

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the  
**TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes  
**May 7, 2024**

The Board of Directors of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, in the counties of Churchill and Lyon, State of Nevada, met in regular session at the office of the District, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada, on **Tuesday, May 7, 2024** at 9:00 a.m.

The following Directors were present constituting a quorum:

Present:	Eric Olsen	President
	David Stix Jr.	Vice-President
	Robert Oakden	Secretary
	Lester deBraga	Treasurer
	Abrahm Schank	Director
	Joseph Gomes	Director
	Wade Workman	Director

Others Present:	Benjamin Shawcroft	General Manager
	Helen-Marie Morrow	Finance Manager
	Kelly Herwick	District Water Master
	Ariel Tomb	Assistant Secretary to the Board

Teleconference/Zoom Guests	Representing
Bethany Chagnon	United States Fish & Wildlife
Austin Balsler	Bureau of Reclamation

In-Person Guests	Representing
Valerie Roberds	Self
Jacob Ward	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Jack Worsley	Bureau of Reclamation
Laurie Nicholas	Bureau of Reclamation
Robert Martinez	Bureau of Reclamation
Robert Owen	Bureau of Reclamation
Mike Barrenchea	Bureau of Reclamation
Willie Steve	Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe
Temika Wilkes	Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe
Don Snodgrass	Greenhead Hunting Club

The following agenda items are not necessarily in the order they were heard or decided but in the order as appearing on the agenda.

1. **Call to Order**  
 President Olsen called the meeting to order in accordance with NRS 241 at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Robert Martinez.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Director Schank to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Director Gomes, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

4. **General Public Comment**

No public comment.

5. **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

Shawcroft reviewed correspondence received regarding the placement of the Pond Turtle on the endangered list.

6. **General Manager and Staff Reports**

- **Ben Shawcroft, General Manager**  
Shawcroft reported the first invoice for power has been sent to City of Fallon.
- **Cody Biggs, Construction & Maintenance Manager**  
Biggs was not present to report. Shawcroft reported in his stead that everything is going well. The wind is causing issues the cleaning and burning of canals. Treasurer deBraga commented that the ditch bank needs to be burned or mowed as well, not just on the slope. Herwick added that he has coordinated with Cody on this issue and they have put together a program for burning this next off season that should produce improved results.
- **Kelly Herwick, District Water Master**  
Herwick reported on current conditions. See attached report.
- **Mike Adams, Systems & Technologies Manager**  
Adams was not present to report.
- **Mark Solinski, Hydroelectric Facilities Manager**  
Solinski was not present to report.

7. **City of Fernley – General Updates**

There was no representative present to report.

8. **United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) – General Updates**

Bethany Chagnon, Deputy Refuge Manager – Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, reported they are wrapping up a large road project and they are preparing to increase their orders.

9. **Bureau of Reclamation – Lahontan Basin Area Office (LBAO) Representative(s) – General Updates**

Jack Worsley, Area Manager, reported his office is receiving additional training on navigating the PL566 program. The Truckee Canal Risk Assessment will take place next week; the team will be assessing the entire canal with a focus on the Fernley Reach. The

Project was declared substantially complete on April 2<sup>nd</sup> but they are still negotiating with the contractor as to the final cost of the Project.

Austin Balsler, BOR, presented a water supply outlook slideshow.

**10. Fallon-Paiute Shoshone Tribe (FPST) – General Updates**

Willie Steve, Acting Natural Resource Director, informed the Board of the several challenges he has been dealing with as Acting Director. He introduced Temika Wilkes, who was hired as the new Natural Resource Director as of May 6<sup>th</sup>. Wilkes introduced herself and gave a brief overview of her background.

**11. Naval Air Station Fallon (NASF) – General Updates**

There was no representative present to report.

**12. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – General Updates**

There was no representative present to report.

**13. Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) – General Updates**

Jacob Ward, Wildlife Technician, was present but had no report.

**14. General Manager/Counsel Annual Report**

*The General Manager, Ben Shawcroft, will provide the Board with an annual report of accomplishments and activities of the previous year. The Board will give its performance evaluation at the June 2024 Board meeting.*

General Manager Shawcroft reported the following:

- Applied for a grant for the Lahontan Dam Tower Gates
- Applied for NRCS funding
- Applied for funding under the PL566 Watershed Program
- Received a grant for the 26' Drop Runners
- Received a grant for GOES installations
- Budgeting for Truckee Canal repayment
- Cutting costs by not replacing personnel in the office
- In the process of trying to resurrect the TCID WORKS program
- Addressing challenges with solar lease
- Applied for FERC license for Old Lahontan
- Updated the 5-Year Strategic Plan
- In the process of updating the Standard Operating Procedures
- Started formulating a Water Measurement Plan in conjunction with the Bureau
- Entered into a power contract with the City of Fallon
- Lots of time has been spent on legal cases
- Has spoken at different events
- In the process of updating the website

His plan for next year includes working on the Capital Improvement & Strategic Plan, to finish the Water Measurement Plan, to work with the IT and Operations departments to accurately calculate usage and crunch numbers for the water cards in a more timely manner, and work on automation and SCADA upgrades. He is not planning on requesting another assessment increase for the next fiscal year; he wants to see how the budget operates with the previously implemented changes.

Vice-President Stix commented that his only question was how Shawcroft will handle the finances and rising costs without asking for another assessment increase. Shawcroft reiterated that many of the rising costs are for essential supplies and that we have no control over the pricing of those, however we will continue to run a tight budget and save costs wherever possible.

## **15. Consent Agenda**

- Approval of Director's compensation for the month of April as provided for by NRS 539.080.
- Approval of Board Meeting minutes of April 2, 2024.

**A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Director Gomes, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

## **16. Committee Reports**



- **Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Committee**  
Vice-President Stix informed the Board that the O&M Committee approved a Construction application submitted by Brendon Monette contingent on BOR approval.
- **Carson Lake Pasture (CLP) Advisory Committee Recommendations**  
There was no meeting for the month of April 2024.
- **Employee Relations Committee**  
There was no meeting for the month of April 2024.
- **Finance Committee**  
Treasurer deBraga (Finance Committee Chairman) reported that the Finance Committee met on May 6, 2024.



**A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the Treasurer's report and Finance Committee recommendation to approve check numbers 44127 through 44195, the transfer of \$600,107.10 to pay bills as well as automatic, online and phone payments, seconded by Director Workman, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Policy Committee**  
There was no meeting held for the month of April 2024.

17. **Additional Public Comment**  
No additional public comment.

18. **Adjournment**  
The meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the Board President at 10:57 a.m.

  
Eric Olsen – Board President  
  
Date

  
Robert Oakden - Secretary  
  
Date





# Truckee-Carson Irrigation District

## Newlands Project

5/07/2024

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Olsen, President  
David Stix, Jr., Vice-President  
Bob Oakden, Secretary  
Lester deBraga, Director/Treasurer  
Abraham Schank, Director  
Joseph Gomes, Director  
Wade Workman, Director  
Rusty D. Jardine, Esq., District Manager &  
General Counsel

### Board Meeting

#### CURRENT CONDITIONS:

- **Truckee Div.**
  - Truckee River @ Vista gauge: 751cfs
  - Truckee Canal: Approx. 128cfs
    - Approx. 30cfs in Gilpen Spill
    - 78cfs at TC canal at Wadsworth
    - Water Master "Derby flow Target": **600.6cfs**
    - Below Derby Gauge: **1,160cfs**
    - 1.75cfs at TC canal at Hazen
- **Carson Div.**
  - Carson River @ Ft. Churchill gauge: **975cfs**
  - Lahontan Storage: **289,500** a.f.
  - Release below Lahontan: **751** cfs/ approx. 1486 a.f. at 24hrs
  - Total Inflows: **975** cfs/ approx. 1930 a.f. at 24hrs
  - Net Gain/Loss: **+444** a.f.

#### FORECASTING:

**Snow Water Equivalent percent NRCS as of May 7, 2024: Carson @ 140% of median**

#### USDA NRCS National Water & Climate Center as of May 6, 2024

- Carson R @ Ft. Churchill
  - April-JUL: 70%-140kaf
  - 50%-154kaf
  - 30%-168kaf

#### DISTRICT STATUS:

- Recent winds will require additional Burning and flushing in both Districts.
- Taking work orders for: Burn request for district ditches, tree removal, ditch repairs as well as structure & gate repairs.