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TRUCKEE MEADOWS WATER AUTHORITY

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

9:00 A.M., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2004

1155 CORPORATE BOULEVARD

RENO, NEVADA

Reported by: RANDI LEE WALKER, CSR #137, RPR, CP

Computer-Aided Transcription

ACCURATE REPORTING, 120 BURKS BLVD., 775-746-4188

1 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2004, 9:00 A.M.

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5 MS. WILLIAMS: We're going to kick this
6 off. First of all, I am Lori Williams, and I'm the
7 General Manager. I have the privilege of being the
8 General Manager of the Truckee Meadows Water
9 Authority, and I'm delighted to have you all here and
10 all of you interested in participating in working with
11 us on the Truckee River Fund.

12 A little bit of history, and a couple of
13 introductions. First of all, back at Sierra Pacific,
14 and I actually had the pleasure of working with Janet
15 Carson at Sierra Pacific, we had a little more freedom
16 as far as projects and where money went and things
17 like that. And now that we have become a public
18 agency, there hasn't been as much opportunity for us
19 to really meet some of the needs that we used to meet
20 on the Truckee River.

21 And some of our board members, in
22 particular Dave Aiazzi, thought that there might be an
23 opportunity, since the river is the backbone of the
24 Truckee Meadows Water Authority, it's where 85 percent

1 of our water comes from on an annual basis, and we
2 really have to be the stewards of the Truckee River,
3 everything that touches the Truckee River has a
4 potential to impact us.

5 So the Board, last spring, looked at the
6 idea of setting aside some funds to basically look at
7 projects on the river that could enhance the water
8 quality in the river and protect the watershed in the
9 Truckee River basin, and thereby having a positive
10 impact for TMWA and for TMWA's customers.

11 So that's a little background. They set
12 aside last year in the annual budget about \$340,000;
13 they have worked through some issues related to what
14 the agreement, where the funds might be; they have
15 looked at options for setting up the fund, and came up
16 with the conclusion that the best way right now, and
17 the most expeditious way, would be to set up the fund
18 through the Community Foundation, who already has an
19 umbrella to do these things.

20 There would be opportunities to bring in
21 other funds into that, that could also be used for
22 Truckee River projects; and they have asked all of you
23 wonderful people to help us decide how to prioritize,
24 spend that money; and that's really what this kick-off

1 meeting is about today.

2 So in my mind, it's this committee, this
3 advisory group, that is going to be recommending to
4 the Board how we would spend that money.

5 Now the anticipation is that each year in
6 the next couple years that that fund would be
7 incremented up as we get our feet on the floor, and
8 you guys figure out some real projects that we want to
9 participate in that the Board has kind of, at least,
10 blessed the concept that that fund would be increased
11 over the next couple of years.

12 We have assigned Ron Penrose, and many of
13 you have worked with Ron, as our Staff Facilitator, if
14 you will. It's not really the intention of TMWA that
15 we would intervene in your work, but we want to make
16 sure that we provide you whatever staff support we
17 can.

18 Ron, behind him, has the whole TMWA
19 organization. So if there is information that needs
20 to go out, TMWA can do all that kind of work for you,
21 if there is information that needs copied, all of
22 those kind of things. So we're kind of just here to
23 serve you as advisers, and then your role is to
24 recommend to our Board things that would be funded

1 with this money.

2 Sylvia Harrison is the other person I would
3 like to introduce. Sylvia is our general counsel at
4 TMWA. She's been involved in the development of this
5 concept, and she's also been involved in some concerns
6 that were raised by the County Commissioners that TMWA
7 is forming a charitable foundation, and what that
8 might mean, and whether that is within the purview of
9 the TMWA Board. So I will leave it to her to discuss
10 that.

11 And you don't want to sit here and listen
12 to me babble. So with that, I want to thank you for
13 being here.

14 I will probably have to step out after the
15 meeting starts getting underway, and I will leave it
16 to Ron's capable hands here.

17 Ron has done projects up and down the
18 river, the State River Map, the Glendale Leer Project,
19 projects associated with the watershed, so he's a
20 river guy just like many of you are, so he will be a
21 great hand at this.

22 Any questions for me? Well, thanks again;
23 and thanks, Dave; and thanks to the UNR folks in the
24 back who actually have their first idea for a proposal

1 on the table. Anyway, they are here, and I welcome
2 them to participate in this process too. Thanks.

3 MR. RON PENROSE: Thanks, Lori. We've
4 provided you with a copy of the agenda. The first
5 item on there is the approval of the agenda, so I
6 guess we will throw that out there to the committee.
7 Does anybody have any comments about the agenda or
8 any recommended changes or items they wanted to
9 discuss at this first kick-off meeting?

10 MS. SUSAN LYNN: If I might suggest that
11 the selection of the chairman be put towards the end
12 of the meeting after we've all had a chance to get
13 acquainted?

14 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: That's fine.

15 MR. PENROSE: I think that's a good
16 comment. Any other comments?

17 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: On Item 7, you have
18 as the second part there, discussion concerning
19 activities of Committee pending outcome of the
20 opinion. I think 7 and 8 kind of blend together a
21 little bit, and I think it would be really helpful for
22 us to have a discussion on the agreement and what the
23 parameters of the group are, so we can understand a
24 little bit. I'm not asking for a change in the

1 agenda, necessarily, but just that I think the
2 discussion on 7 will be aided by the presentation in
3 8.

4 MR. PENROSE: Okay. Sylvia will get into
5 that.

6 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: The other thing I'd
7 like to point out is we do have a Court Reporter here.
8 When we have formed some other committees there have
9 been questions, concerns, so it's kind of up to this
10 group to decide whether or not you would like a Court
11 Reporter taking minutes, or whether you would like
12 some other form of minutes. So that's open for
13 discussion.

14 This is the absolute most accurate minutes
15 we're going to get, so we have started on that front,
16 and the group is perfectly welcome to decide.

17 The advantage of the Court Reporter, I will
18 point out, is that we have a complete record, and if
19 the Board members or the public would like to look at
20 the complete record, then it's obviously available for
21 them. Thank you, Randi, for joining us.

22 MR. RON PENROSE: Approval of the minutes,
23 of course there aren't any.

24 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We actually have an

1 action item on the approval of the agenda. We're
2 going to make you guys do motions and seconds and all
3 of that for even small things like approval of the
4 agenda, so if we could we have a motion and a second
5 on the approval of the agenda, so you get practice.

6 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I would move that we
7 approve the agenda with the concluding comments made
8 by the committee members.

9 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Second it.

10 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We don't have a
11 Chairman to decide, so I'd just ask: All in favor?

12 (They all say aye.)

13 MR. RON PENROSE: I am a novice at this
14 too, so I will be corrected as we move.

15 Item Number 2, Approval of the Minutes.
16 And of course we have none, since this is our first
17 meeting.

18 So we will move onto Item Number 3, Public
19 Comment.

20 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: May I make a
21 suggestion on that one? I'd request we have latitude
22 to defer that. I know that there are members of the
23 public here that would like to speak and make
24 presentation about some ideas, but maybe to frame that

1 we ought to go to some of the other items about the
2 function of the Advisory Committee and so on first, if
3 that's okay with you.

4 That would bring us to the introduction of
5 the Committee Members.

6 MR. RON PENROSE: Yes, let's do an
7 introduction of the Committee Members.

8 I'll start with myself, Ron Penrose. I
9 have been with TMWA, and also the Water Division,
10 Sierra Pacific Power Company, for probably approaching
11 30 years, various positions, responsibilities within
12 the engineering and operations groups.

13 I've been involved with water treatment,
14 river issues; so I have done quite a few things. And
15 my goal here with working with you is to help you, if
16 you need support, some help in certain areas, I am
17 here to find that for you.

18 This is your committee, you're going to
19 make the recommendations to the Board, but we'll help
20 you with that process, so that's how I see my role in
21 working with you.

22 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: As Lori mentioned, I
23 am commonly called General Counsel for the Water
24 Authority, Sylvia Harrison.

1 I actually am a partner of the McDonald,
2 Carano law firm, and do have some other clients, but
3 sometimes I wonder. TMWA provides me with very very
4 interesting things to work on, most of which don't
5 have solutions, but this is just one of them. So I am
6 delighted to be here.

7 We can discuss later on in the meeting
8 whether you feel the need to have legal counsel
9 present at your meetings. We're happy to be here. We
10 have a number of attorneys who assist TMWA in that
11 regard. Of course we have Bill, so you can make up
12 your mind whether you want to have counsel present or
13 not.

14 Generally we serve only really in the
15 function to make sure that whatever you are embarking
16 on is consistent with the charter, I guess the
17 requirements of the fund agreement, and also to make
18 sure that you don't stray too far from the
19 requirements of the Open Meeting Law.

20 And we can reserve a discussion of the Open
21 Meeting Law for just a minute, and go the rest of the
22 way around the table.

23 MR. CHRIS COBB: I am Chris Cobb, and I'm
24 an engineer with the Public Works Department, City of

1 Sparks, and been there since 2000, working with Pete
2 Etchart and Wayne Sayal, and capital improvement
3 projects, and I look forward to being a part of this
4 committee.

5 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: Good morning. Craig
6 Godbout. I've been doing civil engineering and
7 land-use planning work about 25 years. I've been a
8 Truckee Meadows resident for 12 years. I have worked
9 for several engineering firms. I work for a small one
10 now, about to go to a very large one.

11 I'm about to graduate from the Department
12 of Resource Economics at UNR, with a degree in
13 Environmental Policy Analysis.

14 I am a Board Member of the Nevada Wildlife
15 Federation.

16 And my seat becomes active in January for
17 the Board of Supervisors in the Washoe/Storey
18 conservation district.

19 And I'm looking forward to this. I think
20 this is going to be an interesting and rewarding
21 experience.

22 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Craig, which
23 jurisdiction are you representing?

24 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: Washoe -- Well, no, I

1 am actually representing the City of Sparks.

2 MR. TOM SWAN: I'm Tom Swan, and I work for
3 the City of Sparks; I work for the sewer plant,
4 Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility, I'm a lab
5 person.

6 I've been working with the sewer plant for
7 25 years. And along with analyzing poop water, I am
8 intimately also involved with the river and monitoring
9 and modeling of the river, so I have been involved
10 with the program for a long time.

11 My boss, Wayne Fidell, asked, was looking
12 for volunteers to be part of this, and I thought it
13 would be right up my alley, and I am looking very
14 forward to working with the group.

15 MS. JANET CARSON: Are you at Sparks, also?

16 MR. TOM SWAN: Yes.

17 MS. JANET CARSON: How many seats, and from
18 what jurisdictions are there?

19 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Three from each.
20 Three from Reno, three from Sparks, three from Washoe
21 County.

22 MR. JERRY PURDY: My name's Jerry Purdy.
23 I'm a retired Highway Engineer with the Federal
24 Highways. Worked out of Carson in the '60s and the

1 '80s. It's pretty obsolete, but I was involved in
2 environmental issues, pretty much air and water when
3 it was the Federal Highways, they passed out the
4 different functions, and in those days the laws just
5 came about so you could carry the laws around in your
6 pocket, if you had enough pockets, and you were a
7 walking environmental authority.

8 But then I ended up getting involved in a
9 committee down in Alpine County that lasted five years
10 fighting L.A. Water & Power down in the Owens Valley
11 in the groundwater pumping, and got kind of involved
12 in that.

13 So I was interested in the groundwater
14 issues up here in Washoe County, because water is
15 pretty much repetitive, I've found. It's like
16 watching an old movie: If you catch a couple of
17 scenes, you know exactly how it's going to play out.

18 And then the Federal Highways used to
19 supply manpower to FEMA to go out and do flood damage
20 surveys and so forth, because in those days FEMA
21 wasn't big enough to have a staff of people to go out
22 and have it declared a disaster.

23 And I don't know how it worked out, but I
24 ended up working most of the floods since the '60s up

1 to, I guess, '84, and most of that was in connection
2 with doing damage surveys and trying to figure out
3 what the hell went wrong with why areas were flooded
4 two and three times, and that sort of thing.

5 And that's kind of it. I've got some real
6 gaps, so I'm pretty obsolete between when I left in
7 the '60s; and as we're sitting here today, the world
8 has kind of passed by. So I don't know what I can
9 contribute, exactly, but that's where it's at.

10 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Jerry, do you represent
11 the County or the City of Reno?

12 MR. JERRY PURDY: Well, I'm kind of a
13 Senior Citizen, Retired Engineer. Just citizen.

14 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: The County? Ron, is
15 that the County? Just so everybody knows.

16 MR. JERRY PURDY: I was appointed by
17 somebody, and I'm not real sure if it was a County
18 man.

19 MR. RON PENROSE: I have the list. Jerry
20 is with the County, the County Designated Rep.

21 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I am Michael Cameron.
22 I'm the Truckee River Project Director of Nature
23 Conservatives of Nevada, located here in Reno, and
24 have been working on the river for the past five

1 years. Most of that effort going into a restoration
2 project downstream, which is a project that the City
3 of Reno and Sparks and, to a lesser degree, Washoe
4 County, have made possible.

5 We will have water quality benefits in
6 terms of the kind of mission of this body. The nature
7 conservatives also working on land acquisition in the
8 upper watershed, which I also think will tie into and
9 is in the same direction as the kind of projects that
10 will be funded here.

11 And also I've been very active in the flood
12 control project for the past 157 years -- I mean
13 seven years. Well, I've been involved actually since
14 the day I got here.

15 Anyway, that obviously is a project that I
16 think will have a lot of relevance to the things we
17 talk about here, because it can have so much impact on
18 the whole watershed.

19 Lastly, I had the pleasure of taking Susan
20 Lynn's seat on the Regional Water Planning Commission
21 as of last July. So those are my activities on the
22 river.

23 I think this fund is a great development.
24 I want to thank TMWA, the TMWA Board Members for

1 making it possible. I think we can do some great
2 things for the river.

3 So I am here representing the City of Reno.

4 MR. RON PENROSE: Michael is also very
5 active with our working group; thus providing input
6 and a lot of advice on our Glendale Water Treatment
7 Plant, diversion/reconstruction project, and he's been
8 very helpful with that process.

9 MS. JANET CARSON: I'm Janet Carson, and I
10 have, I think, maybe three hats that I wear here. I
11 was with the Water Department of Sierra Pacific for
12 many years, negotiating the Truckee River Operating
13 Agreement, so I have got a lot of familiarity with
14 reservoir operations, river operations, stakeholders
15 on the river, and some of the issues that drive the
16 flow, regime that the river sees.

17 And my second hat is what I currently do,
18 which is I head up a project to build a recreational
19 trail along the entire length of the Truckee River.

20 I think that to the extent that the public
21 sees the river, enjoys the river, they will take
22 better care of the river. That will be something I
23 will probably be trying to say a few times.

24 In connection with both of those things,

1 and you may want to do this in the spring, every year
2 I offer a two-day field course on the Truckee River
3 through the Nevada Water Resources Association. And
4 it's designed as a continuing education credit, but we
5 tour the river from Tahoe to Pyramid and talk about
6 reservoir operations, environmental issues, legal
7 issues, fish spawning.

8 It's a great trip, and may be something
9 this Board wants to do. It's always in the spring,
10 because then we get to see the fish spawning in a
11 hand's-on way, so it's pretty fun.

12 Then the third hat that I wear, I bring to
13 this, is having been on both the receiving end and the
14 giving end of funding operations. I sit on a
15 selection committee for the United Way, which we need
16 to decide among many proposals who to fund, and I
17 think that will be helpful in this process.

18 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I am Susan Lynn. My first
19 hat is with Public Resource Associates here in Reno.

20 Second hat, which is kind of over and
21 Michael has taken over, is the Regional Water Planning
22 Commission.

23 The third hat is the Truckee River Yacht
24 Club, which has been a river advocate for many years

1 in the community. Fifteen now, I can say.

2 The fourth is the Community Flood
3 Coalition.

4 And my stint with the Nevada Commission on
5 tourism, I was the grants coordinator, so I have some
6 experience of budgeting and allocating funding.

7 So, anyway, I am looking forward to this
8 effort, and I thank everybody who got it off the
9 ground. Thanks.

10 MR. BILL BRADLEY: My name's Bill Bradley,
11 I'm a life-long Nevada resident, born in Reno, and
12 enjoyed the river ever since I was young.

13 I am an attorney with Bradley, Drendel &
14 Jeanney, and I've been there for 23 years.

15 I was the Chairman of the Nevada Wildlife,
16 Board of Wildlife Commissioners, overseeing the policy
17 for the Division of Wildlife.

18 I am still a current member, winding down
19 my tenth and final year, I believe. And in that role,
20 I have been active in overseeing grant projects
21 through an endowment that was created through the
22 Nevada Department of Wildlife.

23 Also in the charitable arena, I'm one of
24 the trustees of the Cord Foundation, and I believe I

1 was appointed by the City Council to serve as a
2 representative for them on this committee.

3 MR. RON PENROSE: Very good.

4 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Do you want to do
5 introductions along the back?

6 MR. RON PENROSE: Dave?

7 MR. DAVE AIAZZI: Dave Aiazzi, Board Member
8 of TMWA.

9 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: And champion of this
10 project. He has really worked very closely with staff
11 to help get this going, and we appreciate his efforts.

12 MS. JEAN CARNON: I'm Jean Carnon, and I'm
13 Director Development of Public Relations for the
14 College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the
15 University of Nevada, Reno.

16 MR. CALOPY: I'm Mike Calopy, I'm the
17 Department head of the Department of Natural Resources
18 and Environmental Science at UNR, and also the Interim
19 Executive Director of UNR's new Academy for the
20 Environment.

21 MS. RANDI WALKER: I'm Randi Lee Walker,
22 and I'm your Court Reporter for today.

23 MR. RON PENROSE: Thanks, Randi.

24 We're going to move on with the agenda, and

1 we have Sylvia to provide a presentation on the
2 general requirements of the Open Meeting Law.

3 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Well, the bad news is
4 that since you are an Advisory Committee for the board
5 of a public agency, you're subject to the Open Meeting
6 Law; and we're getting pretty good at this.

7 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Three years ago we were
8 not good at this, believe me, but we've come a long
9 way.

10 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Have any of you
11 served on a committee or a group that's subject to the
12 Open Meeting Law?

13 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: The Regional Water
14 Planning Commission.

15 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: The main thing that
16 we need to be sure of, is make sure that you
17 understand that these meetings need to be noticed to
18 the public, and TMWA staff will continue to do that,
19 run that function for you, unless you want some other
20 arrangement.

21 The notice has to go out three working days
22 prior to the actual meeting. An agenda has to be
23 posted with that meeting indicating whatever action
24 items you will be considering at that meeting. And

1 the tough part is that you cannot stray too far from
2 the agenda, you cannot deliberate or take action on
3 items that are not properly agendized.

4 As I said, we can take care of the
5 postings. The tricky part is making sure that we can
6 properly formulate the agenda so that you can take
7 care of the business that you need to take care of,
8 and are not too constrained by the agenda; but on the
9 other hand, the general public is fairly noticed of
10 what you're going to be talking about. That's always
11 the tricky part of following these agendas.

12 The Open Meeting Law also requires that the
13 meeting be recorded, or minutes be kept. You have
14 your choice of taperecording, Court Reporting, and
15 again it's up to you how you want to handle that.

16 The Court Reporter is a very thorough way
17 to do it, and painless for you because you don't have
18 to think about it very much.

19 Then we have to, of course, keep the
20 minutes, preserve the minutes, and approve the minutes
21 at subsequent meetings.

22 We also have to allow public comment. And
23 there are requirements in the statute about how
24 quorums are considered and so on. Since you are not

1 elected, then a quorum will consist of a majority,
2 unless you decide to set up different rules for
3 yourselves, which you're free to do, and a vote will
4 consist of the majority of the members present for an
5 action item.

6 I had my secretary copy Chapter 241 for
7 you, which is only a few pages long, but I didn't tell
8 her not to copy the annotations. So you have a very
9 very thick packet at your disposal here, and if you
10 want to read each of these little annotations about
11 every single one of the 542 billion cases that have
12 arisen under the Open Meeting Law, you're free to do
13 that.

14 Otherwise, just ferret through this, look
15 at the bold print, if you want to, but this is the
16 document that will govern the conduct of the meetings
17 as far as compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

18 And, again, TMWA is perfectly happy to have
19 counsel with us, to make sure the agendas are properly
20 noticed.

21 One of the other tricks about the agendas
22 is that you do have to actually make the action item
23 detailed enough so that members of the public can
24 really figure out what you're doing.

1 It's probably not adequate to put down
2 Discussion of Possible Projects, in the future.

3 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Are there limits about
4 this group convening in smaller quorums?

5 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Oh, thank you. Yes,
6 that was the other thing I meant to mention.

7 The other thing that the Open Meeting Law
8 requires, and this will also be a trick for those of
9 you who have not served on a Board such as this, is
10 that you cannot deliberate in small groups or pull
11 each other outside of the open meeting.

12 So it is legal for you to meet and confer
13 or have a subcommittee smaller than a quorum and
14 discuss something, but then that group cannot turn
15 around and go to another subset of you and deliberate
16 in that fashion.

17 So it would be improper, for example, for
18 your Chairman to call up all of you and say: Well,
19 what do you think about this?

20 So that's one of the things that's a little
21 tricky. So all of your deliberations have to actually
22 occur in the open meeting, which may mean you have to
23 meet a little more often than you want to, otherwise.

24 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: So you can provide

1 information to each other, but you cannot deliberate
2 about the information?

3 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Yes.

4 MR. DAVE AIAZZI: You mentioned the word
5 "subcommittee." As elected officials, we're told if
6 we form a subcommittee, say of the City Council, that
7 subcommittee also has to follow the Open Meeting Law.

8 You can meet informally, but if you
9 actually call it a subcommittee, that subcommittee
10 also follows the Open Meeting Law. Does that apply to
11 non-elected officials also?

12 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Yes.

13 MS. JANET CARSON: Can we talk to each
14 other individually outside of the meeting?

15 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Of course. The
16 problem would be, or you might get into trouble if you
17 talk to Mike about something that is within the
18 purview of this group, and then Mike turns around and
19 talks to Jerry about the same thing, and then Jerry
20 turns around and talks to Tom about the same thing,
21 and Tom talks to Craig.

22 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Not merely the passage
23 of information, though, not talking in an
24 informational way; talking in a bodine-action,

1 deliberating way.

2 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: In a way that leads
3 you to a decision, ultimately. And you will see that
4 the cases about what constitutes deliberating are very
5 broad, so just about anything you talk about with
6 respect to a possible action will be deliberating.

7 MR. DAVE AIAZZI: The way it was told to me
8 is very easy: You have nine members, so five is a
9 quorum, which means you can only talk to less than a
10 quorum. So everybody has to keep track of their own,
11 who they talk to, about any one issue; you can talk to
12 three other people.

13 If you talk to Michael, then he can only
14 talk to two other people. So you can't talk to more
15 than a quorum about one thing. That's the safest way
16 to do it.

17 So you sort of have to keep your own track
18 of who you have talked to about each issue, and say:
19 You know what? I can't talk to you about that,
20 because I've already hit my quota of three.

21 There has been a lot of different
22 interpretations, but that's a good way to keep track
23 of it.

24 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: So you have to know how

1 many people the other person has talked to?

2 MR. DAVE AIAZZI: No, that's their
3 responsibility.

4 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: There are only four
5 people allowed to talk to each other; right?

6 MR. DAVE AIAZZI: No, because you could
7 talk to these four here. And Jerry has only talked to
8 you, so he can talk to two more people.

9 But you still can't poll each other and
10 say: How are you going to vote? And pass that
11 information on.

12 You're not supposed to say: This is how
13 these other two people feel about it.

14 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: As far as the actual
15 conduct of the meeting and your own bylaws, you're
16 free to create those. If you simply want to adhere to
17 Robert's Rules, that's perfectly okay.

18 But you should probably have some sort of
19 formal mechanism for conducting the meetings. Again,
20 you're free to set some other quorum. With a group of
21 this size, a simple majority is probably a good idea.

22 As I said, I apologize for all the extra
23 stuff in the paper. We will start out by killing some
24 extra trees. Let's get off on the right foot.

1 Again, any questions that arise with
2 respect to the Open Meeting Law compliance, feel free
3 to field those to me or to any of the other attorneys
4 for TMWA. Or there are plenty of other specialists
5 around town for the Open Meeting Law issues.

6 MR. RON PENROSE: Any other questions
7 regarding the Open Meeting Law requirements?

8 We decided to move the Item 6, Selection of
9 the Committee Chair, down to pretty much the last
10 item.

11 And I think we have decided to interchange
12 Items 7 and 8, so we'll start with Item 8, which is
13 Presentation of the Terms of the Truckee River Fund
14 Agreement, Responsibilities of the Committee and
15 Limitations of the uses of the Fund Imposed by the
16 Agreement, and Discussion Regarding Implementation of
17 Committee Role.

18 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: In your materials,
19 you will see in the packet that's clipped at the top,
20 the second item down is actually a copy of the Truckee
21 River Fund Agreement, if you haven't seen that before.

22 Just to give you a little bit more
23 background about how we decided to structure this:
24 Actually Dave came to me initially some time ago and

1 said: Can we do this?

2 His idea initially was to set up a
3 foundation. But the authority for us to set up a
4 foundation, a stand-alone foundation, the 501(c)3
5 Organization, was a little muddy. And as you know,
6 trying to figure out how to -- or trying to get
7 qualified 501(c)3 Organization takes some time,
8 anyway.

9 However, one of the first actions that the
10 TMWA Board took after the acquisition of the assets
11 from Sierra Pacific, I think it was the second or
12 third meeting following the consummation of the
13 purchase agreement, was to approve a community
14 out-reach policy.

15 The Board approved a policy for charitable
16 contributions consistent with the requirements that
17 are imposed upon cities and counties for charitable
18 contributions. They have to be for a public purpose,
19 they have to be for charitable organizations or other
20 governments and so on.

21 Again, as a public agency, what TMWA is
22 able to do, is only what at least one of its members
23 can do as a city or county, it can't go beyond the
24 authority that's granted to either a city or a county,

1 and what TMWA can actually do.

2 So what we tried to do, is figure out: How
3 can we create a fairly large pot of money and make it
4 adhere to the community contribution policy that was
5 approved by the Board in 2001.

6 One of the things that some of the Board
7 members were particularly interested in with the
8 Truckee River Fund, was to try to attract private
9 money to match the public money that TMWA would be
10 contributing.

11 So I talked to some of my partners, and we
12 talked around the community a little bit, and there
13 exists in this community foundation of western Nevada
14 -- some of you may already be familiar with the
15 Community Foundation -- which exists to perform a
16 couple of functions within the western Nevada
17 community. One is to actually serve as an incubator
18 for 501(c)3 Organizations, people who -- like if Janet
19 had chosen to go this way with her bike path project,
20 she could have asked the Community Foundation of
21 western Nevada: Can I put a pot of money within your
22 foundation for this specific dedicated purpose? And
23 that would have been available.

24 The other thing they do is to provide

1 investment opportunities and fund management for
2 earmarked funds that are put into the foundation for a
3 specific purpose.

4 And we thought that if we took the amount
5 of money that the TMWA Board had decided to allocate
6 for this river fund, put it under the umbrella of the
7 Community Foundation, and then have you all serve as
8 fund advisers for that pot of money, then we could
9 look at it that way.

10 In order to comply with the requirements
11 imposed on TMWA by statute as to how monies are to be
12 allocated, what you will have to do is once you decide
13 you have got a project you want to fund, you will have
14 to come back to the TMWA Board for their approval,
15 they will approve the use of the money by resolution,
16 which is what they have to do to comply with the
17 statutory requirements for their charitable
18 contributions.

19 At that point then what has to happen is
20 the Community Foundation Board gets a say, the final
21 say, just to make sure that whatever project you're
22 undertaking doesn't jeopardize their tax exempt
23 status.

24 Things that the TMWA Board would never

1 approve, for example, would be: We think a really
2 worthy project would be to put Susan Lynn up for
3 Washoe County Commissioner, and we're going to support
4 that. Well, that would not be a proper use of the
5 fund, and it would also jeopardize the tax exempt
6 status of the Community Foundation.

7 So that the Community Foundation gets a
8 final veto, only to make sure that whatever the use of
9 the money is, doesn't jeopardize their tax exempt
10 status.

11 So the actual mechanics of this are
12 described in Article IV, page 3. Part B is where you
13 come in with the Advisory Committee, starting on page
14 3 of the agreement.

15 The Advisory Committee is comprised of nine
16 members, three that are appointed by Washoe County,
17 three from Reno, three from Sparks. And I don't know
18 that any of the local governments have any sense that
19 you're representing those governments in any way.
20 That wasn't really the concept, just that each of the
21 TMWA members would have a shot at appointing members
22 of the Advisory Committee.

23 You do serve at the pleasure of the local
24 governments who appointed you, however, and each of

1 the local governments decide how they appoint their
2 members. We don't have anything to do with that.

3 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Sylvia, are there term
4 times or years or months or anything like that
5 prescribed?

6 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Not by the agreement.

7 We got the Board to approve an allocation
8 of \$25,000 for administrative costs from the fund. So
9 that if you, for example, want to hire your own Court
10 Reporter, hire your own counsel, something like that,
11 you may have administrative costs, you can do that up
12 to the annual --

13 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Sylvia, let me ask you a
14 question about that. At the current time out of that
15 administrative fund is the cost of the Court Reporter
16 and the General Counsel's time?

17 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: No, I wouldn't be
18 allocating my time to that.

19 MR. BILL BRADLEY: But the reporting time
20 comes out of that \$25,000?

21 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We should probably
22 allocate it that way, yes. That's cumulative each
23 fiscal year; otherwise, you have to adhere to the
24 project funding protocols that are described in Part

1 C. And here you can do whatever you want; make up
2 your own rules about how you want to consider
3 proposals, how you want to solicit proposals, how you
4 want to solicit additional funding.

5 Probably at the next meeting, it would
6 probably be a good idea for you to spend some time
7 deciding whether you want formal bylaws, about how you
8 do that, and so on. We can get into that a little bit
9 today.

10 And otherwise it's fairly loose. You can
11 bring small projects, large projects. The allocation
12 of the funds for the next fiscal year is \$340,000 that
13 TMWA has put into this, it will be put into the
14 Community Foundation, January --

15 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: January 1st, 2005, is
16 what the Board has authorized.

17 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: So it's up to you
18 from that point forward to make the fund work. If you
19 don't have enough money for a project within that
20 budget, then go out and find some more.

21 Or if you have a worthy project you think
22 is going to pass muster, spend it in small increments.
23 It's totally up to you. The only constraints on the
24 use of the funds, as far as the purpose of the fund,

1 is, again, that's in the agreement, and on page 2 in
2 the preamble to Part 3: The fund shall be used
3 exclusively for projects that protect and enhance
4 water quality or water resources of the Truckee River
5 or its watershed. That's about halfway down on page
6 2. That's what you need to underscore and write in
7 bold, because it's a fairly broad charter, but that's
8 the purpose.

9 As far as who can be beneficiaries of the
10 fund, then you have to flip over to page 5 and look at
11 the fund distribution requirements. The charitable
12 beneficiaries will be the people who are actually
13 undertaking these projects.

14 It's our idea that what you will probably
15 want to do is find somebody else that's actually --
16 once you have the money available, figure out what
17 project is worth funding, then the concept wouldn't be
18 that you actually the put shovels in the ground and
19 start moving dirt yourself, for lots of reasons. One
20 is that you don't want to be an entity or a group that
21 has to go get permits, for example, to dig in the
22 river. I don't think you want to do that, anyway.

23 What you want to do is you want to say:
24 Hey, this is something that Sparks could do, or this

1 is something that TMWA could do, or this is something
2 that somebody else could do.

3 You can make up your own rules about
4 whether you've got any issues with funding
5 organizations that you're very close to.

6 So somebody comes to you with a proposal,
7 and that entity, then, has to be either a government
8 or a charitable group that's exempt under 501(c)3.
9 Whatever you distribute to them, has to be used for
10 the appropriate public legal purpose.

11 You should require the financial details,
12 financial accountings, make sure that none of the
13 funds that are distributed are used for political
14 purposes, political advocacy; and then you can look at
15 the rest of the constraints and so on. We do want to
16 make sure that there are documentations of the
17 agreements with these organizations and so on.

18 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Let me ask you something.
19 I have a vague idea how money accrues through this
20 fund. Can you explain that to us so we make sure we
21 understand how the money comes to the fund, how it's
22 collected?

23 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Right now the money
24 that's been earmarked is just a portion of TMWA's

1 revenues.

2 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Fiscal budget line item
3 in our fiscal budget.

4 MS. SUSAN LYNN: So it's not a special fee
5 that's assessed by the rate payer?

6 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: No. And it may go up
7 and down, depending on TMWA's budget.

8 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I think maybe we get
9 ahead of ourselves very quickly, but if this is going
10 to be an annual decision made by the TMWA Board, then
11 it's conceivable there would be a year in which the
12 Board would vote to put nominal or zero funds into
13 this; is that true?

14 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: That's true.

15 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Which will become an
16 interesting constraint, to the extent this group wants
17 to be forward looking and develop a program in the
18 sense of continuity.

19 That's going to be a challenge for us, in
20 terms of anticipating that, being prepared for a
21 situation where we may get zero, and yet we want to be
22 forward looking.

23 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: I think the Board set
24 up the initial -- we basically brought to them a

1 proposal that started at \$340,000, basically went to a
2 little less than a million, I think, next year, and a
3 million, five the third year.

4 Now recognizing there's pressure on
5 customer rates and revenues for that, the Board
6 basically said: Great, let's start it off with the
7 first year.

8 We kind of bought the concept that it would
9 go up to 1.5 million, but we want to see how it works,
10 we want to get it in place.

11 And I think that the more we have success
12 of the funds, the more we can show success of being
13 able to partner in projects, bring in funds into the
14 fund, outside sources, other contributions, really
15 make the most of this fund, you know, the current
16 Board is bought in on the idea that this is going to
17 the Board.

18 That said, I can't guarantee you that there
19 isn't going to be a year where, for example, where
20 we're in severe drought conditions, where the revenues
21 are undercut, where there's some extraordinary thing,
22 and the Board would have to make a tough decision, not
23 only with this fund, but with other things, that may
24 or may not get funded in the TMWA budget.

1 So there isn't a guarantee for three years,
2 but there is a buy-in from the Board on the concept
3 that it would be a continuing item, that it would be
4 incremented up at some level, and we made a proposal
5 to the Board that showed specific numbers of how that
6 would increment up.

7 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Then as a component of the
8 Community Foundation, if I understand the Community
9 Foundation, they can also guide funding into this
10 particular fund for additional revenue?

11 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Yes. In fact, that's
12 one of the benefits of using the Community Foundation,
13 is they actually will do some advertising and some
14 advocacy, and they send out a lot of information to
15 givers that say: Here are funds we have set up that
16 you could contribute to and make contributions to.

17 So that's one of the draws of using the
18 Community Foundation, is they will actually go out and
19 do that advertising work, publicity, that says:
20 Here's a fund available related to the Truckee River
21 and watershed. So that's one of the attractions.

22 MR. CHRIS COBB: Are we paying them an
23 administrative fee for this as well?

24 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Yes, they will be

1 charging an administrative fee for taking caring of
2 our --

3 MR. CHRIS COBB: What are we looking at
4 that annually?

5 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Is that one percent?

6 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: If we don't make enough
7 to cover one percent, then it will be the interest
8 that we make. And if we do make enough, then it's one
9 percent.

10 So they basically have said: Yes, we will
11 give you kind of a grace on this, recognizing that if
12 your investments aren't making enough return to cover
13 the administrative costs, that that would be
14 burdensome to the fund. So we won't basically net
15 down the fund through the administrative fees. So as
16 long as we're making one percent, that's their
17 administrative fee.

18 MR. RON PENROSE: I have a question. Do
19 the funds accumulate?

20 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: They can. For example,
21 if you decided that you had \$340,000 this year,
22 there's nothing that says that if you wanted to do a
23 larger project and you kept \$300,000 from this year
24 and added what the Board puts in next year to fund a

1 bigger project in the third year, or something like
2 that.

3 In my mind, there are no rules about that.
4 So you could target a bigger project a couple years
5 out, and basically work to accumulate funds to do
6 that.

7 MR. CHRIS COBB: I think we have to be
8 careful about that, though. I think the Board set
9 this up to see some action, so we've got to be a
10 little careful how far out we --

11 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Again, I think you
12 would be bringing that idea to the Board probably up
13 front, and saying: Here's what we want to fund. I
14 mean, that's just my perception of it.

15 MS. JANET CARSON: Is there a date in the
16 year when the budget is established for TMWA, that we
17 would know what the --

18 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Yes, we have a budget
19 hearing in May. It's a very prescribed date in May,
20 and it's around the 20th, usually.

21 Last year it was the 20th. This year it
22 might be the 18th. It's the third Thursday in May.

23 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Following up on the
24 multi-year question. So if we were to receive a

1 proposal that has a multi-year time frames, we would
2 be able to grant it, but we're committing it from the
3 funds we have as of that day?

4 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Well, yeah, depending
5 upon how successful you are in getting private funds
6 as well. I mean, TMWA cannot commit beyond a budget
7 year.

8 But certainly there are some members of the
9 Board that are looking at this very closely to see if
10 the idea of putting money in really as seed money to
11 be able to tackle larger projects, with the
12 contributions from other sources, private or public
13 sources, is one of the ideas that they would really
14 like to see succeed.

15 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Would it behoove us to go
16 out and beat the bushes for other private
17 contributions?

18 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: It's private or
19 public, I think. I suspect the larger number is going
20 to be public partnering; I'm just going to guess.

21 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: For example, if the
22 City of Sparks wanted to say, "Hey, this is working,
23 this is a good idea, and we want to earmark some money
24 and drop it into this fund and have this fund advisor

1 administer this fund for the purpose of water quality
2 on the Truckee River, which is a key interest of the
3 City of Sparks and the City of Reno, and Washoe
4 County; I mean, anybody who is in the water quality,
5 sewer affluent business, that's a key interest, it's a
6 key factor. So if any of those agencies wanted to
7 pool money in there, they could.

8 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I guess I was
9 thinking even what I suspect, at least I would expect
10 to be even more likely than that, is that projects
11 will come forward that have multiple public funding,
12 and that I hope will be somehow recorded and
13 registered and visible as leverage for the TMWA
14 Board's point of view.

15 If this fund contributes 25 percent of a
16 worthwhile project, we may not get the other 75
17 percent to be reflected in our fund balance, but it's
18 still a leverage used of the Truckee River fund
19 dollars.

20 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: By the way, we have an
21 excellent public relations firm we work with, and we
22 will be working with them to get that message out:
23 We're doing great things on the Truckee River, here
24 are things that this advisory group, that this fund

1 has done, and how we have participated in the Truckee
2 River. So that's one of the components we will be
3 looking at, is getting that messaging out.

4 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: That partnering is
5 one of the key things. If the TMWA Board wanted to do
6 this on its own, just to fund projects, they could do
7 that, but it really wanted to get a broad-based group
8 of community representatives, such as you folks, to
9 help spot and formulate uses for this fund.

10 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Sylvia, in the wildlife
11 arena, there is the ability to match with Federal
12 grants that oftentimes give you a three-to-one match.
13 I'm wondering whether in the area of water quality,
14 Federal grants like that are available. If you think
15 about that, it would behoove us to have someone who
16 could help us identify Federal grants. That's the
17 good news.

18 The bad news is the timing trying to get
19 those grants associated with then having to go to the
20 Board, then having to go to the Community Foundation,
21 we will need a pretty clear calendar in order to
22 evaluate projects and be able to get our bang for our
23 buck, get the money, and get it on the ground in a
24 calendar year.

1 MR. CHRIS COBB: Your calendar year, I
2 understand, is January?

3 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: We're fiscal. It's
4 July 1 to June 30th.

5 MR. CHRIS COBB: Federal, if I remember
6 right, is October?

7 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: It's October. Again,
8 staff can help work through some of those issues.

9 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Do you have anybody that
10 has a specialty in identifying Federal grants?

11 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: We don't. But we don't
12 have anyone who has a specialty in writing grants, so
13 when Susan said she's done that, my ears perked up,
14 because some of the agencies do, so we have borrowed
15 them from time to time to help us.

16 But we're out there always looking for
17 Federal money. We do have a Federal legislative
18 lobbyist who also has been working closely with the
19 State, and there is Federal money coming to the State
20 for water quality and those kind of things that are
21 earmarked for those issues under the Clean Water Act
22 and things like that.

23 So we're pretty much linked in, as I am
24 sure the Sparks folks are, into some of those programs

1 that are available at the State level and also at the
2 National level. So finding out about them and then
3 just working through the details of them.

4 Again, timing can be a challenge, but one
5 of my experiences with the Federal Grant Programs, in
6 particular, is: Just don't be in a hurry, because it
7 will take a long time to get it. So you actually have
8 quite a long schedule sometimes to put all the
9 processes in place.

10 MR. BILL BRADLEY: The agency that sees the
11 most amount of money from the Federal Government to
12 the State, is that Environmental Protection?

13 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Probably, yes. And
14 they are actually currently administering both the
15 Clean Water Act money and the Safe Drinking Water Act.
16 So NDET is administering both of those now.

17 For those of you who don't know, in the
18 next legislative session, probably next July, there is
19 an agreement where NDET will be taking over the health
20 department, State health function of Safe Drinking
21 Water Act regulations, so that will now fall under, as
22 of next July, under NDET, so really bringing those two
23 very linked items together at a State level, so that's
24 good.

1 MR. CHRIS COBB: There's also AB198237
2 money they grant out and they're only doing it for
3 water systems, but there is also money in there for
4 conservation programs. Most of it's been allocated,
5 and I think they'll have to re-allocate in the next
6 legislative session.

7 MS. JANET CARSON: At the risk of sounding
8 really procedural, it seems like it would be helpful
9 to have a calendar of the budgets in mid-May; this
10 Federal fund has a submittal date of February; the
11 time line to get the community fund approval and the
12 TMWA Board approval is "X" month; if we could have
13 that sort of set out in sequence, because it's going
14 to really affect what we decide to do on Number 10
15 about our meeting dates.

16 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: Meeting dates, and then
17 when we accept projects and say: Okay, this is our
18 drop-dead date for a decision on a project.

19 MS. JANET CARSON: Right, we need to ask
20 them by such and such a date, driven by all these
21 other things.

22 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: The TMWA Board meets
23 10 times a year now, I believe, and more frequently if
24 it needs to. We try to have a monthly schedule with a

1 grace period.

2 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Typically what happens
3 is we have a monthly meeting scheduled. If we don't
4 have anything, we don't meet. If we do have
5 something, and this would be something, we would -- I
6 mean, we would hold a meeting even if there was just
7 this agenda item on it, if we were on a time line
8 where we needed to do that.

9 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We're pretty quick
10 with our agendas, so as long as we have an item that
11 can be posted three working days before the meeting.

12 MR. RON PENROSE: Are you looking at a
13 calendar for the year, Janet?

14 MS. JANET CARSON: Yes.

15 MR. RON PENROSE: We can put something
16 together for you.

17 MR. BILL BRADLEY: We work under a similar
18 constraint, and it's pretty challenging; and we don't
19 have any money to spend.

20 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: We will have to find
21 out on that.

22 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: In some ways I am so
23 excited about this I can barely stay in my seat. One
24 thing that's kind of really sort of on my mind,

1 though, is how the potential of this fund, of this
2 group, seems to me to be quite high, but it's not
3 guaranteed, and how we get started and how successful
4 we are in doing our job is going to determine whether
5 or not we reach that potential.

6 I am trying to think: Well, how do we get
7 off to a good start? A couple of thoughts occur to me
8 that this is a great group, just based on short
9 introductions in terms of people's experience,
10 knowledge of the river, knowledge of funding,
11 foundations, public agencies, all those things. I
12 think we have a lot of strengths. And I'm sure we
13 have some weaknesses, too, in terms of given the
14 mission of the fund, and who we are, we probably have
15 built in biases here that would be good if we knew, as
16 a group, what they were, so that we could fend off our
17 own biases and so on.

18 These are all: How do we spend the time as
19 a committee to develop a sort of collective sense of
20 who we are, what the opportunities are, is sort of a
21 question that's on my mind.

22 It seems perfectly appropriate that today
23 we're dealing first with the mechanics, and really
24 nuts and bolts stuff, but I am already in my mind at

1 that next step of trying to figure out how do we -- I
2 mean, how do we make ourselves into a living,
3 breathing, functioning body from a collection of
4 people who just met each other for the first time?

5 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: I would recommend
6 that you do one of Janet's field trips sooner rather
7 than later.

8 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: Is that subject to the
9 Open Meeting Law?

10 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: It is. All we have
11 to do is arrange transportation for members of the
12 public who choose to show up in the parking lot, and
13 notice them. We have done it lots of times.

14 MR. BILL BRADLEY: The key is advising the
15 public's first step. I was just thinking that it may
16 not be a bad idea for us to meet with the public
17 relations' agency that TMWA works with to just get an
18 idea of how we go about, for no money, getting the
19 word out on getting buy-in for this concept of a
20 Citizen Board, administrative costs for the road.

21 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: That's a great idea.
22 I think that certainly the two city councils would
23 welcome a presentation from you all. I don't know
24 what to say about the County Commissioners at this

1 point, but I know we can have Marlene Olson available
2 at the next meeting, and she's wonderful, she's just
3 got gobs of ideas, and TMWA has a terrific website.

4 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I know this is a little
5 bit further, but it's part of the initial meeting.
6 I've read the correspondence here. Is the county
7 adverse to this? Or are they sticking their head in
8 the sand? Or what really is the -- what's the damn
9 politics?

10 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Do you really want to
11 go there?

12 MR. RON PENROSE: That's the next item.

13 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: If you all want to
14 move to this issue --

15 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I would, but before
16 we go there, as a way of coming back, a place to come
17 back to the conversation we were just having, and
18 before we adjourn today I would love to maybe set the
19 agenda for -- I'm sure we will anyway -- but to set
20 the agenda for our next meeting, and there were a
21 couple things we have gotten onto here, and I don't
22 want to lose track of them, but public support, where
23 are other likely funding sources, and calendars.

24 We're starting to shape the agenda for our

1 next meeting, and --

2 MS. SUSAN LYNN: And I would add that
3 somehow we need to develop some criteria and
4 procedures, make some decisions.

5 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Right. It could be a
6 fairly -- I think we need to spend some time together,
7 with respect to our potential, but let's shape an
8 agenda for our next meeting, and start fishing this
9 out and put some time into it.

10 I just wanted to make that final comment
11 before you went into the legal questions of the
12 counties.

13 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: You probably have
14 gathered by the materials, that for some odd reason
15 there were a couple of County Commissioners who got
16 fairly negative about this whole idea of charitable
17 contributions from TMWA, basically TMWA revenue, being
18 used for this purpose. And I still don't know exactly
19 what the motive was. There were a couple of people
20 that reacted very negatively to this.

21 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Who were those?

22 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Well, Jim Shaw was
23 one; he's gone. Dave Humpkey was another one,
24 probably the instigator of most of the negative --

1 MS. JANET CARSON: And Pete --

2 MR. BILL BRADLEY: He's gone, too.

3 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: And Galloway, I
4 think, was also adverse to it. I don't know whether
5 there were some adverse comments from one of -- there
6 were some adverse comments from a bunch of TMWA's
7 wholesale customers, Sun Valley GID, when the Board
8 considered this, and I don't know whether Washoe
9 County is thinking of itself; you know, thinking of
10 the Utility, Washoe County Utility, as a major
11 wholesale customer of TMWA, and whether this is an
12 appropriate use of some of the fees that they pay, or
13 whether what we're seeing is simply a symptom of the
14 term issues between the cities and the county. And I
15 think maybe a combination of all those things.

16 Some of the Commissioners have this
17 unfortunate perception that TMWA is a creature of the
18 cities. It's ludicrous. There are three members of
19 TMWA, Washoe County, Reno and Sparks, have entered
20 into a cooperative agreement to purchase the water
21 assets from Sierra.

22 The representation on the TMWA Board is
23 three from Reno, two from Sparks, and from Washoe
24 County, is set up that way to reflect the customer

1 base, because TMWA actually has very few customers in
2 unincorporated Washoe County.

3 So there's sometimes a little bit of a
4 feeling among the Commissioners that they are not
5 adequately represented at TMWA. But unfortunately I
6 just think that there's some -- speaking candidly here
7 -- that goes on, that we really can't quite
8 understand, and don't really understand why there is
9 this attitude on the part of some of the Commissioners
10 by this, adverse to TMWA, but there is.

11 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I sat through one of
12 the County -- actually when Lori had to go give a
13 presentation, and I was at the County Commission
14 meeting, and then the following day the TMWA Board
15 met. It was an interesting kind of one-two punch on
16 the subject.

17 And one observation I would make is that as
18 an idea that was in process as it was first brought to
19 the County Commission for them to vote on their three
20 appointees and whether to embrace this, the fond idea
21 was to -- I mean, I want to point to what I think is
22 sort of the 10 most key words in this document on page
23 2, the purpose of the funds, the wording in that, at
24 the end of that first main paragraph: To protect and

1 enhance water quality, or water resources of the
2 Truckee River or its watershed. Which I think it's
3 great language, is my own opinion, it's focused, and
4 yet it's fairly broad and permissive at the same time.

5 This language -- I mean I don't know if it
6 actually existed the day of that County Commission
7 meeting, but they certainly weren't aware of it.

8 They were, I think, under the misimpression
9 that the parameters for this fund were about as open
10 as one's imagination is. So they were thinking
11 potentially basketball courts or whatever. And the
12 question, as I heard it, was: What burden can we
13 place on -- to put it in a positive -- on TMWA
14 ratepayers? You know, it was a nexus question.

15 And it was at the next TMWA Board hearing,
16 at least it's my recounting of the events, that this
17 language on protecting enhanced water quality, where
18 those words were really pinned down.

19 And I think to the extent a legitimate
20 substantive question was actually raised amongst the
21 political positioning, if you will, was this nexus
22 question, which I think was well addressed the next
23 day at the TMWA Board meeting.

24 And I'm not sure that it ever really closed

1 the loop, because public positions had been made by
2 certain Commissioners, and they sort of wanted to
3 stick to their guns. And yet I actually viewed it as
4 a fairly natural evolution; just kind of it went
5 through the process of discussion and debate.

6 I think the good news out of it is we got
7 some excellent guidelines for the foundation. But
8 that doesn't mean we still don't have lingering -- I
9 don't know if problems is overstating it but, you
10 know, this question from the County seems to persist.

11 MR. JERRY PURDY: I think we ought to move
12 on.

13 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Let me just tell you
14 where we are. The Washoe County Commissioners voted
15 to solicit an opinion from the State Attorney General,
16 as to the legality of this river fund. And they asked
17 about three different questions in their request, but
18 it really comes down to: Does TMWA have the legal
19 authority to make charitable contributions?

20 And the question is framed as: Is that one
21 of the delegated functions within the cooperative
22 agreement?

23 The request for opinion kind of came out of
24 left field. I did not receive a copy of this for

1 about a month, until I asked for one. I was pleased
2 that the Deputy Attorney General, who has been asked
3 to look at this, called me up and asked for some input
4 from TMWA, because that's not typically what you have
5 an opportunity to do.

6 So I went back and reproduced some of the
7 history of charitable contributions that TMWA has been
8 engaged in, and I found it sort of ironic that Jim
9 Shaw was voting with the rest of the Board in
10 approving the charitable contribution policy in 2001.

11 I believe that we have excellent evidence
12 that when the members created TMWA, they had every
13 intention that TMWA would continue to be an active
14 member of the community and make contributions to the
15 community of this type.

16 Really that's what I think the Attorney
17 General is looking at, is: Was it the intention of
18 the members when they created TMWA, to allow this type
19 of activity? And is that then a delegated function in
20 a cooperative agreement?

21 I don't know. I think the Attorney General
22 actually has a pretty good out. I don't think that
23 it's really a question of law of the type that the
24 Attorney General typically would offer an opinion

1 about. I think it's really a matter of interpreting
2 the cooperative agreement, and from that standpoint
3 it's something that's probably better left to the
4 members.

5 One thing you should know, that I think is
6 comforting, is that Attorney General opinions are not
7 binding, they are not law, they are just opinions.
8 And I think that even if we were to receive an adverse
9 opinion from the Attorney General, my bet would be the
10 TMWA Board would say: We don't care, go ahead. That
11 would be my bet.

12 But then there you have it. We are
13 potentially under that little cloud right now, and
14 don't know what the Attorney General is going to do.
15 I doubt very much that the County Commissioners would
16 withdraw their request; although that would be nice,
17 but I doubt that they will, and so there's that
18 lingering uncertainty.

19 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Is there any time when you
20 might expect an opinion?

21 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Don't really know.
22 So there is the possibility that the rug could be
23 pulled out from underneath this group, and you may
24 find yourself devoting quite a lot of time to it,

1 but --

2 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Would you advise that
3 we not make any decisions with respect to funds until
4 there's some --

5 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: My advice would be --
6 shall I go ahead and give it? I will tell you what I
7 think.

8 I really think that even if we got an
9 adverse Attorney General opinion on this, that we
10 really have pretty strong evidence; again because of
11 the participation in the County of this formulation of
12 the charitable contribution and policies and so on,
13 that it is a delegated function of TMWA.

14 I really don't foresee that we would be in
15 a legal battle about it with anybody.

16 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: I also believe there
17 are other ways that we can do this. I mean, we've
18 chosen to go the Community Foundation route because we
19 think it would give us the best bang for the buck, and
20 a lot of reasons to go that route.

21 But clearly TMWA's staff and TMWA's Board
22 believes that we have the stakeholders in the river,
23 that we have to participate in its protection, its
24 improvement, you know.

1 And are there other ways we can do that?
2 Could we do it through capital budget items, line
3 items? Yeah. Is that going to get us the best bang
4 for the buck? Maybe not.

5 It may limit some of the things we can do;
6 but I think that there will be other ways that if we
7 didn't go this route, that the work would not be for
8 not, that staff and the Board, I think, would still
9 support the stewards of the Truckee River.

10 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: It's hard for me to
11 imagine that there could be a funding, the Attorney
12 General's Office, or if it came to it in a Court
13 battle, that being stewards of the Truckee River
14 wasn't an appropriate function for TMWA. It's
15 inconceivable to me.

16 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Well, the cities and
17 counties don't make charitable contributions, or
18 contributions to charitable contributions for other
19 equally important activities.

20 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: And one of the
21 ironies of this is that the largest charitable
22 contribution TMWA will be making is a 1.5 million
23 dollar donation to the kayak course to reimburse the
24 county bond funds.

1 MR. PENROSE: Okay, would everybody want to
2 take like a five-minute break and come back and tackle
3 the committee chair item, and the protocol procedure
4 for evaluating projects, or just keep going?

5 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I'd prefer to keep going.

6 MR. RON PENROSE: Do we want to start
7 talking about a committee chair at this point before
8 we get into evaluation criteria for proposals and that
9 type of thing?

10 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: What about the idea
11 of an interim couple of meetings? It would be great
12 if somebody were really conducting the meetings for a
13 couple of times, but we don't know how big a job it is
14 or --

15 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: I will offer that if
16 you would like Ron to continue to chair the meeting
17 and work to develop the agenda and things like that
18 with you, we would be happy to --

19 MR. JERRY PURDY: I think I would like to
20 see that until we figure out where we're going.

21 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: We don't want to take
22 control. We're very sensitive to the fact that we
23 don't want to be running this. We want to be
24 assisting you as staff in --

1 MR. RON PENROSE: Then I will continue to
2 guide the meeting. So everybody's okay with that?

3 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I guess I'm going to
4 try for one more second on the idea: I still think it
5 might be, just for the sake of this group, getting
6 from the very beginning, a sense of itself and how we
7 function as a group.

8 I have a slight preference that somebody
9 other than me, actually, but somebody of our group,
10 just for a meeting or two, so we actually get in the
11 habit of running our meetings, and I'll just try that
12 one more time.

13 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Are you volunteering,
14 Michael?

15 MR. RON PENROSE: Sounds like it.

16 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: There's a: Be
17 careful what you ask for.

18 MR. JERRY PURDY: Just a minute. I think
19 we should not go appointing anybody for a while until
20 we see who is the best person. It's great to
21 volunteer for these jobs and that kind of thing like
22 collective watch bobs or something, but I have a hunch
23 after a couple meetings we would know who we want for
24 a chairman. Not the one that just speaks out all the

1 time, but the one that really has the direction, the
2 motivation, the drive and the innovation, and I'd like
3 to see our gunner there lead us for a time or two
4 until we get to know each other.

5 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I wasn't suggesting
6 that, choosing a chair for -- it was just for a
7 meeting or two. But let's go with Ron, that's fine
8 with me.

9 MR. CHRIS COBB: Quick question. Once we
10 eventually do, if we so decide, pick a committee
11 chair, then we would no longer have a TMWA person?

12 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: No, Ron will attend the
13 meeting, regardless.

14 MR. CHRIS COBB: I like the idea of having
15 Ron present.

16 MR. RON PENROSE: Right.

17 MR. CHRIS COBB: The makeup is three from
18 each, whereas at least I like having a TMWA individual
19 in here.

20 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: He wouldn't have a
21 vote, but he's here to provide information, hear your
22 needs, to basically make sure that whatever you guys
23 want on the agenda next time, that that's what we get
24 posted for you, and all those kind of things. And

1 answer questions. I mean, Ron is a warehouse of
2 knowledge. So it's not like he's not here to give you
3 his input or his experience or whatever.

4 MR. DAVE AIAZZI: I'm going to leave after
5 this, because I always want to get involved in these,
6 and I promised myself I wouldn't, but I'm going to say
7 one thing. I was very happy when a lot of people said
8 they weren't sure who appointed them, and I just hear
9 there's three from each.

10 I really hope what we're doing here is for
11 -- that's the default position. The reason they
12 brought it forward, instead of having the TMWA Board
13 do it, there wouldn't be three from each. And the
14 hope is that you guys are bringing together the groups
15 that have shown interest in the river as a whole, and
16 not just the interest of Sparks or Reno.

17 What my job is going to be -- I'm not going
18 to stick around for public comment -- but what I will
19 guarantee you is: I'm going to support whatever you
20 guys do, whatever it is.

21 Our job is: You guys are here hopefully
22 spending your time, going to present things. Two
23 things: I will support whatever you decide; and I
24 will try to continue to support to get the money here

1 every year. Those are the two things that I have.

2 But I hope, and I think everyone does, but
3 at the start let's don't say there's three from each,
4 let's just say that we're here for the river, and
5 TMWA's drinking water.

6 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Thanks, Dave.

7 MS. LORI WILLIAMS: Thanks.

8 MS. JANET CARSON: I will make a motion we
9 table the matter of selection of committee chair until
10 next time.

11 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: I second that.

12 MR. PENROSE: Everybody in favor?

13 (They all say aye.)

14 MR. PENROSE: Motion passed.

15 Although we have got Item 9 as a
16 discussion/development of protocol or procedure for
17 soliciting and evaluating proposals; and Item 10 is
18 set schedule for future meeting dates, would you like
19 to discuss Item 10 first, relative to scheduling?

20 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Yes, that would be
21 helpful.

22 MR. RON PENROSE: So let's talk about it.

23 MS. JANET CARSON: I will start out. I
24 don't even have a clue how often might this group

1 meet? You know, I don't have a good feel for that.

2 MR. RON PENROSE: I have a suggestion.

3 Susan, go ahead.

4 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Go ahead.

5 MR. RON PENROSE: I was going to try and
6 put together that calendar thing you requested,
7 annual, that would provide all of the Board meeting
8 dates, also the budgeting calendar from the standpoint
9 of TMWA, maybe some of the other agencies, maybe
10 provide that to this group at the next meeting, and at
11 that point maybe you can -- maybe the next meeting
12 should be in another month, so you can take a look at
13 that and at that point in time you can decide on the
14 frequency of your meetings.

15 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: When is the next TMWA
16 Board meeting?

17 MR. RON PENROSE: I don't know.

18 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I am not concerned about
19 the next TMWA Board meeting, because I see us starting
20 off with probably several meetings to get our feet on
21 the ground and get a good game plan, and then
22 coordinating with those Boards' calendars.

23 I think we probably ought to be looking at
24 a couple months, January, February, at least in the

1 short term.

2 MR. JERRY PURDY: In respect to that,
3 there's no reason why a person shouldn't meet and do
4 what you say, checking the Boards and so forth, but I
5 think you might want to think about these meetings
6 relative to what projects we might be looking about --
7 you know, 12 meetings, all of a sudden you can throw
8 another year away on the calendar. Certain of these
9 things need to be done and acted on, and I think if
10 the situation demands it, we ought to whip up the
11 mules and meet more often, more frequently, less time,
12 and leave that meeting schedule flexible, meet at
13 least once a month.

14 But I had a proposal I'd like to talk about
15 here that involves 10,000 pounds a day of total
16 dissolved solids flowing into the Truckee River.
17 That's over 400 pounds an hour.

18 If there was 400 pounds sitting out there
19 on the floor with handles on it, I doubt like hell if
20 a bunch of us could lift it off the ground. So every
21 hour another 400 stacks up, so there are certain
22 things that I think we probably ought to meet on and
23 act and get some recommendations out, and take our
24 routine as it goes along.

1 MR. BILL BRADLEY: One of the things that I
2 think we're going to have to be careful of, is we have
3 a budget of \$50,000 this first year. And I don't
4 think for \$50,000 we can lift that 400 pounds, to be
5 honest with you, but develop some recommendations --

6 MR. JERRY PURDY: Exactly.

7 MR. BILL BRADLEY: -- and on a long-term
8 analysis of that.

9 Taking a look at a \$50,000 budget, and
10 knowing that the TMWA Board will be doing a new budget
11 short of its July 1st new fiscal year, it seems to me
12 that between now and July 1st we'll be looking at
13 expenditures, if possible, of a \$50,000 little --
14 either a miniature project or -- and some of our
15 guidance in here indicates that we have to approve one
16 project a year through the Community Foundation.

17 MS. JANET CARSON: Per calendar year?

18 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Well, it didn't say
19 that, and I wasn't sure about that.

20 One of the things that I thought we would
21 need on our next agenda is a representative from the
22 Community Foundation to explain our partnership.

23 But if we only have six months, and I'm not
24 sure if that's true or not, on that first \$50,000 --

1 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Where are you getting
2 the \$50,000?

3 MS. JANET CARSON: Yes, I thought it was
4 \$340,000.

5 MR. BILL BRADLEY: That's what they
6 dedicated to the fund, but we have a budget of
7 \$50,000, and I have got that.

8 If you look on page 2 of Sylvia's November
9 29th letter --

10 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: No, no, that's not
11 you; that was the initial contribution.

12 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Oh, okay.

13 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: That's was the one
14 that was funded in 2001.

15 MR. BILL BRADLEY: So we've got \$349,000?

16 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We've got \$340,000.

17 MR. BILL BRADLEY: All right, I apologize
18 for that. That makes a little bit of difference,
19 then.

20 MS. JANET CARSON: Between now and the end
21 of June?

22 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Yes.

23 MS. SUSAN LYNN: My sense is that the
24 University is here; Jerry has a project, I'm sure;

1 everybody in this room probably has a project they can
2 recommend. But I also think that we need to know what
3 other things are going on in the community and what
4 other needs there might be. I mean, Sparks may have a
5 project, and ENDOW may have a project, God knows.

6 So I think we need to maybe spend some time
7 up front and maybe have a longer meeting or more
8 frequent meetings to get your procedures for
9 application. I mean, I appreciate that the University
10 is here today, because I know they have some good
11 projects. But I think we need to have some sort of
12 format by which we can judge apples with apples and
13 oranges with oranges.

14 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I think the question
15 we will have to resolve in some way is: How do we
16 interpret the phrasing of protect and enhance water
17 quality or water resources of the Truckee River? What
18 does the University consist of that qualifies for
19 that? And then from there, how do you choose to
20 allocate a limited amount of dollars across that
21 universe?

22 We have to kind of get buckled in a little
23 bit on that before we can make sensible decisions and
24 demonstrate to the community that we're making good

1 use in spending the funds.

2 MR. PENROSE: May I suggest something? I
3 think we're starting to get into the discussion on
4 protocol, and how you evaluate proposals, and this is
5 the engineer coming out of me.

6 I think you will need to develop a set of
7 criteria that you can evaluate that are tied real
8 closely to the parameters of this fund: Water
9 quality, watershed enhancement.

10 And it could be a laundry list of 10 items,
11 and you might want to put some type of waiting factor
12 on them. That way you're going to be able to
13 evaluate, I think, projects as they come through
14 fairly, and you're going to be able to prioritize
15 them. So that's just a comment.

16 MR. CHRIS COBB: Has your group -- you have
17 got a little bit of experience with this with the
18 Glendale Diversion -- did they set up a criteria?

19 MR. RON PENROSE: Yes.

20 MR. CHRIS COBB: Maybe some of those items
21 we could take a look at and see if they would assist
22 us in developing criteria.

23 I know they are going through a lengthy
24 public process, but maybe some of that criteria they

1 are using might be beneficial to this group.

2 MR. JERRY PURDY: How about cranking that
3 out for us? Serious; you guys have the expertise, you
4 cooked up the funds. Why don't you get that criteria
5 and run it by us, let us review it and approve it. At
6 least we'll know we are in step with the objectives.

7 MR. RON PENROSE: What we could do, is we
8 could make a copy of the criteria. We're still a
9 draft criteria relative to this Glendale project, but
10 that could be sent out to you in an information
11 packet, you could evaluate it, and then it could be an
12 item of discussion at the next meeting, and hopefully
13 you could finalize your evaluation criteria.

14 MR. CHRIS COBB: Before we move on, it
15 seems like we have moved from 10 to 9. Did we want to
16 go ahead and make at least a motion for now to have a
17 meeting in January, at least?

18 SUSAN LYNN: Can you set a date in January?

19 MR. RON PENROSE: Do you want to talk days
20 and what looks good? Do you like Mondays?

21 MS. JANET CARSON: January, Monday the
22 10th?

23 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I'm in favor of it.
24 I think we have a lot to talk about, that's my

1 opinion. I am in favor of a longer meeting that day,
2 if people can afford the time.

3 MS. JANET CARSON: I'll go for a longer
4 meeting if somebody provides coffee.

5 MR. PENROSE: Is it Monday the 10th?

6 MS. JANET CARSON: Monday the 3rd is a
7 holiday.

8 MR. PENROSE: How about Monday the 10th?

9 MR. TOM SWAN: I am not available the 10th.

10 MR. PENROSE: How about Tuesday the 11th?

11 MR. TOM SWAN: I'm not available that week.

12 MS. JANET CARSON: How about the week
13 prior?

14 MR. RON PENROSE: How about Tuesday the
15 4th?

16 MR. TOM SWAN: Yes.

17 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I'm not here.

18 MR. RON PENROSE: How about Wednesday, the
19 5th?

20 MR. BILL BRADLEY: You're going to have a
21 heck of a time.

22 MR. JERRY PURDY: I think we ought to pick
23 a date, and some that can make it, can; those that
24 can't are just going to have to miss the meeting. I

1 don't think we're ever going to get one that fits
2 everybody. There's a lot of horse power here and busy
3 folks.

4 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I would suggest let's
5 try a little later in the month, if there's a chance
6 that people's calendars are more open.

7 MR. CHRIS COBB: How about the 17th?

8 MR. RON PENROSE: That's a holiday.

9 MS. JANET CARSON: What about the 6th or
10 7th?

11 MR. TOM SWAN: I am gone the 8th through
12 the 16th.

13 MS. SUSAN LYNN: The 6th or 7th would work.

14 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Not actually. I
15 think if we go later in the month, it's a delay for
16 our group, but what if we go to the week of the --
17 sometime the week of the 17th? Monday the 24th?

18 MR. CHRIS COBB: How about Tuesday the
19 18th? I don't have a problem with that.

20 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Works for me.

21 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Works for me.

22 MR. RON PENROSE: How about if we conduct
23 the meeting in the afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00? That
24 will give you plenty of time with a break, and we'll

1 have coffee and cookies.

2 MR. BILL BRADLEY: What time is it?

3 (A short discussion on timing was held.)

4 MR. PENROSE: That's a good idea. How
5 about starting at 9:00, and then we'll just take as
6 long as it takes, and we'll have some sandwiches.

7 MS. JANET CARSON: That's the 18th?

8 MR. RON PENROSE: Tuesday the 18th.

9 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Not to be too high
10 maintenance, but can we find a room from where you can
11 see the river?

12 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We can meet at
13 McDonald, Carano, if our conference room is available,
14 it's right downtown, 100 West Liberty, the old Porsche
15 building, the 10th floor. You can't see the river,
16 but it has a nice view.

17 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: A great room is at
18 Reno Parks & Rec with their conference room. I just
19 think we ought to put ourselves in -- be inspired.
20 This is an inspired effort.

21 Not that this room isn't inspired, Ron,
22 don't take offense.

23 MR. RON PENROSE: I'm just here to listen.

24 MR. CHRIS COBB: That's fine.

1 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We will see if it's
2 available.

3 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Here you have access to
4 copy machines, if we need to, and stuff like that.

5 MR. BILL BRADLEY: And coffee.

6 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I agree with the
7 inspiration, but sometimes just administratively it's
8 nice to have access to resources.

9 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: We'll leave it up to
10 you guys to figure out where. But if we can find a
11 location that's conducive to good thoughts on the
12 Truckee River, it would be great.

13 MR. JERRY PURDY: Maybe we should think
14 about staying where we can get some resources. If we
15 wanted to run off a copy here today, you can hike it
16 out and make it happen. It's little awkward when you
17 start trying to get somebody down at McKinley to go
18 make copies and pay for it out of their budget and
19 what have you.

20 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I would settle for
21 windows.

22 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We have lot of
23 windows.

24 MR. RON PENROSE: We will take all those

1 items into consideration. It could be here.

2 MS. JANET CARSON: But we are settled on
3 the 18th at 9:00 o'clock?

4 MR. RON PENROSE: Yes.

5 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: With coffee, Janet.

6 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Do you want counsel
7 for that? Do you want me present or somebody?

8 MR. RON PENROSE: I think so.

9 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I think it might be useful
10 to have you here for at least the first part of it.

11 MR. CHRIS COBB: I have another suggestion.
12 If we're going to be judging projects on the benefit
13 to the river, shouldn't we know the current condition
14 of the river? Can somebody give us a presentation?
15 You know, water quality, what's the current TMBLs,
16 what are some of the problem spots in the river? Just
17 an overview of the river?

18 I know bits and pieces of it, some policies
19 and other policies. But to be honest, I don't have an
20 overall understanding.

21 MR. PENROSE: It may be a project like an
22 evaluation of the water quality of the river.

23 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Can I make that as an
24 agenda item for our next meeting, that we discuss how

1 we answer that question? I mean, we can get a
2 presentation at the next meeting, but I think --

3 MR. CHRIS COBB: Who knows the most about
4 it? Ron?

5 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Well it depends what
6 question you're asking.

7 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Yeah, there are a lot of
8 specialists in this room that have key pieces.

9 MR. CHRIS COBB: That's what I mean,
10 everybody knows pieces. Isn't it our responsibility
11 to get a broader view?

12 MS. SUSAN LYNN: The Regional Planning
13 Agency has a whole list of agencies that operate on
14 the Truckee River, they put together a report. Maybe
15 we can get a copy of that for everybody.

16 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: I have that.

17 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Okay. It lists all the
18 agencies, their contact person, phone number,
19 etcetera.

20 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: I have that somewhere.

21 MR. RON PENROSE: I will add one thing,
22 too. TMWA, when we were Sierra Pacific Power Company,
23 we conducted a watershed sanitary survey of the
24 Truckee River system, it was back in about 1990, we

1 had a firm called HDR who conducted the study, and
2 really the purpose of it was to see whether we had a
3 protective watershed, and give us some information on
4 how we could comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act,
5 and the Surface Water Treatment Rule, the filtration
6 rule.

7 That ended up being an evaluation of the
8 Truckee River corridor from a water quality and from a
9 risk perspective from Tahoe City down to the intakes
10 of our water treatment plants.

11 I will have to find the report. I will
12 make copies of it and get it to you. I think that
13 could be, even though little bit dated, it's probably
14 a pretty good foundation for possibly this committee's
15 work.

16 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I agree. Also, Mike
17 Goodwin did one for Washoe County for the tributaries.

18 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I keep wanting to
19 sort of shape out the agenda for the next meeting. I
20 think that would be great, if we had the materials
21 that you're talking about, Ron, and then we had a
22 discussion, we could certainly spend an hour on it,
23 but at least getting our feet wet on the subject
24 matter.

1 MR. JERRY PURDY: I'd like to suggest: One
2 blessed thing about our Truckee River is it's been
3 studied to death. You don't have to go too far to
4 find a book on anything you want.

5 This one was done in May, 2003, by the
6 Regional Water Planning Commission, it was done by
7 Water Resources, the University, and the Water
8 Conservation District. It has all of the channels in
9 here, and it's color coded by what's extreme, what's
10 bad, and it's got tables indicating which are the most
11 severe and extreme things that should be addressed
12 first, second and third.

13 The reason it was sitting on a shelf was
14 there was never any money to implement it. And the
15 person who is kind of responsible for that over at the
16 county is Mike Dewittmer. He's the Senior
17 Hydrologist, and you might want to invite him by for
18 just a summary to whip through it, not to drag us
19 through the chapter and verse, but snap, snap, snap,
20 and then I think we would be up to speed.

21 Because we don't have to invent the wheel.
22 It's all prioritized here, south of Reno and -- well,
23 I'll pass the book around and you can thumb through
24 it.

1 MR. CHRIS COBB: I'd like to get a copy of
2 yours too.

3 MR. RON PENROSE: Yes, I will just have to
4 find it, but we have it out there.

5 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I'm going to ask
6 Bill, because of your work on the Cord Foundation, as
7 well as with the Wildlife Commissioners, if you'd be
8 willing to give us your thoughts at the next meeting
9 on -- just your advice on how a new public foundation
10 like this ought to get started. I'm sure you have
11 lessons that we would benefit from.

12 MR. BILL BRADLEY: It's a challenge, I'll
13 tell you. And I don't think you want to restrict it
14 too much. There's going to be nine strong
15 personalities in this room, they all feel strongly
16 about things.

17 And the waiting may work. We don't use
18 waiting factors on either -- I'll tell you, our two
19 charges at the Wildlife Foundation was: To promote,
20 protect and promulgate wildlife. And our charge on
21 the Cord Foundation is: To promote mankind.

22 So those are about as broad as you can get.
23 And I was actually thinking about that a little
24 earlier as I was looking at this charge, and thinking:

1 Well, you do have to be careful with your biases. But
2 I don't think there is any magic rule. I'll tell you,
3 it's going to take consensus building in these
4 meetings, and I'm not an engineer, and I don't know
5 how to -- We seem to do it all right, although I can
6 tell you neither of the committees nine members.

7 MS. JANET CARSON: They're smaller or
8 bigger?

9 MR. BILL BRADLEY: They're much smaller.
10 So it's going to take a vote of five to finally
11 approve something. And I hate to make it too
12 mathematical, to be honest with you.

13 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I would rather do some
14 consensus building, if we can.

15 MS. JANET CARSON: Do you have any kind of
16 score sheet with criteria and waiting?

17 MR. BILL BRADLEY: No, we look at the
18 history of the entity, we look at the Heritage
19 Foundation within the Department of Wildlife. What we
20 have been frustrated by, frankly, is it all seems to
21 come from agency personnel. We don't get enough
22 private input.

23 And one of the things I feel is very
24 important, as I mentioned earlier, is meeting with our

1 public relations team to get public involvement and
2 buy-in.

3 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Ron, put that on the
4 agenda.

5 MS. JANET CARSON: We need to decide soon
6 what our process is going to be for selecting
7 recipients for deciding, you know, we can't fully fund
8 them, but we might half fund them because we want to
9 do this other thing.

10 I mean, I'm an engineer too, so I think
11 there's got to be some methodology.

12 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: It seems like, then,
13 we have both a substantive -- we have learning as a
14 group on the substance and subject matter of the
15 watershed and the Truckee River. We have to become a
16 group on that.

17 I think Jerry is right, the knowledge is
18 out there, we just have to figure out a way to
19 assimilate it into our group.

20 The second part is that we also have to
21 learn how to function as a group and make decisions.

22 Those seem like, for our next meeting, we
23 could have agenda topics for both. Ron, where you
24 have Community Foundation presentation up there, and I

1 wonder if -- we have several elements for that, which
2 is that we want the Community Foundation to talk to us
3 about their role and how they see themselves fitting
4 into this; but I think there's more than just that.

5 I would like -- and Bill, if you'd be
6 willing, to maybe again offer some points --

7 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I'd be happy to. I will
8 bring the criteria from the Cord Foundation, which has
9 very broad criteria, but the Heritage Foundation has a
10 little more specific criteria and application.

11 But I'll tell you: One of the things that
12 initially separates the wheat from the chaff is the
13 501(c)3 designation. You're not going to get every
14 Tom, Dick and Sally in here asking for money because
15 of that need to qualify for 501(c)3.

16 Then the other thing that you take a look
17 at is really the makeup of the 501(c)3: Are they
18 financially strong, do they have good leadership, can
19 they initiate and carry through a project? That's
20 going to, at least in the short time we have, be a
21 factor.

22 And I'll tell you, whether it's \$50,000 or
23 \$340,000, that's not going to go very far in
24 promoting, protecting this watershed.

1 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: That's why I think we
2 bleed back into the substance, and what does it mean
3 to have \$340,000 or a million dollars a year for us?
4 If that's what you've got, how do you make the best
5 use of that money?

6 MR. BILL BRADLEY: That's why I was asking
7 about the grants. But we have \$340,000, and we have
8 to identify those projects that will fit within that
9 in the next six months.

10 MR. JERRY PURDY: I was going to share one.
11 We have this \$340,000, and there's a tendency to
12 think: Wow, let's find a project, a project we can
13 spend that money on. But one approach you might be
14 able to do is to spend some of that money on putting
15 together a good presentation that can be presented to
16 the community to get supplemental funding and shoot it
17 on back to Washington for a grant and so forth, rather
18 than try to come up with concrete and steel to do some
19 particular thing, or farm out that money.

20 I think we should try to use a portion of
21 that to pay for a professional staff to put together a
22 good proposal of our recommendations, so we have a
23 shot at selling it to somebody, the city, the county,
24 or shoot it back to Washington, what have you.

1 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: Actually last night at
2 our -- I attended a Board meeting for Washoe/Storey
3 Conservation District as an observer to get my feet
4 wet, and currently they have a contract with Kennedy
5 Jenks that's going to be doing funding research, and I
6 have to look at that grant and see when it's due, but
7 that might be very good source to find other -- I
8 mean, he's going to be doing the work already, and
9 I'll have to check with the other Board members to see
10 if we can't piggyback on that research.

11 At some point in time it might be
12 advantageous to have one of their Kennedy Jenks
13 personnel present that to us.

14 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I'm certain that
15 somebody within TMWA, or the Truckee River
16 organization is also looking at the money that Senator
17 Reed got on the --

18 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Only 200 million.

19 MS. SUSAN LYNN: That has really narrow
20 focus.

21 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Still.

22 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Criteria, I am happy to
23 bring in the applications we use in both foundations.
24 And I'm sure the Community Foundation has an

1 application that it uses, and we can use those to
2 create a form for our applicants.

3 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I just think before
4 we decide on a process, it would be great to hear from
5 somebody like Bill, but give us a little bit of a pros
6 and cons on what our choices are, because I don't feel
7 like I know. I wouldn't know a good process if it was
8 put in front of me.

9 MR. BILL BRADLEY: The first decision you
10 need to make is whether you want to be lobbied.

11 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: That's exactly what I
12 need. Talk to us.

13 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Whether or not you want
14 to be called by people who will be more than happen to
15 take you to lunch to lobby their project, or whether
16 you limit your exposure to those projects in these
17 meetings.

18 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: This seems like the
19 stuff we need to talk about.

20 MS. JANET CARSON: Can you control that?

21 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Sure you can.

22 MS. SUSAN LYNN: You can have a bylaw that
23 says there will be no ex-parte communication, and that
24 all communication needs to take place in these public

1 meetings.

2 MS. JANET CARSON: So we need some bylaws.

3 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Well, you don't need
4 bylaws, just principles and procedures.

5 MR. BILL BRADLEY: You need just some
6 guiding principles. You can put a little brochure
7 together that says any contact with a committee member
8 will result in an ought denial of your --

9 MS. JANET CARSON: Wow.

10 MR. BILL BRADLEY: And that takes care of
11 that.

12 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: A lot of us wear a lot
13 of hats. We might even be involved in some of the
14 presentations.

15 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I'm just throwing it out
16 for thought. On the one hand, you're right, you do
17 and people come to you and say I really think this is
18 important. And I don't think you want to cut that
19 off. That's a thought: Do you want to be lobbied?

20 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: If I can make a
21 suggestion. It might be useful if Bill and I could
22 maybe collaborate on this before the next meeting to
23 give you a list of questions and issues you want to
24 discuss regarding those protocols.

1 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Please.

2 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Yes.

3 MS. SUSAN LYNN: That would be very
4 helpful.

5 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I don't want to
6 stumble, and --

7 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Well, you are going to.

8 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I mean so badly we
9 can't get up.

10 MR. JERRY PURDY: A good technique for some
11 of these projects to get out to the people is doing a
12 video. I was involved in a number of those down in
13 the Owens and different places. It takes about five
14 grant, ten grand, to go do a video that highlights in
15 the field all of these particular things they're
16 thinking about. The group here decides on what
17 particular points you want into that thing, then the
18 TMWA guys go out and hire somebody to work up a script
19 and run it by us and then go do their shots and so
20 forth.

21 MR. BILL BRADLEY: You can do those at PSA
22 on television without cost.

23 MR. JERRY PURDY: There are about a dozen
24 different things you can do, like shooting it back to

1 Washington to get some grant money from Congress.

2 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Well, it seems like that
3 should come under the PR discussion, probably.

4 MS. JANET CARSON: Another thing, Sylvia,
5 you mentioned a while you ago where we could just use
6 Robert's Rules of Order. But we have to make a
7 decision, don't we, about how we're operating?

8 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Yes.

9 MS. JANET CARSON: Is that the best one?

10 MR. CHRIS COBB: Adopt that for now and see
11 if it works.

12 MR. BILL BRADLEY: They have a little book,
13 but it's awful.

14 MR. CHRIS COBB: Did you get the abridged
15 version?

16 MR. BILL BRADLEY: It's not too bad.

17 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I'd really like to try and
18 reach consensus.

19 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: The only thing you
20 need to do is to, I would suggest, that at some point
21 when you're actually taking action, making decisions,
22 that you have some formality to the process, so that
23 you have a quorum and a vote that can be recorded,
24 because otherwise in the Open meeting law, questions

1 are: Have you really taken an action? Other than
2 that, the sky is the limit as far as what you want to
3 do.

4 MR. BILL BRADLEY: But it has to remain
5 fun.

6 MS. SUSAN LYNN: We take ourselves way too
7 serious.

8 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We have to kind of
9 stay within hollering distance of the agenda, too.

10 MS. SUSAN LYNN: Exactly.

11 MR. RON PENROSE: Shall we move on?

12 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: Yes.

13 MR. RON PENROSE: In terms of the agenda, I
14 have some items here, and what I'll do is I can draft
15 them up, put together a draft agenda, e-mail it to you
16 for your comment, and then we can go ahead and put
17 together a final agenda for next meeting. Would that
18 be good?

19 We're going to meet on Tuesday the 18th,
20 January 18th, at 9:00 a.m., and we will provide lunch.

21 MS. JANET CARSON: Location to be
22 announced?

23 MR. RON PENROSE: Location to be announced.

24 And now I think we're basically down to the

1 last item before adjournment, public comment.

2 MR. JERRY PURDY: Before we go, let's let
3 the poor guy from the University speak.

4 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: On the agenda, again
5 I am under assumption that we're going to use the
6 better part of the day. As you put it together, as
7 just a framework or a suggestion, it seems to me we
8 have actually three main topics for the day, and in no
9 particular order, I don't know which is the right one,
10 but involving the public. So there is both building
11 public support, but also how we reach out.

12 Becoming a successful foundation, which
13 included all of the things like how we operate,
14 criteria, project selection, those kinds of things.

15 And then the third one is sort of watershed
16 protection for the Truckee River.

17 So just again as a suggestion, a way to
18 group and separate the day.

19 MR. PENROSE: Janet, do you want to kind of
20 work on a field trip, maybe, for this group?

21 MS. JANET CARSON: Yes. It's hard to plan
22 it in the winter, because you don't know what the
23 weather is going to do.

24 MR. PENROSE: Just kind of looking out a

1 ways, maybe February or something?

2 MR. CHRIS COBB: I've got waders.

3 MS. JANET CARSON: Let me respond to that
4 with a little bit more information. The field trip I
5 have done in the past, it's two full days. The first
6 day we go up river, and the second day we go down
7 river. And it's a lot of detail, and it's designed
8 for people who need Continuing Ed Credits.

9 I have also, though, done a tour in the
10 past which was one day, the whole river. Up river
11 before lunch, down river after lunch. Obviously it's
12 much faster, not as many stops. But for this group,
13 given the difficulty of scheduling, I think that might
14 be better, because it increases the chances of
15 everybody being able to participate.

16 The other good thing about it is since
17 lunch occurs in Reno, some people can only do the
18 morning half, other people can only do the afternoon
19 half. It gives you a little more ability to do that.

20 I guess I would recommend just a one-day
21 tour. It doesn't have to be all in the same day; it
22 could be broken into a half day on two different
23 dates, depending on the group's availability.

24 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: We can also think

1 about renting a small bus; they are easily available,
2 that fits this size group so everybody can be in the
3 same vehicle.

4 MS. JANET CARSON: That's critical, because
5 so much of the information is exchanged among people
6 in the group.

7 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: You just need to make
8 sure you have extra seats to accommodate people who
9 show up in the parking lot. And nobody ever does, but
10 we still need to do that.

11 MS. SUSAN LYNN: It's on our agenda item
12 for the next meeting?

13 MR. RON PENROSE: Yes, I have it down
14 there. Okay, public comment?

15 MR. MIKE COLOPY: My name is Mike Colopy, I
16 work over at the University, and recently I was given
17 a second hat to wear over there, Interim Director of
18 the Academy for the Environment.

19 For those of you that may not have heard
20 about that yet, it's a university-wide effort to try
21 and pull together all the environmental projects on
22 campus, both physical and biological sciences, but as
23 well as economics and humanities and arts and English
24 and history and policy.

1 And the idea -- I'm going to try to get
2 that program started -- is to try to bring greater
3 cohesion and visibility to the environmental
4 commitments that are already on campus, that many
5 people aren't aware of.

6 Probably most of you in this room have
7 worked with various university faculty over the years,
8 and one of the things I'm going to try to do while I'm
9 working in that program, is to try to make more
10 visible and understandable the things that we're
11 doing, so that as this body crystallizes its purpose
12 and its mission and how it wants to proceed with its
13 budget, then they are provided a logical nexus for
14 what capacity we have to help you in addressing the
15 kinds of issues we can identify as priorities.

16 So, I mean, that's my pitch for the
17 institute. Even though I have been sitting here all
18 morning, I'm really not here as a vulture, I'm really
19 here to -- well, sort of -- but I'm really here to try
20 to share information with you folks. That's
21 the one hat I'm wearing.

22 The other reason I knew about the meeting,
23 is that we have been talking with Lori for many months
24 about a project that we have been developing within my

1 department. So she had just suggested that we just
2 kind of track the process. So we're ready and willing
3 to try to sell you soap, whenever you're willing to
4 have soap sold.

5 The one thing I would say, because I know
6 it's time to quit, is I recently got involved with a
7 working group that's establishing a Tahoe research and
8 science consortium, trying to re-invent how some of
9 that southern Nevada money that's coming up into the
10 Tahoe basin will be spent, how science is going to be
11 conducted, how research priorities are going to be
12 developed and then funded through projects, through
13 both Federal and State, County, whatever agencies.

14 The key issue up there, and I guess you
15 folks know this, and I'm struggling with it on that
16 body, which is analogous to this body, is for
17 credibility and public support, you need to have a
18 really straightforward, transparent process for
19 establishing research priorities; and then for going
20 about the hard work of figuring out what you can fund
21 with your limited funds.

22 The problem that's happened -- I've been in
23 the state for four years, I worked in Oregon on the
24 Northwest Forest Plan and other jobs and capacities --

1 and credibility is everything. You know, if there's
2 the perception of a conflict of interest in the
3 allocation of money, you have a problem you will never
4 overcome.

5 That's a lingering problem in the Tahoe
6 basin, with funds that have been allocated to various
7 entities over the years without really a clear
8 process, or competition, and I would just argue:
9 Regardless of who you fund, that whatever process you
10 ultimately settle on, it be transparent to the
11 potential participants as well as the public. That's
12 the most important thing you could do.

13 And like I told up at the meeting up there,
14 if UNR can't compete in the Tahoe basin for money and
15 Davis provides the best proposals, I have told them:
16 All the money ought to go to Davis. And I said: I
17 hope that philosophically feel the same way. And I
18 think that makes all of us better.

19 And you should have fun, Bill is exactly
20 right. This is a really exciting opportunity, and
21 anything we can do, anything I can do, be happy to do
22 it.

23 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Thank you.

24 MR. JERRY PURDY: May I make a public

1 comment statement?

2 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Sure.

3 MR. JERRY PURDY: Well, in that book, the
4 most critical particular item was our old friend Shaw
5 Creek up there just off of McCarran Boulevard; it came
6 about because of all of the homes and the golf courses
7 putting water into the dry wash. We've got a cubic
8 foot a second flowing down there in the box culvert
9 that's on the west end of the nursery out there on
10 Fourth Street. And that was the one that puts in
11 10,000 pounds a day of dissolved solids. We sit here
12 two hours, now we're looking at an 800-pound block.

13 What I would like to suggest is that you
14 folks go rent us the bus you're talking about, and the
15 next meeting we spend an hour, and we'll run up the
16 canyon -- it just goes up there by the Mormon Church,
17 up Peavine, that sort of thing -- and then you get the
18 good ideas out of this group on how to go at it.

19 And the way to solve that money thing is we
20 should increase that fee to the developers who are
21 building homes up there. They're all home free now,
22 everybody that's planted a house up there is home
23 free.

24 But this isn't just a particular problem

1 relative to Shaw Creek up in this area; this is the
2 worst in that book. But it's happening over in Thomas
3 Creek, and it's happening in that big subdivision to
4 the west, the Somerset project. It's a repetitive
5 thing, and it's dumping tons of dissolved solids in,
6 and developers aren't paying the cost on that.

7 There are no villains, this just hasn't
8 been brought up and hung on them as a fee to mitigate
9 this sort of thing. And we could get Dan Dragon to go
10 with us, he's the guy that showed me this in the
11 pictures, and shoot our hour or two and take a run in
12 the bus, and I can help on that.

13 MR. CHRIS COBB: Do you suspect that's from
14 construction activity?

15 MR. JERRY PURDY: It's from the golf
16 courses, golf flow, from the houses.

17 MR. CHRIS COBB: Right, but is it
18 permanent, ongoing, or is it from construction
19 activity?

20 MR. JERRY PURDY: No, permanent, ongoing.
21 It was a dry wash, and now it's filling up because of
22 so much dissolved solids in there. It's moving the
23 vegetation.

24 MR. RON PENROSE: Maybe we need somebody

1 from NDEP to talk about discharges to the Truckee
2 River.

3 MR. JERRY PURDY: Why not deal with this
4 one issue at a local level, and then we can branch out
5 and get some of the A-team guys to talk about it. If
6 we get into a philosophical thing, we'll burn up a lot
7 of our time.

8 This needs action, because every hour, you
9 know --

10 MS. SUSAN LYNN: I think it's a matter of
11 science, and I think it's a matter of TMBLs, and I
12 frankly would like to hear this from them, because
13 that's the science which we rely on, and --

14 MR. CHRIS COBB: Don't we want to at least,
15 I think, get through this before we get into something
16 of that nature? I'm not trying to table it longer, I
17 understand every hour, but I think our next meeting,
18 and if we can at least hammer these out, then we will
19 have the opportunity to start listening to their
20 project, listening to this project.

21 I guess that's another concern I have. You
22 know, we've all been appointed by an entity here, but
23 like Dave said, he's hoping we can come together as a
24 consensus, what's the best for the Truckee River.

1 I guess: Is there going to be concern with
2 Open Meeting Law? Are we bringing the projects or
3 asking our representative to bring the project? I
4 guess I get a little concerned when we start bringing
5 them, because I know where I work, I may end up
6 working on it, and I don't feel comfortable. Maybe
7 that's my level of comfort.

8 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Excuse me, but I
9 think that is one of the things you're going to have
10 to address; and that is, each one of you has a
11 connection to a group or a cause or an entity, and
12 you're going to have to wrestle with that a little bit
13 and make your own internal rules on how you want to
14 deal with that, whether you want to recuse Mike from
15 consideration of a major conservancy project, or you
16 probably want to develop something like that as
17 opposed to disqualifying any of the entities you have
18 any involvement in. So you're just going to have to
19 just wrestle with that a little but internally.

20 I don't really see any reason why you
21 shouldn't develop your own checklist of projects that
22 you would like to see implemented. You're perfectly
23 free to do that. You can approach things from that
24 end as well, and you can say: These are some problems

1 that need to be solved on the river, here are some
2 groups that may want to adopt this cause.

3 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: This is going to turn
4 into a long meeting next time, but I actually would
5 love to hear from folks -- I mean, Jerry has got
6 things he knows about, he's already putting them on
7 the table, and so do you folks have expertise. And I
8 would love to learn more. I mean, some folks I know
9 better, Susan and I work together frequently. But how
10 do we all view this river?

11 I wouldn't mind having some time just for
12 that kind of discussion among ourselves, because I do
13 think our collective vision of both the problem and
14 the opportunity is: We're going to operate a lot
15 better if we know where we're coming from
16 individually, professionally, and creating some time
17 for that underneath this discussion next time.

18 Having a briefing on these two substantive
19 reports, I think would be really helpful, and then
20 just having enough time for discussion among us on the
21 river, as we haven't gotten to that today.

22 MR. RON PENROSE: Jerry, in regards to that
23 specific problem there by Chalk Bluff Canyon, I'm sure
24 that's a critical thing to take a look at, but I think

1 we really have to establish -- you should establish
2 your criteria, your protocol, how are we going to
3 operate, before you start looking at a specific
4 project.

5 MR. JERRY PURDY: Sure.

6 MR. RON PENROSE: And that project could
7 flow to the top of the list, but I think you really
8 have to define this first before you start evaluating
9 projects.

10 MR. JERRY PURDY: I wonder if our attorney
11 could give us a little help, put down some thoughts on
12 how we could bring projects forward and what we can
13 talk on?

14 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I'll suggest something
15 to you. As a member of the committee, it's better, I
16 think, to have representatives outside of us come to
17 this. You get too vested in an idea, and it's
18 difficult to build consensus.

19 You mentioned some people there that have
20 significant concern with that particular plan, and I
21 think you'd find yourself in a better position
22 bringing those people in to make that presentation, so
23 you don't get so emotionally tied to it, then all of a
24 sudden you're painting yourself in a corner.

1 MR. JERRY PURDY: Yes, that's what I was
2 thinking. Probably a couple of those hydrologists
3 could --

4 MR. BILL BRADLEY: Right. You want to stay
5 one step above that, to make sure you don't get too --
6 I mean, you have to be careful about it.

7 MS. JANET CARSON: I mean, I can't detach
8 myself from the bikeway. And Mike Cameron can't
9 detach himself from the McCarran --

10 MR. CHRIS COBB: But I think that's part of
11 us developing our criteria so that hopefully we can
12 come to a consensus, what will best serve the Truckee
13 River.

14 MS. SYLVIA HARRISON: Just remember what I
15 said: You guys don't want shovels in your hands, as
16 this group.

17 MR. MICHAEL CAMERON: I want to invite
18 folks, before you go, several of the non-profits, are
19 hosting some workshops that are very timely to this
20 on: What are all the issues on the river. It's on
21 Friday, December 16th, from 9:00 to noon. It's a
22 workshop on water quality.

23 And these are workshops that really are
24 intended to go two inches deep, and they are a mile

1 wide, but we're trying to get our arms around all of
2 the issues.

3 It's at Washoe County Department of Water
4 Resources, which is just up here on Energy Way inside
5 the Dermody kingdom.

6 There are also workshops on January 6th and
7 7th, a Thursday, Friday, on habitat, and very related
8 to watershed health issues. Also 9:00 to noon, Washoe
9 County Water Resources.

10 If we get e-mails for this group, I would
11 be happy to send you a more detailed announcement.

12 MR. PENROSE: Okay, I think we have come to
13 the end here. Can I have a motion for adjournment?

14 MR. BILL BRADLEY: I move that we adjourn.

15 MR. CRAIG GODBOUT: Second.

16 MR. PENROSE: Everyone in favor?

17 (They all say aye.)

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