



NEVADA LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW AND
OVERSIGHT OF THE TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING
AGENCY AND THE MARLETTE LAKE WATER SYSTEM
(Nevada Revised Statutes 218.53871)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The first meeting of the Nevada Legislature's Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the Marlette Lake Water System (*Nevada Revised Statutes* 218.53871) was held on Monday, January 9, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 2134 of the Legislative Building in Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building in Las Vegas, Nevada. A copy of this set of "Summary Minutes and Action Report," including the "Meeting Notice and Agenda" ([Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature's Web site at www.leg.state.nv.us/73rd/Interim. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Senator Mark E. Amodei, Chairman
Senator Maggie A. Carlton
Senator Dean A. Rhoads
Assemblyman Tom Grady

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Assemblywoman Peggy Pierce, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Assemblyman Morse Arberry Jr.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Diane C. Thornton, Senior Research Analyst, Research Division
Eileen G. O'Grady, Assembly Bill Drafting Advisor, Legal Division
Nenita Wasserman, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

- Senator Carlton called the meeting to order and presided over the election.
- The Committee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY MOVED TO NOMINATE SENATOR AMODEI AS CHAIRMAN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OF THE TRPA AND THE MARLETTE LAKE WATER SYSTEM (*NEVADA REVISED STATUTES* 218.53871). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR RHOADS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Chairman Amodei announced Assemblywoman Pierce would serve as Vice Chair and California State Senator Dave Cox and California State Assemblyman Tim Leslie will be special guests with committee privileges. Senator Carlton did not support the Chairman's action. Chairman Amodei said the Committee will also conduct one meeting in Sacramento.

OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Chairman Amodei welcomed members and the public to the first meeting of the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the TRPA and the Marlette Lake Water System.

SUMMARY OF 2003-2004 INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND 2005 STATE LEGISLATION AFFECTING THE TAHOE BASIN

- Diane C. Thornton, Senior Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), Carson City, gave a summary of the 2003-2004 interim committee recommendations and legislation from the 2005 Session affecting the Tahoe Basin. Her remarks included ongoing support for: (1) the State of Nevada's participation in the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP); (2) fire prevention and forest fuels reduction in the Lake Tahoe Basin; (3) the Regional Plan update enforced by the TRPA, which is referred to as "Pathway 2007"; (4) meaningful oversight of the budget, including programs, activities, responsiveness, and accountability of the TRPA; and (5) improvements to the Marlette Lake Water System.

REPORT OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRPA

A. OVERVIEW

- John Singlaub, Executive Director, TRPA, Stateline, gave an overview of programs and activities associated with the TRPA ([Exhibit B](#)). His review highlighted: (1) the Lake Tahoe Basin Watershed; (2) the local economy; (3) the history of the

Bistate Compact; (4) the responsibilities of the TRPA Governing Board and TRPA; and (5) the goal to save Lake Tahoe's water clarity.

B. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Nevada Program

- James Lawrence, Deputy Administrator, Division of State Lands, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (SDCNR), Carson City, gave a report on the implementation of the EIP ([Exhibit C](#)). He testified regarding: (1) the ten-year EIP capital needs and implementation strategy; (2) the importance of state interagency collaboration; (3) the Lake Tahoe EIP project list (83 total projects); and (4) the current water quality projects.
- Charlie Donahue, Lake Tahoe Program Coordinator, Division of State Lands, SDCNR, Carson City, reviewed a variety of ongoing EIP projects at Lake Tahoe (Page 5 of [Exhibit C](#)), which encompasses: (1) Nevada's Department of Transportation (NDOT) State Route 28 Incline Village Project; (2) fisheries projects; (3) wildlife projects; (4) the health of the Tunnel Creek forest; (5) the forest health and upland wildlife north of Spooner Meadow; (6) urban lot management; and (7) various recreation projects.

California Program

- Patrick Wright, Conservancy Executive Officer, California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC), South Lake Tahoe, California, noted he replaced Dennis Machida, the former executive officer of the CTC, and gave a brief summary of California's activities. He stated that the CTC: (1) has acquired and protected many acres of land and public access recreation in the Lake Tahoe Basin; (2) continues to work with the TRPA to update EIPs and the Pathway 2007 goals; and (3) will ensure that the Lake Tahoe Basin receives its share of bond funding.

Federal Program

- Terri Marceron, Forest Supervisor, U.S. Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, South Lake Tahoe, United States Department of Agriculture, gave an overview of the responsibilities of the U.S. Forest Service and activities that include: (1) participation in the Lake Tahoe Basin's projects since 1998; (2) acquisition of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) funding for Lake Tahoe Basin projects; (3) restoration activities at Slaughter House Canyon; (4) management issues on urban intermix parcels; and (5) transportation planning and water quality upgrades for Logan Shoals and Nevada Beach day use.

Local Government Programs

- Carl Ruschmeyer, Douglas County Engineer, Douglas County, Minden, Nevada, reviewed the County's participation in the EIP program ([Exhibit D](#)).
- Michelle Poché, Assistant County Manager, Washoe County, and Kimble Corbridge, P.E., CFM, Engineering Division, Washoe County, Reno, Nevada, gave a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation on the EIP projects in Washoe County ([Exhibit E](#)).

Private Sector Programs

- Rochelle Nason, Executive Director, The League to Save Lake Tahoe, and Co-Chair of the Lake Tahoe Transportation and Water Quality Coalition, South Lake Tahoe, reviewed the roles of the Lake Tahoe Transportation and Water Quality Coalition, environmental advocates, and other nonprofit organizations. She also discussed the League's mission for the Lake Tahoe Basin. Her remarks are listed as [Exhibit F](#).
- Andrew Strain, Vice President Planning and Government Affairs, Heavenly Mountain Resort, South Lake Tahoe, reviewed private sector perspectives for implementation of the EIPs by the TRPA ([Exhibit G](#)).

C. STATUS REPORT ON "PATHWAY 2007" (TRPA REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE)

- John Singlaub, previously identified, gave a status report of the "Pathway 2007." He explained it is a multi-agency long-range planning effort, which is a collaborative plan for Lake Tahoe's future. The four participating agencies include: (1) the TRPA; (2) U.S. Forest Service; (3) Nevada's Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP); and (4) the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- Senator Carlton requested the TRPA provide the Committee with a fact sheet that reflects what the Pathway 2007 thresholds would accomplish.
- Terry Marceron, previously identified, explained the U.S. Forest Service is the principle land management agency of the "Pathway 2007" program (Page 13 of [Exhibit H](#)).
- Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB), California Environmental Protection Agency, South Lake Tahoe, (Page 20 of [Exhibit H](#)) noted the LRWQCB is responsible for protecting California's water resources at Lake Tahoe.
- Tom Porta, Deputy Administrator, NDEP, SDCNR, Carson City, gave an overview of the NDEP's role in Pathway 2007 that includes working with local agencies

on: (1) statewide construction storm water discharge; (2) inspections; (3) client assistance; (4) de-icing programs with NDOT; and (5) relative issues such as use of Lake Tahoe as a drinking water source.

UPDATE OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MARLETTE-HOBART WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

- Patrick McIness, Chief Engineer, Buildings and Grounds Division, Department of Administration, Carson City, explained the Department operates the Marlette Lake Water System, which supplies water to Carson City and Virginia City. He reviewed: (1) current projects at the Marlette Lake Water System designed to improve the delivery of water; and (2) future projects scheduled to be funded by bonds purchased from Carson City.
- Ed James, General Manager, Carson Water Subconservancy District, Carson City, expressed concern for the threatened Mountain Beaver habitat at Marlette Lake. He stated an environmental assessment document will be submitted to both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the TRPA in January 2006. He also said the construction period for improvements to the Marlette Lake Water System will begin in 2006.
- Chairman Amodei stated the Committee will devote one meeting to the topic of the Marlette Lake Water System.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Beth McCleary, owner of the McCleary Ranch (formerly the List Ranch), Washoe Valley, alleged that soil erosion damage to her property was caused by the overflow discharge from the Marlette Lake-Hobart Water System.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- Diane Thornton, previously identified in these minutes, provided the Committee with tentative meeting dates, which include a field trip to Lake Tahoe and Marlette Lake, and one meeting in Sacramento, California.
- Senator Carlton requested a future agenda topic to determine how the State of California addresses adequate affordable housing for the service industry at the Lake Tahoe Basin.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nenita Wasserman
Senior Research Secretary

Diane C. Thornton
Senior Research Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Senator Mark E. Amodei, Chairman

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the “Meeting Notice and Agenda” provided by Diane C. Thornton, Senior Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), Carson City, Nevada.

[Exhibit B](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Preserving a National Treasure,” given by John Singlaub, Executive Director, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), Stateline, Nevada.

[Exhibit C](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “State of Nevada, Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program, Legislative Committee for the Oversight of TRPA and Marlette Water System Updated,” submitted by James Lawrence, Deputy Administrator, and Charlie Donahue, Lake Tahoe Program Coordinator, Division of State Lands, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Carson City.

[Exhibit D](#) is a memorandum dated January 9, 2006, to the Legislature’s Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the Marlette Lake Water System, regarding Douglas County’s Environmental Improvement Program, offered by Carl Ruschmeyer, Douglas County Engineer, Minden, Nevada.

[Exhibit E](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Report of Programs and Activities Associated with the TRPA-EIP, Washoe County, Nevada,” given by Michelle Poché, Assistant County Manager, and Kimble Corbridge, P.E., CFM, Engineering Division, Washoe County, Nevada.

[Exhibit F](#) is a copy of testimony dated January 9, 2006, furnished by Rochelle Nason, Executive Director, The League to Save Lake Tahoe, and the Lake Tahoe Transportation and Water Quality Coalition, South Lake Tahoe, California.

[Exhibit G](#) is a document dated January 9, 2006, titled “Implementation of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency’s Environmental Improvement Program: Threats, Opportunities and Challenges: Private Sector Perspectives,” submitted by Andrew Strain, Vice President of Planning and Governmental Affairs, Heavenly Mountain Resort, South Lake Tahoe.

[EXHIBIT H](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Pathway 2007, Planning for Tahoe’s Future,” given by John Singlaub, Executive Director, TRPA, Stateline; Terri Marceron, Forest Supervisor, United States Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, South Lake Tahoe, United States Department of Agriculture; and, Tom Porta, Deputy Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Carson City.

This set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report” is supplied as an informational service. Exhibits in electronic format may not be complete. Copies of the complete exhibits, other materials distributed at the meeting, and the audio record are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library online at www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm or telephone: 775/684-6827.