

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on January 7, 2025. 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
Robert BRYAN	General Manager
Jessica HALTERMAN	Secretary
Dale FERGUSON	Legal Counsel, via Zoom

Public Present:

Joanne Sarkisian, USBWC	Kat Dow, WBC	Carlie Henneman, WBC
Lauren Bartels, NDWR	Melania Sagi, SV/MVCD	

Public Present via Zoom:

Dave Hockaday, LCBOCC	Tim Bardsley, NOAA	Ginny Hatch, YPT
Tom Renner	Wes Walker, MBK	

1. Public Comment

None presented.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Treasurer NUTI was absent.

3. Consideration of Minutes of the December 9, 2024 Regular Meeting

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

4. Water Master's Report

Joanne SARKISIAN reported Bridgeport was at 20,250 acre-feet (48% capacity) and Topaz was 23,210 acre-feet (39% capacity). There is a briefing with the weather service tomorrow and hopefully there is good news. Joanne stated that she is continuing to deliver stock water and overall, everything has been quiet. Vice President MASINI asked when the Campbell & Miller project will be done; GM BRYAN stated the digging is being done now, then Desert Engineering will be installing new structures. Joanne asked Vice President MASINI if he needed water, Vice President MASINI stated they are fine for now and can work around it.

5. Staff Reports:

A. Treasurer's Report

Secretary HALTERMAN reported as of December 31, 2024:

Cash in Checking	\$ 199,479.74
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Cash in Money Market	\$1,614,761.35
Cash in CDs	\$ 805,074.39
Total	\$2,619,315.48

B. Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment
Cash Disbursement Journals
December 2024 Bills & Payroll

Payee	Check #	Date	Amount
PrimePay	300126	12/12/2024	\$ 205.52
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	101323	12/12/2024	\$ 1,314.60
City of Yerington	101324	12/12/2024	\$ 98.16
MBK Engineers	101325	12/12/2024	\$ 633.50
NV Energy	101326	12/12/2024	\$ 276.96
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.	101327	12/12/2024	\$ 165.94
Purchase Power / Pitney	101328	12/12/2024	\$ 215.66
Quill	101329	12/12/2024	\$ 85.98
Raley's	101330	12/12/2024	\$ 255.85
Sierra Office Solutions	101331	12/12/2024	\$ 107.84
Southwest Gas Corporation	101332	12/12/2024	\$ 318.89
Standard Insurance Co	101333	12/12/2024	\$ 633.63
Summit Fire & Security	101334	12/12/2024	\$ 252.00
True Value	101335	12/12/2024	\$ 561.14
USPS	101336	12/12/2024	\$ 246.00
Wells Fargo Card Services	101337	12/12/2024	\$ 2,714.02
Xerox Corporation	101338	12/12/2024	\$ 320.50
Xerox Financial Services	101339	12/12/2024	\$ 30.22
JASON MILLIGAN	101340	12/12/2024	\$ 4,000.00
SCOTT ROBINSON	101341	12/12/2024	\$ 4,000.00
Cal Poly Corporation / ITRC	101342	12/13/2024	\$ 177,863.09
HEALTH EQUITY	101343	12/13/2024	\$ 23,800.00
Pape' Machinery Exchange	101344	12/13/2024	\$ 8,568.00
PDM Steel Service Centers,	101345	12/13/2024	\$ 560.02
AT&T	300128	12/16/2024	\$ 86.20
Verizon Wireless	300129	12/16/2024	\$ 240.92
PERS Administrative Fund	101346	12/19/2024	\$ 11,590.41
Vision Service Plan - Nevada	300127	12/20/2024	\$ 342.96
Alhambra	300130	12/30/2024	\$ 222.80

Spectrum Business	300131	12/30/2024	\$	237.99
CMC TIRE INC SPO	101349	12/30/2024	\$	783.47
Edney Tree Service	101350	12/30/2024	\$	6,500.00
Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.	101351	12/30/2024	\$	279,726.60
Giomi, Inc.	101352	12/30/2024	\$	1,022.87
Jim Menesini Petroleum	101353	12/30/2024	\$	479.48
MF Barcellos	101354	12/30/2024	\$	1,658.76
Quill	101355	12/30/2024	\$	98.36
Standard Insurance Co	101356	12/30/2024	\$	422.42
Yerington Ready Mix	101357	12/30/2024	\$	2,955.96
The Ferraro Group	101358	12/30/2024	\$	7,500.00
Payroll		12/15/2024	\$	9,230.68
EFTPS		12/15/2024	\$	1,401.96
Payroll		12/31/2024	\$	23,313.50
EFTPS		12/31/2024	\$	4,449.23
Total Bills & Payroll			\$	579,492.09
NFWF Submission			\$	(196,761.55)
Total District Expense			\$	382,730.54

Director GIORGI inquired about the Cal Poly bills; GM BRYAN stated they are the bills for the modernization project reports. Vice President MASINI inquired about the Ferguson bills; GM BRYAN stated it is for the pipe on the NRCS pipeline project. The pipe will begin at the corner of South Street and Cottonwood Avenue then continue to Bridge Street. The drain will be open through Lucy Snyder's property and then the pipe will continue on Goldfield Avenue going north to the Nichol Merritt.

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 there is a breakdown of the USGS gages in the packet. Topaz is currently at 39% capacity and Bridgeport is currently at 48% capacity. Topaz has stored approximately 7,890 acre-feet since November 1st and Bridgeport has stored approximately 6,380 acre-feet.

GM BRYAN stated there is a paper in the packet explaining the protest that the District filed on the Singatse Peak Services permit requests. GM BRYAN will keep the Board updated on any changes.

The shop crew is working on the pipeline project through town. The crew will be working through the remainder of the off-season and will have the project complete by March 1st. Vice President MASINI asked if the ditch was being dug out then refilled; GM BRYAN stated base was brought in from the City of Yerington's yard for free. The pipe is being installed and then covered with the base. There will be a wind row on top of the pipe once everything is done so no one can drive on the pipe. There was concern with restricting the capacity of the ditch, but the current ditch capacity is less than what the 5-foot pipe can hold, so the capacity is being increased, and the pipe will be daylighted.

There have been a few private ditch company meetings already, but if any still need to meet, schedule with the office staff. The Campbell meeting is Tuesday January 14th at 10am.

Last month, GM BRYAN attended a public meeting hosted by NDEP. They gave an update on the activities at the Anaconda mine site. There was interest regarding the groundwater, but NDEP made it a point that they would not be speaking on that topic. They did report on what has been rehabbed and restabilized as well as what the future goals are. There was mention of the Wabuska drain, and what their long-term goals are there as well. Approximately 2 years ago, NDEP and EPA were given permission to take samples from the Wabuska drain area.

On December 17th, GM BRYAN met with the Department of Transportation regarding their repaving project on Highway 95a from Fox Lane to the intersection of Goldfield Avenue. The project is going to be complex, as there are multiple private and ditch company turnouts and District drains that cross under the highway. The project is going out to bid right now. The original conversation included assistance from the District in installing the culverts, but that is no longer feasible, and the contractor will need to do the work. GM BRYAN will work closely with the contractor and all those affected. The drain across from the Fairgrounds will be shifted 5 feet into David Little's property because NDOT believes the road is being affected by the drain water seepage.

A few weeks ago, the District got the approval to replace the culvert on Highway 208 at Pursel Lane/Sceirine Lane. Prime West Construction will be doing the project. During the work, the District will be working with Lyon County, Mason Valley Fire Department, and Lyon County School District on an alternate route around the intersection. Vice President MASINI asked if there was a start date for this project; GM BRYAN stated we do not have a start date yet. We are waiting on when the culverts can be delivered by Jensen. Vice President MASINI asked how many feet the project is; GM BRYAN stated the NDOT right-of-way is 60 feet, but the proposed engineering plans is 74 feet, so somewhere in between the two is where the culvert will end. The goal is to reduce erosion, so the culvert will be as wide as possible. The culverts are very heavy and will be delivered with a crane. The hope is that the trench will be open when the culverts are delivered so they can be set directly where they will need to be.

D. Legal Counsel’s Report

Dale FERGUSON stated there was no update.

E. Stored Water Leasing Program update

Wes WALKER reported that the 2024 Program Summary has been filed with the California State Board. The Walker River Court update will be filed once the USGS gage data is finalized. Once the USGS gage information is finalized, there is a 90-day window to get the update filed. MBK has started to work on the overall program summary report and has met with users to get feedback. They will be scheduling more meetings with other users soon.

6. Presentation by Tim Bardsley with NOAA regarding the current year weather and water outlook for 2025 irrigation season.

Tim BARDSLEY presented a slide presentation; highlights included:

- The October-December 2024 mean temperature was average to above average.
- The October-December 2024 precipitation was average to below average.
- Strong winds are expected north of the basin today and at the end of the week.
- The 8–14-day precipitation shows a 42% chance of being below normal. The temperature outlook has equal chances of being normal, above normal, and near normal.
- There will be no atmospheric rivers in the near future.
- There is only a 20% chance of getting 1 inch or more precipitation over the next two weeks.
- There are some promises for wet Pacific storms toward the very end of January into early February.
- The January-March temperature and precipitation outlook shows equal chances for anything happening.
- The current regional snowpack for the Walker Basin is 94% of median. It is similar to the 2015 peak and similar to 2020 and 2019 at this time.
- The soil moisture is below the median, but slightly better than 2024.
- The April-July water supply outlook indicates the West Walker at Little Walker to be 124kaf and 39.2kaf at East Walker at Bridgeport.

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

Lauren BARTELS reported that the pumping data collection was completed in December. Lauren will be compiling the data and will report when it is available. The next field work will be in mid to late February when the water levels will be measured before the irrigation season starts. Lauren will be planning the spring community meeting for March.

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

Carlie HENNEMAN reported they have been working with State Parks to fund the USGS gage at the Santa Margarita Ranch bridge. The Conservancy would fund the gage for 1st

year and State Parks would fund the 2nd year. State Parks is ready to sign the agreement, but if the Conservancy cannot make any progress in getting their water instream, they will not move forward with the agreement. President SNYDER clarified that if progress is not made on their (Conservancy) own; Carlie stated, “or with the help of others.” Director GIORGI confirmed the gage would only be funded for 2 years; Carlie stated the agreement is normally for 2 years, but they are finding that once the gage is in place, the State will try to fund money to put toward it in the future. If the Conservancy does not enter into an agreement with State Parks, the gage will be put on hold and then re-evaluated in a year.

9. Director Comments

Vice President MASINI asked if the petition for the Singatse Peak permits could be sent; GM BRYAN stated he will have a copy sent to the Board.

10. Public Comment

None presented.

11. Adjournment

Director GIORGI made a motion to adjourn; Director ACCIARI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Jim Snyder, President

Marcus Masini, Vice President

ABSENT
Richard Nuti, Treasurer

Dennis Acciari, Director

David Giorgi, Director