

**MINUTES**  
**NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, December 2, 2015**

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 Enloe at 1:30 p.m.

**1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum**

*Voting Members Present:* John Enloe, John Martini, George Ball, Michael DeMartini, Michael Drinkwater, John Erwin, Mickey Hazelwood, Danielle Henderson, Darrin Price.

*Voting Members Absent:* John Flansberg and David Solaro.

*Non-Voting Members Present:* None.

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

*Staff Members Present:* Jim Smitherman; Chris Wessel; June Davis; and John Rhodes, Legal Counsel.

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Approval of the Agenda (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ERWIN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**4. Approval of the Minutes from the November 4, 2015, Meeting (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 4, 2015, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ERWIN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**5. Discussion and possible direction to staff to request a statement of qualifications from engineering firms for an investigation of alternative membrane treatment concentrate disposal and management options for the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility ("TMWRF") in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund; and possible additional direction to staff – Jim Smitherman, NNWPC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)**

Commissioner Martini requested that this item be continued to the March NNWPC meeting due to ongoing discussions between City of Reno and City of Sparks relative to the treatment plant.

Commissioner Erwin requested clarification of the need to continue this item. Commissioner Martini explained that they are not ready to discuss this item as it caught management at TMWRF, engineering staff at City of Sparks, and the City of Reno by surprise. Time is needed for internal discussion to determine if it is prudent to go forward with this study at this time.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO CONTINUE THIS ITEM TO THE MARCH NNWPC MEETING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**6. Presentation and discussion of a report from Nevada Landscape Association (“NLA”) on the Certified Landscape Technician program; possible acceptance of the report, and possible direction to staff – Pamela Bedard, NLA, and Chris Wessel, NNWPC Water Management Planner. (For Possible Action)**

Pamela Bedard, NLA, presented a report regarding the results of the Certified Landscape Technician testing program. Ms. Bedard also reviewed past budget information and projections for 2016.

Commissioner Price expressed concerns regarding the fact that this program is funded with Northern Nevada funds but is available to anyone from anywhere outside of Northern Nevada.

Commissioner Price requested information on how the funds are used since the testing location and equipment are free. Ms. Bedard reviewed an expense report detailing how the funds are used.

Commissioner Price asked what the Professional Land Care Network partners contribute. Ms. Bedard stated that they provide the actual exams.

Commissioner Price asked how much experience is required before testing. Ms. Bedard stated that experience is preferred but testing is allowed without requiring a specific amount of experience.

Commissioner Price asked how often invoices are received from NLA. Chris Wessel, NNWPC Water Management Planner, stated that an annual invoice is received.

Commissioner Price questioned the legality of providing funding for anyone from anywhere to test in this program. John Rhodes, Legal Counsel, opined that this funding is legal because it supports the conservation elements and goals of the Regional Water Management Plan, with examinees from outside the region using only a "de minimis" portion, if any, of the funding.

Commissioner Price stated that the program needs revamping. Ms. Bedard stated that she understands Commissioner Price’s concerns but because the testing is provided by the National Association of Landscape Professionals they can’t refuse testing to people from outside of Northern Nevada.

Jim Smitherman, NNWPC Water Resources Program Manager, asked if information is tracked on the number of Certified Landscape Technician that pass the test and are still working in the area. Ms. Bedard stated that they track that information as much as they can. Ms. Bedard offered to prepare a report with that information.

COMMISSIONER PRICE MADE A MOTION TO REQUEST AN ADDITIONAL REPORT WITH INFORMATION SHOWING HOW BENEFICIAL THIS PROGRAM IS TO OUR AREA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BALL. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**7. Review and discussion of time schedule to adopt the 2016 Regional Water Management Plan update, and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Smitherman stated that they will have a complete review draft by the end of June.

**8. Discussion and possible approval of one-year extensions to the terms of the following two Agreements at no additional cost; and possible direction to staff to execute the appropriate amendments to the Agreements – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

- 8-A) First Amendment to the Agreement with Stantec to continue work on the Regional Effluent Management Strategy; and,
- 8-B) First Amendment to the Agreement with the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the Desert Research Institute (“DRI”) to continue work on the professional Linear Programming services required for regional cooperative effluent management planning.

COMMISSIONER ERWIN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT STAFF’S RECOMMENDATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**9. Program Manager’s Report – Jim Smitherman.**

- a. Report on the status of projects and work plan supported by the Regional Water Management Fund (“RWMP”);
- b. Financial report on the RWMP; and,
- c. Report on the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency’s parcel-based population and employment modeling project

The standard items are included in the Program Manager’s Report.

Mr. Smitherman reported that the revenues are five percent above projections halfway through the year, and expenditures are under-budget.

Mr. Smitherman reported that the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency continues to make progress on its housing study. They are currently gathering information from utilities.

**10. Discussion regarding possible agenda items for the January 6, 2016, NNWPC meeting, and other future meetings; and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)**

Mr. Smitherman stated the potential future agenda items will include:

- Review report of the 2011 RWMP; and any other standing items.

Mr. Smitherman will not be able to attend the January meeting but if the Commission desires, staff would still be able to prepare for a January meeting.

COMMISSIONER PRICE MADE A MOTION TO CANCEL THE JANUARY 6, 2016, MEETING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) MEMBERS PRESENT.

**11. Commission Comments**

Commissioner Drinkwater asked about a replacement for Commissioner Wadsworth. Mr. Smitherman stated they have not heard anything about a replacement yet.

**12. Staff Comments**

None

**13. Public Comment**

None

**14. Adjournment (For Possible Action)**

COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 2:16 P.M.,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PRICE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
WITH NINE (9) MEMBERS PRESENT.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:

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John Enloe, Chairman

**APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.**