

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on October 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, via phone
Robert BRYAN	General Manager
Counsel DePAOLI	Legal Counsel, via Zoom
Sandy NEVILLE	Water Rights Specialist

Public Present:

Joanne Sarkisian, USBWC	Kat Dow, WBC	Jodi Roan, NDWR
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Public Present via Zoom:

Dave Hockaday, LCBOCC	Tim Bardsley, NOAA
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1. Public Comment

None presented.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Secretary HALTERMAN was absent.

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

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

4. Water Master's Report

Joanne SARKISIAN reported Bridgeport was at 15,190 acre-feet (36% capacity) and Topaz was 18,060 acre-feet (30% capacity). The delivery is 176cfs systemwide, not including Tribe. The Tribe will be going off on Saturday. The East & Main decree is currently at 1869, and the West & Tunnel decree is currently at 1865. Joanne hopes to use the 30cfs from the Tribe as it is being served entirely by the East.

5. Staff Reports:

A. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer NUTI reported as of September 30, 2024:

Cash in Checking	\$ 89,368.67
Cash in Money Market	\$ 869,209.07
Cash in CDs	<u>\$ 757,568.24</u>

Total \$1,716,145.98

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

Payee	Check #	Date	Amount
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	101136	09/04/2024	\$ 1,025.40
Giomi, Inc.	101137	09/04/2024	\$ 878.55
NV Energy	101138	09/04/2024	\$ 394.61
Quill	101139	09/04/2024	\$ 575.31
Sierra Office Solutions	101140	09/04/2024	\$ 90.66
Southwest Gas Corporation	101141	09/04/2024	\$ 42.37
Sticks and Stones Buildings	101142	09/04/2024	\$ 89.80
Wedco Inc.	101143	09/04/2024	\$ 1,036.24
Wells Fargo Card Services	101144	09/04/2024	\$ 3,584.99
Xerox Financial Services	101145	09/04/2024	\$ 30.22
Purchase Power / Pitney Bowes	101146	09/04/2024	\$ 517.56
MF Barcellos	101147	09/05/2024	\$ 4,570.20
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.	101148	09/05/2024	\$ 1,067.27
THE PARTS HOUSE	101149	09/05/2024	\$ 358.61
PrimePay	300109	09/13/2024	\$ 220.00
AT&T	300110	09/13/2024	\$ 86.16
JASON MILLIGAN	101150	09/13/2024	\$ 2,487.50
SCOTT ROBINSON	101151	09/13/2024	\$ 2,487.50
Verizon Wireless	300111	09/17/2024	\$ 245.87
HomeTown Health	300112	09/26/2024	\$ 7,212.61
D & S Waste Removal	101152	09/26/2024	\$ 308.64
Desert Research Institute	101153	09/26/2024	\$ 13,681.35
JASON MILLIGAN	101154	09/26/2024	\$ 3,840.00
Jim Menesini Petroleum	101155	09/26/2024	\$ 330.87
John Deere Credit	101156	09/26/2024	\$ 269.69
Nevada Beef Inc	101157	09/26/2024	\$ 375.00
NV Energy	101158	09/26/2024	\$ 37.27
Pape' Machinery Exchange	101159	09/26/2024	\$ 8,568.00
PDM Steel Service Centers, Inc.	101160	09/26/2024	\$ 2,029.70
Public Employees' Benefits	101161	09/26/2024	\$ 1,740.46
SCOTT ROBINSON	101162	09/26/2024	\$ 3,840.00
The Ferraro Group	101163	09/26/2024	\$ 7,500.00

U.S. Geological Survey	101164	09/26/2024	\$	18,157.00
Wedco Inc.	101165	09/26/2024	\$	305.83
Xerox Corporation	101166	09/26/2024	\$	237.80
Jim Menesini Petroleum	101167	09/26/2024	\$	1,202.50
Sticks and Stones Buildings	101168	09/26/2024	\$	845.06
City of Yerington	101169	09/26/2024	\$	254.01
MBK Engineers	101170	09/26/2024	\$	985.50
Nevada Energy Systems, Inc.	101171	09/26/2024	\$	2,441.22
Woodburn & Wedge	101172	09/26/2024	\$	13,805.00
Spectrum Business	300113	09/30/2024	\$	237.99
Payroll		09/15/2024	\$	9,245.29
EFTPS		09/15/2024	\$	1,514.33
Payroll		09/30/2024	\$	30,942.91
EFTPS		09/30/2024	\$	8,121.61
Total Bills & Payroll			\$	157,818.46

Director GIORGI questioned the Nevada Beef bill; Sandy NEVILLE stated it was backhoe work done on Colony Canal. Director GIORGI asked if the City of Yerington bill was for the sewer and water and if the usage has increased; GM BRYAN stated the usage has increased significantly because of the Main Street Beautification project using water. GM BRYAN and Secretary HALTERMAN have been in communication with the City and will be seeking reimbursement for the usage increase. GM BRYAN stated there have been some increases, but the cost increase for the usage needs to be reimbursed or credited to the District.

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 30% capacity with 18,080 acre-feet and Bridgeport is currently at 36% capacity with 15,190 acre-feet. The West side has slowed down a little bit and the East side has come up a little bit. The District is close to wrapping up the season. There is still a lot of storage water to be called for, but if it is not used, it will remain in the pool for next season.

The shop crew has continued the routine repairs and maintenance on the drains and has been doing some work at the reservoirs. The crew is scheduled to do repairs in Bridgeport as per the recommendations from California Safety Dams. The work on the Desert Creek overpass is beginning to wrap up. There is a slurry pour scheduled for next week and then the project will be completed enough for the winter.

The ITRC Flow Measurement Class was held on October 10-12th and was well attended with approximately forty participants from a variety of sectors. There was classroom learning in the morning and field practice in the afternoon.

GM BRYAN attended the State Water Plan Workshop on September 26th. There was discussion between stakeholders and technical partners focusing on water right administration and enforcement throughout the state. There is another workshop scheduled for October 30th at DRI.

Last week, GM BRYAN attended the USCID conference in Sacramento. The conference was highly informative, and it was interesting to see what issues the neighboring states are facing and how they are working through them.

The annual Saroni meeting is scheduled for October 30th at 9:00am at the Smith Valley Library. The agenda and proxies will be mailed next week. Because it is a local improvement district, a legal posting must be done and the Board is invited to attend.

The Colony meeting will be scheduled in early November.

D. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel DePAOLI reported that there were two responses to the joint motion regarding the US/Tribe case. There will be a call this week with counsel for the Tribe, United States, and NDOW regarding the responses. After the call, Counsel DePAOLI will arrange for an attorney-client information session to let the Board know how Counsel will respond.

E. Stored water Leasing update

GM BRYAN stated that since the last meeting, all of the release obligations have been met, the participation funds have been requested from NFWF, and the reporting has started. The reports will be finalized once the updated USGS information is obtained in November/December. A follow-up meeting will be held with all of the stakeholders once the data is finalized.

F. Storage Water Transfers

Treasurer NUTI made a motion to approve the transfers; Director GIORGI 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.

Jodi ROAN stated Lauren has looked into the meter database and Smith Valley has pumped approximately 12,000 acre-feet and the goal was less than 17,000 acre-feet. Mason Valley has pumped approximately 47,000 acre-feet and the goal was less than 64,000 acre-feet. There was some over pumping and follow-up letters will be sent. Jodi reminded everyone to ensure that accurate meter readings are being submitted. Water level measurements will be taken in November.

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

Kat DOW stated they just closed their second ground water deal with the State of Nevada funds for groundwater retirement for 1200 acre-feet in Smith Valley. There is another deal with land and water in Smith Valley that is close to being completed. Approximately 81% of the Conservancy water being sent to Walker Lake is actually making it to the lake. There are still decent flows happening in the lower part of the basin, but the flows have slowed down. The Conservancy's first California water purchase is in progress. Treasurer NUTI asked if the California water was decree or storage; Kat stated it is decree right now, but there are legal things holding up the purchasing in California.

8. Presentation and discussion by Tim Bardsley with NOAA regarding the current year weather and water outlook for 2024-2025 winter off-season.

Tim BARDSLEY presented a slide presentation; highlights included:

- Recap of the 2024 water year- December and January were nonproductive, February was better, but March was the new December
- The SWE and precipitation levels did not ramp up until March
- The SNOTEL precipitation model showed the water year as being 98% of normal
- The soil moisture was slightly above normal going into the water year and the beginning of 2025 water year shows the same slightly above normal levels
- The early October reservoir levels are lower than last year, but still approximately 150% of median
- The 2024 water year flow at West Walker at Little Walker was at median
- The 2024 water year flow at East Walker at Bridgeport was well above median
- The summer heat was plentiful. A new record of 6 days above 105 degrees Fahrenheit was set. There were 21 days of 100+ degree days. The average temperature was 77.5 degrees, which is a new record.
- There is nothing to worry about on the freak-out chart
- The 8–14-day outlook indicates above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation; the October lookout indicates the same
- La Nina is making a return and is favored to emerge in September-November and persist through January-March 2025
- The October-December outlook indicates a leaning above normal temperature and equal chance precipitation expectation
- The December-February outlook indicates an equal chance expectation in temperature and precipitation
- The CNRFC has some terminology changes to align with national standards and their webpage has an additional feature- the National Water Prediction Service that has river observations, forecasts and mor across the United States
- Bottom line is to expect the unexpected. There have been incredibly wet and incredibly dry winters with La Nina. The wet or dry episodes will be dependent on location and strength of high pressure in the northern Pacific Ocean.

9. Director Comments

None presented.

10. Public Comment

None presented.

11. Adjournment

Director GIORGI made a motion to adjourn; Vice President MASINI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Jim Snyder, President

Marcus Masini, Vice President

Richard Nuti, Treasurer

Dennis Acciari, Director

David Giorgi, Director

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