

## **Appendix B**

### Meeting & Public Participation Documentation

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**MINUTES**  
**CHURCHILL COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
October 8, 2014

Chairman Richardson called the regular meeting of the Churchill County Planning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Churchill County Administration Complex, 155 North Taylor Street, County Commission Chambers, Fallon, Nevada.

**PLANNING STAFF PRESENT:**

Michael K. Johnson, Planning Director  
Terri Pereira, Associate Planner  
Debi Kissick, Recording Secretary

**CIVIL D.A. STAFF PRESENT:**

Ben Shawcroft, Deputy District Attorney

**Roll Call.**

**Present:** Chairman Stuart Richardson, Vice-Chairman Tom Lammel, Member Deanna Diehl, Member Doug Hill, Member Paula Utter.

**Absent:** Member Charlotte Louis, Member Mary Lou Lehman.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Chairman Richardson** explained the procedures for scheduled agenda items and verified with the Recording Secretary that the agenda had been properly posted and that notification was sent to all landowners in accordance with NRS and the Churchill County Code. Then he asked for any changes to the agenda. The Recording Secretary stated that there were none.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Chairman Richardson** asked for any public comments for anything *not listed* on tonight's agenda. There were none.

**MINUTES**

**Review and Adoption of Minutes:** August 26, 2014 Workshop Meeting & September 10, 2014 Meeting

**Motion:** To approve the August 26, 2014 Workshop Meeting as written, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Member Doug Hill, **Seconded by** Member Paula Utter, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

**Motion:** To approve the September 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes as written, as corrected, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Member Deanna Diehl, **Seconded by** Member Doug Hill, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4), **Abstained:** Member Paula Utter.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The following Temporary Use Permits for a manufactured home or RV to be used on a temporary basis for hardship situation were acted upon:

**Robert & Rebecca Stanard** – 5780 Workman Road, APN 008-071-42, Origination Date 11/13/02, for a caregiver to reside in.

**Chairman Richardson** asked for any comments or questions regarding this request; there were none.

**Motion:** To renew the temporary use permit for Robert & Rebecca Stanard for one more year based on the information provided in the renewal application, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by**

- Compliance with Churchill County Code and
- Inspection by the Nevada Manufactured Housing Division, should they set up additional mobile homes.

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Member Doug Hill, **Seconded by** Member Paula Utter, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

**Chairman Richardson** thanked Mr. Storm and advised him that there is a ten-day appeal period and to contact the Planning Department for further permitting procedures.

**7:28 p.m. Resource Concepts Inc.** – Presentation about the Integrated Source Water Protection Program, protecting drinking water sources in Churchill County.

**Chairman Richardson** stated that we had some special guests this evening and asked them to come up and introduce themselves.

**Kim Borgzinner** of **Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Bureau of Water Pollution Control** at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001, Carson City, Nevada introduced a program that she coordinates and manages at the state, the Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP). ISWPP is a program through which we get \$270,000 a year from the federal government as a grant to source water protection activities throughout the state. This program was previously called the Wellhead Protection Program, but we renamed it because we revised the program to be more inclusive of other activities. This program is a way for us at the State to offer services to the local communities to develop plans to protect the drinking water wells that are regulated by the State of Nevada. All of the counties have mobile home parks with public water systems, maybe county owned public water systems, small taverns and bars and grills, a multitude of different municipalities or special interest districts like the 318 district, that manage drinking wells that are regulated by our agency. Our goal is to get those public drinking water wells scientifically delineated. In other words, there is an area around the well on the land surface that if something were to happen in that area, there is a potential for that pollution or that contaminant to enter the well through the groundwater below that area. We have scientists with a company called RCI (Resource Concepts Inc.) that we have contracted with to do this work for the local communities.

In the past we've given money directly to the municipalities to develop these programs on their own, and we had really good planning momentum over a 20 year period. Then we had a planning lull recently. So we took a step back and realized that the larger municipalities who have the resources available to administer a grant have already done them. The ones that don't have the resources to administer a program like this are things like mobile home parks, mom and pop operations, or small 318 districts where the operator is the person who runs the entire facility and doesn't have the time to put into this type of a planning effort. So we tried to strategize how we would get them included in a county-wide plan or a multi-jurisdictional plan so that their drinking water sources are also protected by the agencies that have the ability to do that. We developed an approach to go county by county and there are 17 counties in Nevada.

There are two national policy acts, the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The overhead display showed a list of various agency programs they have and coordinate with under this effort. She said the source water protection is the link between all of the different programs to help prevent pollution of the groundwater so that we preserve that resource. About six years ago we started this program, Douglas County was our pilot community and they had already done wellhead protection plans for most of the water

systems within the county. The effort was mainly just coordinating with all of the different agencies and getting the right people at the table to develop a team of people who can make decisions about how they're going to manage those resources and how they are going to protect those areas. We were able to use our consultant at the time to delineate maps and provide tools for the Regional Planning Agency, and we were able to digitize in ArcGIS all of these wellhead protection areas, update them all, and give them the tools to use in planning. And then we ask them what they want to do to manage these areas. This is not a prescribed program so we don't come in and tell them what to do. We really want the locals to be the driver behind what they decide to do because they have the best knowledge about what is going on in the local community and what the issues might be, or lack of issues, or what they might want to do as far as education or promoting drinking water protection. So Douglas County took a unique approach and decided to start a coordination effort and make sure that everybody was aware, so if a new development came in, that the developer knew that they were in one of these sensitive drinking water areas. They didn't want to restrict economic development or have any onerous regulations or codes put in place. They developed a checklist for a new development to come in and they had to address each item of the list, and one of the items they had to check was if they were in one of the drinking water protection areas or source water protection areas, and that forced the developer to look and see where they are located and what precautions they might need to take. Then that triggered a process internally with the planning agency so the planner that reviews the plans would know to send that set of plans to the public water system for the well that would be impacted so they could make public comments that would be incorporated into their permit to build there. So it created a great communication process to pre-emptively look at those areas for any potential risks. If it is a housing development the risk is less than if it is a gas station.

We're now done with Douglas County, White Pine County, Nye County, and Lyon County. We're hoping that Carson City will be taking their plan to their board of supervisors for approval within the next month or two. Before going into the communities we like to do a lot of education up front and transparency about what we're doing, and what the program is about. Water is a hot topic and we don't want anybody confused about what this program is or isn't. We do workshops, we come in and explain that this is a voluntary program, it is not mandated. It offers technical assistance and finances through grants to implement the program when it's done, so that it bring some resources into the community, and really it is directed by the local planning team that we develop. We like to build that planning team and that is why we're here today. We'll bring this before the Board of County Commissioners next month, but we'd like to have support from the local boards and for them to designate staff members to participate on our team, if this is something that they want to participate in. We basically hi-jacked Eleanor and explained what the program is, so she set this up for us to be able to come and explain it to you and then get support for doing this here in Churchill County. Our goal would be to coordinate with the City of Fallon and other communities, but that won't hinder us from coming in and doing the work if one agency decides they don't want to participate, we're still going to offer this service to other agencies. The downfall to that, if you choose not to participate is that we only have enough resources to provide this service on this type of a dedication level every ten to twelve years. So if you decide that this isn't something that you're ready for now, it could be ten to twelve years before we are able to come back into Churchill County again. We've been trying to go down the watershed, which starts in Alpine County, goes through Douglas County, then Carson City and Lyon County, so Churchill County is next in line, to pretty much complete the Carson River Watershed. We will

probably look to go into the Truckee River Watershed next, which will take a lot of our resources and time as well.

I wanted to give you an overview of what this program is about. Now I'll turn it over to Jill, with Resource Concepts Inc. and they are essentially the drivers for making sure they do everything from drafting the plan for you, organizing and facilitating plan meetings. The staff that we're asking you to dedicate to the process is just time, time to attend the meetings, time to review what we're doing, to provide local input and local expertise, and a flavor for what the local community is really looking to accomplish, because it is a local plan. With that, I will turn it over to Jill.

**Jill Sutherland, PE for RCI (Resource Concepts Inc.)** at 340 N. Minnesota St., Carson City, NV 89703-4152 said we're a local consulting firm; mostly engineering and environmental resources and we have been in Carson City approximately 35 years. We've been working with Kim on this contract for a couple of years. So what does technical assistance mean to you? Basically we are there to assist you in developing the plan. A lot of times, as Kim mentioned, the local water system does not have the resources to carry the plan all the way through. Basically we are looking at forming a comprehensive county-wide plan for protecting public drinking water resources. Using a voluntary approach to empower communities to develop and implement a plan to protect their drinking water supplies is key for this process. There are a few other communities who have expressed interest in our program, but we felt Churchill County would be the next logical place to offer this program. It is supported with funding from the Bureau of Water Pollution Control, so we are under contract with NDEP. But we are guided by the local planning team in what we develop. The objective of the plan is really proactive; it takes a lot less effort and money to protect groundwater than to clean it up once it has been contaminated. We help your community protect your drinking water.

Plan benefits:

- Gather water system information and document all of the small public water systems. So you can get an overview of where your drinking water resources lie, rather than relying on each individual public water system to protect their own resources.
- It gives a broader perspective for developing a plan for those drinking water resources. The past wellhead protection program really relied on the individual water systems to protect their wells. A lot of the water systems are too small to really come up with a comprehensive plan.
- Facilitate countywide collaboration for education, tool development, and implementation. A lot of the things that you might want to do to help protect drinking water in your community are things like education, development of tools—like Kim mentioned bringing source water protection to the attention of planners when they are approving new businesses.
- Once you adopt a plan, there are additional funds available through Kim. And through us you get assistance in implementing portions of your plan.

Plan Development Process: There are five steps and we are just getting started here and we want to make sure that we have the support of the community to participate in the program.

1. Form Local Planning Team

- Typically this involves a representative from the County, Public Works, Planning, Public Water System Operators. Usually everyone is invited to attend and typically the larger water systems participate. But we are also looking for business leaders that like to

participate in the planning process, and educators, so it is a little bit broader than just water system operations.

- Attend five fairly large group meetings over a period of six to seven months where we present what should be in the plan, get input from the team members, go talk to the water systems, pull together all of the technical information, then we come back to the team with a document or a summary for the team to review and provide comments on. And to also provide us with direction on where we need to go next with the plan.
- 2. Gather water system information
  - The state has a lot of information on public water systems already, so we use that as a base, then contact the water system operators and make sure that it is up to date and that it represents how they want their system to perform. And if they have plans to expand their system, for instance if they have a location for a new well to make sure that we address that location as a place to protect your potential drinking water as well.
- 3. Facilitate Map groundwater capture zones around wellheads
  - Based on each well you kind of map on the surface, based on the groundwater characteristics in that area, where contaminants might run if you had a contamination from the surface. How far away would it be and how long would it take to get to your well?
- 4. Inventory facilities or activities within that boundary near wells that might release pollutants
  - You may have a well where there are no commercial activities or developments within the area. Or you may have a well closer to a commercial area where you have a gas station or a business that has hazardous materials on site. That is the type of information you want available to the public water system operator. Once we pull that technical information comes the fun part.
- 5. Developing strategies and an action plan to protect drinking water quality for the communities in Churchill County.
  - It is guided by the communities and participants on the planning team. NDEP has very flexible objectives as to what they are looking for with strategies towards protecting your drinking water.

Strategies to protect drinking water resources:

Examples of strategies within management areas that other communities have done successfully, and they all have different strategies and an action plan that is specific to them.

- In some cases they have developed county-wide strategies such as getting a program in the elementary school or middle school education about groundwater and this is where your drinking water comes from. So they can carry that message that drinking water is a valuable resource to their families and into their future.
- Lyon County asked for some help with their Household Hazardous Waste Program. They had been looking at trying to get one going for quite a while to collect household products that could be potentially hazardous, so we drafted up framework for them so they can move forward in the long run to provide funding for that program.
- You can develop strategies that are specific to those management areas. She referred to the jellyfish-shaped figures on the map on the overhead display, depicting capture zones. They mapped the area around the well and based on what direction groundwater is flowing the zones are laid out, and actions you can take within those management areas. Basically, do you want to do anything different within that management area as opposed to outside of it? You could develop source water protection ordinances if you really had a

concern. Or maybe you just want to reach out to businesses within that area and provide them with information about their vicinity to our public water system well.

- Nye County really wanted to focus on providing training for their emergency responders, particularly if they had a spill or a hazmat incident that was in one of these capture zone boundaries. This way their first responders knew that they were near a drinking water source.

Community Specific Strategies:

- In Mina and Luning, down near Hawthorne, they really needed fencing around some of their wellheads to protect them. So through Kim's program they made application to get some support with fencing.
- Mike Workman in Lyon County has pretty successfully used this program to close out a lot of old shallow wells in downtown Dayton that nobody used anymore that presented a potential risk to groundwater.
- Wellhead security improvements such as signage or fencing are effective. Right now Carson City actually has surface water sources for drinking water that come off the mountains there. And they were being impacted by new trails and things that are right up along the creek that were causing additional erosion right into their surface water intake. So through this program we got some money and were working with the Forest Service, Public Works and Open Space to improve the trailhead and trail stabilization and direct people away from walking in the creek and increasing the erosion there.
- Other things listed on the overhead were:

Education and Outreach

Household Hazardous Waste Program

Development Standards

Inter-Agency Coordination

Monitoring

New Infrastructure

Source Water Protection Team

**Ms. Sutherland** asked for any questions. **Chairman Richardson** asked if they involve private land owners in any great degree, other than managing their own hazardous waste. Do you go into private estates and look at their wells, or is it mostly public water systems? I know the state deals with systems serving ten or more people. But do you actually deal with private individuals? **Ms. Sutherland** said we deal with private individuals, not private residences. You have to fall under that public water system classification, and you're already regulated by the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water; and they really look at how your system operates, your monitoring, and what the water quality is. But a lot of the water systems in the county, such as gas station-mini markets, restaurants and taverns and some small residential development systems are privately owned systems that are actually public water systems. And those owner operators are encouraged to participate and give us whatever input they have and their concerns.

**Member Hill** shared from his personal experience; I spent \$4,000 on my well issue because it was sucking up sand. I had a guy come out four months ago and I was at 39-feet then. I'm now down 43 feet deep. We're losing water very quickly and we have a very valuable watershed. I know there are a lot of people in this valley with shallow wells and they are going to have to go deeper in the near future, which means they will get into a different strata. If we know where the major users are, and as a board member, if someone comes into town and wants to put in a large facility for recycling, hazardous waste or whatever, we need to



know about the watershed and the effects it could have. I am also concerned about commercial use and how much water they plan to use and possible impacts to our water supply. I spoke to a well driller and he said that every time they drill a well they have to go to the State, and I asked him if other counties have building permits when a well goes in; and he wasn't sure whether the counties had them or not. I think maybe we should look into the County Building Department being sent a copy of plans whenever a well goes in so the County will be aware of where the wells are. There are different ways to do wells, you can bore a casing indirectly without packing gravel around it to keep sand from flowing in and I think that might have something to do with pollutants too. On my street there are 12 lots and there are four different companies that have put wells in there, and two of them are from the local area and two of them from outside. So I'm interested in the wells themselves and how they're being done and the future of the groundwater system for everybody, not just the public water systems. It would help us as a board to know where these major things are going on in our decision making as to whether to allow something or not or what restrictions to place on the special use permit. **Ms. Sutherland** felt Member Doug Hill raised several good points, and some of them Kim may want to address. There are some things the program can do and there are some that it cannot. Looking at people's individual wells or regulating their individual wells is really outside the scope of this program. It does provide an overview of hydrogeology for the area and we try to do it in a fairly straightforward manner that can be used for planning purposes, and updated as the science expands.

What you can do through the program you can have a strong educational component, and all of the counties have done this. We love it on the local planning team, if you have an educator or somebody from the school district who is the curriculum coordinator that participates on the team. In fact Douglas County developed a curriculum and incorporated it into their science curriculum, and it is specifically about drinking water protection. They are focusing on asking the kids what they can do. Do you change your oil in the driveway and dump it out in the back yard or do you put it into a container and take it to town? Because that is something that happens in rural communities where it is a long way to take your oil to be recycled. Different interest groups are another way to get the education component in. Volunteer fire fighters really enjoyed the training that we gave them about basic groundwater and basic groundwater contamination processes. **Ms. Borgzinner** added, you're not unique in the sense that there are a lot of private wells. We encountered this with Douglas County as well and one of their biggest concerns was how to educate the community as to who regulates the development of wells (the State Engineer's Office with the Nevada Division of Water Resources), which is a different division than us. They are water quantity and we are water quality, a fundamental difference between our offices, but we do coordinate and work together. One of the things that Douglas County wanted to do was in the mapping tools that I was talking about earlier that we developed; they identified areas on these maps that were domestic well areas with a lot of individual septic systems. And we were able to look at where they were in relation to public drinking water wells. So there are a lot of ways to use the program to use the tools available so that you can use that in whatever way you want to at the local level. What I understand is that Douglas County sent out a letter to all of the private well owners about this program as well, along with information to guide them with their private well and what the potential sources of contaminants could be, and to do a reconnaissance of your local area and take a look at what is going on around you. Because we don't regulate private wells, we don't have the funding to address private homes. But we can find creative ways to reach out to that community and at least provide them with a level of education, if

that helps.

**Chairman Richardson** noted that we have a local water expert, Associate Planner Terri Pereira and he would like to nominate her to participate on the team, or to choose somebody that has similar local knowledge and expertise. **Ms. Borgzinner** was thrilled to have a name for someone local to serve on the team, because they do not have the local knowledge and expertise to let us know what the priorities are, what are the concerns, how do we maneuver through some of the sensitive topics that we're probably going to have to deal with when we do workshops with the public and what their concerns are. We can't do that without a proper planning team, so we are looking for support for the planning effort and for you to make some recommendations on who you think would be great. We want to be as transparent as possible.

**Vice Chairman Lammel** noted that dairies are one of the things that are going to affect our community much more with regard to water. Are dairies considered in your public water at all? **Ms. Borgzinner** said dairies are considered as a potential contaminant source, which means they may or may not be an existing problem. So when we delineate those land areas, there is a list of EPA designated facilities that might have an impact. Believe it or not, grave yards are considered as a potential contamination source, dependent upon their practices. Gas stations, auto repair shops, hospitals or pretty much anybody who would store, house or dispose of any kind of chemicals that could impact the water supplies if it were thrown out the back door. So it is done so that you can get an inventory of what is going on in those areas and look at whether there is a realistic impact or is there not? And if we do have an impact, what do we want to do—how do we want to address it? So that you can look at that inventory with confidence and when you move forward with planning decisions that you know what is going on in these areas. Another thing is the time of travel to those wells. I don't know if you noticed the different colored zones, one is a two year time of travel, one is five year and one is a ten year. The theory is that if a drop of oil were to get into that water, that drop of water that contained that oil would reach the well in that designated timeframe. Groundwater travels fairly slowly, but it gives you an opportunity to respond and react to that spill if you had a spill, and kind of have an estimate as to how much time you have. The answer to your question is yes; dairies are considered a potential contaminant source and we would look at if something happened, what the real threat was, how much time we would have to react and how do we do that as a community.

**Member Deanna Diehl** noted that we are a farming community and we rely on the irrigation water system to replenish the underground aquifer. So many of the wells, especially on farmland are shallow wells that are replenished through the irrigation system. **Ms. Sutherland** said that Douglas County has the same situation and they identified their irrigation canals and ditches on their maps as a resource to help protect them as well. It is okay to combine some of those surface water and underground water resources. So the focus was what could impact those irrigation ditches; that is a lot of science though. We start small and want to keep it as clear as possible and easy for the public to understand. We're not going to get into really intricate, scientific, expensive modeling, but we can look at a boundary around one of those irrigation ditches. **Director Johnson** noted that this program replaces the Wellhead Protection Program and asked if they had wellhead protection plans for wells in Churchill County in their files. **Ms. Borgzinner** confirmed that they do, and she could give him a comprehensive list of them. But what we're going to do for those communities that want to participate is revisit and update them and include them in the comprehensive plan. **Director Johnson** suggested that when you go to the Board of County Commissioners for your presentation, you could include them as part of your PowerPoint presentation as an

example, so they can get an understanding of things around here and how that would work. And referring back to your comment on individual owners and whether they could be included, if you think about the RV parks out there like the one on the Reno Highway, the rule is anything over 15 connections or it serves more than 25 people a day. So even Squeezy's Café out there would be a public water system even though it is owned by one person, because they serve more than 25 people a day at the restaurant. **Ms. Borgzinner** noted that it has been our experience that although we send them notifications for the meetings and whatnot, that a lot of the small taverns, bar and grill or restaurants, that they do not attend the meetings. They do like to be informed and we do like to delineate the restaurant so we pay them a visit and let them know that this is the planning effort and that they are invited to come to the meetings.

**Member Hill** commended them that the emphasis is on education and not enforcement. A lot of people will be antsy about anything around here, thinking that you're going to take their well away from them, or make them do something particular. I personally appreciate that you take an educational standpoint and leave it up to the Planning Department, us and the Board to look at other things and work with the County Manager as to how far do we want to go with this in future development. **Ms. Borgzinner** thanked Member Doug Hill for acknowledging that and emphasized that anytime you force something onto people it is not a good situation and they are resistant to it. There is no mandate, federally or state, for us to implement these programs, so it is a locally driven, locally carried out plan. We're here to provide that support and that guidance, but it really is up to you how you want to carry it out.

**Deputy District Attorney Ben Shawcroft** had the following comments and questions:

1. Earlier you referred to the education component of these plans and the example about starting the conversation among the developers to make sure that the conversation for protecting the source water takes place. What else have you seen in the development of these plans to help meet your goals? **Ms. Borgzinner** said that really relates to most of the implementation measures that the communities have decided to work with. A couple of examples Jill gave earlier. One of the programs we're working on now is Carson City's; there is a hiking area that goes right by their main intake for their drinking water system, which is like a little pond. They were in a struggle with State Parks because they wanted to promote the outdoors activities and the Division of Forestry has property up there. The struggle was getting everyone to the table to understand what the issue was and come up with a plan to help redirect those folks, because they called it "the swimming hole". They didn't realize people were swimming in the intake to their drinking water system and having their dogs playing in it. It was a real misunderstanding and the ability to put some fencing up around that and to redirect people with a kiosk that they are putting in to educate people. It has a map of the area and shows where the sensitive drinking water area is for hikers, it talks about erosion and the potential impacts that you can have. Another issue that we have in a lot of communities is septic systems. With the State septic density limits that we have and septic system nitrates leaching into the ground, the USGS has done numerous studies recently on the impact of nitrates to the shallow groundwater, especially for people on their own wells. I refer to Douglas County since I live there and am intimately involved in that project, but one of the things that they did was to develop the mapping tool. So in the east valley area they hatch marked it with a septic designation and private well designation. Then they sent letters out to everybody in that area advising them they were all on septic systems, this is the separation of the lots, and keep in mind that these are the common practices that are good for septic tank health, repair and

maintenance, and if your well is within a certain distance, or even not, because you're in this high density area, we recommend that you get your well sampled on a regular basis, etc. So a lot of it is education. Another project that we did that was really good—Jill talked about Mike Workman with Lyon County, they came to us because they had a problem with the wells that they needed to abandon. They were not just piped wells sticking out of the ground that needed to be abandoned, they were old wells, some were 10 x 15 foot holes in the ground, where people started to use them as a dumping area—they pulled a huge washing machine out of one of them. They needed to properly close those huge ditches in the ground. So abandoning wells is a big strategy too.

2. Do you actually visit all of these wells too? **Ms. Borgzinner** said she does not. **Ms. Sutherland** said that in the plan development stage it is usually just mapping. But if you identify an area where there are a lot of wells that have been or need to be abandoned, then you can put down as an action item to request money from NDEP to have somebody go out and contact the private property owners to ask if somebody can come inventory their wells and talk to them about dumping in those areas. It is kind of a multi-step process to get to the implementation of the things that you decide are the key issues in your community. **Ms. Borgzinner** added, we get the ideas from the planning team. So when Mike Workman came to me with his concern about these orphan wells around their main production well, at the meeting we asked him what he wanted to do and how he wanted to handle this. We went through the list of potential projects and looked at the money we had and then prioritized those projects.
3. So you are involved not only in the development of the plan, but also in the implementation as we try to come up with ideas on how to solve some of these problems. **Ms. Borgzinner** agreed. **Ms. Sutherland** added that another extreme they had with Lyon County was they had not only the City of Fernley, but the City of Yerington and Lyon County and they all wanted to participate. The City of Fernley was in the middle of revising their development code and they saw a need to include source water protections, but they didn't want to place a bunch of restrictions based on source water protection boundaries. They got hit really hard with commercial and industrial development ten years ago, so they are pretty sensitive to some of the industries that went in. So for implementation they requested to be able to include in their code a checklist of environmental permits that are already required to provide to somebody who comes to their community for various industries, and at some point in the process the companies/industries coming have to acknowledge that they understand they are required to meet those permit requirements. So they incorporated some code language and a checklist into their code.
4. Are you going to be going to the City of Fallon as well to ask for their participation? **Ms. Sutherland** affirmed they have contacted all of the public water system operators and invited them to come to this meeting or the Board of Commissioners meeting. We will send out information because it is usually a slow process because initially they think we're trying to sell something. We talked with the City of Fallon. There are almost 30 public water systems in Churchill County, the City of Fallon is one, but by far the largest and serves the most people, and I believe they are the only public water system here that has an existing wellhead protection plan. So talking with the City of Fallon, they said they have a recent wellhead protection plan, it's all been approved, so go ahead and start working with the County and we'd like to see where the process goes. **John Dirickson** added that the Navy has one as well.

**Motion:** I move that we send a letter of support for this program from the Planning Commission to the Churchill County Board of County Commissioners and ask them to go forward with it, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Vice-Chairman Tom Lammell, **Seconded by** Member Doug Hill, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

**Chairman Richardson** thanked Ms. Sutherland and Ms. Borgzinner for their time and coming out to share this information with us. A copy of the Fact Sheet they supplied for the public is attached (see attached, Exhibit “D”).

**8:18 p.m. Amendment to the Churchill County 2010 Master Plan and Bill 2014-F Ord. 32 an ordinance establishing an overhead utility corridor to be adopted into the Churchill County Master Plan** – Adoption of an amendment to Section 9, Public Services, in accordance with Assembly Bill 239 (2013) creating an aboveground utility plan for electric transmission lines passing through the county in recognized corridors, and other items related in the Churchill County Master Plan. Bill 2014-F is the associated ordinance amendment to Ordinance 32.

**Director Johnson** provided an overview that back in 2013 the Nevada Legislature decided that every county needed to create an aboveground utility corridor for aboveground utility lines over 200 kilovolts to be located in the established corridors. They will be pre-approved and will not need a special use permit. So they amended Chapters 278 and 704 of Nevada Revised Statutes dealing with transmission lines in aboveground utility corridors. So it was not like we could invent our own lines and guess what the surrounding counties were doing. We worked with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the corridors and Preston was able to get a copy of the shape files from the BLM and the Nevada Office of Energy (NOE). I believe you each got a map showing their recognized corridors. We are proposing to state that we agree with the corridors they came up with and add that map to our Master Plan, that says if a utility company wants to bring in a line to continue through Churchill County into California, and they hit one of those designated corridors, they won't need to get a special use permit from the County, they would just get their building permits and continue moving right on through the county. But if for some reason they are outside of those corridors, then they would have to get a special use permit as they typically would anyhow. This information will be included in the Churchill County Master Plan. We were not able to get anything from NV Energy, which also made this very difficult. But that is how we got here.

**Vice Chairman Lammell** asked if anyone considered whether there are any sage hen leks that are in trouble here, because that is a huge disaster for the West. And are there any archaeological sites in there? It looks like a whole lot of non-planning and put it all together and draw a line on a map to me. This will be to the benefit of the power companies and not necessarily anybody else. **Director Johnson** clarified that these lines are supposedly already recognized corridors, some for several decades. I was just looking at another piece of information that I had talking about NV Energy wanting to take a 69 KV line and update it, that came out from Lahontan Dam, hits Hazen and then comes across to Lovelock. These are just showing where those corridors actually are, so these already exist or have already been designated and pre-established by BLM and NOE for this purpose.

**Member Doug Hill** added to what Tom said, in his experience from the phone company he put in a utility line going to Silver Springs because Nevada Bell wouldn't meet us at the Churchill County lines, so we went clear out there. Half way through the project they got shut down by SHPO, the federal government telling me I'm going to go to jail and I'm going to get slapped with a \$20,000 fine because I got State Highway permission but I did not get the

underlying rights to be on the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) property. I would still think that even though we have utility corridor designated, they still have requirements by law if they find archaeological, dead bodies, pollutants, etc. they will still have to address those issues. I think Tom's got a point, but you're saying that they have already got it. To me, somewhere in the middle, this doesn't mean that they have the right to go full steam because they will have to address these issues if they come upon them. **Chairman Richardson** noted that is called the Supremacy Clause. Those are federal regulations and they cannot trump those requirements. Either way, that is not for the County's purview. **Deputy D. A. Shawcroft** supported this and reiterated that it is nothing the County would be involved with; these are corridors that are going in through a process with the State, with the federal government, before it even touches our desk so we are presuming that they have already gone through all of that process and checked out. The statute even says that we have to comply with what the BLM and Office of Energy are proposing as their corridors.

**Chairman Richardson** noted, there is a resolution to amend the Master Plan which then will go to the Board of County Commissioners with a recommendation from the Planning Commission. There is an ordinance amendment to amend Chapter 16 of Churchill County Code regarding permitting. The ordinance amendment will also go to the Board of County Commissioners upon recommendation of the Planning Commission.

**Motion:** to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Vice-Chairman Tom Lammel, **Seconded by** Member Deanna Diehl, **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

### **Public Comments**

**Chairman Richardson** noted that John Dirickson of NAS Fallon, who will be retiring soon, has done some incredible things for Churchill County. He has dealt with some incredibly resistant people in the southwestern corner of this country successfully, and I would like to applaud him and lament the fact that he will only be with us a short time. Please come and give us your farewell.

**John Dirickson** of NAS Fallon asked us to send shape files with the corridors onto him and, if possible through GIS add runways to it, both the Fallon Municipal Airport and NAS-F/DOD. That just brings it to mind for everyone, that the flight paths and pilot safety are another issue to consider. Anyplace that we have purchased the easements together, most of them preclude the passing of any transmission lines. **Director Johnson** indicated that he would ask Preston to include what John has requested and send them to Cindy or Rob at NAS Fallon.

What I wanted to tell you from our program, as I reported a few weeks ago the 90%-10% partnering with the County was agreed to. Since that point in time we have requested appraisals on 1,260 acres of land owned by six different owners. The first owner will be one of the Washburn parcels. It is due to us in early December. Hopefully we'll hit the road again and start getting some more easements going. There has been quite a bit of turnover in the land of the southwest, including the Director of Asset Management, which is a fancy term for managing everything that the Navy owns. That would include real estate, which is one thing we have always had to kind of work through as we developed the program. Part of the problem is that there is not a lot of this that has been done around the Navy until it was done up here. Hopefully now with some new leadership and a really good set of agreements that we have developed over these years and beat our heads against the wall so-to-speak in getting there, that now we spread out a little bit and make hay and quit fine tuning and developing forever our ability to buy an easement.



I have formally submitted my letter for retirement, which allows them to list for my position to hire within the next two weeks. Then hopefully they can bring in the new guy with some overlap with me so I can train them before leaving and it will be an easy hand-off and transition to the new guy. If you have a meeting in December, I'm hoping there will be two of us there. The Navy doesn't usually do this because it takes time and costs more money, but they're working really hard to make it happen this time.

**Member Doug Hill** said, since the emphasis of taking care of our adversaries is on air warfare, have you seen any increase in the air training activity out there? Are you allowed to say anything? It seems to me that we're going to have more people coming in, rather than less in the future, and more of a need for your position. I ran into somebody the other day that is anti- TDR program, saying that the government is taking property. I advised him that it is a voluntary program; nobody is coming in and forcing anybody to do anything. And now that I know it is 90%-10%, I'll be able to say that 90% of the purchase funds are coming from the Navy, coming into this community to help preserve it. **Mr. Dirickson** concurred and added that this program gives those owners who want to maintain and preserve agriculture an opportunity to sell off what they don't want to use, which is the development. Then they take that money and they can buy more land or build more facilities for their agricultural operations. **Chairman Richardson** concluded, I cannot thank you enough—you have been instrumental in enhancing the success of this program and you have left your mark on Churchill County.

**Chairman Richardson** asked for any public comments for anything *not listed* on tonight's agenda. There were none.

#### **Planning Department update regarding current issues**

**Director Johnson** had the following updates:

1. Bango Oil Refining had their open house last Saturday. Over the next month or so they are changing their name to Vertex Energy; it is a company that is a lot bigger and has a lot more financial resources and they're more international. I think it's a good move for them. Everybody working there will stay the same, just the company that pays their check will be different.
2. We were talking about a workshop meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup> so Ben Shawcroft can do our Open Meeting Law and Ethics training. Doug, you were bringing up something about the review of applications for wells and stuff; I believe that Chris Mahannah does that for the County. he goes through the newspaper every week and he goes through the State Engineer's web-site and he keeps Eleanor apprised of anything that is going on so that she is aware of any company that files a plan on doing a well somewhere in the county. He probably does this for other counties as well, so it is just part of what he does for his job.
3. Stuart has again offered to host our Christmas Party. When do you want to have it? Stuart said either December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>, both are Tuesday nights. The 2<sup>nd</sup> is like one week after Thanksgiving. The commission's preference was the 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Planning Commission, **Chairman Richardson** adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debi Kissick  
Recording Secretary





## Fact Sheet

### What is source water protection and why is it important?

Source water includes bodies of water such as lakes, springs, streams, rivers and wells that become our water supply. Preventing water supply contamination up front lessens associated health issues, the high costs of water treatment and source water development.

Protecting public drinking water supplies at the source and managing land uses and human-caused sources of contamination are the keys to preventing pollution *before* it enters our drinking water supply.

### What is the Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP)?

ISWPP is a comprehensive, voluntary approach designed to help communities develop and implement a plan that protects their drinking water supplies with an emphasis on ground water resources. Through the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), ISWPP helps communities protect their drinking water.

NDEP encourages, motivates and supports local source water protection activities; manages, shares and integrates source water protection information; develops federal, state and local source water protection partnerships; and integrates and implements source water protection at the state level.

### How does ISWPP work?

NDEP has eliminated the need for local community contract administration by contracting directly with a technical assistance provider to assist in every aspect of source water protection planning and implementation. NDEP coordinates Source Water Protection (SWP) with other government agencies for maximum protection of Nevada's water resources. NDEP may also assist communities in creating a public outreach plan that meets each community's needs, and by providing guidance on how to implement that plan.

### A community approach

We've taken a community approach, for the benefit of individual and surrounding communities. Each community will be able to consider what works best for them. This approach gives water systems an opportunity to participate. Each county will also have the opportunity to take a leading role with the flexibility of allowing for individual public water systems to operate independently where sensitive relationships impact local decision making. This approach will ensure the most efficient use of limited state resources.

### What do communities need to do?

With the assistance of the technical provider, communities will identify sensitive drinking water protection areas and activities that could contaminate ground water in these areas. Communities will also set SWP goals, procure resources and develop and implement a source water protection plan.

#### Applying ISWPP Statewide

Ultimately, NDEP's goal is to include all public water systems in the planning process. In order to successfully implement this goal, NDEP may take a broader county planning approach in which all of Nevada's 17 counties will have an opportunity to participate in the program and benefit from dedicated resources. Ideally, every county will be reached within a 10-12 year program planning horizon.

Source water protection in Nevada is dynamic and is considered in virtually all of NDEP's water related programs. NDEP has numerous programs established under the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act. These programs serve to protect surface and ground waters throughout the State. In addition to these programs, NDEP also provides assistance for and encourages communities to develop and implement local Community Source Water Protection Plans.

For a complete list of programs please visit [www.ndep.nv.gov](http://www.ndep.nv.gov).

For more information please contact:

Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
775-687-4670





## CHURCHILL COUNTY PLANNING

*Planning Commission  
Planning Department  
GIS Department  
Business License Dept.  
Zoning Enforcement*

October 9, 2014

Jill Sutherland, PE  
Resource Concepts Inc.  
340 N. Minnesota St.  
Carson City, NV 89703-4152

Kim Borgzinner, Staff II Assoc. Engineer  
Groundwater Protection Branch, NDEP  
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Ms. Sutherland & Ms. Borgzinner:

Thank you for attending the October 8, 2014 Planning Commission meeting for your presentation about the Integrated Source Water Protection Program, protecting drinking water sources in Churchill County.

It was very well-received by the Planning Commission and we will prepare a letter of support for this program from the Planning Commission to the Churchill County Board of County Commissioners. We look forward to working with you on this.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (775) 423-7627.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Michael K. Johnson".

Michael K. Johnson  
Planning Director

MKJ:dk





## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

155 No. Taylor Street, Fallon, NV  
Fallon, Nevada  
November 6, 2014

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Churchill County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:15 a.m. on the above date by Chairman Erquiaga.

PRESENT: Carl Erquiaga, Chairman  
Pete Olsen, Vice-Chairman  
Wade Carner, Civil Deputy District Attorney  
Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager  
Alan Kalt, Comptroller  
Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board  
ABSENT: Harry Scharmann, Commissioner  
Kelly G. Helton, Clerk of the Board

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chairman Erquiaga inquired if there were any public comments on issues that were not listed on the Agenda but there were none.

### **VERIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA:**

It was verified by Deputy Clerk Moore that the Agenda for this meeting was posted in accordance with NRS 241.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **AGENDA:**

Commissioner Olsen made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted.  
Commissioner Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote of the two Commissioners present.

### **MINUTES:**

Commissioner Olsen made a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 17, 2014 as submitted. Commissioner Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote of the two Commissioners present.

### **APPOINTMENTS:**

THE BOARD MAY REQUIRE THE PROVISION OF AN OATH OR AFFIRMATION BY ANY PERSON PROVIDING ORAL TESTIMONY AT A PUBLIC HEARING.

#### **8:15 a.m. Consideration and possible action re: Appointment to Planning Commission, Michael K. Johnson, Planning Director.**

Planning Director Johnson reported that the Planning Commission currently has one vacancy, due to the completion of Stuart Richardson's term. This opening was posted in the local newspaper and three applications were received: Stuart Richardson, Eric Blakey, and Rick Dentino.

The applications were reviewed at an open meeting posted in accordance with statutes. The application review committee included the Planning Director, the Planning Commission

**AND THE COMMUNITY CHEST IN STOREY COUNTY IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH NEVADA REVISED STATUTES CHAPTER  
244.2505 AND OTHER MATTERS PROPERTLY RELATED THERETO.**

Carol Lloyd, Library Director, reported that she is requesting that old library shelving be donated to Churchill Arts Council, Oasis Academy, and the Community Chest and, thus, she submits this Resolution for the board's consideration. This shelving has reached its useful life. It is being replaced as part the Library Repurposing Project. Churchill Arts Council, Oasis Academy, and Community Chest in Storey County are expanding their libraries and the shelving will assist in that endeavor.

Chairman Erquiaga asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

**Commissioner Olsen made a motion to approve Resolution 23-2014 declaring assorted Armanko and Hasco library shelving formerly used by Churchill County Library as surplus property and granting the shelving to Churchill Arts Council, Oasis Academy, and the Community Chest in Storey County. Commissioner Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote of the two Commissioners present.**

**8:45 a.m. Consideration and possible action re: Presentation of the Integrated Source Water Protection Program working with the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, Jill Sutherland, PE, Resource Concepts Inc.**

Planning Director Johnson reported that, on October 8, 2014, Resource Concepts Inc. (RCI), along with NDEP, gave a presentation on their revision of the Wellhead Protection Program into the new Integrated Source Water Protection Program to the Churchill County Planning Commission. The program provides technical assistance for a team of local water purveyors and local government representatives to develop a county-wide wellhead protection plan for public drinking water sources. RCI is contracted through NDEP to coordinate with the local team and to prepare draft documents for the wellhead protection plan. The Board of Commissioners is requested to approve implementation of the program and encourages all public water systems to participate in the program. Kim Borgzinner was present from the Bureau of Water Pollution Control.

Jill Sutherland, with Resource Concepts Inc., said they are here to provide the technical assistance for developing the plan. She provided an overview of the process and what technical assistance entails with regard to this plan. Source water really means public drinking water. A public water system means a system, regardless of ownership, that provides the public with water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances if the system has 15 or more service connections or regularly serves more than 25 people. In Churchill County, there are 28 public water systems, 6 of which are publicly owned and 22 privately owned. They all supply water to the public. The 2 largest systems are owned by the City of Fallon and NAS Fallon. All of the others are within the county and they range between serving 25 people at a local restaurant to 900 in the Sand Creek water system.

Ms. Sutherland said a Source Water Protection Program is a voluntary, county-wide plan for protecting public drinking water resources, which is supported with funding from the Bureau of Water Pollution Control, as there is no charge for their services. It takes a lot less effort and money to protect groundwater than to clean it up once it has been contaminated. The process involves forming a local planning team. Typically, they look for public water system operators, city or county representatives, business leaders, educators, or people who have an interest in putting forward the local needs and desires for groundwater protection. The next step is to



gather all of the water system information, much of which has already been compiled. All public water systems are regulated through the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at the State of Nevada but they verify what systems are out there, how they operate, and what their future plans are so that, looking forward, they can make sure that they address what their concerns might be. They do a lot of mapping and some modeling to try to identify the areas of risk around each well. Once they identify those areas of risk, the closer you get to the well, the higher the risk, they inventory the facilities and activities that are near those wells that might release pollutants. After step four, the local planning team should have a pretty good idea of where your resources are in the county and what the potential risks might be and then, based on that, they will work with the local planning team to develop strategies that are appropriate for Churchill County to protect drinking water quality going forward.

Ms. Sutherland provided an example of source water protection areas in a map from the Carson City Plan that they just finished. They have had a wellhead protection plan in place for almost 20 years but it was significantly out of date. They worked to update the plan and you can see in the map that it is color coded based on risk to the well, with the idea being that the closer you are to the well, the higher risk you have of contaminating the well with some activity you might have on the surface.

For an idea of what strategies the county might come up with, it could include a whole range of things and she has found the state to be extremely flexible on what they consider a strategy, as long as it suits the goals and objectives of the local community. Examples of countywide strategies are: education of elementary school children to get out the idea that our drinking water comes from groundwater and wells that could be contaminated by certain activities. Lyon County was particularly interested in exploring and developing a household hazardous waste program in their county. She believes the City of Fernley has a program but they were interested in making that a countywide program. Other strategies you might develop are for the specific management areas around the wells. You can do source water protection ordinances, where you actually define the source water protection areas in an ordinance. You might want to do outreach to businesses within those areas to educate them that they are near a well that is a source of public drinking water, which encourages them to control storage of hazardous materials and that type of thing. Nye County was particularly interested in training for emergency responders on how to respond to spills or overfills that might occur within that source water protection area so that they make a special effort to recognize that they could contaminate groundwater. There is a myriad of different ways you can go with the plan. There are some community-specific strategies on where a particular water system has a real urgent need for wellhead security improvements or they have some wells that need to be abandoned in an area that are old and provide a conduit for contaminants for groundwater or studies for new infrastructure projects where a water system has an existing water quality problem.

Ms. Sutherland said the benefits of the program would give public water systems throughout Churchill County an opportunity to participate in the wellhead protection program. The only systems currently in Churchill County that have wellhead protection plans are the City of Fallon and NAS Fallon. The others are much smaller and haven't really had the horsepower to get this type of plan into place individually. It lets the county develop measures locally to help protect drinking water sources, which is not mandated by the state. It also facilitates countywide collaboration on actions to implement the plan. It would be hard for one small water system to implement an educational plan for businesses in the area but, if you have a collaboration of all of the systems together, you can move forward with some of those strategies

that are a little more broad-based. Finally, she said she would be happy to answer any questions.

Chairman Erquiaga asked if there was any public comment. Terri Pereira, Associate Planner, said she did not see the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe listed and wondered if RCI will address their council because they have a large water system. Ms. Sutherland said they will certainly invite them to participate.

Planning Director Michael Johnson said he used to work for Pershing County and ran a water system at Imlay, which had something similar to this with a wellhead protection area. They had a well but, as the water comes out of that canyon above Imlay, that is where the water came from, so they created an overlay area and let the people who owned property there, as they were building, know that this was a place to make sure there was no dumping of oils. There was also a sand and gravel pit that happened to be part of that area so the discussion was, if they were changing their oil and doing things like that to their equipment, to do it on the west side away from where it would be near that wellhead protection area. It was a good idea to let people know what was going on around there and why it was important to be careful around this because it was protecting the water for the people of Imlay. It was a good plan and it worked well in Pershing County.

Chairman Erquiaga asked if he understood correctly that a restaurant in the county that is on a private well is considered a public water source if they serve 25 people, which was answered affirmatively by Ms. Sutherland.

Commissioner Olsen asked if this is all voluntary as far as our implementation of anything. Ms. Sutherland said it is all voluntary. You decide locally what you want to be voluntary and if you want to mandate anything. The state is here to help guide the process and make sure it meets the funding criteria through EPA, which is basically to include all of the wells, make sure they are delineating it in accordance with the scientific requirements that are in place, and make sure that we sit down and talk about developing an action plan, but those actions are all developed by the local planning team. The state does not drive that process; that is a locally driven process. The local community decides how they want to look at those specific areas and implement the plan. They do provide funding for that implementation effort. Commissioner Olsen said we are familiar with grants, so does this work like a grant where we have requirements for reporting and those sorts of things? Ms. Sutherland said that is not correct and that is the beauty of having the consultant work for the state. They have eliminated those grant requirements that would normally be there administratively. There is nobody locally that will have to fill out any reports or submit for reimbursements or anything. That is done through the contractor and the state. Commissioner Olsen said then our relationship will be with the contractor and you will do the verifying with us? Ms. Sutherland said that is pretty much how it works. They coordinate with the state regularly and are here to provide services to the county. They have a fairly good scope and have not found that they have been limited with what they could provide in terms of developing this process. For the county, they are looking for a commitment for some staff time to be able to formulate input to this document and review the document and make comments or ask questions to guide the process. Commissioner Olsen said he heard earlier that no match is required and we are only committing staff time. Ms. Sutherland said that is correct; staff time to participate in regular meetings and provide input and review the plan to make sure that it is a locally driven plan and not a consultant driven plan. Commissioner Olsen asked County Manager Lockwood if we have the staff time to devote to this program, which she answered affirmatively. She will devote time to it and will ask the Planning



Department to devote time, especially through the Planning Commission, which is a fairly good avenue to hold discussions.

Ms. Sutherland said they invited some of the public water system owners and let them know that they were making this presentation today. She left some cards and said she would be happy to hang around for a bit if people want to visit with her on this matter. Ms. Borgzinner said they want the plan to be as transparent as possible and they want participation from all of the public water systems, so there will be upfront workshops they will invite people to in an effort to solicit participation in the program. This is one of the reasons that they do the presentations at this level because they want to be invited into the community and have it supported throughout. It will be a transparent planning process throughout its life.

Associate Planner Pereira suggested that they also include the Building Department because they have a greater understanding of where the systems are, the capacity for those, and all of that information that she is unfamiliar with. County Manager Lockwood said Ms. Pereira brings up a very good point. The county public water system is surrounded by residential development. However, the county water system was built upon an old subdivision water system and there are still some septic tanks in the area, so it is a highly congested area with septic tanks and we are still utilizing the old sewer lines. We are already looking at trying to upgrade a portion of that system with concerns related to failing infrastructure, high operating costs of the lift station, and potentially, as is the concern in many parts of this urbanized area, when you have an overload of septic systems, there is always the potential for pollution. They are already looking at that and, should the board agree to participate in this program, she and Marie Henson from the Building Department will talk to them about our concerns.

Commissioner Olsen asked how they will interact with NAS Fallon and the City of Fallon or how is that expected to go. Ms. Borgzinner said they are currently working with them, as they have been working with Eleanor Lockwood, to start talking about some of the staff and see if they can give a presentation to the City Council. Commissioner Olsen asked if they would have their own program. Ms. Borgzinner said it is up to the community. You can have an individual program or you can have two programs. There is no requirement to have one program countywide. That would be decided as we move forward.

Chairman Erquiaga said he sees some folks in the audience who are from some of the privately owned water systems and asked if everyone is clear on what is being considered here today. He wants to make sure that everybody has their questions answered, if they have them. Commissioner Olsen said Comptroller Kalt just mentioned to him that conference room #136 is open if these people want to gather in that room to have discussions outside of this meeting once the presentation is completed.

**Commissioner Olsen made a motion to approve Churchill County's participation in and the implementation of the Integrated Source Water Protection Program. Commissioner Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**LETTERS RECEIVED:**

**A. Consideration and possible action re: Letter from Assemblyman Ira Hansen related to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) law enforcement field guide and increase in police powers in Nevada.**

County Manager Lockwood reported that Assemblyman Ira Hansen writes to the Churchill County Board of Commissioners related to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) law enforcement field guide and increase in police powers in Nevada. The BLM has now begun



He recently met with the Senior Center Finance Committee and representatives from the City of Fallon and Kafoury Armstrong to develop a financial dashboard to help those boards meet their oversight responsibilities.

Finally, Mr. Johnson's AP class recently conducted the Yucca Mountain survey and will make their presentation to this board at the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

CLERK/TREASURER HELTON: Clerk/Treasurer Helton was not present.

CIVIL DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY CARNER: Civil Deputy District Attorney Carner had nothing to report.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Erquiaga inquired if there were any public comments on issues that were not listed on the Agenda but there were none.

**CLAIMS AND PAYROLL TRANSMITTALS**

The claims and payroll transmittals submitted for this meeting were reviewed and approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.


APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Carl Erquiaga, Commissioner

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Pete Olsen, Commissioner

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Harry Scharmann, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kelly G. Helton, Clerk/Treasurer

  
Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board



*Office of the*  
**CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

*Carl Erquiaga  
Pete Olsen  
Bus Scharmann*

November 7, 2014

Kim Borgzinner  
Wellhead/Groundwater Protection  
NDEP Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
901 Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, NV 89701-5249

RE: Churchill County's request to participate in Integrated Source Water Protection Program

Dear Ms. Borgzinner,

Pursuant to the motion made during the regular Board Meeting of the Churchill County Commission on November 6, 2014, Churchill County hereby requests participation in the State of Nevada's Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP).

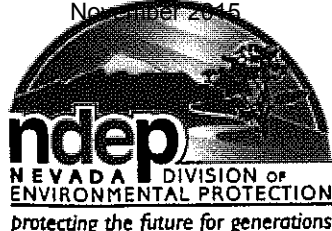
I appreciate the time you and Jill Sutherland took to present information on the ISWPP to the Board of County Commissioners on November 6, 2014. The protection and quality of the County's drinking water supply is of critical importance as we plan for our future. We understand that the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water Pollution Control (BWPC) administers the ISWPP for the purpose of providing technical assistance to both the County and local public water systems on drinking water quality protection and preservation.

Furthermore, we believe that the development and implementation of Community Source Water Protection (CSWP) Plans within our County are an integral part of our participation in this program and in protecting our drinking water resources. Therefore, the Board will designate a liaison to facilitate future County involvement in the ISWPP, and work with both NDEP and community representatives toward successful completion of CSWP Plans throughout Churchill County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Carl Erquiaga".  
Carl Erquiaga  
Commission Chair

cc: Eleanor Lockwood, Churchill County Manager  
Michael Johnson, Churchill County Planning Director  
Jill Sutherland, Senior Engineer, Resource Concepts, Inc.



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

November 26, 2014

Eleanor Lockwood  
Churchill County  
155 N Taylor St, Ste 153  
Fallon, NV 89406

**Subject: Save the Date: December 11 at 5:30 PM**

**Where:** Churchill County Commissioners Chambers  
155 N Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada

**Meeting:** Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP)  
Introductory Workshop for Public Water Systems in Churchill County

Dear Eleanor Lockwood,

Please join us for the first countywide Source Water Protection Plan workshop on December 11, 2014 from 5:30 to 6:30 PM to be held at the Commissioners Chambers at the 155 N Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada. The goal of the Source Water Protection program is to build a broad county-wide approach to wellhead/source water protection for public water systems in Churchill County.

The Bureau of Water Pollution Control has contracted with Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI) to facilitate this planning effort. This will be the first in a series of meetings over the next year that will ultimately culminate in new or updated community source water protection plans with action plans for implementation of local source water protection measures.

We are looking for water purveyors, public works and planning staff, local stakeholders and representatives to participate in the meeting. Your participation in this initial meeting is important to establish a well-rounded team for this community. The main task of this initial workshop will be to introduce the program, identify local planning team members, and discuss common goals.

During this initial workshop we will be developing a preliminary schedule to facilitate additional workshops and team meetings that will support the planning effort. Participating water systems will then be eligible to compete for further assistance through the ISWPP for implementation of action plans.

Please invite other appropriate persons as you see fit to the meeting. RSVP is appreciated but not required. You may contact Jill Sutherland with RCI, [jill@rci-nv.com](mailto:jill@rci-nv.com), or (775) 883-1600.

I am excited to be working in Churchill County over the next couple years and to provide assistance in any way I can throughout the planning process. I look forward to meeting you and please don't hesitate to contact me via email at [kborgzinner@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:kborgzinner@ndep.nv.gov) or phone at (775) 687-9503. You may also visit our website for more information on the ISWPP at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bwpc/wellhead.htm>

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kim Borgzinner, Program Coordinator





# Meeting Minutes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Countywide Team Meeting

Date: January 20, 2015

Time: 10 am to Noon

Where: Churchill County Commissioners Room

Presenters and Attendees:

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection:** Kim Borgzinner  
**Resource Concepts, Inc:** Don Henderson, Lynne Scott, Jill Sutherland,  
Lynn Zonge

**Carson River Estates HOA:** Chris Hansen

**Old River Water Company:** Jeff Hanson, Duane Johnson, Steve Bennet

**Carson Water Subconservancy District:** Edwin James

**Truckee-Carson Irrigation District:** Rusty Jardine

**Planning Department:** Michael Johnson

**US Navy:** Steve Bonaker, Becky Kurtz

**Churchill County:** Ron Juliff, Preston Denney

**Kennametal, Inc:** Lon Bartoli

**Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe:** Kevin Snodgrass, Cody Downs

#### 1. Welcome, Sign In, Introductions, Overview of Meeting

*Kick-off Meeting:* Lynn Zonge of Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI) welcomed the attendees to the Community Source Water Protection Plan (CSWPP) Countywide Team Kick-off Meeting. Following a round of attendee introductions and indication of each attendee's prior CSWPP experience, RCI's Jill Sutherland provided a brief outline of the meeting agenda:

- a. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) program overview
- b. identify major components of the Plan
- c. main purpose of today's meeting: to formulate the goals and objectives in Churchill County for the CSWPP.

#### 2. Source Water Protection Program Overview

*What the program is, and what the program is not:* Kim Borgzinner of NDEP presented a PowerPoint overview of the State-mandated program. The CSWPP is voluntary at the local level. It is funded through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and based on community needs with regard to planning relating water quality, not water quantity. The Plan does not address existing contamination or existing corrective actions, but looks forward to address protection of public water sources for the future.



# Source Water Protection Program

A review of national and local historical events demonstrates the changes in how waste is viewed to affect ground water and surface water. The State has taken a county-by-county approach to assisting public water systems in voluntary development and participation in a CSWPP to be adopted by the County and endorsed by the State. RCI is a third-party contractor assisting the Churchill County public water systems in developing a CSWPP.

*Benefits of collaborative planning:* Information contained in the community plans help the State to make decisions regarding permits and allocate funding for implementation and maintenance of plan components. Collaborative planning among public water systems throughout the county allows better communication, coordination and understanding between participants. The CSWPP does not exclude public water systems not actively participating in the development and implementation of the CSWPP from the Plan. All wells within the county are mapped and modeled, unless specifically directed to opt out by the public water system in which case existing wells would be included on mapping but not updated, modeled or included in protection zones and planning for future wells. The State approves funding based on significant implementation toward achievement of Plan goals and objectives.

### 3. Plan Components

*Form Local Planning Team:* Lynn Zonge addressed the meeting attendees as the Planning Team with regard to the Churchill CSWPP. It is up to the Team to direct RCI with regard to the Plan's goals, objectives and desired outcome as applicable to Churchill County public water systems and protection of those drinking water sources.

*Source Water Protection Areas:* A Churchill County map was displayed for the Team's review and comment with regard to well locations and zoning. Security and sensitivity of well location information was discussed. These maps are not released by NDEP or by RCI to the general public. Inquiries are directed to the local community for distribution of sensitive information based on their own policies.

RCI gathers information on the water system in Churchill County based on research on the aquifers. To obtain potable water, most wells reach into shallow or intermediate aquifers. The western areas of the County along the Carson River are recharge areas, whereas the eastern areas are discharge areas. The deep aquifer is poor quality water due to salinity; it is necessary to





## Source Water Protection Program

discourage flow from high salinity aquifer areas into drinking water aquifers. RCI models the wells and capture zones around each well within the County in 2-year, 5-year, 10-year, and sometimes 25-year times of travel, providing the general basis for identifying source water protection areas within the county. The Team will review this data and coordinate with RCI to direct the Plan with regard to special circumstances and incorporate planning for protection of future well sites.

*Potential Contaminant Inventory:* RCI is able to identify various types of potential contaminant sources (PCS) through State and Federal databases. The Team will assist in identifying PCS that are not identified through these databases. Open wells not properly abandoned would represent a PCS as a direct conduit to a water source. Identification of these PCS may be made by knowledge of a certain area, windshield surveys, inspections, review of permits, etc.

*Management Strategies:* Management strategies identify ways in which the CSWPP will accomplish the goals and objectives outlined in the Plan and are used to develop an “action plan” component. The Team is encouraged to reference existing County plans, rather than repeating or creating criteria already in place such as would be contained in the County’s Emergency Action Plan, Master Plan, or Zoning, for example.

*Contingency Planning:* New well siting for new development and potential resources to be called on in case of emergency situations will be included as one of the CSWPP components. Methods for protecting recharge areas for aquifer can also be considered under components of the CSWPP. The intent is to identify and include not only existing public water sources, but also to plan to protect future water sources and put those goals, objectives and strategies into the Plan so they may be recognized by the County and the State.

*Education and Outreach:* Examples of school programs which have been developed or augmented under other county CSWPPs were provided for the Team’s consideration. The State has funded tools and hosted outreach efforts for the educational component of many county Plans, and the Team is encouraged to consider this as an important component toward bringing up a new generation of informed population with conscientious behaviors based on the knowledge of where their drinking water comes from and the impacts of pollutants on those sources.



## Source Water Protection Program

### 4. Brainstorm Goals and Objectives

The purpose of today's meeting is to focus on the goals which will guide the entire plan in its development. Examples of goals and objectives developed by other county teams were presented for consideration. It was recognized that the focus of smaller water systems with only a few connections may be quite different from a larger water system with hundreds or thousands of connections, but the collaborative effort between public water systems will provide benefit to all. Protection of the Carson River which is the biggest source of recharge for wells in the County should be considered in the plan. The City of Fallon's Wellhead Protection Plan, updated recently, will be considered in the plan, but they anticipate limited involvement in the development of the County-wide Plan.

A brainstorming session included discussion of the following:

- a. Goals and objectives to be considered include identifying where grant funding and collaborative efforts can benefit program objectives.
- b. Another goal could relate to augmentation of an emergency action plan to deal with spills in or near canals and the river. It was noted that the fire department in Churchill County deals with emergency situations involving hazardous materials; this plan is not published to the public.
- c. Incorporate education and training resources for awareness of where protected drinking water areas are located.
- d. Mapping to show participating public water systems and adjacent property which may affect water system but be beyond control of the water system management.
- e. Facilitate communication and coordination to put protective measures in place and be notified of changes which may affect water quality without hindering development or growth and without imposing restrictions on property owners.
- f. Identify target audiences and messages for public outreach and education; pre-development education of new small public water systems regarding growth in areas attractive to new development.
- g. Notification and protection of stakeholders in all areas regardless of focus on developing high growth areas.
- h. Identify agriculture relationship to public water systems, because the area relies on open canals and surface water availability for both irrigation and aquifer recharge.
- i. Latch on to examples and existing goals and objectives, keeping in mind that goals should not inhibit growth or endanger personal property rights.



# Source Water Protection Program

- j. Organize special events and collaborate with existing programs such as “Ag in Classroom” to facilitate communication and educational goals in increase awareness of impacts to water quality.
- k. Recognize NAS Fallon’s importance within CSWPP in regard to emergency situation support.

RCI will send examples of goals and objectives out to Team members for further consideration. (Please refer to the SCOPED GOALS OR OUTCOMES summary sheet.) The Team members will communicate with RCI individually regarding further suggestions and direction in developing goals and objectives for the Churchill County CSWPP.

## 5. Teams needed to succeed

*Technical (system information, data review)*

*Public education and outreach*

*Planning and management*

## 6. Timeline, Next Steps

Meeting intervals of approximately six weeks apart seem to work well for County Team coordination. Between meetings, RCI will work with individual team members to define Churchill County-specific goals and bring technical information to the next meeting in mid-March.





# Meeting Minutes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Countywide Team Meeting

Date: March 3, 2015

Time: 10 am to Noon

Where: Churchill County Office Complex, Room 102

Presenters and Attendees:

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection:** Kim Borgzinner  
**Resource Concepts, Inc:** Jill Sutherland, Don Henderson, Lynn Zonge  
**Carson River Estates HOA:** Chris Hansen, Jim Perry  
**Old River:** Jeff Hanson  
**Wildes Manor:** Rick Sparks  
**US Navy:** Becky Kurtz  
**Churchill County:** Preston Denney, Marie Henson  
**School District:** Brian Byrd  
**Kennametal, Inc:** Lon Bartoli  
**Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe:** Cody Downs, Edwin Conway  
**Farm Bureau:** Sonya Johnson

#### 1. Welcome, Sign In, Introductions

Lynn Zonge of Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI) welcomed the attendees to the Community Source Water Protection Plan (CSWPP) Countywide Team Meeting. Around the room attendee introductions followed the welcome. RCI's Jill Sutherland provided handouts and a brief outline of the meeting agenda. Primary meeting agenda items included:

- Review and refinement draft plan goals and objectives developed at last meeting.
- Introduction and discussion on how information on the geology and hydrology in the planning area would be incorporated into development of the plan.

#### 2. Review / Refine Draft Goal and Objectives

The draft Churchill CSWPP goals developed based on inputs at the last meeting were placed on the screen for group review and edit. Changes resulting from this review included:

- Strike "the availability of" in the first goal.
- Strike "resource" and replace with "quality" in the second goal.



# Source Water Protection Program

- Edit the third goal to include the following wording: “Increase awareness of the source of community water supplies and how to protect drinking water quality.”
- The fourth goal was retained as written.

These are the final draft Goals:

- Develop a local plan/program to ensure clean drinking water sources for future generations;
- Encourage water quality protection measures that will promote sustainable economic growth;
- Increase awareness of the source of community drinking water supplies and how to protect drinking water quality; and
- Encourage collaboration and communication between entities in and surrounding Churchill County.

### **3. Review / Discuss the Geographic, Geology, and Hydrologic Setting for planning area**

A power point presentation was provided jointly by RCI’s Lynn Zonge and Jill Sutherland on current findings relating to classifying area aquifers and their characteristics including water age, transmissivity and flow gradients. In this presentation aquifer characteristics were initially described and differentiated to show how this information would be modeled to help the participants identify Source Water Protection Areas.

This presentation generated group discussions and brain-storming under the following topics.

#### ***Aquifer Characteristics.***

- The open channel irrigation systems represent an important source of water recharge for the shallow aquifer in the basin. Many shallow wells in the basin are dependent on recharge from the canals. There is little potable water east or south of the community. Once the canals stops so does the available ground water and development potential.
- There is generally a consistent barrier and low level of transmissivity between the shallow and intermediate aquifers.
- The basalt aquifer is recharged from the shallow aquifer near Rattlesnake Hill as well as the intermediate aquifer.



# Source Water Protection Program

- The basalt aquifer is vulnerable to contamination through sand layers in the shallow sedimentary aquifer and the upper parts of the intermediate sedimentary aquifer that intersect the basalt.
- Abandoned or inoperable wells represent a direct conduit for contamination to all aquifers.

The following editorial suggestions were offered for the draft write-up entitled: *Geographic, Geologic, and Hydrologic Setting of Churchill County*:

- First sentence, strike 5,000 and replace with a 6,000 acre estimate.
- Last paragraph, first page—Replace “cottontails” with “cattails” in two spots.

## ***Potential Contaminant Sources.***

A general discussion on potential contaminants ensued.

- Leaching from old, non-operational dumps was identified as a potential contaminant source (PCS) to groundwater. Sonya Johnson indicated that she was aware of at least three old dump sites in the basin and she planned on checking with other ol’ timers to see if she could identify the location and existence of others.
- Due to the wide-spread use and dependence on septic systems in this basin, this practice was identified as a PCS for purposes of this plan.
- Improperly disposed residual pesticides, paints, pharmaceuticals, and household cleaners were also identified as potential PCS. Sonya Johnson noted that the State Department of Agriculture and Nevada Gold hosted a community collection for these PCSs about 20 years ago. She expressed the viewpoint that another community collection was likely needed. Further discussion on this potential action item lead to how to fund and institutionalize a community program of this type for more frequent and inconvenient community access.
- The prevalence of farm dumps was also noted as a PCS in the planning area.

Jill Sutherland offered to email a listing of PCSs to the meeting participants so this topic could be further discussed and expanded at the next meeting.

## ***Infrastructure Needs.***

A discussion ensued on the options available to locate abandoned wells in the planning area and incentivize their legal closure by easing the financial burden on the owner.



# Source Water Protection Program

- One idea presented included the county paying for the abandoned well closure and recovering its costs through an added annual property tax assessment spread over a period of time. Exploring feasibility might be part of the CSWP Plan implementation.
- In terms of identifying the location of abandoned wells the suggestion was offered that this item could be added into the county's project review requirements for permitting new development.

## ***Future Development.***

Rather than future growth expanding west along the Highway 50 corridor as was originally assumed, the county clarified that the existing master plan also prioritizes future growth to occur north of Fallon and has constructed a sewage treatment in this area with capacity to handle this planned growth.

After the meeting Preston Denney with the county provided Lynn Zonge with GIS shape files that illustrate the location and extent of water and sewer service areas provided by Churchill County.

## **4. Data Review and Data Sharing**

RCI's Jill Sutherland indicated that she would forward to the group the initial mapping that was produced through the groundwater modeling by the next meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. This project mapping will be reviewed and utilized by the group to identify source water protection areas which will represent a discussion item at the May 26 meeting.

## **5. Timeline, Next Steps**

A meeting schedule for the planning process through this summer was provided in the March 3 meeting agenda. The next group meeting is scheduled to be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The primary topic for this meeting will be on the identification of Potential Contamination Sources (PCSs).

The next several meetings will be held in Room 102 at the County Administration Complex located at 155 North Taylor Street, Fallon.



# Meeting Minutes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Countywide Team Meeting

Date: April 14, 2015

Time: 10 am to Noon

Where: County Admin Complex Room 102

#### 1. Welcome, Sign In

Team Members Present:

**Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI):** Don Henderson, Lynne Scott, Jill Sutherland

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP):** Kim Borgzinner

**Old River:** Steve Bennett

**Carson River Estates HOA:** Jim Perry, Chris Hansen

**Wildes Manor:** Rick Sparks

**ENV-NASF:** Becky Kurtz

**Churchill County:** Preston Denney, Marie Henson, Michael K Johnson

**Truckee-Carson Irrigation District:** Rusty Jardine

**Kennametal:** Lon Bartoli

**Fallon Piaute-Shoshone Tribe:** Cody Downs, Kevin Snodgrass, Edwin Conway

#### 2. Review / Discuss

A brief slide show review of the Community Source Water Protection Plan (CSWPP) was presented to the Team by Jill Sutherland of RCI, including a summary of the Team's Plan goals, local hydrology modeling and capture zones. The Team was given an introduction to potential contaminant sources (PCS) and how they relate to the modeled capture zones.

- **Aquifers and vulnerability to contamination**

Shallow, intermediate and basalt aquifers within Churchill County were discussed in detail. The Team members were asked to review draft reports previously sent out by RCI to mark up and return any necessary feedback with regard to particular areas of vulnerability to contamination. Shallow aquifers, typically pertaining to the top 50 feet from the surface, are the most vulnerable to direct surface contaminants due to recharge or seepage from the river, canals and irrigation. Residential wells usually around 30 feet deep reach directly into the shallow aquifer, not only drawing from the shallow aquifer but also potentially creating a direct conduit for contaminants.



# Source Water Protection Program

Intermediate aquifers typically run between 50 to 300 feet from the surface and contain older water with a barrier of layers between shallow and intermediate. The chance of contaminants going downward is higher on the west side of the County. There is a greater potential for contaminants to travel from the shallow aquifer to the intermediate near existing wells that puncture through these layers. Because there is a strong vertical gradient in the basin, the flow is upwards from the intermediate aquifer to the shallow aquifer at the Playa.

The basalt aquifer extends under Rattlesnake Hill and is accessed by most of Fallon's wells as well as the Tribe's. It intersects the shallow aquifer in this area. Intersecting areas between the shallow and basalt aquifers, and the presence of wells penetrating into the basalt aquifer where there is higher transmissivity, potentially allows contaminants to spread very quickly.

- **Well Capture Zones**

Conceptual models were created for 2-, 5-, 10- and 25-year capture zones and sent out to Team members for comment and feedback. Mapping of water level contours show a northerly trend to the north of Fallon, and a southerly trend to the south. The capture zones displayed are intended to provide conservative estimates and serve as a guide as the Team develops the CSWPP. The model assumes uniformity of materials. Larger capture zones are reflective of higher transmissivity and higher well pumping rates. There are not a lot of outside PCS in outlying wells.

Mapping presented to the Team included a discussion of "sand stringers" which penetrate down into aquifers and act as conduits for PCS. The Team may consider source water protection boundaries in these areas, as a Plan component. When considering PCS, the State typically uses a fixed radius calculation of 3000 feet.

- **Preliminary Source Water Protection Areas**

Mapping of capture zones is a tool that can be used by the Team in considering source water protection areas (SWPA), or the areas to be protected by the CSWPP. Considerations in defining the SWPA include the 2-, 5-, 10- and 25-year travel of water to wells, fixed radius, parcel boundaries, zoning and land use, PCS and vertical gradients. Other counties have used 10-year capture zone mapping with parcel boundaries to identify SWPA, so that a parcel only partially within a capture zone would conservatively be fully included in the SWPA. Nitrates in shallow





# Source Water Protection Program

groundwater due to septic system density can be a consideration in deciding the SWPA, along with the potential for downward movement of mapped PCS from shallow to intermediate to basalt aquifers, and sandy soils which are mapped on the surface, penetrating through the shallow and intermediate aquifers.

- **Potential Contaminant Sources**

Identifying PCS for the purposes of the CSWPP is not as much about existing and known contaminant sources for which there may already be a corrective action plan, but rather it is about planning and future protection of water sources within the County. A DRAFT Potential Contaminant Source Summary table was distributed to the Team for review. This summary table would ideally be modified to include any particular areas of focus within the County.

The Bureau of Safe Drinking Water sets lists general contaminant sources by type, and requires water quality sampling by public water systems. A waiver can be applied if, for instance, a particular contaminant presents no risk in a certain area. Sources of information used in creating a PCS database include zoning, land use, discharge permits, EPA permits, assessor's parcel records, NAICS codes, old dump sites, windshield surveys and local knowledge, among others.

### 3. Timeline, Next Steps

The Team was advised that the next steps toward successful creation of the CSWPP include discussions with RCI staff regarding the aquifers and capture zones, and developing an inventory of PCS within 10 year capture zones to meet State minimum criteria. Well parameters can be used to modify computer modeled capture zones and buffer areas for planning and defining SWPA. For example, Carson River Estates, pumping 30-45 gallons per minute, would have a smaller capture zone as compared to Old River Water Company, pumping 1200 gallons per minute. Wells providing water to housing as compared to wells providing water for large agricultural areas with only limited residential areas will have different capture zones.

Various modeling anomalies were discussed with the Team, and further discussions will be held with individual water system operators to fine tune capture zone modeling for such issues as city wells in relation to surrounding wells, depth of wells and aquifers from which they draw, risk of PCS, etc. Consideration should be given to the deeper nature of newer residential wells,



# Source Water Protection Program

and to future developments which may tie-in to existing public waste systems or necessitate new smaller public water systems. Objectives with regard to developing a PCS inventory include identification of private well sites, inactive wells and abandoned wells which are possible conduits into aquifers. Properly abandoned wells should be removed from this concern. A management strategy was suggested to define parameters by which to identify PCS and incorporate PCS data into map layers which can be overlaid on the SWPA maps.

Jill Sutherland advised that RCI will be sending maps out to individual water systems including PCS indicators. There was discussion about including major rail and highway corridors as well as the high pressure fuel line which is maintained by Kinder Morgan. It is recommended that each water system prioritize management strategies to identify the necessary data and planning processes. Water systems should be aware that, as a voluntary program, there is no requirement to complete all strategies which may be outlined in the CSWPP, *but in order to receive grant funding from the State, any source water protection strategy must be included in the final CSWPP as approved by the State.*

Security and vulnerability issues, interagency sharing of information and accessibility by the public were topics addressed by Kim Borgzinner of NDEP and RCI's Jill Sutherland. While the CSWPP may be public information, specific technical information can be referenced in a non-public appendix. The public availability of SWPA mapping is based on the County's wishes.

## Next meetings:

- May 26<sup>th</sup> 10 to noon : Source Water Protection Areas and Management Strategies
- July 7<sup>th</sup> 10 to noon : Management Strategies & Public Education
- August 18, 10 to noon : Implementation Measures & Action Plan
- September/October : Draft Plan Review
- November/December : Final Plan Review

RCI will continue to work with each public water system to create pdf maps or shape files for 2-, 5- and 10-year capture zones. The Churchill Countywide SWPP Team Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.





# Minutes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Countywide Team Meeting

Date: May 26, 2015

Time: 10 am to Noon

Where: County Admin Complex Room 102

#### 1. Welcome, Sign In

Team Members Present:

**Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI):** Lynn Zonge, Lynne Scott, Jill Sutherland

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP):** Kim Borgzinner

**Old River:** Steve Bennett

**Wildes Manor:** Rick Sparks

**Churchill County:** Preston Denney, Marie Henson, Michael K Johnson

**Fallon Piaute-Shoshone Tribe:** Richard Black, Cody Downs, Kevin Snodgrass

#### 2. Review / Discuss

RCI's Jill Sutherland thanked the members present for coming to the Countywide Team meeting. A brief review of mapping, well modeling, and the effects of potential contaminants on aquifer types was given.

- **Conceptual Model Review** – The Conceptual Model report is available on the RCI FTP site for review by any team members. Well locations and capture zones were removed from the report and will not be made available to the public. Access to sensitive information is given to each individual water system for review and analysis. The availability of this information outside of the Countywide Team is controlled by each water system.
- **Potential Contaminant Sources** – The summary table and detailed list of potential contaminant sources within Churchill County have been created from various database sources, but there is a margin of error relating to these sources. This information has been mapped for use in deciding the risk of potential contamination within well capture zones and formulating management strategies and action plans. A demonstration of the mapping tool was provided to the team. Those team members who do not have the software required to view the maps in the GIS program may request pdf maps displaying PCS information.



# Source Water Protection Program

- **Source Water Protection Areas** – The next step for water system operators is to define appropriate source water protections areas. This will be an integral part of the CSWPP, providing the basis for developing management strategies. The process of relating the modeled capture zones to potential contaminant sources will be helpful in defining the basis for some SWPAs. SWPA boundaries may be delineated by 2-, 5-, 10- or 25-year capture zone modeling, by parcel line boundaries within capture zones, and by consideration of the related aquifers. Shallow aquifers accessed by most private wells have a higher potential for contamination. While there is not a lot of movement between aquifers, the high potential for shallow aquifer contamination will affect intermediate and basalt aquifers in the long term, when considering 25-year capture zones.
- **Preliminary Management Strategies** to be applied based on types of potential contaminant sources inside the capture zones were discussed with the Team. Examples were provided of different types of management strategies included in several Plans by other counties. Zoning in various locations was discussed as it relates to possible management strategies.

Drive-by surveys are a good source of potential contaminants into the aquifers from old well locations, dumping in ditches and canals, high concentrations of septic systems. A preliminary management strategy includes mapping this type of information in GIS layers for analysis. Review of maps by the Team revealed there could be a small public water system not shown on the State list. Mercedes mobile home park location was identified on the maps.

There was discussion about how zoning layers on the GIS maps can aid in future development planning to consider extending source water protection areas to include possible new public water system and well sites. Other GIS layers demonstrated to the team for consideration in public well capture zones were the more vulnerable sandy, permeable soils known as “sand stringers” that have been identified through aerial maps.



# Source Water Protection Program

## 3. Timeline, Next Steps

RCI is continuing to identify focus areas for the CSWPP. The team discussed using 10- and 25-year capture zones and parcel boundaries for source water protection area definition. GIS layer maps will be sent out in PDF format to each water system. RCI will work with the county ARC GIS online system to explore tools for development and maintaining the Plan. NDEP will make some recommendations based on findings.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

### ✓ Next meetings:

- July 7<sup>th</sup> 10 to noon : Management Strategies & Public Education
- August 18, 10 to noon : Implementation Measures & Action Plan
- September/October : Draft Plan Review
- November/December : Final Plan Review



# Minutes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Countywide Team Meeting

Date: July 7, 2015

Time: 10 am to Noon

Where: County Admin Complex Room 102

#### 1. Welcome, Sign In

Team Members Present:

**Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI):** Lynn Zonge, Lynne Scott

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP):** Kim Borgzinner

**Carson River:** Chris Hanson, Jim Perry

**Churchill County:** Preston Denney, Eleanor Lockwood, Michael K Johnson

**Fallon Piate-Shoshone Tribe:** Richard Black, Edwin Conway, Cody Downs, Caleb Kondor

**Navy:** Steve Bonaker

**Old River:** Steve Bennett, Jeff Hanson

#### 2. Review / Discuss

Lynn Zonge of Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI) welcomed the team members to the Countywide Team meeting at 10:05 a.m. At the last meeting, capture zone were reviewed, well modeling and potential contaminant source data were discussed, and the team was to consider delineation of the source water protection areas to be managed under the Community Source Water Protection Plan (CSWPP).

- **Source Water Protection Areas (SWPAs)** – The mapped 10-year and 25-year capture zones were displayed for purposes of discussion by the Team, including highlighted parcel boundaries within and intersecting the capture zones. The conservative nature of capture zone well modeling was reiterated. Pros and cons of using parcel boundaries for delineation of SPWAs include that they are much easier to identify on the ground, but potentially can result in the inclusion of large parcels predominately outside of the well capture zones.

The 25-year capture zones with modified parcel boundaries will be used to identify SWPAs for Churchill County's CSWPP. RCI will prepare draft boundaries and provide to the public water systems for review to finalize.



# Source Water Protection Program

The State requires the CSWPP to identify SWPA boundaries for relevance in developing management strategies to be applied within these areas.

- **Preliminary Management Strategies**

- Review plan goals: The Team's attention was directed to the previously developed list of Churchill County Management Strategies and Action Plan Goals. The group agreed that they still applied.
- What are strategies? Strategies and actions are each elements of the CSWPP. Strategies are a broad statement of Plan goals and need not be prioritized within the Plan, whereas actions are specific to each goal and it is important that they be prioritized in order to effectively accomplish each established goal.

Types of strategies: It was noted that different goals contained in the CSWPP will be applied in various manners, including county-wide strategies, SWPA focused strategies, and those specific to individual public water systems. The team emphasized that a county-wide approach was their desire for educational and collaborative components of the Plan.

- Brainstorm Management Strategies and Actions: Because a main source of potential contamination within the County may be through private wells, canals and ditches that may or may not be included in the identified SWPAs, county-wide education about pollution from dumping, hazardous household waste and maintenance of septic systems and wells will be a very important component of the CSWPP. RCI will communicate with the Sheriff's office, TCID, Fallon landfill, regarding issues and various public forums and groups as part of management strategy development. A focus on prevention of drinking water contamination may be furthered through contacts with service groups, senior center, schools, youth organizations, and special interest groups. (Stillwater Firearms was mentioned.)



# Source Water Protection Program

- Adjust SWPA boundaries – Further review of capture zones and parcel boundaries will be helpful in finalizing SWPA boundaries. RCI will work with public water systems to adjust boundaries for inclusion in the Plan. Once SWPA boundaries are defined, potential contaminant sources within SWPAs will be identified and actions directed to prevent potential contaminants from entering public water sources will then be considered to meet the Plan's goals.

3. **Timeline, Next Steps** – In conclusion, the Team reviewed and discussed various examples of management strategy types and specific actions, web sites related to drinking water protection, and CSWPP strategies and actions that have been incorporated by other local counties in the State. Providing for a county-wide reasonable outlet for disposal of household hazardous waste was discussed as a possible action to be included. Churchill County processes, regulations and procedures currently in place may be incorporated into the Plan's communication and collaboration goal. Kim Borgzinner advised the Team that State requirements are quite broad, leaving counties and cities to develop their own regulations for review and planning purposes.

RCI will provide the Churchill Team with examples of educational materials, ideas for flyers that may be distributed by public water systems to its customers, and copies of action plans implemented by Carson City and Lyon County. A draft of the management strategies section will be emailed. Team members were encouraged to contact RCI with any thoughts and with contact information sources in the community who may be helpful in management and action components of the CSWPP.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

- ✓ Next meetings:
  - August 18, 10 to noon : Implementation Measures & Action Plan
  - September/October : Draft Plan Review
  - November/December : Final Plan Review

## **Churchill County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)**

155 N. Taylor Street  
Fallon, Nevada 89406  
Phone: (775) 423-4188  
Fax: (775) 423-5677  
Email: ccem@phonewave.net

### **\*\*\*\*NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING\*\*\*\***

#### **PLEASE POST**

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Churchill County Administration Building

155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 102, Fallon, NV 89406

**DATE & TIME:** August 11, 2015 at 10:00 A.M.

**TYPE OF MEETING:** Regular Quarterly Meeting

#### **Notes:**

- a. This meeting is subject to the provisions of Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS Chapter 241). This meeting is open and public.**
- b. Action will be taken on all agenda items, unless otherwise noted.**
- c. The agenda is a tentative schedule. The Local Emergency Planning Committee may act upon agenda items in a different order than is stated in this notice, so as to effect the people's business in the most efficient manner possible.**
- d. In the interest of time, the Local Emergency Planning Committee reserves the right to impose uniform time limits upon matters devoted to public comment.**
- e. Any statement made by a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee during the public meeting is absolutely privileged.**

#### **Agenda:**

- 1. Call to Order.
- 2. Introduce Attendees.
- 3. Public Comments.
- 4. Approve minutes from the LEPC meetings on February 10, 2015 and May 12, 2015.
- 5. Overview of the Source Water Protection Study performed by Resource Concepts, Inc. – *Lynn Zonge*
- 6. Overview of the 5-Year Update of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan that will be coordinated by R.O. Anderson, Inc. – *Stephanie Hicks*
- 7. Report on water conditions – *Truckee Carson Irrigation District (TCID)*
- 8. General Discussion – other items pertinent to LEPC (no action items).
- 9. Public Comments.
- 10. Adjournment



## Affidavit of Posting

State of Nevada )  
 )  
 ) :ss  
County of Churchill )

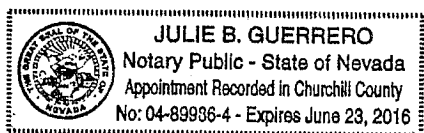
I, Geof Stark, Secretary to the Local Emergency Planning Committee, do hereby affirm that I posted, or caused to be posted, a copy of this notice of public meeting, on or before the **5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2015**, between the hours of 11:00 AM and 12:00 Noon, at the following locations in Churchill County, Nevada and websites:

1. City Hall, 55 W. Williams Avenue, Fallon, NV;
2. County Administration Building, 155 N. Taylor Street, Fallon, NV;
3. Road Department, 330 N. Broadway Street, Fallon, NV;
4. Churchill County Law Enforcement Center, 73 N. Maine Street, Fallon, NV;
5. The Churchill County Website @ [www.churchillcounty.org/lepc](http://www.churchillcounty.org/lepc)
6. The State of Nevada Website @ <https://notice.nv.gov>



Geof Stark

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

  
Notary Public

### Endnotes:

#### Disclosures:

- Churchill County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

#### Accommodations:

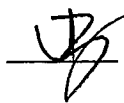
- Churchill County will make all reasonable efforts to assist and accommodate physically handicapped person desiring to attend. Persons who are disabled and require special assistance may contact Ron Juliff, Emergency Management Coordinator, in writing at 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 177, Fallon, Nevada, 89406, or by calling (775) 423-4188.

#### Procedures:

- The schedule of regular meetings of the Local Emergency Planning Committee is provided for by Title 2, Chapter 2.52, of the Churchill County Code.
- The public meetings may be conducted according to rules of parliamentary procedure.
- Person providing public comment will be asked to state their name for the record
- The Local Emergency Planning Committee reserves the right to restrict participation by persons in the public meeting where the conduct of such persons is willfully disruptive to the people's business.
- In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, Churchill County is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability (not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Equal Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3972 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTD)


## LEPC SIGN IN

\_\_\_\_\_ Adams, Mike

 \_\_\_\_\_ Bartoli, Lon

\_\_\_\_\_ Black, Richard

 \_\_\_\_\_ Black, Sherry

 \_\_\_\_\_ Bursil, Gail

\_\_\_\_\_ Clifford, Bob

 \_\_\_\_\_ Conway, Jackie

\_\_\_\_\_ Denny, Preston

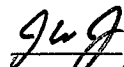
\_\_\_\_\_ Endacott, Steve

\_\_\_\_\_ Gehman, Kevin

\_\_\_\_\_ Hamman, Ralph

\_\_\_\_\_ Harris, Ed

\_\_\_\_\_ Jardine, Rusty

 \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson, John

 \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson, Michael

\_\_\_\_\_ Lane, Dave

\_\_\_\_\_ Lingenfelter, J.

\_\_\_\_\_ Lingenfelter, Patti


\_\_\_\_\_ Lockwood, Eleanor

\_\_\_\_\_ Mallory, Arthur

\_\_\_\_\_ Matheson, Mike

\_\_\_\_\_ Olsen, Pete

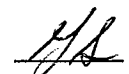
\_\_\_\_\_ Pearce, Lynn

 \_\_\_\_\_ Pierce, Christopher

\_\_\_\_\_ Powell, Pam

\_\_\_\_\_ Rudden, Ron

\_\_\_\_\_ Russell, Steve

 \_\_\_\_\_ Stark, Geof

\_\_\_\_\_ Shawcroft, Ben

\_\_\_\_\_ Trotter, Ben

 \_\_\_\_\_ Wood, Barry

\_\_\_\_\_ Yohey, Dave

Chairperson, Ron Juliff \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## LEPC Guests and Public Sign in

Please give your name, phone # and email address:

Truddie Arbell	883-1600 - RCI Reception
truddie@rci-nv.com	
Lynn Zonge	LYNN @ RCI - NV. COM 883-1600
Willie Youles	WILLIAM. Youles @ NAVY.MIL 426-3400
Jim Souba	City of Fallon jsouba@ci.fallon.nv.us 423-9863
TAMMY KINSLEY	RD ANDERSON ENG. thinsley@roanderson.com
Stephanie Hicks	RD Anderson Eng. (775) 215-5013 shicks@roanderson.com
Sue Jay	NAWDC - NWS Fallon 775.215.5042
	<del>(842)</del> (775) 842-1020 SUSAN. M. jay @ NAVY.MIL



# Minutes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Countywide Team Meeting

Date: August 18, 2015

Time: 10 am to Noon

Where: County Admin Complex Room 102

#### 1. Welcome, Sign In

Team Members Present:

**Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI):** Jill Sutherland, Lynn Zonge, Lynne Scott

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP):** Kim Borgzinner

**Carson River Estates:** Jim Perry

**Churchill County:** Preston Denney, Michael K Johnson

**Old River:** Steve Bennett, Jeff Hanson

**TCID:** Rusty Jardine

#### 2. Review / Discuss

- **Draft Management Strategies** have been developed by RCI in accordance with source water protection related areas of interest in Churchill County expressed by Team members, and additional suggested strategies are being made based on input from NDEP and experience with Community Source Water Protection Plans (CSWPP) implemented in neighboring counties. An outline of strategies for consideration was presented by Jill Sutherland and discussed in detail by the Team.
  - Promote understanding of drinking water sources and contamination  
One of the main goals expressed by the Team members includes educating the public and businesses about drinking water; where it comes from and how to avoid causing contamination. Outreach and education will be one of the high priority primary strategies. Inclusion of this strategy in the CSWPP will allow the County to request assistance from the State to develop and produce educational materials.
  - Encourage proper waste disposal  
Good waste and household hazardous disposal systems are already in place in Churchill County. A strategy of promoting proper use of these systems will be of benefit. Examples of attractive flyers, mailers, bill inserts and promotional items that have been developed through an out-of-state program were available for discussion. The



## Source Water Protection Program

ability to capture a targeted audience with short captions and bullet point direction was considered paramount to effectiveness when it comes to development of printed informational material.

- Maintain septic tank program

Churchill County has ordinances to limit proliferation of septic tanks in high density, including program to hook up sewer and water users as needed in a large area. Promoting proper maintenance of septic tanks will be an ongoing strategy to prevent potential contamination of water sources. Again, assistance with development and distribution of outreach and educational materials can be requested from the State when included in the CSWPP.

- Encourage well maintenance and abandonment

Wells provide a direct conduit for potential contamination to community water sources. It was felt that this should be another high priority primary strategy of the CSWPP in education, maintenance and proper abandonment efforts.

- Continue collaboration and planning

Establishing and promoting collaboration between Churchill County agencies, local groups and available local services is a good strategy to maximize the effectiveness of the plan goals. Community events are another avenue for collaboration and planning strategies. Neighboring counties have been open to collaborative efforts, making proper disposal of potential contaminants more easily and readily available.

- Maintenance and good housekeeping

Surface activities directly affect ground water; road maintenance, irrigation, spills and storage of materials that may be affected by storm water runoff are some activities that may cause potential ground water contamination. Discharge of contaminated storm water is currently an area of concern under Federal and State scrutiny, which will eventually impact counties, cities and individual public water systems. Treatment of contaminated storm water at a discharge point is very difficult, expensive and ineffective, but including strategies for ongoing maintenance of existing ditches, retention ponds and flood basins and planning for future



# Source Water Protection Program

coordination and incorporation of low impact development (LID) guidelines will leave the door open for long range planning and put the CSWPP in front of eventual regulatory mandates, providing greater opportunity for grant funding. Some action items considered for implementing this strategy include initiating permit fees for connections to water systems to fund maintenance of runoff areas, and implementing a checklist for the development planning and building permit processes to create awareness of source water protection area (SWPA) requirements and restrictions.

- Infrastructure improvement

Infrastructure improvements may address wells, septic systems, sanitary sewer, irrigation, or drainage/infiltration facilities. Actions to implement need to include wellhead security and abandonment of inactive wells. NDEP's in agreement that wells could be included without limitation to SWPA locations within the county. Improvement strategies may also pertain to maintaining and improving the condition of existing infrastructure, as well as contingency planning for replacement wells in the event of well failure and assisting public water systems with emergency planning for alternative water sources.

- **Implementation and Priority Actions**

A Draft Action Plan based on the desired management strategies was presented by RCI to the Team for review and prioritizing. The Draft Action Plan (attached) was reviewed by the Team.

- Public Education and Outreach

NDEP recommends presentation of the CSWPP to participating public water systems (PWS) and community groups be included as an action item (Item 1). This collaboration could provide additional potential for grant funding through the State in developing a presentation.

- Technical assistance for implementation (Items 2 through 6)

Assistance that may be needed for implementation of the CSWPP is identified in the draft Action Plan, including development of targeted information and PowerPoint presentations, web design, printing, mailing and signage for the purpose of outreach and education.



## Source Water Protection Program

It may also include assistance with training, staffing and purchase of resource materials for school programs and community events, technical assistance for development, coordination and writing of standards, regulations and policies, assistance with security upgrades, assistance with grant applications for infrastructure projects, technical assistance with database management, engineering and planning assistance for well improvement, relocation, and abandonment.

- School/Youth Program (Item 7)

The Farm Bureau expressed an interest in acquiring watershed a groundwater models to add SWP to Ag-in-the classroom.

- Public education and outreach methods--Community Events (Item 8)

Creating news items and running articles in the local papers for public education and outreach are suggested actions. Educational booths at community events such as the Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival/ Churchill County Fair, Churchill County Community Services Day and 4th of July celebration are good venues for public outreach and education.

- Coordination and Planning (Item 9)

Discussed who would take the lead moving the plan forward and what the schedule should be for revisiting the CSWPP on an annual basis. Suggested forums to be considered for periodic updates to the CSWPP included County Commissioner's meeting or the TCID annual water rights meeting. Meeting normally held around March for about 1.5 hours with many attendees. Meeting notifications in the newspaper would help.

- Planning and Development Review (Items 10 and 11)

County would support including SWPA in development review process, similar for example to the process for identifying projects within "Spectrum Interference Areas". GIS mapping used to assist project proponents with identification.

- Maintenance / Good housekeeping (Item 12)

Place more emphasis on source water protection in the action item.

- Well abandonment (Item 13)

Strong support for abandoning wells inside and outside SWPA to protect ground water. Proper well abandonment a concern county wide.





# Source Water Protection Program

- Infrastructure specific to PWSs

Concurred with the draft list and noted GIS utility mapping is on-going. Unused well identification and abandonment is highest priority (Table 3, Action Items 1 through 6), applicable county-wide to public and private unused wells throughout the watershed area.

General discussion in support of assistance for PWS with one well to plan and fund for contingencies (Table 3, Action Items 7 through 10).

## 2. Timeline, Next Steps

RCI will email draft CSWPP action plan for review and comment at the end of this month. Team member comments and requests should be submitted to RCI prior to the next meeting.

### ✓ Next meetings:

- October 13 at 10:00 a.m.: Draft Plan Review
- November 10 at 10:00 a.m.: Final Plan Review



# Meeting Notes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Countywide Team Meeting

Date: October 27, 2015

Time: 10 am to Noon

Where: County Admin Complex, Room 136

#### 1. Welcome, Sign In

Team Members Present:

**Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI):** Jill Sutherland, Lynn Zonge

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP):** Kim Borgzinner

**Carson River Estates:** Jim Perry, Chris Hansen

**Churchill County:** Preston Denney, Michael K Johnson

**Old River Water Co.:** Steve Bennett, Jeff Hansen

**TCID:** Rusty Jardine

**Fallon NAS:** Steve Bonaker

**FPST:** Cody Downs, Kevin Snodgrass

#### 2. Review / Discuss Community Source Water Protection Plan

- Cover, Acknowledge, Executive Summary
  - Second cover page: change Lyon County to Churchill County (Fallon NAS, Farm Bureau). County contacts OK.
  - Page i: verify phone numbers and email addresses, change some
  - Executive summary: Expand identification of PCSs and how we address those challenges; add conclusions, predominant guiding actions, the end result of this plan
- Chapter 1
  - Team Members reviewed that City of Fallon chose not to participate, as they have an existing WHPP. The SWPAs do overlap between City and County in both plans. Management strategies may offer a tool to work with the City going forward to manage source water.
- Chapter 2
  - Corrections/updates needed for names and titles in Table 2.1.
  - Reference management strategies and action plan in section on Goals. Also reference goals in current measures 3.1.3management strategies 3.4, and Action Plan (Appendix E).
- Chapter 3



# Meeting Notes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

- Consider tying current measures (Section 3.1.3) to the goals;
- Tie SWP Management strategies to the goals;
- Under the summary of PCSs, RCI used “septic density”, Team discussed how it compares to NDEP criteria. Currently, “septic density” in the CSWP Plan does not use NDEP criteria, it provides a comparison between SWPAs and is calculated by dividing the existing parcels with septic tanks by the area of the SWPA. This should be explained in Appendix D.
- Change “NAS” to “NAS Fallon” in document.
- Team Discussed Chapters 4, 5, 6 and Appendices under the following agenda topics:

### 3. Adoption Process Timing

- RCI confirmed with County the reference to the existing Master Plan and discussed the process to approve/adopt the CSWP Plan. The CSWP Plan could be incorporated in the Master Plan by reference or by appendix.
- Copies of the new ordinance related to water were provided to RCI by Michael Johnson for review.
- Michael Johnson provided update on the Churchill County Master Plan. Information prepared for the Planning Commission Workshop 11/24 and will be given to them on 11/12. County anticipates Master Plan changes will be presented to the County Commissioners in December and January. The MP is updated every 5 years.
- RCI indicated that changes to the draft can be made fairly quickly and they would coordinate with County regarding the schedule and adoption process.
- Old River and CRE felt they could approve the plan through a letter of support. The action items regarding well abandonment are particularly important.
- TCID commented that they do not need to approve, not their jurisdiction, but a presentation to their board would be appreciated. Next meeting is Tuesday, 12/1, 9 a.m., give them at least one week notice to place on agenda.

### 4. Process for Implementing Action Plan

- Team reviewed Chapter 4 with overhead.



## Source Water Protection Program

# Meeting Notes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

- The Team discussed how management strategies and action list can be implemented. NDEP offered various examples of approaches for small and large projects.
- Old River asked in grant money can be used for printing and mailing. Options and benefits of printing and mailing were discussed.
- Team reviewed Action Plan and Education Plan
- NDEP mentioned the annual awards for AWWA for communities implementing Source Water Protection. An application could be coordinated with NDEP for submittal in Mat.
- The Team discussed how source water protection may be considered in the development review process by planning and local PWSs.
- Paper copies requested of the final CSWP Plan by Team Members.
- The Team discussed education and outreach through flyers and webpages. CRE and OLD River expressed need to communicate with septic system owners inside and outside their service areas.
- Old River sends a newsletter twice each year, Spring and Fall. They also have a website that gets a little use.
- CRE uses email to contact residents in their service area.
- Neither water system has had success with bill stuffing.
- There is an extra blank page in the action plan – needs to say intentionally blank. RCI will correct.
- The team discussed well abandonment projects and the need to come together to prioritize well closure possibly in a feasibility study.
- NDEP update the Team on the Douglas County 6th grade school curriculum and indicated a future emphasis on education state-wide.
- Education Plan references on-line links to source water protection information, which may be useful. NEMO links should be added to the list. RCI to verify links are correct
- Make sure the action plan is broad enough to include unanticipated needs

### 5. Lead and Process for Updating the CSWP Plan

- The Team discussed who will monitor the CCSWP Plan implementation and how it will be updated. The County Planning Department offered to take the lead in reviewing the Plan for monitoring implementation and



# Meeting Notes

## Community Source Water Protection Plan

### Source Water Protection Program

updates. An annual meeting of the Team was suggested in January to monitor implementation. A five year review, in conjunction with the Master Plan, would be appropriate for updates.

- Add TCID's annual water user meeting as a good venue in March to provide information on the CSWP Plan. RCI could include in Chapter 4 as well as Action Plan, Appendix E.

#### 6. Timeline and Next Steps

- RCI will coordinate with County and other Team members regarding approval process.
- The team will provide their comments to RCI by Tuesday 11/3.
- Michael suggested that RCI provide a draft to Michael by 11/12 if possible to be on the 11/24 meeting at 6:30 in the Chambers or room 102. Timing to be discussed with the County Manager
- Next meeting to be determined, for final draft

## **MINUTES**

### **CHURCHILL COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSHOP**

**Tuesday, November 24, 2015**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairman Richardson** called the regular meeting of the Churchill County Planning Commission to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, County Administrative Complex, 155 N Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada.

**PLANNING COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Stuart Richardson, Chairman; Tom Lammel, Vice Chairman; Eric Blakey; Deanna Diehl; Charlotte Louis; Shelley Schaefer; and Paula Utter (came in late).

**PLANNING COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** None.

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Kim Borgzinner, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Bureau of Water Pollution Control, and Lynn Zonge and Jill Sutherland, Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Pete Olsen, County Commissioner; Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager; Michael Johnson, Planning Director; Terri Pereira, Associate Planner; Benjamin Shawcroft, Deputy District Attorney-Civil; and Diane Moyle, Recording Secretary.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Chairman Richardson** asked for public comments on anything not on the agenda, and there were none.

#### **VERIFICATION OF POSTING**

**Chairman Richardson** verified with Recording Secretary Moyle that the agenda had been posted in accordance with NRS 241.

#### **REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Chairman Richardson** asked for any changes to the agenda. Secretary Moyle stated that there were none. He then approved the agenda as submitted.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

- **Consideration and Possible Action re: Resource Concepts Inc. presentation of the Community Source Water Protection Plan**

Kim Borgzinner, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) Bureau of Water Pollution Control, introduced herself and Jill Sutherland and Lynn Zonge from Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI), who is under contract with NDEP to do Source Water Protection Planning in Nevada. She began the presentation (see attached) and said that she didn't want to reiterate what the program is about since they had presented it about a year ago. Kim just wished to share what has been happening over the past year and noted that the Planning Commission had been presented with a draft of this plan. She hopes that the members had taken some time to look over the plan and have some comments to share. Ms. Borgzinner pointed out that the photo on the cover of the plan was meant to demonstrate that this plan covers all public water systems that are regulated through NDEP under one plan in Churchill County. Even though it is not a county plan it is a county wide public water system plan. They brought all of the public water systems together for this planning effort to take a look at the water resources and how we can prevent them from becoming contaminated.

This planning effort was initiated with this commission in November 2014, and they have been coordinating with Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager, who had suggested that they get the approval of this Planning Commission since it is a planning function before they took it to the Board of County Commissioners to get approval to participate in the program. That was

approved in November 2014, and since then they have met several times over the last year with the planning team that consisted of representatives of all of the public water systems including Churchill County. In that process they drafted a plan, and that plan has been given to you. They will be presenting it, for informational purposes, to the Truckee Carson Irrigation District (TCID) on December 1, 2015. Then, hopefully, they will present it to the Board of County Commissioners on December 3, 2015 with the recommendation of this Planning Commission.

Kim mentioned those that participated in this planning effort, and she commented that it was an amazing collaborative effort here in Churchill County. They tried to get as many participants as possible to make it as characteristic of Churchill County as possible and to really consider the local resource needs here. She thought it was a really successful planning effort, and she gave a special thanks to the people who participated—the team members who were there at every single meeting—and to the contractor, RCI. They did an amazing job bringing these people together and facilitating these meetings. It was a really smooth planning effort compared to some of the ones that she has done throughout Nevada.

Ms. Borgzinner remarked that the plan does meet state endorsement criteria. This means that once it is recommended by this Planning Commission to be approved by the Board of County Commissioners, then she can go ahead and endorse the plan, officially, at NDEP. The endorsement basically provides funding for us to go ahead and do some implementation measures in the plan. She turned the rest of the presentation over to RCI.

Jill Sutherland, Engineer with RCI, worked with the planning group. The first thing this group did was to brainstorm what the goals would be for protecting the sources of public drinking water in Churchill County. These goals are listed in the plan (see presentation) and were established to guide the technical side of the plan. Each of the public water systems was contacted to find out what their water systems look at. Jill pointed out that there are 30+ water systems in Churchill County—a lot of these are very small. They mapped where the wells were and evaluated the wells to determine the groundwater capture zone of each of those wells. How long would it take contamination to get to those wells? Then they did an evaluation of what occurs in those management areas that could potentially contaminate a well. From that they built some management strategies and implementation action items to prevent contamination of those public water system wells. She believes that in the packet provided to the Planning Commission there were some maps of where those source water protection areas are located. The team determined that those are the areas where you might want to emphasize things like proper disposal of waste and good education of property owners on what could potentially contaminate their water and where their water really comes from.

The planning group came up with an action plan, which is in Appendix E of the document. This shares ideas how to implement the measures that the team came up with. Ms. Sutherland went over a few of these implementation measures in the presentation and encouraged questions or discussion of any of the others as well. One of the key things identified was doing a feasibility study and then abandoning unprotected or unused wells. Because of the unique aquifers here in the Fallon area wells that penetrate from the shallow aquifer into the deeper aquifers that are unused or abandoned have the potential to be a conduit for pollutants between aquifers that wouldn't occur naturally. If you have an old well that is maybe in somebody's backyard, they may think that is a great place to get rid of my used oil. Then you are not contaminating the surface, but you are putting it directly into your water supply. They have already gotten authorization from the State to go ahead and start this feasibility study and have identified 2 or 3 wells that are in really close proximity to public water systems that they



would like to abandon. Through Kim Borgzinner's program they can get some of the funds to actually do the abandonment, which would include actually filling the wells with concrete in accordance with the regulations of the Division of Water Resources for closing a well. These are only wells that have gone dry or have had a casing failure and not being used, and the property owner would request that they be abandoned.

Jill stated that the next thing that the team really wanted was education and outreach. Share where drinking water comes from, how it becomes contaminated, and how to prevent it from being contaminated. Some of the areas that they identified where this education could be shared is through the Library summer program (presentations on watershed and ground water for school age children), Ag in the Classroom (coordinate with the Farm Bureau for education in the classroom), and through flyers and website information (getting the information out to the general public about what they can actually do). She handed out some flyers as an example (see attached) and included information on specific topics as requested by various public water system owners that they could provide to individuals on their water systems. Ms. Sutherland informed that they can also assist in developing a website or flyers and working with the County and various public water systems on what type of outreach works best for the people in the community.

Lynn Zonge, Hydrologist with RCI, continued the presentation regarding more of the education and outreach for this plan. The target groups include well and septic owners, residential, businesses, agriculture, County and Local agency staff, and schools. It's important that the owners of wells and septic tanks understand the repercussions of how they treat their well and how they treat their septic system just so that they don't contaminate themselves or their neighbors. Relating to the agriculture producers they would concentrate on what to do with used pesticides and herbicides. The canals are the primary recharge for the wells, so it is really important that all of that water is clean. Part of the implementation measures includes collaboration and planning, and the annual review for funding opportunities is really important. In some other counties, they didn't really have it together for getting together annually to see what projects they wanted to accomplish. RCI would like to assist in making sure that the public water systems get together so that they can prioritize the projects to get the money from the State, and collaboration goes a long way with the State. It is also important to incorporate the source water protection into planning and policies. One way that they helped accomplish this in the City of Fernley was getting source water protection in the business application, so when a business moved into the area, they would acknowledge whether they were in a source water protection area or not. It is a good way to raise awareness.

Ms. Zonge went on to discuss that a lot of infrastructure projects have been included in the action plan from simple things such as mapping, well replacement, and then to technical assistance for funding, which is something that RCI could really help with quite a bit.

Vice Chairman Lammel mentioned that with one of the slides earlier it was stated that they could help with closing abandoned wells, and he questioned if they have funds to accomplish this. Kim Borgzinner responded that they do have access to these funds in this funding cycle at least for those that have been identified initially. They still have to get cost estimates for that and ensure that they can do it under this current budget or determine if it must be set aside for the next budget cycle. Vice Chairman Lammel remarked that when he was into building there were a couple of times that came up where they had to close an abandoned well, and the different information regarding it greatly varied. Is there some law, guideline, or handbook on how to go about doing this? Jill Sutherland replied that there are Nevada

Administrative Code (NAC) regulations that govern this that are administered by the Division of Water Resources. It really depends upon the well construction, depth of the well, age of the well, diameter of the casing, and so on. She reported that the cost could be a little under \$1,000 up to and exceeding \$10,000 depending on these various aspects of construction. It does have to be done by a licensed well drilling company. What they hope to do in this program is the feasibility study to identify some criteria to select some wells that would be the best ones to abandon. They would then get the cost estimate, and it is hoped that they could develop a contract with a licensed well driller for a reduced cost for doing more than one well all at the same time. Vice Chairman Lammell asked if part of drilling a new well included the closure of the well to be abandoned, and Jill responded that it should be; however, due to the added expense many people forego closing the old well and think that they will keep it as a backup for irrigation or when the water table comes up a little higher. Then these just sit out there and people forget about them or use them for inappropriate things like dumping. This is pretty common statewide.

Member Diehl remarked that in the valley there were a number of wells that have dried up due to a lack of water, and she wondered how this affects this program to protect the source water. Jill Sutherland responded that she doesn't think that immediately there is a problem with protecting the water source related to this problem. If you have a new well that is drilled by a licensed driller, they meet the design criteria of the Division of Water Resources, and the new design criteria are usually a lot stricter and provide better protection of the ground water than the old well. You have to have a fifty foot seal to prevent contaminants from travelling down the well casing. A lot of the older wells that were drilled prior to those regulations being adopted could be a forty feet deep well with a ten foot seal, five foot seal, or no seal at all. Some of the old wells are just vertical pipes in the ground, and those are the ones that would be great to find and abandon properly because they provide the best chance of creating a conduit for contamination.

Chairman Richardson asked if they had a list of target wells or people that have abandoned their wells that they are going to be approaching. If you don't, are you planning on developing a list? Ms. Sutherland replied that this is one of the first steps that they have started working on. The criteria that they are using at this time would include properties within a certain foot radius from an existing public water system well. They would probably start with a radius of 200 feet, and there are over 30 public water system wells. Initially they would talk to the property owner of the public water system well to see if they are aware of any abandoned wells within this area. They will also talk to adjacent property owners if that's appropriate to see if they have an abandoned well. With the permission of property owners and clearly stating why we are doing this, they would look at other criteria including the well construction. Is it a really shallow well, does it have a proper seal, and so forth. These types of things might move it up in the priority list. Coming up with the list of target wells is really the first step toward reaching this goal. Once they can get an estimate on the locations and depths they can get a cost estimate, and then they can decide how many of those they can actually abandon. Hopefully, they would be able to come up with a prioritized list, and then if the team regroup in a year and says that they want to move forward with the next ones on the list, they can contact Kim Borgzinner for funding from NDEP.

Terri Pereira, Associate Planner, questioned if the wells that they are going to abandon and close were only those in public water systems or if they included domestic wells in general. She pointed out that there have been about 100 domestic wells that have been replaced within the last year because of the drought. Jill Sutherland said that in terms of prioritizing the wells they

are looking at wells that would be located near public water system wells since this program focuses on protection of the public drinking water. These abandoned wells would make the public water systems more vulnerable to contamination. If there is a private well that is within 200 feet of a public water system well that is on private property, they would consider that for abandonment with the full cooperation of the property owner. Kim Borgzinner clarified that if it is prioritized, it could be either a domestic well or a public drinking water well. As long as they have property access and permission by a private owner, who is okay with abandoning the well under the program, it may be included to protect the public drinking water well. Terri asked if, technically, the property owner should have abandoned the well when the new well was drilled. Kim remarked that she is not as familiar with those regulations because that falls under a completely different division, and she didn't want to misquote these laws. She does believe that this is correct depending on when they abandoned their well and when they drilled their new well, so there could be a "gray" area there. By today's regulations it is required when you drill a new well and not using another well that you abandon the old well.

Vice Chairman Lammel asked if agricultural wells had the same rules and regulations as a domestic well or as a well that is on a public water system. Jill Sutherland stated that typically the construction of an agricultural well, if it is being used for strictly agricultural purposes and not drinking water, in the past (an older well) probably doesn't have similar seals and casings and such, and they are typically larger volume wells. If you are irrigating from a well for agriculture, it has got to pump a lot more than a domestic well. If it is a new well, they are usually constructed to similar standards. If it is an old well, it probably won't have the same sort of sanitary seals and things that a new well would have. Vice Chairman Lammel commended the ladies, who came to present this plan and information, on doing a good job. He complimented their professionalism.

**Vice Chairman Lammel made a motion to recommend to the Churchill County Board of County Commissioners to accept the Community Source Water Protection Plan. Member Louis seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous vote.**

- **2015 Master Plan:**

- a. **Consideration and Possible Action re: Churchill County Master Plan 2015: Presentation, discussion and action on the 2015 proposed Master Plan.**

Director Johnson, Planning Director, shared a presentation (see attached) of the Master Plan that has been updated for Churchill County in 2015. He introduced what is included in the Master Plan as required by state law. Many of the goals have remained the same as the 2010 updated version, and there were a few that were updated. The main changes in this update were primarily related to facts and data to update population, children enrolled in schools, and so forth. There may have been plans that we thought we were going to do 5 years ago that have either been accomplished, never materialized, or we no longer see the county going in that direction. There were no real policy changes regarding things like planned unit developments, NAS Fallon, etc. The county has no plans to change how we deal with these types of things. Mr. Johnson went over the different chapters of the Master Plan noting specific changes that were incorporated, and he asked for questions at the end of each chapter.

Member Utter had a question regarding Chapter 5 about mapping the historical areas/mile markers as they had discussed at previous workshops, and Michael indicated that he spoke with Preston Denney, GIS Technician, who said that he didn't think he would be able to create a map to depict these well. Michael felt it would be something to work on later to incorporate in the

future. Preston didn't have all of that information, and he couldn't create a map that didn't look cluttered.

Vice Chairman Lammel noted that there is a strikethrough on the Junior Rodeo, and he knows that it is still functioning as he is still a part of that event. Mr. Johnson pointed out that the name was changed to Fallon Lions Club Junior Rodeo, which is what it is actually called now; therefore, it was moved to another line on the list.

Michael Johnson continued with Chapter 6 and discussed some things that are addressed in this section. Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager, pointed out that the Governor established in 2010 a state plan for economic development. Under the state plan the Governor created regional development authorities. She wondered if there would be worth mentioning the state economic development plan and also the directive from the Governor that we should have regional development authorities. She pointed out that Churchill County is a member of the Northern Nevada Development Authority and has been for the last 4 years. It is most important that we speak about the Churchill Economic Development Authority in specifics, but she believes that these others should potentially be added to the plan. Mr. Johnson explained that Rachel Dahl did provide quite a bit of input on this chapter, and he agreed that he would include information in this section about the state plan.

Chapter 7 discusses various forms of recreation within the county, and includes events and destinations. Michael went over some of the goals that are in the Master Plan related to this chapter. Vice Chairman Lammel commented that he didn't see anything in this chapter with regards to Sand Mountain, which is a major recreation area, or water fowl hunting, and he reported that Churchill County has a high number of hunting for water fowl and other species. Director Johnson clarified that Sand Mountain is in a list on Page 7-9, and he responded that he did speak with Nancy Hoffmann, Stillwater Refuge, and doesn't remember any comments from her regarding hunting. He knows that they have an area for hunting and keep track of how many people go out there per year. He thought that he read something referring to hunting numbers, but it may not have been in this section. He would research a little more to ensure that it was included. Vice Chairman Lammel pointed out on Page 7-1 that the things he mentioned weren't included in the list there. Michael verified that it is the list that says "hunting, jogging trails,...", and Tom agreed and said that it mentions off highway vehicle trails, but it doesn't talk about hunting, fishing, or Sand Mountain in that area. Planner Pereira mentioned that hunting is included in the Open Space chapter (Chapter 10) along with wildlife habitat, wetlands, and things like that. Michael will review this chapter again to ensure these are captured here as well.

Chapter 8 is regarding transportation, and Mr. Johnson shared what is included as part of this section. Chairman Richardson questioned if we have a joint control of the airport with the City of Fallon or if it was mostly just the City. Michael stated that it is just the City, and he notified that he did write to Jim Souba about any updated numbers because this chapter states that we have something like 11,000 flights a year. He didn't receive anything from Mr. Souba. Chairman Richardson said that just for clarification that if anything is done—improvements or anything like that—it is under the City of Fallon.

Vice Chairman Lammel on page 8-10 recommended improving the map to make it more readable. Michael made a note to do this. This map itself is a map that was created for NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation) by Lumos & Associates back in 2005. It was part of the last plan, and it is still part of the same plan. He doesn't believe we have ever tried to make any adjustments to it. He will see what Preston Denney can do to improve this map for this update.

Member Schafer recommended printing it on 11 X 17 and fold it over in the printed Master Plan that could be pulled out, which would make it easier to read.

Planner Pereira informed that the reference on the previous slide to an airport was not referring to the Fallon Municipal Airport, but is a suggestion that we consider the future development of an airport west of Fallon near the Hazen area where the railroad is located. Chairman Richardson thought it might be alluding to that, so we still have that in our potential for the future. Michael Johnson agreed that it would be somewhere between Leeteville Junction and Hazen area. He pointed out this area is in a flatter area, and the City airport is limited because there is the mountain in the way and is limited because of the river and canals related to expansion potential. The plan states that in the future the County might be seeking to create an airport basically in this area west of Fallon.

Mr. Johnson continued with Chapter 9 on public services and facilities. He went over a list of the services provided in Churchill County and the goals that are included. Member Schafer questioned whether we should include anything about Urgent Care in this plan. Michael explained that he did try to reach out to get more information from other health care facilities and there was no response. He did add information received from Banner Churchill Community Hospital regarding the Lahontan Valley Surgical Center since they had obtained ownership of that.

Director Johnson shared the purpose and goals of Chapter 10 regarding open space. He went over areas where actions have been supported by the Master Plan including restoration projects along the river corridor, which have been completed each year since he has been Planning Director by Terri Pereira.

Member Diehl asked about BOR (Bureau of Reclamation) and why they were not mentioned in this chapter. Michael explained that this chapter is primarily about creating open space areas throughout the county. These goals and areas are more for establishing and maintaining parks, agricultural open space, development requirements for open space, and so on. The BOR and BLM (Bureau of Land Management) are covered more in Chapter 12 where we discuss the use of public lands. Deanna pointed out that some of our recreation open space areas are managed by them and it was brought out that this is actually managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife. Mr. Johnson explained that when he thinks of the open space it relates to parks and creating places where there is an area around developments, so that there are places to walk and so forth, so that it isn't just house after house throughout.

Director Johnson moved on to Chapter 11 that includes future development of the county and lists goals that guide development within the county. Chapter 12 regards the use of public lands and how Churchill County works with federal and state organizations to encourage the use of public lands as desired by the residents of the county. He explained that this section has been under contention because of the perception that federal agencies do not work with local governments at a cooperative agency level. He informed that Churchill County is actively seeking documentation dealing with RS-2477 roads and easements, as well as considering the possibility to request proposals to update Chapter 12 from an outside source. He stated that Chapter 12 is being placed on hold for updating at this time and will be updated in 2016, and then it will become a part of this 2015 Master Plan. Michael went on to outline the goals that should be included in this update.

Vice Chairman Lammel questioned in that process whether the proposed changes to Chapter 12 be brought before the Planning Commission prior to adoption by the BOCC. Michael agreed that the goal would be that if the County Commissioners decide to hire an

outside agency to do this, then this agency would put together the plan. Eventually, as it all came together, it would come before the Planning Commission and then go back to the County Commissioners, and then be incorporated into the Master Plan to replace the current Chapter 12. He assured that he would see that it comes before them at least once, if not more than that, in 2016.

Chairman Richardson expressed the desire that it is very clear that what we are trying to do is just to maintain the best possible communications with the federal government, and that we are cognizant of our limitations of what we can do, and just hoping to improve communications, so that we can ensure the best use of the public lands for our citizens. Something maybe not with those exact words, but that is clear that we recognize that they have control of the lands, but we want them to know that we'd like to be able to participate in any way possible that would be allowed by the current federal laws and regulations and to ensure that our public can use them to the maximum. Terri Pereira explained that this wording already exists in this chapter, and it doesn't seem to be satisfactory to some people in our community. They want it to be stronger than that, and that is where the issue is. Chairman Richardson hopes that we would have legal counsel make a decision on whether we can be any stronger than that. He reiterated that they have been through this before, and he thinks that everybody wants to maintain the best possible communication and cooperation with the federal government. He admitted that there are certain limitations there. He thinks that acknowledging that and indicating to them that we are willing to work with them is going to give us the best results in the future.

Michael Johnson continued with what is included in the appendices for the Master Plan. He also explained that there are a few minor errors found within the draft final version that will be corrected; however, it will not affect the policies and goals that are stated here. He reported that these minor corrections and additions suggested at this meeting will be completed prior to presenting the Master Plan to the Board of County Commissioners.

Chairman Richardson asked if there were any comments from the audience, and there were none.

**b. Consideration and Possible Action re: Resolution 23-2015 adopting the 2015 Churchill County Master Plan.**

**Vice Chairman Lammel made a motion to recommend approval of the presentation of the Master Plan, as presented with the changes that were brought up at this meeting added to it and other clerical issues taken care of as necessary, to the Churchill County Board of County Commissioners. And acknowledge that Chapter 12 is pending. Member Louis seconded the motion, and it passed by unanimous vote.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Richardson asked for any other public comments, and there were none.

**UPDATES AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Vice Chairman Lammel brought out that there is a conflict of schedule for the Planning Commission meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month for Eric Blakey, who also serves on the volunteer fire department, and he suggested a change of this meeting to a Thursday. Michael Johnson indicated that he would check the by-laws, and Ben Shawcroft, Deputy District Attorney, said that the regulations just state one meeting per month. There was some discussion regarding this. Eric Blakey interjected that Thursday isn't a set day and it could be a Monday or Tuesday. Ben Shawcroft remarked that this isn't an item that they could take action on today as it needs to be on the agenda prior to the meeting. Michael said that it is something that he could



put on the next agenda as something that they could openly discuss and possibly make a decision on. Chairman Richardson agreed to table the discussion until the next meeting where it can be placed on the agenda.

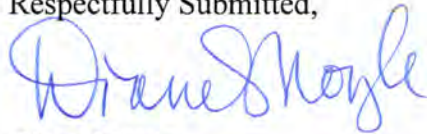
The Planning Commission Christmas Party will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup> at Stuart Richardson's home. The next Planning Commission meeting will be on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup> the Board of County Commissioners will hear a proposal to seek an outside agency to work on the update of Chapter 12, and they will hear the update of the Master Plan on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Chairman Richardson** stated that since there were no further comments or questions the meeting is adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Diane Moyle  
Recording Secretary

## **TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

### **PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, NV TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015 9:00 a.m.**

MEETING TYPE: **REGULAR**

#### **TO AVOID DISRUPTIONS DURING THE MEETING, PLEASE PLACE CELL PHONES IN THE SILENT MODE OR TURN THEM OFF**

NOTE: All meetings of the Board of Directors for the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID or Board) are public (NRS 539.093). This agenda is a tentative meeting schedule. Action will be taken on all items unless otherwise noted. While meetings of the Board are subject to Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.010 et. Seq.) (OML), no provision of the OML requires the Board to discuss or take action on all agenda items. The Board may hear items in a different order, combine items for consideration or remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to any item at any time to accomplish business of the Board, on behalf of the electors of TCID, in the most efficient manner. Items scheduled at a specific time will not be heard earlier than at the scheduled time pursuant to the OML. Except in an emergency, TCID will provide written notice of its meetings consisting of a clear and complete statement of the topics scheduled to be considered. No action may be taken on any matter that is not scheduled on this agenda. Any statement made by a member of TCID during a public meeting is absolutely privileged and does not impose liability for defamation or constitute a ground for recovery in any civil action. Meetings of the Board may be conducted according to the rules of parliamentary procedure.

<b>TIME</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>
<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Determination of a Quorum Pledge of Allegiance <b>General Public Comment</b> <div>Instructions: Members of the public who wish to address the Board of TCID may do so during this public comment period. Such comment must relate to matters not appearing on the Agenda. Speakers are asked to state their name for the public record and sign and print their names on the form provided to all participants in the public meeting. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person or topic. The Board reserves the right to reduce this three (3) minute time limit, as well as limit the total time for public comment. If any matter requires extended discussion, a request should be made to the Chair of the Board, at the time of comment, that the matter be scheduled for consideration at a future meeting of the Board. The Board will not restrict comments based on viewpoint. Nor will the Board restrict comments based upon viewpoint during public testimony given on any agenda item. The Chair may reopen public participation at any time during the meeting.</div>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review and Adoption of Agenda</li><li>• Miscellaneous Correspondence</li><li>• Treasurer's Report and Approval of Disbursements</li><li>• District Manager and Staff Reports</li></ul>
	<b>APPOINTMENTS:</b>
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	1. United States Fish & Wildlife Representative(s)-Wetlands Issues/Updates
<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	2. Bureau of Reclamation – Lahontan Basin Area Office Representative(s) –General Updates
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	3. Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe Representative(s)– General Updates
<b>10:45 a.m.</b>	4. NAS FALLON Representative(s) –General Updates –Becky Kurtz
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	5. Presentation regarding the "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County, Nevada –Resource Concepts, Jill Sutherland, PE

## **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS:**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Consideration/Possible Action:** Annexation of Property to District Boundary: Request by Lester Gustafson, Fernley, Nevada
2. **Consideration/Possible Action:** Authorization for disposal of surplus property including without limitation motor vehicles and other heavy equipment.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Consideration/Possible Action** - Authorization by the Board of Directors directing legal counsel, for the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (District) to do or assert, or to make application for, or to do or perform such other act or acts, duty or duties, as is/are/or may be necessary, as to any/all lawsuits now pending or threatened in which the District is or may be a party, in the Courts of the State of Nevada, or of the United States of America, consisting of the advancement, cessation, or dismissal, or settlement thereof, any/all case(s), claim(s), defenses(s), immunity(ies), remedy(ies) at law or in equity, entitlement(s), negotiations(s), protection(s), right(s) or the waiver(s) thereof, resolution(s), or dismissal(s), existing under, or accruing from, applicable state or federal rule or law, in any such pending or threatened litigation, including, without limitation, the breach of the Truckee Canal at Fernley, Nevada, in January, 2008 and protests made to the implementation of Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA).

Possible recess to convene attorney/client consultation.

### **CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON ALL OF THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:**

*Matters borne by the consent agenda are considered routine or informational in nature and may be acted upon without discussion or public comment by a single action of the Board of Directors. At the request of a Director, or upon the request of a member of the public, any matter listed on the consent agenda may be removed from the consent agenda and then be subject to full discussion/consideration and/or action by the Board. Such discussion/consideration and/or action may be made at any time during the course of the meeting.*

- A1 Director's Compensation
- A2 Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Consideration/Possible Action:**

1. **O&M Committee Recommendations**  
No meeting held in November.
2. **Carson Lake Pasture Advisory Committee Recommendations**
3. **Employee Relations Committee Recommendations**
4. **Finance Committee Recommendations**
5. **Policy Committee Recommendations**
6. **Negotiations Committee Recommendations**

7. Public Relations Committee Recommendations

8. Revenue Committee Recommendations

9. Truckee Canal Safety Commission

**General Public Comment**

Instructions: Members of the public who wish to address the Board of TCID may do so during this public comment period. Such comment must relate to matters not appearing on the Agenda. Speakers are asked to state their name for the public record and sign and print their names on the form provided to all participants in the public meeting. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person or topic. The Board reserves the right to reduce this three (3) minute time limit, as well as limit the total time for public comment. If any matter requires extended discussion, a request should be made to the Chair of the Board, at the time of comment, that the matter be scheduled for consideration at a future meeting of the Board. The Board will not restrict comments based on viewpoint. Nor will the Board restrict comments based upon viewpoint during public testimony given on any agenda item. The Chair may reopen public participation at any time during the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Agenda Posted at Following Locations:

- Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Office
- Fallon City Hall
- Churchill County Administration Building
- Fernley City Hall
- TCID Web Page, [www.tcid.org](http://www.tcid.org)

**Accommodations:** The Truckee-Carson Irrigation District will make reasonable efforts to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons desiring to attend. Persons who are disabled and required special assistance may contact Paula Utter, in writing, at TCID, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada 89406, by phone at (775) 423-2141, or [paula@tcid.org](mailto:paula@tcid.org).

State of Nevada       )  
                                  :SS  
County of Churchill    )

Paula Utter, of said Churchill County, being duly sworn, says that on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of NOVEMBER, 2015, she posted a copy of this Agenda at the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Office, where the proceedings are pending.

*Paula A Utter*

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23 day of Nov., 2015.



*Merliza A. Curtis*  
Notary Public

## **MINUTES OF THE CHURCHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

155 No. Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada  
December 3, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Churchill County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:17 a.m. on the above date by Chairman Olsen.

PRESENT: H. Peter Olsen, Jr., Chairman  
Carl Erquiaga, Vice-Chairman  
Harry Scharmann, Commissioner  
Benjamin D. Shawcroft, Civil Deputy District Attorney  
Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager  
Alan Kalt, Chief Financial Officer  
Kelly G. Helton, Clerk of the Board  
Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board

ABSENT: N/A

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chairman Olsen inquired if there were any public comments on issues that were not listed on the Agenda. Emily Mulack introduced herself and stated that she was here for educational purposes related to her Political Science college class.

### **VERIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA:**

It was verified by Deputy Clerk Moore that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 25th day of November, 2015, between the hours of 12:00 and 2:00 p.m. in accordance with NRS 241.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **AGENDA:**

Deputy Clerk Moore reported that the Minutes of the October 6, 2015 meeting were not yet completed and the Agenda would need to be revised accordingly.

**Commissioner Erquiaga made a motion to approve the Agenda as revised.**

**Commissioner Scharmann seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **MINUTES:**

**Commissioner Scharmann made a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 3, 2015 as submitted. Commissioner Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

### **APPOINTMENTS:**

THE BOARD MAY REQUIRE THE PROVISION OF AN OATH OR AFFIRMATION BY ANY PERSON PROVIDING ORAL TESTIMONY AT A PUBLIC HEARING.

**8:15 a.m. Consideration and possible action re: Steve Johnson's Advanced Placement Class presentation of the Yucca Mountain Survey, Steve Johnson and students from the Advanced Placement Class.**

Chief Financial Officer Kalt reported that Churchill County contracted with Steve Johnson's Advanced Placement Science Class to conduct a statistically valid community survey

that information over time to help shape public policy and some of this data may ultimately end up on the steps of Congress during Congressional debates to understand what the citizens within a community think. We appreciate that information. Therefore, we are able to financially support some of the programs at the high school through Mr. Johnson and we are very pleased to be able to do that.

Chairman Olsen complimented the county staff for planning ahead and stretching this money out over the years and using it in the education of our youth. A lot of other communities went out and hired a consultant and the money has been gone for years. The way we used the funds we have still gotten the information we needed and we've gotten to help in the education of our youth. Mr. Johnson you have always done a stellar job and this really is a fun meeting for us because we get to see new kids each year that will be the future of our community. It is great to see that we have so many young leaders and good minds out there working hard on their education in our community. Thank you.

Commission Scharmann also thanked the group and echoed Alan Kalt's comments about how legitimate their survey is and how it is used. He shared that he was talking to one of our experts on Yucca Mountain, Rex Massey, and he alluded to your survey from last year, so it really is a credible survey. He also wanted to suggest that you find a way to educate our Congressional Delegation on this subject because, as far as he knows, although he could be wrong, we only have one Delegate that supports the use of Yucca Mountain as a nuclear waste repository. He was talking with another Delegate who said that he was on board with Senator Reid in opposing Yucca Mountain. He suggested the students find a way to educate some of the folks, like Senators Reid and Heller in the findings, as well.

Commissioner Erquiaga agreed with Chairman Olsen that this is his favorite meeting of the year and it is a pleasure to see the students because they are our future. Mr. Johnson said that, this spring, some of the students will get take a tour to see the science behind the project. There were no further questions. This matter was presented for informational purposes only and no action was taken.

**8:35 a.m. Consideration and possible action re: Presentation by RCI on Community Source Water Protection Program and approval of Resolution 26-2015 adopting the plan, Jill Sutherland, RCI.**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COMMUNITY SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PLAN FOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS IN CHURCHILL COUNTY.**

County Manager Lockwood reported that, in November 2014, the Commissioners were provided an overview of the State of Nevada's Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWP) (previously known as the Wellhead Protection Program). The ISWP Program is voluntary and is focused on preventing the pollution of community drinking water sources, including groundwater, lakes, rivers, springs, and streams. Following the board's approval of the county's participation in the program, NDEP and their contractor, RCI, invited representatives from the various public water systems in Churchill County, the State of Nevada, and local government agencies to participate in the development of the Community Source Water Protection Plan (CSWP Plan). This Local Planning Team met frequently over the course of a year to develop the Plan.

The CSWP Plan provides a framework for the long-term protection of public drinking water supply sources. The plan identifies goals, drinking water resources, potential contaminant sources, strategies, and action to prevent drinking water contamination. An important aspect of



the plan includes public education and outreach. RCI presented the CSWP Plan to the Planning Commission on November 24 and the TCID Board on December 1. Letters of support were provided.

Kim Borgzinner, with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, said that she manages the state's Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP). She is here to present to the board what they have done over the past year in developing the plan for all of the public water systems in Churchill County. She commended the students, their teacher, and the science program with the high school, as it is so encouraging to see students excited about science and technology and she didn't want to leave without saying something. In November, they came and requested Churchill County's participation in the ISWPP with the state and got the board's approval to do this work in the community. Over the past year, they have developed a plan, in coordination with all of the public water systems in Churchill County, with the exception of the City of Fallon, as they have their own separate plan. It has been a fantastic effort—this is a wonderful community to work in. She has worked in seven other counties and this has been one of the few where there has been a really good collaboration of people that showed up, wanted to participate, and really helped them through the process to get the individual characteristic needs of this community incorporated into the plan. It has been really wonderful working with Michael Johnson, Eleanor Lockwood, and some other folks. Their consultant, RCI, has done a fantastic job of facilitating this effort in the community. There was a slide that acknowledged several individuals and entities from this community who helped make this a really smooth planning process. With the support of all of these people, they have some really good management strategies in place in the plan and really good goals set, which RCI will go through in the next few minutes. This is an extensive plan and it does meet state endorsement criteria, which makes this community eligible for implementation funding in the future once the board approves it.

Jill Sutherland, PE for Resource Concepts Inc. (RCI), said the team came up with the goals that represents the desires of this community for protecting the public drinking water sources. The goals are:

- Develop a local plan/program to ensure the availability of clean drinking water sources for future generations.
- Encourage water resource protection measures that will promote sustainable economic growth.
- Increase community awareness of the source of their drinking water supply and how they can help to protect that supply.
- Encourage collaboration and communication between entities in and surrounding Churchill County.

Throughout this plan development process, they formed a local planning team, gathered water system information, contacted all of the public water systems, and had several of the public water systems folks participate throughout the planning process to the very end. They gathered information about all of their well locations and what their water use would be, we took this and we mapped groundwater capture zones around the different wells and then inventoried facilities and activities near the wells that might release pollutants. Once they had those tools available to the team—where their water was coming from and what the potential pollutants might be, they all put their heads together and developed strategies and an action plan to protect the quality of those drinking water resources. Appendix E is the action plan in the document.

**Implementation Measures:**

To conduct a feasibility study for abandoning unprotected, unused wells; which is because, in Churchill County, you have a unique condition where you have isolated aquifers. One of the key potentials for contamination is cross-connections between those aquifers. When you have unused wells or abandoned wells that cross the aquifers, they also provide an excellent conduit for people to do dumping and the connection between them allows pollutants to move. We will start by looking at areas around public water system wells in the close vicinity to try and identify if there are unused and unprotected wells within a certain radius. Once they identify those, they would move ahead with properly abandoning them in accordance with the state regulations with the permission of the property owner.

Chairman Olsen stated that he sat in on the Planning Commission presentation and has had time to think about this. One of the topics that came up at the Planning Commission meeting was that the cost of decommissioning these wells is very high and also that there is no coupling between. If you go to drill a new well, you are required to show that you did something with the old well. There was discussion that people get out of complying and decommissioning a well by saying that there is nothing wrong with the old well and they are just adding another one. Has there been any thought towards possibly coming up with a cheaper way to decommission a well that is still effective? Do you require people to pour concrete all the way down the casing to decommission a well? Ms. Sutherland said that, though she is not an expert, the Division of Water Resources has regulations about very specific standards on how you drill a well and how you abandon a well. It has to be done by a licensed driller, the casing has to be removed or perforated, and then it has to be filled with a concrete cement mixture from top to bottom. People do things in the interim such as capping and sealing, cover them, but nothing is the same as abandoning them from the bottom to the top because that seals off from vertical travel of water up and down the well casing. Unless you go through that process, she is not sure that anything else is acceptable by the state. Chairman Olsen noted that, at that presentation, she said that this is a real avenue for contamination and that we may need to look at coming up with a better way of capping or decommissioning those wells somehow. Maybe this isn't the right forum for that. If you have a soil profile all the way around it, why do you have to fill it with concrete? Soil might seal it just as well with it six inches away or maybe there is some other cheaper method so that it gets done. Ms. Sutherland agreed that the issue is how to make that happen and, if we could make it cheaper, that might help facilitate it happening more often. This has been a problem statewide for some time and continues to be. She thanked him for that suggestion, as she thinks that is something we should explore.

#### **Education and Outreach:**

Lynn Zonge, with Resource Concepts, introduced herself and said that, in addition to abandoning unused wells, the other thing that came up was educating the businesses and residents that live within the source water protection areas. Of course, educating the young people in the community is always a priority because the kids can educate their parents too in many ways. They have some great tools that illustrate the watershed model as well as the groundwater model, which is a lot of fun. In hearing Mr. Johnson's class presentation and how good they were and the kind of program he has, she thought "The education has to come from within and we need a local champion to take it on." They have worked with Ag in the Classroom. Through this program, these models are available for purchase, though in this community you already have a watershed model and a groundwater model, even though they are a little bit older. The way this will work with education is in perpetuity, and she thought it would

be great if the high school kids were teaching some of the younger kids, because that would be the perfect way to keep it going.

Educational tools available, include:

- Library summer program.
- Ag in the Classroom.
- Flyers and website information on where to take your used motor oil, unused paint, household hazardous waste.
- Well and Septic System Owners – there are a lot of private wells and private septic systems in the community, which are a concern for water quality. Jill talked about the unused, unprotected wells.
- Residential - High density septic systems are also a source of nitrates in groundwater, so it is important to talk about it so that people are aware of it.
- Businesses.
- Agriculture – Agricultural activities are really high in the area and the TCID canals are a huge source of recharge for your groundwater and it crisscrosses all through the community. When they did a little education presentation to the Oasis School, it was interesting that the kids who were on wells knew where their water came from but the kids on city water didn't know where their water came from. They also didn't know where things go when you flush the toilet, while the kids on individual septic systems knew where it went. In talking about recharge, the kids were saying that people dump dead animals and garbage in the canals. We asked them if they thought that was a good idea and they all said no. In talking with TCID, she understands that is a difficult topic and it is a complicated issue.
- County and local agency staff.
- School programs.

Collaboration and planning was a huge part of this and out of it the source water protection areas actually are identified by parcel. After they did the capture zones, they did a GIS exercise intersecting with parcels, so now the parcels that have a relationship to those capture zones are identified. As planners, the agencies reviewing activities in those source water protection areas know whether a parcel is in a source water protection area. For instance, there was a parcel owner in Douglas County that wanted to do some low impact development and they wanted to design their parking lot so that it infiltrated the runoff from the parking lot into the ground. They were in a source water protection area and within the two-year capture zone of a used well, so they determined that they really shouldn't be infiltrating parking lot runoff right next to the well. Instead, you can direct it away from the well and do a swell or a basin. So it is important to know where these source water protection areas are. The state will use this data from GIS so that when projects come through, such as the Ruby Pipeline coming through the state, they can overlay it with source water protection areas, and the state can advise them they are going through however many source water protection areas and that they can be held liable if there is contamination of those wells. Then they will move the line.

#### **Technical Assistance for Funding:**

They are still in this process. Their goal is to get the biggest bang for the buck for the county by coordinating with school systems, getting the education going, getting the well closures going, etc. If they identify the necessary well closures in a group and get the clearance to go in there, then you can do a batch of wells much more economically than one at a time. You

have local well drillers, so the source of your help is very close. They are hoping that we can get a really good economical project done for the community. Also, as a part of this, there will be annual meetings to identify projects that the community would like to move forward with, so this project is here to stay. Congratulations to the community for getting it done. It was a very good cooperative process and they think the plan is really good and really identifies what the community's needs are.

Chairman Olsen asked if there was any public comment but there was none. He agreed that this plan is really important for our community for the future, it does help with future planning and protecting our water resources. Being the driest state in the Union, water is a huge concern. Before getting involved as a Commissioner, he thought we were doing okay but the more he learns, the more he is concerned and there is a lot of work to be done in this regard.

**Commissioner Erquiaga made a motion to approve Resolution 26-2015 adopting the Community Source Water Protection Plan for public water systems in Churchill County. Commissioner Scharmann seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

County Manager Lockwood thanked the ladies for coming in and making this presentation because it was a great collaborative exercise and she was really pleased that the operators of the public water systems were so willing to come in and continue through the process.

**9:00 a.m. Consideration and possible action re: Resolution 27-2015 directing the Churchill County Assessor to take certain actions regarding the secured tax roll for 2016-2017, Denise Felton, Churchill County Assessor.**

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY ASSESSOR TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS REGARDING THE SECURED TAX ROLL.**

Assessor Felton reported that NRS 361.300(3) requires that, before December 1 of any fiscal year in which assessment is made, the Board of County Commissioners shall, by Resolution, direct the County Assessor to take certain actions regarding the secured tax roll in the county. This resolution seeks to direct that action.

Churchill County Assessor Denise Felton introduced herself and stated that the 2016-2017 Churchill County Assessment Roll is complete and open for public inspection. The office has complied with the provisions of NRS 361.300 and has posted a copy of the 2016-2017 secured assessment roll at the Assessor's Office, the County Administrative Building, the Public Library, and it is also available on our website. Their office has the required copies available for the public free of charge. Furthermore, our newspaper listing will print in the Lahontan Valley News on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2015.

Chairman Olsen asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

**Commissioner Scharmann made a motion to approve Resolution 27-2015 directing the Churchill County Assessor to take certain actions regarding the secured tax roll for 2016-2017 pursuant to NRS 361.300(3). Commissioner**

**Erquiaga seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.**

**9:10 a.m. Consideration and possible action re: Presentation on the "Save the Fallon Theatre" and request support to obtain Community Development Block Grant funding, Shannon Ernst, Social Services Director, and Rachel Dahl, Churchill Economic Development Authority.**

Social Services Director Ernst reported that, during discussions for the 2017 CDBG process, the board approved withdrawal of Churchill County from the process and not to submit applications for funding from the county. During the discussion, it was suggested that the county

with the original complainants. Deputy D.A. Shawcroft said that is correct but the question he has is if she rules in the plaintiff's favor, that will enjoin the BLM from going forward with any of the plan. Even though she limited the arguments to only the original plaintiffs, it seems that if there is a ruling in favor of the plaintiffs, it will affect everyone.

**CLERK/TREASURER HELTON:** Clerk/Treasurer Helton was not present but Deputy Clerk Moore reported that Kelly had surgery this morning, so good wishes are appropriate for her continued healing and recovery.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chairman Olsen inquired if there were any public comments on issues that were not listed on the Agenda but there were none.

**CLAIMS AND PAYROLL TRANSMITTALS:**

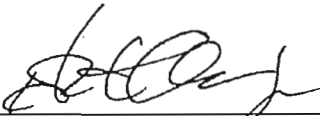
The claims and payroll transmittals submitted for this meeting were reviewed and approved.

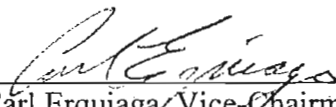
**JAIL INSPECTION:**

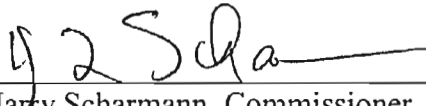
Pursuant to N.R.S. 211.020, the Commissioners conducted the Quarterly Jail Inspection at the Churchill County Jail upon close of meeting to inquire into the security of the jail and treatment and condition of the prisoners. A separate report of the inspection was prepared following the inspection.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

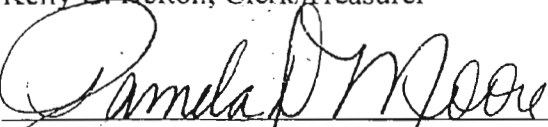
APPROVED:   
H. Peter Olsen, Jr., Chairman

APPROVED:   
Carl Erquiaga, Vice-Chairman

APPROVED:   
Harry Scharmann, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kelly G. Helton, Clerk/Treasurer

  
Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk of the Board



**Churchill County  
Agenda Report**

8:35 a.m.

**Agenda Item:** # \_\_\_\_\_  
**Agenda Date Requested:** 12/3/2015

**Date Submitted:** 11/20/15

**To:** Board of Churchill County Commissioners  
**From:** Eleanor Lockwood, County Manager  
**Subject Title:** Consideration and possible action re: a) Presentation by Jill Sutherland, RCI, on the Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County  
b) Resolution 26-2015, a Resolution adopting the Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County

**Type of Action Requested:** (☒) Formal Action/Motion (☐) Other – Informational Only

**Does this action require a Business Impact Statement?** No

**Recommended Board Action:** Motion to approve Resolution 26-2015 adopting the Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County.

**Discussion:**

In November 2014, the Commissioners were provided an overview of the State of Nevada's Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWP) (previously known as the Wellhead Protection Program). The ISWP Program is voluntary and is focused on preventing the pollution of community drinking water sources, including groundwater, lakes, rivers, springs and streams. Following the Board's approval of the County's participation in the program, NDEP and their contractor RCI, invited representatives from the various public water systems in Churchill County, the State and Local government agencies to participate in the development of the Community Source Water Protection Plan (CSWP Plan). This Local Planning Team met frequently over the course of a year to develop the Plan.

The CSWP Plan provides a framework for the long-term protection of public drinking water supply sources. The Plan identifies goals, drinking water resources, potential contaminant sources, strategies and action to prevent drinking water contamination. An important aspect of the plan includes public education and outreach.

RCI presented the CSWP Plan to the Planning Commission November 24 and the TCID Board December 1<sup>st</sup>. Letters of support are attached.

**Fiscal Impact:** na

Prepared By: Eleanor Lockwood

Date: 11/19/15

Reviewed By: Eleanor Lockwood

Date: 11/20/15

Eleanor Lockwood, Churchill County Manager

B. D. [Signature]  
Churchill County Civil Deputy Attorney

Date: 11/20/15

The submission of this agenda report by county officials is not intended, necessarily, to reflect agreement as to a particular course of action to be taken by the board; rather, the submission hereof is intended, merely, to signify completion of all appropriate review processes in readiness of the matter for consideration and action by the board.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Kalt, Churchill County Comptroller

Date: 11/20/15

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael K. Johnson, Planning Director

Date: 11/20/15

Board Action Taken:

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

1) \_\_\_\_\_

Aye/Nay

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Vote Recorded By)

The submission of this agenda report by county officials is not intended, necessarily, to reflect agreement as to a particular course of action to be taken by the board; rather, the submission hereof is intended, merely, to signify completion of all appropriate review processes in readiness of the matter for consideration and action by the board.



# Truckee-Carson Irrigation District

## *Newlands Project*

November 12, 2015

Churchill County Commission  
155 North Taylor Street, Suite 110  
Fallon, Nevada 89406



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Ernest C. Schank, President  
David Stix, Jr., Vice-President  
Robert Oakden, Director/Secretary  
Lester deBraga, Director/Treasurer  
Eric Olsen, Director  
Joe Gomes, Director  
Wade Workman, Director

Rusty D. Jardine, Esq., District Manager &  
General Counsel

**Re: Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County, Nevada**

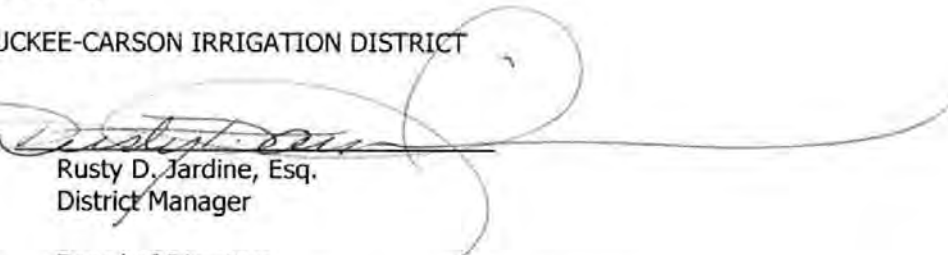
Dear Commissioners:

Over the course of the last fifteen (15) months, a local planning team, including the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, several public water systems in Churchill County, staff from Churchill County, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), have collaborated in the development of the draft "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County, Nevada" (Plan). Thus having participated directly in development of the Plan, we encourage its adoption by the Commission. We further encourage endorsement of a final plan by NDEP. We believe this Plan provides a framework for long-term protection of public drinking water quality in our County. Moreover, the Plan compliments the agricultural interests that have existed in Lahontan Valley since the coming of the Newlands Federal Reclamation Project in the early 1900's. Accordingly, we support the management strategies identified in the Plan.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By:   
Rusty D. Jardine, Esq.  
District Manager

cc: Board of Directors  
Kim Borgzinner, Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
Michael Johnson, Churchill County Planning Director

Carson River Estates HOA  
PO Box 2283  
Fallon, NV 89406

November 11, 2015

Churchill County Commissioners  
155 North Taylor Street, Suite 110  
Fallon, Nevada 89406

Re: "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County, Nevada"

Dear Churchill County Commissioners:

Over the last 15 months the local planning team, including Carson River Estates, other water purveyors in Churchill County, staff from Churchill County, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) have collaborated to develop the draft "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County, Nevada" (Plan). We recommend that the Plan be approved by the Churchill County Commissioners and the final Plan be endorsed by the NDEP. The Plan provides a framework for long-term protection of public drinking water quality in our county, and we support the management strategies outlined in the Plan.

Please feel free to contact Chris Hansen, Carson River Estates, (775) 423-6786, with any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Chris Hansen  
President, CREHOA

Cc: Kim Borgzinner, Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
Michael Johnson, Churchill County Planning Director

November 11, 2015

Churchill County Commissioners  
155 North Taylor Street, Suite 110  
Fallon, Nevada 89406

Re: "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County, Nevada"

Over the last 15 months the local planning team, including Old River Water Company, other water purveyors in Churchill County, staff from Churchill County, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) have collaborated to develop the draft "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County, Nevada" (Plan). We recommend that the Plan be approved by the Churchill County Commissioners and final Plan be endorsed by the NDEP. The Plan provides a framework for long-term protection of public drinking water quality in our County and we support the management strategies outlined in the Plan.

Please feel free to contact Jeff Hanson, Old River Water Company, (775) 423-1265, with and questions or concerns regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Jeff

Jeff Hanson

Cc: Kim Borgzinner, Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
Michael Johnson, Churchill County Planning Director



**Official Record**

Recording requested By  
CHURCHILL CO COMMISSIONERS

**Churchill County - NV**

**Tasha Hessey - Recorder**

Page 1 of 2 Fee:  
Recorded By: LM RPTT:



**RESOLUTION 26-2015**

**BOARD OF CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CHURCHILL COUNTY, NEVADA**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COMMUNITY SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PLAN  
FOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS IN CHURCHILL COUNTY**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,  
CHURCHILL COUNTY, NEVADA**

**WHEREAS**, on November 6, 2014, the Board of Churchill County Commissioners approved participation in the State of Nevada's Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP), a voluntary program undertaken to prevent pollution of community drinking water resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County" (CSWP) was prepared over a period of 1 year through research and work by the local planning team, primarily composed of representatives from the various public water systems within Churchill County, and local and state government; and

**WHEREAS**, the CSWP Plan provides a framework for long-term protection of public drinking water sources, addresses CSWP Plan maintenance procedures, and describes source water protection strategies for Churchill County; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption of the CSWP Plan by the Board of County Commissioners is a prerequisite for State of Nevada endorsement and grants to implement action/projects recommended in the CSWP Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Churchill County Commissioners hereby finds that it is in the best interest of the County to adopt the CSWP Plan to help guide activities to protect the County's drinking water sources.



**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Churchill County

Commissioners that:

1. The "Community Source Water Protection Plan for Public Water Systems in Churchill County," dated November 2015, is hereby Adopted as an official plan of Churchill County.
2. The respective officials identified in the CSWP Plan are directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions/projects identified in the CSWP Plan.
3. CSWP Plan implementation measures and future revisions are hereby adopted as part of this resolution, and will be incorporated into future updates of the Churchill County Master Plan.

This resolution shall be effective on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, AD, 2015.

PROPOSED AND ADOPTED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, AD, 2015.

THOSE VOTING AYE: Carl Erquiaga

Harry Scharmann

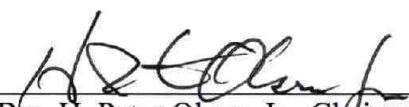
H. Peter Olsen, Jr.

THOSE VOTING NAY: N/A

N/A

N/A

CHURCHILL COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

  
By: H. Peter Olsen, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Clerk of the Board



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