

**TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Committee  
Minutes of the Regular Session Committee Meeting  
February 17, 2022**

The Committee Members of the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Committee of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, in the counties of Churchill and Lyon, State of Nevada, met in regular session at the office of the District, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada, on **Thursday, February 17, 2022** at 9:00 a.m.

The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Present:	David Stix, Jr. Robert Oakden Joseph Gomes Cody Biggs Kelly Herwick Rusty Jardine	Chairman Vice-Chairman Committee Member Const. & Maint. Mgr/Committee Member District Water Master/Committee Member General Manager/Committee Member
Others Present:	Mike Adams Mark Solinski  Helen-Marie Morrow Michele Wisnefski	Systems & Technologies Manager Hydro-Electric Generation Facilities Manager Finance Manager Assistant Secretary to the Board

<b>Teleconference/Zoom Guests</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Robert Owen	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Bethany Chagnon	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Leanna Hale	Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe

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 at 9:02 a.m. by Committee Chairman Stix.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chairman Oakden.
3. **Review and Adoption of the Agenda**  
**A motion was made by Committee Member Gomes to approve the February 17, 2022 O&M Committee Meeting Agenda, seconded by Vice Chairman Oakden, request for comment, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Chairman Stix stated that Agenda items 19 and 20 would be informational only and would be conducted following the official close of the meeting. Stix instructed the Committee that neither deliberations nor decisions were to be made during the on-site inspections.

4. **Public Comment**

No public comment.

5. **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

No miscellaneous correspondence.

6. **General Manager & Staff Reports**

• **Rusty Jardine, General Manager**

Rusty Jardine, General Manager reported that the Grant Deed for Old Lahontan Power Plant (OLPP) had been received. Recording of such is expected tomorrow. Furthermore, the OLPP Title Transfer Agreement was signed by Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Touton. Jardine also reported that Chairman Stix and he would be attending the Family Farm Alliance (FFA) conference next week.

• **Cody Biggs, Construction & Maintenance Manager**

Cody Biggs, Construction & Maintenance Manager reported that crews are completing water measurement installation on the T-line and V1, installing replacement gates and back filling Aqualastic projects.

• **Mark Solinski, Hydroelectric Manager**

Mark Solinski, Hydroelectric Manager reported that bladder accumulator and head cover gaskets would be replaced at New Lahontan Power Plant and lining of a few wicket gates at 26' Drop was planned.

• **Kelly Herwick, District Water Master**

Kelly Herwick, District Water Master provided the attached report detailing current conditions and the February forecast.

• **Mike Adams, Systems & Technologies Manager**

Mike Adams, Systems & Technologies Manager reported that new water measurement meters were being installed. Adams added that a replacement meter would be installed at Unit 2 on the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Reservation to increase accuracy of water measured as it enters the Wetlands.

• **Helen-Marie Morrow, Finance Manager**

Helen-Marie Morrow, Finance Manager reported that today, February 17, 2022, is the first day to declare candidacy for the Board of Directors election. Morrow also mentioned that two (2) additional ditch riders have been hired.

7. **Conservation Work Order Review**

There were no comments on the Conservation Work Order Review.

8. **Damage Claims Submitted**

No damage claims submitted.

9. **Incidents & Accidents**  
No incidents or accidents reported.
10. **New Applications Received**  
No new applications received.
11. **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Representative(s)**  
Bethany Chagnon, Deputy Project Leader, Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge reported that USFWS is hiring staff, working on levees, grading roads, preparing water management plans and finalizing Ducks Unlimited projects.
12. **Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe Representative(s)**  
Leanna Hale, Land & Water Manager reported the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe (FPST) will be submitting an application to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to request funding for lining the S-Line (Rattlesnake) Reservoir. A pre-season irrigation meeting is planned for March 2, 2022. Hale anticipated that the 2022 Allocation Report will be submitted to the District before the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. FPST has submitted a Water Right Transfer Request to the State Engineer. The S7-3 lateral project has been “paused.” Hale requested that Cody Biggs notify the FPST if assistance is needed when flushing the irrigation system. Robert Owen, P.E., Bureau of Reclamation, provided additional comments regarding design and construction associated with the estimated 130 acre southern portion of the S-Line Reservoir.
13. **Naval Air Station Fallon (NASF) Representative(s)**  
Not present to report.
14. **Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) Representative(s)**  
Not present to report.
15. **Bureau of Reclamation Representative(s)**  
Robert Owen, P.E., Bureau of Reclamation, reported that the 3 Year OM&R Report is due March 1<sup>st</sup>, the City of Fernley is working on the takeout for the Municipal Water Treatment Plan on the Truckee Canal, Emergency Action Plan (EAP) comments are expected by March 1<sup>st</sup> from the Bureau, and an Asset Management meeting is planned with the District on March 9<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Owen requested that gate exercises at Carson Division Dam be scheduled in early March.
16. **Rules and Regulations Governing Distribution and Use of Stockwater**  
Deliberation and decision relating to development of recommendations to be made to the Board of Directors as to formation of rules governing the distribution and use of stockwater during the irrigation season and any time outside the irrigation season. The “General Provisions” of the Orr Ditch Decree, *United States of America v. Orr Water Ditch Company, et al.*, in Equity, Docket No. A3, dated September 8, 1944, (hereinafter “Decree”) include the following provisions:

The above named parties [water right holders under the Decree] who so appropriated water for irrigation have also used and in addition thereto are entitled and allowed to use water for livestock and domestic purposes, but only in such amounts as may be necessary for watering stock and for domestic purposes; provided that the priority in respect to the use of water for livestock and domestic purposes of any person shall be identical with the priority of such party for irrigation.

The "Administrative Provisions" of the Alpine Decree, *the United States v. Alpine Land & Reservoir Company, a Corporation, et al.*, Civil No. D-183 BRT, dated October 28, 1980, bear similar language.

Nevada State law, NRS 539.233(1), confers upon the Board of Directors power to establish bylaws, rules and regulations for the distribution and use of water in the District and to compel water users, at their expense, to install measuring and regulating devices to effect and make a proper distribution of water. The District may exercise this power at the meeting by approving or denying proposed bylaws, rules and regulations governing stock-water use.

NRS 539.233(2) requires that any such bylaws, rules and regulations formed by the Board of Directors shall be printed in convenient form for distribution throughout the District.

The proposed Rules and Regulations Governing Distribution and Use of Stockwater are as follows:

1. The Alpine Decree (*United States v. Alpine Land & Reservoir Company, et al.*, Civil No. D-183 BRT, dated October 28, 1980, and the Orr Ditch Decree (*United States of America v. Orr Water Ditch Company, et al.*, in Equity, Docket No. A-3, dated September 8, 1944), as modified, bear provisions defining the manner to which water right holders are entitled and allowed to use water: For irrigation and also for livestock and domestic purposes. Manner of use is an attribute of an existing right under Decree and does not create an additional or separate water right for livestock and domestic purposes. The priority of livestock and domestic purposes is the same as that for irrigation purposes.
2. The delivery of water for stockwater and domestic purposes is limited to that amount necessary for such purposes.
3. Except as otherwise provided herein, delivery of water for stockwater and domestic purposes shall coincide with delivery of water for irrigation. The water season for all purposes shall be set by the Board of Directors pursuant to NRS 539.233(1).
4. It shall be the responsibility of a water right holder to determine the amount of water to be ascribed for stockwater and domestic purposes within the decreed right.

5. If for any reason delivery of water for stockwater and domestic purposes cannot be made during the irrigation season, the District shall provide for delivery by other means including, without limitation, delivery by truck.
6. No cost beyond assessment for operation and maintenance imposed upon lands within the District shall be imposed upon lands receiving irrigation water through a stockwater pipeline.
7. No fees shall be collected by the District for stockwater delivery where any such delivery is not possible.

Chairman Stix provided a historical perspective regarding stockwater in the Truckee Division as follows:

1. The Truckee Canal was always full in the winter for the purposes of supplying domestic water and stockwater. The canal was not operated correctly resulting in a "legacy effect" whereby water users now have an expectation to receipt of water they were not entitled to in the first place as delivery occurred outside the irrigation season.
2. In time, "scabbing" (i.e. stealing) of stockwater began.
3. Maintenance of the stockwater lines became an issue.
4. The Bureau of Reclamation encouraged the installation of 6 inch takeouts with water measurement meters.
5. Stockwater use was intended to be part of, not an addition to, the Decree water right (surface water right). Deductions for stockwater use did not occur.

Discussion continued as follows:

1. Maintenance of stockwater lines and "scabbing" is still an issue.
2. No separate fee for stockwater use exists now, nor can one be established.
3. Furthermore, the cost associated with receiving water is the responsibility of the water right owner.

Finally, it was the consensus of the Committee that water users that have questions and concerns regarding receipt of stockwater receive an explanation regarding "legacy effects" and Decree provisions.

The Committee made no decision relating to development of recommendations to be made to the Board of Directors as to formation of rules governing the distribution and use of stockwater during the irrigation season and any time outside the irrigation season.

#### **17. Mobile Measurement Devices**

Mike Adams, Systems & Technologies Manager provided the Committee with a proposal for design and construction of two (2) mobile water measurement trailers. Adams detailed the components and an anticipated cost of approximately \$10,100 per mobile water measurement trailer.

Deliberation followed relating to development of recommendations to be made to the Board of Directors as to approval of design and construction of two (2) mobile

measurement devices to 1) measure new volume of water, 2) access proper location of new water volume measurement sites, and 3) access accuracy and reliability of existing water measurement devices.

Additional discussion followed regarding Flo-Dar and Mace meter functionality, multi measurement potential and the Committee's preference to see the success of one mobile measurement trailer before investing in a second trailer.

**A motion was made by Committee Member Gomes to recommend to the Board of Directors, approval of the design and construction of one (1) mobile measurement trailer with dual device capability (Flo-Dar and Mace), pending approval by the Bureau of Reclamation for use of conservation funds with which to fund the proposal, seconded by Vice-Chairman Oakden, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

**18. Lahontan Dam Inlet Tower Dome Valve**

The Board of Directors previously determined to replace the left dome valve of the inlet tower at Lahontan Dam -as a Newlands Project maintenance priority, following receipt of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds for such. In connection therewith, the Board provided an appropriation of funds within the District budget to pay for the replacement. Since the determination was made, Reclamation, acting primarily through the Technical Service Center (TSC) in Denver, has determined that replacement of the dome valve is unnecessary in as much as other means exist at Lahontan Dam with which to properly control the flow of water in and through the inlet tower.

Mark Solinski, Hydro-Electric Generation Facilities Manager stated that once gates are replaced on the tower and an unbalanced pressure check is complete, the dome valve can be removed but will not be replaced.

Cody Biggs, Construction & Maintenance Manager reported that it is likely that the FEMA will approve the District's previous request to transfer funds from the Sheckler Project to the VW Weir Project. In addition, the timeframe associated with an extension for using funds allocated for the Lahontan Dam inlet tower dome valve has nearly run out. Biggs asserted that timely use of funds was preferred to potential loss of such funds.

**A motion was made by Committee Member Biggs to recommend to the Board of Directors, approval of the reallocation of funds previously approved to replace the Lahontan Dam inlet tower dome valve to be earmarked for costs associated with the VW Weir Project, seconded by Committee Member Gomes, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

**19. On-Site Inspection of the Lahontan Dam Penstock Serving the New Lahontan Power Station**

The on-site inspection occurred following meeting adjournment. See item 3, Review and Adoption of the Agenda.

20. **On-Site Inspection of Carson River Diversion Dam**

The on-site inspection occurred following meeting adjournment. See item 3, Review and Adoption of the Agenda.

21. **Consent Agenda**


A motion was made by Committee Member/General Manager Jardine to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2022 Committee meeting, seconded by Committee Member Gomes, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

22. **Additional Period of Public Comment**

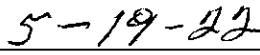
No additional public comment was given.

23. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m. subject to the call of the Committee Chairman.

by 

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Stix, Jr., Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# Truckee-Carson Irrigation District

## *Newlands Project*

2/17/2022

### **BOARD MEETING**

#### **CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

- **Truckee Div.**
  - Truckee River @ Vista gauge: 323 cfs
  - Truckee Canal: 258cfs
    - < 1cfs in Gilpen Spill
    - 258cfs at TC canal at Wadsworth
    - Water Master "Derby flow Target": 44.3cfs
    - Below Derby Gauge: 60.7cfs
    - 251cfs at TC canal at Hazen
- **Carson Div.**
  - Carson River @ Ft. Churchill gauge: 277cfs
  - Lahontan Storage: 97,066 a.f. / prev. 2/01/2022 @ 85,140 a.f. ; Diff. + 11,929 a.f.
  - Release below Lahontan: < 1cfs
  - Total Inflows: 528cfs/ approx. 1045 a.f. at 24hrs
  - Month End Storage target: 165,600kaf/ would require approx. 49,100 kaf of Diversions
    - This is greater than the amount of water available for diversion from the Truckee River.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Olsen, President  
David Stix, Jr., Vice-President  
Bob Oakden, Secretary  
Lester deBraga, Director/Treasurer  
Abraham Schank, Director  
Joseph Gomes, Director  
Wade Workman, Director  
Rusty D. Jardine, Esq., District Manager &  
General Counsel

#### **DISTRICT STATUS: Forecasting**

- February. 2021 TROA outlook
  - Est. 0cfs TC canal @ Wads.
    - Currently 258cfs.
  - Est. 355cfs Car. Rv. @ Ft. Churchill
    - Currently 277cfs
  - 103,188a.f. end of month storage
    - Jan.. 2022. Projected 85,499/ actual 84,421; 98.7% of accuracy
- **Streamflow forecast as of Feb.4th, 2022 Mar-Jul**
  - 70% chance 106kaf / indicates 94% allocation
  - 50% chance 165kaf / indicates 100% allocation
  - 30% chance 225kaf / indicates 100% allocation

\*\*\*Each scenario represents flows will be available for the Truckee canal diversions to Carson Division\*\*\*

#### **District status: Operations**

- Currently prepping ditches for the 2023 Water Season
- Continue to work w/ BOR and "TCIDworks" software development