

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on March 7, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM at the district board room, 410 N. Main St, Yerington, Nevada by Vice President David GIORGI.

Present:

David GIORGI	Vice President
Richard NUTI	Treasurer
Dennis ACCIARI	Director
Marcus MASINI	Director
Bridget BANTA	Secretary
Robert BRYAN	General Manager
Gordon DEPAOLI	Legal Counsel
Joanne SARKISIAN	Water Master
Jessica SMITH	Bookkeeper

Public Present:

Nat Lommori	Chad Walling	Gary Godde	Wayne Bull
Isaac Metcalf	Nat Lommori	Steven Fulstone	John Peters
Rob Lewis	Joy Morris	Silas Adams	Marsha
Jason Cangor			

1. Public Comment:

John Peters from Mono County District 4 Supervisor introduced himself.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum:

President Jim SNYDER was absent; all other members present.

3. Consideration of Minutes of the February 7, 2018 Regular meeting.

Director MASINI made a motion to approve the minutes. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

4. Water Master's Report:

Water Master SARKISIAN advised they have 116 ft coming into the Bridgeport and 84 ft coming into Topaz. The snowpack is going down fairly quickly. Leavitt lost 8 inches of snow from Monday to today. Once all of the ditches start coming on, the decree will go down.

5. Staff Reports including, but not limited to, those items listed:

A. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer NUTI provided the Treasurer's Report as follows:

Cash in Checking	\$84,684.52
Cash in Money Market	\$1,571,862.54
Cash in CD's	\$1,240,611.33
TOTAL	\$2,897,158.39

B. Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment.***February 2018 Bills & Payroll***

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check Amount</u>
120043	2/7/2018	AFLAC	265.93
120044	2/7/2018	Frontier	278.10
120045	2/7/2018	Giomi, Inc.	371.80
120046	2/7/2018	Hunewill Construction Co., Inc.	559.44
120047	2/7/2018	AT&T Mobility	207.34
120048	2/7/2018	NAPA AUTO & TRUCK PARTS	14.56
120049	2/7/2018	Mason Valley Quicknet	2,280.00
120050	2/7/2018	O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.	346.15
120051	2/7/2018	PDM Steel Service Centers, Inc.	1,074.60
120052	2/7/2018	Petty Cash	235.64
120053	2/7/2018	Public Employees' Benefits Program	803.29
120054	2/7/2018	Quill	189.85
120055	2/7/2018	Schneider Electric USA, Inc.	2,160.00
120056	2/7/2018	NV Energy	288.79
120057	2/7/2018	Alhambra	575.87
120058	2/7/2018	Southwest Gas Corporation	401.71
120059	2/7/2018	Tyres International	4,073.26
120060	2/7/2018	Western Nevada Supply Company	8,651.20
120061	2/7/2018	Western Nevada Kenworth LLC	271.49
120062	2/7/2018	Yerington Ready Mix	3,494.73
120063	2/7/2018	Silver State Barricade & Sign	274.56

120064	2/14/2018	Ferguson Enterprises, Inc. 1423	2,107.95
120065	2/14/2018	Hunewill Construction Co., Inc.	185.42
120066	2/14/2018	AT&T	127.64
120067	2/14/2018	John Deere Credit	59.07
120068	2/14/2018	Associated Concrete Pumping Material Belting	1,428.53
120069	2/14/2018	Lyon County Recorder	26.47
120070	2/14/2018	MBK Engineers	1,138.51
120071	2/14/2018	Nevada Employment Security Division	34.76
120072	2/14/2018	Verizon Wireless	321.14
120073	2/14/2018	Woodburn & Wedge	9,248.73
120074	2/14/2018	City of Yerington	105.91
120075	2/14/2018	Desert Engineering	1,974.72
120076	2/14/2018	Sierra Office Solutions	91.02
120077	2/14/2018	Petty Cash	500.00
120078	2/23/2018	Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	1,220.60
120079	2/23/2018	High Desert Internet	174.95
120080	2/23/2018	Sticks and Stones Buildings Material Inc	1,393.95
120081	2/23/2018	BERKLEYNET	1,305.00
120082	2/23/2018	Mason Valley News	52.00
120083	2/23/2018	Mason Valley Quicknet	410.00
120084	2/23/2018	MBK Engineers	44,383.48
120085	2/23/2018	Jim Menesini Petroleum	1,261.48
120086	2/23/2018	Cal Poly Corporation	43,691.04

120087	2/23/2018	Standard Insurance Company	224.80
120088	2/23/2018	Vision Service Plan - Nevada	383.76
120089	2/23/2018	Yerington Ready Mix	176.72
120090	2/28/2018	PERS Administrative Fund	5,907.98
PAYROLL		Payroll for February 2018	27,916.02
Total Bills & Payroll			172,669.96

Director MASINI asked about Mason Valley Quicknet and the increased expenses. GM BRYAN advised WRID is reconfiguring the internet and changing providers from High Desert to Quicknet. The \$2200.00 bill includes all of the SCADA equipment and will be billed back to the grant. He advised Quicknet is helping with the integration from using multiple internet providers to creating our own network with the County integration. Director ACCIARI made a motion to pay the bills. Treasurer NUTI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

C. Manager's Report:

GM BRYAN advised Topaz is at 97%, with 6 inches from the spillway and Bridgeport is at 98% of capacity and a few inches from the syphons. He advised he is working with Joanne to keep the reservoirs as full as possible. GM BRYAN is working with the weather service to keep up to date on the storms coming up this week. He provided handouts from the weather service and NRCS regarding the snowpack and water predictions. In order to get to normal snowpack, we would need 4-5 more storms similar to the big storm last week. The next board meeting will be April 9 and USGS and NOAA will be requested to be here to give a presentation on the water season at that point. GM BRYAN gave an update on the Saroni WATERsmart grant regarding the VEPA study. There may be a possibility to have someone else complete the study to speed up the process. Jessica SMITH and GM BRYAN are working on this. The equipment crew has been finishing up on the drains in Mason Valley. The major repair and maintenance was finished at the long-crested weir on the lateral A head and replacing the grate on the Plymouth. The Garms turnout on lateral B project was started. This will be the new standard on the turnouts for the Saroni. GM BRYAN advised he sent a letter to all users February 12,2018 regarding the water season and following the rules and regulations from the 1920's. He suggested the users to communicate with the ditch riders and the office throughout the season. He advised the rotations need to have documentation to the ditch riders. The notes and comments will go to the state any time changes are made. Communication is key for this water season. The same letter will be sent again when the allocations are set sometime next week. Counsel DEPAOLI and GM BRYAN are working with MBK Engineering regarding the daily decree, natural flow available, evaporation, trans evaporation, etc. The hard

copy will be available throughout the season. Dr. Styles will be here the week of March 12th. GM BRYAN advised users to get in touch with him if they would like to speak to Dr. Styles.

D. Legal Counsel's Report:

Nothing presented from Counsel DEPAOLI.

6. Time Specific 10:15 AM: Opening and consideration of written bids to lease District land at Bridgeport Reservoir for grazing purposes and possible award of lease.

Treasurer NUTI opened the bids for the Bridgeport lease as follows:

Treasurer NUTI opened the bids as follows:

Doug Mondani Livestock -----\$16,650 annually---Dated: March 7, 2018
 Gansberg Ranch -----\$24,240 annually---Email Dated: February 22, 2018
 Borsini Ranch-----\$18,600 annually---Dated: March 6, 2018
 H Bar C Cattle Company-----\$15,200 annually---Email Dated: March 6, 2018
 Nat Lommori-----\$14,310 annually---WRID Lease Paper
 Gansberg Ranch-----\$25,260 annually---Email Dated: March 7, 2018

Treasurer NUTI made a motion to award the district land at the Bridgeport Reservoir to Gansberg Ranch as the highest bidder for \$25,260 annually. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

7. Time Specific 10:20 AM. Convene as Board of Corrections for corrections of assessments pursuant to NRS 539.680.

The Board of Directors recessed as Board of Directors and convened as Board of Corrections at 10:25 AM. Nothing was presented. The Board adjourned as Board of Corrections at 10:26 AM. and reconvened as Board of Directors.

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

Chad Walling advised there was still recovery from 2015 to present in the ground water. They are taking measurements today and he will present numbers at the next meeting. There will be a streamflow update March 20, 2018 at the State Engineer's office. Walling advised they are expecting the wells to be used more than last year due to the snowpack. He suggested the concept of cumulative use will be a big topic of conversation for the year. He advised his office has a form he can provide to assist in tracking surface water and underground use to ensure duty is not exceeded. They are attempting to better track the surface water with an interactive map for both ground and surface water. Treasure NUTI requested a copy of the forms. Walling advised he did not bring any today. Walling advised he will send an email to Secretary BANTA to provide copies of the sheet. Director MASINI asked about the groundwater. Walling advised they will see it decline during the irrigation season and then a recovery in the winter. Usually there is a larger incline than from this winter. This winter the raw data shows it recovered about 2 ft. From Spring-Spring, the recovery was significant.

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

Silas Adams advised they are conducting a storage water lease of 2000 acre feet. The sealed confidential bids are due March 19 by 9 AM. There is a 50 acre foot minimum with 10 acre foot increments and a 2000 acre foot maximum. GM BRYAN asked about the east to west totals. Joy Morris advised they have enough on both ends and it wouldn't matter. Counsel DEPAOLI asked if March 19th was the due date or the award date. Silas advised it would be both the due date and the award date. Silas also advised there is a mechanical specialist opening.

10. **Update by Bridgeport Ranchers Organization (BRO) on activities related to the Bridgeport Watershed Approach.**

Steven Fulstone advised he had a joint meeting with BRO and WRID. He advised BRO has a discharge waiver with Lahontan Water Quality to discharge the legalities for fecal coliform. They have just received their second 5-year waiver. Through the process, it's taken 10 years to get the Lahontan Water Quality Board to consider changing their standards. They would like them to convert them to the National e-coli standards. BRO would like to expand the focus on other issues listed on the 303-impaired water listing. WRID is listed for nitrogen phosphorous sedimentation for the reservoir. They would like to come up with strategies to improve the impairments for the reservoir. They would like the listings for the Reservoir and BRO taken off. BRO is working with California to ease the standards for BRO and moving to an e-coli standard instead of a fecal coliform standard. They are trying to create a water shed approach and there is a funding for water quality improvements through NRCS; RCP grant. Fulstone advised they are trying to solve more problems for water quality. WRID cannot apply for the moneys because they are a public entity. BRO can apply because they are private. A BRO member has just received the Bridgeport Lease and that will help the situation. BRO would like an agreement with WRID to be able to take samples off WRID property. He advised they will have a proposal prepared for WRID this summer. BRO is willing to work with WRID throughout this project. There will probably be other entities wishing to participate in the water quality project. Treasurer NUTI asked about the Lahontan Water Quality and the mercury in the Topaz reservoir and including this issue in the water quality projects. GM BRYAN advised the mercury was only listed from fish tissue samples not water samples. There are no mercury issues in the Bridgeport Reservoir.

11. **Discussion and consideration of storage water allocation for the 2018 irrigation season.**

GM BRYAN provided a handout of the breakdown of East and West allocations. Based on March 1 at 5:00 AM, there was 58,770-acre feet in Topaz Reservoir. At 3500-acre feet in the pool, the releases are unable to be controlled. He figured 25% transportation and averaged the historical monthly percentages for pan evaporation. GM BRYAN's recommendation is 72% for the West allocation. He advised if the board wants to choose he would recommend between 70-80% and he would be concerned if they chose 80%. As of March 1, 2018, at 5:00 AM, there was 40,560 acre feet in Bridgeport Reservoir. The minimum pool required is 2000-acre ft. He figured 25% transportation evaporation and

averaged the historical monthly percentages for pan evaporation. GM BRYAN's recommendation is 70% for the East allocation. GM BRYAN would rather have the option of re-allocating than de-allocating. Director MASINI asked about the 100% allocation and how it relates to snowpack. GM BRYAN advised there is little to no reserve in the snowpack. He cannot store in the reservoir unless the decree reaches FULL. Treasurer NUTI asked about a re-allocation if there are more storms to come in. GM BRYAN advised a re-allocation can happen if there is extra water and the weather takes a turn for the better. Director ACCIARI made a motion to allocate 72% on the West and 70% on the East. Treasurer NUTI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

12. Discussion and determination of the season for delivery of storage water in 2018 as provided in Section 9.3 of District Regulation No. 9.

GM BRYAN advised per Rules and Regulations each year the start date will have to be set. Treasurer NUTI made a motion to start storage water on April 1, 2018. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

13. Discussion and determination of the last date to allow irrigation season changes in place of use of storage water from reservoir to reservoir as provided in and required by Section 6.1 of District Regulation No. 6.

GM BRYAN advised the date will be set for reservoir to reservoir transfers. Treasurer NUTI asked what Water Master SARKISIAN and GM BRYAN are comfortable with. GM BRYAN advised April 15, 2018. Steven Fulstone asked if this decision was going to be for every year or just this year. He asked if there are more transfers that go to the west or east. GM BRYAN advised this decision will be for this year only and the amount varies each year. Counsel DEPAOLI asked about the April 15th date for notifying the district and whether there should be a date that it actually happens. GM BRYAN advised it would be the notification date and the date of transfer should be set as well. For the transfer to be viable, the transfer needs to happen before the peak heats in the water season which are July-September. Director MASINI asked if GM BRYAN could go longer than the 15th of April. GM BRYAN advised he is comfortable with April 15th. Director MASINI made a motion to set the date for reservoir to reservoir transfer to April 15th, 2018. Treasurer NUTI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

14. Consideration for making available and delivering well water for the District Well under Nevada State Engineer Permit No. 25813, Certificate No. 8861 to lands within the District beginning April 1, 2018.

GM BRYAN advised there were concerns from users regarding WRID using the District well this year and the pumpage issues. It is an exchange for natural flow and will be credited to your storage water. The water is credited to the user when the payment is received. There was a question on the District's liability if a user goes over the 4.0 duty because of the well water. He advised it is up to the individual user to track their usage and ensure they do not go over the duty. Treasurer NUTI suggested to come up with a limited amount of time to pump for the users who strictly have Newlands water rights. Director ACCIARI advised the reason we have the well is to use it when extra water is needed for the users. Director MASINI stated he thinks WRID should use the well and leave it open throughout

the season. Director ACCIARI made a motion to run the well starting April 1, 2018. Treasurer NUTI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

15. Discussion and consideration of funding one or more temporary gages for the 2018 irrigation season with possible locations to include but not be limited to, Topaz Reservoir outlet and downstream of the Yerington Weir.

GM BRYAN advised several users would be interested in not waiting for the USGS gages to get back online. GM BRYAN reached out to Steve Farias and Marsha _____ with USGS to answer any questions if needed. GM BRYAN provided a handout regarding the expense of the gages. The two high interest areas are the Topaz discharge tube for the reservoir and the permanent gage at or around the weir. The deadline for the gages to go online would be April 1st. Marsha will be looking at the location for the weir with GM BRYAN. The concern for putting the gage below the weir relates to the amount of sedimentation that builds. GM BRYAN recommended getting the two gages online as soon as possible. The cost for the District would be \$11,770 per year and USGS would help with a portion of the cost. GM BRYAN advised they have lost several gages since 2015 and it makes his and the Water Master's jobs more difficult. He suggested WRID look into other entities to assist with the funding on the gages. There has been interest in the Walker River Paiute Tribe in the gages. WRID does not bill them for assessments, however, USBWC does. The county commissioners will be discussing the gages at the next meeting. Vice President GIORGI asked where the money would come from. GM BRYAN advised it would come from the reservoir fund from the WRID assessments. Vice President GIORGI asked if there was enough money in the fund. GM BRYAN advised there is now, but when the budget comes up for next fiscal year he will recommend moving monies from another assessment fund. Treasurer NUTI made a motion to fund the gages at the Topaz outlet and at the weir. Marsha advised Topaz Outlet can be running in a day. The weir will take a little longer, as a new location, to calibrate the numbers. She advised it will not take long to get up and running. Director MASINI asked how we are gaging what the tribe is getting. GM BRYAN advised there is not a good feel on how much they are getting because of the lack of measuring devices. Treasurer NUTI advised the Topaz gage will be critical because the water coming in from the old channel will assist with the management of water. GM BRYAN advised you can't manage what you can't measure. Marsha advised there are multiple entities interested in these gages and there is a chance other entities will help with the funding. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

16. Report concerning status of BOR WaterSMART grant.

Bookkeeper Jessica SMITH went over the BOR WaterSMART grant procedures. She advised she is working with the people for the VEPA study and they are advising it could take 4-12 months. Another part with complying with the grant is to create grant management in administration policies and procedures. SMITH provided a handout out to the Board. She stated they are specifically concerned with the procurement policies which include anything over \$25,000 would require the job to go out for bid, if \$50,000 they would require more than 3 bids. She provided the draft for the policies and procedures and stated this would be on the next agenda as an action item to adopt these policies. This will help with all grants in the future.

17. Director Comments:

None presented.

18. Public Comment:


Chad Walling advised the state engineer expressed he would like to have the state engineer's office to increase their presence this year. They would rather be prepared for a possible multi-year drought. GM BRYAN advised he would be talking to him throughout the season regarding the District's well. Walling advised the goal is to optimize the efficiencies for water use to all the users entitled to water.

19. Adjournment:

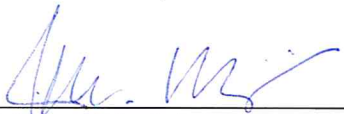
Treasurer NUTI made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:35. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

ABSENT
Jim Snyder, President


David Giorgi, Vice President


Richard Nuti, Treasurer

Dennis Acciari, Director


Marcus Masini, Director