

Central Nevada Regional Water Authority

Churchill County Elko County Esmeralda County Eureka County
Lander County Nye County Pershing County White Pine County

Meeting Minutes

The Central Nevada Regional Water Authority (Authority) held a teleconference meeting at 9:00 a.m. July 28, 2017 at the Commission Chambers, Churchill County Administration Complex, 155 North Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada. In attendance were:

Directors:

Churchill County: Norman Frey and Commissioner Pete Olsen

Elko County: Commissioner Demar Dahl

Esmeralda County: Commissioner Ralph Keyes

Eureka County: Commissioner Fred Etchegaray, Jim Gallagher and Jake Tibbitts, Eureka County Natural Resources Manager

Lander County: Commissioner Judie Allan and Frank Whitman

Nye County: Joni Eastley, CNRWA Chairwoman, Commissioner, Dan Schinhofen and Midge Carver

Pershing County: James Evans, Director, Pershing County Planning and Building Dept. and Commissioner Rob McDougal

White Pine County: Bill Butts, White Pine County Water Advisory Board

Others:

Wilma Mansfield, Executive Assistant, CNRWA

Jeff Fontaine, CNRWA Executive Director Candidate

Call to Order. Chair Joni Eastley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum of the Board was determined to be present.

Public Comment. There was no general public comment.

Approval of Agenda. There were no changes to the agenda. Commissioner Pete Olsen made a motion to approve the July 28, 2017 agenda. Norman Frey seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action on the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority's Executive Director candidate review committee's interviews July 14, 2017 of four applicants for the CNRWA Executive Director position – Recommendation to 1) receive a report from the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority's Executive Director review committee on its interviews of four excellent applicants for the Executive Director position, and 2) discussion and possible action on the Committee's consensus top ranked candidate –

Jeff Fontaine. Chair Joni Eastley said that there were four applicants who applied for the Executive Director position including Jeff Fontaine, Rex Massey, Mary Tumbusch and Nancy Boland. She said they were all excellent candidates. Chair Joni Eastley opened the floor for discussion and possible action on the committee's consensus on the top ranked candidate, Jeff Fontaine. Commissioner Dan Schinhofen made a motion to appoint Jeff Fontaine Executive Director for the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority. Norman Frey seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Discussion and Consideration of a contract between the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority and Jeff Fontaine wherein Mr. Fontaine is to be the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority's Executive Director – Recommendation to approve a contract between the CNRWA and Jeff Fontaine wherein Mr. Fontaine is to be the CNRWA's Executive Director and perform certain activities per the contract's scope of services and the annual reimbursement for time at \$103 per hour shall not exceed \$40,000 per year, plus specific reimbursable expenses.

Chair Joni Eastley addressed Section 16, B1 in the contract regarding the insurance schedule. It states specifically in the contract "that the board has the right to waive the requirement for insurance." She would like to make the recommendation to waive the requirement for the Executive Director to carry insurance. Chair Joni Eastley stated that Steve Bradhurst, former executive director carried the personal liability insurance naming the CNRWA as an additional insured. Chair Joni Eastley added that each member of the CNRWA carries county liability insurance through the Pool Pact. As one of the two employees of the board, she can't imagine what liability there would be that would come back on the CNRWA board. It was noted that Wilma Mansfield, Executive Assistant isn't required to have liability insurance. Discussion was held on members of the Authority being covered by liability insurance through their individual counties. Chair Joni Eastley stated that the insurance is a one million dollar general liability insurance that the new executive director would be adding to his homeowner's insurance policy. Jeff Fontaine stated that the issue is, in speaking with Steve Bradhurst, in that Mr. Bradhurst had an umbrella policy added onto his homeowner's insurance that increased his general liability to a million dollars. In the new proposed contract, he said the difference is what was included in there was basically what state boiler plate language is for liability insurance which is much different than what Mr. Bradhurst had. He said the general liability insurance isn't the issue it's naming the CNRWA board members as an additional insured which changes it to commercial or business liability insurance versus a homeowner's insurance policy. Chair Joni Eastley said the CNRWA has the option of waiving this insurance requirement as long as it is put in writing. Commissioner Dan Schinhofen made a motion to waive the insurance requirement. Commissioner Judie Allan seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote. Chair Joni Eastley addressed the effective date of Jeff Fontaine's contract with the Authority. Commissioner Judie Allan made a motion to approve a contract between the CNRWA and Jeff Fontaine, Executive Director. Commissioner Judie Allan withdrew her motion as a contract start date needs to be included in the motion. Discussion was held on the effective start date for Jeff Fontaine as he is currently under contract with the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO). One of the provisions in the NACO contract is that Mr. Fontaine cannot accept any part-time or work without prior approval of the NACO board. He said his intent is to notify the NACO executive committee that he applied for the CNRWA Executive Director position, pending approval by CNRWA that he will be stepping down from the NACO Executive Director position resulting in a transition period. He is asking the CNRWA to be flexible on his contract start date.

Jeff Fontaine said he has had discussions with the NACO executive committee and several board members about the situation. They need to discuss the NACO executive director replacement process. He said if the CNRWA is willing to allow him to continue his transition out of NACO and start the contract with CNRWA mid-September that would be fine. Chair Joni Eastley said that Steve Bradhurst had been very gracious in helping the Authority through the transition period, assisting Jeff Fontaine. It was noted that Steve Bradhurst and Commissioner Dan Schinhofen and Nye County representatives will be attending the hearing in Las Vegas on the 31st. Jeff Fontaine will not be attending the hearing as he will still be under contract with NACO. Chair Joni Eastley suggested a contract start date with Jeff Fontaine Monday, September 18, 2017. Norman Frey stated Steve Bradhurst, former executive director and Jeff Fontaine are two people better qualified to represent the CNRWA. Norman Frey made a motion to accept a contract with Jeff Fontaine as CNRWA Executive Director effective September 18, 2017. Commissioner Dan Schinhofen seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote. Chair Joni Eastley congratulated Jeff Fontaine. She stated that she had an idea of the reputation CNRWA made for itself in the state and the quality of the candidates applying for the executive director position cemented it. She said Mr. Bradhurst took the Authority to that level and Jeff Fontaine will take it to the next level. Commissioner Pete Olsen stated his concern is about NACO's transition period and the length of time that it might take to find a new director. The timeframe has been addressed and the Authority is mindful of that as they go forward.

Board Member/Executive Director Comments – Board members and the executive director can make announcements, request information and discuss topics for future agendas. Jeff Fontaine thanked Authority members for their vote of confidence and the opportunity to serve as their Executive Director. He's excited about the opportunity and looks forward to help move the CNRWA forward. He thanked Chair Joni Eastley and Steve Bradhurst for their insight to the mission of the CNRWA and helping him through the process.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held in Winnemucca during the annual Nevada Association of Counties Conference. Chair Joni Eastley asked Jeff Fontaine to check the NACO conference schedule and select a suitable date and time for the next meeting and notify Authority members. She also asked that teleconference capabilities be available.

Public Comment. There was no public comment.

Adjourn. Chair Eastley adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Wilma Mansfield, Executive Assistant

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Joni Eastley, Chair