

# MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

## TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2009

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., June 5, 2009.

**Those Present:** Committee Members: Janet Phillips, Chairperson; Jerry Purdy, Bill Bradley\*\*, Mike Brisbin, John Mosley\*, Sue Donaldson, Trish Kuehl. Also: Debbie Leonard, McDonald Carano Wilson LLP; Tracy Turner, Community Foundation; Ron Penrose, TMWA. Members of the Public: None.

\* Arrived after roll call.

\*\* Left meeting before adjournment

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

**Agenda Item #2: Approval of the agenda:** The agenda was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item #3: Public comment:** There was no public comment.

**Agenda Item #4: Approval of the April 2009 summary meeting minutes:** A motion passed unanimously to approve the April 3, 2009 Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary).

**Agenda Item #5: Fund balance report:** Tracy reported the fund balance is \$73,401.49, noting that now the funds are released when needed, as opposed to being sent out right away. She also indicated we earned \$965.20 this time around. Janet and Ron indicated that they believe TMWA has approved to fund us at 75 percent of normal.

**Agenda Item #6: Discussion of weed grant ranking criteria submitted by John Mosley:** John talked about a new criteria and scoring system that the BIA started using to rank their submittals for grants, about the need for us to have a similar baseline structure to rank projects submitted for weed treatment, and that with a weed cooperative management group, you can get a lot more done and can hear what everybody else is doing. Sue offered to work on revising it through the weed group before bringing it back for consideration. Debbie stated that having a rubric that the weed group follows ties in with delegating authority to the weed group.

**Agenda Item #7: Review and possible approval of request for funding to implement comprehensive weed coordination plan:** Sue described the purpose of a cooperative weed management plan is to allow communication and share information so there's no duplication of efforts regarding managing weeds. She stated that with the weed group, they're trying to provide a framework where we can prioritize and address existing issues in a way that makes sense, which is to work on a watershed basis. The group discussed the question of implementing something like this. Sue indicated the weed group was approached to put in a wish list for stimulus funds through the Forest Service forestry grants and that the county commissioners will be approving \$3.8 million to go into it, and they will address ecosystem restoration at a number of big burn sites.

Tracy explained how she and Michael met in April with the weed coordinating group, resulting in a letter from the Nevada Land Conservancy about starting an organizational group to oversee and help guide the Truckee River Fund selection of fundable weed control projects. She indicated the \$10,000 solicited proposal is requested out of cycle in that we asked the weed group to develop and draft a weed plan. The group discussed the role of stimulus money and a funding request for weed coordination coming up for \$175,000 a year for a five-year period and that we can only obligate year by year, not multiyear.

After a lengthy discussion by the group, a motion passed unanimously, with Sue abstaining from the vote, to approve the \$10,000 one-time grant solely to do the plan and not to be used to develop a five-year spending plan. Before finalizing and sending out the letter, Tracy will get input from Sylvia and Debbie regarding delegating authority and will get input from Sue and Michael.

**Agenda Item #8: Continuation of Review and possible approval of project status reports:** Reporting by Mike on completed grant #20, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was continued to the next meeting.

Regarding grant #48, City of Reno Public Works, watershed map tool, John reported that there is now more active management on the project, and so things are getting started now. Tracy will find out a potential final date. After much discussion by the group regarding reporting requirements and performance on grants, the committee asked Tracy to send a letter reminding them that they need to perform.

**Agenda Item #9: Review and possible approval of draft of Watershed master plan:** Ron reviewed with the group a streamlined, concise and updateable outline and scope of work that he has put together as a framework or tool that the fund advisors could use for prioritizing and evaluating projects. He stated that this tool will also help him to provide the group with input as to what TMWA is interested in from the standpoint of evaluating proposals. He will get a rough draft to the group by the August meeting. A motion passed unanimously to accept the report, with appreciation for Ron's efforts.

**Agenda Item #10: Approval of the revisions to standard request for proposal (RFP)**

**form:** Tracy reviewed with the group a list of modifications to the RFP, representing the group's input over the last few months, including priorities, ranking and measurable outcomes, indicating that she will add a bullet as number 11 about prior performance. Also, she will add wording that they should call her for specific evaluation criteria regarding weed proposals. After much discussion about the wording of item D on the list, the group decided on "Projects that remove or control aquatic species or terrestrial invasive plant species that are adverse to water supply." A motion passed unanimously to approve the new request for proposal, with thanks to Tracy for keeping track of the discussion over the last six months.

Tracy will send out to the group a list of possible fall proposals she received in response to her polling of the entire distribution list for the RFP.

**Agenda Item #11: Committee & staff comments:** Ron mentioned that although TRPA is doing boat inspections for the quagga mussel at Lake Tahoe, we're still vulnerable with other upstream reservoirs. This item will be put on the agenda for the August meeting.

Jerry brought up the idea of finding out how much overlap and benefit there is between projects, such as multiple Chalk Creek projects. Mention was made of the impressive presentation that was previously made to the group about Chalk Creek.

Tracy mentioned she received a request from the Nevada Land Conservancy to be added to the August agenda for Hawken and weed projects.

Ron requested an update from the City of Reno on the Chalk Creek project for sulfate-reducing wetlands. Tracy will see if she can get that.

The next meeting is August 14th at 8:30 a.m.

Ron will prepare the staff report for the TMWA Board for the 10 K.

**Agenda Item 12: Public comment:** None.

**Agenda Item #13: Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Approved by the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee in Session on September 9, 2009.