

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2009 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Randy Pahl
Vice Chairperson Paul Pugsley
Member Dan Greytak
Member Bradley Kosch
Member Mark McCubbin
Member Ernie Rink
Member Lacy Sheck

STAFF: Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Juan Guzman, Open Space/Property Manager
Jano Barnhurst, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the Committee's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting is a public record, on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office. These materials are available during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER (5:30:56) - Chairperson Pahl called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:31:01) - Roll was called; a quorum was present.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENIZED ITEMS (5:31:22) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:31:35) - Member Kosch moved to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2009 meeting. Member Sheck seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:31:50) - None.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING CARSON CITY'S EFFORTS TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (*Margie Evans*) (5:31:59) - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Ms. Evans narrated a PowerPoint presentation which is incorporated into the record. She mentioned that they are watching for Medusahead, Dalmatian Toadflax and Leafy Spurge and areas of concern include the Carson River Corridor and upland areas. She advised that they received \$12,000 from the Carson Water Subconservancy District; \$10,350 from BLM; and \$5,256 from the Nevada Department of Agriculture to help treat the areas. She explained the Carson River Weed Track and Attack and discussed funding sources. Through the ARRA Stimulus

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Project, they are working on Perennial Pepperweed, Russian Knapweed, Canada Thistle, Hoary Cress and Poison Hemlock.

In response to a question, Ms. Evans replied that they know the areas needing attention and stimulus crews are using GPS units to map the areas they are working. Three different weed treatments for Hoary Cress were tried along the river and they would do more if money allowed. Chairperson Pahl acknowledged seeing large areas on the east side of the river and hopes that the Habitat Conservation Plan will help obtain money for additional program needs. In response to a question, Ms. Evans requested anyone seeing noxious weeds to contact her at the Cooperative Extension office. In response to another question, she replied that there are a few chemicals that kill everything as well as desirable plants but some chemicals are more effective on particular plants. She explained that Telar is used to treat Perennial Pepperweed, and Milestone and Tordon are used to treat Russian Knapweed. Tordon is a restricted use chemical while Milestone and Telar are not. In response to another question, she replied that Milestone is purchased in a liquid form in quart containers from Crop Production Services. Telar is a powder form and Garlon is powder or liquid. Milestone costs \$100 per quart and six ounces will treat an acre. She explained that Telar isn't as expensive but choosing a chemical based on cost isn't her prime concern as she wants to initially treat as much as possible.

In response to a question, Ms. Evans replied that when funds are low, a contractor is hired who bills at the appropriate rate. She explained that crews are paid by stimulus money through the Department of Agriculture and do things not normally done without a volunteer force. They are paid \$10 per hour and the crew leader earns \$17. In response to another question, she replied that convict labor is used when possible but a prison crew is \$600 per day, so she weighs the options of putting down chemical vs. paying a crew. In response to another question, she acknowledged that a prison crew is twelve people and the biggest expenses are travel time and paying a supervisor. Chairperson Pahl thanked her for the update.

3-B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE STATUS OF A TRANSACTION WITH MR. JOHN SERPA, MR. JAMES JARRARD, AND MR. DONALD BENTLY FOR PROPERTIES ALONG THE CARSON RIVER CORRIDOR (Juan Guzman)

(5:55:42) - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report which is incorporated into the record. He gave background information and explained that Q-1 awards were received towards the purchase of the Jarrard and Serpa properties but the owners believe the appraisals don't equal their properties' value so the transactions may not be completed by the December deadline. The Bently property was nominated under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA). He suggested that State Lands be notified of Carson City's other projects for which the monies can be used, namely the Bently property. He advised that the award for the Jarrard property is \$3 million and \$500,000 for the Serpa property. He also advised that approximately 15 acres of Serpa property and 25 acres of Bently property could be taken by the V&T. The appraiser determined that the value of the take and damage to the property are high and recommended that the V&T purchase the entire ownership.

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In response to a series of questions, Mr. Guzman replied that the Bently property was appraised for \$1.6 million in 2007 for 405 acres and the appraisal of the 25 acre take is about \$1 million. He would still apply for SNPLMA money and the 'three pots of money' are used to the best extent possible. He explained that the letter to State Lands has not yet been written but it would request that the monies be kept around the Carson river. He reiterated that they tried to determine the value of Serpa's property but he wasn't satisfied with it. If progress can be shown by December, they will be able to keep the grants.

In response to another series of questions, Mr. Guzman replied that CRAC is the custodian of the river and a letter to other advisory committees will show this is a priority. He explained that if neither project moves forward, there would be \$3 million from Jarrard and \$500,000 from Serpa available for State Lands' use. The V&T doesn't have right of way and will have to work with the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to determine how to obtain it. He explained that the transaction is taking place because the properties have been prioritized for acquisition through the Open Space Master Plan. He acknowledged that the letter is clear that the monies will no longer be available if they can't be used reasonably quickly. Vice Chairperson Pugsley mentioned that CRAC played a strong role in focusing on these properties along the river and it's realistic to ask them to confirm that it is still a priority.

In response to another question, Mr. Guzman replied that the BOS would ultimately make the request to State Lands who will also take into consideration the approval of the other committees. Chairperson Pahl entertained a motion. **Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to authorize the Chairman to draft and sign a letter to the other advisory committees and the Board of Supervisors requesting that funds presently awarded for Carson City projects be reauthorized for other Carson City projects within the scope of the priorities established at the beginning of this exercise.** In response to a question, Mr. Guzman replied that the letter won't yet be sent to State Lands as they are hoping to complete the transaction. **Member Kosch seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.**

3-C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING CARSON CITY'S NOMINATIONS FOR THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT ROUND 11 GRANTS; PARKS, TRAILS, AND NATURAL AREAS; TO EITHER IMPROVE OR ACQUIRE LANDS FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (*Juan Guzman*) (6:20:47) - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report which is incorporated into the record. He reported that due to the short time frame and not wanting to lose the opportunity, the Bently property was nominated but in the future, CRAC will be asked for project ideas. He explained that this funding allows for building as well as purchasing land and water rights; trail development; parks and facilities. A concern regarding the Serpa and Bently properties is mercury contamination but maintaining it as open space would retain cultural resources and keep it from being destroyed. The V&T wants to obtain right of way to these properties for exclusive issue. Another concern is providing safety and two crossings are planned to provide access from the top once a road is developed. He referred to a map of the Bently property in relation to the landfill, Deer Run Road, existing road and river corridor explaining that a flat area contains approximately 35 acres of riparian zone and wetlands adjacent to the river.

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In response to a question, Mr. Guzman replied that the V&T has a gate at the end of the existing trail at the boundary of the Bently property. When the V&T gains more right of way, they will continue to move the no access and the only legal way of motorized use will be after crossing a V&T designated place. He again referred to a map of the Bently property explaining that the main road will no longer be available. He recommended motorized access for administrative personnel and emergency vehicles only but they would also work to create trails to facilitate other modes of transportation.

3-D. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING STATUS OF SECTION 2601 OMNIBUS PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2009 (FEDERAL LANDS BILL) FOR CARSON CITY (Juan Guzman) (6:35:57) - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report which is incorporated into the record. He reported that the first official action will be to offer lands in Ash Canyon to the Forest Service but an easement needs to be created and title issues resolved. He explained that the sale of the land near Costco and two small properties next to Centennial Park should generate funds to be used for other properties.

3-E. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE SUCCESS OF THE CARSON RIVER WORK AND EDUCATION DAY (ALSO KNOWN AS "RIVERFEST 2009") WHICH WAS HELD ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009 (Randy Pahl/Dan Greytak) (6:39:38) - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item stating that he was impressed by the attendance and the event was made possible by the Chamber of Commerce (COC). He noted that the ROTC did a huge amount of tree wrapping and a substantial amount of tree painting was done as well. Member Greytak thanked the Parks Department for their operating equipment and noted they were very conscientious and cooperative. He advised that the log house was torn down which eliminated a hazard. He commented on it being an excellent day with beautiful weather. Mr. Krahn gave kudos to the Nevada Appeal for their coverage of the event.

3-F. UPDATE ONLY REGARDING THE MORGAN MILL ROAD RIVER ACCESS AREA PROJECT (Vern Krahn) (6:45:22) - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report which is incorporated into the record. He noted that the eastern portion of the project is nearly complete but construction on the western portion has been delayed a few months because of the discovery of historic cultural resources. He described the location which consisted of a historic archeological site and culvert bridge. He publicly thanked Christine Hansen with the Corps of Engineers; Rebecca Palmer with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO); and Mike Drews of Gnomon Inc., with whom he has worked throughout the process. He read portions of a November 12 letter from the Army Corps of Engineers into the record: "The site is located within the vicinity of the Town of Empire however sufficient evidence is lacking to definitively link the debris and foundation with the Town of Empire...may be potentially associated with Dutch Nick Ambrose...Artifacts consisting of small glass ceramics, cans and bottle fragments, brick square nails and a short section of stacked rock wall...were found on the site." "...In order to do some more investigative work, three trenches and one probe were done to determine...any physical or cultural stratigraphy. Trench 1 bisected the berm...Trench 2 and the shovel probe were done in a central sandy flat. Profiles within the trench identified two flood events within the top 50 centimeters of the deposit." "...The Corps has concluded that the historical culvert bridge is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic

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Places...It represents an intact example of an early concrete masonry structure, exhibits evidence of utilizing adaptive construction techniques and local building materials in the vernacular style. No other features of this type have been located in Carson City...We have determined that issuing your permit would have no affect or adverse affect on the historic bridge or culvert." Mr. Krahn added that a trail will be put over the top of the culvert which is acceptable to the Corps. "...it is suggested by the Cultural Resource Project Manager that riprap be placed in the downstream channel and inside the culvert to protect it from affects of further erosion. At this time Carson City does not have the funding to complete the placement of the riprap and would like to have the project engineer look at the culvert to concur with the findings of the Cultural Resource Project Manager." He added that the Corps will allow them to proceed if SHPO agrees.

In response to a question, Mr. Krahn replied that an unexpected expense has been in the areas of diversion structures, three rows of sandbags were anticipated but 15-16 rows were required. There was a contingency on the project which should be enough to cover the west end. In response to another question, he replied that if funds remain at the end of the project, there is potential for a Phase 2 which would consist of a handicapped fishing pier. He finished by stating that the contractor has been great to work with and is very conscientious.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS REPORTS ONLY:

STATUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF (6:59:55) - Mr. Krahn noted the inclusion of the Silver Saddle Charrette in 'Future Agenda Items' and suggested that the Chair and Vice Chair work on new agenda items to start developing next year's ideas. Chairperson Pahl mentioned that the Habitat Conservation Plan also needs to be discussed.

MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (7:02:30) -
None.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (7:02:34) - Mr. Krahn advised of a discussion item on quagga mussels and zebra snails.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:05:07) - Chairperson Pahl entertained a motion for adjournment. Member McCubbin moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Member Sheck seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Minutes of the November 16, 2009 Carson River Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 25th day of January, 2010.

RANDY PAHL, Chair