

DRAFT - MINUTES
NORTHERN NEVADA WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

The Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at the Washoe County Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, and conducted the following business.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Solaro at 1:32 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Determination of Presence of a Quorum

Voting Members Present: Michael Drinkwater; John Enloe; Bill Hauck; Danielle Henderson; John Martini; Chris Melton; Dave Solaro; Kara Steeland

Voting Members Absent: Michael Widmer; John Flansberg; Mickey Hazelwood; Mervin Wright

Non-Voting Members Present: None

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

Staff Members Present: Kim Rigdon; Birgit Widegren; Lucas Foletta; Jennifer Purgitt

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

Public Comment:

Michael DeMartini expressed concern regarding Agenda Item 8. It is a public hearing and in the past the NNWPC would hold public hearings at a time when it was convenient for the public to attend. Prior meeting minutes should also be available to the public before a public hearing is held. There should also be a way for the public to provide comments electronically.

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

4. Approval of the Minutes from the June 1, 2022 NNWPC Meeting (For Possible Action)

Public Comment:

John DeMartini discussed the need to make meeting minutes available to the public once they are approved.

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

5. Action, discussion, and possible direction to staff and acceptance of revisions to Table 2-1 Water Resources Baseline Table for Washoe County within Chapter 2 “Water Resources” of the Draft 2021-2040 Comprehensive Regional Water Management Plan (2021-2020 RWMP) – Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager (For Possible Action)

Kim Rigdon, Water Resources Program Manager, presented the staff report. Staff received comments from members of the NNWPC to perform a more current review of Table 2-1 and validate the information in the table. The staff report includes information on the revisions that were made.

Public Comment:

Michael DeMartini spoke regarding Basins 100/100A and stated it is not clear that the numbers are accurately reflecting the limitations of the water available and/or the total amount of water. He also noted that the reference to Note -6 is not listed at the bottom of the page with the other Notes.

Ms. Rigdon confirmed for Commissioner Drinkwater that the missing Note -6 is a clerical error and she will correct that.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 2 “WATER RESOURCES” TABLE 2-1 FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2021-2040 RWMP WITH THE CLERICAL EDITS DISCUSSED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

6. Action, discussion, and possible direction to staff and acceptance of revisions to draft Chapter 4 “Wastewater and Effluent Management” for the 2021-2040 RWMP – Kim Rigdon (For Possible Action)

Ms. Rigdon presented the staff report. Staff received comments since the chapter was presented on June 1, 2022. The staff report includes information on the revisions that were made.

Public Comment:

Michael DeMartini spoke regarding linkages between surface water and groundwater that need to be considered and don’t appear to be present in this chapter.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT DRAFT CHAPTER 4 “WASTEWATER AND EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING” OF THE 2021-2040 RWMP, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HAUCK. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

7. Action, discussion and possible direction to staff on the final review and acceptance of revisions included in the 2021-2040 RWMP – Kim Rigdon (For Possible Action)

Ms. Rigdon presented the staff report. Staff has revised draft chapters of the 2021-2040 RWMP. All the revised chapters have been brought to the NNWPC for review and acceptance. Major material revisions are tabulated by chapter and section title in Attachment 7a of the staff report. The report also includes an update schedule in Attachment 7b.

Commissioner Enloe stated the table outlining the revisions is very helpful.

Chair Solaro clarified this is a draft plan and the final plan will be adopted by the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC).

Public Comment:

Michael DeMartini thanked Chair Solaro for the clarification of the process and suggested moving the public hearing to a time that gives the public at least three days to digest the plan and make comments regarding the draft.

Commissioner Enloe asked for confirmation that this agenda item is accepting the recommended revisions to the draft plan and then the public hearing that follows is basically a public hearing to put forth that draft plan to the public and provide them with the time to review and comment.

Ms. Rigdon clarified that the next agenda item is a public hearing to approve the plan, and then we put the plan out for public comment and review. We would compile those comments and bring them back to the NNWPC to make a determination on whether they are material comments that need to be addressed in the plan. If the NNWPC wants to push the public hearing out until September we can do that.

Lucas Foletta, Legal Counsel, further clarified the process and confirmed that the required public comment period will be followed.

Ms. Rigdon explained the process for receiving comments on the plan from the public.

COMMISSIONER ENLOE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FINAL DRAFT REVISIONS INCLUDED IN THE 2021-2040 RWMP, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

8. PUBLIC HEARING Action, discussion, and possible approval of the 2021-2040 RWMP – Kim Rigdon (For Possible Action)

Ms. Rigdon presented the staff report. Notice of this public hearing was given July 24, 2022 in the Reno Gazette Journal. If approved, the 2021-2040 RWMP will be available for public review and comment for 30 days beginning August 3, 2022. If approved, the 2021-2040 RWMP will be submitted to the WRWC during a public hearing tentatively scheduled for October 19, 2022.

Public Comment:

Michael DeMartini recommended moving this item to another meeting time that is convenient for the public to be able to attend and make comments before the next public hearing in 30 days.

Commissioner Martini stated the plan is ready to enter into the next phase which is a very open public comment period.

Commissioner Drinkwater stated the plan is available online 24 hours a day, seven days a week so the public has access to it and has electronic access to staff to provide comments and ask questions.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2021-2040 RWMP, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MELTON. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

9. Action, discussion, and possible approval of Resolution 22-01 to recommend the adoption, by the Western Regional Water Commission (WRWC), of the 2021-2040 RWMP – Kim Rigdon (For Possible Action)

Ms. Rigdon presented the staff report. Staff developed Resolution 22-01, Attachment 9a, to meet the requirements of the WRWC Act.

Commissioner Martini asked if this item could be postponed until next month to see if any feedback on the plan is received.

Mr. Foletta confirmed that this resolution can be deferred. He also explained that the noticing provisions for public comment and noticing the WRWC meeting will have to run from the time that this resolution is issued.

COMMISSIONER DRINKWATER MADE A MOTION TO CONTINUE THIS ITEM TO THE SCHEDULED SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE NNWPC, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI.

Mr. Foletta confirmed for Chair Solaro that if this motion passes, the 30 day period would begin after the September NNWPC meeting.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI WITHDREW HIS SECOND ON THE MOTION. MOTION FAILED.

CHAIR SOLARO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 22-01 TO RECOMMEND THE ADOPTION, BY THE WRWC, OF THE 2021-2040 RWMP, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINI. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

10. Action, discussion, and possible direction to staff to advance a recommendation to the WRWC to make a determination on the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA) 2022-2042 Consensus Forecast for Washoe County – Jeremy Smith, TMRPA Director, and Kim Rigdon (For Possible Action)

Jeremy Smith, Director of the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA), gave a presentation on the 2022-2042 Consensus Forecast for Washoe County and answered questions.

Ms. Rigdon presented the staff report. Information on the analysis of the Consensus Forecast is included in the report. It was determined that the draft 2022-2042 Washoe County Consensus Forecast population for 2042 is significantly less what the sustainable water resources identified in the RWMP can support, even without additional water importation.

COMMISSIONER MARTINI MADE A MOTION TO ADVANCE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE WRWC TO MAKE A DETERMINATION THAT THE DRAFT CONSENSUS FORECAST POPULATION FOR 2042 IS LESS THAN THE ESTIMATED POPULATION THAT CAN BE SUPPORTED BY THE SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES SET FORTH IN THE RWMP, AND A FINDING THAT THE FORECASTED POPULATION CAN BE SUPPORTED BY SUCH WATER RESOURCES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENLOE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH EIGHT (8) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT.

11. Program Manager's Report – Kim Rigdon

- 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 presented the reports.

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

The next NNWPC meeting will be September 7, 2022. The agenda will include: presentation on the status of the wastewater source control program headed by UNR; schedule for the fiscal year 2024 priority setting.

13. Commission Comments

None

14. Staff Comments

Ms. Rigdon congratulated John Zimmerman on his promotion to General Manager at TMWA and welcomed his replacement on the NNWPC, Kara Steeland.

15. Public Comment

None

16. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Approved by:

Dave Solaro, NNWPC Chair

APPROVED BY COMMISSION IN SESSION ON _____, 2022.

DRAFT