

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the
TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2023

The Board of Directors 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 **Tuesday, April 4, 2023** at 9:00 a.m.

The following Directors were present constituting a quorum:

Present:	Eric Olsen Robert Oakden Lester deBraga Joseph Gomes Wade Workman	President Secretary Treasurer Director Director
Absent:	David Stix Jr. Abrahm Schank	Vice-President Director
Others Present:	Benjamin Shawcroft Helen-Marie Morrow Kelly Herwick Ariel Tomb	General Manager Finance Manager District Water Master Assistant Secretary to the Board

Teleconference/Zoom Guests	Representing
Mike Zahradka	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Isaac Metcalf	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Jason Villareal	Bureau of Reclamation
Mattie Johns	NRCS
Rachel Dahl	The Fallon Post
Doug Martin	Self
Bethany Chagnon	United States Fish & Wildlife Service

In-Person Guests	Representing
Jay Gibbs	Acting State Conservationist
Jack Worsley	Bureau of Reclamation
Robert Martinez	Bureau of Reclamation
Laurie Nicholas	Bureau of Reclamation
Albert Mulder	NRCS
Don Snodgrass	Greenhead Hunting Club
Richard Grondin	Mosquito Vector
Anthony Berreman	TCID – Assistant Scheduler
Jake Ward	NDOW
Cathy Tuni	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**
President Olsen called the meeting to order in accordance with NRS 241 at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Gomes.
3. **Approval of the Agenda**
A motion was made by Secretary Oakden to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Director Gomes, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.
4. **General Public Comment**
President Olsen commended everyone working on flood operations; people are working tremendous hours and he wants them all to know how much they are appreciated.
5. **Miscellaneous Correspondence**
There was no correspondence to review for the month of March 2023.
6. **General Manager and Staff Reports**
 - **Ben Shawcroft, General Manager**
Ben Shawcroft, General Manager, reported that the District is preparing to make deliveries; allocation letters were mailed. District staff participated in the Town Hall event. He has been working with the State Engineer's office on legislation. The designs for the second weir have been received.
 - **Cody Biggs, Construction & Maintenance Manager**
Not present to report.
 - **Kelly Herwick, District Water Master**
Kelly Herwick, District Water Master, reported on current conditions in the Carson Division. See the attached report. Ditchriders are scheduled for high flow monitoring 24/7. The amount of orders received has increased as of yesterday.
 - **Mike Adams, Systems & Technologies Manager**
Not present to report.
 - **Mark Solinski, Hydroelectric Facilities Manager**
Not present to report.
7. **City of Fernley – General Updates**
There was no representative present to report.
8. **United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) – General Updates**

Bethany Chagnon, Deputy Refuge Manager, reported Stillwater Point has drawn a lot of water, which should hopefully start pulling more flows through the Big Dig. They are moving the water north in the Refuge.

9. **Bureau of Reclamation – Lahontan Basin Area Office (LBAO) Representative(s) – General Updates**

Jack Worsley, LBAO Area Manager, reported the draft design for the second weir was released yesterday. There was an ASO flight on Friday; could take up to two weeks to receive the results from that.

The contractor for the Truckee Canal should be starting to pour concrete for the Fernley Check next week. The Bureau office is working to get some costs, resulting from breaching the construction site to avoid flooding into Fernley, deferred so that they will not deplete the construction budget.

10. **Fallon-Paiute Shoshone Tribe (FPST) – General Updates**

Chairwoman Tuni was present but had no update.

11. **Naval Air Station Fallon (NASF) – General Updates**

There was a representative present but no report.

12. **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – General Updates**

Albert Mulder reported planned installations of concrete ditches has slowed down due to the weather; seven (7) ditches are scheduled this spring, with 27-30 in the fall if he can find contractors. The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) deadline is Friday so applications need to be received by then.

13. **Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) – General Updates**

Jake Ward, Wildlife Technician, reported lots of water going into the Pasture. Some roads are closed as a result, and there is lots of construction from the Berm.

14. **Presentation by Acting State Conservationist Jay Gibbs on PL-566 Program**

Jay Gibbs, the Acting State Conservationist for Nevada will present information on the PL-566 Watershed Program. This program is one of several funding sources the District is exploring to fund major capital improvement projects.

Jay Gibbs provided a condensed overview of the PL-566 Program and answered questions from the Board. Highlights include the following:

- 2-5 year process
- Goal is to fund a \$24.99 million dollar project
- Planning and design is funded 100% by NRCS
- Implementation is a 75/25 cost share
- No obligation until implementation phase begins

15. **Approval of Resolution 2023-02, Relating to a Petition for Inclusion of Lands**

Landowners Darren James Leitzke and Sharon Leitzke, of Fallon, Nevada, having land in Churchill County, Nevada that is adjacent to the boundary lines of the District, have

petitioned for inclusion of one (1) parcel of land (Assessor's Parcel No. 007-111-30) in the District. This Resolution provides acknowledgement of the receipt of the petition and authorizes the Secretary of the Board to provide notice of the petition, as provided by law, and to provide for the setting of a hearing on the petition.

General Manager Shawcroft provided an overview of the request for Inclusion of Lands in the District. A hearing will be scheduled for the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Director Gomes to approve Resolution 2023-02, seconded by Secretary Oakden, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

16. Authorize Letter of Support for Bill AB325

AB325 is a bill that is pending before the legislature. This bill provides that temporary transfers occurring within the district boundaries no longer be reviewed by the State Engineer and that those temporary transfers be reviewed by TCID for approval. This bill further provides that maps submitted in support of applications at the State Engineer's Office be accepted even if they don't meet State Engineer requirements if the map has been approved by TCID.

Staff is seeking authorization to support this bill and authorization for the chair of the board to submit a letter or comments to the legislature stating such.

General Manager Shawcroft provided an overview of AB325. The bill would give TCID authority to approve temporary water right transfers, which would reduce the timeframe on each application from months to weeks. Since discussion on the Bill began, issues have been identified that cause concern; namely conflicts with the Alpine Decree. Shawcroft is in discussion with the State Engineer to explore alternate avenues to achieve the same goal. He asked that if the Board is in favor of the Bill conceptually that a motion be passed and he will provide updates on the discussion as they are available.

A motion was made by Secretary Oakden to support Bill AB325 in concept, seconded by Treasurer deBraga, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

17. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Director's compensation for the month of March as provided for by NRS 539.080.
- Approval of Board Meeting minutes of March 14, 2023.
- Approval of Special Board Meeting minutes of March 21, 2023.

A motion was made by Director Gomes to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Treasurer deBraga, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

18. Committee Reports

- **Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Committee**
There was no meeting held for the month of March 2023.

- **Carson Lake Pasture (CLP) Advisory Committee Recommendations**
Deliberation and decision relating to approval/denial of recommendations made as a result of the February 27, March 14 and March 29, 2023 meetings of the Carson Lake Pasture Committee. Recommendations made by the Committee are subject to the final approval of the Board of Directors and include terms and conditions of Pasture grazing and use, contractual covenants, conditions, and terms to be imposed by the State of Nevada upon transfer of the Carson Lake Pasture from ownership of the United States, terms of the cowboy contract for supervision of the pasture, application processes relating to issuance of grazing permits, the amount of fees to be imposed, the number of grazers to be permitted, the total number of animal units to be allowed, the beginning and end times for grazing, authorized entry and facility locking, and any collateral considerations, or limitations, that may impact grazing practice –such as hunting on State Lands.

Treasurer deBraga reported that a meeting was conducted on March 29th. The Committee determined to recommend a 50% allocation (750 head) with a start date of April 10th. The District's fees, previously set at \$5.50 per AUM, have been changed to \$7.20 per AUM. The Pasture Manager is willing to take a reduction in pay due to the Pasture conditions.

A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the Carson Lake Pasture Advisory Committee Recommendations, seconded by Director Workman, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Employee Relations Committee**
Secretary Oakden reported the Committee is still in negotiations with the Employee Association for the wage increase.
- **Finance Committee**
Treasurer deBraga (Finance Committee Chairman) reported that the Finance Committee met on April 3, 2023.

A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the Treasurer's report and Finance Committee recommendation to approve check numbers 43201 through 43280, the transfer of \$400,000.00 to pay bills, online, phone and automatic payments, seconded by Director Workman, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Negotiations Committee**
There was no meeting held for the month of March 2023.
- **Policy Committee**
There was no meeting held for the month of March 2023.
- **Public Relations Committee**

There was no meeting held for the month of March 2023.

- **Revenue/IT Committee**

There was no meeting held for the month of March 2023.

- **Truckee Canal Safety Commission**


There was no meeting held for the month of March 2023.


19. Additional Public Comment

Richard Grondin, Noxious Weed & Mosquito Abatement, reported their department will be purchasing an airboat to supplement their mosquito spray and noxious weed programs.

20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the Board President at 9:56 a.m.


Eric Olsen - President
5-1-23
Date


Robert Oakden - Secretary
5-1-23
Date

