



South Truckee Meadows/Washoe Valley Citizen Advisory Board

DRAFT: Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are approved by the CAB.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the South Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board held Aug 14, 2014 at the South Valleys Library at 15650A Wedge Parkway, Reno, Nevada

1. ***CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** - The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Patricia Phillips, Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT –Patricia Phillips, Chair, At-Large, Kathie Roberts, At-Large, Jim Rummings, At-Large, Eric Scheetz, Vice Chair, At-Large, Brad Stanley, At-Large, Dennis Wilson, At-Large, and Thomas Daly, At-Large. Patrick Ty Whitaker, At-Large Alternate, was also present and was asked to be a voting member for this meeting.

MEMBERS ABSENT – Thomas Judy, At-Large, excused, Malachy Horan, At-Large, Steven Miles, At-Large Alternate, Kimberly Rossiter At-Large Alternate.

2. ***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Kathie Roberts led the Salute to the Flag

3. ***PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Mr. Al Rogers introduced himself as the Washoe County, Office of County Manager, Director of Management Services. Rogers thanked the board for their hard work and noted that there are exciting changes happening in Washoe County Constituent Services. He noted that he had three (3) constituent services staff, including Sarah Tone, and that there was a new recording secretary which would be coming to the STMCAB meetings to assist us. He said he looks forward to working with the CABs in the future.
- Citizen. Kathy Bowling provided an update on TMWA merger. She said she wants to see commitment from TMWA to continue with the policies we have enjoyed under the WC Water Resource management. They will be holding wells workshop on August 26th. She said she requested they hold a workshop out here, but they chose to hold the workshop at their offices – 1355 Capital Blvd, August 26, 6pm. It's very important for those with deeper domestic wells in Callahan area, Mt. Rose/Galena fan area. Bowling stated that she thought everything was settled in 2011 when County ordinance 14-70 article 7 created the Mt. Rose/Galena fan mitigation program. Bowling indicated that ordinance is really good and provides for free connection to water lines in front of your house if your well fails. Bowling indicated that the program is fully funded and isn't going away according to Mr. Smith who said it publically. It doesn't matter who is managing it, that program is in place. Some of the thinking is that because we have an opportunity to free water connection if our wells go dry, it doesn't matter if the water table is lower and the wells goes dry. Bowling believes that was never part of the mitigation agreement in 2011. She said she believes Washoe County Water Resources did make a commitment to prevent the drawdown of the aquifer, that's a commitment yet to be made by Truckee Meadow Water Authority (TMWA), and that's serious. Bowling stated that TMWA has made no commitment for protecting domestic wells in our area. They take over the management in December 31, 2014. Bowling believes that they will manage the Mt. Rose/Galena fan as they see fit. They haven't made commitment on how they will protect the water table, for those with deeper wells. She said she would rather keep her well and others too. She believes that there have been no incentives or commitments by TMWA that would limit. The TMWA attitude is 'trust us.' She said she wants a formal commitment for the water table for that area. Bowling stated that TMWA has come up with measures to accept the mitigation agreement when Washoe County adopted the ordinance 14-70 for protecting wells, but they started re-writing the ordinance. They adopted some measures, but as far as committing to protecting domestic well owners, it hasn't happen. TMWA is run by elected officials who change from time to time. Bowling stated that the concerns are the development community contributes to election campaigns funds and believes that pro development attitudes are prevalent. Bowling stated that limited water resource is a big issue, and public vigilance is important. The verbal agreements get lost and we need commitments in writing. Bowling noted that we are in the 3rd year of a drought, and it's important to get the policies in writing.
- Dr. Pat Colletti, citizen, introduced the Virginia Range Sanctuary (Foundation) project which would improve and restore lands for wild horses and public use. Dr. Colletti highlighted their intent to improve and restore lands for wild horses and public use while initiating an eco/geotourism business in Northern Nevada. Dr. Colletti noted that they have received support from some community members, including casinos; however development in the area is problematic. Dr. Colletti believes that the county will have to draw a line with development, or there won't be any open space. He believes that we need to develop a corridor for horses and outdoor activities, there needs to

be adequate fences and that the community needs to work with Department of Agriculture. Mr. Colletti would like the County to collaborate with the State.

- Kelly Hyatt spoke about the benefits of eco and geotourism. She said that the Southeast connector could be the opening to the Virginia range where there is water sources for wild animals. She believes that this is the perfect place to start wildlife tours noting that they could run jeep tours into the desert. Ms. Hyatt indicated that a few casinos are supportive and that they are still in negotiations. Ms. Hyatt thanked NDOT for putting up signs for slowing down in horse areas. She would like the NV Ag Dept to look at fencing options and partnering with a goal of creating a corridor for public enjoyment and tours. Ms. Hyatt noted that she did provide tours during the sustainable Tahoe events this summer.
- Cliff Low, citizen and West Washoe Valley resident who is involved with organization, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) spoke to the organization what it has done in our community.. He noted that KTMB was holding a 25th anniversary fundraiser at Great Basin Taps on Oct 29th at 5:30 PM. There would be entertainment and an auction. Money raised goes to support programs like the (January) Christmas tree recycling, and the (September) river clean-up project. KTMB.org.
- Patricia Phillips asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this agenda item.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF AUG 14, 2014. – MOTION: Brad Stanley moved to approve the Aug 14, 2014 agenda as posted. Tom Daly seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 10, 2014. – MOTION: Brad Stanley moved to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2014 meeting as submitted. Tom Daly seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

6.*COMMISSIONER UPDATE - Sarah Tone, Office of County Manager, gave a brief update. She read update as follows (and also available via the webserve):

- Animal Ordinance Update – updates on rules and regulations. Two (2) meetings are to be held at Rancho San Rafael Wilbur May Museum on Aug 25th and Aug 27th (2 hour meetings) to discuss- 1) Dangerous Dogs and exotic animals at the first meeting, and then 2) Retail sales and breeding at the second meeting. We want your comments. Can provide comments online. www.washoecounty.us/openwashoe. There will be 5 questions posted regarding the general interests.
- Construction delays: Due to resurfacing of pavement on Eastlake Blvd there would be associated construction delays starting 8/25 and other routes if possible were recommended.
- Projects: The Crossbow Court special use permit, as heard at the last STMCAB, was denied by the BOA, though the developer can appeal. They have until Aug 18 to appeal.
- The Verizon Tower special use permit, as heard in previous STMCAB meetings, was denied though they will likely appeal on 10/28. There were comments and questions from the audience on if an applicant was denied how could they reapply and expend public funds having to review the same issue. Ms. Tone noted she would ask the planning dept for a more detailed answer and report back but she thought it was because of this particular application being approved "without prejudice" which gave them the right to appeal. They can fill out a complete different application. The BCC will hear the project and the CABs will be noticed. A member asked about if they were denied – Sarah will report back the process on denial/applications.
- Regarding fuel reduction grants: \$24,000 for regional parks, Arrowcreek was granted \$76,000.
- Property Taxes were due for August on the 18th.

Comments and Concerns

- There was explanation of the pavement resurfacing for Eastlake Blvd project and the 9" milling, 3" removal, and new 4" application (mill and fill) was just upon the existing footprint and no bike lanes were planned for addition in this project. The slopes didn't allow for Washoe County to expand the road for bike lanes. Some audience noted their preference to have a bike lane and others noted their request that enforcement occur to keep bikers in the bike lane. It was noted that bike issues can be added to a future agenda item if it's a concern.
- Ms. Countryman noted concern for potential medical marijuana facility locations.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY REPORTS/UPDATES

A.* Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) – A representative of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office was not available to present information on recent law enforcement issues and calls for service in the South Valleys planning area. For more information call (775) 328-3001 or via the webpage at www.washoesheriff.com (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB.)

8. *TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (TMFPD) REPORT ON DISTRICT OPERATIONS – Division Chief Tim Leighton, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) reported on District Operations

and answered questions. For additional information on TMFPD, visit www.tmfpd.us or (775) 326-6000. Div Chief Leighton noted that there had been numerous thunderstorms recently but with the rain it has helped reduce the threat of wildfire. Staffing is looking very good. In all there had been 881 calls in the last month, which is average. Chief Leighton noted that this is wild land season and reminded the group that within one hour of a rain, the brush can burn again. There are two fire trucks assisting fire suppression efforts in California. CAB member Eric Scheetz asked for clarification of what fire code the TMFPD adopted and specifically what regulated outdoor recreational fire. Div Chief Leighton noted that the 2012 International Fire Code (IFC) was adopted and section 307.4.2 -3 regulated recreational fires along with section 605 for spark arrestors. In a nutshell proper clearances were required in most cases along with use of a spark arrestor. In response to a question, Leighton noted that yes, you can have an outdoor fire and reminded the audience that water should also be available to douse such a fire if needed. An audience member specifically asked about a small fire pit she purchased at Home Depot and had on her driveway. Div Chief Leighton noted that one could have a commercially available outdoor fireplace but upon confirming proper clearances. It was noted that a copy of the code was available for anyone to see if interested (with preference that it be after the meeting).

Member Rummings noted that on 8/23 there was a pancake breakfast fundraiser for the volunteer firefighters.

Citizen Ms. Countryman noted her concern on the possible bill going to the state legislation regarding a merger of TMFPD and Reno. Div Chief Leighton said we haven't seen anything about this and we haven't had meetings about it. She thanked them for their fire services. Ms. Tone noted that the County does have a Government Affairs group that will track such a bill and will be able to update citizens. Mr. Bob Ackerman, citizen, noted that 8/17 there was a thank you BBQ for the Fire Dept in Galena Forest/ Piney Creek. Div Chief Leighton noted his appreciation but that also on 8/17 there was Community Preparedness/defensible space workshop at Station 36 (Arrowcreek) and all were invited. Vice Chair Scheetz asked if there were plans this year for an evacuation Fire Drill this year for Galena Forest or anywhere else in the South Truckee Meadows and Div Chief Leighton noted that would not occur this year due to limited funding but it may be possible next spring. Dave Solaro, Community Services Director, then noted with Div Chief Leighton that there was a new fire station in Verdi. Leighton spoke about the new Verdi Fire Station

9. NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY (NDF) FUELS REDUCTION PROGRAM – Due to illness, a representative was not available to present information on the community grant application process for Hazardous Fuel Reduction Projects. The item was postponed for the next meeting or as a representative is available. For additional information please contact Ms. Kacey KC at (775) 684-2511 or kaceykc@forestry.nv.gov.

10. *UPDATE WATER MERGER – Dave Solaro, Community Services Director, gave an update on the Department of Water Resources and Truckee Meadows Water Authority merger. For additional information, please visit tmwa.com/consolidation, email consolidation@tmwa.com or call 1-844-DWR-INFO (844-397-4636). Mr. Solaro noted that there were multiple workshops coming up for more information and gave a handout noting:

- Galena Fan Mitigation Workshop- 8/26 6-8PM at 1355 Capital Blvd – workshop to educate what the program is. Mr. Smith from Washoe County Community Services Division will be in attendance. They discuss the conjunctive use of the combined system. (? Was this the CAB discussed the conjunctive use or that this topic will be discussed at the meeting?)
- Rates Workshop (STMGID) 9/8 – TWMA rates workshop at Capital Blvd.
- Rates Workshop (Washoe) 9/9 – Rates workshop
- Rules of adoption; service change and other rates 9/10, 5:30pm. Adopted by board Oct. 15th.

Dave Solaro gave an overview of the water merger of Washoe County Water System, Truckee Meadow Water Authority Water System, and South Truckee Meadow General Improvement District Water System. He covered topics which included: Galena fan, how systems will be operating, adoption of fees and service. He said he wanted to focus on topics people want to hear about and targeting topics for specific area. There is information on the web, as well as information on how to get our questions answered. There is a specific website on this consolidation. FAQ sheet covers topics such as rate change, service, etc. The rates aren't changing, water quality isn't changing, and service will be the same; same service crew. We have 214 tasks: property issues, legal, technology, service, everything that goes into operating that we are looking to address.

All the items would likely be heard by the board in a first reading on 9/2 and potential adoption at the Oct meeting. The last day that Washoe Water could exist in 12/31. Solaro indicated that water rates are not changing. Water quality is not changing. In most cases it will likely be the same crew (also servicing the customers as the employees are all transitioning to TMWA as well). He did note that an interested possible buyer in the Old Washoe City well system had spurred a request to discover how if a community wanted to buy out their well system that they might be able to do so. It was not likely that this person would continue but the TMWA board

wanted to understand what was needed so it was being researched. There is a lot to be done to privatize a water system. This item may be discussed at 10/15 TMWA board meeting. (This was tough to summarize, thank you Misty!)

Vice Chair Scheetz asked of the Pleasant Valley School well was taken care of and Mr Solaro noted that Washoe County School District owned the well so they were dealing with the failed chloroform test.

Member asked about Galena well meeting. Dave said there isn't a meeting to address Galena wells. (Misty, can you check this? I believe he said finalized at this time. There is a meeting planned, that's why I'm concerned).

Citizen Ms. Countryman expressed concerned depending on where they put their wells – can impact existing wells. Need protection by a company to protect existing wells, it can cause the existing wells to fail.

Dave Solaro clarified the areas included in the merger in response to a question from Citizen Ginger Pearce Dave Solaro addressed her question and said that TMWA will assume those systems in question in Washoe Valley and North Valleys. Solaro also clarified that TMWA needs to look into what the process would look like if someone wants to buy their own water system.

Citizen Cliff Lowe said there are some who are customers of different water systems. He asked about the person coming forward and wanting to privatize his own water system. He also asked about the FAQ – asked about rate changes; why is there a rates workshop? Dave Solaro said they have to get the current STMGID and WC rates and rules into their language. In response to a question regarding the current TMWA customers rate structure, Solaro indicated that all current TMWA customers have the same rate structure that is different from STMGID and WC Water Resources. Dave indicated that he believes in time that all the rates will equalize.

Citizen Garry Houk said he isn't certain about long range planning. He asked if TMWA will adopt a long range plan that will address issue. Dave Solaro said they will adopt water planning strategies that WC has currently. It will be a hybrid plan. There is information regarding land use on the Washoe County planning website.

In response to a question by Citizen Ms. Hyatt asked about her bill water and sewer, Dave Solaro said that currently you will get two bills one for water and one for sewer; however, TMWA has additional payment options. This is a topic of discussion and Mr. Solaro's team is looking into options for payment Mr. Solaro clarified if you currently have a flat rate you will continue to have a flat rate.

Citizen Kathy Bowling said she wants TMWA to mirror the current WC ordinance – draft left out A and B 7.1 measure of protection of deep well. Citizen Bowline requested a definition of conjunctive use and what that involves. Dave Solaro said the laymen term of conjunctive use. The majority of TMWA water is surface water with some wells; all Washoe County Water System is a ground water system done by wells. Conjunctive use is providing water using the best possible way considering the water source. This process allows water providers to relieve the pressure on the aquifer by conjunctively using all the water available. Citizen Kathy Bowling said we want our Washoe County relationship that we have worked on since 2001 to be incorporated into relationship with Truckee Meadow Water Authority, but they are dragging their feet. She said our concerns are the wells closer to Virginia, the infrastructure can handle, however, the Callahan range wells have no opportunity to recharge because they are too far up their hill and too expensive. She said we don't fit into the mold, and have been in a drought for 3 years. There are service obligations and important issues. Dave suggested to Kathy to go to the meeting on 26th. Dave said they are trying to address constituent issues. Kathy Bowling asked how many times she needs to bring these issues before the Board. These issues need to be addressed moving forward.

CAB member Eric asked about the flat rate issue. Dave said TMWA does have flat rate; they will be adopting one for current flat rate users.

Citizen Ginger Pearce asked about refurbishing water systems in poor conditions and suggested that Lighting W, Sunrise and Old Washoe Estates Wells need updates. Dave said they are adopting our program. Washoe County is outfitting the system at Old Washoe Estates, and they are drilling new wells in Pleasant Valley. TMWA has the Capital Improvement Plan. They are aware of what needs to be done – follows the same rules as Washoe County. DSOLARO@Washoecounty.us; his contact information on the business cards.

11. *CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS/NEXT AGENDA ITEMS - This item is limited to announcements by CAB members and topics/issues posed for future workshops/agendas.

- Chair Phillips noted that a Public Service Announcement (PSA) had been released that a 4 year old girl was missing from here Fawn Lane/ Callahan Ranch neighborhood as of about 3 PM today and please keep your eye out for her.

Possible/Next/Future Agenda Items –

- Update on bike lanes
- Fire services consolidation: Member Daly would like to see Senator Kieckhefer and Bobzien make available the bill draft language of a possible fire consolidation bill.
- Verizon update
- Member Stanley would like an update on the SE Connector.
- Vice Chair Scheetz would like to see Commissioner Humke fill any board vacancy with Patrick Ty Whitaker.
- Member Rummings would like an update on the playground.
- Chair Phillips would like and update from NDF
- Wild horse preservation and cooperation with the County and the NV Dept of Ag. Get Damonte Ranch residents involved – an information workshop to inform citizens.

12. *PUBLIC COMMENT- Patricia Phillips asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this agenda item.

13. *ADJOURNMENT – MOTION: With no further agenda items, Patricia Phillips adjourned the meeting at 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted by Misty Moga