

MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 1, 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 Wright at 1:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

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

Voting Members Absent: Michael DeMartini; John Flansberg

Non-Voting Members Present: Cindy Turiczek

Non-Voting Members Absent: Harry Fahnestock, Ron Penrose, Thomas Pyeatte, My-Linh Nguyen

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

4. Approval of Minutes from the April 3, 2019 Meeting (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

5. Discussion and possible recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commission ("WRWC") for approval of Amendments to Agreements to continue funding for the projects listed below, and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner. (For Possible Action)

- a. Eighth Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement ("IA") with the City of Reno, in an amount not to exceed \$262,500 from the Regional Water Management Fund ("RWMF"), to support the Truckee Meadows Storm Water Quality Management Program for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner, presented the staff report including information regarding the Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee ("SWPCC"). At the request of the WRWC, this program has been funded from the RWMF since 2011, in an annual amount not to exceed \$262,500. The WRWC has approved funding to reimburse expenses of the SWPCC and directed staff to include funding in the subsequent WRWC budget. The funding is

intended to support the Storm Water Quality Management Program, including SWPCC activities.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO PROVIDE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE WRWC FOR APPROVAL OF AN EIGHTH AMENDMENT TO THE IA WITH THE CITY OF RENO, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$262,500, TO SUPPORT THE STORM WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COMBS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

- b. Fifth Amendment to the IA with the Truckee Meadows Water Authority, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the RWMF, to support the Water Usage Review Program for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

The Truckee Meadows Water Authority ("TMWA") is requesting funding from the RWMF in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for the continuation of the Water Usage Review Program. TMWA finds this form of customer education to be highly effective and considers the Water Usage Review Program a success. The NNWPC, and its predecessor entity, the Regional Water Planning Commission, have supported the Water Usage Review Program since the program's inception in 2003, and the WRWC has provided partial funding since 2008.

COMMISSIONER SOLARO MADE A MOTION TO PROVIDE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE WRWC FOR APPROVAL OF A FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE IA WITH TMWA, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000, TO SUPPORT THE WATER USAGE REVIEW PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENLOE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Discussion and possible approval of Amendments to Agreements to continue funding for the projects listed below; if approved, authorize the WRWC Water Resources Program Manager to execute the Amendments; and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

- a. Fourth Amendment to the IA with the Desert Research Institute ("DRI"), in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from the RWMF, to support the Regional Precipitation Monitoring Project for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Mr. Wessel presented a summary of the project and funding request.

Greg McCurdy, DRI Associate Research Scientist Climatology, discussed the Washoe County Rain Gauge Network Continued Operation Plan and Historical Data Analysis for 2019-2020.

Commissioner Enloe asked how many of the original 80 gauges DRI is currently maintaining.

Mr. McCurdy explained that at this point they have not removed any of those gauges. They are typically monitoring about 65 to 70 of them a year. There are a few gauges in some very outlying areas that will probably be collected in this coming year.

COMMISSIONER HAUCK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE IA WITH DRI, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00, TO SUPPORT THE REGIONAL PRECIPITATION MONITORING PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, AND AUTHORIZE THE WRWC WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM MANAGER TO EXECUTE A FOURTH AMENDMENT FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENLOE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

- b. Fifth Amendment to the IA with DRI, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 from the RWMF, to support the Washoe Evapotranspiration Project for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

The proposed scope of work, for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2019- 2020, will ensure program continuity for the coming year. Since the inception of the WET Project, the WRWC has sponsored a total of seven sites. One additional weather station, owned and maintained by the University of Nevada Reno University Farm, is also associated with the project.

Mr. Wessel confirmed for Commissioner Enloe that the Washoe Evapotranspiration data is currently linked to the WRWC website under the GIS Mapping. He also noted that they are working on making the data for the precipitation gauges available on the site as well.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE IA WITH DRI, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000, TO SUPPORT THE WET PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, AND AUTHORIZE THE WRWC WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM MANAGER TO EXECUTE A FIFTH AMENDMENT FOR THAT PURPOSE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. **Discussion and possible recommendation to the WRWC for approval of a proposal by the Regional Effluent Management Team for funding, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 from the RWMF, to evaluate the feasibility of discharging Reno Stead Water Reclamation Facility effluent to Long Valley Creek; and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)**

Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager, presented information included in the staff report. After discussing effluent management options, the Regional Effluent Management Team (“Team”) concluded that the feasibility of the Long Valley Creek alternative should be studied because a discharge point outside the Lemmon Valley basin could provide the greatest degree of reliability and flexibility compared to other alternatives. In its discussions, the Team acknowledged the ongoing feasibility study concerning the possible future use of Category A+ reclaimed water treatment technology, and emphasized that investigations are at a relatively early stage of a long-term study with no guarantee of a positive outcome. The staff report also includes a list outlining the proposed tasks related to investigating the feasibility of the Long Valley Creek alternative.

COMMISSIONER HAUCK MADE A MOTION TO PROVIDE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE WRWC FOR APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL BY THE REGIONAL EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT TEAM FOR FUNDING, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000.00 , TO EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY OF DISCHARGING RENO STEAD WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY EFFLUENT TO LONG VALLEY CREEK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

8. **Presentation, discussion, and possible recommendation to the WRWC for approval of a proposal by Washoe County for funding, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from the RWMF, to support a project to restudy and remap current designated flood zones in Lemmon Valley – Dwayne Smith, Director, Engineering and Capital Projects Division, Washoe County. (For Possible Action)**

Dwayne Smith, Director, Engineering and Capital Projects Division, Washoe County, presented the proposal for funding. This would partially fund a project to restudy and remap the FEMA designated flood zones associated with the East and West Lemmon Valley Hydrobasins. The actual cost is not known at this time. An RFP will be released in June with work being initiated in the fall. Mr. Smith stated that he is committed to getting matching funding from Washoe County and potentially funding from other stakeholders as well.

Commissioner Henderson expressed Truckee River Flood Management Authority's support for this recommendation.

COMMISSIONER HENDERSON MADE A MOTION TO PROVIDE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE WRWC FOR APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL BY WASHOE COUNTY, FOR FUNDING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000.00, TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT TO RESTUDY AND REMAP CURRENT DESIGNATED FLOOD ZONES IN LEMMON VALLEY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI.

Mr. Smith explained for Commissioner Drinkwater that without the right data, boundaries, and base flood elevations we can't come up with the right solutions or understand what is available to us. He confirmed that it is very important that we study these closed basins.

Mr. Smith responded to Commissioner Martini's question regarding funding needs stating that the total amount needed could be between \$250,000.00 and \$350,000.00.

Mr. Smitherman confirmed for Commissioner Enloe that this funding would come out of the contingency fund line item. He also noted that he believes both this project and the previously discussed project related to ditch flooding issues can both be supported in the approved budget.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

9. Report on legislative activities, including 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, provided a report listing Bills pending in the 2019 Nevada Legislature that may affect or are of interest to the WRWC and NNWPC. He also noted several Bills that were being tracked that died in committee.

10. 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.

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

Mr. Smitherman reported there are no pressing issues coming forward and discussed the option of cancelling the June and July meetings.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CANCELLATION OF THE JUNE AND JULY MEETINGS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TEN (10) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

12. Commission Comments

Commissioner Enloe announced TMWA's Smart About Water annual event this Saturday.

13. Staff Comments

Mr. Smitherman confirmed that adequate funding for the localized flooding and ditch flooding projects discussed earlier is included in the budget.

14. Public Comment

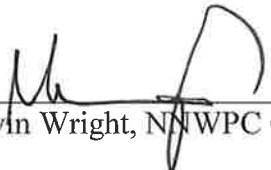
None

15. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:



Mervin Wright, NNWPC Chair

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON August 7, 2019.