

# CARSON TRUCKEE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Regular Meeting

July 8, 2025

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## **DIRECTORS:**

Todd Westergard

Ernie Schank

Ed James

Eddy Quaglieri

Mike Nevin

John Capurro

Pete Olsen (Zoom) out@10:10

Karen Baggett (Zoom)

## **ABSENT:**

Tyler Henderson

Ty Minor

## **Staff**

Mary Pat Eymann

## **OTHER:**

Kayla Dowty, Engineer (Zoom)

Lucas Foletta, Attorney (Zoom)

Chad Blanchard, FWM

## **GUESTS:**

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### **1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER –Quorum present**

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT – limited to no more than three minutes per speaker \***

None

### **3. APPROVE AGENDA**

- ❖ Director Schank made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Director Nevin; motion carried.

### **4. APPROVE MINUTES FOR MAY 2025, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND CHECKS WRITTEN AS SUBMITTED –**

- ❖ Director Capurro made a motion to approve the minutes and financial statements as presented; seconded by Director Schank; motion carried.

### **5. WATER MASTERS REPORT AND DISCUSSION – Chad Blanchard.**

*A complete copy of the Water Report is available at District Offices or on the internet at [troa.net](http://troa.net) and the SNOTEL report at [wcc.sc.egov.usda.gov/reports/SelectUpdateReport.html](http://wcc.sc.egov.usda.gov/reports/SelectUpdateReport.html)*

Tahoe, we are now releasing 300 cubic feet per second, roughly, which is about a half of 100 the day equivalent. We will be releasing quite a bit most of the summer. They're doing the replacement of the Fanny Bridge at Tahoe, just below the lake, below the dam, and they've had to hook on some pipes to the gates, a couple of gates, and probably be able to get water through the work areas and demo that bridge and build a new one. That's been an issue with trying to seal that off. The concrete around the dam is very old, and so the

stop logs are leaking, and the gates all leak. They are trying to deal with some dewatering issues, and what to do with the water, what they can do with water.

**6. FOLLOWUP AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE GRANT TO BE PROVIDED TO THE CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT (CWSD) PURSUANT TO THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BY AND BETWEEN THE DISTRICT AND CWSD.**

Director James advised that they haven't gotten any invoices. The understanding was as soon as we pay the conservation districts, then we would then turn around and invoice CTWCD for it, and they haven't invoiced us yet. They plan to spend the money this fall. 57,000 is going to Dayton Valley Conservation District, and the other will probably go to the Carson Valley Sub District and their project.

This item can be removed from future agendas.

**7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENTS WITH TRFMA/RENO FOR THE RIVERSIDE DRIVE PROJECT – Lucas Foletta/Kayla Dowty**

The Board was given copies of the two agreements (copies available at District offices).

Attorney Foletta - We got to a good place, the structure is consistent with what we talked about doing, which is to have two separate agreements, one for the flood wall, one for the berm. At the same time, they are tied together for all effective purposes. So, in other words, they're only effective once both are executed. There are kind of the, what I would say, the key provision there's this section 4.1 where the funding commitment from TRFMA is reflected there over the over the fiscal years that are, that are at issue. And this really makes clear that the role of this District is in relation to the designs which are attached, at least preliminary ones, and we have access to the process and to design approval over the over the project life, which is good

Engineer Dowty - It was really important to us to get both of these Interlocal agreements completed together so that we were insured funding for both the berm portion and the flood wall portion of the project, and so that's why we're asking for both to be approved and executed. TRFMA has these agreements on their agenda next week, and then the city of Reno has them on their agenda at the end of this month, so we'd be looking at full execution, probably by the end of July.

Construction on the berm is intended to start at the end of the this fall, so maybe like November, they are hoping to start it on the right, on the tail of the Arlington Street Bridge completion, which right now they're targeting for late October, maybe moving into November, and then they'd want to do the berm in November, December, that'll obviously be kind of pending how river flows were look and how the overall forecast looks. The flood wall portion does need to get a full 408 permit, and so that likely will not happen until 2027 but since we have the funding agreement in place, we're assured that it's going to get funded.

Director Westergard inquired as to what happens if there is a shortfall in the tax collection and a problem with TRFMA funding the project. What is the recourse or consequences if this happens?

Attorney Foletta advised that our main, our main, recourse would be with respect to the stated funding obligations. They're specifically committing to appropriating those funds, we would, we would have recourse. We would essentially claim a breach in that instance, because they're agreeing to fully fund the projects, even though those, both those funding amounts are not specifically stated, and so we would have to, we would have a claim for whatever that, you know, differences between what they funded and what they didn't appropriate, how successful we would be in, you know, obtaining those damages is another question, but that would be our recourse on a contractual basis.

Engineer Dowty stated that this obligation actually falls to the City of Reno. It doesn't fall to TRFMA so the City. This has been a lot of work to get TRFMA to fund this as a flood project. But if, for some reason, TRFMA isn't able to fund the project. The obligation falls back to the city of Reno via the Martis Creek agreement, they would have to find the funding to complete it.

- ❖ Director Schank made a motion to proceed with executing both of the agreements; seconded by Director Capurro; motion carried.

## **8. DISCUSSION, UPDATE AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MARTIS CREEK AGREEMENT OPTIONS – Lucas Foletta**

At a previous meeting Director Schank asked Attorney Foletta the extent to which the Martis Creek Dam is, not functioning as it's designed, is there any additional liability to us as a result of what additional flows could occur if there was some sort of issue? And I think the answer to that question is no. I mean, we're responsible for the 14,000 CFS to the extent to which there's volumes beyond that, it doesn't, result in liability to us. So, in the cause of whatever those volumes may be, it is obviously outside our control for the most part. I think we're okay there. It's helpful that the agreement states the responsibilities of the District are from essentially State line to Glendale, and the dam is outside of that range, which doesn't change the sort of physics of it all, but that is just sort of added protection, and in case, we have no responsibility for it, structurally or really, any other capacity.

There was discussion as to who is actually responsible for the dam. Attorney Foletta stated that from what he could tell, it is the Army Corps, because it's sort of under this, it remains under this kind of study monitoring function that they're performing. It is, it is a little murky. But as I kind of poked around various websites, federal government websites, that's the indication that I got, and I don't know that we're going to get much more clarity than that.

Director Schank asked who is actually assuming the responsibility of releases, is it the Federal Water Master, Army Corp? Attorney Foletta will contact the Watermaster's office and report back.

## **9. ENGINEERING/SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Kayla Dowty**

*See engineering report.*

*A complete report with photos was also proved to the Board and available at District offices.*

### **A. Riverside Drive Inundation and possible involvement of the District.**

We received 60% design plans in late May from J U B, and then actually walked that the project kind of foot by foot with the City of Reno on June 17, so that we could prepare some comments. We did receive a draft scope of work from JUB two days ago to complete the berm design and issued for bid packages. And that cost came in, to be totally honest with you guys, a lot higher than I was expecting. It came in at \$227,000 so I've asked them to take a closer look and see if they can take another look. They had included maybe doing a resubmit all of the 60% design that I really don't think is necessary. So I want them to take another look before I bring it to the board, but I wanted to let you all know kind of the status and where that was at.

### **B. Maintenance debris removal work, emergency debris/deposit removal work and authorization for expenditures for such work.**

### **C. Encroachment permits and requests.**

1. Arlington Bridges - that project is going along pretty well. If you've been out there recently, it's definitely in the stage of it's going to get worse before it gets better. The river is a mess right now. They have an Aqua dam structure that's probably about 300 feet long in place to divert the channel entirely through the south channel so that they're working on the north bridge now. Last month, we worked really closely with the Watermasters office to communicate some higher than normal expected flows for the month of June, which we're going to make placing that Aqua dam structure very, very difficult. And so, we met with RTC and granite on site, along with Chad and Dave from the Watermasters office, and they were able to get some of the other agencies, mostly Fish and Wildlife, to allow an earlier placement of the Aqua dam before the before the flows

increase. So that was great for the project. They are definitely happy to see the flows starting to go down, because that Aqua dam structures only designed for about 1600 CFS, and they've had about 1200 CFS in in the river in some days that we've seen rain. So, they're happy to see the flow starting to go down once they have the north bridge completed, which is definitely the more complicated bridge of the two, they will essentially flop that Aqua dam over to the south side and then start work on that side. I walked the project with the city of Reno last week, just making sure that they are well informed on the requirements of getting some of the sediment deposition out while they're doing this construction. I think that for whatever reason, maybe because the permit took two years, there's been some amnesia on there on what they committed to. So, we got that realigned, and otherwise that project is going well.

2. Met with the City of Reno out at Arlington, we also walked down to their Truckee River path project that is planned between Lake Street and Broadhead Park. They're essentially going to redo the path, starting behind the Automobile Museum and then working east towards Broadhead. They want to make it 10 feet wide and allow for more multi use, which is great. They've got so the last of the ARPA funding that they're going to be using for this project. So they intend to get the project done next year, as the plans currently stand, there will not be a 408 permit required. But that's why they're consulting with us so frequently, is because if, obviously, if they do have to do a 408 that will kick them out of the 2026 season. So they're definitely trying to thread the needle to make sure that they don't have to get a 408 permit. While we were out there, we discussed their project that's upcoming to armor the bank at the water's edge, condos which are on the south side of the river, just upstream of Booth Street, which is in the exact same place where we're doing the Riverside berm just opposite bank. And so we talked a lot about that one. I'm going to make sure that all of the work that they that area took a beating in both 97 and 2017 and so there's a lot of erosion and the banks becoming unstable, so they need to armor that bank with some pretty significant rip rap and but I want to make sure that that doesn't do it doesn't decrease the channel capacity at all, and then push it on the riverside berm. I'm making sure that that gets modeled as part of the final design for the Riverside berm project.
3. Met with one Truckee River earlier in June. They are starting to get a little bit more steam behind their Broadhead Park restoration and their urban tree workforce program. They actually have hired three or four people to do the urban tree workforce along the river. So you may see them out there, but they're essentially taking out invasive vegetation and replacing it with low water native vegetation. So we I started to see that a little bit just this last week when I was out on the river. So we stay in pretty close contact with them to make sure that they're not in impacting the channel capacity at all. But they have pretty good guidelines on what they need to do.
4. I talked to JUB last week. They have a lot of HEC RAS modeling going on in our jurisdiction, partly because of the flood wall and berm, but also because of the path work that the city is doing in these condos, the bank armoring near the condos. So they have definitely been taking a closer look at the model than they have in a few years. And I hate to even bring it up again, but it's getting back to whether it might make more sense to merge the Carson Truckee and TRFMA Heras models so that they are a little more consistent with each other. But I think they're starting to see some holes in our Carson Truckee modeling because of how that LIDAR was completed. I have asked them to prepare a memo to better detail those gaps so the Board can make a more informed decision on whether we need to do another round of making the hecraz model that we run a little more complete.

#### **D. Miscellaneous items:**

Director Westergard inquired as to how the monthly meetings with USACE are going and the discussion of permit status for all current projects as well as possible budget issues.

Engineer Dowty advised that the monthly meetings are going well. There is discussion as to possible upcoming projects and discussion on the Riverside Dr. project. As far as budget issues they are more distracted by losing people, they have lost a lot of people and are stretched really thin.

**10. LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND UPDATE – Attorney Foletta, Director Baggett**

There is nothing really specific. We can probably close out this item now that they have ended the session. In the final calculus, there wasn't anything that was particularly impactful for the district. There's a pretty mixed picture about what tax revenues will look like within the next year or two. There is still a possibility of a of a special session in the fall resulting from kind of federal budget machinations, but that shouldn't be something that we need to be overly concerned about.

**11. LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT –Lucas Foletta**

Nothing to report.

**12. SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT – Mary Pat Eymann**

Nothing to report.

**13. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**14. BOARD COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

**New Future Agenda Item Requests – None**

**Board Comments – None**

**15. ADJOURNMENT -**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting  
No June meeting  
August 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**

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Todd Westergard,  
President

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Mary Pat Eymann,  
Secretary/Treasurer