

# Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

## STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 29, 2018

TO: Chairman and Members, Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission

FROM: Jim Smitherman, Water Resources Program Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion in workshop format and possible recommendation(s) to the Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”) regarding WRWC strategic priorities, annual meeting schedule, administrative and legal services, overhead and non-staff related operating expenses, existing contracts, and possible budget adjustments; and, possible direction to staff.

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### **SUMMARY**

On August 14, 2018, at a concurrent meeting of the WRWC and the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”), the WRWC directed staff to schedule a workshop-style meeting of the NNWPC and prepare an agenda item to provide for discussion and possible recommendations to the WRWC regarding WRWC strategic priorities, annual meeting schedule, administrative and legal services, overhead and non-staff related operating expenses, existing contracts, and possible budget adjustments (all from the perspective of achieving potential cost savings and increased efficiency).

In December 2017, the NNWPC held a priority-setting workshop to prepare for the development of the fiscal year (“FY”) 2018-2019 WRWC budget. The following February, the NNWPC discussed these priorities at two additional meetings and developed a ranked project list based on the priority-setting process. The ranked project list is reflected in the approved FY 2018-2019 WRWC budget (attached). The results of the priority setting workshop are also attached.

The following background and discussion sections are provided for reference in the same form as shown in the August 14, 2018, concurrent meeting agenda packet.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **Brief history of legislatively mandated regional water planning in Washoe County**

Since 1983, the Nevada Legislature has directed, through a series of legislative enactments, the nature, scope and extent of regional water planning required by local government in the Truckee Meadows and southern Washoe County.

In 1983, the Nevada Legislature established the Regional Water Planning and Advisory Board (“RWPAB”) of Washoe County. The enabling legislation’s general mandate to the RWPAB was to develop a regional plan for present and future uses of water resources in the region,

recognizing local governments' land use plans and coordinating the needs of incorporated areas with unincorporated areas. The RWPAB was also directed to identify "potential supplies of water" for the region. The Regional Water Resources Plan ("RWRP") was accepted by the RWPAB in March 1990 as a starting point for further planning efforts.

In 1988, the Legislature enacted NRS 278.026 - 029, amended in 1991, which mandated the development of a comprehensive land use plan for the region. The Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Governing Board ("RPGB"), established by this legislation, used an impartial fact finder to develop a coordinated approach to deal with providing wastewater and water services for the region. The fact finder, Kato & Warren Inc., completed its report in 1990 and recommended that a unified and coordinated approach, directed by one agency, be used to develop a plan to address wastewater treatment; water supply, flood control and storm water drainage; and Truckee River water quality.

From this recommendation, Washoe County funded the Regional Water Supply and Quality Study ("RWSQS"), which was completed in 1993 and presented to the Washoe County Board of Commissioners ("BCC").

In 1995, Washoe County, the City of Reno ("Reno") and the City of Sparks ("Sparks") worked with the Legislature to develop new legislation to further address regional water issues and required regional water resource planning. The resulting legislation, NRS 540A.010 - 240, provided the basis and direction for the Regional Water Planning Commission ("RWPC") and the Washoe County Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan.

The RWPC developed, approved and recommended the *1995–2015 Washoe County Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan* (the "Plan") to the BCC in November 1996. The BCC adopted the Plan in January 1997 and it was found in conformance with the Truckee Meadows Regional Plan the following month. Later that month, the Plan was approved by Reno and Sparks, and accepted by the Nevada Legislature in June 1997. NRS 540A required that the RWPC review the initial Plan within five years of its adoption, and every three years thereafter. The *2004–2025 Washoe County Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan* was prepared as a result of the RWPC's five-year review, adopted in January 2005 and amended in 2006 and 2009.

In June 2007, the Legislature approved Senate Bill 487, a Special Act authorizing the creation of the WRWC and the NNWPC" Chapter 531, Statutes of Nevada 2007, the Western Regional Water Commission Act (the "Act") repealed the sections of Chapter 540A, NRS, concerning the RWPC, but provided that "the provisions of the comprehensive plan developed and revised pursuant to the former provisions of NRS 540A.130 before April 1, 2008, remain in effect" until the WRWC adopts the initial comprehensive plan required by the Act, i.e., the *Comprehensive [Regional Water Management] Plan* (the "RWMP").

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Functions, Duties and Responsibilities of the WRWC**

The functions, duties and responsibilities of the WRWC conferred and mandated by the Act are summarized below and attached for reference as they appear in the Act. Among the WRWC's

duties, the most complex involves the review and adoption of the RWMP, upon recommendation of the NNWPC. The subjects required to be covered in the RWMP are summarized below. The Act contains three sections, comprising four pages, which detail the required contents of the RWMP, as follows:

- Water quality of surface water and groundwater, and protection from pollution;
- Wastewater treatment plants, quantity, quality and reuse of discharge, service areas and interceptors;
- Water supply of surface water and groundwater, and facilities for treatment, storage and conveyance of surface and groundwater;
- Control of floods and drainage of storm water, including facilities;
- Cost and financing;
- Goals and policy recommendations to deal with problems affecting the planning area as a whole and relating to municipal and industrial water supply, water quality, sanitary sewerage, sewage treatment, storm water drainage, and flood control; and,
- Evaluation and recommendations regarding the consolidation of public [retail potable water] purveyors.

Additionally, the RWMP is required to be consistent with and carry out or support the carrying out of all aspects of the Truckee River Operating Agreement (“TROA”).

Of the subjects summarized above, two can be considered completed: consolidation of public purveyors and the implementation of TROA. The remaining topics involve ongoing and evolving planning issues. The NNWPC obtains and compiles planning information relating to those issues from contracts for consulting services, Interlocal Agreements between the WRWC and local government agencies to fund the implementation of various provisions of the RWMP, and directly from staff efforts and various local entities as described below.

Water resources and supply planning functions are provided by the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (“TMWA”) for its customers and resource base, and are included in the RWMP. Information from smaller public and private purveyors, and regarding domestic wells is compiled by NNWPC staff for inclusion in the RWMP. Additionally, the WRWC has voluntarily assumed the duty of reviewing the draft Consensus Population Forecast at the request of the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, and as provided in the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Governing Board’s Regulations on Procedure, to ensure that the estimated future regional population can be supported by the water resources identified in the RWMP.

Information regarding wastewater and effluent planning is provided by Reno, Sparks and Washoe County for their respective service areas and facilities. Coordination among the owners of TMWRF is handled by a Joint Coordinating Committee created by interlocal cooperative agreement. Otherwise, coordination among the wastewater service providers occurs informally among department directors and/or staff as needed. At the present time, regional effluent management planning among the local governments is being facilitated by NNWPC staff in collaboration with a Regional Effluent Management Team comprised of staff members from Reno, Sparks, Washoe County, and TMWA, and through Interlocal Agreements between those entities and the University of Nevada, Reno (“UNR”), and Interlocal Agreements between the WRWC and UNR.

The Truckee River Flood Management Authority (“TRFMA”) provides information on aspects of flood control planning for the Truckee River. Flood control planning duties for tributaries and basins not tributary to the Truckee River are handled by local government agencies, from which the NNWPC receives planning information for inclusion in the RWMP.

Similarly, storm water drainage planning is done by the local government agencies for their respective jurisdictions, and coordinated with the TRFMA where necessary. Regional storm water quality management planning is provided by the Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee (the "SWPCC") pursuant to an interlocal cooperative agreement, and facilitated by Reno staff. Drainage and water quality aspects of storm water management planning are received by the NNWPC from the SWPCC for inclusion in the RWMP.

### **Planning and Implementation Activities**

Section 35 of the Act authorizes a customer fee to be collected by each public purveyor within the planning area to fund the planning and administration required by the Act, and the implementation of the RWMP. The 1.5% fee on the amounts otherwise billed to customers generates revenues of approximately \$1.5 million per year for the Regional Water Management Fund (“RWMF”). Over the past 10 years, approximately two-thirds of the RWMF has been spent on implementation of the RWMP, as indicated by budget category and approximate total amounts summarized below.

Water resources activities: \$4.77 million, including the evaluation of public purveyor consolidation (\$1.69 million) and the acquisition of water rights to partially satisfy the 6700 acre-feet return flow requirement imposed by TROA on Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County (\$2.6 million).

Water conservation projects: \$1.82 million, including cloud seeding (\$933,000) and TMWA’s water usage review program (\$669,900).

Wastewater and reclaimed water projects: \$2 million. Emphasis has shifted over time from the review of the Truckee River total daily maximum loads for nutrients (“TMDLs”) (\$1.13 million) toward effluent management projects, including advanced water treatment technology (\$288,600 to date), and regional effluent management planning and indirect potable reuse planning (\$100,000 to date).

Storm water projects: \$2 million, almost exclusively for the regional National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) storm water permit program (\$1.91 million), watershed management planning (\$58,000 to date) and GIS mapping (\$20,000 to date).

Flood control projects: \$141,500. RWMP development and revision: \$446,000, in addition to extensive staff time required for development and adoption in 2011 and revision and updating in 2016.

**WRWC Administrative Costs**

WRWC/NNWPC administrative services are provided by three full time Washoe County employees who are assigned to the WRWC by way of a Cooperative Agreement. Total wages and benefits costs for those employees have ranged from about \$295,000 in FY 2008-2009 to \$346,000 in FY 2017-2018.

Legal services for the WRWC/NNWPC are provided through an Agreement with Rhodes Law Offices, Ltd., for a flat fee retainer of \$12,000 per month for all required legal services exclusive of litigation. That retainer includes an approximate 10% increase in compensation approved by the WRWC in October 2017, effective December 1, 2017, to reinstate voluntary reductions in compensation proposed and taken by Mr. Rhodes to track compensation reductions imposed on Washoe County employees during the course of the recent recession and resulting local government budget constraints. Prior to approval of the current contract, Mr. Rhodes had offered to extend his previous contract, upon the same terms and conditions, including continuation of the 10% reduction, through June 30, 2020, and he is now offering to discuss and possibly reinstate that reduction on terms and conditions to be negotiated.

From FY 2008-2009 through FY 2012-13 services that would have been otherwise charged as administrative overhead were provided by the County, and to a lesser extent by TMWA, as in-kind services at no cost to the WRWC. That informal arrangement ended in fiscal year 2014. Since that time, Washoe County has charged the WRWC for overhead costs, which have decreased over time from 42 percent of wages and benefits costs in FY 2013-2014 to 23 percent in FY 2017-2018. Additional information on administrative costs will be provided for discussion at the meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff proposes that the NNWPC discuss, deliberate, and provide appropriate recommendations to the WRWC and direction to staff, as desired, regarding any subjects considered during the workshop process.

JS:jp

**Western Regional Water Commission  
Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019  
Tentative Budget Summary Worksheet**

Budget Category	1.5% WMF	NOTE	Washoe County In-Kind	NOTE	TMWA In-Kind	NOTE	SVGID In-Kind	NOTE
REVENUE	Amount		Amount		Amount		Amount	
Estimated Water Surcharge Revenues	1,479,124							
Grant and/or Other Revenue	40,000							
Estimated Interest Income	24,279							
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,543,403</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES/SUPPLIES</b>	<b>Amount</b>		<b>Amount</b>		<b>Amount</b>		<b>Amount</b>	
Estimated Professional Services (Page 2)	1,641,466	1						
Staff Services (Page 3)	617,400	2,3	0				0	
Non-Staff Services (Page 3)	76,700							
<b>Total Professional Services/Supplies</b>	<b>2,335,566</b>		<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>	
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>Amount</b>		<b>Amount</b>		<b>Amount</b>		<b>Amount</b>	
Estimated Misc.			0					
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>			
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,335,566</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	

**Net Decrease in Cash Reserves (\$792,163)**

Cash Balance as of 7/1/17	\$1,175,122
Estimated 2017/2018 Revenue (Cash Flow)	1,491,070
Estimated 2017/2018 expenditures (Page 4)	(\$1,480,827)
Estimated cash balance as of 7/1/18	\$1,185,366
<b>Net Decrease in Cash Reserves for FY 2018-19</b>	<b>(\$792,163)</b>
Estimated cash balance as of 6/30/19	\$393,203

**NOTES:**

- Proposed budget provides legal spending authority for projects yet to be approved by the WRWC upon recommendations provided by the NNWPC.
- Proposed budget provides legal spending authority for contract staff services previously approved by the WRWC.
- Includes Washoe County estimate for overhead: human resources, information technology, office space, utilities, computer hardware, software, copier, supplies, routine/administrative and GIS/drafting services.

### Tentative Professional Services Budget Detail Fiscal Year 2018/2019

Professional Services Project Name	2018/2019 Budget Total	Expense Description/Example
<i>DRI Cloud Seeding</i>	50,000	Pending FY18-19 ILA with DRI
<i>Precipitation Monitoring</i>	20,000	Pending FY18-19 Amendment to ILA with DRI
<b>Regional Water Planning Projects</b>	<b>70,000</b>	<b>NNWPC Ranking Vote Total 11</b>
<i>Washoe ET Project</i>	10,000	Pending FY18-19 Amendment to ILA with DRI
<i>Water Usage Review Program</i>	100,000	Pending FY18-19 Amendment to ILA with TMWA
<i>Certified Landscape Technician Program</i>	12,500	Pending FY18-19 Amendment to ILA with NLA
<b>Regional Water Conservation</b>	<b>122,500</b>	<b>NNWPC Ranking Vote Total 6</b>
<i>Integrated Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Planning</i>	200,000	Pending multi-year ILA with UNR/Nevada Water Innovation Campus Project
<i>Advanced Water Treatment Demonstration</i>	208,466	Pending FY18-19 Amendment to multi-year ILA with UNR
<i>Reclaimed Water Planning</i>	175,000	Pending Project Proposal
<b>Regional Reclaimed Water Planning Projects</b>	<b>583,466</b>	<b>NNWPC Ranking Vote Total 28</b>
<i>Storm Water GIS Mapping</i>	100,000	Pending Project Proposal
<i>Watershed Management Plan Update</i>	200,000	Pending FY18-19 Amendment to ILA with City of Reno
<i>NPDES Storm Water Permit Update</i>	63,000	Pending FY18-19 ILA with City of Reno
<i>NPDES Storm Water Quality Management Program</i>	262,500	Pending FY18-19 Amendment to ILA with City of Reno
<b>Regional Storm Water Planning Projects</b>	<b>625,500</b>	<b>NNWPC Ranking Vote Total 25</b>
<i>Localized Flooding</i>	160,000	Closed Basin Flooding/Evaluation of Ditch Flooding
<b>Regional Flood Control Planning Projects</b>	<b>160,000</b>	<b>NNWPC Ranking Vote Total 7</b>
<i>Regional Wastewater Flow Projections</i>	20,000	Pending Project Proposal
<i>Modeling for Water Quality Standards and TMDL Compliance</i>	20,000	Retain LTI for future needs
<b>Regional Wastewater Planning Projects</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>NNWPC Ranking Vote Total 14</b>
<i>NNWPC/WRWC Website Update/GIS Mapping</i>	10,000	
<i>Water Management Plan Update</i>	30,000	Possible future Plan Amendment
<b>Comprehensive Plan</b>	<b>40,000</b>	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,641,466</b>	

Note: Budget amounts may be transferred between categories

**Western Regional Water Commission  
Tentative Routine Operation Budget Fiscal Year 2018/2019**

		<b>2018/2019 Annual Routine Operating Budget Total</b>	<b>Expense Description/Example</b>
<b>WRWC Employees</b>	<b>Staff Services</b>	\$430,000	Cost of <i>Support Staff</i> services as defined by employee services contract entered into between Washoe County and WRWC. Includes finance and administrative staff labor cost
<b>Washoe County Overhead</b>		\$40,000	Based on analysis of fy17-18 actual general fund overhead (excludes labor)
<b>Mileage Expenses</b>		\$2,400	Annual routine daily vehicle mileage expenses.
<b>Legal Services</b>		\$144,000	Cost of <i>Legal Counsel</i> services as defined by contract as entered into between Rhodes Law Office and WRWC
<b>Lobbying Registration</b>		\$1,000	Cost of registration for staff members as state lobbyists
<b>Staff Services Subtotal</b>		<b>\$617,400</b>	
<b>Minutes</b>	<b>Non-Staff Services</b>	\$15,000	Annual service contract to provide for recording of meetings, transcription of minutes and document editing.
<b>Website</b>		\$25,000	Such as website content and design services; annual website updating, maintenance, and hosting; specialized programming services; digital library development and updating; hosting, development and maintenance of databases; licensing fees, software and software updates, training/programming reference materials.
<b>Video Coverage</b>		\$5,000	Annual expense for video coverage of WRWC and NNWPC meetings.
<b>CAFR &amp; Audit</b>		\$8,700	Annual expense for CAFR development and financial audit.
<b>Regional Training</b>		\$1,000	Cost of training for staff members <i>not covered by in-kind services</i> including registration and other miscellaneous cost such as reference materials, field trips, etc.
<b>Regional Travel</b>		\$1,000	Cost of travel for staff members <i>not covered by in-kind services</i> including transportation services, mileage reimbursement, lodging, meals, and other miscellaneous cost such as parking, etc.
<b>Advertising</b>		\$1,000	Such as advertising and legal notices.
<b>Misc. Operating</b>		\$20,000	Such as printing & reproduction, publications, and public notices, refreshments for volunteer boards/commissions, GIS and other in-house member agency support (not covered by in-kind services), equipment & supplies (i.e. computers, computer related supplies such as CDs, DVDs, etc.), projectors, printers, poster board, reproduction services, software licensing and fees, labels, business cards, periodicals, subscriptions, books, postage & mailing, promotion and public materials, misc. equipment rental, insurances, staff office supplies, and other expenses not included as part of overhead.
<b>Non-Staff Services Subtotal</b>		<b>\$76,700</b>	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$694,100</b>	

Estimated Expenditures Fiscal Year 2017/2018

Description	Total Estimated Fiscal 2017/2018 Expenditure as of 6/30/18
<b>WRWC Employees</b>	393,474
<b>Mileage Expenses</b>	2,400
<b>WRWC Overhead</b>	42,500
<b>Legal Services</b>	139,200
<b>Lobbying Services</b>	-
<b><i>Service Contract Subtotal</i></b>	<b>577,574</b>
<b>Minutes</b>	5,000
<b>Website</b>	15,000
<b>Envision/Sosu</b>	5,000
<b>CAFR &amp; Audit</b>	8,700
<b>Regional Training</b>	215
<b>Regional Travel</b>	-
<b>Advertising</b>	1,000
<b>Misc. Operating</b>	5,500
<b><i>Non-Service Related Routine Operating Subtotal</i></b>	<b>40,415</b>
<b>Routine Operating Expense Subtotals</b>	<b>617,989</b>
<i>TROA 6700 AF Water Rights Requirement</i>	37,986
<i>Precipitation Monitoring</i>	31,660
<b>Regional Water Planning</b>	<b>69,646</b>
<i>DRI Cloud Seeding</i>	100,000
<i>Cloud Seeding Monitoring</i>	15,147
<i>Washoe ET Project</i>	10,000
<i>Water Usage Review Program</i>	100,000
<i>Certified Landscape Technician Program</i>	12,500
<b>Conservation, Sustainability, Climate Change</b>	<b>237,647</b>
<i>Bedell Flat Infiltration</i>	-
<i>Bedell Flat Infiltration Grant</i>	-
<i>Regional Effluent Management Strategy</i>	18,112
<i>Integrated Wastewater and Reclaimed Water System Planning</i>	175,000
<b>Regional Reclaimed Water Planning Projects</b>	<b>193,112</b>
<i>Watershed Management Plan Update</i>	66,467
<i>TMRPA Regional Storm Water GIS Map Project</i>	21,000
<i>NPDES Storm Water Permit Update</i>	-
<i>NPDES Storm Water Quality Management Program</i>	262,500
<b>Regional Storm Water Planning Projects</b>	<b>349,967</b>
	-
<b>Regional Flood Control Planning Projects</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>N &amp; P Reduction in watershed</i>	-
<i>Water Quality Standards and TMDL Review, and Compliance</i>	-
<i>Septic System Mitigation Planning</i>	-
<b>Regional Wastewater Planning Projects</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>Plan Update</i>	-
<i>RWMP Update-Editing</i>	2,466
<i>TMRPA Sustainability Study</i>	10,000
<b>Water Management Plan</b>	<b>12,466</b>
<b><i>Project Subtotal</i></b>	<b>862,838</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,480,827</b>

**Priority by Category**

Category	Total Votes*	Number of Projects	Votes Per Project
Regional Reclaim Planning	28	6	4.7
Regional Storm Water Planning	25	6	4.2
Regional Wastewater Planning	14	4	3.5
Regional Water Planning	11	5	2.2
Regional Flood Planning	7	1	7.0
Regional Conservation Planning	6	5	1.2

**Priority by Project**

Projects	Total Votes*
Integrated Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Master Planning	9
Regional Wastewater Flow Projections	7
Flooding From Ditches	7
Integrated Source Water Protection Program	6.5
Climate Variability Data Assessment	6
NPDES Storm Water Quality Management Program	6
Bedell Flat Infiltration Project	5
Regional Effluent Management Strategy Team	5
Water Innovations Campus	5
Storm Water GIS Mapping	5
Water Usage Review Program	4
N & P Reduction in watershed	4
Watershed Management Plan Update	3.5
NPDES Storm Water Permit Update	3
Indirect Potable Reuse Planning	2
Advanced Water Treatment Demonstration	2
Modeling for Water Quality Standards and TMDL Compliance	2
TMRPA Sustainability Study	2
Regional Water Management Plan Update	2
Washoe ET Project	1
Certified Landscape Technician Program	1
One Truckee River	1
Septic System Mitigation Planning	1
Regional Plan Update Coordination	1
Precipitation "Can" Gauge Monitoring	0
Water For the Seasons	0
Cloud Seeding Monitoring	0
Cloud Seeding	0
NNWPC/WRWC Website Update/GIS Mapping	0

\* Ranking Criteria

**Priority by Category and Project**

<b>Category/Projects</b>	<b>Total Votes* (T)</b>	<b>Number of Projects (N)</b>	<b>Votes per Project (T/N)</b>
<b>Regional Reclaim Planning</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<i>Integrated Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Master Planning</i>	9		
<i>Bedell Flat Infiltration Project</i>	5		
<i>Regional Effluent Management Strategy Team</i>	5		
<i>Water Innovations Campus</i>	5		
<i>Advanced Water Treatment Demonstration</i>	2		
<i>Indirect Potable Reuse Planning</i>	2		
<b>Regional Storm Water Planning</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4.2</b>
<i>Integrated Source Water Protection Program</i>	6.5		
<i>NPDES Storm Water Quality Management Program</i>	6		
<i>Storm Water GIS Mapping</i>	5		
<i>Watershed Management Plan Update</i>	3.5		
<i>NPDES Storm Water Permit Update</i>	3		
<i>One Truckee River</i>	1		
<b>Regional Wastewater Planning</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3.5</b>
<i>Regional Wastewater Flow Projections</i>	7		
<i>N &amp; P Reduction in watershed</i>	4		
<i>Modeling for Water Quality Standards and TMDL Compliance</i>	2		
<i>Septic System Mitigation Planning</i>	1		
<b>Regional Water Planning</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<i>Climate Variability Analysis</i>	6		
<i>TMRPA Sustainability Study</i>	2		
<i>Regional Water Management Plan Update</i>	2		
<i>Regional Plan Update Coordination</i>	1		
<i>NNWPC/WRWC Website Update/GIS Mapping</i>	0		
<b>Regional Flood Planning</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<i>Flooding From Ditches</i>	7		
<b>Regional Conservation Planning</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<i>Water Usage Review Program</i>	4		
<i>Washoe ET Project</i>	1		
<i>Certified Landscape Technician Program</i>	1		
<i>Cloud Seeding Monitoring</i>	0		
<i>Cloud Seeding</i>	0		

\* Ranking Criteria

## Attachment

### **Western Regional Water Commission Functions / Powers, Duties and Responsibilities**

#### a. Functions / Powers – The WRWC may:

- exercise powers of any of its member entities, as authorized by a cooperative agreement (Sec. 24);
- do all things necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Act;
- Sue and be sued;
- Enter into agreements with local governments and any public purveyor;
- Prepare, adopt, update and oversee implementation of the Plan, upon recommendation of the NNWPC;
- Plan for the implementation of a mechanism for
  - i. Scheduling delivery of water held by public purveyors, and
  - ii. Maximizing conjunctive use by public purveyors;
- Prepare, adopt, and update a water conservation plan for municipal and industrial (“M&I”) water uses;
- Make recommendations for water conservation agreements among local governments and water purveyors;
- Study and recommend water conservation ordinances to local government governing bodies;
- Contract with public purveyors or any public entity for services;
- Employ or contract with professional or specialized personnel;
- Seek, apply for and receive contributions, gifts, grants;
- Adopt rules and regulations for conducting its meetings and duties;
- Participate with federal and state agencies, and other entities , concerning water supply;
- Perform other functions conferred by the Act (Sec. 30);
  
- Develop a plan for the establishment of service territories of public purveyors (Sec. 31); Exercise all rights and powers necessary or incidental to or implied from the specific powers granted by the Act (Sec. 32);
  
- Upon recommendation of the NNWPC
  - i. Adopt and revise the Plan;
  - ii. Make recommendations about conserving water consistent with other plans required by law;
  - iii. Make recommendations about collecting and treating sewage to protect and conserve water supplies;
  - iv. Provide information to the public about present or potential uses of water;
  - v. Make recommendations about management or use of water to
    - 1. Reno, Sparks, County Boards and Planning Commissions;
    - 2. Regional Planning Governing Board and Regional Planning Commission;
    - 3. State Engineer;
    - 4. Federal Government;

5. Other entities deemed appropriate (Sec. 34); and,

- Impose a fee not to exceed 1.5 percent otherwise billed, to be collected by public purveyors from customers (Sec. 35).

b. Duties and Responsibilities

- The WRWC must be directed and governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees appointed as follows:
  - i. One from the Reno City Council;
  - ii. One from the Sparks City Council;
  - iii. One from the Washoe County Board of Commissioners;
  - iv. One representing TMWRF or its successor;
  - v. One from STMGID or its successor (now TMWA);
  - vi. One from SVGID or its successor;
  - vii. Three from the TMWA Board, one each from the Reno City Council, Sparks City Council and Washoe County Board, which must be different than those in i, ii and iii, above (Sec. 25).
- The WRWC shall elect one member as Chair, one as Vice Chair, and shall elect a Secretary and Treasurer, which may be members and may be the same person. Terms expire December 31 each year;
- The Secretary shall keep audio recordings and various records;
- The Treasurer shall keep permanent, strict and accurate accounts of money received and dispersed (Sec. 27).
- The WRWC shall meet regularly at a designated time and place and provide for special meetings;
- A majority of the members is a quorum at any meeting, except as provided otherwise in the Act, and motions and resolutions must be approved by at least a majority of the members present (Sec. 28).
- The duties of the WRWC before taking action on the Plan:
  - i. An attested copy of the Plan or Amendment must be submitted by the NNWPC,
  - ii. The WRWC shall convene a public hearing,
  - iii. 30 days before the hearing the Plan or Amendment must be placed at the County Clerk for public inspection
  - iv. Notice of the hearing must be published 10 days prior in a newspaper of general circulation, and must be a display ad at least 3X5 inches in size (Sec. 46).
- The duties of the WRWC regarding changes/additions to the Plan:
  - i. The WRWC must not change the Plan or Amendment except by submitting proposed changes in writing to the NNWPC;
  - ii. The NNWPC may agree or disagree, but must respond in writing within 40 days;

- iii. If there is no resolution, the NNWPC shall revise the Plan or Amendment and include the change proposed by the WRWC (Sec. 47)
- The Plan must be reviewed by the NNWPC on a schedule established by the WRWC, at least every five years (Sec. 50).
  - Except to meet an emergency, no facility intended to provide a service relating to a subject of the Plan may be constructed, if the facility is of such a kind or size as to affect the working of the Plan as distinct from providing normal service to customers, unless it is included in the Plan or has been reviewed by the NNWPC for conformance with the Plan, recommended to, and approved by the WRWC;
  - The WRWC shall consider the recommendation of the NNWPC and approve or disapprove the proposal as conforming to the Plan. Any disapproval must be accompanied by recommended actions to be taken to make the proposal conform to the Plan;
  - The NNWPC and the WRWC shall limit their review to the substance and content of the Plan and shall not consider the merits or deficiencies of a proposal in a manner other than is necessary to enable them to make a determination concerning conformance with the Plan;
  - The WRWC shall provide, by resolution after holding a hearing, for the NNWPC or its staff to make final decisions concerning the conformance of classes of proposed facilities to the Plan. A resolution adopted pursuant to this section must provide an opportunity for the applicant or a protestant to appeal from a decision of the NNWPC or its staff to the WRWC (Sec. 51).
  - In addition to the responsibilities set forth in the Act, The RPGB has identified the WRWC as the entity to (voluntarily) determine the population that can be supported by the water resources identified in the RWMP, compare it with Consensus Forecast every 2 years and determine whether identified water resources are adequate (RPGB Regulations on Procedure).

On June 8, 2009, the Nevada Governor designated the WRWC as the local entity responsible for Clean Water Act, Section 208 water planning activities for Washoe County, excluding the Lake Tahoe Basin and Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation.