

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on September 8, 2020. 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, via phone
Marcus MASINI	Vice President, via phone
Richard NUTI	Treasurer
David GIORGI	Director, via phone
Dennis ACCIARI	Director
Robert BRYAN	General Manager
Gordon DePAOLI	Legal Counsel, via phone
Jessica HALTERMAN	Secretary

Public Present:

Joanne Sarkisian, USBWC Ed Ryan, SV/MVCD

1. Public Comment

Secretary HALTERMAN read an email from Sherry L Sorensen dated September 5, 2020: ‘I am dismayed to see on the USGS website that the Bridgeport and Topaz Reservoirs are being taken down so low... it shows as of today 9/5 that Bridgeport is at 27% capacity and Topaz at 22%. Am I reading this correctly? And is it accurate? Why is the drawdown so extreme this year? And what is the legal or contractual limit that WRID must maintain? If there is one? I can’t find anything on your website that explains this. Please let me know.
Concerned citizen
Sherry Sorensen
Bridgeport, Calif.*

*Resident of 31 years (when I came here Bridgeport Res. had virtually no water in it - you all will remember the consequences of that!). I don’t want to see that happen again.’

GM BRYAN stated he will respond to the resident explaining there is a minimum pool of 2,000 acre feet and that a daily requirement of 20 cfs must be released. GM BRYAN stated he will include that there is still water to serve and the level will continue to drop until the season ends.

President SNYDER asked for the Bridgeport Operation Manual could be put on the website.

Counsel DePAOLI advised GM BRYAN to let the resident know that there is a large pool of water left in Topaz after irrigation water has been served.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

All members were present with President SNYDER, Vice President MASINI, Director GIORGI and Counsel DePAOLI on the phone.

3. Consideration of Minutes of the August 7, 2020 Regular Meeting

Secretary HALTERMAN stated the first paragraph needed to state the meeting was called to order by President Snyder, not Vice President Masini.

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

4. Water Master's Report

Joanne SARKISIAN reported the current reservoir levels are Bridgeport at 27% and Topaz at 21%. Joanne is delivering 120 cfs system wide today. There is not much call for water so there is a high transportation loss at nearly 60%. There is just over 5,000 acre-feet left to serve in Bridgeport and 3,700 acre-feet in Topaz if everyone calls for their water. Joanne is hoping to end the season with excess in the pool and is hoping the cooler weather will allow for her to lower the releases.

5. Staff Reports:

A. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer NUTI reported as of August 31, 2020:

Cash in Checking	\$ 295,044.65
Cash in Money Market	\$ 693,525.65
Cash in CDs	<u>\$ 745,557.42</u>
Total	\$1,734,127.72

CD balances as of 8/31/2020 are listed in the packet.

B. Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment

August 2020 Bills & Payroll

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check Amount</u>
121585	8/3/2020	PERS Administrative Fund	VOID
121586	8/3/2020	PERS Administrative Fund	\$ 8,118.04
121587	8/4/2020	Arellano Heating and Air	\$ 4,101.77
121588	8/7/2020	Mason Valley Quicknet	\$ 1,000.00
121589	8/7/2020	NV Energy	\$ 6,330.17
121590	8/7/2020	Southwest Gas	\$ 39.31
121591	8/13/2020	Ameritas Life Insurance	\$ 907.60
121592	8/13/2020	John Deere Credit	\$ 726.82

121593	8/13/2020	Edney Tree Service	\$	3,600.00
121594	8/13/2020	Mason Valley Quicknet	\$	300.00
121595	8/13/2020	MBK Engineers	\$	2,850.25
121596	8/13/2020	O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.	\$	13.27
121597	8/13/2020	Public Employees'	\$	1,740.46
121598	8/13/2020	Purchase Power / Pitney	\$	657.39
121599	8/13/2020	Quill	\$	380.97
121600	8/13/2020	NV Energy	\$	36.43
121601	8/13/2020	Wells Fargo Card Services	\$	6,649.05
121602	8/13/2020	City of Yerington	\$	320.17
121603	8/13/2020	Sierra Office Solutions	\$	327.78
121604	8/26/2020	Giomi, Inc.	\$	96.61
121605	8/26/2020	AT&T	\$	153.87
121606	8/26/2020	Sticks and Stones	\$	137.38
121607	8/26/2020	NAPA AUTO & TRUCK	\$	67.97
121608	8/26/2020	Lyon County Recorder	\$	33.50
121609	8/26/2020	True Value	\$	20.93
121610	8/26/2020	PDM Steel Service	\$	158.13
121611	8/26/2020	Power Plan	\$	37.54
121612	8/26/2020	Quill	\$	131.96
121613	8/26/2020	Jim Menesini Petroleum	\$	119.00
121614	8/26/2020	Alhambra	\$	319.70
121615	8/26/2020	Verizon Wireless	\$	493.79
121616	8/26/2020	Vision Service Plan -	\$	324.50
121617	8/26/2020	White Cap Construction	\$	5,086.52
121618	8/26/2020	Woodburn & Wedge	\$	47,057.48
121619	8/26/2020	HomeTown Health	\$	7,244.09
121620	8/26/2020	Charter Communications	\$	212.32
121621	8/26/2020	Smith Valley Conservation	\$	16,664.67
121622	8/27/2020	AFLAC	\$	35.70
121623	8/27/2020	MF Barcellos	\$	3,195.10
121624	8/27/2020	Quill	\$	203.23
121625	8/27/2020	CT Corp.	\$	388.00

PAYROLL 8/31/2020 AUGUST PAYROLL \$ 34,921.72

Total bills & payroll \$ 155,203.19

Vice President MASINI inquired about the Arellano Heating bill; GM BRYAN stated the air conditioning unit on the WRID side of the building needed replacing.

President SNYDER questioned the check for Jesus Cervantes; Secretary HALTERMAN stated the report automatically pulls his name as the first employee being paid, but the total is the payroll for all employees for the month. Secretary HALTERMAN advised she did not remove his name and input 'Payroll'.

Vice President MASINI made a motion to pay the bills and payroll; Director GIORGI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

C. Manager's Report

GM BRYAN advised Topaz is at 12,360 acre-feet (21% capacity) and Bridgeport is at 11,200 acre-feet (26% capacity) as of 5:00 a.m. The remaining storage balance to serve is 3,790 acre-feet on the West and 5,706 acre-feet on the East.

The shop crew has completed the work on the drains. They are in the process of moving equipment to Smith Valley. They will be doing several weeks of repairs and maintenance on the Colony Ditch before moving to Saroni to start the Nuti/Fenili and Main turnout projects. Once the Saroni projects are complete, the equipment will be moved back to Mason Valley to do repairs and maintenance on the High.

The annual Saroni meeting was held on September 2nd at Dressler Park to comply with COVID restrictions. Everything seemed to go well.

Two weeks ago, GM BRYAN met with the gate salesman and a potential contractor for the gatehouse repairs for the Bridgeport Gatehouse. There will be more detail later in the agenda.

Over the course of the last several weeks, the District has received questions from on when the District will be opening the meetings to the public. Secretary HALTERMAN and GM BRYAN have been looking into a couple different web platforms. They have also been looking into providing iPads to the board members to use when not in the office. A few topics, such as the financial audit, will need to be presented in a public meeting and it is a good time to transition from the closed meetings. The web platform allows for the public to attend without breaking the social distancing rules. GM BRYAN would like feedback on using iPads and offered guidance on using the web platform. For members who would like to attend in person, the board room is large enough to keep social distancing measures with all the board members present.

D. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel DePAOLI reported in May that Judge Du had set a schedule to file motions or resolve the question about the Tribe's start date this year. She has recently given the parties until September 30th to file a report on whether the issue can be resolved by agreement. Counsel DePAOLI will see where things stand by September 30th and what happens then will depend on whether there is an agreement or not.

Counsel DePAOLI stated the US/Tribe litigation is very active right now. The case is proceeding with discovery and deadlines for responsive expert reports. Counsel DePAOLI has asked Bert to work with the Board to arrange a time to have a more detailed attorney client information session on exactly what is going on and where things stand with the expert reports. Bert will check with all members and get a meeting set.

E. Review and Approval of the Monthly Storage Transfers.

Director GIORGI asked if there is going to be a cutoff date for transfers; GM BRYAN stated there will not be a cutoff date as there is a buffer in each reservoir and the biggest concern will be the community response to the pools dropping. GM BRYAN stated at this point there is no reason the Tribe cannot have its full amount. It will be challenging to get water down the canals because of the transportation losses so it is recommended that users not wait to order storage water. Director GIORGI questioned if transfers are allowed from reservoir to reservoir; GM BRYAN stated there were not any reservoir to reservoir transfers this year.

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

F. Storage Water Leasing Program Update

GM BRYAN stated on August 31, 2020 Counsel DePAOLI filed the temporary order to modify the decree to run the Storage Water Leasing Program during the 2021 water year.

G. FY 2019-2020 Audit Update

Secretary HALTERMAN advised that per the auditors, everything is going well, and they are making progress. They will hopefully be ready to present next month. The single audit will be done soon as well.

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

Secretary HALTERMAN read Wyatt FEREDAY's emailed update:

'... the groundwater pumpage totals through August: Smith = 23,531 AF; Mason = 57,076 AF. Also, I am sending 6 over-pumping letters this month, and have sent 9 previously this year, for a total of 15.'

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

Secretary HALTERMAN read Silas ADAM's emailed update:

'Storage Water Leasing

- The Conservancy held three storage lease programs for the 2020 irrigation season
 - A total of 3,250 AF was leased to 32 participants
- There will be no other storage lease program for the remaining of the season

New Land Director

- Bill Giuliano was hired as the new Land Director
 - He will mostly be in the Yerington Field office'

8. Discussion and consideration of authorizing District Manager to enter into necessary agreements, in accordance with N.R.S. Chapter 332, for the installation of the parts and materials needed to complete the Bridgeport Gatehouse gear box replacement, Bridgeport Outlet Gates Phase 1 Project, in order to comply with the California Safety of Dams Inspection on November 19, 2019.

GM BRYAN stated the District received a letter from California Safety Dams giving us until June 2021 to repair the gate stems on all six gates at the Bridgeport Reservoir. The letter required modifications be completed immediately since two of the gates were not operable and Joe has been doing great with that. Secretary HALTERMAN obtained two quotes from contractors. Syblon Reid's quote came in significantly higher than the one obtained from Lillard & Clark. Lillard & Clark quoted \$28,875 to complete the work and they have sent a representative to Bridgeport to review the project at the site. The parts have been purchased and should be here soon. The annual inspection is due in late October, early November and it would be nice to have the work completed before the inspection. The work will not impede reservoir operations, but it would be nice to have the work completed before water is stored.

Counsel DePAOLI clarified that the agenda item is not to award a bid, but to allow the General Manager to enter into the necessary agreements in accordance with N.R.S. Chapter 332 to make the needed repairs.

President SNYDER asked if the District has experience working with Lillard & Clark; GM BRYAN stated the company came highly recommended by Murray McCaig who the District has worked with for several years and on several projects where gates are needed.

Director GIORGI questioned if special tools are required; GM BRYAN stated no special tools are needed. The company is working directly with the gate fabricator and are doing trial runs with the parts so they will have everything they need when they get here.

Director GIORGI asked why the two quotes were so far apart in amount; GM BRYAN stated both companies had the exact same information to base their quotations on, but it is unclear why there is such a difference. Syblon Reid performed the repairs at TOPAZ and

the price was approximately \$120,000 but they had to send divers to do work underwater. No underwater work is needed for Bridgeport; all work will be done in the Gatehouse.

Vice President MASINI made a motion to authorize GM BRYAN to enter into the necessary agreements, in accordance with N.R.S. Chapter 332, for the installation of the parts and materials needed to complete the Bridgeport Outlet Gates Phase 1 Project; Director ACCIARI offered a second. The vote was called for and approved.

9. Director Comments

None presented.

10. Public Comment

None presented.

11. Adjournment

Director ACCIARI made a motion to adjourn; Director GIORGI offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

Jim Snyder, President

Marcus Masini, Vice President

Richard Nuti, Treasurer

Dennis Acciari, Director

David Giorgi, Director