

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

Present:

Jim SNYDER	President
David GIORGI	Vice President
Richard NUTI	Treasurer
Dennis ACCIARI	Director
Marcus MASINI	Director
Bridget BANTA	Secretary
Robert BRYAN	Manager
Gordon DEPAOLI	Legal Counsel
Jessica SMITH	Bookkeeper

Public Present:

Ed Ryan	Chad Walling	Sarah Overton	Mark Lumpkin
George Lindensmith	Silas Adams	Steven Fulstone	Marianne Leinassar

1. **Public Comment:**
None presented.

2. **Roll Call and Determination of Quorum:**
All 5 board members present.

3. **Consideration of Minutes of the July 9, 2018 Regular meeting.**
Director MASINI made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice President GIORGI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

4. **Water Master's Report:**
Water Master Joanne SARKISIAN advised the west and tunnel are at 1863 and the east and main is are at 1867.

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

A. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer NUTI gave the Treasurer's Report as follows:

Cash in Checking	\$182,818.69
Cash in Money Market	\$1,113,256.65
Cash in CDs	\$1,242,660.75
Total	\$2,538,736.75

B. Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment.

BILLS & PAYROLL JULY 2018

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check Amount</u>
120295	7/9/2018	AFLAC	\$265.93
120296	7/9/2018	Farm-Assist, Inc.	\$94.75
120297	7/9/2018	Ferguson Enterprises, Inc. 1423	\$782.16
120298	7/9/2018	Frontier	\$280.86
120299	7/9/2018	Sticks and Stones Buildings Material Inc	\$58.14
120300	7/9/2018	NAPA AUTO & TRUCK PARTS	\$275.18
120301	7/9/2018	True Value	\$70.00
120302	7/9/2018	Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services LLC	\$212.02
120303	7/9/2018	Power Plan	\$8,295.98
120304	7/9/2018	Public Employees' Benefits Program	\$803.29
120305	7/9/2018	Purchase Power / Pitney Bowes	\$502.71
120306	7/9/2018	NV Energy	\$290.68
120307	7/9/2018	Southwest Gas Corporation	\$38.80
120308	7/9/2018	USBWC	\$10,108.00
120309	7/9/2018	D & S Waste Removal	\$30.00
120310	7/12/2018	Giomi, Inc.	\$283.98
120311	7/12/2018	AT&T	\$133.44
120312	7/12/2018	John Deere Credit	\$93.27
120313	7/12/2018	Lyon County Recorder	\$54.00
120314	7/12/2018	City of Yerington	\$135.91
120315	7/12/2018	R & T Enterprises	\$1,650.00
120316	7/12/2018	Sierra Office Solutions	\$181.52
120317	7/26/2018	Farm-Assist, Inc.	\$21,658.83
120318	7/26/2018	Fast Glass	\$450.00
120319	7/26/2018	Sticks and Stones Buildings Material Inc	\$44.96
120320	7/26/2018	Lee's Pest Control	\$160.00
120321	7/26/2018	Lyon County Treasurer	\$2,779.19

120322	7/26/2018	Mason Valley Quicknet	\$410.00
120323	7/26/2018	Quill	\$220.36
120324	7/26/2018	Cal Poly Corporation	\$74,108.75
120325	7/26/2018	NV Energy	\$5,186.58
120326	7/26/2018	Standard Insurance Company	\$164.16
120327	7/26/2018	Stanislaus Farm Supply	\$115.67
120328	7/26/2018	Title Service and Escrow Co.	\$500.00
120329	7/26/2018	U.S. Geological Survey	\$6,698.00
120330	7/26/2018	Verizon Wireless	\$349.61
120331	7/26/2018	Woodburn & Wedge	\$22,347.00
120332	7/26/2018	Xerox Financial Services	\$139.44
120333	7/26/2018	HomeTown Health	\$4,279.04
120334	7/26/2018	Desert Research Institute	\$5,147.58
120335	7/26/2018	Sierra Office Solutions	\$1.75
120336	7/30/2018	Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	\$787.40
120337	7/30/2018	Ferguson Enterprises, Inc. 1423	\$6,450.00
120338	7/30/2018	Frontier	\$280.45
120339	7/30/2018	MF Barcellos	\$2,899.12
120340	7/30/2018	Quill	\$293.34
120341	7/30/2018	Jim Menesini Petroleum	\$531.77
120342	7/30/2018	Alhambra	\$520.75
120343	7/30/2018	Vision Service Plan - Nevada	\$129.70
120344	7/30/2018	Walker River Irrigation District	\$455.40
120345	7/30/2018	Wells Fargo Card Services	\$4,948.58
120346	7/30/2018	Desert Research Institute	\$9,215.68
120347	7/30/2018	PERS Administrative Fund	\$5,885.67
PAYROLL		JULY 2018 PAYROLL	\$32,716.65
TOTAL BILLS & PAYROLL			\$234,516.05

Director MASINI asked about the Farm-Assist bill. GM BRYAN advised it is spray for the drains and de-mossing chemicals. Vice President GIORGI asked about Desert Research Institute with the High Ditch and Topaz. GM BRYAN advised the bill is for the modernization work and are all funded under a grant.

Director MASINI made a motion to accept the bills as paid in July. Vice President GIORGI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

C. Manager's Report:

GM BRYAN advised Bridgeport is currently at 29,430 acre feet, 69% of capacity; Topaz is at 38,740 acre feet, 65% of capacity. GM BRYAN advised the available balance of acre feet minus the storage allocated in Topaz is 411.59 and 323 for Bridgeport. He advised the reservoir to reservoir transfers are not allowed. The deadline for that was April 15, as voted on by the WRID Board of Directors.

The shop crew has been working on repair and maintenance on the drains and canals. They have been working on the east drain and the Vanderhoof and other locations on the east. There was some work completed on the west and Wabuska and off the Nielson Drain. The crew has been spraying weeds for the maintenance. GM BRYAN hopes to get surveys on the east and main drain when Stuart Styles is here to try to improve the conveyance of the water.

GM BRYAN gave an update on the Saroni Canal WaterSMART grant. Jessica SMITH and GM BRYAN had a conference call with Bureau of Reclamation and have hired Drake Drews with Great Basin Consulting to conduct the NEPA study for the Saroni Canal project. As soon as the study is complete and approved, WRID will start the project.

WRID applied for the second phase of the Saroni Water Smart grant. It is 50/50 cross funding. It is a continuation of the recommendation from ITRC for 4 main stream measuring devices at key locations for the Saroni Canal.

GM BRYAN advised WRID has filed for a grant with NRCS for \$15 million for a watershed approach to isolate and improve sedimentation.

GM BRYAN gave a presentation on July 10th to the Yerington Paiute Tribe. The presentation was requested by Mr. Lumpkin.

He went over the Flow Measurement Class with Dr. Stuart Styles. It is scheduled for August 28-29, 2018. Dr Styles will be here August 23-31.

D. Legal Counsel's Report:

Counsel DEPAOLI advised the two 9th Circuit cases are back in the Federal District Court for the orders to be submitted to temporarily modify the decree, temporarily, for the district changes and the application 8700 changes. The USB Walker River case is also back in the District Court. Status reports were filed August 6, 2018. All cases have been assigned to Judge Morandeaux.

On July 18, the Nevada Supreme Court accepted the question on the Mineral County case and established a briefing schedule. Opening briefs are on August 17, answering on September 17 and reply on October 8. If the court approves the changes, it would be opening on September 24, answering on November 26 and replying on December 28, 2018.

The Walker Basin Conservancy has filed, on behalf of National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), 3 new change applications for the rest of the acquired water rights that have the point of the diversion at the weir to in stream flow, in a total of 15.685-cfs of natural flow.

E. Review and Approval of Monthly Storage Transfers.

Director MASINI asked about a water transfer between himself and David Little. Secretary Bridget BANTA advised it was not on the list because it is considered a Special User Adjustment as it was transferring already approved transferred water. Director MASINI made a motion to approve the transfers. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. Treasurer NUTI asked how many people had applied for the water available from NFWF. Silas Adams advised there were 7. Treasurer NUTI advised there were water users waiting outside the office to put a bid in for the water and the office was closed. Adams advised there is multiple ways to get a hold of him and the information is on the bid sheets. He is in the process of moving his office to Reno and is only in the Yerington office a couple times a week. They have more water available if anyone is interested. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

F. 2017-2018 FY Audit Update:

Bookkeeper Jessica SMITH advised the audit is almost complete and Wade and Jim plan to present it at the next meeting. She advised they have a ½ day left to tie up loose ends.

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

Chad Walling advised pumpage in Smith Valley so far is 6,700 acre feet and Mason Valley is 15,000 acre feet.

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

Silas Adams advised there is 1390 acre feet available for \$35/acre foot. He advised to use alternative routes to contact him if he is not available in the office.

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

Steven Fulstone advised there was a small field trip with 2 directors present. He advised they met on WRID's property regarding the watershed approach. Bridgeport Ranchers Organization (BRO) is waiting for NRCS to present plans for the project. He is hoping to have another field trip the beginning of October.

9. Discussion and consideration of resolution authorizing General Manager to initiate negotiations concerning a possible Lease Agreement with Nevada Copper for the District property described as APN # 004-023-06, including the execution and delivery of an Agreement setting forth terms and conditions for an environmental assessment of it.

GM BRYAN advised WRID has evicted PMMR as they had not been current on their lease. Nevada Copper approached WRID and have submitted draft documentation for the lease. Counsel DEPAOLI advised Nevada Copper is looking for a long term lease of approximately 30 years. They would like an environmental assessment prior to the lease

to determine environmental impact over the years. The resolution would allow GM BRYAN to get started on the paperwork. The Board will still vote on the lease prior to the finalization. Director MASINI asked if they were planning on putting a building up on the property. GM BRYAN advised they were talking about a cement pad to load and unload. He advised Nevada Copper would fund the cement pad. Treasurer NUTI made a motion to give the General Manager permission to initiate negotiations concerning a possible Lease Agreement with Nevada Copper for the District property described as APN # 004-023-06, including the execution and delivery of an agreement setting forth terms and conditions for an environmental assessment. Director MASINI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

10. **Discussion and consideration for the adoption of Job Descriptions for District Employees similar job descriptions for State of Nevada and Lyon County employees in similar positions to become compliant with POOL/PACT as well as previous recommendations from District auditors.**

Bookkeeper SMITH presented the job descriptions and advised she pulled information from different state and county positions throughout the state. The job descriptions would satisfy the request from POOL/PACT and past auditing reports. The job descriptions can be changed at any time if needed. There is not a pay grade set for each position yet. Treasurer NUTI asked about the General Manager's job description. GM BRYAN advised there is a more detailed position of seven or eight pages. GM BRYAN advised it is missing parts he would like to add to the job description. Treasurer NUTI made a motion to accept the job descriptions to become compliant with POOL/PACT and past auditing. Vice President GIORGI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

11. **Discussion and consideration for the adoption of standardized pay-scale for all current District employee positions similar to pay schedules for State of Nevada and Lyon County employees.**

Bookkeeper SMITH advised she compared state and county positions and took into account the benefits package to determine the grades and steps for the salaries. The grade and step process are determined at the hire date depending on experience and performance. SMITH advised WRID is required to offer Employer Paid Retirement and Employee/Employer Paid Retirement. Employer Paid Retirement is vested after 5 years. Employee/Employer Paid Retirement is vested from day 1 of employment. President SNYDER asked about pay grades and who would set it. GM BRYAN advised the manager would set it. If the pay grade is approved, the current employees would be assigned a pay grade and step based on qualifications and experience. President SNYDER would like to see a comparison from where we are now to where we would be at if the pay grade and step is accepted. Treasurer NUTI requested to move this topic to the next meeting so the board can go over the information in more depth. Treasurer NUTI asked GM BRYAN to assign starting pay grades and steps for each position for the next meeting. Treasurer NUTI would like the proposed scale to be an agenda item and then the assigned grades per job description. President SNYDER would also like the impact on the budget through a spreadsheet. Treasurer NUTI made a motion to table this item until next meeting. Director MASINI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

12. **Discussion and consideration of revisions to Section 4, Performance Standards, Payroll, Compensation and Benefits, of the WRID Policy Manual to allow the General Manager to be paid for unused annual leave or for District to purchase an equivalent amount time in PERS.**

GM BRYAN advised last year, the current policy manual was put into place and caps the paid time off at 240 hours annually. He is unable to take the time off because of the work load. GM BRYAN currently has 500 hours of vacation. GM BRYAN does not want to lose the hours. He is asking the board to consider a couple of options to get the total vacation balance back to a more manageable balance.

The first option is to take the vacation time and cash it in to buy retirement by rolling it into PERS. He would like to be compensated for the hours he has earned. There are 3 options: you can cash it in to buy retirement through PERS, allow GM BRYAN to cash out some of his time, or a combination of both. The second option would be to cash out the vacation time and the third option would be a combination of both buying retirement through PERS and cashing some hours out. He is requesting to be compensated for the hours he has earned.

Bookkeeper SMITH advised if buying retirement time through PERS, 1 month would equal \$1184.74. If paying employee for 144 hours would cost the District \$4946.40.

Counsel DEPAOLI suggested this item be tabled because the policy manual will need to be updated as well. The policy manual should be updated and changed accordingly. Counsel DEPAOLI can put together the language for amending the policy manual and bring it back to the board for a vote. Treasurer NUTI asked if the Board approved the option of buying time with PERS through his vacation time, would it have to be offered to the other employees. Counsel DEPAOLI advised it would not have to be offered to other employees. The current policy manual covers the instance an employee below the GM goes over the allowed hours. It does not currently cover the GM when he goes over the allowed hours. Director MASINI made a motion to table the item until the board is presented with the language for the policy and procedure manual. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

13. **Director Comments:**

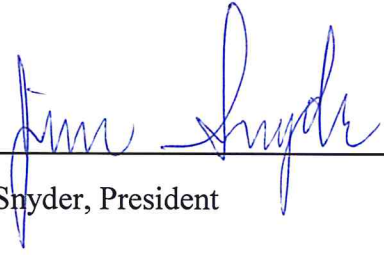
Vice President GIORGI asked about the old long reach and its condition. GM BRYAN advised they attempted to fix it with a new pump and the pump went out. There is no hydraulic pump found for the machine because of its age. GM BRYAN is working on finding a pump.

14. **Public Comment:**

Ed Ryan advised the conservation district is moving forward for the Campbell Ditch split structure to replace that. If they get approved the project will be completed this winter.

15. **Adjournment:**

Vice President GIORGI made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 AM.



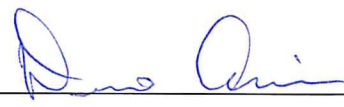
Jim Snyder, President



David Giorgi, Vice President



Richard Nutti, Treasurer



Dennis Acciari, Director



Marcus Masini, Director