

MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

The regular meeting of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission ("NNWPC") was held in the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada and conducted the following business:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Flansberg at 1:33 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Voting Members Present: John Flansberg, Danielle Henderson, Michael DeMartini, Michael Drinkwater, John Enloe (present at 2:17 p.m.); Bill Hauck, Mickey Hazelwood, John Martini, Darrin Price, David Solaro, and John Zimmerman

Voting Members Absent: None

Non-Voting Members Present: None

Non-Voting Members Absent: My-Linh Nguyen, Thomas Pyeatte, Harry Fahnestock, and Cindy Turiczek

Staff Members Present: Jim Smitherman; Chris Wessel; Donna Fagan; and John Rhodes, Legal Counsel

2. Public Comment

Cathy Brandhorst spoke on various topics.

3. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

John Rhodes, Legal Counsel, noted a clerical error on the agenda. Item 4 should be approval of the July 6, 2016, minutes.

COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) MEMBERS PRESENT.

4. Approval of Minutes from the July 6, 2016, Meeting (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER SOLARO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 6, 2016, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) MEMBERS PRESENT.

5. Consent Items

- A. Review of a revised schedule for completion of the Regional Water Management Plan ("RWMP") 2016 update and possible recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commissioner ("WRWC") for approval – Jim Smitherman, NNWPC Water Resources Program Manager. **(For Possible Action)**
- B. Review and possible approval of a scope of work and budget, not to exceed \$12,500 per year for two years from the Regional Water Management Fund ("RWMF"), for the Nevada Landscape Association ("NLA") Certified Landscape Technician program; and, if approved, authorize the Program Manager to execute an agreement

with the NLA for that purpose; possible direction to staff – Pamela Bedard, NLA, and Chris Wessel, NNWPC Water Management Planner. **(For Possible Action)**

This item was pulled for discussion.

Public Comment: Cathy Brandhorst spoke on various topics.

Pamela Bedard, NLA, presented an overview of their certification program.

COMMISSIONER DeMARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE STAFF RECOMMENDATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) MEMBERS PRESENT.

- C. Review and possible approval of a scope of work and budget, not to exceed \$20,176 from the RWMF, for the Truckee River Information Gateway (“TRIG”) website program upgrades and annual maintenance and, if approved, possible recommendation to the WRWC to execute an agreement with the City of Reno for that purpose; possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. **(For Possible Action)**
- D. Review and possible approval of a scope of work and budget, not to exceed \$5,000 per year for two years from the RWMF, for the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (“TMRPA”) ArcGIS Server Maintenance project; and if approved, authorize the Program Manager to execute an agreement with the TMRPA Regional Planning Governing Board (“RPGB”) for that purpose; possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. **(For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA, ITEMS 5.A, 5.C. AND 5.D., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) MEMBERS PRESENT

- 6. Report from the Regional Effluent Management Team; review and possible approval of a proposal for a 4-year project entitled “Advanced Water Treatment Technologies Demonstration” and budget, not to exceed \$155,699 for fiscal year 2016-2017 and a total of \$676,475 from the RWMF; and, if approved, possible recommendation to the WRWC to execute an interlocal agreement with the University of Nevada, Reno for that purpose; possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

Jim Smitherman provided an overview of the staff report and introduced Rick Warner, Washoe County Senior Engineer, to present the report from the Regional Effluent Management Team. The report included the Team’s progress since April and a proposal from UNR for the Advanced Water Treatment Technologies Demonstration project.

Mr. Smitherman responded to Commissioner Price’s question regarding funding and clarified that this year would cost approximately \$155,000, the next two years would be about \$200,000 a year, and the fourth year would be about \$100,000.

Commissioner Price asked who will own the final product. Mr. Warner responded stating that the funding agencies would own the intellectual property along with the University. Commissioner Price asked if that is included in the contract. John Rhodes, Legal Counsel, responded stating that the draft contract does not address that. Mr. Rhodes will add language to that effect.

There was discussion regarding the overhead rate and the process of formalizing details for an interlocal agreement.

Mr. Smitherman confirmed that the budget can support this item as long as projections are holding.

Public Comment: Cathy Brandhorst spoke on various topics.

[Commissioner Enloe present at 2:17 p.m.]

Commissioner Drinkwater expressed support for approving this item.

COMMISSIONER SOLARO MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TEAM'S REPORT AND APPROVE THE UNR PROPOSAL FOR THE FOUR YEAR PROJECT ADVANCED WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES DEMONSTRATION ALONG WITH THE BUDGET AS NOTED IN THE STAFF REPORT WITH THE DIRECTION TO LEGAL COUNSEL TO BE MINDFUL OF THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AS WELL AS A REVIEW OF THE OVERHEAD RATE, AND RECOMMEND THAT STAFF TAKE THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT TO THE WRWC, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) MEMBERS PRESENT.

7. Report on the “Septic Nitrate Baseline Data and Risk Assessment Study, Phase II: In-Depth Analysis of Prioritized Study Areas, Creation of Baseline Data Set, and Risk Assessment”, including nitrate analysis results for groundwater samples; discussion, possible recommendation to the WRWC, and possible direction to staff – Lydia Peri, Washoe County Community Services Department. (For Possible Action)

Lydia Peri presented a summary of analysis results and next steps. The report is in the final editing phase and will be completed soon. Ms. Peri recommended a contract extension and a public outreach component.

Ms. Peri confirmed that the scope of work proposal will be ready to come back to the NNWPC at their next meeting.

Mr. Smitherman explained that the project came in significantly under-budget by about \$91,000. The cost of the proposal will be around \$10,000 or less.

Commissioner DeMartini asked if the scope of work would include how to address the possible sources of nitrates. Ms. Peri explained that this part of the scope of work is for public outreach to make sure people are aware that they found some wells with nitrates over the MCL.

Commissioner Enloe asked if moving forward with the public outreach component required a new scope of work to be approved by the NNWPC or if Mr. Smitherman could approve that work. Mr. Rhodes stated that he will explore whether or not it can be done under the original contract.

Ms. Peri explained that they will not be making suggestions or telling the public what they have to do but they will provide information and resources that can help.

COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT AND PENDING LEGAL COUNSEL'S DIRECTION, HAVE STAFF BRING BACK AN AMENDED SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE PROJECT AS PRESENTED AND RECOMMEND THAT THE WRWC ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE REPORT, SECONDED BY DEMARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) MEMBERS PRESENT.

8. Presentation of the draft 2016 Washoe County Consensus Population Forecast; discussion and possible recommendation to the WRWC to make a determination

that the draft Consensus Population Forecast for 2036 can be supported by the sustainable water resources set forth in the RWMP; and possible direction to staff – Jeremy Smith, TMRPA; and Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

Jeremy Smith gave an overview of the 2016 Washoe County Consensus Population Forecast and Jim Smitherman reported on the comparison of the forecast to the water resources in the RWMP. The suggested recommendation to the WRWC would be that the draft Consensus Forecast Population Forecast is less than the estimated population that could be served by the sustainable water resources.

There was discussion and concern expressed regarding the high estimated population that could be served by the sustainable water resources. Mr. Smitherman explained that it is the Regional Planning Governing Board's ("RPGB") rules that guides the process for coming up with the population number.

There was discussion among the Commissioners regarding the fact that the NNWPC reports to the WRWC and not to the RPGB. Mr. Smitherman explained that the request from the RPGB was agreed to by the WRWC. Mr. Rhodes further explained the population number was reached by following the RPGB procedure that the WRWC agreed to follow.

Mr. Rhodes clarified that the NNWPC is not limited to water planning within the TMSA.

Commissioner DeMartini discussed other factors to consider when determining water resources and stated that there may be a lot of available water but no ability to develop sewer capacity to match that. Mr. Smitherman stated that this comparison was based on water supply and water supply may not be the limiting constraint.

Commissioner Zimmerman suggested adding language in the conclusion stating that "if the identified sustainable resources can be captured in the future it would be enough to support this population based on current estimates".

Mr. Rhodes stated that the statement could be made that the sustainable resources in the plan do not equate to producible water resources that can be put into municipal use. But that is not what this high level analysis is being asked to perform.

Chairman Flansberg clarified that they are being asked today if the NNWPC can advance a recommendation to the WRWC to make a determination that the draft Consensus Forecast Population for 2036 is less than the population that can be supported by sustainable water resources.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION THAT THE 2036 CONSENSUS POPULATION CAN BE SATISFIED BY THE SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES IDENTIFIED WITHIN THE PLAN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) MEMBERS PRESENT.

9. Presentation of regional water use and wastewater flow projections, a 20-year analysis using various spatial growth scenarios; and possible direction to staff – Jeremy Smith, TMRPA. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smith presented the report.

Public Comment: Cathy Brandhorst spoke on various topics.

COMMISSIONER PRICE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) MEMBERS PRESENT.

10. Report by The Nature Conservancy (“TNC”) on its “Optimizing Investments in the Truckee River Watershed” project, and possible direction to staff – Mickey Hazelwood, TNC. (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Hazelwood presented the report on the progress and status to date of this project. No action was taken.

11. Presentation of comments received on the “Wastewater and Watershed-Based Water Quality Planning” chapter for the 2016 RWMP update; discussion and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman presented the revisions to this chapter. The Commissioners had no questions or comments.

No action was taken.

12. Presentation of draft “Water Purveyors” chapter for the 2016 RWMP update; discussion and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman and Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman presented the revisions to this chapter. The Commissioners had no questions or comments.

No action was taken.

13. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding any chapters of the RWMP previously reviewed by the NNWPC in relation to the 2016 RWMP update – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

There were no questions or comments on this item and no action was taken.

14. Program Manager’s Report – Jim Smitherman.

- A. Report on the status of projects and Work Plan supported by the RWMF
- B. Financial report on the RWMF

Mr. Smitherman presented the report. There were no questions or comments on this item.

15. Discussion regarding possible agenda items for the September 7, 2016, NNWPC meeting, and other future meetings, and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

Possible future agenda items will include:

- Recognition for Commissioners Erwin and Ball
- DRI report on cloud seeding efforts, efforts to obtain other funding and a funding request for the coming winter
- Proposal for development of a watershed management plan
- Review of comment on the population projections and water demand requirements chapter
- Review of changes to the Regional Water Management Plan (“RWMP”) update; and any other standing items.

No action was taken.

16. Commission Comments

None

17. Staff Comments

None

18. Public Comment

Cathy Brandhorst spoke on various topics.

19. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER HAUCK MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 3:57 P.M., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) MEMBERS PRESENT.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:

John Flansberg, Chairman

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON September 7, 2016.