

COLORADO RIVER REGIONAL SEWER COALITION
February 12, 2009
Board of Directors' Meeting
2360 McCulloch Blvd., North, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403
Police Facility

ATTENDEES

Voting Membership Present

Mayor Jack Hakim	City of Bullhead City
Mayor Mark Nexsen	Lake Havasu City
Bill Cox	Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Andy Jones	Colorado River Sewage Systems (JV)
Tom Sockwell	Mohave County (by phone)
Edgar	Metropolitan Water District (call in)
Scott Leedom	Southern Nevada Water Authority (by phone)
Sandy Pierce	La Paz County Board of Supervisors
Charles Hull	City of Blythe (by phone)
Laurie Wedemeyer	Town of Parker
William Moore	City of Quartzsite

Also Present

Terry Bracy	Bracy, Tucker, Brown & Valanzano (by phone)
Tracy Tucker	Bracy, Tucker, Brown & Valanzano (by phone)
Susan Betts	Bullhead City
Bob Leuck	Bullhead City
Charlie Cassens	Lake Havasu City
Greg Froslic	Lake Havasu City
Doyle Wilson	Lake Havasu City

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nexsen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken and it was determined that there is a quorum.

1. Lobbyist report and update:

Tracy Tucker reported the following:

- Tracy spoke about the action on the stimulus bill and also on the upcoming remaining FY09 and upcoming FY10 appropriations process.
- In terms of our overall effort to get legislation moved in congress our mayor's, the leadership of CRRSCo. and our office have been working with the congressional delegation to pull together a new draft of legislation that at this point Congressman Grijalva is taking the lead on.
- Those details have not been made public yet, but as soon as they are they will be shared with the board.
- She commented that in the next couple of months they will also be pulling together a regional meeting of all the federal agencies including EPA, BOR, Army Corp. of Engineers to have an overall discussion about our issues to specific CRRSCo. related issues and look at long term policy of solutions as well.

- Terry and Tracy are expecting that the house will likely vote in the next day or two on a compromise conference version of the stimulus bill and that the senate should vote at least over the weekend with the idea of getting the bills to the President.
- What this means for CRRSCo is that there are a number of provisions included in the bill that address water related issues. Specifically funding through loans and maybe even grants for these state revolving loan funds. The clean water state revolving loan funds. New funding through the Bureau of Reclamation that will go to local communities and to states for water reuse projects and other types of projects. There will be money through the Army Corp. of Engineers and also through the department of Agriculture, loans and grants for smaller communities.
- What they are seeing now through the EPA state revolving funds this incorporates the clean water funds and the drinking fund is that there will be \$6B for that program.
- How this will work is that each state will be responsible for disseminating these funds to there local community. It is very important that you talk to your State Water Quality folks to find out where you are on there status list and make sure you make the case and outline a timeline of how you can use these funds rapidly.
- Mayor Nexsen asked if we know what the apportionment by state is at this point?
- Tracy Tucker replied that we don't have the final apportionment. When they were talking about \$8B in the state of Arizona we were looking at about \$39M coming to Arizona. Now that they've cut it down to \$6B it's obviously going to be less than \$39M.
- Terry Bracy asked if we had been able to achieve any level of support from our State Legislatures for our funding needs. A lot of this money is going to come and get sacked at the State from the federal government and then the State is going to make a lot of priority choices of how to spend the federal money and one thing that would be helpful if we could get some level of enthusiasm from our representatives to be in there with their elbows out to get us that money.
- Mayor Nexsen agreed. He doesn't think any of them are opposing it. The two state representatives that we have will be very helpful. Senator Gould understands completely the issue of the sewer project here locally in LHC.
- Mayor Nexsen commented that yesterday He and Mayor Hakim had the opportunity to speak with Senator Kyl's staff person Clint Chandler. We made it perfectly clear that we had an expectation that Senator Kyl would take an active role in helping this whether it be new legislation, such as what Congressman Grijalva's doing or existing legislation, but we really expected an active role. He took a lot of good notes, he understood, I took him through all the fact sheets what are rates are, what we still have to do, explained to him about the situation in BHC as well and I know Jack had that opportunity.
- Mayor Hakim asked what is the next step from here?
- Terry Bracy commented that when the stimulus bill passes they'll want to look at every angle from the agriculture budget to the energy budget from the EPA to Bureau of Reclamation to see where some of our projects might fit.
- He also suggested continuing to work with Congressman Grijalva office on the development of this bill.
- Mayor Hakim made the members aware that Senator McCain would be visiting the area next week. Obviously CRRSCo is going to brought up to him and I guess we'll just approach it as the authorization bill that's coming through.
- Senator McCain indicated concern, and has met with Terry a couple of years ago in his Phoenix office. We need to emphasize that our economies existence depends upon water and our major water source is the Colorado River. The river is in danger and we're doing everything we can to protect it. We embarked on this huge project which in good times we could afford, but now it's just become an impossible burden and we need help. We've been talking to people on the house side, Congressman Grijalva

seems to have the most interest in putting together an authorization bill, but we would be honored if Senator McCain would take a lead in that process.

- Mayor Hakim shared with Terry that Senator Kyl is very much aware of this as well.
- Mayor Nexsen reported that currently he is putting together a fairly sizeable notebook for Senator McCain's staff that will have a cover letter to Senator McCain requesting that he support our endeavors. He will also include letters that have been written to Senator Kyl, Boxer and Feinstein.
- Tracy Tucker met with his staff yesterday and they were definitely impressed by the PBS&J report that was done. They said so far it's the best report they've seen on our issues.

2. Discussion and possible action to establish CRRSCo priorities for the Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations bill

Tracy Tucker reported the following:

- In congress every year they have their annual appropriations bill.
- The FY 2009 appropriations process has not been completed so congress still has until the beginning of March to finalize their FY2009 appropriations bill.
- Two CRRSCo. nominated priorities which was Bullhead City and LHC have been submitted.
- We still have the FY 2009 bill to pass at the same time though the appropriations committee is planning and moving rapidly for the FY2010 budget and all of our congressional offices are submitting the appropriate paperwork for our priority request for this year.
- This is one of the reasons we wanted to have this call at this time was to be able to have you go through that process that you've done in the past years of nominating your CRRSCo priorities and then we would work with appropriate city staff to put in all the paperwork that is required to the congressional offices. I have so far received requests from BHC and LHC.
- Mayor Nexsen commented that CRRSCO needed to prioritize the projects.
- Tracy Tucker commented that we followed the format from last year so that each request was \$2M and the reason it has to me a lower number is because in the account where we are seeking the funding most of these projects don't get funded beyond \$1M or even \$2M. We've put it within the range of what the committee could deal with. For LHC the request is roughly is \$2M project just for wastewater improvements overall that will help take a number of people off of the septic and onto sewers. With BHC it's a similar request, \$2M as well.
- Andy Jones commented that this body about 5 years ago established LHC as #1 regardless until this body passes another resolution that disagrees with that. As the longest standing member of this committee I have the most history here and I'm familiar with that unless we say otherwise LHC in my mind is still #1.

3. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 3, 2009. The meeting will take place in Bullhead City.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and the motion was seconded. A vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Chairman Nexsen declared the meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.