

DRAFT - MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

The Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, via teleconference, and conducted the following business.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hauck at 1:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Voting Members Present: Bill Hauck; Jon Combs; Michael Drinkwater; John Enloe; John Flansberg; Mickey Hazelwood (*left at 2:15 p.m.*); Danielle Henderson (*present at 1:33*); John Martini; Dave Solaro; Michael Widmer (*left at 2:40 p.m.*); John Zimmerman

Voting Members Absent: Mervin Wright

Non-Voting Members Present: None

Non-Voting Members Absent: Cindy Turiczek; Ron Penrose; Harry Fahnestock; My-Linh Nguyen

Staff Members Present: Chris Wessel; Michael Pagni; Jennifer Purgitt

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

Agenda Item 12 was removed from the agenda to be heard at a later date.

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

4. Approval of the minutes from the December 2, 2020 (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2, 2020 MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

5. Presentation, discussion and action on a proposal to initiate a water quality offset program for the Truckee Meadows, in an amount of up to \$200,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund (RWMF) over a two year period, and possible recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) to approve the expenditure and execute an interlocal agreement with the City of Reno to administer the contract; and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel, WRWC Program Manager and Theresa Jones, PE, Associate Civil Engineer, City of Reno. (For Possible Action)

(Commissioner Henderson present at 1:33 p.m.)

Theresa Jones, PE, Associate Civil Engineer, City of Reno, Nick Brothers, PE, Associate Civil Engineer, City of Reno and Chad Praul from Environmental Incentives, provided an overview of the proposed project. This project would develop a point- and non-point source pollutant reduction credit and offset program that is acceptable to both the co-permittees and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP).

A water quality crediting and offset program can create compliance flexibility and lower costs for permittees within the Truckee Meadows region to meet discharge permit requirements for nutrients and total dissolved solids. The Truckee Meadows SWPCC reviewed the proposal and unanimously recommended the project to the NNWPC for funding consideration.

Commissioner Drinkwater expressed support for the program. He discussed the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) facility plan and stated that before asking the various elected bodies to spend the nine figures needed to expand the TMWRF plant, we need to explore every other possibility.

Commissioner Flansberg expressed support for the program and noted the benefit of getting some credits for projects they may be doing anyway.

Chris Wessel, WRWC Program Manager, explained for Commissioner Flansberg that he did put \$180,000 in the budget for this year in anticipation of this project.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE WRWC APPROVE THE PROPOSAL, AND EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF RENO, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000, IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ELEVEN (11) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Update on the status of the scope of work funded by the Regional Water Management Fund (RWMF), in support of the One Truckee River (OTR) Coalition to implement the One Truckee River Management Plan – Chris Wessel.

In 2020, the WRWC authorized \$250,000 to help OTR initiate its program by supporting implementation of Phase 1 goals identified in the OTR Management Plan. Iris Jehle-Peppard, OTR Executive Director, provided a status report on the progress to date.

7. Review draft fiscal year 2021-2022 Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) tentative budget; discussion and possible direction to staff; and possible recommendation to the WRWC to approve the tentative budget; discussion and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

(Commissioner Hazelwood absent at 2:15 p.m.)

Mr. Wessel provided an overview of the tentative budget.

Commissioner Enloe stated that the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) needed to go ahead with the American Flat Geochemistry work and is under contract with the Desert Research Institute (DRI) to perform that work. The funds included in the budget for that item can be removed.

COMMISSIONER WIDMER MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE WRWC APPROVE THE TENTATIVE BUDGET, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

8. Presentation of comments received on the “Water Resources” chapter for the 2021 Regional Water Management Plan (RWMP) update; discussion and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Wessel received comments and updated Chapter 2 Water Resources for inclusion in the 2021 RWMP update. The significant changes are based on revisions reflected in TMWA’s 2020-2040 Water Resource Plan. The staff report includes a brief overview of elements with notable changes.

Public Comment:

Michael DeMartini spoke regarding difficulties getting through to speak during the meeting and the need for the public to be allowed to speak.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

9. Presentation of comments received on the “Water Purveyors and Other Water Providers” chapter for the 2021 RWMP update; discussion and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Wessel received comments and updated Chapter 3 Water Purveyors and Other Water Providers for inclusion in the 2021 RWMP update. The significant changes are based on revisions reflected in TMWA’s 2020-2040 Water Resource Plan. In addition, the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, Washoe County and Sun Valley General Improvement District provided feedback that was used to update various sections and tables. The staff report includes a brief overview of elements with notable changes.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

10. Presentation of comments received on the “Water Conservation Plan - Efficient Use of Water” chapter for the 2021 RWMP update; discussion and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Wessel received comments and updated Chapter 8 Water Conservation Plan - Efficient Use of Water for inclusion in the 2021 RWMP update. The significant changes are based on revisions reflected in TMWA’s 2020-2040 Water Resource Plan and Conservation Plan update. The staff report includes a brief overview of elements with notable changes.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

11. Status and discussion regarding any chapters related to the 2021-2040 RWMP update, and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

This is a standing items until the NNWPC’s final recommendation to the WRWC for the 2021 RWMP update. NNWPC members may discuss and direct staff on any subject of the RWMP chapters under review for the 2021 update. The staff report includes an RWMP update schedule.

(Commissioner Widmer absent at 2:40 p.m.)

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

12. Report on proposed Facility Conformance Review Procedures; possible recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commission regarding possible amendments to Procedures, and possible direction to staff – Michael Pagni, Legal Counsel, and Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

This item was pulled from the agenda.

13. Program Manager's Report – Chris Wessel

- a. Report on the status of projects and Work Plan supported by the Regional Water Management Fund (RWMF);
- b. Financial Report on the RWMF.

Mr. Wessel presented information included in the regular Program Manager's report.

14. Discussion regarding location and possible agenda items for the upcoming NNWPC meetings, and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

There will be a concurrent meeting with the NNWPC and the WRWC on March 17, 2021.

The next NNWPC meeting will be held on April 17, 2021. Possible agenda items include: election of officers; possible project proposals; and RWMP chapter updates.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO SCHEDULE THE CONCURRENT MEETING WITH WRWC FOR MARCH 17, 2021, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

15. Commission Comments

None

16. Staff Comments

None

17. Public Comment

None

18. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:

Bill Hauck, NNWPC Chair

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON _____, 2021.