

MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair DeMartini at 1:31 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Voting Members Present: Michael DeMartini; Jon Combs; Michael Drinkwater; John Flansberg; Bill Hauck; Danielle Henderson; John Enloe; John Martini; David Solaro; Mervin Wright; John Zimmerman

Voting Members Absent: Mickey Hazelwood

Non-Voting Members Present: Thomas Pyeatte, Cindy Turiczek (*present at 1:39 p.m.*), My-Linh Nguyen

Non-Voting Members Absent: Harry Fahnestock, Ron Penrose

Staff Members Present: Jim Smitherman; Chris Wessel; John Rhodes, Legal Counsel; and Jennifer Purgitt

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

4. Approval of Minutes from the February 6, 2019 Meeting (For Possible Action)

No minutes available for approval.

5. Review draft fiscal year 2019-2020 Western Regional Water Commission ("WRWC") tentative budget; discussion and possible direction to staff; and, possible recommendation to the WRWC for approval – Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner; and Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)

Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner, reviewed information included in the staff report regarding the draft tentative budget. The budget includes Regional Water Management Fund ("RWMF") revenues, cash on hand and expenses for staff and non-staff professional services. Additional budget worksheets include details for professional services related to priority projects and routine operating expenses.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2019-2020 WRWC BUDGET, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER.

During discussion, Commissioner Enloe asked for an update on the localized flooding budget line item.

Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager, explained that a ditch flooding scope of work is being negotiated. Washoe County is working with the City of Reno to retain HDR to study places along the irrigation ditch systems where there is a danger of overflow causing localized flooding. The scope of work will include field investigations into the sources of storm water, and provide engineering recommendations on how to safeguard where flooding is most likely to occur. That scope of should be coming to the NNWPC for review before the end of this fiscal year.

Commissioner Enloe discussed the budget line item for storm water GIS mapping by the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (“TMRPA”) and stated that he would rather rely on the City and Washoe County to do that mapping. He suggesting moving the \$100,000 budgeted in that line item to the project contingency fund.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG AMENDED THE MOTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL BY THE WRWC OF THIS BUDGET WITH THE REQUESTED CHANGE TO MOVE THE FUNDS FOR THE STORM WATER GIS MAPPING INTO THE PROJECT CONTINGENCY FUNDS FOR FLEXIBILITY OF FUNDING. THE SECOND CONCURRED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Report on activities of the Nevada Water Innovations Institute (“NWII”), including projects concerning the Regional Category A+ Reclaimed Water Feasibility Study (“OneWater Nevada”); and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman; Krishna Pagilla, Ph.D., Professor, University of Nevada Reno (“UNR”). (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman presented the staff report and introduced Dr. Krishna Pagilla with UNR.

Dr. Pagilla presented a status report on the Advanced Water Treatment Technologies Demonstration Project and other activities of the NWII concerning OneWater Nevada.

Chair DeMartini asked about the cost of implementation of projects.

Mr. Smitherman explained that costs for the projects will be addressed in the final report.

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

7. Report on development of the Regional Effluent Management Planning Guidance Document, including regional, agency, and facility goals, and overview of facility capacities; and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman; Jeff Curtis, Ph.D., Associate Professor, UNR. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman presented the staff report and introduced Dr. Jeff Curtis with UNR.

Dr. Curtis presented a status report on the development of the Regional Effluent Management Planning Guidance Document. His report included progress on the following tasks: Task 1 - Establish Effluent Management Goals; Task 2 - Document Planning Resources; and Task 3 - Effluent Management Constraints.

Dr. Curtis addressed questions from the Commission about Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (“TMWRF”) constraints. Commissioner Martini stated that he would provide Dr. Curtis with the latest numbers from current TMWRF modeling efforts.

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

8. Report on legislative activities, including Bill Draft Requests and Bills pending in the 2019 session of the Nevada Legislature that may affect or are of interest to the WRWC / NNWPC – John Rhodes, WRWC / NNWPC Legal Counsel.

John Rhodes, WRWC / NNWPC Legal Counsel, presented information on BDRs and Bills pending in the 2019 Nevada Legislature, as of March 4, 2019, that may affect or are of interest to the WRWC and NNWPC.

The WRWC and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (“TMWA”) Board each appointed Legislative Subcommittees. TMWA’s Legislative Subcommittee met and reviewed Bills presented by their lobbyists. The WRWC Legislative Subcommittee has not met yet. There are plans for a concurrent meeting of both of the Legislative Subcommittees on March 15.

Commissioner Drinkwater discussed SB140 and asked if there is a mechanism to recommend that they consider including language to use A+ water as the water reserve instead of unappropriated water.

Mr. Rhodes stated that he will bring it up at the Legislative Subcommittee meeting.

9. 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 a brief overview of the staff reports included for this agenda item.

10. Discussion regarding location and possible agenda items for the April 2019 NNWPC meeting, and other future meetings, and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

The next regularly scheduled NNWPC meeting date is Wednesday, April 3, 2019. Agenda items will include: selection of new Chair and Vice Chair; report on snow pack and projected water supply outlook; and recommendations for amendments to contracts for ongoing projects.

A concurrent meeting with the WRWC is scheduled for March 20, 2019.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING FOR APRIL 3, 2019, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

11. Commission Comments

None

12. Staff Comments

Mr. Smitherman expressed appreciation for the assistance the Effluent Management Team is receiving from UNR and NWII.

13. Public Comment


None

14. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:



NNWPC Chair

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON April 3, 2019.