

## **CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of the March 12, 2003 Meeting**

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A meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2003 in the Carson City Library Auditorium, 900 North Roop Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Charles Zimmerman  
Vice Chairperson Paul Pugsley  
Tom Farrer  
Dan Greytak  
Tom Hall  
Everett Hill  
David Johnson

**STAFF:** Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director  
Vern Krahn, Parks Planner

**NOTE:** A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during regular business hours.

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** (1-0020) - Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Member Johnson arrived shortly after the start of the meeting.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 22, 2002** (1-0041) - Member Pugsley moved to approve the minutes, as presented. Member Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS** (1-0051) - None.

**D. MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA** (1-0060) - Mr. Krahn advised that City Engineer Larry Werner would be unable to attend the meeting; item F-3 will be reagendized for a future meeting.

**E. DISCLOSURES** (1-0086) - None.

**F. PUBLIC MEETING:**

**F-1. INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER** (1-0093) - Mr. Krahn introduced Member Farrer, who provided information on his and his family's residence in Nevada, his familiarity with the Carson River, his work experience, and his educational background. He responded to questions regarding his interest in serving as a member of the Committee. Chairperson Zimmerman and Mr. Krahn welcomed Member Farrer.

**F-2. ACTION REGARDING THE ELECTION OF A COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR 2003** (1-0205) - Chairperson Zimmerman opened the floor for nominations for chairperson. **Member Pugsley nominated Chuck Zimmerman; Member Greytak seconded the nomination.** Chairperson Zimmerman acknowledged his continued willingness to serve as the Committee

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chair. **Member Johnson moved to close nominations for chairperson. Member Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1, Chairperson Zimmerman abstaining.** Chairperson Zimmerman opened the floor for nominations for vice chairperson. **Member Hill nominated Member Pugsley; Member Johnson seconded the nomination.** Chairperson Zimmerman called for a vote on the pending nomination; nomination carried 7-0.

#### **F-3. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING CARSON CITY'S DEVELOPMENT SERVICES PLAN FOR THE CARSON CITY FREEWAY WETLAND MITIGATION AT THE SILVER SADDLE RANCH - Deferred.**

**F-4. ACTION TO SUPPORT CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF RIVERVIEW PARK'S BANK RESTORATION PROJECT AND EAGLE VALLEY CREEK'S BANK RESTORATION PROJECT AS IDENTIFIED IN THE CARSON VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S FUNDING REQUEST TO THE CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT (1-0297)** - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report, and Vice Chairperson Pugsley provided background information on his original funding request to the Carson Water Subconservancy District ("CWSD"). He advised of the opportunity to request additional funding at an upcoming CWSD meeting.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that the Rafter PM Ranch has been granted a \$10,000 forestry grant which will be used, to a great extent, for planning on the entire Eagle Valley Creek water course. An obstacle to the project is that the Eagle Valley Creek water course is a flood way which is designated on FEMA maps to have a capacity of 11,000 to 12,000 cfs. Once the freeway bypass is constructed, including storm drainage facilities, a preliminary indication from FEMA is that the Creek's designation will change to 8,000 cfs. Creating any kind of obstacle in the flood way is an unrealistic approach and will limit, to a certain extent, the planning characteristics relative to the forestry grant. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised he will be seeking additional funding to apply to the Creek for flood way planning. He further advised that the highest recorded volume on the Creek, in a spotty history of U.S. Geological Survey recordings, is approximately 2,000 cfs which was registered in 1955. In response to a question, he advised that the monitor has recently been reinstalled and has been recording data for approximately four months.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that Eagle Valley Creek drains all of Carson City with the exception of the hills just above the Centennial Park Golf Course. Mr. Kastens responded to questions regarding detention basins planned and constructed in conjunction with the freeway bypass. He acknowledged that detention basins will be constructed on the Lompa property to the west of the freeway. Vice Chairperson Pugsley responded to questions regarding the reason for redesignating the Creek from 11,000 to 8,000 cfs once storm drainage facilities are constructed. Chairperson Zimmerman advised that he mapped all the drainages which feed into Eagle Valley Creek, in conjunction with a Carson City Utilities Department project, and discovered a disconnect between Eagle Valley Creek and the Carson River at a point in the middle of town. He will provide the map to Vice Chairperson Pugsley.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed the details of the Eagle Valley Creek project, including addressing the flood way issues, a significant noxious weed problem, establishing a better vegetative riparian corridor,

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and incorporating a trail link between the Moffat Open Space Property and the existing golf course trail. Mr. Kastens discussed the goal to connect trails from Riverview Park along the Carson River to the Empire Ranch Golf Course Trail. He inquired as to the possibility of constructing a bridge over Eagle Valley Creek, which is between the Empire Ranch Golf Course Trail and any future connection to Riverview Park. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that the location of the bridge will be the issue, and that constraints for construction of a foot bridge will be less than those for one which would accommodate vehicles. Mr. Kastens discussed requirements for construction of the foot bridge across the linear ditch on Saliman Road adjacent to Fremont School. He inquired as to whether a path could be constructed into the channel where regular and nuisance flows could be accommodated through culverts. Vice Chairperson Pugsley indicated this would be a possibility and most likely permissible if the bridge was light framed so as not to be an obstacle for flood waters. He acknowledged that it would be a "sacrificial bridge." Member Greytak discussed channel degradation downstream of the detention basin located at a point just before Eagle Valley Creek enters the Carson River. Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed the value of CVCD and CWSD funding to be used in broad scale approaches, and other possible funding sources.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised of a bank which is being severely eroded at the northeast corner of Riverview Park. It is on City property at present and continued erosion will cause it to run into private property. It is part of the connection the City would like to establish along the River between Riverview Park and the trail and bridge which will cross the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area. Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed details of the proposed project. In response to a question, he advised that the CVCD's intern program, through Americorps, is most likely lost because of the loss of federal and City match funding.

Mr. Kastens responded to questions regarding the purpose for the proposed bridge at Eagle Valley Creek and discussion took place regarding the design. Mr. Krahn advised that Vice Chairperson Pugsley will be refining the projects through funding sources. As information becomes available, a more detailed plan will be presented to the Committee. **Member Johnson moved to support staff's recommendation to move forward with the planning process. Member Hill seconded the motion.** Vice Chairperson Pugsley responded to questions regarding the grant time frames. Chairperson Zimmerman called for a vote on the pending motion; **motion carried 6-0-1, Vice Chairperson Pugsley abstaining.**

**F-5. ACTION REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF A FIVE-YEAR OUTLOOK FOR POTENTIAL RIVER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS WITHIN CARSON CITY (1-1242)** - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report. Member Hall provided an overview of the draft Five-Year Construction Projects list. In response to a question, Mr. Kastens explained that Question #1 identifies a specific allocation for the Carson River and another for recreation and trails. He acknowledged that the Committee could recommend the \$10 million allocation be used for stream bank stabilization and restoration rather than trail development, and pursue grant funding for trail development. Member Johnson expressed a concern regarding funding which could be used for improvements to habitat and water quality being used for trail development. Mr. Kastens advised of his understanding that funding for Carson River Park improvements will have to be allocated from the \$10 million designation. He noted that the listed projects are also priorities in the City's overall trails development plan. The only remaining portion of the Linear Park from Roop Street to the Mexican Ditch to be completed is that which will be constructed in

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conjunction with the freeway. City staff has been working with Nevada Department of Transportation staff

to link the linear park through the freeway section, and discussions have taken place regarding a temporary solution. Mr. Kastens advised that the old V&T trail along the west side of town, for which an ISTEA grant was received approximately five years ago, may be constructed this year.

In response to a question, Chris Miller of the Bureau of Land Management, advised of the appointment of a new Silver Saddle Ranch Interdisciplinary Team. Ms. Miller explained that the BLM applies for T21 funding for trail construction and bridge repair, especially for OHV and equestrian corridors. She reviewed the projects funded through ISTEA grants at the Silver Saddle Ranch which were completed in 2000. She was not aware of the immediate plans for the Silver Saddle Ranch, but advised that trails will be on hold for the present time. Mr. Krahn advised that the master plan for the Silver Saddle Ranch and the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area identified bridges and trails, so the planning process for the grant application has been completed. Ms. Miller advised that the BLM always names the City as a partner which helps in acquiring grant funding. She provided the name of the current Silver Saddle Ranch Manager: Mike Baily, and advised she would inform Chuck Pope of the Committee's interest in developing trails.

Chairperson Zimmerman commended the working group and staff on development of the list. He requested that potential funding sources and amounts be assigned to the 11 projects listed. Mr. Krahn discussed staff's plan to develop a matrix from the priorities designated by this Committee, the Open Space Advisory Committee, and the Parks and Recreation Commission which would include matching fund sources. He advised that if the CWSRD is tasked with overseeing Question #1 projects on the Carson River, a proposal may be submitted that all four counties receive an equal split of the \$10 million allocation.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested that the Portage Area at Mexican Dam not identify just the west side of the River. He discussed alternatives, including "going directly over the dam itself." Member Johnson suggested allowing staff to develop the matrix prior to the Committee taking action. Mr. Krahn discussed staff's intent to schedule a joint meeting between this Committee, the Open Space Advisory Committee, and the Parks and Recreation Commission to present the matrix. Discussion took place with regard to reducing the projects list as suggested in the staff report, matching requirements, and grant funding for stream bank stabilization projects. Chairperson Zimmerman expressed a preference for considering stream bank stabilization/restoration projects in an integrated fashion because of the impacts other areas have to the value of a project in a specific area. Member Greytak discussed the importance of considering habitat and riparian communities in association with trails and stream bank stabilization/restoration projects. Mr. Krahn commented that the concerns discussed reflect the value of the involvement of the CWSRD to coordinate the River projects. Member Johnson commented that the Carson River Master Plan Element is a "macro plan" and considers the River and potential projects at a gross level. He inquired as to a source for planning funding to incorporate details in the master plan so that projects will articulate better. Member Greytak suggested planning funds may be available as long as the River is considered as a whole to ensure synergy between projects. **Member Johnson moved that the Committee accept the project list in draft form with the understanding that staff will present, at a future meeting, a matrix incorporating the**

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**comments and concerns discussed at this meeting and the potential funding sources for the projects.  
Vice Chairperson Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.**

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**F-6. ACTION REGARDING SELECTION OF CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO ACT AS COMMITTEE LIAISONS TO VARIOUS CARSON RIVER COALITION PARTNERS, THE PINENUT MOUNTAINS LAND USE PLAN AMENDMENT, AND VARIOUS CITY ADVISORY BOARDS (1-3003)** - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report and attachments. In response to a question, Assistant BLM Manager Dan Jacquet provided a status report on the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment. Member Johnson volunteered to serve as the Committee liaison to the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment process. Member Hall volunteered to continue serving as the liaison to the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife. Member Greytak and Vice Chairperson Pugsley volunteered to continue serving as liaisons to the Clear Creek Watershed Council. Member Greytak suggested designating a liaison to the Friends of the Silver Saddle Ranch meetings, and Member Farrer volunteered. Member Farrer volunteered to serve as an alternate liaison to the Open Space Advisory Committee. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested adding the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Carson Water Subconservancy District to the list. Member Hill volunteered to serve as the liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Vice Chairperson Pugsley volunteered to serve as the liaison to the CWSD. Mr. Krahn reviewed the revised assignments, and advised that the list would be finalized and provided to the Committee members. Mr. Kastens cautioned the Committee members against making comments on behalf of the Committee without prior action being taken by the Committee.

**F-7. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING AN ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE UPPER CARSON RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN (1-3607)** - Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that a \$5 million grant has been awarded by the Army Corps of Engineers for the five counties through which the Carson River flows. The project currently identified for Carson City is the east bank of the Carson River above Mexican Dam primarily addressing vertical banks. Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed details of the project.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that Douglas County is just now developing a comprehensive trails plan, which includes the Old V&T rail bed, including a bridge across the Carson River. Very shortly after the bridge, the rail bed path runs into Carson City at the west boundary of the prison. Mr. Kastens advised that the connection is designated in the Carson City Trails Plan. Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed plans for an additional trail from the Sunridge Development in Douglas County to the River. Member Hall discussed potential problems for private property owners in the area, and Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed the planning portion of the project which will address these issues. He responded to questions regarding the time table for the Army Corps of Engineers grant funding.

**F-8. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE AT THE LINEAR PARK, CARSON RIVER PARK, AND RIVERVIEW PARK (2-0409)** - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report. Ms. Miller provided background information on and described the interpretive signage at the Silver Saddle Ranch and Carson River Park. Mr. Krahn reviewed that portion of the staff report which described the signage installed at Riverview Park.

**G. COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS (2-0708)** - None.

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**H. DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMITTEE MEMBER STATUS REPORTS (2-0716)** - Mr. Krahn acknowledged that item F-3 would be reagendized. He reminded the Committee that the next meeting is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that Jean Stone will provide a presentation on total maximum daily loads at the Carson River Coalition meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup>. He requested staff to contact her regarding the possibility of making the same presentation to the Committee. Chairperson Zimmerman requested staff to provide a status report on the Division of State Lands' development of Question #1 grant administration rules, if available. Mr. Krahn acknowledged that he would provide the Committee's project matrix at the next meeting.

**I. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (2-0860)** - None.

**J. ADJOURNMENT (2-0864)** - Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Minutes of the March 12, 2003 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee are so approved this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2003.

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CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chair