LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Southern Nevada Water Authority
100 City Parkway
Las Vegas, NV
January 14, 2014
2:00 p.m.

Members Present:
Keiba Crear, *Las Vegas Valley Water District (alt. LVVWD)*
Gale Fraser, *Clark County Regional Flood Control District (CCRFCD)*
Priscilla Howell, *City of Henderson (COH)*
David Johnson, *Southern Nevada Water Authority (alt. SNWA)*
Dave Mendenhall, *City of Las Vegas (alt. CLV)*
Tom Minwegen, *Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD)*
Jane Pike, *Clark County (alt. CC)*
Reed Scheppmann, *City of North Las Vegas (CNLV)*

Also Present:
Brandon Barrow
Dave Commons
Doug Drury
Adrian Edwards
Kevin Eubanks
Dan Fischer
Laura Giuliano
Sandra Harris
Chuck Hauser
Zach Hills
Ebrahim Juma
Tom Maher
Jeff Mills
Erin Neff
Brian Oswalt
Quang Phan
Brenda Pohlmann
Peggy Roefer
Seth Shanahan
John Tennert
Andrew Trelease

1. Welcome/Call to Order
Tom Minwegen called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

2. Public Comment
Seeing no request for public comment, Tom moved forward with the meeting.

3. Introductions
Participants introduced themselves.

4. Elect Chair and Vice Chair for the Las Vegas Valley Watershed Advisory Committee
The committed retained Tom Minwegen as chair and Ron Zegers as Vice Chair.

5. Approve October 8, 2013 Meeting Summary
Motion to approve the summary passed.

6. Receive an Informational Update on Matters Related to the Las Vegas Valley Watershed Advisory Committee (LVVWAC) on Items that may appear on Future Regular Board Meetings of LVVWAC Members' Appointing Agencies

Dave Johnson reported on three items for the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA). The first item is to approve a sub-grant agreement between the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection and the SNWA to accept funding for regional water quality activities and related public outreach initiatives. The second is to award the contract for the construction of Silver Bowl and Archery Weirs, authorize a change order contingency amount and authorize the execution of the contract agreement as appropriate. The final item is to approve the second amended and rested agreement between the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and the SNWA for sharing of equipment rental, materials and subcontractors' services cost in the Las Vegas Wash (Wash).

Gale Fraser said there were no items for the Clark County Regional Flood Control District (CCRFCD); however he announced that the assistant general manager, Kevin Eubanks, would be retiring on March 6.

7. Approve the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Las Vegas Wash Operating Budget

Seth Shanahan presented. The budgeted items include equipment and materials; training, dues, safety; office lease; salaries and benefits; and research and studies. The first grouping of items presented was the research and studies projects budget. The majority of the funding for those projects comes from BOR grants ($389,000.) Other funding comes from additional grants ($56,000), and a local contribution ($10,000.) The overall budget for fiscal year 2014/2015 is $1,119,297. Of the overall budget contributions, the City of North Las Vegas (CNLV) share is $25,354; City of Henderson (COH) is $33,175; Nevada Divisions of Environmental Protection and U.S. Bureau of Land Management grants contribute $56,000; City of Las Vegas (CLV) contributes $64,193; Clark County contributes $67,430; CCRFCD contributes $67,430; Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD) contributes $146,996 and SNWA contributes $269,719. Looking forward, the goal is to maintain this budget for the next five years. There is no written commitment from BOR for their contribution; however BOR has a federal authorization of $30 million for the Wash. To date, about $20 million has been used. Once the federal budget is passed, we will know what is left for the remaining years. However the amount is not guaranteed until the budget is approved each year. Tom suggested looking at a workgroup for attracting new funds for the long-term outlook of the project. The committee approved this item.

8. Approve the 2014 Las Vegas Wash Capital Improvements Plan

Zach Hills presented the draft Las Vegas Wash Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) which will go to the SNWA Board for approval. Updates to the CIP are the project capital cost; estimated design/construction schedule; CIP total cost; cash flow forecast; priorities and the two year work plan. The original ranking criteria was established in the late 1990s/early 2000s and is still in force today. Currently, Three Kids Weir began in early 2013 and is under construction. Archery and Silver Bowl Weirs have been awarded and construction is pending. Historic Later and Sunrise Mountain Weirs are in design. The last two of the 22 proposed weirs, Tropicana and D-14 Weirs, are in planning. In comparing the 2013 CIP to the 2014 CIP, there is a 30% decrease in construction cost. In 2013 the total cost of weir construction was $54.8 million and in 2014, anticipated capital construction costs will be $45.3 million. This decrease is a result of completing several large projects and a decrease in construction bids. The projected total expenses for 2013 were $59.9 million and in 2014 are expected to total $31.1 million when adding the design, construction, revegetation and comprehensive components. Grant funding has played a major role in the success of this

program. The construction of the Three Kids Weir is expected to be entirely funded by Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) funds. To date, SNPLMA funds have provided approximately one third of the funding for capital construction with the remainder of the capital construction funded by revenues from quarter-cent sales tax. About $31.1 million will be spent in the next two years on Three Kids, Silver Bowl and Archery Weirs construction; along with Historic Lateral Expansion, Sunrise Mountain Weir, Tropicana Weir and D-14 Weir design. Revegetation and comprehensive programs associated with capital construction are also included. This is a pay-as-we-go project. Currently, sufficient funding has been identified to complete all planned capital construction by 2019. LVVWAC members approved this item.

9. Discuss the Bureau of Reclamation's Draft Directives and Standards

Peggy Roefer reported on this item. Peggy reminded the committee that this is in reference to BOR Directives and Standard (DandS) ENV-06-01. Nearly four years ago, the initial DandS was received and comments from each agency were submitted. Peggy showed those comments and the response from BOR. Basically, BOR wanted agencies to request approval for discharge into the Wash, but as each agency has National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. In fall of 2013, the DandS resurfaced, incorporating the NPDES along with requests for information on water samples, monitoring reports and written notifications of any failure to compliance. In addition, a discharger would be responsible for potential effects of downstream pollutants and any additional fees connected with permit work. CLV contacted BOR during the federal government shutdown to request an extension for comments and arrange a conference call. The two main terms needing to be defined were "project water" and "BOR facilities." Agencies combined and submitted in writing their understanding of the conference call and those comments were noted in the presentation. In short, the Wash is not a BOR facility, but Lake Mead is; however BOR does own land in the Wash and Henderson area. For wastewater dischargers, CNLV, CLV and CC, the DandS does not apply because they do not directly discharge into Lake Mead, but indirectly through the Wash. In addition, the discharged water is considered project water. The COH does discharge to BOR land, however because it is project water the DandS does not apply. Project water is defined as any water that BOR accounts for, which is return flow credits. SNWA had concerns because of their ability to discharge directly into Lake Mead, but because it is project water, the DandS did not apply. As a result, BOR validated in writing the intent of the DandS; CLV and SNWA withdrew their request for extension and COH, CLV and CNLV sent a letter to BOR restating their position.

10. Receive Presentation from the Wastewater Dischargers Regarding Past and Future Activities and Possible Implications for the Las Vegas Wash

Tom introduced the presentation as part of a series of information sharing items on issues within the watershed. The LVVWAC is a result of agency discussions on the Wash, Wastewater and Water Reuse (W3) process. As staff changes, the need to maintain the foundational purposes of the committee are necessary. Dave Mendenhall began the presentation with a history of wastewater in Las Vegas. Notable pre-SNWA events are the first treatment plant built in 1931; CLV began discharging directly into the Wash in 1956; Sewage and Wastewater Advisory Committee (SWAC) organized in 1973; CCRFCD created in 1985 and SNWA formed in 1991. Post-SNWA events include NPDES permit issued in 1992; COH began discharging into the Wash in 1995; LVWCC established in 1998; Systems Conveyance and Operations Program (SCOP) initiated in 2002; W3 planning began in 2004;

LVVWAC formed in 2007; SCOP project terminated in 2011; CNLV began discharging into Sloan Channel in 2011. Currently, CLNV operates one facility with an average capacity of 25 million gallons per day (mgd) and current flow of 17 mgd; CLV has three facilities, Water Pollution Control Facility with a capacity of 91 mgd and current flow of 30 mgd, Durango Hills Water Resource Center has a capacity of 10 mgd and current flow of 4.5 mgd, and Bonanza Mojave Water Resource Center has a capacity of 1 mgd and current flow of 1 mgd; the CCWRD has two facilities, the Flamingo Water Resource Center with capacity of 150 mgd and current flow of 96 mgd and the Desert Breeze Water Resource Center with a capacity of 5 mgd and currently flow of 5 mgd; the COH has two facilities, the Kurt R. Segler Water Reclamation Facility with a capacity of 32 mgd and currently flow of 20 mgd and Southwest Water Reclamation Facility has a capacity of 8 mgd and current flow of 4 mgd. Wastewater is discharged to the sanitary sewer from residences, hotels, restaurants, businesses and industries. These plants do not treat stormwater. Sanitary sewers and storm sewers are separate. Stormwater and urban run-off travel to the Wash and Lake Mead untreated. All wastewater discharged to the sanitary sewers in the Las Vegas Valley is reclaimed. Most of the discharge is returned to Lake Mead and the Colorado River system with a gain of return flow credits; however, some is directly reused by local golf courses, parks and industries. Therefore, reuse makes sense in many situations, although it is not water conservation.

Each discharge agency had a representative to present on the specifics of their facilities. Dave Commons presented for CNLV. That facility opened in June 2011 on leased Nellis Air Force Base land near Carey and Nellis. It is a state of the art membrane bioreactor (MBR)/enhanced biological nutrient removal for nitrogen and phosphorus process. It is the second largest wastewater MBR plant in the United States and third largest in the world. The effluent is discharged to the Wash via the Sloan Channel and solids are dewatered and sent to the Apex Landfill for disposal. Dave Mendenhall, CLV, reported that the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) is located at East Valley View and the Wash. Most of the effluent flows into the Wash, with some effluent directly reused by area golf courses and industries. The Durango Hills Water Resource Center is located on Durango just north of Cheyenne. The effluent flows go to northwest golf courses and solids are returned to the sanitary sewer for removal at the WPCF. The last facility is the Bonanza Mojave Water Resource Center, which is located on Mojave just north of Bonanza. Effluent flows go solely to the Desert Pines Golf Course and solids are returned to the sanitary sewer for removal at the WPCF. Tom Minwegen described the CCWRD facilities. The Flamingo Water Resource Center is on the east end of Flamingo and discharges the most effluent to the Wash. Desert Breeze Water Resource Center is on Flamingo just east of Durango, with all effluent flows going to southwest area golf courses. That facility was a joint venture with the Las Vegas Valley Water District. In addition there are treatment facilities outside the Las Vegas valley in Laughlin, Seachlight, Blue Diamond, Moapa Valley and Indian Springs. CCWRD's collection system includes 2,070 miles of sanitary sewers, 2,030 miles of gravity pipe, 40 miles of pressurized pipe and 26 lift stations. Adrian Edwards shared information on the COH system. The Kurt R. Segler Water Reclamation facility is the primary wastewater treatment plant, constructed in 1994 and expanded in 2008. Located at the east end of Galleria Drive and Pabco Road, over half of the effluent is directly reused on golf courses during summer months. Most of the effluent is discharged to the Wash during winter months. The Southwest Water Reclamation Facility is a satellite scalping facility. Effluent from that site is directly reclaimed on golf courses and solids are returned to the sewer for removal at the Kurt

R. Segler plant. That collection system is 965 miles of sanitary sewers, 16 sanitary sewer lift stations and more than 22,000 sanitary sewer manholes.

All of the plants operate within the NPDES discharge permit limits and engage in direct reuse. The financial models and funding sources for all four facilities include connection charges, sewer service charges and proceeds from the quarter-cent sales tax distribution. Challenges that every facility faces include regulation changes, aging infrastructure, downstream users, collection system bottlenecks and labor issues relating to retirement and knowledge retention.

11. Set Next Meeting Date and Propose Items for the Next Meeting's Agenda

The next meeting will be held February 11 at SNWA. At that meeting there will be a presentation on the water portion of the W3 process.

12. Public Comment

There were no comments. Meeting adjourned.