

# MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

## TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 2012

The following meeting minutes is a summary of the certified transcript for the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee meeting held at 8:30 a.m., Friday, December 7, 2012.

**Those Present:** Committee Members: Janet Phillips, Chairperson; Chairman; Jerry Purdy, Bill Bradley\* \*\*, Michael Cameron \*\*, Susan Donaldson, Becky Stock, Mike Brisbin (absent: Tom Swan and John Mosley); Also: Tracy Turner, Community Foundation; Ron Penrose, TMWA; Members of the Public: Chris Fichtel, The Nature Conservancy; Vance Russell, National Forest Foundation; Andrew Hummel, City of Sparks; and Steve Volk, TMWA.

\* Committee Member arrived after roll call.

\*\* Committee Member left meeting before adjournment

**Agenda Item #1: Roll Call:** Roll call was taken. A quorum was noted.

**Agenda Item #2: Public comment:** There was no public comment at this time.

**Agenda Item #3: Approval of the agenda:** A motion made by Jerry Purdy to approve the agenda, seconded by Sue Donaldson, was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item #4: Fund balance report:** Tracy Turner stated that \$509,407.62 is available to grant, that the current RFP will go out in the early part of January, and indicated that the next gift to the fund will be July 2013.

**Agenda Item #5: Approve the August summary meeting minutes:** A motion made by Michael Cameron to approve the Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for August 24, 2012, seconded by Jerry Purdy, was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item #6: Election of officers:** A motion made by Becky Stock to retain our officers, seconded by Jerry Purdy, was voted on and passed unanimously (Janet Phillips abstained from the vote).

**Agenda Item #7: Discussion with Vance Russell of National Forest Foundation regarding Treasured Landscapes program:** Michael Cameron introduced Vance Russell, stating that in addition to the joint funding by the Truckee River Fund and National Forest

Foundation for forest thinning at Independence Lake, it seems as though there is some overlap of areas of interest and possibility for leveraging our funds and opportunity for more partnerships. Mr. Russell then gave a presentation about the National Forest Foundation, its background and what it funds, the different funds that it gives out, described the Treasured Landscapes program and its focus on the Truckee watershed, and answered questions from the group. Chris Fichtel provided input and also answered questions. Tracy Turner said she would add Mr. Russell to the TRF distribution list and contact him about messaging about matching funds.

**Agenda Item #8: Presentation by Andrew Hummel, City of Sparks, on Pioneer Ditch Diversion/Reconstruction:** Andrew Hummel, City of Sparks, gave a PowerPoint slide show and update of the progress of the work done on this project and answered questions from the group. Ron Penrose provided input, including describing the benefits of the project, and answered questions. The group discussed ways to make this information accessible to the public and praised Andy for the great job he did on this project. Also, Ron introduced Steve Volk, senior engineer with TMWA, indicating that in addition to his street and highway projects, he's also got a connection with the river, adding that he has a standing invitation to listen in at the meetings.

**Agenda Item #9: Presentation of project final reports #78 & #106 The Nature Conservancy: Independence Lake Wood Fuels Reduction for Fire Resilience (John Mosley); #92 Desert Research Institute: Cloud Seeding Project for WY 2012 (Becky Stock); #96 Sierra Nevada Journeys: Watershed Education Initiative (Sue Donaldson); #104 Washoe Drive Emergency Watershed Stabilization & Restoration Effort (Becky Stock).**

Michael Cameron reported on projects #78 and #106, stating that they were completed as proposed, the funds have been expended, that they were able to do more acres than suggested in the proposal, and that there were no problems. He mentioned that these two projects were both for the same scope of work. He answered questions from the group.

Becky Stock reported on project #92, stating that according to their final report, they have accomplished their goal to enhance snowfall from winter snows to increase the Tahoe and Truckee basin snowcap through winter seeding and that they have expended their funds.

Sue Donaldson reported on project #96, stating that they exceeded their target on the number of students, that their progress was adequate for the amount of money given them, that she hasn't yet seen the Truckee River-specific curriculum asked for, but it is the final report.

Becky Stock reported on project #104, stating that this is not a final report, that the project is not completed, that the willows planted in the Steamboat Creek area, that had the hottest burn during the fire, have been removed by the Steamboat Ditch Company, which is now responsible for repair work. She added that similar restoration work at Brown's Creek and

Galena Creek has been completed. She answered questions from the group, with input by Ron.

A motion made by Michael Cameron to accept the reports, seconded by Bill Bradley, was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item #10: Review and approve 2013 meeting calendar:** Janet commented we are down to four meetings a year now. Tracy stated that the TMWA picnic that would normally be for the advisory is going to be combined with the staff picnic this year. Janet encouraged everyone to consider going. She also mentioned that we may add a field trip to the schedule. A motion made by Sue Donaldson to accept the calendar, seconded by Becky Stock, was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item #11: Review Community Foundation Project Evaluation Tool:** Tracy described how the Community Foundation, with recertification, is now required to do grant evaluation as part of the best practices and presented a Grantee Evaluation form they have been using, indicating she needs wording from the group that will make the group happy with what we get on the projects. The group had a lengthy discussion about suggested changes in the wording. A motion made by Bill Bradley to approve the Truckee River grant evaluation consistent with the comments we've provided to Tracy, seconded by Sue Donaldson, was voted on and passed unanimously (Michael Cameron had already left the meeting and, therefore, didn't vote).

**Agenda Item #12: Committee & staff comments:** The group discussed suggestions made regarding field trips to see proposal areas or possibly requesting presentations by proposers, possible parameters for those types of requests. As a result, the Executive Committee meeting was moved from February 11th to the 12th so they will already have received the grant proposals when they meet and will be able to discuss presentations.

Ron stated there is a TMWA Board meeting next week; that one of the items is a report on TRF activities for the year, and it also encapsulates what we have accomplished since we started the fund. He provided copies of the staff report, Board report and Board agenda and indicated that Tracy put together a really nice spreadsheet summarizing all the projects and giving all kinds of information.

Ron talked about a working group workshop he attended a couple of days ago and updated the group on what is happening with the other reservoirs regarding ordinances, boat inspections and fee structures. He mentioned that he's happy we've been spending money on this, that the results are pretty good. He added that we should be getting a year-end report from Teresa Crimmens from Tahoe Resource, regarding the AIS program.

Ron stated that he will have the draft of the watershed master plan to the group by the middle of January, so that we have a final document that can be used as a guideline by February 1st, that it will give the group parameters it needs for evaluation of projects that come in.

Janet requested that committee members not put letters to the editor that are demeaning to TMWA, adding that we can do a lot of good in this setting and don't want unintended consequences as a result of such letters.

Jerry expressed his concerns about the need to prevent clams, mussels and milfoil from getting into the intake ditches of the treatment plants, that he feels it needs to be taken more seriously. He gave Tracy a 2012 Lake Tahoe UC Davis state of the lake report and requested that she e-mail them.

**Agenda Item #13: Public comment:** There was no public comment.

**Agenda Item #14: Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Approved by the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee in session on February 22, 2013.