

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 7, 2000 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7, 2000 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Charles Zimmerman
Vice Chairperson Claire Clift
Thomas Hall
Paul Pettersen
Kevin Walsh

STAFF: Vern Krahm, Parks Planner
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(CRAC 06/07/00; Tape 1-0001)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson Zimmerman. 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, DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM (1-0001) - Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present. Members Johnson and Wright were absent.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1-0004) - Member Pettersen moved to approve the May 3, 2000 minutes, as submitted. Vice Chairperson Clift seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0010) - None.

D. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0013) - None.

E. DISCLOSURES (1-0016) - None.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

F-1. PRESENTATION BY PAUL PUGSLEY, WATERSHED COORDINATOR - UPPER CARSON RIVER COORDINATED RESOURCES MANAGEMENT TEAM ("CRMT"), REGARDING CRMT'S FUNCTION AND ITS RELATION TO THE CARSON RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN (1-0021) - Mr. Pugsley provided background information on the Upper Carson River Coordinated Resource Management Plan, and development of the plans for the Middle Carson River and the Lower Carson River. He advised that his position is similar to that held by Kevin Piper of the Middle Carson River Management Team. He explained that he had been approached by the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection ("NDEP") to initiate contact with advisory committees regarding substantial funds which will be made available to benefit the Carson River. Acquisition of the funds is dependent upon what the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is referring to as a WRAP, Watershed Restoration Action Plan. The WRAP will be administered by the NDEP which proposes combining the

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three CRMP plans to encompass the Carson River watershed as the basis for acquiring clean water action plan (“CWAP”) funds. Mr. Pugsley advised that the Upper Carson River CRMT has an allocation from the NDEP of \$129,000 with a fifty percent match requirement. The NDEP would like to include the entire River in its WRAP and to incorporate the Carson City section of the River within the Upper Carson River CRMP. Mr. Pugsley explained that the Upper Carson River CRMP and the Carson River Master Plan Element have concurrent goals; however, the priorities are somewhat different. The priorities of the Upper Carson River CRMP include irrigation issues in the Carson Valley and in Alpine County, California, and the primary focus is on private lands using available tools such as 319 funds and access to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (“NRCS”).

Mr. Pugsley advised of a fairly extensive number of permits which have been applied for by all the CRMT coordinators, including nationwide permits through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, general rolling stock permits through the NDEP, and a general permit through the Division of State Lands. Mr. Pugsley’s position provides significant access to anyone with a justifiable need to work in the River, and for purposes of stream bank stabilization and irrigation maintenance. He advised of potential access to as much as \$5 million through the Army Corps of Engineers. The NDEP has asked that the funds be distributed through the three CRMPs, and desires that the Carson City portion of the River not be left out. Mr. Pugsley explained the reason he is making the request is because his position is very strongly supported by the Carson Valley Conservation District, and the NDEP has split the River and included the Carson City portion in the Upper Carson River CRMP. The Carson River Advisory Committee represents a stakeholder in the CRMP and, by a statement of desire, can be incorporated into the Upper Carson plan. In response to a question, Mr. Pugsley advised that the Lyon County line divides the Upper and Middle portions of the River.

Chairperson Zimmerman commented that, from a technical standpoint, there is more sense in incorporating the Carson City portion of the River in the Upper Carson River resource management area because upstream occurrences may affect Carson City, and the Committee would like to participate in decision-making. He inquired as to needed action from the Committee, and Mr. Pugsley advised that no action was necessary. Mr. Pugsley clarified that he represents a resource for the Committee. He advised that the Committee could establish its own relationship with the NDEP and attempt to leverage the same funds. Chairperson Zimmerman expressed a preference that Mr. Pugsley represent the Committee before the NDEP, and Mr. Pugsley agreed to do so.

Mr. Krahn discussed funding allocated by the Board of Supervisors and suggested that the Committee may want to make a formal recommendation to the Board of Supervisors at some time in the future. Supervisor Williamson concurred, and commented that she is aware of ongoing and anticipated projects which are not in Carson City’s jurisdiction. She inquired as to how priorities for projects and funding are established, and how Carson City could be considered. Mr. Pugsley advised that the priority list is established in public meetings which he notices and agendas. He offered to include the Committee members on the mailing list. He explained that “things tend to fall out” because almost all the available funding requires matching funds. He advised of available funds through the State of Nevada, which can be used for matching funds and for clearing and snagging projects. Other funding sources include the Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District and the Carson Water Subconservancy District.

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Chairperson Zimmerman advised of the requirement to recognize the Carson River Master Plan and work in concurrence with its elements. Mr. Pugsley acknowledged this, and commented that the Carson River Master Plan and the Upper Carson CRMP do not conflict. He reiterated the differences in priorities between the two plans. Mr. Pugsley solicited the Committee's input for the Upper Carson River CRMP relative to projects. He advised of a recent project submitted by a private owner who had placed large rocks in the River along his approximately 200' of River frontage. The owner was subsequently asked to remove the rocks and has approached the Upper Carson River CRMP staff regarding a more appropriate plan to stabilize the bank. The owner will most likely hire a private designer and may do the project in conjunction with the NRCS. Mr. Pugsley offered to advise and keep the Committee informed of similar projects. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Mr. Pugsley for his presentation.

F-2. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE ON THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT'S ("BLM") INTERDISCIPLINARY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SILVER SADDLE RANCH AND AMBROSE-CARSON RIVER NATURAL AREA (1-0353) - Chris Miller, of the BLM, referred to the presentation made at last month's meeting wherein she distributed and reviewed the draft plan. She requested a letter from the Committee expressing a choice of plan. Mr. Krahn advised that the Parks and Recreation Commission ("PRC") had unanimously approved the proposed plan at their June 6, 2000 meeting. The PRC requested the BLM to consider that pedestrian and non-motorized access into the Ranch would not be assessed a fee. The PRC indicated that a \$3 to \$5 fee would be appropriate for vehicle access to the Ranch, and they concurred with the special events fee structure proposed by the BLM. He advised of comments emphasizing that the Ranch should be kept green, and the general support for the proposed plan. Mr. Krahn advised of his offer to draft a letter on behalf of the PRC to Ms. Miller and Mr. Singlaub, indicating their comments and support. He offered to do the same for the Committee.

Ms. Miller advised that the grand opening of the Silver Saddle Ranch is scheduled for National Public Lands Day on September 23, 2000. She distributed brochures for National Public Lands Day, and discussed the scheduled projects and activities. Member Walsh expressed appreciation for the plan's balanced approach to various interests. Ms. Miller invited public comment and provided her telephone number, the BLM website and mailing address. **Member Walsh moved that the Committee proceed to draft a letter to the BLM in support of the Interdisciplinary Management Plan for the Silver Saddle Ranch and the Ambrose Carson River Natural Area, as presented.** Following discussion, **Member Walsh amended his motion to request Mr. Krahn to draft a letter on behalf of the Committee.** In response to a question, Member Walsh acknowledged that the motion was in support of the proposed plan. **Member Pettersen seconded the motion.** Vice Chairperson Clift suggested supporting the PRC's position to not assess a fee for pedestrian and non-motorized use of the Silver Saddle area. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn clarified that the PRC had indicated a fee for motorized access to the Ranch; bicyclists would not be charged. In response to a question, Ms. Miller acknowledged that there will be no fee to use the staging area on the east side of the River. **Member Walsh concurred with amending his motion to include support of the fee structure as proposed by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Member Pettersen continued his second.** **Motion carried 5-0.** Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Ms. Miller. Ms. Miller thanked the Committee for their support and participation.

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F-3. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING A JOINT MEETING WITH THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON JULY 10, 2000 TO REVIEW RIVER PROPERTIES SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION IN THE OPEN SPACE PROGRAM; A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY AND BAR-B-QUE AT CARSON RIVER PARK (1-0503) - Mr. Krahn advised of the stated goal within the Open Space Master Plan element for the Open Space Advisory Committee (“OSAC”) to meet with the Carson River Advisory Committee (“CRAC”) at least once a year. The July 3rd OSAC and July 5th CRAC meetings will be canceled, and Mr. Krahn discussed the July 10th meeting schedule and agenda. He advised that the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony would be in conjunction with the meeting. Vice Chairperson Clift suggested inviting the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Board of Supervisors to the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, and Mr. Krahn agreed to do so. **Vice Chairperson Clift moved that the Committee hold a joint meeting with the Open Space Advisory Committee on July 10, 2000 to begin at Carson River Park at 5:15 p.m. Member Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

F-4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING A PRESENTATION BY THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER GROUP ESTABLISHING THE TOP FIVE PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED AS COMMITTEE GOALS (1-0622) - Mr. Krahn advised of the attempts to schedule a meeting of the volunteer group and staff. He explained his understanding that the volunteer group planned to meet to review the five top project priorities identified at the May meeting. He had hoped to meet and clarify the direction and time frames for the projects. He suggested that this matter could be deferred to the August meeting or discussed at this meeting. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested that Mr. Krahn attempt to schedule a volunteer meeting before the August Committee meeting. Discussion took place with regard to available dates. Mr. Pugsley offered to serve on the volunteer committee, and Mr. Krahn requested a meeting with Mr. Pugsley to discuss Carson City’s relationship to the management team.

Mr. Krahn referred to the Residential Construction Tax application for Carson River Park - Phase I Development included in the agenda materials. The application was completed by staff on behalf of the Committee, and Mr. Krahn advised that it will be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review on September 5, 2000. He requested that the Chairperson and any Committee members attend and provide comments in support of the application. The Parks and Recreation Commission will make their recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on October 3, 2000. Final approval by the Board of Supervisors will be made in late October or November.

With regard to the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area, Mr. Krahn advised that Mr. Kastens had attended a meeting at Carson High School regarding the possibility of available funding for trail construction. Chairperson Zimmerman advised that he had also attended the meeting. Mr. Krahn commented on a discussion with the gentleman who administers the Americorps program in Nevada. Staff is considering hiring this gentleman to present educational information to participants of the outdoor recreation program, and then to take them to the River for hands-on experience in building trails, wrapping trees, planting banks, etc. In addition, Mr. Krahn advised that the Recreation staff is considering a community service element for the Trailblazers and Kick Back Camp participants, and the Parks staff has offered the possibility of improvements to the portage area as a project. No formal action was taken.

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G. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (1-0820) - Member Pettersen inquired as to the other attachments included in the agenda materials, and Chairperson Zimmerman requested that the Committee members review them. Vice Chairperson Clift inquired as to the resolution modifying the membership requirements and staggering the terms. Mr. Krahn advised that the Board of Supervisors had passed the resolution with a few modifications.

H. ADJOURNMENT (1-0855) - Member Pettersen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Member Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the June 7, 2000 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee are so approved this _____ day of September, 2000.

CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chairperson