

WASHOE COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board Meeting
March 3, 2020

DIRECTORS:

Robert Quilici
Louis Damonte
John Capurro
Bill Hauck
Doug Avanzino
Cory Casazza
Lawrence Belli

GUESTS:

Michael Pagni, Attorney
George Ball, Engineer
Scott Schoenfeld, USBR
Shane Dyer, Dyer Engineering

STAFF:

Mary Pat Eymann
Brian Casci

ABSENT:

1. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER –**
Vice-President Casazza called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., quorum present.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**
3. **APPROVE AGENDA – No changes to posted Agenda**
4. **APPROVE DECEMBER 2019 BOARD MINUTES, CHECKS WRITTEN AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2019 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2020.**

❖ Director Capurro made a motion to approve the minutes and financials as stated; seconded by Director Damonte; motion carried.

5. **FEDERAL WATER MASTERS REPORT – Brian Casci**

A complete copy of the Water Report is available at District Offices or on the internet at troa.net.

Dry start to the year. We did get more precipitation in the start of March than we did all of February. SNOTEL as follows: Lake Tahoe Basin 49%; Truckee River Basin 50%; Carson River Basin 57%. We should have a full season this year as there is plenty in storage and should make rates all year.

Boca will not fulfil it's first fill requirement under the SOD requirements. The plan is to keep water off the gates this year so contractors can get in. The SOD project is on track and expected to be completed by the end of July.

6. **UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF SAFETY OF DAMS PROJECT – Shane Dyer**

The project should start back up May 1, weather dependent. It was request of USBR to do a change order if there were changes of \$100,000 or more to the District which they agreed to.

7. **DISCUSSION ON FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (FERC) PRELIMINARY PERMIT FOR A POWER PLANT AT BOCA DAM – Shane Dyer**

There was one filing. Their 1st quarter filing was submitted in January. They do have to continue to file in order to keep up the permit process. The Tribe is still waiting for grant money. Scott Schoenfeld (USBR) advised that they did not get the grant for this year but they are applying for it next year. Nothing will happen this year.

8. DISCUSSION, ACTION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON IMPLEMENTATION OF TROA REIMBURSEMENT UNDER SECTION 7.A.2(b)(3). – Michael Pagni

Under TROA there is a provision for the District to be reimbursed. There is a formula where the operating costs go into this formula and the District can get partially reimbursed for the operation and maintenance expenses for operating Boca Dam. Part of the predicate of seeking that reimbursement is the Water Master (WM) has to determine the spill amount from the dam. Mr. Pagni has been working with the WM office for the past year they have been putting together model data on what the running average of that amount would be. Under TROA it is based on a 10-year average which we do not have a 10-year average with TROA being in affect. We do have data since TROA. The 4-year average thus far is approximately 14.92% which is within the range we anticipated. The WM office is going to finalize the data and get numbers back to the Board in April. At that time the Board can initiate the process of seeking reimbursement. At that time Mr. Pagni would present to the other TROA parties with the hope of getting something into place in November. The other piece of the formula is the average expenses of the District.

Director Capurro asked if we get to that point how do we go about getting the funds. Mr. Pagni advised that would be part of the discussion we have with the other TROA parties.

9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RECEIVED DECLARATIONS OF CANDIDACY AND CONFIRMATION OF ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS PURSUANT TO NRS 53.117 – Michael Pagni

Under the statute every 2 years the District is required to hold elections of the members of the Board. These are staggered over the years. There have been no applications received to declare candidacy to any of the Districts.

The Districts are: Cory Casazza – District 3, John Capurro District 6 and Bill Hauck for District 2

- ❖ Director Damonte made a motion affirm the election of said members to the Board for the next 2-year period; seconded by Director Avanzino; motion carried.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION FOR A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE REPAYMENT CONTRACT WITH USBR IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$4.00 PER ACRE FOR THE SAFETY OF DAMS PROJECT – Michael Pagni

This is a fixed reimbursement amount of \$4 per acre. We won't know the actual amount of what the District owes until after the project is completed. The question is, does the Board want to look at the assessment annually or just keep it in place until the Board decides it is something they want to change. They way it is set up right now is that it is automatically there every year until the debt is paid. This is a time sensitive issue as the County Assessor has to have the amount and files by June to get them on the tax rolls.

- ❖ Director Capurro made a motion to maintain the Special Assessment for Safety of Dams at \$4.00 per acre and to be brought back to the Board for reconsideration next year, but that it remains in place until the Board decides otherwise; seconded by Director Hauck; motion carried.

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ASSESSMENT RATE FOR FY 2020-2021 – Michael Pagni

This is for the regular assessment. We do not have the CPI calculations yet but it does go up every year.

- ❖ Director Capurro made a motion to maintain the assessment with the CPI increase; seconded by Director Damonte; motion carried.

12. LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT – Michael Pagni

Mr. Pagni attended the oral arguments for the Mineral County case. There was an hour at 15 minutes of oral arguments which was unusually long. The full Court also heard it. The room was packed. It will be a few months before we hear anything. There are serious implications which the Court seemed to understand.

13. DISTRICT ENGINEER REPORT – George Ball

See Engineer's Report (available at District Offices)

14. DAMTENDER REPORT – Brian Casci

Nothing to report

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

- Scott Schoenfeld (USBR) – May 12-14 the Department of Interior is having a Safety of Dam conference in Reno in which they will be going up to Boca.

16. BOARD COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board Comments –

- Director Capurro – as the representative of the CTWCD – the CTWCD is responsible for maintaining the 14,000 cfs capacity from the State line to the Glendale Bridge. There are interesting things happening with the homeless population. CTWCD is working with the City of Reno on the assurances the City made when it signed the Martis Creek Agreement to maintain this flow. The tents and tarps are a great hindrance to the flow.

Future Agenda Items –

- Officer Elections
- Agenda item #8 held for next meeting

17. ADJOURNMENT -

- ❖ Director Hauck made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Director Damonte; motion carried.

****The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 1:30 pm.****

John Capurro, Secretary/Treasurer