

MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2026

(Meeting via Zoom and In-Person)

The following meeting minutes is a summary of the certified transcript for the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee meeting held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, April 28, 2026, via Zoom teleconference and in-person at The Community Foundation of Northern Nevada, 50 Washington St, Ste 300, Reno, NV.

Those Present:

Committee Members: Jim Smitherman, Chair; Brian Bonnenfant, Bill Bradley, Mike Brisbin, Neoma Jardon, Dave Stanley.

Also: Lauren Sgandurra, Community Foundation of Northern Nevada; Kara Steeland, TMWA; Sarah Ferguson, Council for TRF; Susan Merideth, TRF Minutes Recorder.

Members of the Public:

- + Committee member arrived after roll call ++ Committee member left meeting before adjournment
* Asterisks (*) denote non-action items

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: Bill Bradley motioned to approve the agenda for the April 28th meeting revising Agenda Item #4 to “Create/Modify additional guidelines...” Brain Bonnenfant seconded the motion, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #4: Create/Modify additional guidelines to provide clarity for grant applicants and TRF Advisors:

The Committee discussed guidelines to provide clarity for grant applicants and Truckee River Fund Advisors on several key issues that have arisen during the last several grant application cycles.

Property purchases

TRF does not provide funding to purchase titled property (vehicles, land, buildings, etc), which needs to be specified in the guidelines for grant applications.

Don Mahin motioned to add language to the grant application guidelines to clarify the exclusion of titled property from funding consideration. Bill Bradley seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously by the Committee.

Maximum indirect expense percentage

In the past, proposals have been rejected due to a budgeted indirect cost rate exceeding the maximum allowable indirect costs for TRF funding. The 25% cap on indirect costs will be clarified in future RFPs and strictly adhered to in funding decisions.

Conference and travel

TRF will consider funding travel expenses that support project execution but not organizational enrichment (e.g. conferences).

Neoma Jardon motioned to exclude conference costs, including conference registration, travel and accommodations, from TRF funding consideration. Dave Stanley seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Geographic extent

An inquiry was submitted to the Committee regarding the geographic extent of TRF funded projects, asking whether the Tahoe Meadows and its wetland health and connectivity is geographically aligned with the TRF.

The Committee discussed the current funding for the Tahoe region and the actual need for additional funding from TRF, since Tahoe receives significant federal funding support. Current TRF grant priorities specify that funding for the Tahoe Basin will only be considered for aquatic invasive species and stewardship and environmental awareness projects.

The Committee agreed that only proposals specifically solicited by TRF will be accepted for projects in the Tahoe Basin (e.g. proposals for addressing emerging threats from invasive species that impact the Truckee River).

Bill Bradley motioned to revise the language of the RFP to specify funding limitations for Tahoe Basin projects and that TRF will not consider funding unless specifically requested by the Committee. Brian Bonnenfant seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Revised language for RFPs will be presented to the Committee at a future meeting for final approval.

Staff and new positions

The Committee discussed the guidelines for fundable personnel expenses to be adopted in future RFPs and guidance documents.

Brian Bonnenfant motioned that for government entities, TRF will consider funding labor costs that service the grant application but will not provide funding support for creation of staff positions. Neoma Jardon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Additional scrutiny will be applied when considering government entity requests for funding full-time positions

Agenda Item #5: Committee and staff comments*:

The Committee discussed new member orientation, and Jim Smitherman recommended the following documents as part of the orientation package:

- Ron Penrose paper
- Official Opinions of the Attorney General regarding TRF
- TRF Agreement
- Open Meeting Law overview
- RFP Proposal Criteria
- Past meeting minutes

Orientation for new TRF Committee Members will be discussed at the to next Committee meeting.

Kara Steeland also asked the Committee to consider the option of an associate hydrologist at TMWA helping with tasks like committee record-keeping and orientation, which the Committee agreed to review at a future meeting.

Agenda Item #6: Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Friday, May 29, 2026 at 8:30am.

Agenda Item #10: Public comment: There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #11*: Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 am.