

# CARSON TRUCKEE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Board Meeting  
October 14, 2014

## **DIRECTORS:**

Todd Westergard  
Gwen Washburn  
Karen Baggett  
Chuck Roberts  
Ed James  
Ron Penrose  
Mike Nevin  
Greg Dennis

## **ABSENT:**

John Capurro  
Ernie Schank

## **GUESTS:**

Leo Bergin, Attorney  
Stephanie Berggren, Muckel Anderson CPA's  
Danielle Henderson, TRFMA

### **1. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM -**

President Westergard called the Regular Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CHECKS WRITTEN –**

Director Washburn made a motion to approve the minutes for September and checks written on Bank of America #9233 - #9239 and Nevada State Bank #2535 - #2539, motion seconded by Director Nevin, motion carried.

### **4. FEDERAL WATERMASTER'S REPORT –**

*A copy of the Water Report is available at District Offices.*

No one from the Federal Watermaster's Office was able to attend the meeting.

### **5. Discuss and Approve Draft Financial Audit –**

Stephanie Berggren from Muckel Anderson provided the Board with a copy of the Draft Financial Audit a copy of which is available at District Offices.

The Audit was pretty much the same as the previous year with the exception of an increase in Engineer Expenses, due to the increased work in the River that had to be done.

Director James asked Ms. Berggren if she was concerned about the amount of uninsured monies in various accounts she stated it was not a concern unless the board had issues with this.

Director Dennis made a motion to accept the Draft Financial Report as presented, seconded by Director Roberts; motion carried.

### **6. Update on Virginia Street Bridge 408 Encroachment Permit**

*See Engineer/Consultant Report*

### **7. Discuss Status of USACE Inspection, related including SWIF application & action plan**

*See Engineer/Consultant Report*

## **8. ENGINEER/CONSULTANT REPORT**

*A complete copy of the Engineer's Report is available at the District Offices or on the CTWCD website. Below is a summary of the report:*

River flows through downtown Reno have been in the 25-30cfs range over the past week other than during the precipitation event. Tahoe's level continues to drop and is controlling the outflow to the Truckee River at less than 10cfs. Unless there is more precipitation, the flows will continue to dwindle.

Tri Sage collected additional survey cross-sections of the river channel and banks around the Keystone Avenue area once the flows were down to less than 50cfs range; work was completed as the river channel was easily accessed with these low flows. Model cross sections are being created from the survey data and the model will be run at the 14,000cfs flow. Model results will be evaluated to determine the appropriate next steps if the surveys do not resolve the model issues and retain the flow in the banks at this flow rate.

TRFMA is proceeding with the Topo-Bathymetric LIDAR study of the river from the State line to Wadsworth during this low flow period. TRFMA will issue an invoice to the District for their portion of this work. The work is currently planned for mid-October with the exact date yet to be established. It will take approximately three months for data from this effort to become available for modeling purposes.

The City of Reno has agreed to remove the box culvert at Idlewild Drive during the expected low river conditions. NDEP has authorized this work and associated reporting to be performed under the General Working in Water Ways Permit to which the District is a party. USACE Regulatory has indicated that this is either a non-permit required project or may be completed under a Nationwide -3 permit without notification. This work will be performed under the District's permit with State Lands for access and maintenance of the flood channel. An access agreement for the adjacent property has been secured. The project is expected to be completed during the first week of October.

Tri Sage has developed a scope of work for the 2014 Debris Removal Project and has recruited RTC as the contractor to perform this work. RTC performed this work last year and did an excellent job and has the experience to get this year's work completed efficiently. As authorized by the Board, the contractor will spend up to \$25,000 on this effort this year and then the District can evaluate any additional needs. An agreement for the work has been created and executed. Work is scheduled to begin on October 13, 2014 and all work will be completed prior to the expiration of the City of Reno License for Entry on City properties which expires on November 10, 2014. Tri Sage has pursued access authorization for multiple properties including the County's Mayberry Park and has notified one property owner of the intent to access through the Lake Ditch access.

The City of Reno is working with a developer who is interested in making some modifications to the West Street Plaza which is the area that has been identified with inundation during a 14,000cfs event and also is the subject of USACE encroachment concerns. Tri Sage met with the City and discussed opportunities to have planned modifications support the Interim Risk Reduction Measures or permitting as might be requested by the USACE for this area.

Currently the schedule for Virginia Street Bridge construction will be for a start of work in 2015 as soon as river conditions permit assuming all permits are received by the City of Reno. The City of Reno is continuing to working on issues related to the issuance of the USACE 404 Permit for this project. The City will need a letter from the CTWCD authorizing work prior to

June if work in the channel is possible due to flow conditions. At the last meeting the Board delayed acting on this letter until closer to the project start time.

Notably, the USACE has yet to issue their inspection report from April 2013. As a reminder, the USACE criteria for rehabilitation funding and notifications changed late in 2013 such that the CTWCD inspection issues are not subject to loss of the rehabilitation funding nor notification.

Since the May 2014 monthly report, no further discussion has been had with the USACE regarding the determination of “Floodwalls” versus “Channel walls” through the downtown Reno river corridor; however this is an issue that will be pursued for some resolution as it impacts other inspection issues as noted below.

The Status of USACE inspection issues are noted below and the status remains unchanged since July’s Monthly report except for the noted change in the river flow reduction from July to the current timeframe of mid-August:

- 1) Shoaling- the shoaling deposits identified by USACE have been included in the recent modeling and at the current stage are NOT impacting the 14,000cfs flow. The USACE requested sensitivity analyses have been performed and indicate that doubling the size of the shoaling deposits does NOT push the waters out of the banks in any of the four areas identified during the inspection. The Keystone Avenue Bridge area has been eliminated as a shoaling deposit.
- 2) Flap-gates- Now that we have model water surface elevations in the downtown areas, the City of Reno will evaluate each penetration relative to the water surface elevation at 14,000cfs. (This work has been delayed due to personnel changes at the City). Once we have the model updated and run at the reaches upstream and downstream of the downtown areas to produce water surface elevation data, the City of Reno will continue their evaluation on the storm-drain penetrations into the channel. Tri Sage was able to get GIS data for the storm drain locations to correlate to model flow elevations.
- 3) Vegetation- vegetation along the walls and growing from the walls was removed by the City of Reno as part of the 2013 Debris Removal Project; however during the inspection it was noted that vegetation is developing again. This will be cut back as part of the 2014 project work. Potential determination of the walls as channel walls, not floodwalls means that there is no “vegetation free zone” requirement and other than the short section that the USACE might determine to be floodwalls, vegetation may become a moot point once specific determination is confirmed.
- 4) Idlewild Box Culvert/Bank Erosion- if not removed during low flows as planned during October, has model needs to be evaluated and updated in this section; additional survey data( which will be collected in mid-August after the River flows drop) is required as the model contains minimal cross-sections in this reach. Once the model is updated with additional survey data, it will be run to determine the impact of the box and the need for removal. It is anticipated that this box will need to be removed to reduce the erosion of the Idlewild Drive bank. USACE is awaiting evaluation results and proposed solutions for this reach.
- 5) Flood Response- It appears from the current modeling that the 14,000cfs water surface elevation is below the horizontal surface in all areas downtown except for the West Street Plaza area. There was no approved encroachment by the USACE or the CTWCD for this project including the removal of the walls and railings along this section of river. The USACE has requested that the CTWCD work with the City of Reno to propose Interim Risk Reduction Measures that can be reviewed and approved by the USACE and incorporated into the City’s Flood Response Plan. It is not clear at this writing what the requirements will be relative to the placement of plywood along the railings and walls as called for in the Martis Creek Agreement now that it is apparent

from the modeling that the 14,000cfs flow is below the top of wall and below the horizontal surface in all sections except the West Street Plaza.

Next steps include the evaluation and running of the model in reaches above and below the Keystone to Lake Street areas for the determination of water surface elevations. The model will be updated for the sections around the Keystone Avenue Bridge where the water leaves the channel at 14,000cfs and re-run to see if the model updates solve this issue or if other measures will be required. The modelers will analyze the box culvert ( if not removed as planned during October low flows). The City of Reno will work to address the flap-gate needs as well as the Interim Risk Reduction Measures for the West Street Plaza. Director Penrose and Tri Sage will plan a meeting with the USACE to discuss the inspection report and associated issues.

**9. Presentation regarding Carson Water SubConservancy District – Ed James**

*Mr. James presented an OVERVIEW OF CWSD AND WATERSHED ACTIVITIES, a copy of which is available at district offices.*

All Directors thank Mr. James for his presentation.

**10. LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT – Leo Bergin**

Nothing to report.

**11. Secretary/Treasurers Report – Gwyn Bergin**

Nothing to report.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**13. BOARD COMMENTS and/or REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS –**

- Director Penrose – Mr. Penrose will be retiring from TMWA 12/30/14, John Enloe has been nominated to be TMWA’s representative on the Board.
- Director Westergard – The Orr Ditch Court issued a ruling on September 30, 2014 approving a Motion to Modify the Orr Ditch Decree to incorporate TROA as the operating mechanism for the Truckee River. This is a HUGE victory for the moving parties and advancing TROA. The order is very thorough and well drafted, which will make challenging it on appeal very difficult.

**14. ADJOURNMENT -**

There being no further business, President Westergard asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Dennis moved to adjourn, Director Roberts, seconded said motion; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

\*\* Due to the Veteran’s Day Holiday the next Regular meeting will be held either Monday November 10, 2014 or Wednesday November 12, 2014 \*\*

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Todd Westergard,  
President

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Gwyn S. Bergin,  
Secretary/Treasurer