

**SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER 9:00 a.m., Board Chambers, Southern Nevada Water Authority,
100 City Parkway, Seventh Floor, Las Vegas, Nevada

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Chair
Dan Stewart, Vice Chair
Claudia Bridges
Cedric Crear
Justin Jones
John Lee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Jim Gibson

STAFF PRESENT John Entsminger, Julie Wilcox, Dave Johnson, Greg Walch, Kevin Bethel,
Colby Pellegrino, Zane Marshall

OTHERS PRESENT

Unless otherwise indicated, all members present voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

For complete comments, audio is available online at snwa.com

Mona Lisa Samuelson spoke concerning medical cannabis industry safety. A copy of her comments are attached to these minutes.

ITEM NO.

1. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve agenda with the inclusion of tabled and/or reconsidered items, emergency items and/or deletion of items, and approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 18, 2019.

FINAL ACTION: Vice Chair Stewart made a motion to approve the agenda for this meeting, and to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 18, 2019. The motion was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign the Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement between the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation and the Authority for sharing of equipment rental, materials and subcontractor service costs in the Las Vegas Wash for an amount not to exceed \$900,000.
3. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign a joint funding agreement between the U.S. Geological Survey and the Authority for hydrologic data collection for an amount not to exceed \$155,640.
4. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign a right-of-way grant renewal offered by the Bureau of Land Management for evapotranspiration monitoring sites on public lands in White Pine and Nye counties, Nevada, approve payment of annual rental fees totaling \$2,602 for 2018 and 2019, and authorize the General Manager to continue payment of annual rental fees for the duration of this right-of-way grant.
5. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign two right-of-way grant renewals offered by the Bureau of Land Management for groundwater monitoring and test well sites on public lands in White Pine and Lincoln counties, Nevada, approve payment of combined annual rental fees for 2019 of \$366, and authorize the General Manager to continue payment of annual rental fees for the duration of these right-of-way grants.
6. ***For Possible Action:*** Ratify the approval of a subgrant agreement between the Nevada Division of Forestry and the Authority for Wetlands Park Salt Cedar Eradication, receive funding in the amount of \$62,000, and authorize the General Manager to approve future modifications only if the future modifications do not fiscally impact the Authority.

7. ***For Possible Action:*** Ratify the approval of a subaward agreement between the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the Authority for participation in a National Science Foundation research project titled, “CRISP 2.0 Type 1: Interdependent Water Infrastructure in a Potable Reuse System,” receive funding in the amount of \$131,945, and authorize the General Manager to approve future modifications only if the future modifications do not fiscally impact the Authority.
8. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign an assistance agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Authority to support the Colorado River Traveling Exhibition, Phase II Development, sign any modifications as defined in the agreement, and accept grant funding up to \$448,818.

FINAL ACTION: Director Jones made a motion to approve staff’s recommendations. The motion was approved.

BUSINESS AGENDA

9. ***For Possible Action:*** Authorize the General Manager to file appeals to the Office of Hearings and Appeals to preserve the Authority’s economic interests on grazing permit renewals issued by the Bureau of Land Management for livestock grazing on the Wilson Creek Allotment.

Greg Walch, General Counsel, said that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) had indicated that a pending decision by the BLM may reduce the Authority’s grazing permit amounts by as much as 50 percent. Staff recommended that the Authority appeal the decision.

FINAL ACTION: Vice Chair Stewart made a motion to approve staff’s recommendation. The motion was approved.

10. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, an agreement between LightRiver Technologies, Inc., and the Authority to provide technical services for modernization and replacement of aged telecommunications equipment that supports water system reliability in an amount not to exceed \$2,300,000.

FINAL ACTION: Director Jones made a motion to approve staff’s recommendation. The motion was approved.

11. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, an agreement between Black & Veatch Corporation and the Authority to provide professional engineering services for the Southern System Expansion Feasibility Study for an amount not to exceed \$7,850,700.

John Entsminger, General Manager, said that the Authority needed to begin evaluating the expansion of the southern portion of its system. The proposed item is the first step in evaluating the Authority’s options of that potential expansion.

FINAL ACTION: Director Crear made a motion to approve staff’s recommendation. The motion was approved.

12. ***For Possible Action:*** Adopt a resolution directing the payment, cancelation and/or defeasance of the Southern Nevada Water Authority Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2009, with a principal balance of \$35,525,000.

FINAL ACTION: Director Lee made a motion to approve staff’s recommendation. The motion was approved.

13. ***For Possible Action:*** Authorize additional funding to support Water Utility Climate Alliance initiatives that will enhance the Authority’s understanding and adaptability to climate change for an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

Zane Marshall, Director of Resources and Facilities, said that the Authority had been a founding member the Water Utility Climate Alliance (WUCA), which was formed in 2007. He summarized past projects and studies conducted by WUCA and its members, and he gave an overview of future initiatives. Collaborative efforts, like WUCA, are an essential part of solving the climate challenge. By leveraging resources, WUCA provides tremendous value to the Authority at a relatively low cost.

Director Jones said that he looked forward to future discussions and collaborations to address climate change.

Director Crear asked for clarification as to what would be funded if the proposed item was approved. Mr. Marshall said that the amount reflected the Authority’s portion to fund future climate studies and projects by WUCA and its members.

FINAL ACTION: Director Jones made a motion to approve staff’s recommendation. The motion was approved.

14. ***For Information Only:*** Receive an update from staff on water resources including, but not limited to, drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin, conservation programs and activities, activities on the Colorado River, water resource acquisition and development and the status of construction activities near Lake Mead.

Colby Pellegrino, Director of Water Resources, gave a presentation on water resources and conservation. A copy of her presentation is attached to these minutes.

Dave Johnson, Deputy General Manager – Engineering and Operations, gave a presentation on the construction status of the Low Lake Level Pumping Station. A copy of his presentation is attached to these minutes.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

Public Comment

Mona Lisa Samuelson spoke concerning medical cannabis industry safety.

Based on a question of clarification by Director Lee, Chair Kirkpatrick asked General Counsel to summarize the need for board-approved action prior to filing appeals. Mr. Walch said that a decision by the Nevada Supreme Court established that boards, such as the Authority's, needed to provide approval prior to staff filing appeals.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Copies of all original agenda items and minutes, including all attachments, are on file in the General Manager's office at the Las Vegas Valley Water District, 1001 South Valley View Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada.