

CRRSCo

Clean Colorado River Regional Sustainability Coalition Regular Meeting-Meeting Minutes 2360 McCulloch Blvd., North, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403 Police Facility Thursday, October 11, 2012 11:00 a.m.

Voting Membership Present

Mayor Mark Nexsen
Mayor Jack Hakim
Bill Cox
Sandy Pierce
Andy Jones
Jim Nafsey
Jake Jacobson
Ronald Zegers

Lake Havasu City Bullhead City Chemehuevi Indian Tribe (by phone) LaPaz County Supervisors (by phone) Colorado River Sewage Systems Metropolitan Water District of So. California Clark County Water Reclamation District Southern Nevada Water Authority (by phone)

Call to order

Chairman Nexsen called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. Roll call was taken and it was determined that there was a quorum.

1. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was given by Mayor Mark Nexsen and is attached. Mayor Nexsen provided a brief overview of the treasurer report including the financial status and membership dues. He reported that the City of Needles has resigned as Treasurer for CRRSCo, primarily because the Bank of America in Needles, where the current CRRSCo accounts are, is closing in early 2013.

Mayor Jack Hakim made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as written. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Minutes from March 22, 2012 Work Session Meeting

Andy Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2012, Work Session Meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3. Election of Officers

Chairman-Mayor Hakim made a motion to reappoint Mark Nexsen as Chairman. Andy Jones seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

<u>Vice Chairman</u>-Mayor Nexsen opened the floor for vice-chairman nominations. Andy Jones made a motion to reappoint Jack Hakim as Vice Chairman. Sandy Pierce seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

<u>Treasurer-</u> Mayor Nexsen opened the floor for treasurer nominations. Mayor Hakim stated that because Bank of America is closing in Needles and the closest Bank of America is in Bullhead City, he made a motion to appoint Jake Jacobson as the Treasurer. Andy Jones seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

<u>Secretary</u>-Mayor Nexsen opened the floor for secretary nominations. Mayor Hakim nominated Treasurer Jake Jacobson to also serve as the Secretary. Andy Jones seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

4. Bylaws and Articles-Recommended Changes by the Redirection Committee and Attorney Maureen George-Mayor Nexsen, LHC

Chairman Nexsen advised that in the last 12 to 15 years the committee focused on water quality, sewer systems, implementation, and lobbying. He explained that the committee no longer has the same mission and wants to focus more on monitoring water quality to share with others. He introduced Attorney Maureen George and explained that per the request of the Board the Redirection Committee met with Ms. George and revised the bylaws and articles to reflect what the group plans to do in the future.

Maureen George presented the articles and bylaws in a red-lined format showing tracked changes. She explained that the subcommittee changed the name of the corporation from Colorado River Regional Sewer Coalition (CRRSCo) to Clean Colorado River Sustainability Coalition (CCRSCo). She further explained that throughout the bylaws and articles, references to sewer and wastewater management were removed and references to monitor and analyze water quality were added. Ms. George also stated that she included language for representation from a validated academic institution throughout the bylaws and articles in the hopes of having an academic advisor help with addressing water quality issues.

Ms. George explained why a voting member provision would be included and asked if the Board would want to remove the non-voting category. Mr. Jacobson addressed the committee and asked how many current non-voting members they had, to which Jerri Bracamonte stated Central Arizona Project was the only non-voting member. Mr. Jacobson asked if there was a need to have the non-voting language to only accommodate one member. Ms. George explained that years ago the idea was created to accommodate the corporations that had prohibitions within their own organizations that would not allow them to participate as a voting member. Bridgette Manock, from Central Arizona Project introduced herself and stated that she would research whether her organization has the prohibition to join as a voting member and would get back to the group.

Ms. George suggested leaving the non-voting category, and recommended that the Board broaden up the Article to have non-voting category and then render a bylaw change if necessary, and also suggested to check with Arizona State University in the meantime on what their prohibitions might be.

Based on Ms. George's recommendations, Chairman Nexsen advised the Board to do a detailed review of the suggested changes to the bylaws and articles and stated that in a few weeks the Board would meet again to discuss the non-voting membership issue and adopt the revisions.

5. Update on the Bureau of Reclamation Project and Data Monitoring-Doyle Wilson, LHC and Becky Blasius with the Bureau of Reclamation

Becky Blasius stated that Reclamation has been with CCRSCo since 2004 when they initially set out to update the Burns report and as referenced in the bylaws, the Wastewater Treatment

Report of 2007. She explained that currently they have been working with the Technical Advisors Committee which includes the Metropolitan, City of Parker, Lake Havasu City, Bullhead City, and Southern Nevada Water Authority, to input data into a database that Southern Nevada maintains. Ms. Blasius stated as of today, there are 400,000 lines of surface water data and 16,000 ground water data. She explained that ground water is specifically what they wanted to look at because of the issues that were potential for seepage or nitrate concentrations, which initially started the CCRSCo organization motivations.

She stated that Reclamation is very concerned about water quality. They have two different programs that sample water quality. One program encompasses the whole Colorado River basically from the Las Vegas wash in Lake Mead all the way to the southern national border of Mexico, and they test the water twice a year on a seasonal basis to capture trends and analysis. The other program consists of monitoring eight sites, one of them being the southern national border site, and Rotary Park being another, where they take nutrient readings, conductivity, etc. Ms. Blasius said that Reclamation supports the new name change of the Board and agrees it is very much in line with what Reclamation has seen on the Colorado River.

Mayor Hakim asked Ms. Blasius with all the tests that they have done, how would the Reclamation rate the Colorado River, for example A+, A-, B+ etc., to which Ms. Blasius replied A+ for water quality and explained that we have some of the most technically advanced wastewater treatment facilities on the west coast that she has seen in her career, because we have to be careful when dumping wastewater into a drinking water source.

6. BLM/LHC Agreement to Analyze Storm Water Runoff Quality Results-Doyle Wilson, LHC

Doyle Wilson presented a slideshow of runoff quality results from recent storm activity in Lake Havasu City and what the associated impacts were to the lake system and included shallow ground water as well. He stated that there are ten washes in town that lead to the lake. He described how they studied the different wash, lake, shoreline interfaces, as far as, vegetation, geography, geology, and the biological roles on how they are buffered down at the end of the lake, if at all, and what else they can associate to the runoffs as far as the lake is concerned and what might accumulate at the mouths of the washes.

He explained that they studied water quality and collected surface water and shallow ground water samples <u>from January 2012 to through</u> the recent monsoon season and concluded that we don't have a runoff water quality problem here in Lake Havasu City, although there are some concerns and red flags with <u>lead</u>, manganese and phosphate levels in surface and ground water that they will <u>examine</u> more closely,

7. Presentation from Water Resources Research Center from the University of Arizona-Doyle Wilson, LHC and Brittany Choate, WRRC

Doyle Wilson introduced Brittany Choate, Research Associate with the Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) an extension unit of the University of Arizona, involved in research, outreach, and education around Arizona's water issues and explained that the WRRC approached him <u>about what we may be able to do to include environment concerns when</u> <u>considering</u> water supplies and management demands of the Colorado River.

Ms .Choate gave a presentation on the WRRC programs that address environmental flows and water demands of the Colorado River Region, and how connections between environmental and human demands can create opportunities for water management that is mutually beneficial. She further explained that it is their hope that the information that they gather will help organizations such as CCRSCo determine local priorities pertaining to water demands of the environment in this region that are not well understood, and where known, various environmental flow

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Deleted: and asked how they could address Deleted: environment people about the consideration of demands, such as species-specific water demands, can be compared with current conditions to identify areas needing protection or restoration.

She concluded by stating that the next step for WRRC is to look at building the first road map for the state of Arizona that incorporates the environment into Arizona water planning. She stated that if anyone was interested in helping with the project they are welcome to participate. They are hoping to identify common water management objectives between industrial, municipal, agricultural and environmental sectors and developing some strategies to meet those objectives and identify opportunities for considering the environment in future decision making. The overall goal is to figure, out whether there is room for the environment at the table and if so, where and how that can be accommodated. Those meetings will be taking place early next year, in February and if the group is interested she would be happy to get more information if the group is interested in participating in the meeting.

Ms. Choate introduced her colleague Ms. Candace Rupprecht, Program Coordinator for WRRC. Ms. Rupprecht gave a presentation on the Conserve to Enhance Program (C2E) that links water conservation and environmental benefits. She stated that they tested this concept through a pilot program in Tucson and 60 participants began a two year enrollment in January 2011. Each quarter the participants receive a survey and a donation request on their billing statements. Since the implementation of conservation actions, including rain water, 1.6 million gallons of water was conserved, \$1,700 was donated, and the total value of saved water was \$3,100 or \$3.60 per household per month. Ms. Rupprecht stated that communities that have identified environmental priorities, that have leaders who seek the value in linking conservation activities with environmental benefits, and have advanced water billing systems and software are the type of communities they are seeking to get involved. She said based on their experience they find that communities most ready to adopt C2E programs have at least one of these key elements and they are currently scoping locations throughout Arizona to find communities that would like to develop their own C2E program. They understand that programs like these don't get accepted or implemented over night and they are here to help scope out the partners who will help develop successful programs and provide the tools to keep partners on track. She concluded her presentation by inviting everyone to the WRRC Conference 2013 - Water Security from the Ground Up, on March 5, in Tucson.

8. Set next meeting date

Mayor Nexsen stated that his office will contact members with some dates to choose from in the near future for the next meeting.

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Mayor Nexsen declared the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

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