



MEETING MINUTES

**February 11, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.
BOCC Chambers Pahrump, NV**

Members: Unfilled - Area 1 (Currant Creek/Smoky Valley)
Charles "Heath" Miller - Area 2 (Tonopah/Manhattan)
Edwin Goedhart - Chair, Area 3 (Beatty /Armargosa Valley)
Helene Williams - Vice Chair - Area 4, Position 1 (Pahrump Valley)
Bruce Holden - Area 4, Position 2 (Pahrump Valley)
Ernie Jackson - Area 4, Position 3 (Pahrump Valley)
Michael Lach - At Large

**Board of County
Commissioners:** Jon Koning
Staff: Daniel C. Weeks
Finance: Helen Bae

- 1. (00:00:49) Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. (00:01:26) Roll Call – All Present: Mr. Miller, Mr. Holden, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Lach, Mrs. Williams. Mr. Goedhart was absent from the meeting.**
- 3. (00:1:44) Mission Statement – “Protect, Provide and Preserve the water resources of Nye County.”**
- 4. (00:02:10) Approval or Alteration of Agenda for February 11, 2025.**

The General Manager asked that item 19 be struck from the agenda as Chair Goedhart was not present and could not sign the minutes as they were presented.

- 5. (00:02:31) General Public Comment - First.**
No public comment was offered.
- 6. (00:00:00) MEMBERS'/MANAGER'S COMMENTS (This item limited to announcements or topics/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas.**
This item was not addressed during the meeting due to an error by the General Manager.

7. **(00:03:07) Disclosure Of Ex-Parte Communications and Possible Conflict of Interest.**

Mr. Lach mentioned that he was a holder of water rights in Nye County but that he did not see anything on the agenda that would hinder his ability to vote. Mr. Miller disclosed that he was also a water rights holder in Nye County.

8. **(00:03:47) PRESENTATION – Presentation by Nye County Water District's grants contactor BEC Environmental, Inc. on the status of the current Master Service Agreement and Work Orders approved to date to meet the goals of the Nye County Water District. This item will impose no unbudgeted financial impact.**

9. **(00:28:05) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY – Discussion and deliberation on the recent Bureau of Land Management announcement the utility scale solar project described as Rough Hat Clark has been approved. This item will impose no financial impact.**

Mr. Holden suggested including information on the currently proposed solar projects in Basin 162 into the Basin 162 Groundwater Management Plan which is currently being updated.

10. **(00:35:12) PRESENTATION – Discussion and deliberation of a presentation offered by Jay Dixon of Water Strategy Group on the issues related to water and Nevada Water Law in the pending 2025 Nevada Legislative Session. This item will impose no unbudgeted financial impact.**

Jay Dixon of Water Strategy Group delivered a detailed presentation on the current progress being made in the Nevada State Legislature on water related Bills and proposed laws being considered.

Mr. Lach disclosed that he had utilized Mr. Dixon's services in the past on water rights related issues. He also mentioned that Mr. Dixon is a former member of the Nye County Water District.

11. **(00:53:46) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Discussion, deliberation with possible action to approve, amend and approve or deny a Professional Services Agreement with Jay Dixon of the Water Strategy Group with a not-to-exceed amount of \$9,000 for the five (5) months of the 2025 Nevada Legislative Session.**

Mr. Lach made a motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Jay Dixon of the Water Strategy Group as written with a not-to-exceed amount of \$9,000. Mr. Jackson offered a second to the motion which was approved through a unanimous 5-0 vote. Mrs. Williams stipulated that Mr. Lach serve as a liaison to Dixon on behalf of the District during the period of the contract.

12. (01:19:14) PRESENTATION – Presentation by CEO of United Spaceports, Corp. Rob Lauer on the progress of a proposed spaceport in Southern Nevada in Hydrographic Basin 162 near Pahrump and any aspects of the project which could impact water quantity or quality within the basin. This item will impose no financial impact.

Following a short video presentation offered by Mr. Lauer, the members of the board had several questions related to water use at the site of the proposed project.

Nye County resident Karen Waldman mentioned the lack of local infrastructure and the traffic impact the project could impose. Nye County resident Teresa Naleway mentioned the lack of infrastructure and entertainment in Pahrump and questioned the selection of the location. Nye County resident Doug Blackstock questioned the location of the project and several aspects of water use at the site. Nye County resident "Nevel" stated that he thought that the project would be an excellent addition to our county if engineered correctly.

16. (01:52:18) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY – Status report provided by Nye County Water District quality assurance contactor Kathy Gilmore on the progress of activities related to the Nye County Water District's Groundwater Level Monitoring Program. This item will impose no financial impact.

Public comment was not sought on this item.

13. (01:53:42) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY – Discussion and deliberation on the 2:1 relinquishment ordinance for new residential subdivisions within Nevada Hydrographic Basin #162 and what progress has been made toward the ordinance being ratified by the Board of Nye County Commissioners. This item will impose no financial impact.

Public comment was not sought on this item.

14. (01:57:32) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY – Discussion and deliberation with possible direction to staff on recent water rights applications filed by the mining corporation P2 Gabbs Inc. in Nevada Hydrographic Basin 122 totaling an amount of 5,850 acre feet. This item will impose no financial impact.

Mr. Lach directed the General Manager to work with Nye County Public Works to determine if a protest of the application would be appropriate.

Public comment was not sought on this item.

15. (02:04:32) FOR DISCUSSION ONLY – Discussion and deliberation on the most recent progress of the Amargosa Conservancy's efforts to have approximately 308,890 acres of public lands in Nye County included in a Federal Mineral Withdrawal area within Amargosa Valley and surrounding the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. This item will impose no financial impact.

Amargosa Conservancy representative Scott Williams mentioned an Amargosa Conservancy rally being planned in Amargosa on February 27. Mr. Williams also questioned the board as to if a NEPA comment from the board would be submitted regarding the proposed mineral withdrawal area by the April 15 deadline.

17. (02:09:13) **FOR DISCUSSION ONLY** – Discussion and deliberation on the 2024 Summary of Claims offered by Schroeder Law Office P.C. on the status of any claims made against the Nye County Water District in the previous calendar year. This item will impose no unbudgeted financial impact.

The General Manager gave a brief description of the backup materials.

Mrs. Williams directed the General Manager to compose a letter of gratitude to Adam Sullivan and the Division of Water Resources.

18. (02:10:12) **FOR DISCUSSION ONLY** – Discussion and deliberation of presentation materials used by Nevada Division of Water Resources about the ongoing Nevada Water Initiative project which was recently held in Current NV, and the potential impacts the program has for other Hydrographic Basins throughout the state. This item will impose no unbudgeted financial impact.

The General Manager described the efforts of Nevada Division of Water Resources in the currently underway Nevada Water Initiative program.

20. (02:15:54) **SUPPORTING REPORTS** – Organization Members, Staff and County Liaison.

No supporting reports were offered.

21. (02:16:09) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION** – Discussion and deliberation to set the date, time and location of the next Water District Governing Board meeting for Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Pahrump Commissioners Chambers.

Mr. Lach motioned to approve the next meeting of the Nye County Water District Governing Board to 10am April 8, 2025. Mr. Holden offered a second to the motion and the matter was passed unanimously 5-0.

22. (02:17:41) **Closing General Public Comment** – Up to three-minute time limit per person. Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period.

No comment was offered.

23. (02:18:11) **Board Comments** – (This item limited to announcements and to propose future workshops or agendas and should not revisit matters addressed during the meeting.)

Mr. Jackson mentioned that he had encountered several instances of residents using residential well to supply other neighboring parcels. He asked that the issue be addressed by the Nye County Water District. Mr. Lach questioned Nye County's water rights applications in the Beatty region and requested that the manager focus on that issue and bring some information forward on that application.

24. (02:18:49) Adjourn.

WDGB Chair



Date: 4-10-25

WDGB Manager



Date: 4-10-25