

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on June 7, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM at the District Board Room, 410 N. Main St, Yerington, Nevada by President SNYDER.

Present:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Jim SNYDER | President |
| Richard NUTI | Vice President, via phone starting at Item 8 |
| David GIORGI | Director |
| Dennis ACCIARI | Director |
| Robert BRYAN | General Manager |
| Counsel DePAOLI | Legal Counsel, via Zoom |
| Jessica HALTERMAN | Secretary |
| Sandy NEVILLE | Water Rights Specialist |

Public Present:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Joanne Sarkisian, USBWC | Kat Dow, WBC | Elliott Piercy, WBC |
| Ed Ryan, SV/MVCD | | |

Public Present via Zoom:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Angela Bezzone, MBK | David Hockaday, LCBOCC |
|---------------------|------------------------|

1. Public Comment

None presented.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Vice President MASINI was absent, and Treasurer NUTI joined via phone starting at Item 8.

3. Consideration of Minutes of the May 7, 2024 Regular Meeting

Director ACCIARI made a motion to approve the minutes; Director GIORGI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

4. Water Master's Report

Joanne SARKISIAN reported Bridgeport was at 39,180 acre-feet (92% capacity) and Topaz was at 59,000 acre-feet (98% capacity). Both reservoirs are gaining water. The release from Topaz was increased 200 cfs yesterday in hopes to relieve some pressure. Joanne was delivering 321 cfs of permit water and continues to serve all sections of the river. There is 803 cfs being delivered systemwide. Joanne and others are monitoring the reservoir levels and are meeting with the engineers to create more room in each reservoir. President SNYDER asked if the flood water was going to continue; Joanne stated the East is expected to go off next week.

5. Staff Reports:

A. Treasurer's Report

Secretary HALTERMAN reported as of May 31, 2024:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cash in Checking | \$ 160,990.46 |
| Cash in Money Market | \$ 914,655.75 |
| Cash in CDs | <u>\$ 757,568.24</u> |
| Total | \$1,833,214.45 |

B. Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment

May 2024 Bills & Payroll

| Payee | Check No. | Date | Amount |
|--|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Vision Service Plan - Nevada | 300076 | 5/6/2024 | \$ 156.91 |
| PrimePay | 300075 | 5/13/2024 | \$ 348.00 |
| Alhambra | 300072 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 272.79 |
| HomeTown Health | 300073 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 6,128.18 |
| Verizon Wireless | 300074 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 246.43 |
| AT&T | 300078 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 86.16 |
| Ameritas Life Insurance Corp | 100964 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 1,086.70 |
| City of Yerington | 100965 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 90.80 |
| Giomi, Inc. | 100966 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 967.96 |
| Jim Menesini Petroleum | 100967 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 764.14 |
| Lyon County Recorder | 100968 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 21.50 |
| MF Barcellos | 100969 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 3,312.13 |
| NV Energy | 100970 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 3,982.30 |
| PERS Administrative Fund | 100971 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 10,816.46 |
| Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services | 100972 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 35.00 |
| Purchase Power / Pitney Bowes | 100973 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 744.29 |
| Quill | 100974 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 20.00 |
| Sierra Office Solutions | 100975 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 190.82 |
| Smith Valley Conservation District | 100976 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 5,111.41 |
| Southwest Gas Corporation | 100977 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 172.43 |
| Sticks and Stones Buildings Material Inc | 100978 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 2,958.81 |
| THE PARTS HOUSE | 100979 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 498.56 |
| Vision Service Plan - Nevada | 100980 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 156.91 |
| Wedco Inc. | 100981 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 52.71 |
| Wells Fargo Card Services | 100982 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 4,080.91 |
| White Cap Construction Supply | 100983 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 161.70 |
| Xerox Financial Services | 100984 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 30.22 |
| John Deere Credit | 100985 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 661.61 |
| Public Employees' Benefits Program | 100986 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 870.23 |
| Studio 33 | 100987 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 220.00 |
| Xerox Corporation | 100988 | 5/14/2024 | \$ 250.53 |

| | | | | |
|---|--------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Spectrum Business | 300077 | 5/29/2024 | \$ | 237.99 |
| JASON MILLIGAN | 100989 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 2,080.00 |
| MBK Engineers | 100990 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 1,979.50 |
| NV Energy | 100991 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 4,934.97 |
| Pape' Machinery Exchange | 100992 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 17,136.00 |
| SCOTT ROBINSON | 100993 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 2,080.00 |
| Sierra Office Solutions | 100994 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 101.55 |
| Standard Insurance Company | 100996 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 211.21 |
| Sunbelt Rentals | 100997 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 14,040.67 |
| Wedco Inc. | 100998 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 203.92 |
| Wells Fargo Card Services | 100999 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 4,587.31 |
| Woodburn & Wedge | 101000 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 47,713.80 |
| HomeTown Health | 300079 | 5/30/2024 | \$ | 7,212.61 |
| Payroll | | 5/31/2024 | \$ | 51,830.99 |
| EFTPS | | 5/31/2024 | \$ | 10,980.58 |
| Total Bills & Payroll | | | \$ | 209,827.70 |
| Billed to NFWF | | | \$ | 52,471.15 |
| Bills & Payroll Expensed to WRID | | | \$ | 157,356.55 |

Director GIORGI made a motion to approve the bills; Director ACCIARI offered a second. President SNYDER inquired about the Sunbelt bill; GM BRYAN stated it was rent on a pump and generator that was used on the Colony Ditch modernization project. The vote was called for and passed.

C. Manager's Report

GM BRYAN stated Topaz is currently at 98% capacity with 58,980 acre-feet and Bridgeport is currently at 92% capacity with 39,150 acre-feet. There is approximately 1,000 acre-feet and 6" left before spilling at Topaz and approximately 4,000 acre-feet of space at Bridgeport. GM BRYAN is continuing to meet with MBK, BIA, and WRPT so they are aware of what is going on and will continue to meet until there is no imminent threat of danger. BIA can only let 550-570 cfs out of Weber and that rate is currently at Wabuska. The District has had to incrementally increase releases at Topaz and will need to increase as the weather warms. The decree is expected to go down when the current heat wave passes. There is a potential for another reallocation, but that is not certain right now. The well has been running, but users are not using the water and/or are not paying for the water when they say they want it. GM BRYAN recommends that if users sign up for the well, to pay on time and use the water within that month. The office has been talking about doing the drawing on the first of the month rather than the 15th since the two-week payment window is too difficult to meet or the user decides at the last minute not to take the water and it is too late to draw someone who does want the water.

The shop crew is continuing repair and maintenance. The crew was finally able to fix the High Ditch's damage from last year. The crew has also done work on the

Topaz Diversion. The Conservation District has sprayed the Topaz Diversion, Saroni, and Colony. The crew will be de-mossing the Saroni and Colony soon.

GM BRYAN participated in stakeholders meeting to assist the Department of Water Resources update and improve the State Water Plan. The NDWR Team came out on May 21st for a tour and GM BRYAN was able to discuss problems, successes, etc. GM BRYAN is still in the process of working with the State on improving the plan and will give updates as they are available.

On June 30th, Lauren and Elliott with NDWR got a tour of Topaz, the diversion, and Smith Valley. They are becoming familiar with the area and will be extending the tour next week on the East Corridor and some Mason Valley sites.

Yesterday, GM BRYAN was part of a focus group in Reno. The Governor's Office of Economic Development was tasked from AB261 to investigate avenues on identifying challenges with limited water sources and to bring in economic development including agriculture. GM BRYAN will give an update as it is available.

Regarding the WY2023 flooding event, Secretary HALTERMAN met with FEMA last week. The District was able to claim \$374,651.02 of damages and will be paid \$285,209.44. The reimbursement process has been turned over to the Nevada Department of Emergency Management and Secretary HALTERMAN will continue to work with them on finalizing the reimbursement; there is no timeline available for receiving the funds.

The Campbell Ditch was able to apply for grant money for the flood event damages. They reimbursed the District for \$27,000 worth of work performed on the canal during the flood assistance period. The BOR-Campbell Split project has been completed and the final total was \$279,253.66. The Cambell Ditch has paid their share of \$200,981.66 and BOR will be paying the remaining \$78,272.

D. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel DePAOLI reported there was a status conference on May 30th in the US Tribe case. There is now a schedule for processing the settlement that was approved previously. The motion to approve what was filed is due July 1st, responses are due September 30th, and any replies would be due on October 30th. And then depending on what comes out of that, it will move forward to get a decision from the Court. It is a little bit longer schedule than hoped for, but it at least starts moving as of July 1st.

E. Storage Water Leasing Program Update

Angela BEZZONE reported starting to figure out how the releases will come together based on the operations at Weber. Have the final enrollment numbers- total participation is just over 15,600 acre-feet with 7,250 acre-feet from Topaz and just under 8,400 acre-feet from Bridgeport. The releases will start at the end of July and

to do that a couple of coordination meetings will be taking place. The first meeting is in a few weeks and the development of the release plan will occur at this meeting. Once finalized, the Release Plan must be submitted to the California State Water Resources Control Board.

This will be the last year of the pilot program and once this year's program finishes, MBK will write a report summarizing everything learned during the 5-year program. Director GIORGI asked what the total WBC water contribution was for this year; Angela stated it is just over 10,000 acre-feet or 2/3 water in the program.

F. Storage Water Transfers

Director GIORGI made a motion to approve the transfers from May; Director ACCIARI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

6. Update from the Division of Water Resources regarding groundwater pumping and upcoming fieldwork schedules.

Lauren BARTELS stated there were no updates.

7. Update by the Walker River Conservancy on activities related to the Walker Basin Restoration Program, including Acquisitions and Conservation and Stewardship Activities.

Kat DOW reported the Conservancy recently closed on an acquisition of 4.131 cfs out of South Mason Valley. The Conservancy has a tour of Sutter Property and the native seed initiative on June 25th at 10am.

8. Annual Review of the performance of the Walker River Irrigation District General Manager Robert C. Bryan and consideration of possible adjustment in compensation.

Counsel DePAOLI stated he sent a summary of the evaluation to all the Board members but would provide a summary for the meeting. The ratings were based on the following scale: 5= excellent, performs exceptionally; 4= good, performs adequately; 3= satisfactory, meets expectations; 2= fair, performs unsatisfactorily and requires supervision; and 1= unsatisfactory, fails to perform. GM BRYAN was rated as follows:

- Job Knowledge: 5; continues to show ability to improve knowledge and awareness
- Interactions & Communications: 4.8; has exceptional communication and interaction skills with employees, public, board members, and constituents
- Decision Making: 4.6; no comments
- Planning & Organization: 4.4; make more of an effort to listen to other views and be more open-minded on others' views
- Public Relations: 4.8; has great respect from and rapport with the public
- Work Environment & Safety: 4.6; no comments
- Overall Performance: 4.6; real asset to the District
 - o Area of Strength: understanding of operations and needs of the District; excellent communication and planning skills
 - o Area of Improvement: prioritize projects, closer budget management to build cash reserves
 - o Goals: continue to build relationships with other agencies

o Salary Increase: range from 0-6%, average 3.6%, recommended effective date was May 2, 2024.

Director GIORGI made a motion to increase GM BRYAN’s salary 3.6% effective on his anniversary date; Treasurer NUTI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. All members expressed gratitude for GM BRYAN and his dedication to the District.

9. Director Comments

Treasurer NUTI thanked the Board, staff, and public for bearing with his phone attendance.

10. Public Comment

None presented.

11. Adjournment

Director ACCIARI made a motion to adjourn; Director GIORGI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:38am.

Jim Snyder, President

ABSENT

Marcus Masini, Vice President

Richard Nuti, Treasurer

Dennis Acciari, Director

David Giorgi, Director