

**SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER 9:02 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Chair
Scott Black
Olivia Diaz (by telephone)
Jim Gibson
Justin Jones
Steve Walton

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Dan Stewart, Vice Chair

STAFF PRESENT John Entsminger, Dave Johnson, Doa Ross, Greg Walch, and Kevin Bethel

OTHERS PRESENT None

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

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

For full public comment, visit snwa.com/apps/snwa-agendas/index.cfm

There were no speakers.

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 20, 2023.
- FINAL ACTION: Director Gibson made a motion to approve the agenda for this meeting, and to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 20, 2023. The motion was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA Items 2 – 9 are routine and can be taken in one motion unless a Director requests that an item be taken separately.

2. ***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 \$196,746.
3. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant proposal to the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Nevada Water Conservation and Infrastructure Initiative grant program to seek funding for the Authority's Septic System Conversion Program, and, if awarded, authorize the General Manager or his designee to enter into any future funding agreement for the project.
4. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant proposal to the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Nevada Water Conservation and Infrastructure Initiative grant program to seek funding for the Authority's Water Efficient Technologies Program, and, if awarded, authorize the General Manager or his designee to enter into any future funding agreement for the project.
5. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant proposal to the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Nevada Water Conservation and Infrastructure Initiative grant program to seek funding for the Authority's Water Smart Landscapes Program, and, if awarded, authorize the General Manager or his designee to enter into any future funding agreement for the project.
6. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant proposal to the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Nevada Water Conservation and Infrastructure Initiative grant program to seek funding for the Authority's Calico Ridge Rate of Flow Control Station, and, if awarded, authorize the General Manager or his designee to enter into any future funding agreement for the project.

7. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to enter into an assistance agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Authority for a septic conversion project, accept funding in the amount of \$1,747,500, provide a matching contribution of up to \$1,747,500, and authorize the General Manager to approve future modifications to the assistance agreement if the future modifications do not fiscally impact the Authority.
8. ***For Possible Action:*** Ratify the execution of a Subgrant Award Agreement between the Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Authority to accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$3,119,500 to construct a buried water pipeline for raw water from existing Lake Mead intake facilities to the Nevada Department of Wildlife Fish Hatchery and authorize the General Manager to approve future modifications that do not impact the Authority.
9. ***For Possible Action:*** Adopt a resolution clarifying and expanding the administrative authority of the General Manager and his designees, and ratifying previous action taken in accordance therewith.

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

BUSINESS AGENDA

10. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, an interlocal agreement between the City of North Las Vegas and the Authority to convert more than 2.4 million square feet of cool season turfgrass to warm season turfgrass through the Authority's Water Efficient Technologies Program, for an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

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

11. ***For Possible Action:*** Award a bid for the purchase of data center communications room equipment to Leading Edge Design Group Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,041,783 and authorize the General Manager, or designee, to sign the purchase agreement.

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

12. ***For Possible Action:*** Award a contract for the installation of electrical equipment to Lakeland Electric, Inc., in the amount of \$1,198,714, authorize a change order contingency amount not to exceed \$110,000, and authorize the General Manager to sign the construction agreement.

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

13. ***For Possible Action:*** Ratify the Authority's intervention in Public Utility Commission Docket 23-06007, Nevada Energy's General Rate Application case, and authorize its continued participation in the matter.

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

14. ***For Information Only:*** Receive a presentation on the collaboration among Las Vegas Grand Prix, Inc., WaterStart Channels for Innovation, MGM Resorts International and the Authority.

Dave Johnson, Deputy General Manager – Operations, gave a presentation regarding the collaboration. A copy of his presentation is attached to these minutes. Director Jones asked if the pilot project could be replicated at other properties with evaporative cooling. Mr. Johnson confirmed the pilot was meant to test the technology in the hopes that it could be implemented more widely. Director Gibson said that he was anticipating the results of the pilot project as a means to save water while mitigating the potential costs of converting evaporative cooling to mechanical cooling at existing facilities.

Chair Kirkpatrick invited Pilar Harris, Formula 1, to comment on the project. Ms. Harris said that the Las Vegas Grand Prix was excited to participate in the pilot project as way to support the community and as an example to F1 promoters throughout the world.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

15. ***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 initiatives, activities on the Colorado River, and water resource acquisition and development.

John Entsminger, General Manager, gave an update on water resources and conservation initiatives. A copy of his presentation is attached to these minutes. Director Walton asked if there was any evidence that water waste investigations lead to reductions in water use. Mr. Entsminger said that water waste investigations lead to greater compliance with the

watering schedule, which in turn saves water. He said that just having water waste investigators patrolling neighborhoods increased compliance, as residents were reminded to change their watering clocks. Director Walton asked if staff had contemplated additional incentives to encourage residents to convert grass to water smart landscaping. Mr. Entsminger said that staff was contemplating additional conservation incentives to be brought back to the Board at a future meeting, including increasing incentives for residents to convert functional grass to water smart landscaping, but also decreasing incentive amounts for properties holding on to non-functional grass. He said that with the approaching deadline of 2027 established by the Legislature for the removal of non-functional grass, there was less of a need to provide financial incentive to convert non-functional grass since it would be prohibited by law.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

Public Comment

Michael Parra spoke concerning AB220 and its relation to the real estate market. He also submitted written comments for the record.

Walter Seip spoke concerning HOA landscaping requirements. He also submitted written comments for the record.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 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.