

MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 19, 2023

(Meeting via Zoom and teleconference)

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, May 19, 2023, via Zoom and teleconference.

Those Present: Committee Members: Brian Bonnenfant, Chair; Jim Smitherman, Vice Chair; Mike Brisbain, Don Mahin; Dave Stanley; Terri Svetich. Also: Lauren Renda, Community Foundation of Western Nevada; John Enloe, Sonia Folsom & Kara Steeland, TMWA; Sarah Ferguson, Council for TRF; Susan Merideth, TRF Minutes Recorder.
Members of the Public: *none*.

* 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: There was no public comment at this time.

Agenda Item #3: Approval of the agenda: The agenda was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #4: Approve the February summary meeting minutes: The Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for February 17, 2023 were unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #5: Review and discuss TRF scope and bylaws:

The TRF Advisory Committee will be revisiting the funding priorities of the TRF. John Enloe began the discussion by highlighting that the funds are intended to be used for project's within TMWA's geographic jurisdiction per Official Opinions of the Attorney General submitted in 2005. At this time, Fund Advisors will be formulating recommendations on how and where funds are to be spent to provide guidance and criteria for allocating funds. These recommendations will be submitted to the TMWA Board for review and final determination.

John further advised that funding considerations should include the overall benefit to rate payors with an emphasis on the geographic area above the Glendale intake; however, this does not necessarily preclude funding work farther down river when there is a benefit to the rate payers represented by TRF. Upstream projects are easier to justify considering the direct implications on the Truckee Meadows; however, downstream projects have been funded in the past. Moving forward TRF needs to establish more specific criteria for spending water rate payer money on downstream projects, emphasizing direct benefits to rate payers. Since more entities other than just TMWA are responsible for conditions downstream (eg sewer treatment), if those responsible entities were also contributing to clean-up efforts it would make funding downstream projects more palatable to the TMWA Board. Brian emphasized the need to define the geographic area covered by TRF more specifically and reiterated that other stakeholders should contribute to funding efforts where appropriate.

The TRF Advisory Committee will hold a Special Session to formulate recommendations for the TMWA Board on June 22, 2023 at 8:30 am. Jim Smitherman motioned that the Advisory Committee members provide their comments to Lauren Renda in preparation for the Special Session. Terri Svetich seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Committee. Sonia Folsom will notify the TMWA Board at their next meeting in June of the Committee's intent to formulate recommendations.

Agenda Item #6: Discuss possible changes to RFP application including electronic application process:

Kara Steeland reported that TWMA would like to start accepting online applications for RFPs to streamline the process. Terri motioned to move TRF applications to the digital online format, and Jim seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Agenda Item #7: Review completed projects:

Projects in progress; no completion reports at this time

Agenda Item #8: Committee and staff comments:

Advisory Committee Field Trips

Terri reflected on a bike ride with Janet Davis several years ago where the Advisory Committee & TRF stakeholders joined together to see firsthand the Truckee River and it's condition. Brian mentioned that there were regular Committee field trips in the past and suggested we start doing this again, and Terri pointed out several recently funded projects that could be visited. The Committee is currently looking to plan a field trip to Whites Creek to review the impacts from flooding last August, date and time TBD. Advisory Committee field trips will be posted on public websites at least 3 days in advance.

TMWA Board Recruitment

The Advisory Committee needs to recruit two additional City of Reno representatives, and we are waiting approval. There is currently one applicant for consideration, but we need one more. Recommendations are welcome.

Agenda Item #9: Next meeting: August 18, 2023 at 8:30am; consideration for in-person meeting: The next meeting is set for August 18, 2023 at 8:30am. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #10: Public comment: A celebration of life for Janet Davis will be held August 5th at the McKinley Arts Center 10am – 12pm. If you are interested in supporting or contributing, please contact Sonia Folsom.

Agenda Item #11: Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 am. No action was taken.