

DRAFT - MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

The Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, via teleconference, and conducted the following business.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Martini at 1:36 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Voting Members Present: Jon Combs; Michael Drinkwater; John Enloe; John Flansberg; John Martini; Dave Solaro; Mervin Wright; John Zimmerman

Voting Members Absent: Bill Hauck; Mickey Hazelwood; Danielle Henderson; Michael Widmer

Non-Voting Members Present: None

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

Staff Members Present: Chris Wessel; Michael Pagni, Legal Counsel; Jennifer Purgitt

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER SOLARO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

4. Approval of Minutes from the July 1, 2020 Meeting (For Possible Action)

COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 1, 2020 MEETING MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENLOE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

5. Review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC) concerning a draft letter of commitment to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for membership in the Center for Water Sustainability, Health, Equity, and Resilience, proposed by the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) for NSF grant funding, and possible direction to staff. Krishna Pagilla, PhD Director, Nevada Water Innovation Institute (NWII). (For Possible Action)

Krishna Pagilla, NWII, gave the presentation for this item. UNR is seeking support from the founders of the NWII for the proposed Center for Water Sustainability, Health, Equity, and Resilience (WaSHER). UNR and the University of California Irvine are collaboratively pursuing grant funding for WaSHER from the NSF Industry / University Cooperative Research Center. If selected by NSF for funding, and if the WRWC agrees, the WRWC would commit to joining WaSHER as a full member at the membership level of \$50,000/year for five years, pending clarification of intellectual property implications and availability of funds on an annual basis. A draft letter of commitment has been prepared which describes possible areas of research and other details of the commitment.

Commissioner Enloe asked Mr. Pagilla to explain who all will be involved.

Mr. Pagilla named four entities in southern California that will be involved. So far in Nevada they have firm commitments from the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), and Washoe County. Letters of commitment have also been requested from the City of Reno and the City of Sparks through the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF).

Commissioner Enloe discussed his involvement with Mr. Pagilla and the entities that would be involved with the Center. TMWA is very supportive of this effort and he encourage members of the NNWPC to be supportive of it as well.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO FORWARD A RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE \$50,000 MEMBERSHIP TO THE WESTERN REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION (WRWC), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Presentation and discussion regarding 2020 Integrated Source Water and 319(h) Watershed Protection Plan for Public Water Systems and the Truckee River in the Truckee Meadows, and possible direction to staff. Chris Wessel, Interim WRWC Water Resources Program Manager. (For Possible Action)

Chris Wessel, Interim WRWC Water Resources Program Manager, introduced this item providing background information on the plan.

Presenters Kim Rigdon and Birgit Widegren from NDEP and Lynn Zonge and Jill Sutherland from RCI discussed the key components of the plan, including the source water protection areas, project profiles, and watershed descriptions. The plan is available via an online viewer link managed under the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA).

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. Presentation of comments received on Chapter 2 “Water Resources”, Chapter 3 “Water Purveyors and Other Water Providers”, and Chapter 8 “Water Conservation Plan - Efficient Use of Water” for the 2021 RWMP update; discussion and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

Mr. Wessel reported that staff has reviewed and received comments on Chapters 2, 3, and 8, and has determined that a majority of the chapter plan elements remain valid, and will be adequate for incorporation into the 2021 Regional Water Management Plan (RWMP) update without further revision. In addition, most of the programs, outlined in the 2016 RWMP will likely remain with minimal updating. The most significant changes are based on revisions reflected in the Truckee Meadows Water Authority’s 2020-2040 Water Resource Plan update. The staff report includes a brief overview of elements with notable changes. Mr. Wessel asked that comments be sent to him by November 14 and he will have a final draft for review at the December meeting.

Commissioner Enloe stated that the TMWA Board should be approving the Water Resource Plan at their meeting in October.

No action was taken.

8. Program Manager’s Report – Chris Wessel

- a. Financial Report on the RWMF.

Mr. Wessel presented information included in the regular Program Manager's report.

9. Discussion regarding location and possible agenda items for the November 4, 2020 NNWPC meeting, and other future meetings, and possible direction to staff – Chris Wessel. (For Possible Action)

The November meeting will be a workshop on priorities.

No action was taken.

10. Commission Comments

Commissioner Wright discussed his involvement with the Governor's Climate Change Initiatives.

Commissioner Solaro provided an update on the Program Manager recruitment process.

11. Staff Comments

None

12. Public Comment

None

13. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:

Bill Hauck, NNWPC Chair

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON _____, 2020.