

DRAFT - MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

The Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 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 Martini at 1:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Voting Members Present: Jon Combs; Michael Drinkwater; John Flansberg; Bill Hauck; Danielle Henderson; John Martini; Dave Solaro; Michael Widmer; Mervin Wright

Voting Members Absent: John Enloe; Mickey Hazelwood; John Zimmerman

Non-Voting Members Present: None

Non-Voting Members Absent: Cindy Turiczek; Ron Penrose; Harry Fahnstock; Thomas Pyeatte

Staff Members Present: Kim Rigdon; Michael Pagni; Jennifer Purgitt

2. Public Comment

Bob Lissner, Lifestyle Homes, spoke regarding his development plans in the North Valleys and noted that the wastewater flow projections are lower than what he is projecting for his development plans. He will send staff his wastewater projections for Cold Springs and Lemmon Valley so they can be incorporated.

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 NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

4. Approval of the minutes from the September 1, 2021 meeting (For Possible Action)

Commissioner Flansberg noted the minutes need to be corrected to reflect that he was not present at the meeting.

COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WITH THE CORRECTION AS NOTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

5. Report, discussion, and possible action on comments on the draft update to Chapter 7 “Population Forecast and Projections of Water Demand, Peak Day Requirements and Wastewater Flow” for the 2021-2040 Regional Water Management Plan; discussion and possible direction to staff – Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager, and Jim Smitherman, Water Resource Consultant. (For Possible Action)

Jim Smitherman, Water Resource Consultant, presented the report reviewing the updates to this chapter.

Commissioner Flansberg referenced the public comment by Mr. Lissner regarding wastewater flow projections for potential buildout of housing and asked if information like that would get

incorporated into this or if it is strictly using the numbers from the Regional Planning Agency (RPA).

Mr. Smitherman confirmed the intent is to use the model from the RPA. He explained that otherwise they would have to do multiple model runs for a number of possible scenarios.

Commissioner Flansberg stated for clarification that the information included in this chapter is based on the RPA forecast of where we believe people will go. He also noted that this information is updated every few years and we can relook at the models.

Mr. Smitherman recommended the commission accept the draft as presented acknowledging that it is a work in progress and needs a little cleanup editing. Comments should be provided to staff by December 17, 2021.

COMMISSIONER WIDMER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Report, discussion, and possible action on comments on the draft update to Chapter 6 “Flood Management and Storm Water Drainage” for the 2021-2040 Regional Water Management Plan; discussion and possible direction to staff – Kim Rigdon. (For Possible Action)

Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager, reported that staff has not received any comments on this chapter since it was presented at the last NNWPC meeting.

COMMISSIONER FLANSBERG MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLARO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. Status and discussion regarding chapters and schedule related to the drafting and presentation of 2021-2040 Regional Water Management Plan (RWMP) update, and possible direction to staff – Kim Rigdon and Jim Smitherman. (For Possible Action)

Ms. Rigdon reported that due to staffing changes and unforeseen delays, more time is needed to complete the draft update to the 2021-2040 RWMP. Staff anticipates presenting a final draft of Chapters 4 and 10 to the NNWPC for review at the January 5, 2022, meeting.

COMMISSIONER HAUCK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WIDMER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

8. Program Manager’s Report – Kim Rigdon and Jim Smitherman

- a. Report on the status of Projects and Work Plan supported by the Regional Water Management Fund (RWMF);
- b. Financial Report on the RWMF.

Ms. Rigdon will report on these items at the next NNWPC meeting. She is working with staff to review projects, associated scopes of work, budgets, and contract timelines to ensure they align with financial reporting.

Staff is looking for comments from the Commission on the information provided in the Program Manager’s Report to determine if additional information and/or an alternate representation of information would enhance the Program Manager’s Report moving forward.

Commissioner Flansberg stated that generally throughout the year there are one or two agenda items that provide status updates on projects and programs we support with funding. It would be helpful to continue to include the one sheet form on the Status Report of Projects and Work Plan Supported by the Regional Water Management Fund.

9. Discussion regarding location and possible agenda items for the upcoming NNWPC meetings, and possible direction to staff – Kim Rigdon. (For Possible Action)

Ms. Rigdon stated it would be helpful to have a regular monthly meeting in December. The December meeting would focus on priority based discussions rather than the RWMP update portion of the meeting. She requested feedback on preferences for meeting in person or virtually.

Michael Pagni, Legal Counsel, explained that virtual meetings can be held but there has to also be a physical location for the public to attend the meeting and make public comment.

Commissioner Henderson stated she is in favor of opening the meetings up to include the option to attend virtually or in person.

Chair Martini stated his preference is to meet in person but he is open to both options.

Commissioner Flansberg asked if a hybrid meeting is an option in this Washoe County building.

Commissioner Solaro confirmed that it is and that they do provide that option for many of their boards and commissions.

Commissioner Flansberg stated he would find that helpful. He also stated that there is a Reno City Council meeting scheduled for December 1 that would conflict with the regular December NNWPC meeting date.

Ms. Rigdon stated she can work with Commissioner Solaro to work out what we can do for meeting attendance.

Chair Martini stated he is in favor of holding a December meeting if that is useful to Ms. Rigdon.

Commissioner Solaro agreed that a December meeting is important and suggested scheduling it on a date when every member can attend in order to participate in the priority setting discussion.

(No action taken.)

10. Commission Comments

Commissioner Solaro introduced Kim Rigdon as the new Water Resources Program Manager. He thanked Mr. Smitherman for staying on to help Ms. Rigdon through this transition process.

11. Staff Comments

Ms. Rigdon thanked Mr. Smitherman for his help during this transition.

12. Public Comment

Michael DeMartini spoke regarding a report from Meridian Company with information on the North Valleys. He will submit documents to staff for the record. He noted that with the recent storm and drainage event there was almost no flooding produced off the natural, undisturbed areas yet large flooding off of the disturbed areas.

13. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:

John Martini, NNWPC Chair

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON _____, 2021.

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