

MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2018

The following meeting minutes is a summary of the certified transcript for the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee meeting held at 8:30 a.m., Friday, October 19, 2018.

Those Present: Committee Members: Janet Phillips, Chairman; Susan Lynn, Vice Chairman; Michael Cameron**; Mike Brisbin; Candice Elder; Don Mahin; and Brian Bonnenfant. Also: Lauren Renda, Community Foundation of Western Nevada; John Enloe and Sonia Folsom, both with TMWA; and Sylvia Harrison, Esq., McDonald Carano, LLP; Members of the Public: Theresa Jones, City of Reno; Tracy Peterson Turner, CAP, Ph.D.; Iris Jehle-Peppard, One Truckee River; Christi Cakiroglu, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful; and Nick Tscheekar, Community Foundation of Western Nevada.

* Committee member arrived after roll call

** Committee member left meeting before adjournment

Agenda Item #1: Roll Call: Roll call was taken; a quorum was noted.

Agenda Item #2: Public comment: Christi Cakiroglu commented that yesterday she was in Las Vegas where Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful received the Governor's Points of Light award for their nonprofit volunteer program. She brought the award with her today to share with everyone and thanked the Truckee River Fund for their support because they were able to get large volunteer groups out in the community, adding that they had over 760 volunteers for the River Cleanup last Saturday.

Janet Phillips commented that last night at the EDawn annual awards ceremony, the Tahoe-Pyramid Trail received the Presidential Award for the community.

Agenda Item #3: Approval of the agenda (for possible action): The agenda was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #4: Approve the August summary meeting minutes (for possible action): The Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for August 17, 2018 was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #5: Discussion of non-response to RFP and possible next steps toward improved river sanitation (for possible action): Janet stated that we put out a special

focused RFP for sanitation, that we received no responses, even though there were previous indications that there might be a proposal, and so the purpose here is to see if we can generate some ideas, solutions, next steps. She indicated that to start with, John Enloe, Iris Jehle-Peppard and Christi Cakiroglu all had comments and/or a presentation to give on this item.

John Enloe with TMWA talked about the headway that was being made with the City of Reno regarding the Portland Loo type of rest room along the river, but that there were some issues regarding location, who would pick up the maintenance costs, and the timing of it due to community activity going on addressing the homelessness issue. He talked about the idea of TMWA providing the location, possibly near Brodhead Park and the Reno Police Department, and that Iris Jehle-Peppard has been working her way through the community to promote that concept.

Iris Jehle-Peppard with One Truckee River gave a slide presentation and talked about One Truckee River and what it encompasses, that rest rooms along the river is just one aspect, homelessness being the big issue. She went over the history of One Truckee River and how Christi at Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful partnered with Alicia at Nevada Land Trust, that they came to an understanding that there is not one sole government agency that feels that this is their challenge to address, that they then brought together 130 stakeholders, and they came up with the One Truckee River Plan. She described the plan and the support it has received and how what the plan is trying to do is outside the box from the get-go, pioneering a process, and about how they realized the best way to leverage the core group's limited capacity is to be a circuit between potential project leaders and funders connected to action items. She added that she and Christi are starting to work with Nevada HOPES and their hypodermic syringe program; that she's working with Lieutenant Wiatrowski from the City of Sparks to support clarifying communication between Reno and Sparks police departments when they go out to the river; and then she's working with Sergeant Wade Clark from the City of Reno to understand their constraints when they go to the river to do outreaches or sweeps. Then she went over the work they've done regarding the rest room situation, stating that a Portland Loo is the best type of rest room to purchase for along the river, but that the stopping points include the cost and that elected officials aren't hearing from their constituents that this issue needs to be addressed now. What they propose is that TMWA be the leader, and that they then gain somebody outside the government, such as Renown. She also proposed that Volunteers of America be the services provider to clean the rest room and, more importantly, engage with the currently homeless individuals to foster a cultural respect along the river. She went over some challenges involved, stating that they've learned everything that's going on and now they need to figure out how does One Truckee River support everything going on to address this issue.

Christi Cakiroglu with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful commented that this has been a very difficult, complex project, that it comes down to either don't do anything, or do something. She said it is time to get the elected officials out there so they can see the mess, and that they need to have skin in the game to understand how bad it is so they can increase

city budgets and make some action. Also, we need to engage more residents in talking with local elected officials. Because now we have a plan that just needs to be implemented.

John, Iris and Christi answered questions, and there was a lengthy discussion by the whole group regarding the location and the cost of installing and maintaining rest rooms by the river, comparisons of different types of rest rooms, the problems that go along with having rest rooms along a river but that we need to have amenities for people to use especially if we ever have a greenbelt along our river like other cities do. It was noted that all the elements seem to be in place for a package that includes the construction cost from this group, maintenance maybe from Renown, the personal touch from Volunteers of America, the property from TMWA, and also about how to meet TMWA's goal of getting somebody else to apply for a grant to partner with TMWA on this project. Tracy Turner provided input that if TMWA were to fund this, that it could impact the amount that it awards this group every year. Theresa Jones asked Iris to come give this presentation to the Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee that she's coordinator for. Nick Tscheekar stated that sanitation isn't really his area, but announced that a housing project coming up called the Village on Sage Street will have single-occupancy rooms for \$400 a month, and he could send the link out if anyone knows someone in need. Sylvia provided input regarding agendized items. We would welcome a proposal on our next cycle on this subject. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #6: Review completed projects:

Regarding #183, City of Reno, Truckee River Cleanup Crew - Year 3, Susan reported that the City had completed all the tasks, to return unspent money to the Truckee River Fund. The goal was reached and exceeded by normal standards, meaning that they cleaned up a higher amount of trash, but permanent cleanliness does not seem to be possible, that the goal line keeps moving out, and it's unreachable under current social responses to homelessness. The City deems the project a success, but trash pickup is not permanent, it will always require maintenance, so a permanent fix is beyond the capability of the Reno Parks Department.

Regarding #128, Truckee River Watershed Council, Truckee River Big Chief Corridor Restoration, Candice reported that TRWC and partnering organizations Forest Service, CalTrans, and Tahoe City PUD completed a restoration project in a high priority area on the main stream of the Truckee River. It was restoration of six river, wetland and meadow sites, three from the Truckee River Fund grant and three from the matching grant. They met expectations and met stated goals.

Regarding #147, The Nature Conservancy, Optimizing Restoration Investments in the Truckee River Watershed, Candice reported that they completed activities specified in the proposal. Key stakeholders, Forest Service and TMWA, are eager to continue working together to better understand risks, plan accordingly, work toward implementing the appropriate land management actions to reduce risk. TNC scientists from the Natural Capital Project and UCSB worked together to prepare a paper titled "Informing Watershed Planning

and Policy in the Truckee River Basin Through Stakeholder Engagement, Scenario Development and an Impact Evaluation" published in the Journal of Environmental Science and Policy. The level of stakeholder outreach conducted for the study created a high degree of buy-in and a high level of credibility for the study, and this publication has increased the credibility of the effort, which was a success. The TNC will continue working with key RIOS study stakeholders, elected officials and other community leaders in the second phase of research. And they will analyze watershed health, wildfire and climate change risks, sediment loading of the river, post-wildfire, climate change, ecosystem and economic impact of those events, and the ability to mitigate those impacts through improved land management action.

Regarding #134 and #144, combined City of Reno projects regarding the Highland Canal, Lauren reported for Michael that they completed the activities specified in the proposal. The project mitigated substantial threats to water quality in the Highland Canal upstream of TMWA's Chalk Bluff water treatment plant facility and improved stormwater quality conveyed to the Truckee River. The total for the construction was just over \$3.8 million. They met expectations as far as deeming their project a success. They met their stated goals. The project completion date was December 4th, 2017.

Regarding #181, Truckee Donner Land Trust, Webber Lake and Little Truckee River Headwater Management, Lauren reported for Michael that they completed activities specified in the proposal. The exact location of forest treatments was changed but still done for the same objectives as in the original proposal. The final grant report indicated they did not meet their match requirement. The project manager, John Svahn, will be submitting an updated grant report. She stated she'll keep an eye on that and relay that to the committee when they receive that. They met expectations as far as the project success, and they met their stated goals.

Agenda Item #7: Discuss possible revisions to RFP application: The group discussed this ongoing agenda item, with input from Sylvia regarding adding to the agenda for a future meeting some items that came out of the discussion, such as getting proposals that aren't directly related to TMWA ratepayers; why should TMWA pay if there is another base of ratepayers that ought to be paying; and projects downstream versus upstream of the water intakes. Lauren indicated she has a full report from a survey she did regarding all projects that had any downstream component, which she'll send out to the group.

Agenda Item #8: Committee and staff comments: There were none.

Agenda Item #9: Next meeting: February 22, 2019 at 8:30am (for possible action): The next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2019, at 8:30am. Janet requested anyone wanting an item on that agenda to let her, Sonia or Lauren know; otherwise, the agenda will be predominantly proposal review. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #10: Public comment (limited to no more than three minutes per speaker): Theresa Jones commented that she was reluctant last time to apply for funds that she wanted, because she felt that the proximity to the intakes was a critical piece, and so she thinks downstream users might feel discouraged from applying.

Sonia Folsom commented that John Enloe had to leave for another meeting, but that at the last couple of TMWA Board meetings there was discussion about the ongoing funding for continuous projects, the ones we see every cycle and every year, and that there was a request for a more solid report. If there's more discussion on that at the TMWA January or February TMWA meeting, then we'll bring it back to the TRF February meeting about possibly providing something.

Tracy Turner commented regarding Sonia's comment and how that places much more importance on those final reports and how the fund advisors process them. She commented also that this could be a really good way of reinforcing to those TMWA Board members the importance of the need for the community to come together around the rest room situation, that ongoing funding from TRF is continuing to clean up tons and tons of trash. Sonia added that she'll be reporting to the TMWA Board in January about the 27,000 bags of trash mentioned in an article in a newsletter.

Agenda Item #11: Adjournment (for possible action): The meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m. No action was taken.