

MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 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., Friday, November 6, 2009.

Those Present: Committee Members: Janet Phillips, Chairperson; Tom Swan, Vice Chairman; Jerry Purdy, Bill Bradley**, Mike Brisbin, John Mosley, Susan Donaldson, Trish Kuehl; Also: Debbie Leonard, Esq., McDonald Carano Wilson LLP; Tracy Turner, Community Foundation; Ron Penrose, TMWA; Members of the Public: Andrea Minor, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation; and Sudeep Chandra, Ph.D., Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science, University of Nevada, Reno.

* 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 Items #4 and #5: Discussion and possible recommendations for projects about preventing quagga mussels from entering other upstream reservoirs AND Discussion and possible recommendations for projects about invasive aquatic weed eradication:

These items were continued to today from the last meeting and began with Sudeep Chandra giving an extensive presentation to the group. He talked about main parts to consider in the Tahoe Basin: prevention, which would be related to quagga mussels; as soon as something gets in, knowing which species to have concern for and figuring out where it is in the invasion process, so as to possibly control or eliminate its spread in the quarantine priority stage, which would include the watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed. He recapped data from some studies that have been done. He mentioned several points, including developing a map to figure out where all the entry points are for boats, for all the reservoirs; having an evaluation of what's in the basin right now and where they're located; figuring out what the next species are that are going to invade; and targeting which programs you want to control and eradicate. He expressed a hope, in that a lot of the invasions are early invasion processes, that we might be able to control some of them, that knowledge is key, and to learn from their group. He stated he will call some agencies regarding the upcoming RFP.

Andrea Minor spoke to the group about Reclamation's quagga mussel program, their concern about structures being infested, the work they've been doing and how they're coordinating and getting more efficient. She indicated she would inquire whether the Forest Service's contractor could handle inspections.

The group discussed ideas for regional boat washing stations, getting washed and certified, versus having them at individual marinas and ramps, possibly having a coordinated situation where you get a pass for all the reservoirs. Also discussed was possibly prioritizing the reservoirs according to the number of boats, that calcium levels play a role, also how to coordinate and administer an inspection program, and that public outreach and education is important.

Ron suggested that maybe this whole invasive species issue and how important it is ought to be brought before the TMWA Board. Sudeep said he would attend a meeting and give a presentation.

Agenda Item #6: Continuation of review and possible approval of project status

reports: Regarding project 46, Nevada Land Conservancy, John reported that they indicated that the weed treatments and revegetation that were in the proposal had been accomplished.

Regarding 50 and 51, the Independence Lake projects, John indicated the combined report he received stated that the major goal of the management plan was completed, that it's beginning to be implemented, that they need more site assessment and monitoring as part of the forestry and thinning component, that they're still working on the public access plan, but that they had met the goals and objectives of what they said they were going to do. Ron mentioned he included the before and after pictures of the forest in his staff report to the board.

Trish reported on project 44, Mayberry Ranch Estates septic sewer conversion, that of the 45 homes that needed to convert within a two-year time line, 38 are going to convert, and of those 38, 15 have already converted. The money has been refunded for the remaining 7 who will not convert.

Mike reported on project 20, the Fish and Wildlife study regarding petroleum, that they did what they said they were going to do, the project is finished, that they found a hot spot on the west side of town, upstream of City of Reno's drains, so they think there's an old storage tank. He indicated that there wasn't a lot of water from storm events to figure out what's going on with petroleum products being flushed into the river, but that they didn't really see a problem.

Sue reported on project 61, Truckee River Clean-Up coordinated by Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, that they do a great job on publicity and getting the information out, that they had 700 volunteers, more than ever, that they removed 12 tons of trash, stenciled 118 storm drains, worked on weeds, wrapped trees, recycled two tons of materials. Also, they involved

Big Brothers, Big Sisters in it and did some education with the kids. She mentioned that, at the request of the park staff, instead of graffiti removal, they did some maintenance paint projects at Mayberry, Dorostkar and Crystal Peak parks. She indicated that compostable materials were used to decrease waste at their appreciation event. In addition, she said they didn't remove as much trash as targeted, because the trash wasn't there. She had a poster and other items to pass out.

Agenda Item #7: Committee & staff comments: Trish mentioned that, as a newcomer, she's trying to wrap her head around what the priorities of the fund are and how to rate the projects. The rest of the group responded by explaining the history of the group's experience with prioritizing proposals before Trish and Sue became part of the group. Ron stated that the annual report he handed out today describes the evolution of the Truckee River Fund and how the fund advisors have tried to approach projects.

John said it would be interesting to see pie charts regarding who we are funding (federal, state, county) and what category it fits under. Tracy said she will start playing around with it, so that later there will be a framework in place.

Ron updated the group on the Pioneer Ditch diversion relocation project, stating that the City of Sparks started the project and awarded a contract to a contractor, but as they were unable to get their 404 permit from the Corps of Engineers, the project was suspended. They will start up again next July once they receive the permit. Also, Tracy indicated she is waiting on some information about how the money was spent.

Janet took a head count as to who will be at the December 4th meeting, when we review proposals. Tracy will get the proposal bundles ready. The group answered Sue's questions about the proposal process.

Agenda Item #8: Public comment: There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #9: Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Approved by the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee in session on December 4, 2009.