

CARSON TRUCKEE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Regular Meeting

April 13, 2021

Video Conference via ZOOM

DIRECTORS:

Todd Westergard
Karen Baggett
Mike Nevin
Ernie Schank
John Capurro
John Enloe
Ed James

ABSENT:

Pete Olsen
Tyler Henderson
Ty Minor

GUESTS:

Kayla Dowty, Tri Sage Consulting
Jamie Lohmeier, Tri Sage Consulting
Chad Blanchard, FWM
Leo Bergin, Attorney

Staff

Mary Pat Eymann

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER -

President Westergard called the Regular meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

3. APPROVE AGENDA –

Director Schank made a motion to approve the posted agenda; seconded by Director Enloe; motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CHECKS WRITTEN –

Director Capurro made a motion to approve the March 9, 2021 Minutes; financial statements as submitted and checks written on Bank of America #9670- #9677 and Nevada State Bank #3053 - #3058, motion seconded by Director Nevin; motion carried.

5. FEDERAL WATERMASTER'S REPORT – Chad Blanchard

*A complete copy of the Water Report is available at
District Offices or on the internet at troa.net.*

Starting to get some melt, unfortunately the low snow is going away quickly. The soil conditions are dry which makes for inefficient runoff as there is no soil saturation. Will run out of rate water in mid to late September.

Tahoe will get close to the natural rim. TMWA will have enough to do what they need to do.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF USGS STREAM GAUGING PROGRAM FOR 2021-2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,213. APPROVE CHAIRMAN EXECUTION OF JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT – Staff

- ❖ Director James made a motion to approve the Stream Gauging Program and the execution of the contract: seconded by Director Enloe; motion carried.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON INCREASE BY WCWCD FOR CONTRACT SERVICES –

Director Capurro

The last increase for Contract Services with WCWCD was in 2017. In looking over expenses and figuring out the time the Carson District is taking of staff it was determined that it is equal to the time of Washoe. The difference in office administration that the Carson district pays is \$11,500 less than what the yearly expense is.

There was discussion and a determination that the District should increase the payment made to WCWCD by the \$11,500 amount starting in FY2021-22 and this should be discussed yearly to see if increases should be made.

8. DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION TO STAFF ON UPCOMING BUDGET FOR FY2021-2022. FINAL BUDGET TO BE APPROVED AT PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 18, 2021 – Staff

Copies of the proposed budget were provided to the Board (available at District offices). Due to agenda item #7, there will be a change in the Contract Services portion (increase by \$11,500) and a decrease in the Projects to be Determined (\$11,500).

Director James - is there any policy by the District as to how much should be in the Fund Balance? There is over 1.5 million currently in the Fund. If the Fund gets to so much, does it then go out to fund projects or does it just continue to grow as it is?

Director Westergard – to his knowledge there is no written policy. If the Board wants to consider setting a policy it could be at a future meeting.

Attorney Bergin – to his recollection that when this amount was determined it was the smallest amount for safety and he is pretty sure that the amount was raised to allow for possible emergencies in the future. Years ago, it was a struggle to get to a reasonable amount to cover an emergency. It is now at a good amount for an emergency with inflation.

Director Schank – suggests that a subcommittee (Ed, Todd, Leo, Lori, staff) look into if a policy was ever discussed and what amount currently would be needed in an emergency.

Engineer Dowty – previous engineer Williams has told her that previous expenses in floods (2017) the District had a lot of expenses, they did receive a FEMA reimbursement but needed front money to do repairs. Ms. Williams suggestion was to keep around one million dollars.

Engineer Dowty – just spoke with Ms. Williams who stated that several years ago the Board determined that one to 1.2 million was the amount determined should be in reserve for floods.

- ❖ Director James made a motion to approve the Tentative Budget as revised and presented; seconded by director Schank; motion carried.

9. DISCUSSION OF GRANTS PROVIDED BY THE DISTRICT FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR (2020-2021) AND POSSIBLE GRANTS FOR 2021-2022 INCLUDING DISCUSSION OF THE GRANT PROCESS – Kayla Dowty

A copy of proposed changes to the District project funding process and forms was provided to the Board and is available at District offices.

There is now a draft agreement that will go out with the approved grants, this will solidify when work is being done needs be completed, what the grant will pay for, when the funds will be distributed and how they will be distributed. The document is approximately 10 pages. This will be signed by the Board as well as the project sponsor. It is thought that this will give the Board a little more flexibility on how to fund a grant, up front or upon completion. This will also give the Board flexibility as to when the project needs to be completed so it does not conflict with the FY budget.

The entire grant agreement package will be sent to Director's Westergard and Schank for review.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD DIRECTION REGARDING ENCROACHMENTS, PERMITS

AND REQUESTS–Kayla Dowty

*See Engineer's Report
See Martis Creek Agreement, which is referenced in this agenda item*

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD DIRECTION REGARDING MAINTENANCE DEBRIS REMOVAL WORK, EMERGENCY DEBRIS/DEPOSIT REMOVAL WORK AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR SUCH WORK –Kayla Dowty

See Engineer's Report

There is a significant number of beavers causing damage. The City of Reno Forester is also working on this problem.

12. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION REGARDING ISSUES THAT MAY ARISE DURING THE 2021 REGULAR SESSION OF THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE WHICH COULD POTENTIALLY IMPACT CONSERVANCY DISTRICTS, GENERALLY – Karen Baggett

Ms. Baggett is sending the Board information on an ongoing basis.

SB155 (bill regarding the State Engineer) died. Ms. Baggett did try to locate information regarding the State Engineer qualifications but found nothing. She only found information on dis qualifications.

Director Westergard said that he looked back as well and could find nothing that was introduced. He did have a conversation after last month's meeting with the Chairman after the hearing was held. He was very interested in hearing a different opinion about the State Engineer's qualifications. The Chairman had some good questions and Mr. Westergard disclosed to him that he is the Chairman of the CTWCD and that he was not speaking for the Board as the Board has not taken action on it.

13. ENGINEER/CONSULTANT REPORT –Kayla Dowty

See Engineer's Report

14. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Ron Penrose

Nothing to report.

15. LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT – Leo Bergin

Nothing to report.

16. SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT – Mary Pat Eymann

Nothing to report.

17. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

18. BOARD COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future Agenda Item Requests:

- Discuss long term policy regarding future zoom meetings for members who are unable to attend in person.

Board Comments:

- Director Westergard – inquired of the Board how they felt about in person meetings starting in May. The Board was in agreement that they were ready to have in person meetings in the office as well as offer the ability to ZOOM.
- Director Capurro – Ditch companies still having issues with homeless population no answers.

19. ADJOURNMENT -

There being no further business, President Westergard asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Schank moved to adjourn, Director Baggett, seconded said motion, motion carried.

****The next meeting will be the Public Hearing on the Budget.
Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.****

Todd Westergard,
President

Mary Pat Eymann,
Secretary/Treasurer