



# Source Water Protection & Watershed Management in Washoe County

## DRAFT MEETING NOTES

### Team Meeting

Date: June 15, 2017

Time: 2 to 4 pm

Where: TMWA Office Independence Room 1355 Capital Blvd. Reno, NV 89502

#### Attendees

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCI: Lynn Zonge, Jill Sutherland</li> <li>• NDEP: Kim Borgzinner, Birgit Henson</li> <li>• NDOT: Zack Blumberg</li> <li>• City of Reno: Theresa Jones</li> <li>• City of Sparks: Toby Ebens, Andy Hummel</li> <li>• One Truckee River: Lynda Nelson, Meg Parker, Emily Ulrich</li> <li>• Stantec: Terri Svetich, Jeff Curtis</li> <li>• TMRPA: Chris Tolley</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TMWA: Kara Steeland, John Enloe, Robert Charpentier; Andy Gebhardt</li> <li>• Washoe County Remediation District: Chris Benedict</li> <li>• Washoe County Community Services: Vahid Behmaram, Walt West</li> <li>• Washoe County District Health: Chris Peterson</li> <li>• Washoe County Parks: Cheryl Surface</li> <li>• WRWC: Chris Wessel</li> </ul>
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#### Handouts

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda</li> <li>• 2017-04-11 Meeting Notes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2017-04-11 Team Meeting Responses to Questions</li> </ul>
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### **Welcome**

Jill and Lynn welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Everyone introduced themselves.

### **Program Catch Up**

#### **Watershed Management**

Terri Svetich explained the status of the Gap Analysis currently being completed by Stantec. The Gap Analysis is focused on the Tributaries, not the entire watershed, because it is the area that the Storm Water Committee is required to focus on. These data will fit into the larger watershed project. They are working on a consistent template to fit into the larger plan with mapping, stakeholders, compliance issues, etc. The plan they are working on will be a standalone document.

#### **Discussion:**

Stakeholders include golf courses, ag users, HOAs, and other jurisdictions

The tributaries will be included in the watershed plan



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### Source Water Protection Program

This team can indicate how best the tributaries information and watershed plan are folded together with the source water plan

#### **Source Water Protection**

Jill described the status of RCI's efforts and the role of the vulnerability assessments, our coordination with all public water systems, GIS entities, and jurisdictions.

#### **Discussion:**

Ag wells were brought up relative to groundwater investigations and should be included as a water quality concern.

The ditch companies should be contacted because they also bring in the irrigators. John Enloe and Kara Steeland will provide this contact information to RCI.

#### ***Review April 11 Meeting Discussion***

#### **"Stakeholders concerns regarding water quality" (Question 2)**

Results summarized by Kara Steeland:

- Impacts of development
  - Drainage encroachment
  - Planning/permitting process
- Lack of understanding & need for education
  - Storm water
  - Water quality degradation
- Lack of funding for implementation or enforcement
  - TMDL
  - List of potential pollutant sources

#### **Discussion:**

The challenge is the gaps in mandates: regulatory, funding, and authority. Collectively determine the gaps and the tools we should use to fill the gaps.

How will we determine priorities to reach our goals: what are we not going to do, to doing something else?

No single entity for a coordinated effort. How will responsibility be determined or one entity assigned to make sure actions get done?

Through the OTR project, the NLT is developing a partnership coalition with a partnership coordinator, an action plan, and leveraging resources and funding. They will run a pilot project for a year. The method relies on voluntary agreement.

Most effective assignment of responsibility is legal agreements between jurisdictions that will not dissolve with a change in personnel. Legal agreements must have political will and can be an uphill battle.

Before process can be established, identify key concerns: surface water, ground water, who regulates, etc. Need to clearly defined challenges and benefits.



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#### **“Desired and best possible outcome from this planning effort” (Question 3)**

Chris Tolley summarized results and asked the group to consider what should be added and if there are clear priorities for these outcomes.

- Informs other Plans
- Collaborative
- Includes education of public and staff.
- Focuses on funding of desired outcomes
- Informs land use patterns
- Identifies roles in water quality collaboration
- Facilitates long-term political buy in – can it be realized?
- Clearly defined goals – components useable in future planning
- Establishment of baselines – what defines good or bad
- Methods to engage public understanding
- Well organized and presented

#### **Discussion:**

Best outcome would both inform local and regional planning, as well as provide a specific list of fundable projects.

General discussion about engaging and educating the public: audience, message, approach.

- Education/outreach efforts have mixed success.
- Many organizations implement and/or fund a multitude of on-going education/outreach efforts.
  - WRWC funding
  - Storm Water Committee: funding and implementation
  - Nevada Land Trust/One Truckee River: implementation
  - Integrated Source Water Protection Program: funding and implementation
  - Non-Point Source Program annual grant funding
  - TMWA implementation
  - Truckee River Fund funding
  - Planning agencies: implementation (public outreach)
  - Health District implementation
- Collectively can we be more effective at education/outreach, and how?
- Nevada Land Trust completing a study to identify education efforts and gaps; they will provide results to the group.
- The following persons volunteered to be on the Education Steering Committee: Robert Charpentier, Kara Steeland, Linda, Meg and Emily, Chris Wessel, and Chris Tolley.
- What resources are available and what does “education” mean?



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### Source Water Protection Program

#### **“What the plan needs to be in order to be useful” (Question 4)**

Results were summarized by Chris Peterson:

- Meets funding agency criteria, for example: 9 elements for 319 Program
- Works – collaborative
- Includes surface and ground water
- Easily updatable
- Current technology
- Simple to understand and use
- Inclusive

#### **Discussion:**

General concurrence and many of these items brought up in previous discussion.

#### ***Choose Desired Outcomes***

The team members were asked to write down their top three desired outcomes for this planning effort and the first two steps to achieve these outcomes.

These were read aloud at the meeting by each member of the group.

Written results (note cards) were collected from the group.

\*\*\*See attachment.

#### ***Next Steps***

RCI will compile the meeting notes and card responses and send them out to the team for review, edits and suggestions for the next meeting.

As a reminder, all of our meeting notes, presentations, and handouts are available on the project website at [http://www.rci-nv.com/source\\_water\\_protection/](http://www.rci-nv.com/source_water_protection/)

The next Team Meeting will be August 3, 2 – 4 pm.