Program (“SWMP”) is required. She stated that Reno, Sparks and Washoe County do not spend a lot of money on stormwater quality management programs, which are very modest and staff implements the ongoing program. She explained that the Update of the SWMP will require consultant services. She added that the consultant effort for the program in 2000 was funded in the amount of \$500,000. She stated that the update will cost more in the range of \$100,000 to \$150,000, of

which she is requesting \$75,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund (RWMF). She welcomed questions or comments.

Commissioner Shumaker asked if a scope of work is already in place and if there is a consultant in mind for the project. Ms. Svetich stated that the funding commitment is needed before moving forward with a scope of work, which is being developed. She added that City of Reno has a list of qualified consultants for watershed and stormwater management, from which perhaps the top five would be invited to interview.

Commissioner Ball referred to the staff report, which summarizes the significant requirements of the new permit, specifically the stormwater discharge directly or indirectly to 14 water bodies. He asked Ms. Svetich if she anticipates problems in the ability to evaluate all the discharges under this budget. Ms. Svetich explained that this scope would cover *how* to address the permit; and *how* to perform the assessment, which she agreed will be a challenge.

Commissioner Ball requested periodic updates to the NNWPC, with which Ms. Svetich agreed. Commissioner Ball referred to some of the key problem areas and stated he sees the project as a whole being enormous. Ms. Svetich agreed and added that is why the Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee has become so involved in the Truckee River Coordinated Monitoring Program. She stated that the group requested a NDEP 319 Grant for assistance. She reported that the different monitoring programs are (or will be) posted on the Truckee River Information Gateway (TRIG) website, where information can be shared.

Chairman Erwin clarified that the funding is available in the budget to accommodate the request.

Commissioner Seidel thanked Ms. Svetich and commended her for her work on the Stormwater Program. He made a motion “that the NNWPC recommend Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) approval of funding in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund for consultant services to assist in updating the Truckee Meadows Storm Water Management Program.” Commissioner Ball seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ms. Svetich thanked Commissioners and asked for suggestions or input on the presentation prior to her presentation to the WRWC.

**6. Review all previously revised draft chapters of the 2011 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan; detailed review of Chapters 1, 4, 5 and 8; presentation of Chapter 10, and possible direction to staff, Jim Smitherman, Water Resources Program Manager.**

Mr. Smitherman referred to Chapter 1 and the policy revisions that were made and welcomed questions or comments. Commissioner Menard requested a brief review of the upcoming schedule. Mr. Smitherman reviewed the following:

- Today (October 6, 2010)
  - Review of Chapters 1, 4, 5 and 8; presentation of Chapter 10
- October 20, 2010
  - Review comments received from October 6 meeting on Chapter 10 and the addition of introductory text
  - Presentation of Executive Summary and Introduction
- November 3, 2010
  - Presentation of Chapter 9, which is the Cost and Finance chapter – ECO:LOGIC is currently gathering Capital Improvement Program information from all of the entities
  - Review comments from all the previously distributed chapters, specifically Chapters 1, 10, the Executive Summary and Introduction

- November 17, 2010
  - Final draft review of each of the chapters, including Chapter 9
- December 1, 2010
  - Public Hearing; if needed an agenda item can be included before the Public Hearing to finalize edits

Commissioner Menard stated that it looks like Chapter 8 (which was used in the creation of Chapter 10 Action Items) has substantial edits. She suggested possibly having an overview of Chapter 8 with a request for more detailed review before the next meeting. Mr. Smitherman agreed that is a good idea.

A summary of the suggested edits follows (some taken out of order):

### **Chapter 1**

- Page 7 - Policy 1.2.d – Public or Water Supplies – Commissioner Menard referred to the policy and suggested revising it to read, “All municipal water system water supplies...” Mr. Smitherman agreed to further develop the language.
- Page 11 – Policy 1.3.f – Much discussion occurred regarding geothermal monitoring (by NDEP)
- Page 19 - “Living River Plan” – Chairman Erwin suggested including the document in the appendix. Mr. Smitherman stated that a 2-page summary of the Living River Plan is included in the appendix.
- Page 22 – Policy 4.1.c – Chairman Erwin referred to facility plan review, conformance review, etc. Mr. Rhodes stated that the NNWPC and WRWC review major regional facilities.
- Page 23 – Policy 4.2.a – Commissioner Menard suggested including the role of the WRWC in addition to NNWPC. Mr. Smitherman agreed to make the revisions.

**Chapter 2** – No changes suggested

### **Chapter 3**

- Chairman Erwin requested uniformity in the tables and the use of decimal spaces within the tables, with which Mr. Smitherman agreed.
- Page 9 – Chairman Erwin referred to the Interlocal Agreement and suggested updating the information to 2010, with which Mr. Smitherman agreed.

**Chapter 4**

- Commissioner Shumaker stated that some of the graphs need to be updated, which he will discuss with his staff and resubmit. (Beginning on Page 46)
- Page 7 – Commissioner Menard referred to Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) ownership and asked if it would be appropriate to acknowledge the number of County sewer customers that are sewerred to TMWRF and the connection fees.
- Page 11, Section 4.3.1 – North Valleys Planning – Commissioner Menard suggested adding discussion about planning and the linkage to direction provided in the last Plan update. All parties came to the table because each owns a “piece of the action” so a solution for all was needed.
- Commissioner Shumaker stated that he has a number of small edits that he will provide directly to Mr. Smitherman.

**Chapter 5** – Commissioner Seidel reported that he is still reviewing the chapter but offered to add discussion on “consolidation”.

**Chapter 6** – Mr. Smitherman reported that the 2010 Regional Water Balance would be presented in an upcoming meeting. Commissioner Shumaker suggested “circling” or defining the overages or deficiencies. John Enloe, ECO:LOGIC Engineering, reported that back up information will be included in tables in the appendix to provide definitions and explanations.

**Chapter 7**

- Mr. Smitherman stated that staff needs to work on the references to the Regional Water Planning Commission “RWPC” or “NNWPC” in the correct tense (past, present, etc.).
- Page 24, Section 7.5.9 - Commissioner Schumacher referred to tiered rate structures and stated that STMGID basically only has metered versus flat rate customers. Mr. Smitherman offered to ensure the accuracy of the statement.

**Chapter 8**

- Mr. Smitherman referred to the efficient use of water rights and stated it needs to be updated in Chapter 2 and 3.
- Commissioner Shumaker made suggestions for the use of “effluent” versus “reclaimed water reuse”. Mr. Smitherman agreed to review the document and make the changes as appropriate with assistance from Mr. Rhodes.

**Chapter 10**

- Mr. Smitherman stated that a note would be added indicating that prioritization of the Action Items is done on an ongoing basis.
- Chairman Erwin referred to the Action Plan table and requested adding definitions for “near”, “intermediate” and “long” term. Mr. Smitherman explained that “near” is less than 5 years; “intermediate” is 5 to 10 years; and “long-term” is out to 30 years. He agreed to clarify the definitions and to note which are ongoing items.

Mr. Smitherman summarized that an editable file of Chapters 1 through 8, along with the Action Item Table will be sent to Commissioners for direct editing.

Commissioner Menard referred to the Executive Summary and what it is anticipated to look like. Mr. Smitherman stated that he and Mr. Enloe have had discussions and plan to take the most important points

from all the chapters, including the Action Items and summarize them in the Executive Summary (along with a reference to the section).

Commissioner Menard stated it is extremely important to remember that the audience is the general public, elected officials and others who do not have the background of this Commission.

Commissioner Ball referred to the preparation for the December 1, 2010 Public Hearing and requested that a complete set of the chapters, including the table of contents and appendices be printed and distributed to Commissioners at the October 20 meeting. Mr. Smitherman offered to canvas members to see which would like a printed copy, which will be provided. Commissioner Ball commended staff on the tremendous work being done.

Mr. Smitherman stated that figures have not yet been provided to Commissioners; however, Mr. Wessel is keeping track of them to ensure that they are inserted in the document. He stated that the available figures will be provided in the next distribution.

Commissioner Menard made a motion to direct staff to make the changes as recommended by Commissioners. Commissioner Seidel seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **7. Program Manager's Report**

Mr. Smitherman reported that he included updates on the following topics as requested or that he thought would be of interest to Commissioners. He stated that the purpose of this agenda item is for commissioners to review the information included in the agenda packets and feel free to ask questions, make comments, or request additional information.

### **a. Status Report of Projects and Work Plan supported by the Regional Water Management Fund**

The updated Status Report of Projects was provided in the agenda packets.

### **b. Financial report on the Regional Water Management Fund**

The updated Status Report of Projects was provided in the agenda packets.

### **c. Truckee River Flood Management Project status report**

The latest Truckee River Flood Management Project Status Report was provided in the agenda packets.

### **d. Informational report from the NNWPC representative on the Truckee Meadows Water Authority Standing Advisory Committee (This item pulled because no meeting was held.)**

## **8. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding agenda items for the November 2010, Commission meeting and future meetings.**

Mr. Smitherman stated that his recommendation is to add a meeting to the schedule for October 20, 2010 at which time agenda items will include:

- Review comments received from October 6 meeting on Chapter 10 and the addition of Introductory text, as well as all of the chapters that have been presented to date
- Presentation of first draft of the Executive Summary and Introduction

The November 3, 2010 meeting will include:

- Presentation of Chapter 9, the Cost and Finance chapter – ECO:LOGIC is currently gathering Capital Improvement Program information from the entities

- Review comments from all the previously distributed chapters, specifically Chapters 1, 10, the Executive Summary and Introduction

An additional meeting will be on November 17, 2010, which will include:

- Final draft review of each of the chapters, including Chapter 9

Commissioner Schumacher asked if this location is available for the additional meetings, which Ms. Davis stated it is.

Mr. Smitherman reported that the only other item on any of the above scheduled meeting agendas will be the Program Manager's Report

- Status Report of Projects and Work Plan supported by the Regional Water Management Fund
- Financial report on the Regional Water Management Fund
- Truckee River Flood Management Project status report

Chairman Erwin made a motion to accept the schedule and agendas as presented. Commissioner Ball seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**9. Commission Comments.**

Chairman Erwin thanked staff for their hard work on the Water Plan Update.

**10. Staff Comments.**

None

**11. Public Comments.**

Chairman Erwin called for public comments and hearing none, closed the public comment period.

**12. Adjournment.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Niki Linn, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on \_\_\_\_\_ 2010.

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John Erwin, Chairman