

## **July 7, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on July 7, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM at the District Board Room, 410 N Main St, Yerington, Nevada by President Jim Snyder.

### **Present were:**

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jim SNYDER      | President       |
| David GIORGI    | Vice President  |
| Richard NUTI    | Treasurer       |
| David LITTLE    | Director        |
| Dennis ACCIARI  | Director        |
| Jessica SMITH   | Bookkeeper      |
| Robert BRYAN    | General Manager |
| Robert MARTINEZ | Water Master    |
| Gordon DePAOLI  | Legal Counsel   |
| Dale FERGUSON   | Legal Counsel   |

### **Public Present**

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Richard Smolin | Steve Kerins |
| Ed Ryan        |              |

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Roll Call**

All members present.

### **Approval of the Minutes for the June 6, 2016 Regular Board Meeting**

Treasurer NUTI made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Vice President GIORGI seconded the motion. The vote was called for and passed unanimously.

### **Water Master Report**

Water Master Rob MARTINEZ provided the Board and Public with copies of the USGS Walker Basin Hydro Mapper, NOAA River Forecast, USGS Drought Monitor, and NOAA Seasonal Outlook for July-September 2016. The USGS Walker Basin Hydro Mapper shows Topaz Reservoir's water level is at 70% (43,120 acre feet) and Bridgeport Reservoir's water level is at 49% (22,190 acre feet). The percentages are expected to change with the coming hot, dry weather. In reference to that handout, the green dots show where USGS have gauges and where they obtain their readings. The NOAA River Forecast handout shows a ten-day tracking of the river and helps to estimate future river flows. As seen, the West Walker River has fallen below 200 cfs. There has been a reallocation done by WRID and will be talked about in the Manager's Report, but the reallocation was 17% on the West and 11% on the East. Director LITTLE confirmed that 200,000 acre feet of decree had been delivered to date; MARTINEZ confirmed. Treasurer NUTI stated there was a statement made in a previous meeting where the projection that the decree was to never reach full decree this year so there would be no storage accumulation. MARTINEZ advised

when he was asked in April/May, the decree was projected to hit full later in the year; with the precipitation earlier this year, full decree was hit and held from May 11, 2016 to June 29, 2016 which was earlier and longer than projected. Director LITTLE questioned MARTINEZ on what his projections are based on. MARTINEZ advised the snowpack and historical data are used in his projections. Director LITTLE requested to know if WRID could build its own models and use them to predict future flows and events. MARTINEZ stated science and historical data are used to predict water activity much in the same way the data is used to predict earthquakes. Regardless of the model used, users will adapt to the drought situation. Director LITTLE agreed that farmers have adapted and are planting crops based on the projections and current models; LITTLE would just like to see better models created. MARTINEZ continued with his report and stated the decree flows had changed- East is at 1895; West, Tunnel, and Main are at 1874; Antelope Valley is at 1878. The USDA US Drought Monitor for Nevada indicates Western Nevada/Walker River Basin is now considered a D2-D4, but there are still concerns. The next report is the US Seasonal Outlooks for July through September. There is an equal chance of precipitation and above average temperatures projected. Vice President GIORGI asked MARTINEZ if he had any insight on when the best time to order storage water will be. MARTINEZ advised that is a tough question and suggested to watch the decree because the lower it falls, the less natural flow there will be to deliver the storage water.

**Staff Reports**

**Treasurer’s Report**

|                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cash in Checking              | \$ 570,928.16         |
| Cash in Money Market          | \$1,366,076.50        |
| Cash in CD’s                  | <u>\$1,239,333.42</u> |
| Total Cash & Cash Equivalents | \$3,176,338.08        |

**Approval of Bills and Payroll**

| Check Number | Effective Date | Vendor Name                  | Check Amount |
|--------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| 118891       | 6/6/2016       | AFLAC                        | 293.36       |
| 118892       | 6/6/2016       | AT&T Mobility                | 155.68       |
| 118893       | 6/6/2016       | NV Energy                    | 5,711.46     |
| 118894       | 6/6/2016       | Southwest Gas Corporation    | 41.93        |
| 118895       | 6/6/2016       | Wells Fargo Card Services    | 1,866.95     |
| 118896       | 6/14/2016      | Ameritas Life Insurance Corp | 632.10       |
| 118897       | 6/14/2016      | ABILA                        | 3,233.88     |
| 118899       | 6/14/2016      | High Desert Internet         | 174.95       |
| 118900       | 6/14/2016      | AT&T                         | 117.33       |
| 118901       | 6/14/2016      | Sticks and Stones Building   | 15.03        |
| 118902       | 6/14/2016      | John Deere Credit            | 23.94        |
| 118903       | 6/14/2016      | NAPA AUTO & TRUCK PARTS      | 147.41       |
| 118904       | 6/14/2016      | Lyon County Recorder         | 22.70        |
| 118905       | 6/14/2016      | MF Barcellos                 | 1,448.66     |
| 118906       | 6/14/2016      | O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.    | 34.98        |
| 118907       | 6/14/2016      | Pitney Bowes                 | 641.90       |

|        |           |                               |           |
|--------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 118908 | 6/14/2016 | PEBS                          | 792.65    |
| 118909 | 6/14/2016 | Quill                         | 39.58     |
| 118910 | 6/14/2016 | NV Energy                     | 36.38     |
| 118911 | 6/14/2016 | Stanislaus Farm Supply        | 128.52    |
| 118912 | 6/14/2016 | Valley Tire and Auto Service  | 35.00     |
| 118913 | 6/14/2016 | Verizon Wireless              | 77.29     |
| 118914 | 6/14/2016 | White Cap Construction Supply | 419.18    |
| 118915 | 6/14/2016 | Xerox Corporation             | 256.94    |
| 118916 | 6/14/2016 | Yerington, City of            | 96.05     |
| 118917 | 6/14/2016 | Desert Research Institute     | 9,293.01  |
| 118918 | 6/14/2016 | Sage Designs, Inc.            | 495.00    |
| 118919 | 6/14/2016 | Yerington Ready Mix           | 2,788.88  |
| 118920 | 6/14/2016 | Compston, Leah                | 120.00    |
| 118921 | 6/14/2016 | NV Energy                     | 171.64    |
| 118922 | 6/22/2016 | Petty Cash                    | 278.93    |
| 118924 | 6/28/2016 | BERKLEYNET                    | 1,798.00  |
| 118925 | 6/28/2016 | EMRB- Local Gov't Relations   | 47.25     |
| 118926 | 6/28/2016 | Lonnie's Small Engine Corral  | 83.18     |
| 118927 | 6/28/2016 | MBK Engineers                 | 878.00    |
| 118928 | 6/28/2016 | Nevada ESD                    | 3.33      |
| 118929 | 6/28/2016 | Quill                         | 426.93    |
| 118930 | 6/28/2016 | Cal Poly Corporation          | 69,759.63 |
| 118931 | 6/28/2016 | NV Energy                     | 5,900.97  |
| 118932 | 6/28/2016 | Alhambra                      | 512.11    |
| 118933 | 6/28/2016 | Standard Insurance Company    | 168.70    |
| 118934 | 6/28/2016 | Vision Service Plan - Nevada  | 120.47    |
| 118935 | 6/28/2016 | Wells Fargo Card Services     | 758.00    |
| 118937 | 6/28/2016 | Woodburn & Wedge              | 74,747.75 |
| 118938 | 6/28/2016 | Momentum Technology Group     | 1,840.00  |
| 118939 | 6/28/2016 | D & S Waste Removal           | 95.07     |
| 118940 | 6/28/2016 | Denson Surveying, Inc.        | 3,275.00  |
| 118941 | 6/28/2016 | Silver State Industries       | 1,087.28  |
| 118942 | 6/28/2016 | Yerington Ready Mix           | 336.65    |
| 118944 | 6/28/2016 | Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.    | 220.18    |
| 118945 | 6/28/2016 | Giomi, Inc.                   | 310.35    |
| 118946 | 6/28/2016 | HomeTown Health               | 4,100.79  |
| 118947 | 6/29/2016 | PERS Administrative Fund      | 4,394.55  |
| 118948 | 6/29/2016 | LCSO                          | 624.62    |
| 118949 | 6/29/2016 | (SCaDU)                       | 426.92    |
| 118950 | 6/29/2016 | (SCaDU)                       | 110.00    |
| 118951 | 6/29/2016 | (SCaDU)                       | 631.00    |
| 118952 | 6/29/2016 | Cruz, Maria                   | 350.00    |
| 118953 | 6/29/2016 | Arigoni, Robert               | 1,685.00  |
| 118954 | 6/29/2016 | Omar Cortes                   | 88.12     |

|        |           |                      |               |
|--------|-----------|----------------------|---------------|
| 118955 | 6/29/2016 | USBWC                | 5,804.22      |
| 4441   | 6/15/2016 | Bridget A. Banta     | 963.44        |
| 4442   | 6/15/2016 | Jesus Cervantes      | 1,363.23      |
| 4443   | 6/15/2016 | Oscar Cortez         | 1,306.56      |
| 4444   | 6/15/2016 | Damian Diaz Alvarado | 811.62        |
| 4445   | 6/15/2016 | Jessica A. Smith     | 1,136.26      |
| 4446   | 6/30/2016 | Robert A. Arigoni    | 1,281.42      |
| 4447   | 6/30/2016 | Bridget A. Banta     | 903.66        |
| 4448   | 6/30/2016 | Robert C. Bryan      | 4,623.67      |
| 4449   | 6/30/2016 | Jesus Cervantes      | 1,300.07      |
| 4450   | 6/30/2016 | Omar C. Cortes       | 1,262.17      |
| 4451   | 6/30/2016 | Oscar Cortez         | 1,243.37      |
| 4452   | 6/30/2016 | Damian Diaz Alvarado | 761.76        |
| 4453   | 6/30/2016 | Joseph E. Huggans    | 776.08        |
| 4454   | 6/30/2016 | Jason R. Milligan    | 1,847.93      |
| 4455   | 6/30/2016 | Ronald Murray        | 1,239.20      |
| 4456   | 6/30/2016 | Jessica A. Smith     | 1,155.05      |
| 4457   | 6/30/2016 | Donald Swan          | <u>645.32</u> |

**TOTAL 232,796.19**

Director LITTLE made a motion to pay the bills with a second from Vice President GIORGI. The vote was called for and passed unanimously.

### **Manager's Report**

GM BRYAN reported the reallocation was done- West 17% for a total of 60% and East 11% for a total of 33.12%. The decree is falling every day and the District is getting calls from users requesting their usage and balance reports. The District ran the well lottery and focused on those who had not been drawn yet; the well will be shut off on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Receptionist/Date Entry Clerk has been filled. Lupe Wagner will start on Monday July 18<sup>th</sup> and she will help with records for the state and alleviate some of the pressure with the office duties. The temporary employee position has been filled as well; James Martens will start on Monday July 18<sup>th</sup> as well and will learn the SCADA system and assist with field operations. We will be looking into grant funds to help offset some of the temporary position's costs.

There have been more requests for water usage and balance because of the falling decree and there are many questions regarding well usage. Most of the well questions have been deferred to Reed Cozens with the State. Director LITTLE advised the District staff is doing well in keeping the Board informed and that is helpful because farmers look to the Board for leadership. GM Bryan advised the Ditch Riders are now being given updated storage reports twice per week and that will continue until the end of the water season. The District is working towards being able to allow each user to view his/her balance reports via the website with usernames and passwords. Director LITTLE requested to know if the State Engineer's Office has a report available showing how much water is being pumped; GM BRYAN advised Reed and Chad are working on an interactive map that will have that information. Director LITTLE requested to know if the District is still working toward logging how much river water is being pumped; GM BRYAN advised it is being worked on and real numbers from the head gates are being sent to the State. Director LITTLE stated he just did not want anyone asking why they were not

notified of overage and especially if fines are given. GM BRYAN advised he understood that the State will give warnings on the 1<sup>st</sup> over pump; Director LITTLE advised there needs to be conversations with people so they understand the system.

GM BRYAN advised the equipment crew has been burning and/or spraying weeds along the ditches in Smith Valley and Mason Valley. They have been doing maintenance and repairs on the drains. A few weeks ago, the crew built a Replogle flume and there are pictures on the front office board.

GM BRYAN attended a meeting for legislative subcommittee. There were several presentations; Joy Morris presented on the Walker Basin program and Brad Johnson presented on the 2015 curtailment and what happened and why it went away. There will be another meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup> in Pahrump; it will address mainly Pahrump water issues. The agenda and minutes are available on the website.

On June 9<sup>th</sup> GM BRYAN attended a meeting with the California EPA regarding the mercury impairment of Topaz Reservoir. The reservoir was determined to be impaired with mercury when a test was performed on bass and resulted in a .33ppm mercury finding. The FDA standards had recently been decreased to .3ppm therefore the findings created an alert. Another test was performed earlier this year on trout and resulted in a .22ppm finding. NDOW advised the mercury is naturally occurring and there wasn't any spill or contamination. The State of California has a pilot program but there is no way to decrease or fix the impairment. GM BRAN advised the State of Nevada has no plan to treat the mercury impaired reservoir, but GM BRYAN will report back to the Board with any further information.

GM BRYAN met with the Bridgeport Ranchers Association and advised they are looking for grant funds because of the E. coli test results from the Lahontan Water Quality Board. The water was tested at the reservoir rather than the farms. GM BRYAN advised he will get a proposal out to the Board when it is available and possibly assist in finding grant funding.

GM BRYAN advised he met with the dam safety representatives in June. Everything looked good and the report should be available soon.

GM BRYAN is setting a meeting up with ITRC and NFWF to discuss the regulated reservoir study; an update will be given at the next Board meeting.

Treasurer NUTI inquired about an update regarding the rock berms at Topaz. GM BRYAN advised he took photos and is working on getting a meeting with Legal and Douglas County to discuss the berms, trespassing, fires, and any other issues. A petition was received from property owners at Topaz and that petition will be discussed during the meeting as well.

Treasurer NUTI inquired about an update regarding Perazzo Slough and whether anything came of it; GM BRYAN advised he wasn't aware of anything coming of it, but the work had been completed. Treasurer NUTI asked if there was water in the slough and GM BRYAN advised was not any water in it the last time he checked.

GM BRYAN advised he would be presenting a draft of the Rules & Regulations and By-laws at next meeting to introduce the changes. The changes will be available for discussion at the next meeting and possibly ready for action at the September meeting.

### **Legal Counsel Report**

Counsel DePAOLI advised he had nothing to add outside of what was discussed during the legal meeting.

### **Review and Approval of Monthly Transfers (For possible action)**

Director LITTLE made a motion to approve the transfers. Vice President GIORGI seconded the motion. A vote was called for and passed unanimously.

#### **NFWF Update**

A representative from NFWF was not present.

#### **Annual Review on the performance of the Walker River Irrigation District General Manager Bert Bryan and consideration of possible adjustment in compensation. (For possible action)**

Counsel DePAOLI advised his firm received a summary of reports that were completed by all Board Members. The data was summarized and responses were categorized on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being excellent. The results and evaluated areas were as follows:

- 4.8 Job Knowledge: Manager deals with and affectively reacts with job challenges.
- 5.0 Interactions Inside and Outside of the District: Manager communicates well.
- 4.8 Decision Making: No comments.
- 4.4 Planning & Organizing: Manager's timeliness and efficiency need improvement.
- 4.8 Public Relation: Manager displays good public relation skills.
- 4.6 Work Environment & Safety: Manager has pleasant work ethics.
- 4.8 Overall Performance: Manager is performing well in a difficult job.

All responses included a recommendation for salary increase; the rates were combined and results yielded an average request for a 7.4% salary increase. Counsel DePAOLI advised the Board is not limited to the summaries and can make recommendations as they feel. Director LITTLE commended GM BRYAN on doing a good job. Director LITTLE requested to know if there was a recent salary increase; President SNYDER advised the last increase was last year. Director LITTLE advised he felt 7.4% increase was a little high, but if that was the average that was fine with him because GM BRYAN "did a heck of a job". Treasurer NUTI advised he would like to see the salary increased to be in line with other General Managers; Director ACCIARI advised the current salary is significantly below that of the prior General Manager and he does not want to risk losing GM BRYAN over a salary problem. President SNYDER advised the average of the recommendations was a good place to start. Director LITTLE made a motion to increase the General Manager's pay by 7.4%; Treasurer NUTI offered a second. A vote was called for and passed unanimously.

#### **Director's Comments**

None

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Adjournment**

Vice President GIORGI made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Director ACCIARI. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 am.

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Jim Snyder, President

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David Giorgi, Vice President

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Richard Nuti, Treasurer

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Dennis Acciari, Director

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David Little, Director