

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on June 7, 2023. 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
Marcus MASINI	Vice President
David GIORGI	Director
Dennis ACCIARI	Director, via phone
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	Carlie Henneman, WBC
AJ Jensby, NDWR	Tom Young, NDOT	Ed Ryan, MV/SVCD

**Public Present via Zoom:**

Shawn Stavang	Wes Walker, MBK Engineers
Dave Hockaday, LCBOCC	(775) 465-2416

**1. Public Comment**

None presented.

**2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**

Treasurer NUTI was absent and Director ACCIARI joined via phone.

**3. Consideration of Minutes of the May 8, 2023 Regular Meeting**

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

**10. Water Master's Report**

Joanne SARKISIAN reported she was delivering 718cfs throughout Smith and Mason Valleys. The demand was a lot higher, but a lot of users are cutting back due to having hay down and the storms. There is a lot of water at the Hudson gage. Bridgeport capacity is 13,080 acre-feet (31%) and Topaz capacity is 28,460 acre-feet (47%). Vice-President MASINI asked how much water was coming through the back side of Topaz and to the Hoye gage; Joanne stated approximately 1500cfs- the release from Topaz is 962cfs and the Hoye gage is reading 2430cfs. GM BRYAN stated that based on the Hudson gage, Desert Creek is flowing.

**11. Staff Reports:**

**A. Treasurer's Report**

Secretary HALTERMAN reported as of May 31, 2023:

Cash in Checking	\$ 146,453.67
Cash in Money Market	\$ 603,689.68
Cash in CDs	\$ 757,568.24
Total	<u>\$1,507,711.59</u>

**B. Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment  
Walker River Irrigation District  
May 2023 Bills & Payroll**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Check No.</b>	<b>Trans. Date</b>	
City of Yerington	100388	5/10/2023	\$ 98.36
Desert Engineering	100389	5/10/2023	\$ 3,987.50
Desert Research	100390	5/10/2023	\$ 14,788.64
Giomi, Inc.	100391	5/10/2023	\$ 77.73
Grainger	100392	5/10/2023	\$ 191.41
Hunewill Construction	100393	5/10/2023	\$ 236.37
Jim Menesini	100394	5/10/2023	\$ 7,117.27
John Deere Credit	100395	5/10/2023	\$ 1,458.53
MBK Engineers	100396	5/10/2023	\$ 9,044.75
MF Barcellos	100397	5/10/2023	\$ 3,911.53
New Gen Automotive	100398	5/10/2023	\$ 1,001.52
NV Energy	100399	5/10/2023	\$ 364.61
O'Reilly Automotive,	100400	5/10/2023	\$ 83.22
PERS Administrative	100401	5/10/2023	\$ 9,342.87
Public Employees'	100402	5/10/2023	\$ 870.23
Purchase Power	100403	5/10/2023	\$ 201.00
Sierra Office Solutions	100404	5/10/2023	\$ 59.17
Southwest Gas	100405	5/10/2023	\$ 212.94
Sticks and Stones	100406	5/10/2023	\$ 92.71
THE PARTS HOUSE	100407	5/10/2023	\$ 672.97
Wells Fargo Card	100408	5/10/2023	\$ 2,787.79
Xerox Corporation	100409	5/10/2023	\$ 325.19
Xerox Financial	100410	5/10/2023	\$ 30.22

Schneider Electric USA,	100411	5/10/2023	\$ 2,787.15
ABILA Dept 2145	100412	5/19/2023	\$ 222.23
Allied Sanitation	100413	5/19/2023	\$ 105.00
Ferguson Enterprises,	100414	5/19/2023	\$ 9,760.00
Pape' Machinery	100415	5/19/2023	\$ 46,152.08
Lee's Pest Control	100416	5/30/2023	\$ 170.00
MBK Engineers	100417	5/30/2023	\$ 19,435.29
New Gen Automotive	100418	5/30/2023	\$ 918.30
Power Plan	100419	5/30/2023	\$ 852.79
Sierra Office Solutions	100420	5/30/2023	\$ 148.02
Standard Insurance	100421	5/30/2023	\$ 304.06
Woodburn & Wedge	100422	5/30/2023	\$ 41,392.99
MBK Engineers	100423	5/30/2023	\$ 1,567.50
USBWC	100424	5/30/2023	\$ 3,140.65
Payroll	100425	5/30/2023	\$ 36.29
Payroll	100426	5/30/2023	\$ 21.88
Spectrum	EFT	5/1/2023	\$ 232.50
Paycor Fees	EFT	5/9/2023	\$ 281.00
Paycor Tax Fund	EFT	5/12/2023	\$ 18.06
Paycor Direct Deposit	EFT	5/12/2023	\$ 404.69
Paycor Paychecks	EFT	5/12/2023	\$ 1,758.15
Paycor Tax Fund	EFT	5/12/2023	\$ 4,339.64
Paycor Direct Deposit	EFT	5/12/2023	\$ 18,377.48
John Deere Financial	EFT	5/16/2023	\$ 852.79
Verizon Wireless	EFT	5/17/2023	\$ 296.54
Paycor Tax Fund	EFT	5/26/2023	\$ 6.89
Spectrum	EFT	5/30/2023	\$ 232.50
Paycor Paychecks	EFT	5/30/2023	\$ 1,108.69
Paycor Paychecks	EFT	5/30/2023	\$ 4,855.11
Paycor Tax Fund	EFT	5/30/2023	\$ 8,081.07
Hometown Health	EFT	5/30/2023	\$ 8,567.84
Paycor Direct Deposit	EFT	5/30/2023	\$ 12,884.60
Paycor Direct Deposit	EFT	5/30/2023	\$ 17,870.79
Paycor Tax Correction	EFT	5/31/2023	\$ 1,019.65
<b>TOTAL BILLS &amp; PAYROLL</b>			<b>\$ 265,158.75</b>

Director GIORGI made a motion to approve the bills; Vice-President MASINI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

**C. Manager's Report**

GM BRYAN stated Topaz is at 28,360 acre-feet (47% capacity) and Bridgeport is at 13,000 acre-feet (31% capacity). Due to the widespread rain in the upper valleys, GM BRYAN had several conversations with the river forecast center and the weather service. Bridgeport releases decreased from 1280cfs to 1160cfs and the gate at the Topaz diversion was lowered to encourage more water to go into the reservoir. The hope was to get 1700cfs into Topaz but it is at 1660cfs right now. Yesterday was the first big day of storage with 1000 acre-feet stored in Bridgeport and 860 acre-feet in Topaz. Another adjustment to Topaz was made this morning to protect the pool and Bridgeport will be left where it is at for a couple of days. A copy of the current forecast presentation was provided in the packet. Highlights included:

- As of this morning there was 93.8 inches of water on Leavitt Lake and no indication of significant melt. There is 0.5 inches of SWE at Lobdell Lake, 3.4 inches of SWE at Monitor Pass, 22.4 inches of SWE at Sonora Pass, 30.4 inches of SWE at Summit Meadow, and 27.1 inches of SWE at Virginia Lakes Ridge. Every site should be zeroed out with the exception of Leavitt Lake which should have 30.9 inches of SWE.
- The basin soil moisture is at record levels. In 2017, the snowmelt going from the top of the mountain to the bottom was 72%, this year it is at 93%.
- The April through July forecast did shift downward. GM BRYAN spoke to Mike Imgarten from the River Forecast Center and he believes the numbers are undersold for the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. On the East, 123kaf has flowed through the system and 162kaf on the West. Vice-President MASINI confirmed there is 2.5-3 times yet to come down on the West side; GM BRYAN confirmed and stated per the weather service, the more water that is left in the snowpack when the warmer weather comes in July, the worse off we will be.
- Based on current estimates, the siphons should not kick on. Bridgeport releases will be left at 1160cfs even with the cool down in the weather. The projection on Topaz has changed from 3200cfs last week to 2900cfs this week. There is still a lot of water to come so the numbers will change.
- Projections for USGS- Strosnider indicates flows will be at or above minor flood stage from mid-June to mid-July, Mason gage indicates above 3000cfs from mid-June through mid-July, and Wabuska & above Weber gage indicates near major flood stage from June 20<sup>th</sup> through mid-July. There is virtually no loss between Wabuska and Weber. There has been concern that Weber could have a dam failure.
- Estimating a max que of 3500cfs but there is more than that in the river right now. No significant changes are expected until the warmer weather comes.
- Since March 1<sup>st</sup>, 226,400 acre-feet of water has made it to Walker Lake and it has come up 8.1 feet.

GM BRYAN provided a list of legislative bills and the status of each one. SB112 and SB176 are tied to the State's budget so they are in limbo right now. Next month GM BRYAN will update which bills the Governor signs. AB387 failed the Senate and that was the one regarding conjunctive management and had a lot of best sciences.

GM BRYAN and staff have continue to have several meetings per week with CNRFC, NWS, NOAA, MBK, Lyon County, and several other agencies. Everyone is in constant communication. GM BRYAN has been pushing out notices when changes happen.

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, there was a meeting at the office with the Carson Sub-Conservancy District. They have been tasked to work with us to put together a Walker River Flood Risk Analysis. There was great participation with many agencies. The process begins with pinpointing current, past, and potential problem areas including alluvial fans, weak points in the river corridor. At this time, they are in the process of finding information for the report. If anyone has any information on areas of concern, send that to GM BRYAN. We had a large map where areas of concern were identified.

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, District staff will be meeting with FEMA to discuss damages from the March event. GM BRYAN will keep everyone updated.

Hudbay is having a Mason open house from 7-9am and 4-7pm at their office on Hwy 95a. If anyone is interested, let GM BRYAN know and he can send the RSVP link.

Vice-President MASINI asked how bad the damage is on Mason Road and Miller Lane. GM BRYAN stated Miller Lane has substantial damage and will put the County over the threshold of what they need. The corner of Aiazzi/Miller is running over and from there it is opened into a drainpipe. The biggest concern is access to MVWMA. They have been using the Vanderhoof road for access but water is quick approaching that area. The railroad track culverts are inundated with water so GM BRYAN has turned that over to the County who is working with Mineral County and SOC to get material to stabilize the area. They are going to have to use the train because vehicles cannot get there. The west side of Miller is flooded but the houses are fine. The SAB has not blown out like it did in 2017 however there is water subbing. The river is holding better on the north side rather than the south side. Mason Road is closed and will remain closed until the high flows are gone. There was a sink hole on the west side of the bridge that had been patched before. NDOT opened the hole yesterday and found water underneath. They got samples, filled it with rock and re-patched it. Lyon County is placing HESCO barriers on the east side of the river in case something breaches. It was considered to place them on the Sprague road but the catwalk has been replaced with plates and the gate has a suction factor right now. If the Sprague breaches, the water will into the drain that will bring the water into the south part of town. So the barriers will be placed in a

way that will guide the water back to the river if there is a breach. There was talk about cutting the road, but the Army Corps of Engineers recommended not cutting it. They would rather see flooding to the north. They suggested cutting around the weir, but GM BRYAN would rather not do that right now. Vice-President MASINI stated he was off of Miller Lane behind David Little's house and it is a big lake out there and there are lots of mosquitos. GM BRYAN stated a culvert on Sierra Way and the culvert on the north end of the runway have failed. Vice-President MASINI asked if there was any concern about the culverts on Bridge Street and Goldfield Avenue; GM BRYAN stated there was 30" of free board on Goldfield and Bridge Street is a single span. There is water subbing on Bridge Street behind Mason Valley Garage.

**D. Legal Counsel's Report**

Counsel DePAOLI stated SB258 passed but he was unsure if it had been signed by the Governor. That bill allows for a 3-year temporary change application rather than 1-year. A period change over 1-year requires the State Engineer to give the same notice as a permanent change application. Counsel DePAOLI will check to see if the bill has been signed.

**E. Review and Approval of Monthly Storage Transfers**

Director GIORGI made a motion to approve the transfers; Vice-President MASINI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

**F. Storage Water Leasing Program Update**

Wes WALKER advised the application period ended on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The final enrollment number is 24,939 acre-feet which is just below the 25,000 acre-feet threshold; 11,300 acre-feet of the enrolled water is from Walker Basin Conservancy. The approvals have been obtained from the State of California and MBK is waiting for a report from them to give to the Walker River court. Wes is working on the draft permits to give to the Nevada State Engineer. MBK is also working on the release plan. The releases typically start when the decree falls out which may be late August/early September. The releases will possibly go through mid-October.

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

AJ JENSBY stated they will start doing fieldwork shortly, but they are very shorthanded.

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

Charlie Henneman stated the lake has gone up over 8 feet. Although they do not like the flooding, they do like to see water in the lake.

**14. Annual review on the performance of the Walker River Irrigation District General Manager Robert C. Bryan and consideration of possible adjustment in compensation.**  
Counsel DePAOLI advised this item must be tabled to the next meeting.

**15. Director Comments**  
Director GIORGI stated the office was doing a good job of keeping the town dry. President SNYDER reported that Bruce Park used his excavator to help lower the dam at the G&H.

**16. Public Comment**  
None presented.

**17. Adjournment**  
Director GIORGI made a motion to adjourn; Vice-President MASINI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

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Jim Snyder, President

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Marcus Masini, Vice President

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Richard Nuti, Treasurer

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Dennis Acciari, Director

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David Giorgi, Director