

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on December 7, 2023. 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
Richard NUTI	Treasurer, via Zoom
David GIORGI	Director
Dennis ACCIARI	Director, via phone
Robert BRYAN	General Manager
Jessica HALTERMAN	Secretary
Sandy NEVILLE	Water Rights Specialist

**Public Present:**

Joanne Sarkisian, USBWC	Kat Dow, WBC	Carlie Henneman, WBC
Ed Ryan, MV/SVCD	AJ Jensby, NDWR	Jodi Roan, NDWR

**1. Public Comment**

None presented.

**2. Roll Call**

All members were present with Treasurer NUTI via Zoom and Director ACCIARI on the phone.

**3. Consideration of Minutes of the November 7, 2023 Regular Meeting**

Director GIORGI stated he is listed as present and was absent; Secretary HALTERMAN will make the correction. Vice President MASINI made a motion to approve the minutes; President SNYDER offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

**4. Water Master's Report**

Joanne SARKISIAN reported Bridgeport was at 34,030 acre-feet (81%) and Topaz was at 35,000 acre-feet (58%). The reservoirs are continuing to store water. The current release from Bridgeport is 20.2 feet and Topaz is 10.5 feet. There is approximately 33 feet coming down the natural channel of Topaz. Joanne is delivering 20cfs of stock water in Smith Valley, 9cfs on the Main, and 9cfs on the East for a total of 38cfs systemwide. Vice President MASINI asked if there was a way to stop the water coming on the back side of the natural channel; Joanne asked Bert- Bert stated it is all water coming from tributaries so it cannot be stopped or controlled. Vice President MASINI stated it is nice to see the springs still running.

**5. Staff Reports:**

**A. Treasurer's Report**

Secretary HALTERMAN reported as of November 30, 2023:

Cash in Checking	\$ 123,435.48
Cash in Money Market	\$ 924,835.38
Cash in CDs	<u>\$ 757,568.24</u>
Total	\$1,805,839.10

Vice President MASINI asked what the increase in the Money Market account was; Secretary HALTERMAN stated the Lyon County assessments from October was around \$400,000.

**B. Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment  
Walker River Irrigation District  
November 2023 Bills & Payroll**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Check No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
208 Investments, LLC	100601	11/03/2023	\$ 1,890.74
Albert S Bozsik Jr	100602	11/03/2023	\$ 3,481.06
AUDREY GLOCK	100603	11/03/2023	\$ 249.72
BRUCE VOGEL	100604	11/03/2023	\$ 2,421.62
C.E.A.S. CO INC	100605	11/03/2023	\$ 80,850.00
CAROL TIBBALS	100606	11/03/2023	\$ 32,808.93
CHARLES BOOTH	100607	11/03/2023	\$ 1,144.22
CHARLES LOVE	100608	11/03/2023	\$ 1,059.46
CHASE WALDEN	100609	11/03/2023	\$ 419.99
CRAIG MILLER	100610	11/03/2023	\$ 3,675.00
Curtis Family Trust	100611	11/03/2023	\$ 14,714.36
DARRELL PURSEL	100612	11/03/2023	\$ 30,135.00
David H Roots	100613	11/03/2023	\$ 2,046.05
DAVID KERR	100614	11/03/2023	\$ 588.00
DAVID WHARTON	100615	11/03/2023	\$ 28.02
DEBRA BOWMAN	100616	11/03/2023	\$ 902.05
Dennis Hellwinkel	100617	11/03/2023	\$ 286.05
DGHP, Inc	100618	11/03/2023	\$ 5,582.06
EDWARD FERRANTO	100619	11/03/2023	\$ 14,905.07
Four G LLC	100620	11/03/2023	\$ 45,216.17
GANSBERG RANCH LLC	100621	11/03/2023	\$ 102,900.00
George Petersen	100622	11/03/2023	\$ 1,528.80
Grant B Smith	100623	11/03/2023	\$ 908.11
GREG SMITH	100624	11/03/2023	\$ 1,801.07
JAMES GLEASON	100625	11/03/2023	\$ 7,531.24
JEFF J RIFE	100626	11/03/2023	\$ 4,617.15
JENNIFER ANN LAPORTE	100627	11/03/2023	\$ 1,139.68

JOAN WILDER	100628	11/03/2023	\$	4,540.83
JOHN ALEXANDER	100629	11/03/2023	\$	317.84
JOHN R SCHERSCHEL	100630	11/03/2023	\$	785.51
KAREN HUTCHINS	100631	11/03/2023	\$	4,843.65
KATHY BLACKFORD	100632	11/03/2023	\$	9,081.07
Kris Johnson	100633	11/03/2023	\$	261.09
L&M FAMILY, LLP	100634	11/03/2023	\$	327,250.35
L&M FAMILY, LLP	100635	11/03/2023	\$	32,963.83
LAST HURRAH RANCH	100636	11/03/2023	\$	382,200.00
Laurie Evangelista	100637	11/03/2023	\$	6,054.05
Lyon County	100638	11/03/2023	\$	8,942.88
MARK GOLDEN	100639	11/03/2023	\$	12,108.10
MATHEW MOODY	100640	11/03/2023	\$	1,180.54
Melissa Starks	100641	11/03/2023	\$	1,310.71
PAUL FRY	100642	11/03/2023	\$	8,957.27
PAUL HERZIG	100643	11/03/2023	\$	8,820.00
PAUL SANTOS	100644	11/03/2023	\$	699.25
PETER CONGDON	100645	11/03/2023	\$	3,647.07
Peter Karkos	100646	11/03/2023	\$	294.00
Pope Valley Ranching NV	100647	11/03/2023	\$	183,595.65
R.N. FULSTONE Co.	100648	11/03/2023	\$	203,287.67
Richard D Roberson	100649	11/03/2023	\$	233.73
ROBERT COOPER	100650	11/03/2023	\$	35,827.12
ROBERT HENDERSON	100651	11/03/2023	\$	1,137.40
ROGER FAWCETT	100652	11/03/2023	\$	721.95
Ronald J Bath	100653	11/03/2023	\$	1,092.75
Sandra K Marriott	100654	11/03/2023	\$	2,785.16
SANTA MARGARITA	100655	11/03/2023	\$	183,750.00
SHAWN STAVANG	100656	11/03/2023	\$	10,638.10
SMITH VALLEY CATTLE	100657	11/03/2023	\$	82,416.78
STEPHEN COE	100658	11/03/2023	\$	1,135.13
STEVEN A FULSTONE	100659	11/03/2023	\$	85,355.91
Ted L Fitzpatrick	100660	11/03/2023	\$	544.87
THOMAS CONNOLLY	100661	11/03/2023	\$	712.88
Todd T Brethauer	100662	11/03/2023	\$	4,527.31
VIVIEN WILKINSON	100663	11/03/2023	\$	5,325.81
WALKER LAKE WORKING	100664	11/03/2023	\$	1,585.35
Wesley A Smith	100665	11/03/2023	\$	48,657.00
WHISPERING RIVER	100666	11/03/2023	\$	5,917.60
WILLIAM M VIRDIN	100667	11/03/2023	\$	2,058.00
Zachary Roots	100668	11/03/2023	\$	2,046.05
Ameritas Life Insurance	100669	11/15/2023	\$	1,086.70
City of Yerington	100670	11/15/2023	\$	117.13

Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.	100671	11/15/2023	\$	5,040.00
Hunewill Construction Co.,	100672	11/15/2023	\$	5,448.19
JASON MILLIGAN	100673	11/15/2023	\$	2,580.00
Jim Menesini Petroleum	100674	11/15/2023	\$	551.95
MBK Engineers	100675	11/15/2023	\$	15,491.50
NV Energy	100676	11/15/2023	\$	268.57
Pape' Machinery Exchange	100677	11/15/2023	\$	26,136.00
PDM Steel Service	100678	11/15/2023	\$	8,090.51
Pitney Bowes Global	100679	11/15/2023	\$	35.00
Purchase Power / Pitney	100680	11/15/2023	\$	454.01
SCOTT ROBINSON	100681	11/15/2023	\$	2,580.00
Sierra Office Solutions	100682	11/15/2023	\$	167.47
Southwest Gas Corp	100683	11/15/2023	\$	53.80
Standard Insurance Co	100684	11/15/2023	\$	321.56
Wedco Inc.	100685	11/15/2023	\$	3,713.79
Xerox Corporation	100686	11/15/2023	\$	229.48
Giomi, Inc.	100687	11/15/2023	\$	197.51
John Deere Credit	100688	11/15/2023	\$	237.68
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.	100689	11/15/2023	\$	311.66
THE PARTS HOUSE	100690	11/15/2023	\$	5.99
Wells Fargo Card Services	100691	11/15/2023	\$	8,023.04
PERS Administrative Fund	100692	11/15/2023	\$	12,322.37
Desert Research Institute	100693	11/29/2023	\$	16,950.85
Huntley Motor World	100694	11/29/2023	\$	10,923.25
JASON MILLIGAN	100695	11/29/2023	\$	1,480.00
Lyon County Recorder	100696	11/29/2023	\$	39.28
MF Barcellos	100697	11/29/2023	\$	3,321.07
NV Energy	100698	11/29/2023	\$	1.34
Quill	100699	11/29/2023	\$	248.40
SCOTT ROBINSON	100700	11/29/2023	\$	1,480.00
Standard Insurance	100701	11/29/2023	\$	321.56
Truckee Tahoe Lumber	100702	11/29/2023	\$	2,480.30
True Value	100703	11/29/2023	\$	34.96
Wedco Inc.	100704	11/29/2023	\$	9,839.40
Wells Fargo Card Services	100705	11/29/2023	\$	4,820.55
USBWC	100706	11/29/2023	\$	52,419.65
CDTFA	100707	11/30/2023	\$	11,522.05
Codale Electric Supply	100708	11/30/2023	\$	2,193.11
MBK Engineers	100709	11/30/2023	\$	392.00
Pape' Machinery Exchange	100710	11/30/2023	\$	2,000.00
Wedco Inc.	100711	11/30/2023	\$	2,321.72
Woodburn & Wedge	100712	11/30/2023	\$	15,267.55
ABILA Dept 2145	300045	11/02/2023	\$	666.70

Verizon Wireless	300046	11/02/2023	\$	264.41
AT&T	300047	11/02/2023	\$	72.78
PrimePay	300048	11/02/2023	\$	196.00
Nevada Public Agency	300049	11/02/2023	\$	4,618.25
NDEP	300050	11/02/2023	\$	350.00
Alhambra	300051	11/15/2023	\$	462.64
Spectrum Business	300052	11/15/2023	\$	232.50
Alhambra	300053	11/29/2023	\$	125.90
HomeTown Health	300054	11/29/2023	\$	17,135.68
Vision Service Plan	300055	11/29/2023	\$	372.10
Verizon Wireless	300056	11/30/2023	\$	291.81
PAYROLL		11/15/2023	\$	12,198.13
EFTPS		11/15/2023	\$	1,802.99
PAYROLL		11/30/2023	\$	25,495.16
EFTPS		11/30/2023	\$	3,973.94
<b>Total Bills &amp; Payroll</b>			<b>\$</b>	<b>2,340,219.82</b>
<i>NFWF previously paid to WRID</i>			<i>\$</i>	<i>(2,040,439.88)</i>
<b>November WRID Bills</b>			<b>\$</b>	<b>299,779.94</b>

Secretary HALTERMAN asked if the notation on where the bills were being coded helps; everyone agreed it does help. 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 reported Topaz is at 35,000 acre feet (58%) and Bridgeport is at 34,060 acre feet (80%). Since November 1<sup>st</sup>, Topaz has stored 7,880 acre-feet and Bridgeport has stored 6,300 acre-feet.

GM BRYAN met with MBK last week to discuss the reservoir capacities. They will meet periodically to monitor and discuss management protocols for the reservoirs. Per the breakdown from the California Nevada River Forecast Center, the releases from both reservoirs are the minimum required flows. There is no indication that there will be any humungous snowpack increases. The highest snowpack level is Leavitt Lake and it has 26” of snow. GM BRYAN will reach out to the weather service to give a presentation soon.

The shop crew finished the Renner Turnout project last month and has been working on the Campbell project. The next project will be the modernization of the Colony headworks.

GM BRYAN keeps meeting with NV Energy regarding the Greenlink Project. The substations will be on the Morose property on the north side of Sierra Way will need to reroute the old Wabuska Drain. GM BRYAN will keep the Board updated on meetings and progress. Vice President MASINI asked if this project would

address the problems of the water going under the railroad; GM BRYAN stated the project is on the old Wabuska and the railroad problem is on the other side. Vice President MASINI suggested GM BRYAN still see if it can be addressed with this project. GM BRYAN stated the easements on the land are built and suited to be a low lying flood area so NV Energy is going to address that problem with bigger settling basins and will probably concrete line areas. Carlie HENNEMAN asked if the drain gets a lot of water in non-flood years; GM BRYAN stated that drain always has a lot of water in it. Vice President MASINI stated in a big water year it takes a lot of water and it is not designed to do so.

GM BRYAN stated next month there will be an agenda item next month to approve a resolution to adopt a Hazard Mitigation Plan. Lyon County has listed us as a cooperating partner on the plan and in order to finalize the partnership, the Board would need to approve the plan. President SNYDER asked what the significance would be to approve the resolution; GM BRYAN stated the County has to approve the Mitigation Plan that includes every disaster in Lyon County. There is one already in existence, but the District is not included as a partner. The plan helps out with State and Federal funding for mitigation projects. GM BRYAN stated the plan can be sent to everyone. Ed RYAN stated it also gives the District direct access to FEMA type grant money without being involved with another agency. President SNYDER asked if things would have been different if the plan had been in place for this past year; GM BRYAN stated he was not sure, but it helps with pre-disaster project funding. Vice President MASINI asked what legal's position was on the plan regarding liability; GM BRYAN stated we sent it to legal but had not heard anything yet. Vice President MASINI stated the District needs to be cognizant of the work that is being done outside of the scope of the Board in terms of liability.

**D. Legal Counsel's Report**

No representatives were present.

**E. Storage Water Leasing Program Update**

GM BRYAN stated the checks have been sent and most have been cashed. The District is waiting for the final numbers from USGS on this past year. The final reports will be distributed to those who are required to receive them. Already started on the next year. MBK has already begun processing information for the next year's program. All requirements are being fulfilled including the initial filings with the California Water Resources Control Board. GM BRYAN will need to set up a large group meeting in January.

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

AJ JENSBY reported that they are right in the middle of inventory, it is going slow, but it is looking like a really good year. AJ has accepted a supervisory position in the office but will be performing the same duties until someone is hired. AJ provided a printed presentation on the fall water level readings. Normally there is not a lot of thought put into

the fall readings since many wells were recently shut off or are still pumping, but it was neat to see the rise this year. There are 8 index sites in Mason Valley and the composite rise in the valley was 7.5 feet from Spring to Fall. In Northern Smith Valley, there was a 16.9 foot increase in groundwater and in Southern Smith Valley there was an 8.2 foot increase. AJ advised the overall picture is looking much better. Vice President MASINI stated in prior years, Mason Valley recharged better than Smith Valley and it is odd that it is different this time; AJ stated it may have something to do with Smith Valley having a deeper cone of depression. Vice President MASINI asked if there would be Spring readings available; AJ stated they will have the typical Spring to Spring analysis and may do a meeting in each valley again.

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

Carlie HENNEMAN the Conservancy just completed an acquisition in Smith Valley that included 3.6cfs of decree, 640 acre-feet of Newlands water and 320 acres of river corridor land. Carlie stated the Conservancy has received money from the State of Nevada to purchase groundwater rights and permanently retire. The program is for basins that are over allocated, demonstrated decline in groundwater levels, and known conflicts between surface and ground water. The Conservancy will send out letters and will hold public meetings. Director GIORGI asked if the water rights will disappear once they are retired; Carlie stated the Conservancy has experience in the topic. They do not call it retirement; they call it relinquishment as there is a legal difference and the program allows for both. The Conservancy has relinquished over 10,000 acre-feet of groundwater. Vice President MASINI asked if this was in addition to current programs; Carlie stated it is in addition. They currently have deals in the work that include groundwater rights so they can use some of the program money to purchase those rights and then offset the rest with federal funding. The Conservancy has never reached out to people who just have groundwater, so this is a new program. President SNYDER asked if the Conservancy still has some groundwater that has not been relinquished; Carlie stated they have groundwater leftover from the Ritter purchase. All other groundwater has been relinquished, except for a tiny bit of Pitchfork water. The intention is to retire all of the groundwater once it is not leased out.

**8. Director Comments**

Vice President MASINI asked if the drain at Quentin's goes into the main Wabuska drain; GM BRYAN stated it ties into the drain just up from the Stanley.

Director GIORGI asked when Loretta Singletary would be presenting; GM BRYAN stated that will be in March. They will be presenting on a study on snowpack vs what it does to the farmers. They will be giving a full presentation in March.

Treasurer NUTI stated it is interesting that the government can give \$14 million to purchase groundwater rights but cannot give money to assist with the flood costs. Carlie stated the money was given to the State directly from the government's ARPA funds.

**9. Public Comment**

None presented.

**10. Adjournment**

Director GIORGI made a motion to adjourn; Vice President MASINI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:33am.

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Jim Snyder, President

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Marcus Masini, Vice President

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Richard Nuti, Treasurer

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Dennis Acciari, Director

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David Giorgi, Director