

DRAFT - MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

The Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission ("NNWPC") held a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at the Washoe County Commissioner Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, and conducted the following business.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wright at 1:35 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Voting Members Present: Jon Combs; Michael Drinkwater; John Enloe; Bill Hauck; Danielle Henderson; Mervin Wright; John Zimmerman

Voting Members Absent: John Flansberg; John Martini; David Solaro

Non-Voting Members Present: Thomas Pyeatte

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

Staff Members Present: Jim Smitherman; Chris Wessel; Michael Pagni, 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 ZIMMERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

4. Approval of Minutes from the November 6, 2019 Meeting (For Possible Action)

The November 6, 2019 meeting minutes were not yet available for approval.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO CONTINUE THIS ITEM, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

5. Discussion and possible recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commission ("WRWC") to appoint two voting members to the NNWPC from the following list of candidates: i) with respect to the public at large member to represent environmental, biological, conservation or public concerns, Mickey Hazelwood, Arthur O'Connor, Jeanne Ruefer, and Matt Sundquist; and ii) with respect to the member to represent the owners of domestic wells, Michael DeMartini, Jeanne Ruefer and Michael Widmer; and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager and Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner. (For Possible Action)

Staff initiated a recruitment to identify qualified candidates to fill the two NNWPC positions. A review of each candidate's resume was included in the meeting packet and shows that they have varying educational, employment and volunteer backgrounds, and that they all meet the statutory qualifications to serve on the Commission.

Staff recommends that the NNWPC review the letters and resumes from the six applicants and recommend one applicant for the public at large position and one applicant for the domestic well position to the WRWC for appointment to the two vacant positions or provide other appropriate direction to staff.

Public Comment:

Michael DeMartini spoke regarding his application and requested reappointment to the NNWPC.

Michael Widmer spoke regarding his application for the position representing domestic well owners.

Jim Smitherman, WRWC Water Resources Program Manager, reported that Commissioners Solaro and Flansberg are absent today but submitted comments on who they would like to have appointed to these positions. They both stated that they would prefer to reappoint Mickie Hazelwood as the public at large member and to appoint Michael Widmer to represent domestic well owners.

COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE WRWC REAPPOINT MICKEY HAZELWOOD TO THE NNWPC AS THE PUBLIC AT LARGE MEMBER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COMBS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE WRWC APPOINT MICHAEL WIDMER TO THE NNWPC TO REPRESENT OWNERS OF DOMESTIC WELLS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HAUCK. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Report and discussion concerning the results of the November 6, 2019 NNWPC workshop and recommendations on annual priorities for ongoing and future projects and studies for fiscal year 2020-2021; and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

Chris Wessel, WRWC Water Management Planner, presented information on the results of the November 6, 2019 workshop included with the staff report. Staff recommends that the NNWPC make a recommendation to the WRWC concerning priorities for FY 2020-2021.

COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PRIORITY LIST FOR SUBMISSION TO THE WRWC, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. Discussion concerning the Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan 2021 update, and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman and Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman presented information regarding the table included in the staff report containing a high-level outline of tasks to accomplish the 2021 update to the Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan (“RWMP”). Staff anticipates that a complete draft of the RWMP 2021 update can be developed by the January 1, 2021, statutory deadline for completion of the review.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

8. Review and possible recommendation to the WRWC to approve a Second Amendment to the Agreement with Data Instincts to assist and provide guidance in the development of outreach strategies, messages, materials and information dissemination methods related to regional effluent management planning, at no additional cost to extend the term of the Agreement through December 2020; and possible direction to staff – Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Smitherman presented the staff report. Data Instincts has been performing well relative to the phase two scope of work and direction from staff. Much of the hands-on technical work has been performed by agency staff, which has resulted in the project being under budget to the extent that Data Instinct's work can continue through 2020 with little or no additional funding.

COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE WRWC APPROVE AND EXECUTE A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH DATA INSTINCTS TO ASSIST AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUTREACH STRATEGIES, MESSAGES, MATERIALS AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION METHODS RELATED TO REGIONAL EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING, AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT THROUGH DECEMBER 2020, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HAUCK. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

9. Commission Comments

None

10. Staff Comments

Mr. Smitherman reviewed future agenda items. Since the January NNWPC meeting would fall on New Year's Day it will be cancelled and the next meeting will be held on February 5, 2020.

11. Public Comment

None

12. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:

Mervin Wright, NNWPC Chair

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON _____, 2020.