

## **LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Virtual Meeting Conducted via Microsoft Teams

April 13, 2021

2:00 p.m.

### **Members Present:**

Tom Brady, *City of North Las Vegas (CNLV)*  
Mark Dunbar, *City of Las Vegas (CLV)*  
Daniel Hernandez, *Clark County (CC, alt.)*  
Priscilla Howell, *City of Henderson (COH)*  
Zane Marshall, *Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA)*  
Tom Minwegen, *Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD)*  
Steve Parrish, *Clark County Regional Flood Control District (CCRFCD)*  
Colby Pellegrino, *Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD)*

### **Also Present:**

Jason Bailey	John Solvie
Elizabeth Bickmore	John Tennert
Keiba Crear	Andrew Trelease
Richard Donahue	Debbie Van Dooremolen
Adrian Edwards	Matthew Wilkinson
Dan Fischer	Dan Ybarra
Joemel Llamado	Xiaoping Zhou
Ryan Pearson	

### **1. Welcome/Call to Order**

Priscilla Howell called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

### **2. Public Comment**

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

### **3. Introductions**

Roll call was taken; attendees are listed above.

### **4. Approve February 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes passed.

### **5. Receive an Information Update on Items Related to the Las Vegas Valley Watershed Advisory Committee (LVVWAC) that May Appear on Future Regular Board Meetings of LVVWAC Members' Appointing Agencies**

Zane Marshall stated that the Las Vegas Wash (Wash) interlocal agreement will go before the SNWA Board of Directors on May 20. Ryan Pearson stated that the Las Vegas Wash Capital Improvements Plan (Wash CIP) and the Lower Las Vegas Wash (Lower Wash) engineering agreement will also go before the SNWA board on May 20. Priscilla stated that COH will take the Wash interlocal agreement to its board meeting in June, Steve Parrish stated that the agreement will also be taken to the CCRFCD board in June and Tom Brady stated that the agreement will be taken to CNLV for approval on May 19.

**6. Review and Approve the 2021 Wash CIP**

Ryan Pearson presented the 2021 Wash CIP. The annual Wash CIP revision includes the estimated project capital cost, estimated design and construction schedules, total costs, cash flow forecasts, priority-based scoring system, a two-year outlook and pay-as-we-go financial plan. The only project that remains in the CIP is the final weir modifications to prepare for long-term operation and maintenance, and is slated to be completed in mid-2022. The plan forecasts spending \$5.5 million over the next two years for channel stabilization, revegetation, comprehensive programs and interest expense. The pay-as-we-go plan will spend \$5.5 million and is expected to bring in \$9.8 million in sales tax revenue, resulting in a projected revenue excess of \$4.3 million. The motion to approve the Wash CIP passed.

**7. Receive an Update from the Wastewater Dischargers**

Dan Fischer provided CCWRD's wastewater discharger update. Dan began by showing a graph of the monthly averages of influent flow percentages for all wastewater dischargers throughout the valley for the past 20 years. He showed a decrease in influent flows due to the shutdowns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and noted that in April 2020, the influent flows were similar to flows back in December 2011. There was a 7 million gallons per day (MGD) decrease in flows from all dischargers combined in 2020, which represents approximately 4 percent. The flow of biochemical oxygen demand decreased 31 percent in March 2020, when compared to March 2019; there were also significant decreases in total suspended solids, phosphorus and ammonia-nitrogen. CCWRD plans to spend approximately \$920 million over the next five years on plant design and construction, expansions, treatment upgrades, rehabilitations, small systems, reclaimed/reuse projects and other capital projects. Dan discussed the demolition of the advanced water treatment (AWT) facility at a cost of \$50 million, expansion to the preliminary and primary treatment plant at a cost of \$140 million and upgrades to the secondary treatment facility at a cost of \$150 million.

Adrian Edwards presented COH's wastewater discharger update. He reported on significant achievements in 2020, including 9 billion gallons of wastewater treated with 2.5 billion gallons of reclaimed water delivered and no permit violations. He also reported that COH has received the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) Platinum Award for 16 years. He highlighted a few operations projects, including the installation of a low energy advance performance membrane aeration system, the upgrade to a lift station, the beginning of the expansion of the Segler Water Reclamation Facility and improvements to their supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) security and emergency preparations. Upcoming opportunities for COH this year include growth in plant capacity expansions, rehabilitation of aging facilities and training of new staff members.

Mark Dunbar presented CLV's wastewater discharger update. The City of Las Vegas Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) has the capacity to treat 43 MGD, reuse from the facility is diverted to three golf courses and the WPCF is a 3 mega-watt solar site. He also mentioned that the Durango Hills Water Resource Center is currently on a 24-month shut down for maintenance. He stated that CLV's collection system is comprised of 1,854 miles of pipelines with more than 43,000 manholes. Capital improvement projects include rehabilitation in the digester, the biological nutrient remover, dewatering and filtration, a replacement of the process blower and improvements to site security. He discussed CLV's renewable efforts including the sale of renewable natural gas and beneficial use from sludge hauling.

Dan Ybarra presented CNLV's wastewater discharger update. He reported that the water reclamation facility is a 25 MGD facility (currently treating 18 MGD) and will celebrate 10 years since its opening in June. He reported on CNLV's capital improvement projects which include a sludge conveyance upgrade at a cost of \$1.7 million, recoating the membrane basin at a cost of \$3.5-4 million, replacing the membrane at a cost of \$19.2 million, updating and reinforcing the Sloan Channel and construction of the flow equalization basin at a cost of \$9 million.

**8. Receive a Legislative Update**

Dan provided an update on two legislative assembly bills, AB97 and AB146. He stated that AB97 is sponsored by Natural Resources Committee (NRC) Chair Howard Watts. The intent is to reduce per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) pollution in Nevada's waters. The dischargers wrote a letter to Chair Watts and the amended bill focuses on source control and requires a PFAS workgroup. The amended bill was passed by the NRC along party lines. Zane asked to what extent is PFAS an issue in southern Nevada. Dan Fisher responded that PFAS is not a big issue in southern Nevada nor statewide, as concentrations are fairly low. AB146 is sponsored by Assemblywoman Sarah Peters. The intent is to reduce diffuse source pollution in Nevada's waters. The dischargers and CCRFCD wrote a letter and provided input, and the amended bill removed the water quality standards and bond requirements, and removed/amended the diffuse source language of primary concern. CCWRD and CCRFCD were neutral towards the amended bill. The amended bill was passed by the NRC along party lines.

**9. Receive an Update from Members and Staff Regarding Water Resources, Stormwater, Wastewater, and Water Quality, Including but Not Limited to Regulations, Permitting and Status of the Lower Wash**

Ryan Pearson provided an update on the Lower Wash stabilization plan. He began with background and historical information about the Lower Wash and stated that it has experienced high rates of erosion and channel degradation due to declining lake levels. He stated that proposed activities to stabilize the streambed are imperative to protecting existing infrastructure and include constructing six additional erosion control structures and realigning/reconstructing Drops 2 and 3. As of 2020, the seven-year construction schedule, with an additional three years for revegetation, is projected to cost \$127 million, with the vast majority being used for weir design and construction, and will be primarily funded through quarter-cent sales tax revenues. The National Park Service will contribute \$6.1 million in Southern Nevada Public Land Management (SNPLMA) funding and will oversee long-term maintenance and operation of the structures once completed. SNWA will lead the design and construction of the Lower Wash erosion control structures. He stated that current status includes negotiations with Atkins for design services, and that aerial survey work is underway.

Tom Brady mentioned that CNLV recently implemented a surcharge program with pretreatment and a changed municipal code with tier one industrial users.

Steve Parrish mentioned that CCRFCD received a draft of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the state for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program and has distributed it out to all agencies and will be working with staff to review the permit.

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

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 13, 2021. The following meeting on October 19, 2021 will include the Clark County Wetlands Park update and the regional water quality update.

**11. Public Comment**

There were no comments. Meeting adjourned.