

# LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Southern Nevada Water Authority  
100 City Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV  
April 14, 2015  
2:00 p.m.

Members Present: Randall DeVaul, *City of North Las Vegas (CNLV)*  
Dan Fischer, *Clark County Water Reclamation District (alt. CCWRD)*  
Priscilla Howell, *City of Henderson (COH)*  
Dave Johnson, *Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD)*  
Zane Marshall, *Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA)*  
Dave Mendenhall, *City of Las Vegas (CLV)*  
Steve Parrish, *Clark County Regional Flood Control District (CCRFCD)*  
Jane Pike, *Clark County (alt. CC)*

Also Present: Keiba Crear  
Adrian Edwards  
Kevin Fisher  
Sandra Harris  
Chuck Hauser  
Gerry Hester  
Zach Hills  
Ebrahim Juma  
Lisa Luptowitz  
Peggy Roefer  
Tim Sutko  
Todd Tietjen  
Andrew Trelease  
Kent Turner

**1. Welcome/Call to Order**

Zane Marshall called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. Public Comment**

Seeing no request for public comment, Zane moved forward with the meeting.

**3. Introductions**

Participants introduced themselves.

**4. Approve February 25, 2015 Meeting Summary**

Motion to approve the summary passed.

**5. 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**

The April meeting for the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Board will be a budget workshop. Other items pertaining to the LVVWAC include an agreement between the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and water agencies for conservation of the Colorado River and an agreement with the Moapa Band of Paiutes for surface water rights on the Muddy River.

Priscilla Howell stated that the City of Henderson will have the agenda item for the increase associated with SNWA's low lake level pump station on a future agenda.

**6. Receive Update On Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems (MS 4) Program Audit and Results**

Steve Parrish, Clark County Regional Flood Control District (CCRFC), reported that this item is still in progress. The LVVWAC agreed to bring this item back on a later agenda.

**7. Receive an Information Report Concerning the Microcystis Issues Being Experienced in Lake Mead**

Todd Tietjen, SNWA, presented. Microcystis has usually appeared during later summer, peaked in the fall and decreased during the winter. This year, microcystis did not disappear and has been seen in high concentrations in both lakes Mead and Mojave in a variety of locations. However, from the time of the discovery until now, it would be difficult to categorize conditions in both locations as a bloom. Todd informed the LVVWAC of problems with the water supply in Toledo, Ohio, last year that resulted from the toxin microcystin caused by microcystis. This toxin can cause humans to get sick from contact or ingestion and can be fatal to pets and livestock. All indications are that the species here is *Microcystis wesenbergii*, which is not a toxin producer. However, samples of an active, abundant population are needed to ensure correct identification of the species. After detections by City of Las Vegas (CLV) and Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LMNRA) staff on March 10 and by CLV staff again on March 11, along with observations at Lake Havasu by Central Arizona Project staff on March 12, fact sheets were developed by SNWA and LMNRA. LMNRA also issued an advisory on contact with the water. The microcystis on Lake Mead is not a significant threat to the drinking water supply because it is not an actual "bloom" and it hasn't reached any of the intakes. As of March 16, there were reports of microcystis as far as Yuma. Since late March, overall conditions in lakes Mead and Mohave appear to have improved and SNWA has not detected microcystin in any of the more recent samples. Nonetheless, there is a definite need to identify the species of microcystis and to continue looking for its presence at the lakes.

**8. Approve Letter of Support for the Lower Las Vegas Wash Stabilization Program and Discuss Potential Legislative Strategies**

Keiba Crear distributed a copy of the letter along with backup information. A copy will be sent to Patrick Gubbins rather than Bill Dickinson as he is now the acting superintendent for the LMNRA. This item passed with the noted change.

**9. Approve 2014 LVVWAC Accomplishments Document**

Peggy Roefer noted that members received this item by email prior to the meeting. This item was passed by LVVWAC members.

**10. Review and Discuss the LVVWAC Goals and Strategies and Prioritize Actions**

Zane led the discussion on this item. On Goal 2, the words "water quality" will be removed from the goal statement and on Goal 3, the words "and enhance" will be left in the goal statement. Under that goal, the second strategy is to "minimize and mitigate impacts to cultural and historic values." The group restructured Tactic 2 to read "mitigate unavoidable cultural resource impacts in accordance with local, state and federal regulations." The third strategy is to "endeavor to prevent and control invasive species." Tactic 1 under that strategy

will now read “monitor the effects from quagga mussels on water quality to understand the impacts of changes in water quality and infrastructure in Lake Mead.” Tactic 3 will be removed and Tactic 4 will read “continue to coordinate with other agencies on invasive species in the Southwest through interagency efforts.” Strategy 4 will now read “support recreational values and other water dependent wildlife.” Tactic 1 will read “manage water quality and nutrient inputs to support appropriate levels of algae and zooplankton to maintain forage production in Lake Mead.” Tactic 2 will be removed. Tactic 3 will read “continue to meet established full body contact water quality standards at Lake Mead.” Tactic 4 will now read “support research of water quality impacts on fish and wildlife populations.” At the request of Jane Pike, Clark County, Zane directed staff to develop tactics to address trash that accumulates after a flood at various locations along the Wash. The LVVWAC agreed to all of the proposed changes.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2015 and will be a longer meeting to cover the remaining goals and strategies. Steve Parrish introduced Tim Sutko, Deputy General Manager, CCRFCD as the alternate for that agency.

**12. Public Comment**

There were no comments. Meeting adjourned.