

# MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

## TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF AUGUST 18, 2023

(Meeting via Teleconference and In-Person)

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, August 18, 2023, via Zoom and teleconference.

**Those Present:** Committee Members: Brian Bonnenfant, Chair; Jim Smitherman, Vice Chair; Bill Bradley, Mike Brisbin, 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: Audrey Bergmann (Sierra NV Journeys), Christi Cakiroglu (Consulting Solutions, OTR Board Member) Iris Jehle-Peppard (One Truckee River), Daniel Moss (City of Reno), Darcy Phillips (KTMB)

**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:** Jim Smitherman motioned to approved the agenda for the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, and Bill seconded the motion. The agenda was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item #4: Approve the May Summary Meeting Minutes:** Terri noted corrections to a name mentioned in the Minutes Summary. Bill Bradley motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for May 19, 2023 with the correction noted by Terri. Brian Bonnenfant seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.

**Agenda Item #5: Approve the June Summary Meeting Minutes:** Terri noted a misspelling in the Minutes Summary. Terri Svetich motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for June 22, 2023 with the spelling correction. Jim Smitherman seconded the motion and the Minutes were unanimously approved by the Committee.

**Agenda Item #6: Fund balance report:** There is \$800,000 in new funds from TMWA available or the upcoming fiscal year plus \$156,931 left over from the previous RFP for of \$956,931 in funding available to spend.

**Agenda Item #7: Review grant proposals to Truckee River Funs and select projects to be recommended for funding:**

The following grant proposals were considered and voted on by the group and approved, rejected/declined, or action taken as follows:

#280, Sierra Nevada Journeys: Watershed Education Initiative, amount requested \$35,933

Audrey Bergmann was present to discuss SNJ's proposal for the continuation of watershed education program from previous years. The full amount requested of \$35,933 was unanimously approved

#281, City of Reno: Lake Park Watershed Project (Floating Wetlands and Pollinator Revegetation Project, amount requested \$30,832

Daniel Moss from the Public Utilities Department was present to discuss PUD's collaborative project with Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation, Friends of Lake Park and One Truckee River to install floating vegetation islands to support nutrient cycling and pollution reduction at Lake Park pond, a terminal pond fed by agricultural and storm runoff. Overflow from the pond enters the Truckee River via Peavine Creek near the Arlington bridge. Included in the proposal is funding for STEM-based educational outreach with signage and educational materials, and One Truckee River has plans to develop a pollinator garden at the Park. The total request of \$30,832 was approved by the Committee

#282, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful: KTMB's 2024 Great Community Clean-Up, Truckee River Clean-Up, Truckee River Clean-Up, Adopt-A-River Program, and Community Education Program, amount requested \$91,360.32

Darcy Phillips, Executive Director of KTMB, presented their proposal to remove litter and invasive weeds along the Truckee River Corridor and tributaries and provide community education and outreach. This is a continuation of KTMB's Great Community Clean-Up and Truckee River Clean-Up efforts from previous years, but this year they will be adding back in a youth education component this year. The total request of \$91,360.32 was approved by the Committee.

#283, One Truckee River: Watershed Coalition Building, amount requested \$135,138

Iris Jehle-Peppard from One Truckee River requested funding to continue to lead, coordinate, and resource the OTR partnerships and to increase the public's understanding of the Truckee River, OTR River-Friendly Living practices, and efforts to protect the Truckee River. The total request of \$135,138 was unanimously approved by the Committee.

Mike Brisbin motioned to approve funding for all projects presented at the full amount requested, and Bill seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Committee, for a total funding allocation of \$293,263.32

Project Advisors for the approved proposals were assigned as follows: #280, Jim Smitherman; #281, Mike Cameron; #282, Jim Smitherman; #283, Terri Svetich

**Agenda Item #8: Review completed projects:** *none*

**Agenda Item #9: Committee and staff comments:**

Members of the TRF Committee had a meeting with City Council Member Kristopher Dahir from the TMWA Board to discuss the evaluation process for funding projects. The TMWA Board suggested implementing a ranking system to improve consistency in evaluating projects and will provide the Committee with a proposed methodology for ranking. The TRF Committee will provide comment and make a decision on adopting a ranking system at the November meeting.

In previous meetings the TRF Committee discussed needing an MOU between the City of Reno and TNWA to fill the open seats on the Committee. This is incorrect. The agreement between the TRF Community Foundation and TMWA had expired and a new agreement was implemented earlier this year, which has delayed the appointment of new Members. The City Council still needs to add the vacancies to accept applications to a meeting agenda in order to appoint new TRF members to fill the current vacancies.

**Agenda Item #10: Next meeting: November 17, 2023 at 8:30am; consideration for in-person meeting:** Brian motioned for the next meeting to be held November 17, 2023 at 8:30am. Bill seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Committee.

**Agenda Item #10: Public comment:** *none*

**Agenda Item #11: Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 am. No action was taken.