

1 -oOo-

2
3 TRANSCRIPT OF A MEETING
4 OF THE
5 TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
6
7
8
9

10 Monday, January 11, 2016
11 8:30 a.m.

12 Location:
13 Community Foundation of Western Nevada
14 50 Washington Street, Suite 300
15 Reno, Nevada 89509
16
17
18
19

20 -oOo-

21
22
23
24 REPORTED BY: SHANNON L. TAYLOR, CCR, CSR, RMR
25 Certified Court, Shorthand and Registered Merit Reporter
Nevada CCR #322, California CSR #8753, Idaho CSR #485

A P P E A R A N C E S

Present at the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee Meeting on Monday, January 11, 2016:

Committee Members:

Janet Phillips, Chairman
Tom Swan, Vice Chairman*
Michael Cameron
Jerry Purdy
Mike Brisbin
Sue Donaldson***
Candice Elder**
Susan Lynn

* Committee member arrived after roll call
** Committee member left before adjournment
*** Committee member was on the phone and did not vote

Also: Tracy Peterson Turner, CAP, Ph.D.
Chief Philanthropy Officer
Community Foundation of Western Nevada

John Enloe, P.E.
Truckee Meadows Water Authority

Sonia Folsom, Executive Assistant
Truckee Meadows Water Authority

Sylvia Harrison, Esq.
McDonald Carano Wilson, LLP

Members of the Public:

John L. Flansberg, P.E.
Director, Public Works
City of Reno

1 RENO, NEVADA, MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016, 8:33 A.M.

2 -oOo-

3 MS. PHILLIPS: So we have a quorum. I think,
4 we could get started. And so let's start with roll
5 call.

6 You're ready, aren't you, Shannon?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, I am. We are on the record.

8 MS. PHILLIPS: Janet Phillips.

9 MS. LYNN: Susan Lynn.

10 MR. PURDY: Jerry Purdy.

11 MR. CAMERON: Michael Cameron.

12 MR. BRISBIN: Mike Brisbin.

13 MS. TURNER: Tracy Turner.

14 MS. FOLSOM: Sonia Folsom.

15 \ MR. ENLOE: John Enloe.

16 MS. HARRISON: Sylvia Harrison.

17 MS. ELDER: Candice Elder.

18 MS. PHILLIPS: And we have a guest.

19 MR. FLANSBERG: John Flansberg, City of Reno,
20 Public Works.

21 MS. DONALDSON: And Sue Donaldson.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Thank you.

23 We have public comment.

24 And the only public person here is you, John.

25 Did you want to say anything?

1 MR. FLANSBERG: The only thing I'd like to say
2 on behalf of the City of Reno, and just appreciate
3 funding we received, the Virginia Lake project has been
4 completed, the first water quality project. And,
5 obviously, we have other work going on. Just to say
6 thank you, and I just wanted to come and meet the group
7 and just understand what you do here.

8 So thank you.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Thanks for coming.
10 We need a motion to approve the agenda.

11 MR. PURDY: So moved.

12 MR. ENLOE: Second. Woop, I can't second. I
13 just wanted to move it along.

14 (Laughter from the group.)

15 MS. PHILLIPS: Any discussion?

16 All those in favor, "aye."

17 (Committee members said "aye.")

18 MS. PHILLIPS: Anybody opposed?

19 MR. ENLOE: I realized as soon as I said it.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, nice try.

21 MR. PURDY: When are we going to adjourn?

22 MS. PHILLIPS: So item four is the kind of the
23 meat of this meeting, which is to review the priorities
24 for funding including evaluation criteria, other funding
25 sources, location, drought, and cost effectiveness.

1 And this is -- item four sort of leads us into
2 five, which is if we should make changes to our spring
3 RFP.

4 (Tom Swan arrived at the meeting.)

5 MS. PHILLIPS: So. Anybody want to kick this
6 off?

7 My notes from past meetings really were just
8 tweaking the RFP. For instance -- well, let's stick
9 with priorities for funding first. Susan had commented
10 a few meetings ago about adding a drought mitigation
11 kind of concept. That's not in the RFP.

12 Anybody else recall any other things we wanted
13 to add for our priorities?

14 Yeah, Jerry.

15 MR. PURDY: Well, you know, us clunky
16 engineers, I just think that we should start looking at
17 the water treatment. We have got an awful lot of
18 problems with milfoil that's coming down from Lake
19 Tahoe. We all know about that. And it grows all along
20 the area and down through Sparks. And one of these
21 days, it's going to plug up our sewer treatment plant
22 when it gets into these ditches and starts to grow.

23 We're getting some more water now, with a
24 wetter winter, and that gets a little more water in the
25 ditch that's going to start making it flow around. And

1 there's nothing positive about that when it goes into
2 the subdivision areas that take taps off of the Truckee
3 River.

4 And anybody that's been down to the sewer
5 treatment plant can take a look at that ugly milfoil
6 that's growing down there. And then it's okay for us,
7 because once it goes past that, then it's out of our
8 hands. But, man, what a mess we're making for down
9 there, Fernley, Fallon and the people that rely on the
10 Truckee River water.

11 The Truckee River just doesn't go into a hole.
12 It goes downstream. And, I think, we've got a duty and
13 an obligation to try and be respectful of the needs and
14 situation and the other folks downstream.

15 That's the end of my sermon.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Susan, you still there?
17 I mean Sue Donaldson?

18 MS. LYNN: Sue Donaldson.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Hello, Sue?

20 MS. DONALDSON: Yeah, I'm here. Sorry. I had
21 it muted.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. I remember that you
23 looked into the vegetation down there by East McCarran,
24 I think, and --

25 MS. DONALDSON: Yeah, the vegetation under the

1 bridge at East McCarran. And that was not Eurasian
2 watermilfoil. Which is not to say it couldn't catch
3 some in the future, because the water level has been
4 going down and down, and it is a fairly nutrient-rich
5 area. We have some other, other water plants there.

6 I do think that the fund has sponsored projects
7 to work on the aquatic invasive species, actually quite
8 a lot of funding for that. And the project that's
9 ongoing from the dam at Tahoe downstream is going to be
10 really helpful to show what you can accomplish in a
11 river setting. Because it's not easy, when you have
12 moving water that changes the situation and what you can
13 do.

14 So, I think, personally, I think, continuing
15 the strategy that the fund has pursued makes a lot of
16 sense and will help. And, I think, you know, there's
17 no -- if it were an instant solution, I'd say go ahead
18 and do X, Y, Z. But there isn't. And we got to keep
19 chipping away at it. And there's a lot of things
20 underway. And, I think, we should continue to support
21 those.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Along this line -- and
23 then I'll get over to John, because I know you had your
24 hand up -- I don't know if everybody recalls this little
25 pie chart that I did three years ago. And it was very

1 approximate, but it tried to sort out where our money
2 has gone in accordance to categories. And so the
3 invasive species one is -- well, unhelpfully, this
4 doesn't have percentages on it.

5 MR. CAMERON: Make an eyeball guess. I'm
6 curious. If you can read them off.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: I don't know. It's like a
8 quarter.

9 MR. ENLOE: About a quarter, yeah.

10 MR. CAMERON: And what about the rest of them,
11 since you've got it in your hand?

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Bank erosion is 1.1 million,
13 which looks like maybe 15 percent. Structures and LIDs
14 is 1.4 million, which looks like maybe 20 percent.
15 Removing pollution is 1.3 million.

16 MR. ENLOE: Another 20.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Another 20. Invasive species is
18 2.3 million. That looks like about a quarter. And then
19 there's a big category called Other at 2.8 million.
20 And that was primarily -- when I did this distribution,
21 I tried to go back in the inception of this program.
22 And we had different categories in the early days. And
23 so there was some things I couldn't categorize very
24 well, and then there were others. Like this includes
25 cloud seeding, which we used to fund, forest thinning,

1 education, the sheriff work crews. There's a whole
2 bunch of stuff in that Other category.

3 If somebody wants to take on the project of
4 trying to better define Other, go for it.

5 Anyway, so the point I was trying to make is we
6 have spent quite a bit of money on invasive species over
7 the years. And I don't think, I don't think we'll --

8 MS. DONALDSON: Janet, what was the total on
9 the aquatic invasive species?

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Invasive species was
11 2.2 million.

12 MS. DONALDSON: Yeah, that would have been what
13 I guessed. It's been quite a lot.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, it was, it's been a lot.
15 This goes back to 2006. So it's 10 years of the
16 projects.

17 MS. DONALDSON: Right. I'm not saying it's out
18 of proportion. I think, it's just really useful for us
19 to recognize sort of where the funding has been
20 funneled.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. And, in fact, if TMWA has
22 like an intern this summer, that would be a nice little
23 project.

24 MR. ENLOE: Yes, it would be, if we had one.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Trying to do a better job of

1 defining Other.

2 Anyway, but, John, you had your hand up.

3 MR. ENLOE: Right. I think, I brought this up
4 a meeting or two ago, because it's really when Sonia and
5 I presented the recommended projects from the last
6 funding go-round, we had several questions from our
7 Board members. And those questions revolved around --
8 there was one actually we funded, that thing, invasive
9 species, the weed control program at Incline. And they
10 were questioning spending this money in the Tahoe Basin
11 when there's so many other funding sources available in
12 the Tahoe Basin.

13 They questioned what is the prioritization of
14 our funding. And, I think, that's where -- I know The
15 Nature Conservancy is working on a project like that,
16 that will help us really define what's the best bang for
17 the dollar on some of this funding. So they were
18 questioning that.

19 And then, it was more some questions on the
20 effectiveness of the dollars spent and what are the
21 fund's priorities. And, I think, that's one of the
22 reasons why we're having the discussion today, so that
23 we could better define that. And when we do make the
24 recommendations to the Board, we could be much more
25 specific as far as how the recommended projects are

1 satisfying the goals of the fund.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Sylvia, you had your hand
3 up.

4 MS. HARRISON: Yeah, I really hope that
5 everyone has taken advantage of the distribution that
6 Tracy made of the Guidance Document that Ron Penrose was
7 primarily responsible for, that was completed a couple
8 years ago.

9 This topic gave us the opportunity to revisit
10 that, take a look at it again. And I don't really have
11 a vote on this body, but in my opinion, I think, it is
12 still extremely valuable and accurately reflects the
13 priorities and the justifications of the priorities that
14 I think that this Board has struggled with and developed
15 over the course of its existence.

16 So I really hope that we don't ignore this
17 document at the expense of spending a lot of time
18 re-creating what we did a couple years ago. I think,
19 it's still very valuable.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. Okay. Jerry. I'm sorry.
21 Susan, you had your hand up first.

22 MS. LYNN: Well, I went through this pretty
23 extensively, and it seems like the recommendations and
24 guidance for future projects is pretty darn good.
25 Although it does not specifically mention -- it does

1 later, in the last two pages of the document. It talks
2 about the anthropogenic impacts, the environmental
3 regulations, the connectivity, the health of the river
4 and its impact on economics and quality of life and then
5 stewardship. And then it says suggested preference is
6 aquatic invasive species, watershed improvements,
7 stormwater improvements, reforestation and revegetation,
8 rehabilitation of local creeks and drainages and
9 stewardship and environmental. And it seems like
10 everything we've done to this point has focused on those
11 kinds of things.

12 So, I think, this is a still a good list. When
13 I talked about drought, I think, all of these things are
14 related to drought. And now that TROA is in place,
15 maybe drought isn't as important as it was several
16 months ago, before the implementation of TROA.

17 So, you know, I still think this is a good
18 list.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Jerry, then, you had your
20 hand up next.

21 MR. PURDY: Oh, well, thank you.

22 When I was with federal highways, they made
23 use -- this is just a suggestion -- of putting together
24 little mini movies, hired somebody to do it, to show
25 some aspect of things that affected an area or a lot of

1 people.

2 And I would like to suggest we think about
3 getting somebody together to go hire some person to go
4 make a little, quick, simple film, go up to Tahoe and
5 take a look at Tahoe Keys, and then you can put in the
6 dates when they did the Tahoe Keys, and then you can put
7 in when they let the boats come up from Vegas. And they
8 got the milfoil out in the lake. In just a few years,
9 it covered everything. And then, in a few more years,
10 it jumped the dam and then went downstream to Reno.
11 Clear to the Pyramid Lake you can find bits of that.
12 And that was in the short period of time.

13 And we're just whistling in the dark about
14 recognizing what's happening to us when that gets into
15 our water systems and the sewer systems. When we get a
16 little more water, it's going to raise the level of the
17 Truckee River, and we're going to start getting that
18 into our systems.

19 And, I think, it would be good to do a little,
20 short movie that you can -- copies can be made, that
21 they could show at the city or at different places. Or
22 if you're going for funds, it sure helps to show the
23 movie that highlights these things. We did quite a bit
24 of that when they started with the interstate program.
25 Because you just couldn't sit in meetings like this and

1 discuss things like we're trying to do now. It helps to
2 visualize it and see it.

3 And I'd like to see us spend a few, I don't
4 know, a couple thousand, or whatever, and get a movie
5 made that highlights that and take it down to the sewer
6 and then mention it to --

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Jerry, I'm not saying that
8 wouldn't be a good idea. But I'm kind of curious about
9 who would be -- who would look at it.

10 MR. PURDY: Well, I think, people who are
11 interested, and truly interested, and not sitting around
12 a table like we're doing here and just talking about
13 bits and snippets of things. And then, once this
14 meeting's over, we all go home for another month.

15 But, I think, it could be shown down at city
16 hall. And it could be available that you could rent one
17 at some of the different places, for groups to show that
18 want to see change. There's an awful lot of civic
19 groups in our city.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: M-hm (affirmative).

21 MS. TURNER: And I just think that it would be
22 a great way to do the groundwork.

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

24 MR. PURDY: By just looking at it for 20
25 minutes, not a two-hour documentary or just a --

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. I've added that to my
2 list of notes.

3 MR. PURDY: You know, 20 minutes or something
4 would usually work good.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: And Susan and then Candice.

6 MS. LYNN: Okay. Since I've been liaison to
7 the League to Save Lake Tahoe's Eurasian milfoil
8 identification project, I've learned quite a bit about
9 it. And Eurasian -- there are lots of different kinds
10 of milfoil in the system. Not all of them are bad.
11 Some of them provide fish cover. It is the Eurasian
12 milfoil that is the troublesome one, and identifying it
13 is even more troublesome. But it can be done.

14 And League to Save Lake Tahoe has lots of
15 slides that they could put together in a presentation.

16 MR. PURDY: Oh.

17 MS. LYNN: If this is of interest. You could
18 go take their class that they offer five or six times
19 during the summer. Or bring one of them down to talk to
20 civic groups here.

21 But I really don't think we need to reinvent
22 the wheel, in terms of doing a presentation on it,
23 because there are people who do that.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: And I want to come back to the
25 pie chart in which the invasive species are the largest

1 single category of work we have funded. So it's not
2 like we're not doing anything.

3 Go ahead, Candice.

4 MS. ELDER: I guess, I was thinking that maybe
5 part of this discussion was to talk about the way in
6 which the RFP's written and maybe clarifying some things
7 in how it is written, so it better guides nonprofits and
8 agencies, or whoever, what the criteria we're looking
9 for are. For instance, if they are -- if they do have
10 their own rate source or funding source, then maybe
11 we're not as interested in funding those ones.

12 Is that -- I don't know that that's true. But
13 that's sort of been --

14 MS. PHILLIPS: I think, that's definitely part
15 of discussion.

16 MS. ELDER: Okay.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: For sure. Because in agenda
18 item four -- let's just go back and reread that.
19 Priorities for funding. Evaluation criteria. Other
20 funding sources, which would get to your point about
21 ratepayers. Location, which gets to the Tahoe Basin
22 question.

23 MS. ELDER: M-hm (affirmative).

24 MS. PHILLIPS: Drought, which Susan had brought
25 up. And cost-effectiveness was one of the other things

1 that came out of your Board meeting.

2 MR. ENLOE: Right.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: So all of those are in the scope
4 of this discussion. And I know that we did add, a few
5 years ago, a thing about something that you're required
6 to report on your -- help me with this, Tracy. There's
7 something in here about reporting --

8 MS. TURNER: M-hm (affirmative).

9 MS. PHILLIPS: -- on the effectiveness of your
10 project.

11 MS. TURNER: Yes. That is on the measurables.
12 It says "Specific project goals of measurable outcomes
13 and how you will measure and report them." It's
14 number 1 of the Narrative Requirements.

15 MS. PHILLIPS: M-hm (affirmative). Yeah,
16 measurable outcomes. And one of the things that we
17 touched on briefly in our last meeting was it's very
18 hard to say, "Well, you get so many tons of sediment
19 removal with this project, but you may get so many cubic
20 yards of trash with this project." And I don't think we
21 have a way of comparing those things. But at least we
22 have something in here about effectiveness.

23 MS. TURNER: And that is on the very last page
24 of the RFP. It's got Project Evaluation Criteria. And
25 measurable outcomes is the first in the criteria.

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. And then back to
2 Candice's specific point, I don't think it says anywhere
3 in here, either implicitly or explicitly, that we will
4 not fund projects that have their own ratepayers. And
5 is that something we want to say? Do we want to make
6 that a rule?

7 Yeah, Sylvia.

8 MS. HARRISON: Just I thought about this a lot.
9 And, I think, it's a little dangerous to try to set
10 hard-and-fast rules regarding excluding projects.
11 Because we don't know what's going to come along, what
12 opportunities there are. And I think that in the past
13 we have, at least implicitly, looked at or given
14 priority to projects that may not go forward but for the
15 infusion of some, if you will, seed money from this
16 fund. So there's sort of a sense that the fund plays an
17 important part in kick-starting a project.

18 And you might think -- again, I'm not
19 recommending a hard-and-fast rule. But if we know that
20 a project's going to go forward, regardless of the
21 contribution of the fund, and that the contribution of
22 the fund is less important in making sure that a worthy
23 project takes place, then it may be a lower priority
24 than a project where we understand that the funding from
25 this body is critical to making it go forward.

1 Again, it's hard to express that as a
2 hard-and-fast rule. But, I think, implicitly, we've
3 kind of done that through the years anyway.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. What -- the other, I'm
5 thinking about, rather than trying to like rewrite the
6 whole RFP and start from scratch, I see a couple of
7 pretty narrow solutions. Like in our discussion --
8 okay. Back to trying to get some closure on at least
9 one point, back on Candice's point about other funding
10 sources, is it's not a very hard application to submit.
11 I mean I submit lots of grant applications. This is a
12 pretty easy one.

13 So I don't see a huge amount of effort lost by
14 submitting. But if, if somebody calls up Tracy and
15 says, "I have this idea; I'd like to know if you think
16 it would be worth submitting," are you like likely to
17 give them any kind of feedback?

18 MS. TURNER: Yes. I go back to the criteria,
19 to the projects that are described in here, where they
20 can choose A, B, C or D, and I do direct them toward
21 the -- whether the permitting requirement or the
22 question about permitting. I do talk to them about
23 their 25 percent match. And I do talk about the
24 requirement that it affect the Truckee River or its
25 tributaries. And if they feel that it meets those

1 requirements, then I tell them they should go ahead and
2 submit.

3 But I, basically, reiterate what's in the RFP
4 and on the website for them. I don't make any
5 recommendation that might suggest that I think they will
6 or won't get funded. I just direct them back to
7 reviewing other projects and the criteria.

8 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

9 MS. LYNN: Do they get to read a copy of this
10 (indicating)?

11 MS. TURNER: Well, we have not distributed
12 that. Sylvia, I don't know -- or excuse me. Sonia, I
13 don't know whether that document is posted on the
14 current TRF website. But it is something that we could
15 post on the new one.

16 MS. FOLSOM: Yes. Yeah.

17 MS. LYNN: To me, that would be useful,
18 especially the last two pages.

19 MR. ENLOE: Yes, exactly. You don't need the
20 whole thing.

21 MS. FOLSOM: Okay.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

23 MS. LYNN: But the recommendations and guidance
24 for future projects --

25 MR. ENLOE: Right.

1 MS. LYNN: -- I think, is very helpful.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. So, Jerry, is your
3 comment on this subject about other funding sources, or
4 are you on a different topic?

5 MR. PURDY: I just wanted to wrap up the
6 thought we talked about for a project like doing that
7 movie, something, spending money to get the word out on
8 this Tahoe thing. Because the last thing that I wanted
9 to mention, there is a solution. The Incline Research
10 Center has been working on that for years, and they find
11 that if you put a black plastic over that milfoil --

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Jerry, I'm sorry. I'm going to
13 interrupt you. I want to try to reach some conclusion
14 about the --

15 MR. PURDY: Well, I wish you wouldn't interrupt
16 me. Can you just give me a minute?

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Jerry, I'd like us to try to
18 stay on this topic right now, until we get somewhere
19 with it. Because, otherwise, we're just going to keep
20 going around and around. So can you hold that thought
21 for a minute?

22 MR. PURDY: No, I'll just forget it. To hell
23 with it. It's not that important to me what happens at
24 Tahoe. I don't have any interest up there.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. That's your option.

1 MR. PURDY: Yeah.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Back to the thing we were on
3 about funding sources. So we could add something to the
4 RFP to sort of clarify that, we could leave it, at our
5 discretion, which is sort of Sylvia's input.

6 Anybody have any direction they want to take
7 this thing?

8 MS. ELDER: Are you allowed to say like
9 priority will be given to these, you know, criteria or --
10 or these, you know -- so maybe priority would be given
11 to projects that don't have a direct funding source, you
12 know. So just saying it's going to get priority, it's
13 not meaning that your project wouldn't be funded, but it
14 may, you know, give somebody who's applying a better
15 lead on whether or not their project is really worth the
16 money.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

18 MS. ELDER: Or even priority may be given to
19 projects occurring within TMWA ratepayers or TMWA
20 customer service rates or, you know, something to that
21 effect?

22 MS. LYNN: I think, that's kind of always been
23 understood, but it's never been clarified.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

25 MS. LYNN: In black and white.

1 MS. ELDER: I believe, it's understood in here.
2 But I don't think it's understood out there.

3 MS. LYNN: Right.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: I think, I think, Candice makes
5 a good point.

6 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: We all know that. But is there
8 any way for somebody out there to know that?

9 MR. CAMERON: And this is -- so, Candice, I
10 think, you've raised a couple things -- and, I guess,
11 I'm the last one -- about ratepayer, sort of the -- I
12 mean you just mentioned kind of the geography of the
13 TMWA rate base.

14 But related to that, I guess, since it's now on
15 the table, I have thought that it might -- and not to --
16 I guess, part of our thing is we don't want to overreact
17 to some of the questions that have been raised by the
18 Board and maybe read too much into it or whatever. But
19 if it would be helpful, I guess, a couple thoughts I had
20 on the RFP would be to that point, that maybe something
21 about the -- I don't know if it's the evaluation
22 criteria or where it says -- it's the second paragraph
23 on the mission of the Truckee River fund. But
24 somewhere, elevating and making it obvious that the
25 benefits to the TMWA ratepayers, the linkage between the

1 benefits of the project to sort of the TMWA service.

2 MS. LYNN: Water treatment service or
3 something.

4 MR. CAMERON: I mean I do think that that's,
5 obviously, something we think about, if it's not
6 transparent to the applicants. And I don't know if that
7 may in any way be responsive to some of the questions
8 that have been raised, or is that not really going to be
9 meaningful?

10 MR. ENLOE: No, I think, I think, it would
11 help. I think, it's -- I think, it's just a little bit
12 more of a challenge for maybe Sonia and myself, where we
13 write up these things for the agenda items, to be more
14 specific on how it benefits TMWA, and maybe linking it
15 back to this document, it satisfies, if we had policy A,
16 B, C, D, E, or whatever, this project satisfies policy A
17 and D, or something like that.

18 And, I think, there's a little bit of education
19 that we need to do with a couple of the Board members,
20 too, on that. So.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: I guess, let me ask you a
22 question, because I've fallen behind on this. But when
23 Ron used to do the report to the TMWA Board about the
24 projects, it always had a line about benefit to TMWA.

25 MR. ENLOE: And it still does.

1 MS. FOLSOM: M-hm (affirmative).

2 MS. PHILLIPS: It still does?

3 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: And is that not sufficient?

5 MR. ENLOE: It wasn't the last time.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Hm. Okay.

7 MS. HARRISON: It might be next time.

8 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Well, what it seems to me
9 it would be pretty easy to do would be to add a sentence
10 or a paragraph in our RFP that says "Priority will be
11 given to projects that show a clear benefit to TMWA
12 ratepayers and for which there is not another funding
13 source."

14 MR. CAMERON: Where would you suggest that go,
15 Janet? Do you have a spot in mind?

16 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm thinking about right after
17 where we say "Proposals are encouraged for the
18 following" -- A, B, C, D, E. Then "Priority will be
19 given to projects that clearly" -- that -- "for which a
20 benefit is shown to the TMWA ratepayers and for which
21 there is no other funding source."

22 MR. ENLOE: Or where this is kind of a
23 critical -- this funding is critical to it rather
24 than --

25 MS. ELDER: Yeah.

1 MS. HARRISON: Right.

2 MS. ELDER: Because they do have other match,
3 other grants that they get sometimes.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, that's true, right. They
5 have to have it.

6 MS. HARRISON: Yeah. You can't, you can't
7 exclude projects.

8 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: So if this is headed in the
10 direction people like, then we can wordsmith it. I mean
11 what do you guys think about that?

12 Sylvia.

13 MS. HARRISON: My only concern about being too
14 specific with these guidelines is that, I think, we all
15 have a fairly sophisticated understanding of the
16 connectivity of the watershed and the way in which it's
17 kind of the butterfly wing thing. And setting criteria
18 that require some sort of demonstration of a direct
19 benefit to TMWA ratepayers is going to probably raise a
20 lot of questions. Because we have to then explain why
21 milfoil is important to TMWA ratepayers, which is not --
22 it doesn't hit you in the face until you actually
23 understand the impacts on water quality and how it
24 affects the -- both the quality and the quantity of our
25 water supply. That invites a fairly complicated

1 explanation.

2 So I'm just, I'm just a little leery of being
3 too specific in that regard.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. I don't know who had
5 their hand up, John or Michael.

6 MR. CAMERON: Go ahead, John.

7 MR. ENLOE: So, to Sylvia's point, this is just
8 a question. Because, okay, benefit to TMWA ratepayer or
9 benefit to the watershed, do we fund downstream
10 projects? Because if you look at benefit to TMWA, you'd
11 say, okay, everything from Glendale and above.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

13 MR. ENLOE: If it's the watershed, and because
14 the last one we funded with Virginia Lake, trying to
15 make a nexus that that benefits TMWA ratepayers is kind
16 of hard to do directly.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

18 MR. ENLOE: And Candice had the one a few
19 months ago for the downstream work for nitrogen
20 reduction. So there's a benefit regionally to that, but
21 it's not directly a benefit to TMWA ratepayers. So I
22 just think we need to decide.

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. So. Okay. Well, let's
24 look, then, at the existing language in the RFP in
25 paragraph two: "The mission of the Truckee River Fund

1 is to protect and enhance water quality or water
2 resources of the Truckee River or its watershed. To be
3 considered for funding, project proposals must
4 demonstrate measurable impact in accordance with this
5 mission."

6 That pretty well says it's got to benefit the
7 watershed.

8 MS. ELDER: M-hm (affirmative).

9 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm okay with leaving that part
10 alone.

11 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: I am bothered a little bit,
13 though, by Candice's observation that what we all know
14 is in our deliberations in this room is not known to the
15 applicants.

16 MS. TURNER: May I offer -- and I don't know if
17 it'll make a difference in this forum. But we, the
18 Community Foundation does a number of scholarships. We
19 have 34 different scholarships that we administer on
20 behalf of donors. And one thing that we always ask our
21 donors who are establishing scholarship funds is, if it
22 comes down to a tie between three candidates, four-year
23 scholarship, that all have the identical GPA, the
24 identical ACT score, the identical work history, the
25 identical volunteer service, what's going to be the

1 tiebreaker? That's not published information. That is
2 for the selection committee to know.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Huh. So the applicants don't
4 know that?

5 MS. TURNER: They don't know that.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Michael. Thank you.

7 MR. CAMERON: So, yeah, that is helpful. And
8 so I'm still just, I'm still exploring this, trying to
9 get the TMWA and Truckee River Fund priorities a little
10 bit more obvious.

11 So we had a second ago talked about maybe some
12 new language that talked about the nexus with TMWA
13 ratepayers. And now we're maybe that's not such a great
14 idea. As an alternative to these last two pages, I'm
15 just -- it's kind of getting to the same thing, maybe in
16 a different way, is giving the -- giving -- I don't know
17 if it's a requirement or just at least having a place
18 where proponents can comment on whether their project
19 addresses these last two pages.

20 Because then at least there's -- and, again,
21 I'm just throwing out an idea. It's just to try to get
22 the tie between any proposal. And this is a better -- I
23 mean, to Sylvia's point about it's complicated. I mean
24 how do you demonstrate that a project is going to be
25 helpful to TMWA ratepayers? Well, some applicants, it

1 may be beyond what they're able to do.

2 But with the benefit of these last two pages,
3 and just giving people the opportunity to say, can you
4 connect your proposal to these, you know, these
5 guidelines, you know, these Guidelines for Evaluating
6 Requests, or whatever. I mean just throwing out another
7 idea, not necessarily recommending it.

8 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Well, in that, in
9 response to that, and now this is some kind of talk of
10 really simple word processing solutions here.

11 MR. CAMERON: Uh-huh (affirmative).

12 MS. PHILLIPS: But on the last page of the
13 Guidance Document, there are six bullet items -- aquatic
14 invasive species, watershed improvements, stormwater
15 improvements, blah, blah -- six different categories
16 which is, in the lead-in sentence is: Based on the
17 aforementioned discussion, TMWA recommends the Advisors
18 give preference to well-thought-out grant requests,
19 blah, blah, blah, blah, particularly those threats
20 upstream or nearby, treatment and hydroelectric plant
21 intakes. And then it lists these things.

22 We could just list that whole guideline bullet
23 list and put it in here instead of our existing. And
24 then we'd say, look, we have a clear tie between this
25 TMWA document, which is the Guidance Document, and our

1 RFP.

2 I mean I'm not talking about a great
3 philosophical approach here. I'm just --

4 MR. CAMERON: Yeah.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

6 MS. HARRISON: I would add to that, go ahead
7 and add the last two, meeting the multiple objectives
8 and leveraging funds. I think, that's important.

9 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

10 MS. LYNN: Yes.

11 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. My only concern with that
12 is -- I'm back to my pie chart.

13 MS. HARRISON: Yeah.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: These first six are like
15 categories of things to do. And the last two are more
16 like evaluation criteria.

17 MS. HARRISON: Right.

18 MS. PHILLIPS: So I don't disagree with putting
19 those in, but I'm thinking they don't quite provide a
20 list of categories. So I would say the six categories
21 could easily become our new categories, and these last
22 two could be in the evaluation --

23 MR. CAMERON: Well, the narrative -- I'm sorry.
24 Maybe this is out of turn. The narrative requirements
25 on page three of the RFP, there are twelve elements.

1 And, you know, maybe a thirteenth one or folding this
2 into one of the existing twelve is -- speak to this,
3 speak to these eight items. And just make it a little
4 more open-ended. And, you know, even if somebody didn't
5 say anything, that wouldn't necessarily disqualify them.
6 But if they can really make a strong connection between
7 a project and four of these bullets, I mean that would
8 help us, for one thing.

9 So I'm just, again -- a different, another
10 variation here would just be to ask the narrative, give
11 the proponents a chance to, you know, comment on how
12 your project relates to these eight evaluation criteria,
13 or which ones, or.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. But I'm back to my --

15 MR. ENLOE: Right.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: The way I read this is there are
17 six project areas and two evaluation criteria, in my
18 reading of this. So I'm kind of, again, stuck more on
19 the sort of the word processing approach.

20 If I'm writing a proposal, I can say, look, my
21 proposal best fits in local stormwater improvements.
22 And that's number three. But, boy, my project's really
23 great because it meets multiple objectives and it
24 leverages stakeholder assets.

25 To me, those are different things.

1 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Yeah.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: But I'm not trying to drive
3 this --

4 MR. CAMERON: Right.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: -- train necessarily.

6 Anybody have any other approach, comment?

7 Let me tell you what's driving me is agenda
8 item five is whether we should release a spring RFP.
9 And, I think, we should. In order to do that, we
10 need -- we really cannot go back to square one and
11 reinvent this thing.

12 MR. CAMERON: Right.

13 MS. PHILLIPS: We kind of need to make it as
14 simple as we can and still respond to these points that
15 have been made.

16 MR. ENLOE: I mean I like your idea, Janet, on
17 adding that language on the suggested preferences and
18 spelling out these six bullets a little bit more clearly
19 in the RFP. I mean that'll help.

20 MS. LYNN: Right.

21 MS. TURNER: In the interest of -- I was just
22 looking at the dates of this. This is January 11th.
23 Our current due date for the RFP is February 11th, so
24 one month to get this out and to get responses back in
25 time for our February advisor meeting.

1 It would be possible to add an additional page
2 to the RFP that includes the evaluation, the evaluation
3 guideline from Ron's documents, leave those eight as is,
4 and include a narrative component that asks them to
5 describe this, describe their project in relation to
6 these six, the six project types, two evaluative
7 criteria, not change our A, B, C, D, E at this point.
8 And we could see what that might change in the results
9 we would get this time around, see if it changes.

10 MR. PURDY: Mm.

11 MS. TURNER: See if it gives us any clarity.

12 MR. PURDY: Sounds like a good idea.

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, we don't have to
14 necessarily do the be-all and end-all at this time.

15 MS. LYNN: Right.

16 MS. TURNER: Not at this point. If we like
17 what we get, then we can revisit. If we think, oh, that
18 helped, then we're on the right track.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: So. Okay. So let me see if I
20 understood what you're saying, is the RFP would stay
21 the same.

22 MS. TURNER: I'm suggesting leaving the front
23 cover the same.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: M-hm (affirmative).

25 MS. TURNER: And then taking the last two

1 pages, where it starts, on Ron's Guidance Document where
2 it starts with "Guidelines for Evaluating Grant
3 Requests" through "Leverage Stakeholder Assets and
4 Participation" and just put that as a new page into the
5 RFP, and then move forward with everything else
6 remaining the same.

7 MS. FOLSOM: Maybe make that as 13.

8 MS. TURNER: We could add a thirteenth section.
9 It wouldn't be number 13.

10 MR. SWAN: Oh.

11 MS. TURNER: It would have to slide up a little
12 bit. That would ask them how to explain how their
13 project connects to these items.

14 MR. PURDY: Mm, that's a good idea.

15 MS. PHILLIPS: That works for me.

16 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: What do you guys think?

18 MS. ELDER: Yeah, I like it.

19 MR. ENLOE: Can we -- I'm sorry. Can we not --
20 this is just a simple thing -- not have bullets, but
21 have numbers and letters, so that we can --

22 MS. FOLSOM: Yeah.

23 MR. ENLOE: -- refer to a specific thing?

24 MS. LYNN: Yes, number one, number two, or.

25 MS. FOLSOM: You know, the little details,

1 right?

2 MS. PHILLIPS: It's a good idea.

3 MR. PURDY: Yeah, it's a good point.

4 MS. LYNN: Yes.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Do we have a consensus, then? I
6 want to mainly know if Sylvia's happy.

7 MS. HARRISON: I don't have a vote. I'm happy.
8 I do think that going back to the Guidance Document is a
9 good idea. I think, we might want to update it.
10 Because now we've got TROA's implemented, and we've got
11 Donner Lake. And so I don't think it needs to be
12 changed, but update it with respect to what's going on
13 with TROA and Donner Lake, stick a new date on it, and
14 then provide this to the Board. Because I think that it
15 is an excellent -- it answers all the questions that
16 they have, basically, about connectivity of the river,
17 why upstream, why downstream, you know, how the various
18 regulations and sovereign bodies enter it, multiple
19 jurisdictions affect what happens on the river.

20 MR. PURDY: I wonder if we ought to have a
21 motion to boil all this together that we've discussed in
22 these, when the time comes.

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, I think, that's a good
24 idea, Jerry.

25 Anybody want to take at a stab at a motion?

1 MR. PURDY: What about that, Tracy; do you have
2 a thought? You brought these up. I don't want to put
3 you on the spot.

4 MS. TURNER: And I don't get to --

5 MR. PURDY: I was wondering about helping us
6 with the motion, because you touched a lot of things,
7 leave this alone, do something else with the others.

8 MS. TURNER: Well, I suppose, Jerry, you could
9 move to incorporate the Guidelines for Evaluating Grant
10 Requests, including the eight points included in Ron's
11 document, into the narrative requirements of the RFP.

12 MR. PURDY: That sounds simple enough. I'd
13 like to make that motion.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Could I amend the motion?

15 MR. PURDY: Sure.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: And require applicants to
17 respond to that.

18 MR. PURDY: So moved.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: So you're going to make a motion
20 on that?

21 MR. PURDY: Yeah.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: So do you accept my amendment?

23 MR. PURDY: Yeah. Yeah.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. We need a second, then,
25 to the motion.

1 MS. LYNN: I'll second it.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Susan's seconding it.

3 Any discussion on the motion?

4 Okay. All those in favor?

5 (Committee members said "aye.")

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Anybody opposed?

7 MS. TURNER: So I'm thinking, in terms of
8 logical flow of the proposals, it will go between --
9 after Project Description, after number three, and
10 before Permitting. That's where I'm thinking of; in
11 terms of flow, it might make the most sense.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes. Yeah.

13 MR. PURDY: Should we amend what we had to get
14 that?

15 MS. TURNER: No. I think, that's just --

16 MR. PURDY: That's a lot of detail.

17 MS. TURNER: That's just a detail. That's not
18 a big deal.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Yeah, Michael.

20 MR. CAMERON: I just want to know if there's --
21 so we do have Project Evaluation Criteria on the very
22 back. So I just want to make sure that we're not
23 creating confusion. Because now --

24 MS. LYNN: Yes.

25 MR. CAMERON: -- we potentially have, we

1 have -- this section that we just incorporated is called
2 Guidelines for Evaluating Grant Requests. And then we
3 have a separate section that says "Project Evaluation
4 Criteria," which is different.

5 MS. ELDER: Maybe we can just mesh those two
6 together.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: You know, I'm starting to
8 understand now why some of the goofy applications I fill
9 out with incredible redundancy, I'm starting to get why
10 they're that way.

11 I don't see that. Where?

12 MS. ELDER: It's at the very end.

13 MS. LYNN: It's at the very end, the very last
14 page.

15 MS. FOLSOM: Here, Susan, that's for Janet.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Oh. Wow.

17 MS. TURNER: It could, it could -- we could
18 drop "Criteria"; we could call it Project Evaluation.
19 We could then say "Each proposal will be evaluated
20 according to the following."

21 MS. PHILLIPS: And maybe we just could just add
22 in here "Measurable outcomes in accordance with" -- the
23 Guidance Document thing.

24 MS. LYNN: Yes.

25 MR. CAMERON: Right, yeah.

1 MS. LYNN: Yes.

2 MR. CAMERON: Yeah, I think, if we made that
3 first bullet tie to the one page we just incorporated,
4 if I were an applicant, I could -- that would make more
5 sense to me.

6 MS. LYNN: That would make sense, yeah.

7 MS. TURNER: So it says "Measurable outcomes in
8 accordance with the Guidance Document and goals of
9 Truckee River Fund"? Or just the Guidance Document?

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Just the Guidance Document.

11 MS. LYNN: Guidance Document.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: But I don't want to call it
13 Guidance Document, because all we're providing them is
14 the last two pages.

15 MR. CAMERON: So, and I don't know if this is
16 in conflict with the motion we just passed, but is
17 this -- Tracy, you'll be doing the wordsmithing, I
18 guess. But is this going to be the last -- this is
19 going to wind up being one page. The text we just --

20 MS. TURNER: Yes.

21 MR. CAMERON: Is that going to be at the very
22 end?

23 MS. TURNER: I'm thinking it will be the cover
24 sheet, it'll be the second page of the cover sheet.

25 MR. CAMERON: So, I guess, maybe, if it has its

1 own title as a section, I mean if the title of that
2 section of this new language, if we can give it a title.

3 MS. TURNER: M-hm (affirmative).

4 MR. CAMERON: And then have that same title
5 reflected in that first bullet.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Uh-huh (affirmative), I think
7 that is it.

8 MR. CAMERON: Just make it sort of -- make sure
9 it's really the clear same word, words that --

10 MS. PHILLIPS: That we're talking about that
11 particular block of --

12 MR. CAMERON: Maybe it's a section, or maybe --
13 however you choose to label it.

14 MS. TURNER: Does anybody have a wonderful
15 title for this?

16 MS. PHILLIPS: How about --

17 MS. TURNER: Evaluation Guidelines?

18 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, how about that?

19 MR. CAMERON: Well, so, I mean if this is --
20 this seems like it's a -- maybe it's too much effort
21 being put on this. But. So John at the beginning
22 talked about -- and he used the word "priorities." Here
23 we've got two, two sections that are using the word
24 "evaluation"; one is Guidelines for Evaluating, the
25 other one is Evaluation Criteria. Would it work if we

1 called the newly incorporated language -- can we
2 substitute the word "priorities"?

3 MS. LYNN: Rather than "evaluation"?

4 MR. CAMERON: Tom is waiving his hands.

5 MR. SWAN: No, no.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, what about Ron's title,
7 Guidelines for Evaluating Grant Requests?

8 MS. TURNER: It's guiding the Truckee River
9 Fund advisors. It's not guiding the proposers.

10 MS. PHILLIPS: How about just Grant Request
11 Evaluation?

12 MS. HARRISON: Or Priorities.

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. I don't care. I don't
14 have a --

15 MS. ELDER: I like Priorities, because I think
16 that helps more.

17 MS. TURNER: We could just call it Grant
18 Priorities instead of Grant Request Priorities.

19 MR. PURDY: M-hm (affirmative).

20 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: I think, though, the second item
22 of the evaluation, which was how well it matches our
23 funding priority, needs to come out. Because that gets
24 us back into the multiple bases for evaluation.

25 MS. LYNN: M-hm (affirmative).

1 MR. CAMERON: I have yet another idea, which is
2 I know Tracy, without the benefit of all of us talking
3 at her, can figure this out.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: I think, you're right. Let's do
5 that.

6 MS. TURNER: I like input. I like input.
7 Thank you.

8 MR. CAMERON: I mean we're simply trying to --
9 I mean you know what we're trying to accomplish here.

10 MS. TURNER: I do.

11 MR. CAMERON: And I don't know that drafting by
12 committee is --

13 MS. LYNN: Best.

14 MR. CAMERON: If it's even possible at this
15 point.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Not helpful probably.

17 Jerry.

18 MR. CAMERON: I mean is that asking too much,
19 Tracy, or?

20 MS. TURNER: It's not.

21 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

22 MS. TURNER: It's not. I'll come up with
23 something, and I'll run it by Janet and Sylvia anyway.
24 So. It's not.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Jerry.

1 MS. TURNER: I'll handle it. Thank you,
2 Michael.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. We like that. We
4 like that, "I'll handle it."

5 MS. LYNN: Janet, we have a motion on the
6 floor, though, that we need to --

7 MR. CAMERON: We did vote.

8 MR. BRISBIN: We voted.

9 MS. LYNN: Oh, we did, yes.

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

11 MR. CAMERON: Although, do we need -- does this
12 also require a motion?

13 MS. HARRISON: (Shook head negatively.)

14 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Sylvia has given a clear
15 indication.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Before we leave this
17 agenda item, I think, I'd like to go back for a minute
18 to the Tahoe projects that we funded, and it apparently
19 hit a nerve at the Board. And one thing we could have
20 done in retrospect that might have helped would have
21 been to call it a demonstration project. Because that's
22 really part of the reason we funded it, was to see if
23 their approach could be replicated in other utilities.

24 But we didn't do that. And they didn't call it
25 that. Because, I think, in general, we have turned down

1 projects in the Tahoe Basin for exactly that reason,
2 that there is a ton of money up there, and they don't
3 need our little bit.

4 But that's -- I guess, maybe that's just for us
5 to be sensitive to going forward. I don't think we want
6 to make a hard-and-fast rule saying we won't fund
7 anything in the Tahoe Basin, because then we would trip
8 ourselves up on the boat inspections.

9 MR. ENLOE: Right.

10 MS. LYNN: True.

11 MS. PHILLIPS: So does anybody feel that we
12 need to address that in the RFP in some specific way?

13 Yeah, Sylvia.

14 MS. HARRISON: I would just recommend that if
15 we think that there is additional justification for a
16 project that we present to the Board for approval,
17 that's required for them to understand it, that we put
18 the onus on Sonia and John to support it.

19 MS. FOLSOM: M-hm (affirmative).

20 MS. HARRISON: Without having to, again, box us
21 in with extra criteria.

22 MS. FOLSOM: M-hm (affirmative).

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

24 MS. FOLSOM: Just so beef up the benefit or
25 explanation itself, yeah.

1 MS. PHILLIPS: And if you need me to come to
2 the Board meetings, let me know. Because I don't
3 normally come unless told to.

4 MS. FOLSOM: We may ask you for the March one,
5 when we present the approval of the -- or the -- yeah.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. March what?

7 MS. FOLSOM: It's March -- hold on. Because
8 we're going to approve the RFPs in February.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

10 MS. FOLSOM: And March 16th is our Board
11 meeting right after.

12 MS. TURNER: And that would likewise go for me,
13 if you think that there's any benefit for the Community
14 Foundation or need for the Community Foundation to be
15 represented. Otherwise, I won't, I don't come.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: What time is it?

17 MS. FOLSOM: This one will be at 10:00 a.m.

18 MS. PHILLIPS: 10:00?

19 MS. FOLSOM: At the Sparks council chambers.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: And I'm sorry. Are you meeting
21 at TMWA now or in Sparks?

22 MS. FOLSOM: No. The one that you attended was
23 the strategic planning workshop.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

25 MS. FOLSOM: Which we always hold at TMWA. But

1 every other time, it's at the Sparks.

2 MS. TURNER: That's March 16th?

3 MS. FOLSOM: March 16th, a Wednesday, yes.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. So is there any other
5 things on item four?

6 All right. Okay. Michael, Jerry, Sylvia.

7 MR. CAMERON: And Jerry's had his hand up
8 longer.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Jerry.

10 MR. PURDY: Just, in passing, is our family's,
11 some of them up there have been involved in the research
12 center at the Lake Tahoe. And they found that if you
13 put a blanket over milfoil for about 30 days, it kills
14 it, because it's denied sunlight. And there's nothing
15 to putting blankets along.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, I think, we paid for that.

17 MR. PURDY: Well, I don't know. But the main
18 thing I'm trying to get across to the city is that we
19 get the prisoners to work for us, people that go out
20 there and put the blankets over the milfoil along the
21 river, and put a few rocks on, that kind of thing. And
22 in a month, you take it up. You don't have to throw it
23 away. You just march it up or down, whichever way
24 you're going, and do the blankets. And it's gone.

25 And whatever funding, I think, you might want

1 to think about approaching this group to maybe cover the
2 cost of moving prisoners around, or whatever things, and
3 see if you can put a proposal together that would cover
4 getting rid of that.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. You might want to fill
6 John in more later, after the meeting, on that, Jerry.

7 MR. PURDY: Well, I think, I'm done. They're
8 pretty smart guys. They pick up on it.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: And that's -- boy, talk about
10 not being rocket science, that falls in that category.

11 MR. PURDY: Yeah, that's what they discovered
12 up there. This isn't me. The Tahoe Research Center
13 came up with that.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

15 MR. PURDY: And they put it on a boat, and they
16 just go along and put the mats out there and kill it.
17 But what you need is a ton of money from California and
18 Nevada, because the state line runs right through. And
19 that's got to be dealt with.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

21 MR. PURDY: Because milfoil grows on both
22 sides. And who pays for all of it? Not Nevada, not
23 California. You got to split it.

24 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. As between Sylvia and
25 Michael, I don't know who had their hand up first.

1 MS. HARRISON: Okay. I just wanted to
2 reiterate my suggestion that we update the Guidance
3 Document, provide it to the Board. If we want to do
4 that in time for the March meeting, my suggestion would
5 be that we simply acknowledge the implementation of
6 TROA.

7 MS. FOLSOM: M-hm (affirmative).

8 MS. HARRISON: And the acquisition of Donner.

9 MS. FOLSOM: M-hm (affirmative).

10 MS. HARRISON: And leave the rest of it alone,
11 put a new date on it. And if everybody's okay with
12 that, John and Sonia and I can manage to make that
13 happen.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

15 MS. LYNN: Do we need --

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Huh?

17 MS. LYNN: Do we need a motion to do that?

18 MS. HARRISON: No, I don't think so. It's
19 fine.

20 MS. LYNN: Okay.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: But could you, either TMWA or
22 Tracy, make sure we all get a copy of the --

23 MS. FOLSOM: M-hm (affirmative).

24 MS. TURNER: Update.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: -- of the updated version?

1 MS. TURNER: M-hm (affirmative).

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Thanks.

3 I think, Michael, you're next.

4 MR. CAMERON: Yeah, so I had two other thoughts
5 on the RFP. One was an idea that I've put out before.

6 And I don't think there's been much enthusiasm, but I'm
7 going to try again, which is -- and so I have two ideas.

8 The first one is whether or not we want to
9 raise the match requirement for large grant proposals.
10 So, for example, if someone asks for more than \$100,000,
11 we ask for 50 percent match, something along those
12 lines.

13 MR. PURDY: Hm.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm glad you brought that up,
15 because I know you mentioned it last time, and I forgot.

16 Thoughts, anybody?

17 MR. PURDY: Well, I guess, I'd like to see it
18 an agenda item, because he's been working on that pretty
19 hard, so something we can vote on when we understand
20 what you really want.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, I think, it does fall
22 under the scope of the agenda items we have.

23 MS. TURNER: My question on it would be how
24 would it affect someone like Truckee River Watershed
25 Council or Tahoe Resource Conservation District that

1 come in with larger projects? Though they often come in
2 with a much larger match, too.

3 MR. CAMERON: Well, okay. So let me, let me
4 try a variation on this, then. Because this is to
5 Sylvia's point about not hardening the criteria too
6 much, and then you find yourself kind of in a bind, is
7 right now we're not really authorized to consider the
8 level of match. So if somebody comes in with a \$200,000
9 proposal, and they've got a 25 percent match, it's not
10 really valid to say, you know, I'm just concerned that
11 this one doesn't have -- you know, it's taking up a
12 third of our funds, and they're not bringing in much
13 match. That would not be a criteria.

14 But, so, would it be as a -- a softer approach
15 be that level of match, you know, the level of matching
16 funds would be also a consideration? So that if we get
17 somebody -- we just had some come in that are real
18 whoppers. And they, you know, they've managed their
19 match. But I would feel, I always would feel more
20 comfortable, if someone's asking for \$200,000, if
21 they're also bringing in \$800,000 of somebody else's
22 money.

23 MR. PURDY: Can you bring a motion to that?

24 MR. CAMERON: Well, I certainly can, but I'm
25 just -- you know, if there isn't -- it's just a thought.

1 And if people don't -- if there's not a lot of other
2 folks thinking along the same lines.

3 MR. PURDY: Well, I support you, but I don't
4 know how you could get it backed unless you make a
5 motion and get around the philosophy section.

6 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Let's kick it around a little
8 bit before we get to a motion.

9 You were going to say something, Sue?

10 MS. LYNN: Well, I was just thinking of the
11 project that was to -- it was an OHV trail project
12 above one of the reservoirs last time. And it was a
13 huge project. They wanted \$180,000, I think, and they
14 were only matching it 25 percent. And it was above any
15 reservoirs, so we really didn't think it had that much
16 benefit.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Right. But did our -- to my
18 recollection, we turned that down --

19 MR. CAMERON: Right.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: -- not because of the match
21 issue, but because we didn't think that it was that
22 beneficial.

23 MS. LYNN: I think, it was a combination of
24 both. It was to match money.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

1 MS. LYNN: And there wasn't enough match, and
2 it didn't have enough benefits.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. And, Sylvia or Tracy,
4 correct me if I'm wrong. The whole thing with the 25
5 percent match requirement was our doing.

6 MS. TURNER: Yes.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: I don't believe that's in our
8 bylaws or statute or anywhere. That's just us.

9 MS. TURNER: That was, I believe, that was just
10 us.

11 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Let me share with you a
12 little bit about the range of things I face when I'm
13 writing grant proposals. Some of them say you must have
14 50 percent, period, no ifs, ands or buts. Another one
15 says there is zero match requirement, and you will be
16 granted no bonus points if you have a match. So the
17 range is all over the map. And then there are others
18 that say we require a 20 percent match, but additional
19 points will be awarded if you have a bigger match.

20 So there's a lot of different ways that I've
21 seen handling that.

22 MR. CAMERON: Well, I'm going to answer Tracy's
23 question directly and say it actually -- I'm a big
24 supporter of the Truckee River Watershed Council. And,
25 I think, they do a lot of good work. But it's actually

1 their proposals have been the ones that have caused me
2 concern. Because if they're doing a project on a
3 tributary to Donner Lake, which has been a bunch of
4 their proposals, then, you know, I'm just -- you know, I
5 just feel like the State of California or some
6 jurisdiction in California ought to bear at least equal
7 burden as us.

8 MS. TURNER: M-hm (affirmative).

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

10 MR. CAMERON: And, anyway, we've managed those.
11 We've done a good job with the Watershed Council.
12 Oftentimes, we've just sort of pared their proposals
13 back. So maybe it's working as is. And, so.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: I think, your point's a good
15 one.

16 MR. PURDY: Yeah. Don't you have a motion?
17 What you're saying is important, and nobody's arguing
18 with you.

19 MR. CAMERON: Well, yeah.

20 MS. TURNER: May I offer a little from history?

21 MR. CAMERON: Yeah.

22 MS. TURNER: Would that -- and this is just one
23 example, not -- and I'm not in a position to defend,
24 just picking out one to look at.

25 Project number 160, Truckee River Watershed

1 Council, they originally requested 92,000, and they came
2 in with a match of 85,000. We funded them for much less
3 than that.

4 MR. CAMERON: Yeah.

5 MS. TURNER: Let me see. Tahoe Resource
6 Conservation District came in with a request for
7 132,000. And, again, this is just picked out. It's
8 not, certainly not comprehensive. And they had a match
9 of 50,000.

10 MR. CAMERON: All right. Well, so Jerry is
11 imploring me to make something specific. What if we
12 had --

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Wait, wait. And the chair is
14 saying --

15 MR. CAMERON: I'm sorry.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: -- I'd like you to hold off on a
17 motion until we've had more discussion.

18 MR. CAMERON: Well, I'm not making a motion.
19 I'm going to make it more specific, like something that
20 could be a motion. Which is, back on those Project
21 Evaluation Criteria, the back sheet, where there's a
22 bullet list, something along the lines of, you know,
23 proposals over -- for proposals over \$100,000,
24 consideration on the size of match.

25 MR. PURDY: Well, that doesn't say anything.

1 MR. CAMERON: Well, it's -- yeah.

2 MR. PURDY: It's just good feelings.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Let's let that hang out
4 there as a starting point.

5 Sylvia.

6 MS. HARRISON: Yeah, I was thinking along the
7 same lines, only, I think, what we're trying to do is
8 send a signal that we want funds leveraged.

9 MS. LYNN: Yes.

10 MS. HARRISON: To the best of the applicant's
11 ability.

12 MR. CAMERON: Right.

13 MS. HARRISON: And so I think that maybe we
14 should say that.

15 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

16 MS. HARRISON: Again, it's sort of in there.

17 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

18 MS. HARRISON: But we could say something that
19 "Priority will be given to projects where applicants can
20 demonstrate significant leverage of the grant funds from
21 matching sources of funding," something like that.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: That is, leverage is the last
23 item --

24 MS. HARRISON: Right.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: -- in the Guidance Document, the

1 last bullet.

2 But one thing I'm also concerned about, not
3 having to do with the match, but some of the projects
4 that reduce sediment into a reservoir, does that really
5 benefit the Truckee River? The sediment is going to run
6 down Negro Canyon and land in Donner Lake and stay
7 there. Does that really benefit the Truckee River? I
8 don't know.

9 MR. CAMERON: Well, it displaces volume.

10 MR. ENLOE: Yes. Yeah, exactly.

11 MS. HARRISON: Increase the need for storage,
12 eventually.

13 MR. CAMERON: Right.

14 MS. HARRISON: Which is meaningful over time.

15 MR. CAMERON: Yeah, right.

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. I mean we've funded lots
17 of projects that fall in that category.

18 So you're thinking that there would be just
19 this, like Sylvia characterized as a signal, that a
20 bigger match is a good thing?

21 MS. HARRISON: Is that good enough?

22 MR. CAMERON: It certainly, it certainly is
23 better than where we are. And what it doesn't capture,
24 to me, is the -- it's, in my mind, those large proposals
25 really stick out, I mean.

1 MR. PURDY: M-hm (affirmative).

2 MR. CAMERON: So when someone's coming in, if
3 the Sierra Nevada Journeys comes in with a \$25,000
4 education grant, and they're matching it with, you know,
5 volunteer hours, or whatever, I don't feel very
6 sensitive to the match. I mean they've got to meet it.
7 But it's more these -- so that's the only thing that, I
8 guess, that doesn't do.

9 And I don't know, Sylvia, if you can think of a
10 way to blend in something about, in that signal about
11 the size, that the larger -- that's just the only
12 thing --

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

14 MR. CAMERON: -- that, I guess, that bullet by
15 itself doesn't do. But maybe we don't need that.
16 Again, maybe we just allow ourselves, as a deliberative
17 group, so we can say that out loud: This is a big
18 grant; it's not leveraged.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: But another really clear-cut way
20 to say it is maximum grants are --

21 MR. ENLOE: Encouraged or --

22 MS. PHILLIPS: -- \$200,000, or whatever number.
23 Many, many, many grant sources, you have a minimum and a
24 maximum. We could just say we're going to not fund
25 anything bigger than X.

1 MR. PURDY: Yeah, it's a good idea.

2 MR. CAMERON: I mean the only problem with that
3 is that -- the only couple that we've done have been
4 ones that have been super high priorities of the mother
5 ship. Right? So then we risk having another one of
6 these cloud seeding solutions imposed on us.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

8 MR. CAMERON: So I'm inclined, because, I
9 think, good constitutional lawyer that Sylvia is, that,
10 you know, in some ways, the less said, the better. So,
11 I think, the signal, I actually -- I feel, I'm going to
12 say I think that that improves our evaluation criteria
13 relative to where we are. And it gives us the latitude,
14 as uncomfortable as it can be to tell a proponent I'm
15 not supporting your project because you're asking for
16 200,000 and you're only bringing in the minimum match.

17 Just that's the burden that's placed on us, as
18 a review committee, to say those kinds of things. And,
19 I think, if we at least have Sylvia's bullet in there,
20 then, then that's actually valid. The leverage at least
21 makes it a valid consideration.

22 MS. TURNER: And the bullet being the one about
23 "Priority will be given to projects that significantly
24 leverage the grant with funding from other sources"; is
25 that the one?

1 MS. HARRISON: I think, yes.

2 MR. CAMERON: Yes.

3 MS. PHILLIPS: I don't know. I -- I mean I'm
4 thinking we ought to put something in here that says
5 larger projects need to show a higher match.

6 MR. CAMERON: Well, we could add on to the
7 second -- a second sentence on this, you know, leverage
8 will be, leverages will be, you know -- not getting, not
9 quite getting the words right. But more important
10 consideration for large grant proposals.

11 So it gets the large, gets the size element
12 into that.

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Because I'm kind of, I'm back to
14 what Candice's original point was. If I'm out there
15 applying, I really have no way of knowing that that's
16 part of our thought process. I'm going to say, okay,
17 I've got my 25 percent, I'm good.

18 If I knew that a bigger match would help me, I
19 might change the framework of my proposal.

20 MR. CAMERON: M-hm (affirmative).

21 MS. PHILLIPS: But if I don't know that, then.

22 MS. ELDER: If you're saying that, you know,
23 that a priority will be given, didn't you say that you
24 could, you know -- priority will be given to higher
25 matching levels, or even however you say it, then that

1 is something that they would consider.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

3 MS. HARRISON: We could simply qualify that,
4 but, by adding "For larger grants, priority will be";
5 because, I think, that's accurate.

6 MR. CAMERON: Yeah, okay.

7 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm sorry. What, what was that
8 language?

9 MS. HARRISON: Just add, add to the beginning
10 of that --

11 MS. LYNN: Sentence.

12 MS. HARRISON: -- statement "For larger grants,
13 priority will be given to those" --

14 MS. PHILLIPS: With higher.

15 MS. HARRISON: -- "that the leverage
16 demonstrates."

17 MS. PHILLIPS: I think, that's good.

18 MR. CAMERON: I like that, yeah.

19 MS. HARRISON: Because that's really what we're
20 doing.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

22 MS. TURNER: I like that. My concern was
23 setting a dollar amount --

24 MR. CAMERON: Right.

25 MS. TURNER: -- at which it goes up. I could

1 envision proposals coming in as one dollar less.

2 MR. CAMERON: Right under. Yeah, exactly.

3 Yeah.

4 MS. FOLSOM: 99.

5 MR. ENLOE: 99,999.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. So do we need a motion
7 now that we've been around?

8 MR. CAMERON: I'm happy to make that. Would
9 you please read what you've got?

10 MS. TURNER: Sure. The motion would be, in the
11 paragraph regarding them matching, on the request for
12 proposals, that wording would be added "For a larger
13 grant request, priority will be given to projects that
14 significantly leverage the grant with funding from other
15 sources."

16 MS. PHILLIPS: Beyond the minimum required? Or
17 is that --

18 MS. TURNER: "Significantly leverage" is --

19 MR. ENLOE: People get that.

20 MR. PURDY: What you said sounds good.

21 MR. CAMERON: And, Tracy, where did you say
22 that was going?

23 MS. TURNER: I was going to put it on the first
24 page, the cover sheet.

25 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

1 MS. TURNER: In -- right below A, B, C, D, E, I
2 would add it --

3 MR. CAMERON: Okay.

4 MS. TURNER: -- as an extension right after the
5 sentence that begins "Guidelines for requests of
6 matching funds are provided...Indirect and overhead
7 expenses cannot exceed..."

8 MR. ENLOE: 25 percent.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: So.

10 MR. CAMERON: I'm willing to make that motion,
11 unless anybody's shaking their head.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

13 MR. CAMERON: I would like to make the motion
14 that the language that Tracy just read be added to the
15 RFP where she suggested putting it.

16 MR. PURDY: Second.

17 MR. CAMERON: How that's, Shannon?

18 MS. TAYLOR: It's in there.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. And so is there a second
20 to that motion?

21 MR. PURDY: Second.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Jerry seconded that. Is
23 there further discussion on that motion?

24 Okay. All those in favor?

25 (Committee members said "aye.")

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Anybody opposed?

2 Okay.

3 MR. CAMERON: It's been a long battle.

4 MR. PURDY: That's pretty meaty, though.

5 MS. PHILLIPS: So we've got two broad revisions
6 to our RFP. One is adding the Guidance Document
7 material. And the other is indicating that higher
8 matches are needed for higher grants.

9 Anybody want to add anything else?

10 Jerry.

11 MR. PURDY: Well, help me with this. I was
12 wondering, when you get that done, Tracy, if you could
13 e-mail what you've got to us.

14 MS. TURNER: Yep.

15 MR. PURDY: And we could take a look at it and
16 see if we needed a special meeting to clean up something
17 that is glaring.

18 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, we don't have time for a
19 special meeting.

20 MS. TURNER: We don't. For this one, what I
21 would need to do, my plan is, for today, is to make
22 these changes in language.

23 MR. PURDY: Right, right, right.

24 MS. TURNER: Send it to Janet and Sylvia to get
25 their stamp of approval. And then I've got to get the

1 RFP out to the proposers today.

2 MR. PURDY: Oh, okay.

3 MS. TURNER: Or tomorrow at the latest.

4 MR. PURDY: There's a time deadline.

5 MS. TURNER: They're within 30 days. They have
6 30 days now to write a proposal. So.

7 MR. PURDY: Scratch that. I'm fine with it.

8 MS. TURNER: Any further revisions would have
9 to be after this round.

10 MS. LYNN: For future. Yeah. Okay.

11 MR. PURDY: Okay. That sounds great, to my
12 point of view.

13 MS. TURNER: Thank you.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: And this isn't cast in stone.
15 You know, in the fall, we could make some further
16 changes, if need be.

17 So does anybody else have anything they want
18 Tracy to put in now?

19 MR. CAMERON: I have one last one, and this
20 to -- this is a smaller one. And, again, it's not
21 something I feel strongly about. But it's to Susan's
22 point about drought. And I wondered, under A, that
23 currently reads "Projects that improve bank or channel
24 stabilization and decrease erosion," that we could add
25 on, and "this increased resilience of native vegetation"

1 or "drought resilience"; so get the word "resilience."
2 Because some forest thinning or forest treatments, or
3 whatever, anyway, it's the idea of getting resilience.

4 But the reason I'm suggesting this really had
5 to do with Susan's thoughts about drought. And right
6 now, I don't know that you really -- you know, in terms
7 of vegetation treatments, you know, decreased erosion,
8 control invasive plants. But forest resilience is
9 really not -- or reducing the risk of fire is really not
10 captured in any of these categories.

11 MS. PHILLIPS: We funded forest thinning under
12 Other, I think, in the past.

13 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Yes.

14 (Ms. Elder left the meeting.)

15 MS. PHILLIPS: If at some point we decided to
16 plug in Ron's bullets instead of A through E, we would
17 have that explicitly covered.

18 MS. LYNN: Yes.

19 MR. CAMERON: Yeah, I guess, reforestation and
20 revegetation. So, I guess, it would be captured
21 underneath these new evaluation criteria.

22 MR. ENLOE: Maybe we could change the language
23 in there to capture your thoughts, Michael.

24 MR. CAMERON: Okay. Yeah. So drought and
25 resilience would be -- if you guys are going to revise

1 this anyway --

2 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

3 MR. CAMERON: -- I think, trying to find a
4 place for that language would be good.

5 MR. ENLOE: Okay.

6 MR. CAMERON: And then that takes care of it.

7 MS. LYNN: It does. Thank you.

8 MS. TURNER: And Sonia and John, if you want to
9 revise that one today and send it to me, so that I can
10 incorporate that language into the RFP that'll go out by
11 tomorrow, that's fine. If you don't have time to do it,
12 don't worry about it.

13 MR. ENLOE: Okay.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. So that addition's going
15 to be made on the Guidance Document.

16 MS. LYNN: Yes.

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Which is now an attachment to
18 the RFP. But we're not changing A through E. Is that
19 what I -- that's what I understand.

20 MS. TURNER: That's how I understood it.

21 MR. CAMERON: I think, that's fair. I mean
22 decreasing erosion, it's still --

23 MS. LYNN: It's still, it -- the guidances
24 still fit under that.

25 MR. CAMERON: Yeah. And we've got Other that

1 meet the evaluation criteria, so.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: I mean when you think back to
3 when we used to fund cloud seeding, that doesn't fall
4 under any A through E. It falls under Other.

5 MR. CAMERON: Well, we could do, we could do
6 wishful thinking projects that -- that might be
7 beneficial.

8 MR. PURDY: That might. There's a crapshoot.

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Moving right along, I
10 think, that's --

11 MR. CAMERON: Shannon, that was Mike who said
12 that.

13 (Laughter by the group.)

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. So we're adding a new
15 category.

16 (Laughter by the group.)

17 MS. PHILLIPS: I think, we've exhausted number
18 four and, also, number five.

19 MR. PURDY: M-hm (affirmative), I hope so.

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Does anybody think that we've
21 missed anything on those two, for the agenda? Because,
22 otherwise, we're down to wrapping up.

23 Yes.

24 MR. ENLOE: Comment. Susan, help me out here.
25 So it was -- when was it? December, I think, you

1 forwarded me a link to a kind of a webinar on watershed.

2 MS. LYNN: Oh, yes.

3 MR. ENLOE: And building a watershed program.

4 MS. LYNN: Kimery Wiltshire's group.

5 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

6 MS. LYNN: Carpe Diem.

7 MR. ENLOE: Yeah, exactly.

8 MS. LYNN: Or Carpe something or another.

9 MR. ENLOE: And I watched that, and I thought
10 it was very interesting. And I'm going to butcher what
11 they said in here. But it was something that caught my
12 attention.

13 So they've created these groups, but they had a
14 very focused outcome, much more focused than this. And
15 they were referring to -- really, I think, it was in the
16 Arizona -- one of the Arizona watersheds to Tucson and
17 so forth, when they had big fires. And so they were
18 trying to go up there and really deal with reforestation
19 and forest thinning and all those issues.

20 It just hit me, as far as that was a very
21 focused effort. And then they referred to programs like
22 this, and this is what I'm going to butcher. I'm just
23 going to say it's a shotgun approach --

24 MS. LYNN: Okay.

25 MR. ENLOE: -- to watershed improvement. And I

1 just thought it was something worth thinking about. Is
2 the shotgun approach really what this group wants to do,
3 or is there a focused really super important issue that
4 maybe this group wants to prioritize in the future going
5 forward?

6 It was just an interesting presentation. And
7 then, with these focused efforts, they were able to go
8 out and generate more funding to work on those focused
9 programs. So just a thought.

10 MS. LYNN: And I thought it was an interesting
11 concept. The issue in the Truckee River canyon is
12 repeated fires and how to restore, rehabilitate,
13 whatever, the capacity of the soils to retain water that
14 released water later into the river. And it's a very
15 complex topic, and I'm not sure that we have enough
16 money to do it.

17 MR. CAMERON: Yeah.

18 MS. LYNN: But they're in small patches or in
19 demonstration where in working with the Forest Service
20 in the future, that seems to control much of the land,
21 outside NV Energy and other folks, the railroad. The
22 thought is maybe to tackle a project where there has
23 been repeated fire and see if you can't do something to
24 improve the soil water retention ratio.

25 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

2 MS. LYNN: And then the other issue is the
3 funding mechanism for it. Which, in Tucson, in their
4 water bills, they have an automatic, or not an
5 automatic, a preferential check-off; you can contribute
6 \$1, \$5, \$10, \$25, \$100, whatever you want, to your water
7 bill monthly. And it adds, you know, City of Tucson,
8 \$600,000 to the spending fund.

9 And I don't know that that's administerable by
10 TMWA, or what. But those were two issues that kind of
11 came out of this.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: That's voluntary?

13 MS. LYNN: Voluntary.

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Sylvia.

15 MS. HARRISON: Do you want to have a future
16 agenda item on whether to narrow the focus, to John's
17 point, rather than talk about it now?

18 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

20 MR. ENLOE: And I'm not saying --

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

22 MS. LYNN: Today is not --

23 MR. ENLOE: -- the whole fund. Today's not.
24 But I thought that was pretty interesting.

25 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. Mike.

2 MR. BRISBIN: Well, haven't we in the past
3 occasionally done a focused RFP?

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, we have. We've done that
5 a couple times.

6 And just a comment for John, historically, part
7 of the reason we evolved into the shotgun approach is
8 because there were darn few outfits capable of doing
9 work. We didn't want to do studies. We wanted to do
10 work.

11 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: And really Nature Conservancy and
13 the Watershed Council were the only ones who stepped up
14 and said, "Yeah, we have the ability to actually do
15 stuff on the ground." And so we've been, more or less,
16 in a responsive mode to what they thought was important.
17 And for right or wrong, it's been very much a, I'd say,
18 reactive committee in terms of what comes in the door.

19 And we don't have -- you know, as you see in
20 Ron's Guidance Document, we don't have like one
21 overwhelming problem. There's lots of different ones.

22 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Anyway, Michael or -- you both
24 kind of had your hand up a little bit.

25 MR. CAMERON: Yes, I do. So John mentioned at

1 the beginning of the meeting, so The Nature
2 Conservancy's got a study, that John's been part of it,
3 where we're trying to develop some priorities for
4 watershed management. And, I think, it's going to be
5 late spring, early summer that'll be done.

6 So as far as agendizing this, I mean we'll
7 be -- I mean there'll be the -- we can, obviously, just
8 report back per usual and just have a quick, to satisfy
9 the grant. But, also, if it's of interest, we can come
10 in and kind of discuss our findings.

11 I think, one of the places -- this is kind of
12 anticipating where, I think, it's going -- is that --
13 and it may be that when Ron wrote the document, none of
14 us were really thinking this way. But catastrophic fire
15 is looming as a huge threat. And it's one of those
16 things where you kind of fail to appreciate it until it
17 happens type of thing.

18 MR. ENLOE: Right.

19 MR. CAMERON: And so. But the other thing, I
20 guess, to the focused point of like these water funds,
21 is that the scale of the problem for our watershed is in
22 the tens, easily in the tens of millions of dollars,
23 maybe more than that if we want to increase forest
24 resilience.

25 So I mean there's a couple subjects on the

1 table. One of is trying to get our hands around this
2 problem. And maybe our final report in June, or
3 whatever, we can come back and give a report to the
4 group about what we've discovered. Which, I think, is
5 that, that catastrophic fire is what we ought to be
6 worried about.

7 And then there's a separate question, I think,
8 is should we be shotgun, or should we be focused. My
9 thoughts are for today are we don't have enough money to
10 make -- a million, \$800,000 a year, to make a big enough
11 dent. I mean not to say we shouldn't ever exclude
12 projects if there are some focused ones. But, I think,
13 there's benefits to our shotgun approach. We're sort of
14 the glue on this river for all comers that are doing
15 things that are useful.

16 So it would be great if we could be so -- we
17 could make such a huge impact on the overall forest
18 resilience. But I'm not sure that we're big enough to
19 do that.

20 MR. ENLOE: Yeah.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah.

22 MR. ENLOE: And I'm not -- I agree with you. I
23 don't think we are big enough. But if we had a focused
24 effort like that, that's maybe an offshoot --

25 MR. CAMERON: -- out of the Truckee River

1 Fund --

2 MR. CAMERON: Yes.

3 MR. ENLOE: -- that you could really target and
4 try and get additional funding for it --

5 MR. CAMERON: Right.

6 MR. ENLOE: -- from contributions, industry,
7 whatever.

8 MS. LYNN: Yes.

9 MR. CAMERON: Yeah.

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, before I lose this
11 thought, you mentioned that it's going to be done in
12 June?

13 MR. CAMERON: Well, I mean it's actually -- I
14 think, it's scheduled to be more in the spring. But, I
15 think, it's running behind, just a little behind
16 schedule. So it's safer to say in late spring, early
17 summer, I think, we'll be in a position to come in and
18 discuss our -- give a presentation on the findings.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Because I'm looking at our
20 calendar, and we have a meeting on June 3rd.

21 MR. CAMERON: Yeah.

22 MS. PHILLIPS: And that would be an excellent
23 thing.

24 MR. CAMERON: I think that even if it's not
25 completely wrapped up, we'll have our preliminary

1 findings.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. That would be great.

3 MS. LYNN: Yeah.

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

5 MS. LYNN: That took care of it.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

7 Anything else?

8 We're on to, I think, we're on to committee and
9 staff comments.

10 I guess, my only comment is February 26th will
11 be a proposal review meeting. Are we going to have a
12 quorum? Is everybody going to be here.

13 (There was a showing of hands.)

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Good.

15 Susan, are you going to be here on February
16 26th?

17 MS. DONALDSON: I should be able to call in
18 again. I'll be in Denver.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. Which reminds me.

20 MS. DONALDSON: Sorry. Baby. Baby time.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: We need to change our bylaws to
22 allow voting.

23 MS. HARRISON: Yeah, this is a good time for me
24 to make a staff comment. We had discussed last time our
25 bylaws which prohibit a telephonic participant from

1 actually voting. If we want to review that and revise
2 it, let's put it on the agenda for the February 26th
3 meeting. We could actually, if we are inclined to
4 change that requirement, we could do it at the beginning
5 of the meeting.

6 MS. PHILLIPS: And then it would be effective
7 for the meeting?

8 MS. HARRISON: M-hm (affirmative).

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. That would be good. It
10 makes no sense to me to have somebody on the phone be
11 part of the quorum, but then they can't vote.

12 MS. HARRISON: I think, the only reason that we
13 adopted that rule way back when -- it's been around for
14 a very long time -- is that we felt that if presenters
15 come in with visual presentations, and so on, that a
16 telephonic participant wouldn't have the same benefit of
17 that information. It doesn't appear that that has been
18 really much of an issue over these years.

19 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, that makes sense.

20 MS. LYNN: Yes.

21 MS. PHILLIPS: Other committee and staff items?
22 I mean -- yeah.

23 Okay. Then we could adjourn.

24 MR. PURDY: Yippee.

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Oh, because we have no public

1 comment, there's no public here.

2 So we're adjourned.

3 MS. TURNER: Sue, thank you for calling in.

4 * * * * *

5 (This Friday, January 11, 2016 meeting of the Truckee
6 River Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:00 a.m.)

7 -oOo-

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

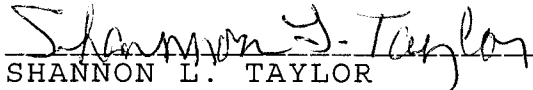
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, SHANNON L. TAYLOR, a Nevada Certified Court Reporter, Nevada CCR #322, do hereby certify:

That I was present at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada, 50 Washington Street, Suite 300, Reno, Nevada, at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, January 11, 2016, and commencing at 8:33 a.m. took stenotype notes of a meeting of the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee;

That I thereafter transcribed the aforementioned stenotype notes into typewriting as herein appears, and that this transcript, consisting of pages 1 through 79, is a full, true, and correct transcription of said stenotype notes of said meeting;

DATED: At Carson City, Nevada, this 14th day of January, 2016.


SHANNON L. TAYLOR
Nevada CCR #322, RMR