

**TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
**Carson Lake Pasture Advisory Committee**  
 Minutes of the Regular Session Committee Meeting  
**March 29, 2023**

The Carson Lake Pasture Advisory Committee, in the counties of Churchill and Lyon, State of Nevada, met in regular session at the offices of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada, on **Wednesday, March 29, 2023** at 8:00 a.m.

The following Committee members were present constituting a quorum:

<b>Present:</b>	Lester deBraga Joseph Gomes Mike Zahradka Don Snodgrass Wes Washburn	Committee Chairman Committee Member Nevada Department of Wildlife (Zoom) Greenhead Hunting Club, Inc. Carson Lake Pasture Stockmen
<b>Absent:</b>	Michele Kyte Gibb Mackedon	Carson Lake Pasture Stockmen Greenhead Hunting Club, Inc.
<b>Others Present:</b>	Ben Shawcroft Kelly Herwick Cody Biggs Helen-Marie Morrow Ariel Tomb	General Manager District Water Master Construction & Maintenance Manager Finance Manager Assistant Secretary to the Board

In-Person Guests	Representing
Bryant Behimer <i>(arrived 8:45)</i>	CLP Manager – Independent Contractor
Jacob Ward	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Walter Winder	Grazer
Kenny Lee	Grazer
Bruce Corkill	Grazer
Dennis Lee	Grazer
Aaron Williams	Grazer
Trevor deBraga	Grazer
Sam Guazzini	Grazer
Norm Saake	Self

Teleconference Guests	Representing
Jeri Guazzini	Grazer
Mattie Johns	Natural Resource Conservation Service
Isaac Metcalf	Nevada Department of Wildlife
DeAl Dangers	Self

The following agenda items are not necessarily in the order they were heard or decided but in the order as appearing on the agenda.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman deBraga at 8:01 a.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman deBraga.

3. **Review and Adoption of the Agenda**

**A motion was made by Committee Member Gomes to approve the agenda, seconded by Committee Member Washburn, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

4. **Public Comment**

No public comment.

5. **Carson Lake Pasture Operations Review for the 2022 Grazing Season and Development of Recommendations Including New Regulations Governing Carson Lake Pasture Operations for the 2023 Grazing Season**

*Deliberation and decision for development of recommendations for new or revised Pasture regulations and/or new or revised Pasture policies governing Pasture operations for the 2023 grazing season and recommendation of the animal unit monthly rate for fees. The Committee may also review the terms and conditions of the Agreement had by the District with the State of Nevada for management of Pasture lands, and the Agreement had by the District with the Pasture Manager responsible for Pasture grazing oversight, and may upon review of all such matters provide recommendations to the Board for changes or modifications to such agreements. Any such recommendations relating to new or revised regulations, policies, or agreement modifications are subject to final approval by the Board of Directors at a subsequent meeting thereof.*

*A meeting was held by this committee on March 14, 2023 to review conditions at the pasture and to consider changes to the season and allowed number of cattle, but no decisions were made due to the quickly changing conditions. A decision was made to continue the discussion and any action to this meeting date. The Committee will again be reviewing conditions at the Pasture to determine impacts to the season.*

Discussion began with review of a map showing water levels in the Pasture during the 2017 flood event. This season water is anticipated to rise to the same or higher levels. The V-Line Weir is sending its maximum output of 740 cfs towards the Pasture; in combination with the flows from Sheckler Inlet which totals at 960 cfs entering the Pasture. Churchill County has entered into planning to install a second weir on the V-Line; this weir will be capable of diverting 2,500 cfs. Construction is planned on being completed by the end of May.

Churchill County is also constructing a berm (Big Berm or Berm) on the north edge of the Carson Lake Pasture area to preserve private residences. This will affect the level of flood waters inside the Pasture and will limit the grazing areas available to those north of the Berm.

The L12 canal normally used to irrigate the south fields has been washed out from flows through the Diagonal Drain. Discussion was had regarding purchase of a pump in order to pump water from the Diagonal Drain into the L12 for purposes of irrigation. It was determined that the request would be brought before the County Emergency Manager to see if funding would be available.

Mattie Johns, NRCS, commented that the Emergency Conservation Program should be available later this summer, but those funds are typically reserved for rebuilding following a natural disaster, not for prevention.

Mike Zahradka, NDOW, suggested starting with 500 head and seeing how the season went. 843 head entered the Pasture in 2017. Further discussion was had relating to sustainability of Pasture grounds, the potential feed availability and access issues. Pasture Manager Behimer commented that he believed 700 to 800 head of cattle would be sustainable for approximately 90 days at this point. Chairman deBraga asked for grazer input on proposing a 50% allocation of the numbers applied for, which would be approximately 750 head of cattle.

**A motion was made by Committee Member Gomes to recommend approving a 50% allocation with a start date of April 10th, seconded by Committee Member Washburn, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Discussion was had regarding rates for the Pasture. The State's AUM rate will stay the same; the District's rate had previously been approved at \$5.50, but with the changes underway for this season the rate will need to remain the same as the previous year for a total of \$7.20. Pasture Manager Behimer commented that he is willing to take a reduction in pay due to the extraordinary circumstances this season presents.

**A motion was made by Committee Member Gomes to recommend setting the District's AUM rate at \$7.20, seconded by Committee Member Snodgrass, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

## **6. Consent Agenda**

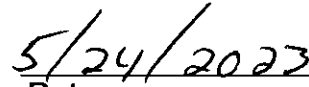
- Approval of Carson Lake Pasture Committee Meeting Minutes from February 27 and March 14, 2023 conducted at the District office, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon Nevada.

**A motion was made by Committee Member Gomes to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Committee Member Shawcroft, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

7. **Additional Public Comment**  
No additional public comment.

8. **Adjournment**  
The meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the Committee Chairman at 9:16 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lester deBraga, Committee Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date