

WASHOE COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Meeting

January 7, 2025

DIRECTORS

Cory Casazza
John Capurro
Kevin Quilici
Doug Avanzino
Bill Hauck

OTHER

Lucas Foletta, Attorney - McDonald Carano
Chad Blanchard, FWM
Shane Dyer, Engineer - JUB
Scott Schoenfeld, USBR

ABSENT

Casey Corbett
Louis Damonte

STAFF

Mary Pat Eymann, Dist. Manager
Brian Casci, Damtender

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1. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER –**
Director Capurro called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m., quorum present.
 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS –**
None
 3. **APPROVE AGENDA – No changes to posted agenda items.**
 4. **APPROVE BOARD MINUTES: CHECKS WRITTEN AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.**
 - ❖ Director Capurro made a motion to approve the November & December 2024 minutes, checks written and financial statements as submitted; seconded by Director Hauck; motion carried.
 5. **FEDERAL WATER MASTERS REPORT –** Chad Blanchard, FWM
A complete copy of the Water Report is available at District Offices or on the internet at troa.net.
 6. **ENGINEER'S REPORT * - Shane Dyer**

Nothing to report.
 7. **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT –Lucas Foletta**

There is a pre filed bill the legislature called AB 26 and it is a division water resources field that has to do with state level dam safety, and it changes the jurisdictional dividing line between state level regulation, and federal regulation from the gold standard, which was a dam constructed by the federal government, was not subject to state regulation, and now it says that, or the proposal is that it would say a dam under the jurisdiction of the federal government. And I wasn't overly concerned about it, but that phrase, another jurisdiction of is substantially broad, but, you know, broader or ambiguous, and I

wasn't clear on what it means, or meant or is meant to mean. And I sent the bill to Scott at USBR, it sounds like the Bureau of red flag nation was unaware of the legislation. So, then I got a little more concerned, like, Where's this coming from? Somebody at DWR is just kind of coming up with it. And so I talked to them and to their legislative liaison, and they said the intent is obviously not to create overlapping jurisdiction, but to ensure that certain dams that have been apparently constructed by the federal government but transferred to a local party are not escaping regulation for damn safety entirely.

So some of those, I guess, Rye Patch for example. The state is regulating them. I think they have this but, but they're worried that they didn't have a basis to because it was constructed by the federal government, therefore they should not have had jurisdiction by the letter of the law. So they're changing the rules. It sounds like, obviously, by the intent, we should be fine. And then also this dam is outside without it. So that's another point of demarcation. State engineer can't regulate something outside cities. I think it'll be fine, but we'll just monitor to make sure nobody kind of tinkers with it in a way that creates, yeah, consequence.

It sounds like there's one person at the Division of Water Resources that is just driving the change. So it may be worth the discussion as we get closer with that person again, to just kind of make it clear that the intent is not to complicate the situation. Not that this dam is not under the jurisdiction of the federal government, but the jurisdictional orientation of the dam is more complex. I don't think they realize that the jurisdiction of the federal government is so broad that it doesn't necessarily map or correspond to a situation like we have here, where agreements over the course of a century govern the responsibilities people have. And it isn't just a simple question of who owns the dam or who manages the dam or something.

8. DAMTENDER REPORT– Brian Casci

Nothing to report.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

Scott Schoenfeld, USGR - USBR installed the seismograph and seismometer at Boca accelerometer. It's not, not there yet. That's the next step, just so, you know. So that has been completed.

10. BOARD COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board Comments – none.
Future Agenda Items –

11. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

****The next regular meeting will be held
Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.**

John Capurro, Secretary/Treasurer

Minutes transcribed via otter.ai