

MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2023

(Meeting via Teleconference and In-Person)

The following meeting minutes is a summary of the transcript for the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee meeting held at 8:30 a.m., Friday, November 17, 2023, via teleconference and in-person.

Those Present: Committee Members: Brian Bonnenfant, Chair; Jim Smitherman, Vice Chair; Bill Bradley, Mike Brisbin, Don Mahin, Dave Stanley, Terri Svetich, Peter Gower, Neoma Jardon. 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.

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: Peter Gower motioned to approve the agenda for the November 17th meeting, and Don Mahin seconded the motion. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #4: Approve the August Summary Meeting Minutes: Bill Bradley motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for August 18, 2023 including a grammatical correction to paragraph four. Jim Smitherman seconded the motion. Committee Members who were not present at the previous meeting abstained from voting: Don, Paul & Neoma. The motion was unanimously approved by the remaining Committee Members present.

Agenda Item #5: Welcome newly appointed TRF Advisory Committee members:

The TRF welcomed two new members to the Committee:

Neoma Jardon joined the Committee representing the City of Reno. Neoma is the Executive Director of Downtown Reno Partnership, which is the business improvement district that represents 110-block area of downtown and 1,500 property owners. A big part of the business improvement district boundary area is the [Truckee] River, so they have direct interest in its well-being, health and water quality. Prior to her roll at the DRP, Neoma was a

Reno City Councilwoman and Vice Mayor for 10 years and served on the Board of Truckee Meadows Water Authority.

Peter Gower also joined the Committee representing the City of Reno. Peter has worked for The Nature Conservancy for the past 2 years, first as the Renewable Energy and Land Use Status Director for the Nevada Chapter of TNC, and he is now with the Climate and Renewable Energy Program for TNC's Western Division. Peter's background is in land use planning, including serving on the City of Reno Planning Commission for nearly 9 years and as an environmental consultant/planner for 10 years.

Agenda Item #6: Review and approve revised RFP and evaluation criteria rubric:

Based on comments from the Committee, Sonia Folsom and Kara Steeland from TMWA presented a revised RFP and a Scoring Rubric for Grant Proposals designed for evaluating TRF proposals.

Changes to RFP

- The *TRF Grant Priorities* was reduced to a list of six, with the more general priorities of *Meet Multiple Objectives* and *Leverage Stakeholder Assets and Participation* moved to the rubric criteria instead.
- Added under *Grant Match*: "For grant requests for projects downstream of the Vista USGS gage, the 25 percent match requirement must be met using cash match." This opens funding and partnerships to areas below TMWA water treatment plants without placing the entire financial burden on the TRF.
- A budget template was updated.
- The *Evaluation Criteria* section based on the Scoring Rubric was added to assist applicants.
- Don suggested adding TMDL criteria in addition to the 303d designation (impaired waters) under *Watershed Improvements* priorities.

After discussion about the possible applications of the Scoring Rubric, the Committee decided to add the criteria to the January RFP as a guide for applicants (excluding the scoring table), and Committee members may use the rubric in their evaluation process but are not required to do so. The scoring rubric will be for personal Committee Member use and not part of the public record.

Mike Brisbin motioned to change the RFP language as drafted and to include evaluation criteria in the RFP to assist applicants. Neoma Jardon seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #7: Review completed projects:

TRF#270 from Great Basin Outdoor School: Youth Watershed Education and Protection Project (Stanley):

Dave Stanley reported on the GBOS youth science camps. The original proposal included outreach in the Lake Tahoe area, which was not approved by the Committee because Tahoe is outside the scope the TRF. By excluding the Tahoe science camps, the number of students reached via the Spring and Summer Day Camps was greatly reduced (158 versus 680 total if those camps were included). The proposal called for 500 students to be reached.

On the positive side, the gain in knowledge and connection to the watershed that the students who participated in the camps exhibited was in excess of the 75% target in their proposal, and the overall measure of success was high based on students scoring their experience. The data collection component was also a big success, and GBOS partnered with a Mountain View Montessori School in the effort.

Overall, GBOS completed the goals they set, with a lower per person impact than if Tahoe camps were included.

TRF#283 from One Truckee River: One Truckee River Partnership and engagement with the public (Svetich):

Terri Svetich reported on the OTR partnership and engagement with the public. Terri noted that it can be challenging to bring people together, and they have been successful in that. OTR completed more Commission Meetings than originally expected, and they collaborated with 19 partner agencies, which was also more than anticipated.

Overall, OTR met and exceeded their goals.

Agenda Item #8: Review and approve the tentative 2024 meeting calendar:

A tentative meeting calendar for 2024 was presented to TRF Advisory Committee for approval. Bill Bradley motioned and Don Mahin seconded the motion to accept the 2024 meeting calendar as presented. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Agenda Item #9: Committee and staff comments:

Lauren expects to be able to make the next round of proposals available to the Committee a couple of weeks in advance of the next meeting on February 16th, and there will be an online portal setup for Committee Members to access and review applications.

Agenda Item #10: Next meeting: February 16, 2024 at 8:30am: Peter Gower motioned for the next meeting to be held February 16, 2024 at 8:30am. Bill Bradley seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.

Agenda Item #10: Public comment: *none*

Agenda Item #11: Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.