

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on July 7, 2017. 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
Bridget BANTA	Secretary
Robert BRYAN	General Manager
Gordon DEPAOLI	Legal Counsel
Joanne SARKISIAN	Water Master

**Public Present:**

Chad Walling	Reed Cozens	Ed Ryan	Eric Johnson	Joy Morris
Dale Conner	Wayne Bull			

**Public Comment:**

None presented.

**Roll Call and Determination of Quorum:**

Director Marcus MASINI was absent.

**Consideration of Minutes of the June 7, 2017 Regular Meeting.**

Treasurer NUTI requested Reed Cozens clarify what he said in the June 7, 2017 meeting regarding the storage water and 4.0 acre foot duty. Reed Cozens stated, "Storage by itself does not have a 4 acre feet per acre duty limit. The duty limit occurs when users turn on their wells or use District Permit water." Treasurer NUTI made a motion to accept the minutes with the clarification. Vice President GIORGI seconded the motion. Secretary BANTA advised the clarification will be in the July 7, 2017 minutes. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Update by Eric Johnson with Nevada State Parks regarding acquisition of lands on the East Walker.**

The conveyance should be occurring July 18-20. There is a change in the conveyance on the Fletcher property. They are not taking it because of some mineral certificates. They have begun staffing the park. They have hired a park manager, park ranger and manager hired. They are hiring seasonal employees immediately. GM BRYAN asked if we are continually running the high levels of water, what happens with the lessees right now. He would like to know if they are able to take more water now. GM BRYAN would like the water to be spread wherever they can to mitigate flooding. Joy Morris advised all the leases are 4-year leases and the only concern would be to flood out the revegetation areas. Water Master Sarkisian advised according to the leases, the lessees are not allowed to take flood water. Morris stated they can take the flood water if it is an emergency, however they need to keep as much water in the river for Walker Lake. Joy Morris advised she would like to talk to GM BRYAN after the meeting. President SNYDER

asked where we are with the regulating reservoirs and beaver dams. GM BRYAN advised he has shared the information with Eric Johnson and the finalized information has not been sent out. Eric Johnson advised he is on board with the plans for the regulatory reservoirs. He went into the developing plans. Starting at the Pitchfork there will be primitive campgrounds started this fall and finished in the late spring of 2018. The full hook up campground will not be finished until next fall. The cabins will be finished in early 2020. The elbow will have fire rings, tables and some evolved toilets. The stone house project at 9-Mile has been given to the State Public Works Department to take over and contract out. The funding has already been set aside for that project. All funding is in place and there is no change. The total funding received for all projects is +/- \$ 5 million. The state has entered in agreement with Lyon County and Mineral County to be billed a 30% maintenance fee. They are going to place counters on the roads to know how much traffic is going through the park. Treasurer NUTI requested to know if he would have to pay a fee to drive through the park. Johnson advised he would not be charged to drive through, only to stay and/or use the park.

**Water Master's Report:**

Water Master advised they are still delivering flood water and have been since May 22. She advised they have still delivered 256,800 acre feet to Walker Lake since March 1. The reservoirs are currently at: 89%-Topaz and 80% Bridgeport

**Staff Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:**

Cash in Checking	\$324,773.68
Cash in Money Market	\$1,191,335.86
Cash in CD's	\$1,240,611.33
Total	\$2,756,720.87

**Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment:**

***June 2017 Bills & Payroll***

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check Amount</u>
119629	6/1/2017	AFLAC	293.36
119630	6/1/2017	AT&T Mobility	306.04
119631	6/1/2017	Vision Service Plan - Nevada	206.46
119632	6/1/2017	Michael T McGuire	900.00
119633	6/7/2017	Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	1,220.60
119634	6/7/2017	Giomi, Inc.	366.55
119635	6/7/2017	Sticks and Stones Buildings Material Inc	66.38
119636	6/7/2017	NAPA AUTO & TRUCK PARTS	687.31
119637	6/7/2017	Mason Valley Equipment	156.24
119638	6/7/2017	Mickey Mutual Ditch Co.	5.30
119639	6/7/2017	O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.	138.32
119640	6/7/2017	Purchase Power / Pitney Bowes	604.50



119641	6/7/2017	Southwest Gas Corporation	40.70
119642	6/7/2017	Tyres International	3,969.48
119643	6/7/2017	Western Nevada Supply Company	6,677.40
119644	6/7/2017	Wild West Chevrolet	20.00
119645	6/7/2017	Auto Glass & More	889.03
119646	6/7/2017	John Deere Credit	192.12
119647	6/7/2017	MF Barcellos	9,525.45
119648	6/7/2017	True Value	50.66
119649	6/7/2017	Power Plan	5,949.50
119650	6/7/2017	Public Employees' Benefits Program	803.29
119651	6/7/2017	Jim Menesini Petroleum	1,991.53
119652	6/14/2017	Farm-Assist, Inc.	934.58
119653	6/14/2017	High Desert Internet	174.95
119654	6/14/2017	AT&T	124.71
119655	6/14/2017	John Deere Credit	4,548.18
119656	6/14/2017	Les Schwab Tire Center	999.96
119657	6/14/2017	Lyon County Recorder	28.66
119658	6/14/2017	MBK Engineers	18,722.16
119659	6/14/2017	Quill	224.82
119660	6/14/2017	Renner Equipment Co.	698.66
119661	6/14/2017	Sciarani & Co.	5,000.00
119662	6/14/2017	NV Energy	228.10
119663	6/14/2017	Valley Tire and Auto Service	12.00
119664	6/14/2017	Verizon Wireless	284.33
119665	6/14/2017	Woodburn & Wedge	20,031.00
119666	6/14/2017	Yerington, City of	86.00
119667	6/14/2017	Momentum Technology Group	210.00
119668	6/14/2017	Sierra Office Solutions	79.43
119669	6/14/2017	YSI Incorporated	10,285.00
119670	6/14/2017	Erik Allison	1,589.88
119671	6/19/2017	Pape' Machinery Exchange	279,525.96
119672	6/28/2017	Wells Fargo Insurance Services	14,897.79
119673	6/28/2017	Farm-Assist, Inc.	5,935.65
119674	6/28/2017	BERKLEynet	1,681.00
119675	6/28/2017	Local Government Employee-Mgmt Relations Board	47.25
119676	6/28/2017	MBK Engineers	16,412.76
119677	6/28/2017	Nevada Energy Systems, Inc.	541.53
119678	6/28/2017	Quill	332.88
119679	6/28/2017	Cal Poly Corporation	27,445.10
119680	6/28/2017	Alhambra	709.13
119681	6/28/2017	Standard Insurance Company	219.96
119682	6/28/2017	Stanislaus Farm Supply	70.70

119683	6/28/2017	Vision Service Plan - Nevada	206.46
119684	6/28/2017	Wells Fargo Card Services	720.24
119685	6/28/2017	Western Nevada Supply Company	2,225.80
119686	6/28/2017	Xerox Financial Services	139.44
119687	6/28/2017	R & T Enterprises	1,050.00
119688	6/28/2017	HomeTown Health	6,648.88
119689	6/28/2017	D & S Waste Removal	201.50
119690	6/28/2017	Desert Research Institute	11,120.83
119691	6/28/2017	Michael T McGuire	300.00
119692	6/28/2017	Sage Designs, Inc.	495.00
119693	6/28/2017	State Collections & Disbursement Unit (SCaDU)	426.92
119694	6/28/2017	Cruz, Maria	350.00
119695	6/28/2017	Arigoni, Robert	1,685.00
119696	6/28/2017	PERS Administrative Fund	6,131.45
119697	6/30/2017	USBWC	1,061.50
4706	6/15/2017	Bridget A. Banta	1,329.72
4707	6/15/2017	Jesus Cervantes	1,810.57
4708	6/15/2017	David Cervantes	567.16
4709	6/15/2017	Oscar Cortez	2,422.47
4710	6/15/2017	Damian Diaz Alvarado	1,462.47
4711	6/15/2017	James Martens	2,032.61
4712	6/15/2017	Jason R. Milligan	546.98
4713	6/15/2017	Scott Robinson	VOID
4714	6/15/2017	Jessica A. Smith	1,164.60
4715	6/15/2017	Lupe Wagner	1,063.14
4716	6/15/2017	Justin L. Toebe	374.95
4717	6/15/2017	Scott Robinson	520.21
4718	6/30/2017	Robert A. Arigoni	1,281.42
4719	6/30/2017	Bridget A. Banta	1,248.01
4720	6/30/2017	Robert C. Bryan	VOID
4721	6/30/2017	Jesus Cervantes	1,310.29
4722	6/30/2017	Oscar Cortez	VOID
4723	6/30/2017	Damian Diaz Alvarado	767.29
4724	6/30/2017	Joseph E. Huggans	776.48
4725	6/30/2017	James Martens	1,892.24
4726	6/30/2017	Jason R. Milligan	2,632.09
4727	6/30/2017	Ronald Murray	1,239.60
4728	6/30/2017	Scott Robinson	VOID
4729	6/30/2017	Jessica A. Smith	1,164.60
4730	6/30/2017	Donald Swan	645.72
4731	6/30/2017	Cynthia Tibbals	1,593.32
4732	6/30/2017	Justin L. Toebe	1,730.67



4733	6/30/2017	Lupe Wagner	1,063.14
4734	6/30/2017	Robert C. Bryan	5,997.40
4735	6/30/2017	Oscar Cortez	2,468.24
4736	6/30/2017	Scott Robinson	1,810.07

**Total Bills & Payroll      520,820.83**

Vice President GIORGI made a motion to accept the bills and payroll. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Manager's Report:**

GM BRYAN advised Topaz is at 92% capacity and Bridgeport is at 86% capacity. GM BRYAN advised he is going to lower the amount coming out of Topaz. He advised we are no means out of the woods yet. High flows anticipated through August. Keeping an eye in areas where subbing is occurring and debris. Debris is a real problem. The old wood river gates at the fox Mickey was broken from a large downed tree. They will work on the gates when the water recedes. Massive trees have been removed from the river. GM BRYAN requested users to take as much flood water as possible and reminded everyone it is not going to go against the 4.0 duty. It is flood mitigation water and is necessary to preserve life and property. He spoke about the new long reach and advised it has been used a couple times. GM BRYAN included a handout for the Nevada Legislature 2017 Bills related to water that passed into law.

NWRA is putting on a conference with the State Engineer at 5650 Riggins Ct in Reno. He will be discussing the bills passed recently.

GM BRYAN advised he was requested to send an email to Senator Heller to provide funding for USGS gages. USGS will be shutting down several gages as the funding for the gages below diversion and the discharge at Topaz will be ending July 21. He advised they were instrumental in providing information for the recent flood mitigation. Treasurer NUTI stated he thinks gages are imperative for managing water coming in and going out of the reservoirs. Treasurer NUTI stated there are 4 main tributaries: Buckeye, Virginia, Green and Robinson, that will need gages along with the two at Topaz that are currently installed. A total of 6 gages. Treasurer NUTI advised that would be around \$120,000 per year to keep the gages. GM BRYAN advised there is a Lahontan Regional Water Quality meeting, Thursday, July 19 in Bishop at 8:00 am. Dr. Styles was in the week of June 19. He worked with regulatory reservoir studies and calibrations. He will be back the week of July 24. Hoping to get closer to finishing up the regulatory reservoir studies.

**Legal Counsel's Report:**

Counsel DEPAOLI advised the date and time of the hearing of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals on August 30<sup>th</sup>, in Pasadena. There are 4 cases assigned to the panel. 1 is not related to us. They all start at 9:00 am. The items could be rearranged. 3 cases: (1) NFWF change application/district temporary change for the leasing program; (2) Dismissal of Mineral County's claim for Walker Lake; (3) The dismissal of the US claims for additional water for the Walker River Tribe for the federal lands and places upstream. The court has allocated 20 minutes per side. If anyone wants to go, he will advise GM BRYAN the location and directions to the court house. He advised, if anyone wants to attend, they should be there 1 day ahead. We will not know who the 3 judges are assigned to the cases until a week before the assigned court date.

President SNYDER asked when a decision could be expected. Counsel DEPAOLI advised that time frame is unknown; but could possibly be 2-3 months.

**Review and Approval of Monthly Storage Transfers:**

None for the month of June.

**Bookkeeper's Audit Update:**

Jessica SMITH advised Jim and Wade were here to do the pre-testing for the audit. Jim advised SMITH the books are looking good. They hope to have the audit completed by August or September meeting.

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

Chad Walling advised they are still making efforts in collecting meter readings. There was 6,270 acre feet of ground water used in Smith and Mason; 2500 acre feet in Smith and 3700 acre feet for Mason. This time last year over 21,000 acre feet used. Chad advised this year has been an interesting year with the decree remaining on full and flood and 100% allocations. Reed Cozens advised they have sent out a dozen notices system wide to supplemental well owners to ensure they are pumping within the compliance of the permit. They sent out a significant number of non-working meter letters. Most non-working digital meters were battery issues.

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

Joy Morris advised the YCC crew have been running for the last few weeks for now. Dan Pederson is the lead in the program. Steve Tomac is staying on in a supportive role in the foreseeable future. His focus is managing the leases within the WBC and the East Walker transfer. They are hiring a water and conservation manager. They have hired Silas Adams out of Texas. He will be at the next WRID meeting and will be introduced. He will be spending the majority of his time with Joy and Tomac to learn the water rights and area locations. He will be working with WRID and ditch companies. He will also help with the day to day management of the water control in stream. She requested to meet with Bert and Joanne after the meeting to talk about flood waters. She spoke about the hydro-mapper through USGS. It shows all gages in real time. The funding expires this year. She advised the hydro-mapper seems to be getting a lot of use and they are looking at extending funding on the online real-time data. She suggested a presentation about the hydro-mapper. Some will be losing funding this year. Revegetation on the East Walker and Walker River ranch has been the focus.

**Update and discussion concerning the 2017 Spring and Summer runoff flows using the current recommended reservoir operation on the Walker River System.**

GM BRYAN created a spreadsheet with current information on the reservoirs and relative locations cfs totals. The syphons in Bridgeport start at 42,355 and Topaz will start to spill at 60,000. As of yesterday, we have only used 3.1% of storage on the East and 6.4% on the West. Releasing 1270 cfs out of Bridgeport and 1430 cfs out of Topaz. Mason is currently at 2600 cfs. GM BRYAN prefers to not go any higher in Mason. Miller is currently at 1630 cfs. The river is blown out to the west between Ewarts and Little and crossing Miller Ln. The road is permanently closed and the county has cement barriers and vehicles parked at the location. The vehicles have been vandalized and cement barriers moved illegally. They have since



moved cement barriers clear across the entire roadway. GM BRYAN advised we cannot let our guard down with the high flows at this point. We are not out of the woods at this point. There is substantial flooding from the weir down and past Sceirine's property at this point. Walker Lake on, Jan 4<sup>th</sup>, pool was at 914,300 and the current pool is at 1,207,000. The amount stored is 292,700 and has brought the lake up 10.45 feet. GM BRYAN advised the flood mitigation is completely warranted and any water users can take will be helpful. There is still a lot of water yet to come down. Gm BRYAN advised he is not able to re-allocate at this point because he can only re-allocate what storage has been used and that usage is minimal so far. GM BRYAN advised we are stretched as far as we can throughout the entire system. Treasurer NUTI asked about the thunderstorms and what kind of problem they could cause. GM BRYAN advised he spoke to the weather service and the threat is very minor. There are no major systems in the foreseeable future.

**Preliminary discussions and direction to District Manage concerning planning, prioritization, budgeting and tentative scheduling for meeting future District equipment needs, including, but not limited to, new replacement Back Hoe, Tractor with mow and spray attachments, water truck Back Hoe Trailer, All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and ATV Trailer.**

GM BRYAN advised the handout is the "wish list" the board requested at the June meeting. Jessica Smith put together a list regarding the equipment needs for the district. The list is in priority of need. The main need is a back hoe for Smith Valley. The current back hoe leaks more oil than we can put in it and it has been rolled in a canal before. It is on its last leg. Director ACCIARI asked how the long reach was paid. GM BRYAN advised it was paid out right which saved the district \$20,000.

The assessments for the current 2017 fiscal year were increased and there will be an extra \$20,000-\$30,000 in the account for equipment. The packet has the break down on all the quotes for each of the pieces of equipment on the "wish list." GM BRYAN advised there is over \$570,000 in the equipment fund. Vice President GIORGI suggested a back hoe and a trailer. He advised that seems to be the highest priority. Director ACCIARI advised he knows a guy with a water truck who may give the district a good deal. He will look into it. Director ACCIARI advised he thinks WRID needs to buy a back hoe. GM BRYAN advised he loses the two rental excavators August 31. Treasurer NUTI requested to know if they can vote to direct GM BRYAN to purchase the back hoe. GM BRYAN advised they would vote to put it on the next agenda for purchase. Treasurer NUTI asked about the process of buying from a private party. Counsel DEPAOLI advised anything under \$50,000 there needs to be formal bids solicited. If it's under \$25,000 there does not need to be any kind of formal bids. Treasurer NUTI made a motion to put the equipment on next month's agenda to make a decision on purchasing. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Director Comments:**

Vice President GIORGI inquired about the liability of the Night in the Country festivities and people swimming in the canals and river. GM BRYAN advised he is concerned about the canal behind Spradlin's. GM BRYAN advised Miller Ln will be closed during Night in the Country and the trailers are all coming through town. The traffic is going to be a lot worse. He is concerned about people being in the drain. There is not much we can do about it. It is a concern with the flows of the river and how fast it is going. Vice President GIORGI also asked about the sediment that has been acquired in the river and future plans to clean it up. GM BRYAN advised it will have to be addressed in the future.

**Public Comment:**

Reed Cozens stated the general public may not be thankful about the work this office has done, however he is thankful for all of GM BRYAN's hard work.

**Adjournment:**

Director ACCIARI made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer NUTI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 am.

---

Jim SNYDER, President

---

David GIORGI, Vice President

---

Richard NUTI, Treasurer

---

Dennis ACCIARI, Director

Absent  
Marcus MASINI, Director