

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on August 7, 2024. 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
Richard NUTI	Treasurer
David GIORGI	Director
Dennis ACCIARI	Director
Robert BRYAN	General Manager
Counsel DePAOLI	Legal Counsel, via Zoom
Sandy NEVILLE	Water Rights Specialist

Public Present:

Joanne Sarkisian, USBWC	Carlie Henneman, WBC	Kat Dow, WBC
Lauren Bartels, NDWR		

Public Present via Zoom:

Dave Hockaday, LCBOCC	Wes Walker, MBK
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1. Public Comment

None presented.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Secretary HALTERAN and Vice President MASINI was absent.

3. Consideration of Minutes of the August 7, 2024 Regular Meeting

Director GIORGI 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 16,850 acre-feet (40% capacity) and Topaz was 23,580 acre-feet (39% capacity). The release from Topaz is 219cfs with today and tomorrow's releases including the water for the Storage Water Leasing Program. Director GIORGI asked if he needed to let the water in the Antelope Valley ditches go by or if he could use it; Joanne stated he needed to talk to David Park because it is Poore Lake water and needs to go back to the river.

5. Staff Reports:

A. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer NUTI reported as of August 31, 2024:

Cash in Checking	\$ 136,070.60
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Cash in Money Market	\$1,001,643.97
Cash in CDs	\$ 757,568.24
Total	\$1,895,282.81

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

Payee	Check No.	Date	Amount
U.S. Geological Survey	300094	8/5/2024	\$ 16,683.34
Spaeth Technologies Inc.	300096	8/5/2024	\$ 260.00
Nevada Division of Water Res	300097	8/5/2024	\$ 360.00
Verizon Wireless	300099	8/5/2024	\$ 267.40
AT&T	300100	8/5/2024	\$ 86.16
Alhambra	300103	8/13/2024	\$ 424.68
Verizon Wireless	300104	8/13/2024	\$ 250.73
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	101087	8/13/2024	\$ 1,025.40
Blackbaud Inc	101088	8/13/2024	\$ 10,531.75
Cesar Vargas	101089	8/13/2024	\$ 570.00
City of Yerington	101090	8/13/2024	\$ 261.51
CMC TIRE INC SPO	101091	8/13/2024	\$ 2,174.02
Giomi, Inc.	101092	8/13/2024	\$ 179.48
Jim Menesini Petroleum	101093	8/13/2024	\$ 518.28
John Deere Credit	101094	8/13/2024	\$ 1.91
Lyon County Recorder	101095	8/13/2024	\$ 52.71
Lyon County Treasurer	101096	8/13/2024	\$ 3,269.63
Mason Valley Equipment	101097	8/13/2024	\$ 202.41
NV Energy	101098	8/13/2024	\$ 1,450.07
NWRA	101099	8/13/2024	\$ 495.00
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.	101100	8/13/2024	\$ 167.45
PERS Administrative Fund	101101	8/13/2024	\$ 11,298.36
Petty Cash	101102	8/13/2024	\$ 212.28
Power Plan	101103	8/13/2024	\$ 2,869.71
Purchase Power / Pitney Bowes	101104	8/13/2024	\$ 745.85
Raley's	101105	8/13/2024	\$ 117.83
Southwest Gas Corporation	101106	8/13/2024	\$ 40.42
Truckee Tahoe Lumber Co.	101107	8/13/2024	\$ 883.84
True Value	101108	8/13/2024	\$ 82.29

USBWC	101109	8/13/2024	\$	4,030.06
Walker River Irrigation District	101110	8/13/2024	\$	609.78
Wedco Inc.	101111	8/13/2024	\$	99.37
Wells Fargo Card Services	101112	8/13/2024	\$	3,154.39
Xerox Corporation	101113	8/13/2024	\$	38.83
Xerox Financial Services	101114	8/13/2024	\$	30.22
MF Barcellos	101115	8/13/2024	\$	2,634.41
Pape' Machinery Exchange	101116	8/13/2024	\$	8,568.00
NWRA	101117	8/13/2024	\$	595.00
Petty Cash	101118	8/13/2024	\$	500.00
JASON MILLIGAN	101119	8/13/2024	\$	2,160.00
SCOTT ROBINSON	101120	8/13/2024	\$	2,160.00
Richard and Joy Weber Family	101122	8/19/2024	\$	150.00
Richard and Joy Family Trust	VOID	8/19/2024	\$	-
USI Insurance Services National	300105	8/20/2024	\$	23,721.65
HomeTown Health	300107	8/27/2024	\$	14,425.22
Vision Service Plan - Nevada	300108	8/27/2024	\$	171.48
Desert Research Institute	101123	8/27/2024	\$	14,401.42
JASON MILLIGAN	101124	8/27/2024	\$	2,000.00
MBK Engineers	101125	8/27/2024	\$	4,035.00
NV Energy	101126	8/27/2024	\$	2,775.93
PDM Steel Service Centers, Inc.	101127	8/27/2024	\$	499.00
Quill	101128	8/27/2024	\$	389.86
SCOTT ROBINSON	101129	8/27/2024	\$	2,000.00
Standard Insurance Company	101130	8/27/2024	\$	211.21
The Ferraro Group	101131	8/27/2024	\$	7,500.00
Wedco Inc.	101132	8/27/2024	\$	85.75
Woodburn & Wedge	101133	8/27/2024	\$	16,823.42
PERS Administrative Fund	101134	8/29/2024	\$	10,998.50
USBWC	101135	8/29/2024	\$	32,262.31
Payroll		8/15/2024	\$	10,353.07
EFTPS		8/15/2024	\$	1,655.38
Payroll		8/31/2024	\$	34,702.91
EFTPS		8/31/2024	\$	7,881.33
Total Bills & Payroll				\$ 267,106.01
NFWF Submission				\$ (51,452.39)
Total District Expenses				\$ 215,653.62

President SNYDER clarified that the NFWF submission meant that the reimbursement had not been received; GM BRYAN confirmed that the amount has been submitted but not paid yet.

Director GIORGI made a motion to approve the bills; Treasurer NUTI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

C. Manager's Report

GM BRYAN stated Topaz is currently at 39% capacity with 23,580 acre-feet and Bridgeport is currently at 40% capacity with 16,850 acre-feet. GM BRYAN has continued to meet with BIA and WRPT during the SWLP releases. All data has been presented via the USGS website. The East releases have been completed and the West will be completed tomorrow.

The shop crew has been working on the drains and reservoirs. The areas that were washed out last year are being repaired.

GM BRYAN presented a copy of an email from Joe Huggans. Joe informed the District about a fish kill below the discharge tube at Bridgeport that occurred on August 16th. The kill was a result of the reservoir turning over. After the notification, the crew pulled water samples and nothing abnormal resulted from the samples. There have been no further reports, but the District has been in communication with the California State Water Resources Control Board. For the past several years, the District has been sending water samples in for testing a week to week and a half before all major holidays because of the harmful algae bloom that occurs in the Alpine lakes and reservoirs. A sample was sent out close to the fish kill and there were no issues noted. At the time of the issue, the releases were 260cfs and the reservoir level was near 50%. The only difference with this incident was that there were a few more fish than years prior.

On September 26th, GM BRYAN will be attending the State Water Plan Workshop with the Division of Water Resources. The goal of the workshop is to facilitate discussion with stakeholders and to inform of the issues and recommendations of the State Water Plan. The group consists of the same stakeholder group that GM BRYAN has been meeting with periodically. GM BRYAN will give an update on the workshop at next month's meeting.

From October 1-4th, GM BRYAN will be attending the USCID conference in Sacramento. GM BRYAN has attended this conference in year's past and has presented at some of the conferences as the District is a leading example of the modernization technology.

The District will be running the ITRC Flow Measurement Class starting tomorrow and ending on Thursday. There are forty-one attendees signed up. Dr. Styles will be available for any questions today through Wednesday.

D. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel DePAOLI did not have anything to report.

E. Storage Water Leasing Program Update

Wes WALKER stated the program will be completed tomorrow. Wes stated the releases are right on schedule with the proposed release plan. There was 15,654 acre-feet enrolled in the program and the final seventy acre-feet will be released from Topaz tomorrow. This year, 84% of the water released at reservoir has made it to Wabuska. The losses are not too bad and have been steady so there are good results this year. MBK and the District will start working on all of the reports and will submit them per the deadlines.

F. Storage Water Transfers

Treasurer NUTI made a motion to approve the transfers from August; Director ACCIARI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

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

Lauren BARTELS pulled preliminary data from the database on groundwater pumping. Smith Valley had a goal of less than 17,000 acre-feet and is currently at a little over 11,000 (excluding Artesia). Mason Valley had a goal of less than 64,000 acre-feet and is currently at 43,000. Lauren will be doing water level measurements beginning the first week of November.

7. 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 that the Conservancy closed the first groundwater retirement deal of five hundred acre-feet primary groundwater from Smith Valley, and they are working on the second deal. Treasurer NUTI asked if that was money coming from the State; Carlie stated it is. Director GIORGI asked if the State can re-sell the water; Carlie stated they have a deed restriction stating the water must be retired, but there may be a way around it. President SNYDER asked if there was more storage water being transferred to Walker Lake; Carlie stated that outside of the Stored Water Program, no other water is being transferred. Treasurer NUTI asked if the Conservancy has more money to purchase water; Carlie stated that there is no more money from the State, but there is Federal money available. President SNYDER asked how much money the State paid for the groundwater; Carlie stated there was twenty-one million total for the State, the Conservancy received four million, and possibly fifteen million went to Humboldt and the remainder went to Diamond Valley.

8. **Discussion and consideration of resolution authorizing the District to enter into: (1) a Joint Funding Agreement for the period October 1, 2024 thru September 30, 2025 with the U.S. Geological Survey for the continued operation and maintenance of the Walker Basin Hydro Mapper, an interactive web tool that provides a basin-wide perspective of real-time streamflow and reservoir storage capacity for the Walker River Basin in Nevada and California; and (2) An agreement with the Walker Basin Conservancy to reimburse the District for the full amount which the District is required to pay under the Agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey.**

GM BRYAN stated he reached out to the Board regarding the Conservancy's ask for WRID to help keep the USGS Hydro Mapper active. GM BRYAN stated because WRID is an agency, we can have a cost share with USGS, but the Conservancy will reimburse WRID for the full cost. Carlie stated the Conservancy is looking for long term funding but does not have the funding secured for the upcoming year. Carlie stated the Conservancy is willing to pay for the next year up front so WRID does not have to pay and then seek reimbursement. Treasurer NUTI asked what will be lost if the Hydro Mapper becomes inactive; Carlie stated it has helped the Conservancy track the water, and the public appreciates the real-time gage information and transparency. Treasurer NUTI stated the information can be pulled up on the USGS website right now but wanted to know what would be lost with the Hydro Mapper not being available; Carlie stated the data will still be available, but the real-time map would not be available. President SNYDER asked how much traffic the Hydro Mapper gets; Carlie stated she is not certain, but it has been active since 2019 and there have been approximately 15,000-20,000 views. Treasurer NUTI asked GM BRYAN if the map benefits the District; GM BRYAN stated the public does appreciate the availability and it does help the District when the public is informed. The map is more interactive than pulling up the USGS data page. There is a link on the WRID website, and it is published almost daily on social media. Treasurer NUTI confirmed it is being fully funded by the Conservancy, but WRID is the cooperating agency; GM BRYAN confirmed that and stated there are other reimbursement agreements in place where the Conservancy pays for gages, but WRID has the agreement with USGS.

Director ACCIARI made a motion to approve the item; Treasurer NUTI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

9. **Director Comments**

None presented.

10. **Public Comment**

None presented.

11. **Adjournment**

Director GIORGI made a motion to adjourn; Treasurer NUTI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Jim Snyder, President

ABSENT
Marcus Masini, Vice President

Richard Nuti, Treasurer

Dennis Acciari, Director

David Giorgi, Director

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