

**NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

The regular meeting of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) was held on Wednesday, August 1, 2012 in the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada.

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

Voting Members Present:

Mickey Hazelwood, Chairman
John Buzzone, Vice Chairman
George W. Ball, Jr.
John Erwin
John Flansberg
John Jackson
Darrin Price
Jerry Schumacher
Stan Shumaker

Voting Members Absent:

Michael DeMartini
Neil Krutz

Non-Voting Members Present:

Harry Fahnestock

Non-Voting Members Absent:

John Bird
David Boland
Kelvin Hickenbottom
My-Linh Nguyen
Edmund Quaglieri

Staff Members Present:

Jim Smitherman
Chris Wessel
June Davis
John Rhodes, Legal Counsel (arrived at 1:37 p.m.)

2. Public Comments.

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

3. Approval of the agenda.

Commissioner Flansberg made a motion to approve the August 1 meeting agenda as posted. Commissioner Ball seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Approval of minutes from the June 6, 2012 meeting.

Commissioner Flansberg made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Shumaker seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Report on the Washoe County Community Services Department, Rosemary Menard, Acting Director.

Chairman Hazelwood invited Rosemary Menard to present this item. Ms. Menard stated that the Community Services Department (CSD)'s goals are to make the community safer, more economically viable, environmentally sustainable, and to support a great quality of life for Washoe County residents. She provided a PowerPoint presentation showing the actual employees doing their jobs, such as road maintenance, snow removal, water planning, emergency response, building inspections, and many other duties.

Ms. Menard reported that the CSD is responsible for mandated, as well as non-mandated services. Parks and recreational events, as well as vehicles and maintenance are covered by the CSD. She reported that the County has seen a 45% reduction in staff over the last 5 years. She reviewed some of the increased duties and responsibilities for full-time employees. She summarized that big changes have occurred, which resulted in the formation of the CSD. She added that an organizational leadership team was formed, which includes leaders from each of the five departments that were combined.

Ms. Menard stated that the CSD was formed in January 2012 and other community's organizational structures were reviewed for ideas. She added that a new organizational model was formed and presented to the Board of County Commissioners. She explained that the model includes planning/development, operations and engineering/capital projects with an internal financial and administration team.

Chairman Hazelwood thanked Ms. Menard for her report.

6. Report on the Truckee River Flood Management Project, Jay Aldean, P.E., Executive Director, Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA).*

Jay Aldean, Executive Director of the TRFMA provided a PowerPoint presentation update of the Flood Project (copy of presentation on file). The highlights of the presentation included:

- Four Critical Processes
 - Rate Process
 - Public Outreach Effort
 - Engineering & Environmental Impact Statement development for a Revised Locally Preferred Plan (LPP)
 - Project Authorization Process - the Corps (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
- Based on Corps recommendations and local costs, the project to move forward will be the 100 year – Revised LPP. Mr. Aldean reported that the objectives of the project are as follows:
 - Provide 100-year Protection
 - Benefit/Cost ratio > 1 (by Corps' Method)
 - Affordable
 - Meets Local Flood Protection Goals
 - Could be Built either by:
 - Corps
 - Locals
- Paths to Construction would be:
 - Congress Authorizes Revised LPP
 - Move Forward on Corps Path
- Congress Authorizes the 50-year Plan
 - Decide to Continue with Corps, or
 - Decide to Build Project Locally
- Current Funding Sources

- Supported by the 1/8-cent sales tax
- Funds dedicated to the Completion of the Following Projects:
 - Regional Public Safety Training Center
 - Emergency Operations Center
 - Truckee River Flood Project – (In progress)
- Rate Making Process
 - Complete Local Rate Plan & Study
 - Public Input Process for Rates
 - FMA Board of Directors Approval of Rates
 - Judicial Review & Confirmation

Mr. Aldean added that the Tracy Restoration Project is moving forward. He commended The Nature Conservancy and NV Energy for their assistance in the project.

Mr. Aldean summarized that TRFMA staff is in the process of developing an approximate \$550 million plan. The plan will be studied to determine the rate amount needed. He reported that a couple of weeks ago, the Corps began working on the revised LPP. A determination will be made as to whether or not to continue working with the Corps in moving forward. He added that the Corps recently appointed their best staff to work on the Flood Project.

Mr. Aldean welcomed questions or comments.

Mr. Smitherman asked for clarification that flood rates will be needed whether or not the Corps is involved in the project. Mr. Aldean stated that is correct. Mr. Smitherman asked if TRFMA staff has developed a boundary of benefit areas, on which to base rates. Mr. Aldean stated that it would depend on which project is built; one would be a direct benefit area; and one a regional benefit area. He added that the proposed rate would most likely be paid by all Washoe County residents (including Incline Village) that are tributary to the Truckee River; the North Valleys would not pay because they are not tributary to the river.

Commissioner Erwin mentioned that maps are available of the employment area densities, which could be used in determining the benefit areas. Mr. Aldean stated that in general terms, the direct benefit area would be based on the area of homes or businesses that flooded in the 1997 flood that would no longer flood based on construction of the Flood Project.

Commissioner Shumaker asked if the Corps were to proceed on its own for the next 18 months if it would result in 50-year flood protection (even for a facility such as the airport). Mr. Aldean stated that is correct. He added that the Corps has granted waivers in the past, such as an urban area waiver, which allows for less than 100-year protection. Mr. Aldean added that based on the need for more than 50-year protection, the revised LPP was developed. He stated that the Corps is not negotiating; however, Senator Reid has been very helpful in trying to keep the project moving forward.

Chairman Hazelwood thanked Mr. Aldean for his update.

7. Report on the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency's ("TMRPA") parcel-based population and employment modeling program, and possible direction to staff, Jim Smitherman, NNWPC staff, Kim Robinson, TMRPA Interim Director, Sienna Reid, TMRPA Senior Planner, Jeremy Smith, TMRPA GIS Planning Analyst II. (for possible action)

Mr. Smitherman reported that he has been working with TMRPA staff for about a year on the modeling program. He stated that although he has provided updates to the NNWPC, it is time to hear an update

from TMRPA staff. He stated that work is still needed on the wastewater related, collection system capacity and treatment and disposal maps. He explained that additional work with the service providers is needed. He turned the presentation over to Jeremy Smith.

Mr. Smith reported that he is the geographic information system (GIS) Planning Analyst for TMRPA. He reported that his main focus has been the population and employment projections for the Regional Transportation Commission to use in their update to the Regional Transportation Plan. He referred to a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file). He reported that staff spent considerable time negotiating three sets of zoning ordinances, descriptions per jurisdiction, and other categories.

Mr. Smith provided an overview of the work that has been done. He stated that the (20-year) Washoe County Consensus Forecast was used to bracket staff's projections. Some of the highlights of the presentation include:

- Population in 2032 is projected at 560,000 people in Washoe County, an increase of approximately 135,000
- In 2032, jobs are projected at 361,000, an increase of approximately 88,000
- TMRPA staff used spatially-enabled suitability factors to determine where the employment would likely occur, based on distance to major roads, school desirability, whether or not parcels are vacant or built, water and wastewater, and many other factors.
- The suitability factors were weighted by the jurisdictions, and used to predict what will be built out annually at the parcel level. That information is then used to aggregate to the traffic analysis zone (TAZ), which is input into the transportation demand model.

Mr. Smith summarized that the model results are looking good and staff continues to make improvements. He added that staff is working with Mr. Smitherman on the water and wastewater suitability factors, which will be very useful in scenario planning. Mr. Smith turned over the discussion to Sienna Reid, Senior Planner.

Ms. Reid stated that staff is working on an industrial land needs analysis. She stated that the goal is to have long-range land use planning, transportation planning and water resource planning in conjunction with the economic development efforts. She added that the plan is to first analyze the current supply for existing industrial buildings and vacant industrial lands, followed by determination of the physical and resource needs. Lastly, staff will assess the current supply and determine whether it is sufficient to meet the projected future demand. At that point, infrastructure and water resource impacts will be analyzed based on any increase in demand. She stated that ultimately, the industrial land use analysis results will be incorporated back into the population and employment model.

Ms. Reid summarized that in the end the model will be better and will benefit transportation, land use and water resource planning. She added that it would also provide guidance around future policy changes. She invited questions.

Commissioner Flansberg asked if stormwater impacts are being considered in relation to flooding and other water quality issues. Ms. Reid stated that TMRPA staff is working closely with Mr. Smitherman on preparation of a request for qualifications (RFQ) for a firm to assist on water resource components, such as stormwater, effluent use, and others.

Commissioner Shumaker asked if consideration is being given to the Flood Project and its effects (based on whether or not it is built). He mentioned that for instance, North Valleys might be attractive for industrial development. Ms. Reid stated that staff does plan to examine that issue and added that TMRPA

has GIS layers of the 1997 flood and the 100-year floodplain. She added that staff would rely on the selected consultant to advise on different scenarios. She stated that the model does include development-constrained areas as a suitability factor. Mr. Smith agreed and added that the GIS flood layers are considered as a suitability factor on the employment side.

Commissioner Erwin asked if there are currently any binding constraints to meet the projected populations. Mr. Smith stated there are not from the land use perspective based on current zoning.

Chairman Hazelwood and members thanked TMRPA staff for the update.

8. Report on the June 28, 2012 meeting of the Legislative Committee to Oversee the Western Regional Water Commission, Jim Smitherman, NNWPC Water Resources Program Manager.

Mr. Smitherman reported that the Legislative Committee to Oversee the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) met on June 28, 2012 in their final meeting of the 2011-2012 interim. The Committee heard status reports on the following:

- Consolidation of Washoe County's Water Utility with TMWA
- Washoe County Groundwater Management Issues and Mt. Rose-Galena Fan Domestic Well Mitigation Program
- Truckee River Water Supply
- Truckee River Flood Management Authority's Five-Year Plan and Timeline

The final agenda item was to discuss a Possible Bill Draft to Continue the Legislative Committee to Oversee the WRWC (LOC)

Mr. Smitherman stated that the Committee unanimously approved a motion to direct staff to prepare a Bill Draft Request (BDR) to extend the life of the Committee, to expand its purview to cover the entire state of Nevada to study water issues. The BDR is number BDR-144. He offered to continue to provide updates as appropriate.

Commissioner Ball asked if the requested BDR makes the LOC responsible for what is already being done by the State of Nevada's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Mr. Smitherman stated that comment was raised at the meeting; however, no one was present from the Division of Water Resources. He added that he assumes that issue will be addressed when the BDR surfaces during the session.

Commissioner Schumacher referred to the consolidation item and asked if there was any indication of the timeframe. Mr. Smitherman stated that some things still need to occur but it seemed that the timeframe of roughly a year would be the earliest.

9. Report on the July 10, 2012, meeting of the South Truckee Meadows General Improvement District ("STMGID") Board of Trustees, Jim Smitherman.

Mr. Smitherman reported that the NNWPC asked for an update on STMGID relating to the possible consolidation/merger into the County or not going in that direction. He stated that he monitored the July 10, 2012 STMGID Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting and summarized the agenda items. He reported that the STMGID Local Managing Board (LMB) is examining the feasibility of becoming a stand-alone water utility. At the meeting, the BOT granted authority to hire legal and professional services necessary to develop a feasibility plan, which is to be presented to the BOT in November 2012. He stated that Commissioner Schumacher is the Vice-Chairman of the STMGID LMB and turned the discussion over to him.

Commissioner Schumacher stated that prior to the July STMGID meeting, a meeting was held on June 26, 2012 to begin the discussion of dissolving the STMGID and merging into DWR/TMWA. He stated that hundreds of people attended and expressed their desire to not merge. He reported that since that time, consulting professionals have been brought onboard to assist with engineering, finance, mitigation and other issues. He stated that Gray and Associates was hired as the Project Manager, which is coordinating with others to complete the feasibility report by November 13, 2012.

Commissioner Schumacher offered to provide an update to the NNWPC at the December meeting.

10. Program Manager's Report, Jim Smitherman.

a. Status Report of Projects and Work Plan Supported by the Regional Water Management Fund

b. Financial Report on the Regional Water Management Fund

Mr. Smitherman reported that the items included in the agenda packet are provided as informational items. He invited any questions or comments, of which there were none.

11. Discussion regarding possible agenda items for the September 5, 2012, NNWPC meeting, and other future meetings, and possible direction to staff, Jim Smitherman.

Mr. Smitherman reported that there are a number of upcoming agenda items; however, none will be ready for presentation in September. He stated that if desired by the NNWPC, the meeting could be cancelled. Commissioner Price mentioned that the meeting would occur the same week as Labor Day so there could be quorum issues.

Commissioner Erwin made a motion to cancel the September NNWPC meeting. Commissioner Flansberg seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

12. Commission Comments.

Commissioner Shumaker mentioned that Mahmood Azad recently passed away. He stated that Mr. Azad was an individual that contributed a lot to the community and always brought science to the questions of environmental protection or water quality issues. He summarized that Mr. Azad's legacy was to address the issues with facts and science.

13. Staff Comments.

None

14. Public Comments.

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

15. Adjournment.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Niki Linn, Recording Secretary

Approved by Commission in session on _____ 2012.

Mickey Hazelwood, Chairman