



NEVADA LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
(*Nevada Revised Statutes* [NRS] 218E.510)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The third meeting of the Nevada Legislature's Legislative Committee on Public Lands was held on Friday, May 4, 2012, at 9 a.m. in Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. This meeting was videoconferenced to Room 3138 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada, and Room 114, Lundberg Hall, Great Basin College, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, 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 website at <http://leg.state.nv.us/interim/76th2011/committee/>. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's (LCB's) Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair
Senator Dean A. Rhoads, Vice Chair
Senator Don Gustavson
Senator Mark A. Manendo
Senator David R. Parks
Assemblyman Paul Aizley
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams
Assemblyman Ira Hansen
Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County Commissioner

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Dave Ziegler, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division
Daniel Yu, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
Natalie J. Pieretti, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Chair Carlton called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

REVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITIES, DISTRICTS, AND SYSTEMS

(As directed by Chair Carlton, this agenda item was taken out-of-order.)

Southern Nevada Water Authority

- John Entsminger, Senior Deputy General Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), appearing on behalf of Patricia Mulroy, General Manager, discussed the construction of a third intake from Lake Mead; the drought conditions on the Colorado River; funding and water rates; the groundwater development project; and ongoing negotiations with Mexico. Regarding the drought, Mr. Entsminger said 2011 was a very good hydrologic year for the Colorado River, but 2012 is poor, and the SNWA is expecting about 63 percent of normal flows. Concerning negotiations with Mexico, he said that the seven Colorado River states are especially interested in obtaining an agreement that Mexico will share in water shortages in the lower basin when they occur. Mr. Entsminger testified that the SNWA board and each member purveyor agency passed an infrastructure surcharge that will increase the average residential bill by \$5 per month. He shared that SNWA has reduced operating costs and deferred capital and resource projects due to a large decrease in revenues since the beginning of the economic downturn. Finally, on the subject of the groundwater project, Mr. Entsminger said a large population in Nevada depends on the Colorado River for its water supply, and the River is highly dynamic and possibly unreliable as a supply. (Please see [Exhibit B](#) and [Exhibit B-1](#).)

Responding to Commissioner Giunchigliani's inquiry, Mr. Entsminger stated the groundwater applications filed for 11,879 acre-feet per year were for agricultural and wildlife protection purposes in Cave Valley, Delamar Valley, Dry Lake Valley, and Spring Valley, and not for export. He confirmed the Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project is the same project referenced as the in-state groundwater project.

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Giunchigliani and Mr. Entsminger regarding the actual cost of the project. Mr. Entsminger reported the Conceptual Plan of Development has been updated, with an estimated capital cost of \$3.2 billion for the project if paid in cash in 2012. Taking into account debt service on bonds sold over a period of 40 years, with the final payment in 2078, he said the SNWA estimates the cost at \$15.8 billion; this represents a worst-case financial and hydrologic scenario.

There was further discussion between Commissioner Giunchigliani and Mr. Entsminger with reference to bond proceeds and water rates. Commissioner Giunchigliani stated for the record that the Las Vegas Valley Water District may spread the burden of the infrastructure surcharge differently than other purveyors, after discussing the subject with a stakeholder group.

In response to Commissioner Giunchigliani's request, Mr. Entsminger discussed SNWA's involvement in a pilot level study with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the San Diego County Water Authority, and the Central Arizona Project to assess the feasibility of constructing a desalinization facility in Rosarito Beach, Mexico. He also stated SNWA is funding a pilot project with the same entities at the Yuma, California desalting plant to desalinate agricultural run-off, and working with others in the area around the Salton Sea. Mr. Entsminger said it may be 10 to 20 years before desalinization is a realistic option for SNWA's portfolio.

- Senator Rhoads asked what types of indicators SNWA considers when monitoring the effects of groundwater pumping.
- Mr. Entsminger replied biological and hydrologic indicators are reviewed. He noted that a number of monitoring wells have to be drilled, and if there is a decline in the water table, pumping would have to be decreased at the production well, or the well moved. Continuing, Mr. Entsminger stated spring outflow is continually monitored. He said SNWA has performed biological surveys of all plant and animal species, and the population trends will be constantly tracked to gauge the impact and allow for appropriate pumping adjustments and other operational considerations.

In response to Assemblyman Hansen's question, Mr. Entsminger replied at the present time, the third intake from Lake Mead is solely for replacement capacity in the event the elevation of Lake Mead falls below the level of the first intake.

There was discussion between Assemblyman Hansen and Mr. Entsminger regarding consumptive use of the Colorado River water. Mr. Entsminger said SNWA's consumption has fallen to 220,000 acre-feet from 325,000 acre-feet per year since 2002 as a result of conservation and economic conditions, and SNWA sought the groundwater rights for drought protection and community growth.

In response to a question from Chair Carlton, Mr. Entsminger said a number of permit-related processes are running consecutively, however the two-year study referred to is a condition of the permit to pump water and is required before SNWA is allowed to begin pumping.

Responding to Senator Manendo's request for an update on the incentive program for landscape removal, Mr. Entsminger reported the current budget includes \$10 million for the turf removal program. He said during the economic downturn, reserve funds were used to fund the program but after reserves declined, SNWA has used bond proceeds with a deed restriction preventing the property owner from re-establishing turf. Mr. Entsminger said the

property owner is able to apply for removal of the deed restriction only upon refund of the rebate. He remarked there has been only one inquiry, and no applications received.

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

REVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION OF NEVADA

(As directed by Chair Carlton, this agenda item was taken out-of-order.)

- Jayne Harkins, P.E., Executive Director, Colorado River Commission of Nevada (CRC), testified regarding topics that included: (1) agency overview; (2) Commission organization; (3) current issues; and (4) reservoir conditions. Ms. Harkins testified that Nevada's consumptive use of Colorado River water is now about 280,000 acre-feet per year, versus 300,000 acre-feet per year allowed. Regarding reservoir conditions, Ms. Harkins said that the 2012 flows into Lake Powell above Glen Canyon Dam are forecasted to be 33 percent of average, which is almost as low as 2002, when the flow was 25 percent of average. She said that some of the CRC's main concerns are maintaining water releases from Glen Canyon Dam in order to move water into Lake Mead, and balancing the hydropower production of the dam with downstream needs. On the subject of the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011, Ms. Harkins said the CRC will undertake a rulemaking process to allocate 11.5 megawatts after 2017, when current contracts expire, to new allottees in the marketing area in portions of Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, Nye, and White Pine Counties. She said the CRC is contemplating legislation to enable it to serve those new customers. (Please see [Exhibit C](#).)

In response to Senator Rhoads' question, Ms. Harkins replied that hydropower received from the federal dams is renewable and she did not know what percentage of power purchased on the open market was from wind and solar, but will provide that information to staff.

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 27, 2012, IN CARSON CITY, NEVADA

- The Committee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR RHOADS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 27, 2012, MEETING HELD IN CARSON CITY, NEVADA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GIUNCHIGLIANI AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES, STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND REVIEW OF THE RULINGS OF THE STATE ENGINEER IN THE MATTERS OF APPLICATIONS OF THE SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY TO APPROPRIATE UNDERGROUND WATERS OF THE CAVE VALLEY, DELAMAR VALLEY, DRY LAKE VALLEY, AND SPRING VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASINS, LINCOLN AND WHITE PINE COUNTIES, NEVADA

- Jason King, P.E., State Engineer, Division of Water Resources, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (SDCNR), provided information relative to the SNWA pipeline project and a summary of the ruling. (Please see [Exhibit D.](#))

Discussion ensued among Chair Carlton, Assemblyman Aizley, Commissioner Giunchigliani, Senator Rhoads, and Mr. King regarding guidelines for future monitoring of the water table. Mr. King said there are hydrologic and biological monitoring plans, and SDCNR looks at trends and proceeds accordingly. He said there will be continued monitoring of the water table, and that SDCNR will rely on its hydrology staff and respond immediately when trends are observed that are directly correlated with pumping, and SDCNR can issue cease and desist orders, if necessary.

In response to Commissioner Giunchigliani's question of how the financial ability to construct the pipeline was presented by SNWA, Mr. King replied SNWA showed substantial evidence of financial ability to fund the project based on a conservative analysis in its case-in-chief. He said many of the points on appeal are associated with financial capability and explained that the District Court venue for the appeal is not known at this time.

Discussion ensued between Assemblyman Hansen and Mr. King regarding perennial yield. Mr. King said 4,000 acre-feet per year have been left in Spring Valley for future economic growth and there is 13,000 acre-feet per year in existing senior water rights that are protected.

- Chair Carlton requested Mr. King provide the Committee information from the hearing that centered on SNWA's financial ability. Mr. King offered to provide excerpts from the ruling and links to the hearing exhibits, and to make transcripts available for review at his office.

Mr. King resumed his testimony by reporting on the the State Engineer's rulings regarding the General Moly Mining Project in Kobeh Valley, now under appeal in District Court.

- Senator Rhoads remarked that the Moly Mining Project involves the largest molybdenum deposit in the world and will be quite an economic factor for the State of Nevada.

Mr. King provided an update on the Walker River Basin Restoration Program, also known as, "Save Walker Lake," pursuant to The Energy and Water Development and Related Appropriations Act of 2010, Public Law 111-85. He said a large component of the program is to pay farmers to fallow their fields, but after three years, only two applications have been filed with his office, for one permanent and one temporary fallowing project.

Discussion ensued between Assemblyman Hansen and Mr. King on topics including the current lake level, the Walker Lake fishery, and the possibility of transferring water to Walker Lake from mine pit lakes near Yerington.

In response to questions from Assemblyman Aizley, Mr. King confirmed Walker Lake's salinity is due to water evaporation, not irrigation return flow. He explained that directing a very large amount of water to the Lake would be necessary to reduce its salinity to a level that would support a fishery.

- Chair Carlton asked if SDCNR was aware of any incentives to benefit Walker Lake, to which Mr. King replied that nearly \$100 million is available to lease or purchase water, however the farmers have been farming for generations and farming is their livelihood.

Mr. King continued his testimony by briefing the Committee on the April 1 snowpack and potential bill draft requests (BDRs) for the 2013 Legislative Session.

Discussion ensued between Assemblyman Hansen and Mr. King regarding why mining and milling is considered a temporary use of water in the Humboldt Basin. Mr. King testified that despite the relatively long lives of some mines, mining is considered a temporary use in the long-term, hydrologically speaking.

- Chair Carlton called for public comment on Agenda Item IV.
- Patrick T. Sanderson, resident of Carson City, Nevada, commended the efforts of the State Engineer and SNWA and stressed the importance of planning for the future.

REVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITIES, DISTRICTS, AND SYSTEMS

Carson Water Subconservancy District

- Edwin James, General Manager, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD), provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation. He testified on topics including: (1) CWSD regional issues; (2) the Carson River Coalition Coordination; (3) the Carson River Watershed; (4) the Comprehensive Regional Management Plan; (5) the history of CWSD; (6) Regional Floodplain Planning; (7) the Regional Floodplain Management Plan; (8) the Regional Infrastructure; (9) the Regional Water Conservation Program; and (10) the structure of CWSD. Mr. James testified that most water storage in the Carson River system is natural storage, since the largest man-made facility, Lahontan Reservoir, is located low in the watershed. Regarding flood control, Mr. James said the public has expressed a preference for a “living river” concept as the most cost-effective approach, and that open space in the Carson Valley is very important to minimize future flooding. On the subject of water supplies, he said there has been a shift toward higher flows in March and April, and lower flows in the summer, with corresponding impacts on irrigators and municipalities. Regarding regional infrastructure, Mr. James reported that CWSD works cooperatively, that Carson City and Lyon County have interconnected their systems, and that a pipeline will eventually tie together Minden, in Douglas County, Carson City, Dayton, in Lyon County, and possibly Fallon, in Churchill County. (Please see [Exhibit E](#) and [Exhibit E-1](#).)

Discussion ensued between Assemblyman Hansen and Mr. James regarding agricultural use from the Carson River and the Lahontan Reservoir. Mr. James explained in dry years when water is insufficient to meet demands, water is diverted from the Truckee River to the Lahontan Reservoir.

Assemblyman Hansen asked what would happen to the Carson River drainage system and the agricultural communities downstream if Derby Dam were eliminated. Mr. James replied the Truckee canal is critical to Churchill County agriculture, with two-thirds of the water supply coming from the Truckee in drought years.

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

Central Nevada Regional Water Authority

- Steve Bradhurst, Executive Director, Central Nevada Regional Water Authority (CNRWA), provided a brief history and described the conferred functions of the CNRWA, which include:
 - § formulating and presenting consensus positions;
 - § monitoring available water supplies;
 - § determining the extent to which proposals to develop and export water may adversely impact water availability;
 - § facilitating the development and maintenance of a groundwater monitoring program;
 - § hosting the annual Great Basin Water Forum; and
 - § making sound water resource decisions. (Please see [Exhibit F.](#))

Regarding the 2012 Great Basin Water Forum, Mr. Bradhurst said the theme is tentatively to address the significant imbalance between identified sustainable water supplies and projected population growth in urban areas in California, Nevada, and Utah. He cited an exhibit from the State Engineer's hearings on the SNWA groundwater project, which indicates that projected needs of the SNWA under average or dry conditions far exceed the maximum amount the State Engineer approved. Mr. Bradhurst then discussed potential BDR recommendations for the 2013 Legislative Session.

In response to a question by Chair Carlton on whether Washoe County is importing water from other areas, Mr. Bradhurst replied applications for water from Pershing County were denied by the State Engineer, and that a pipeline was constructed within Washoe County from Honey Lake to the southern portion of the County, but there is no demand for the water at this time.

- Assemblyman Hansen added Washoe County has the Honey Lake project in place in the event it is needed and it is difficult for elected officials to balance the need to sustain both water resources and the construction industry, which creates many jobs.

In response to Senator Rhoads' question on why the CNRWA has not looked into the adjudication of the Owyhee River, Mr. Bradhurst said he understands there is a draft adjudication. Senator Rhoads suggested the CNRWA add this subject to a future agenda.

There was discussion between Assemblyman Hansen and Mr. Bradhurst regarding BDR Recommendation #5. Mr. Bradhurst testified that the CNRWA monitors water levels, but does not have the resources to perform modeling to determine whether a proposed use of water affects a nearby surface or underground water source, and would prefer the use of an independent third party to make such determinations.

- Gene P. Etcheverry, Executive Director, Lander County, stated the Lander County Commission, in its growth master plan, has implemented many of the CNRWA's proposed recommendations.
- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

Humboldt River Basin Water Authority

- Mike L. Baughman, Ph.D., Executive Director, Humboldt River Basin Water Authority (HRBWA), testified regarding characteristics of the Humboldt River Basin and provided an overview of the history of the HRBWA. Mr. Baughman outlined the HRBWA's major roles and responsibilities, key issues relevant to the HRBWA, and sponsored publications. He addressed recommendations for proposed BDRs for the 2013 Legislative Session. Mr. Baughman said drought planning and mitigation is a key issue; over half of Nevada has been in a drought condition for at least six weeks, and the Humboldt River basin is facing prolonged severe drought conditions. He testified that the HRBWA has taken action to urge the State drought response committee to activate the drought alert process. Mr. Baughman testified that another key issue is the need for additional storage in the basin, and based on feasibility studies, underground storage and groundwater banking appear to have the greatest chance of success. (Please see [Exhibit G](#) and [Exhibit G-1](#).)

Discussion ensued between Assemblyman Hansen and Mr. Baughman regarding the use of pit lakes as potential reservoirs and the issue of pit lake evaporation. Mr. Baughman acknowledged there are evaporative losses from Southfork Reservoir, Rye Patch Reservoir, and Chimney Creek, but those bodies of water have storage rights tied to them. He said using pit lakes as bodies of water for storage has been considered, but the water quality is not good.

Responding to questions from Assemblyman Hansen, Mr. Baughman said the HRBWA is aware of the issue of mining as a temporary water use, he is not aware of water being transferred out of the Humboldt Basin, but water is transferred from the Grass Valley Basin to serve the community of Winnemucca.

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

Virgin Valley Water District

- Kenneth Rock, General Manager, Virgin Valley Water District (VVWD), provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation including: (1) Annual Delivery of Potable Water; (2) Bunkerville Irrigation Company dam in 2010 flood; (3) Five Arsenic Treatment Plants; (4) Locations of the Virgin Valley, (5) Lower Virgin River Flows; (6) Mesquite Irrigation Company dam in 2010 flood; (7) Monthly Water Production; (8) Potable Water Use by Category; (9) Surface water right allocations on lower Virgin River; (10) Virgin, River, and Basin 222; (11) VVWD 2012 Below-Ground Assets; (12) the VVWD 2012 Customer Base; and (13) VVWD mission and goals. (Please see [Exhibit H.](#))

Responding to questions from Chair Carlton, Mr. Rock said the VVWD very much needs a basin study to obtain good evidence of the perennial yield of the Virgin River Basin, so that Arizona, Nevada, and Utah can work cooperatively to successfully manage the resource. Concerning storage, he testified that the land around Mesquite is porous and not suitable for storage and that storing river water underground is precluded by water quality concerns, making banking and storage schemes difficult. Mr. Rock said he hopes to rebuild surface water diversions and construct a lined aboveground reservoir for golf course irrigation, thus preserving the potable drinking water supply.

In response to questioning by Assemblyman Hansen, Mr. Rock noted Mesquite has no discharge permit for the wastewater treatment plant since all the water is reclaimed and used for the city's green spaces, parks, and golf courses.

- Commissioner Giunchigliani asked if golf courses are charged at a higher rate. Mr. Rock said recycled water is delivered to the golf courses at a loss; however, no discharge permit is required, which benefits the community. He noted metered drinking water is the same price regardless of use.
- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

UPDATES FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON THEIR CURRENT ISSUES AND PRIORITIES RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS IN NEVADA

Clark County

- Marci Henson, Planning Manager, Department of Comprehensive Planning (DCP), Clark County, presented information on the Desert Conservation Program. Ms. Henson reported the DCP provides regional compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973. She noted that upon the listing of the Desert Tortoise in 1989, the DCP, in 1991, sought a permit from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), for protection of the tortoise habitat utilizing a regional approach. Ms. Henson stated the DCP is in its third iteration of the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), which covers 77 species that could be at risk for listing. (Please see [Exhibit I.](#))

Ms. Henson highlighted the MSHCP, which includes:

- § A 30-year permit effective February 2001;
- § Collection of a \$550 per acre disturbance fee to fund implementation (pursuant to NRS 244.386);
- § Reliance on a reserve system where the MSHCP achieves conservation by augmenting existing funding and conservation on federal lands; and
- § Requiring the permittees to spend a minimum of approximately \$4 million per biennium to implement conservation actions.

Ms. Henson reported in 2007, the Clark County Board of County Commissioners directed DCP to initiate amendment of the MSHCP pursuant to the recommendations of the 2005 Southern Nevada Growth Task Force and the 2006 DCP Advisory Committee.

Ms. Henson stated a recent resolution by the Clark County Board of County Commissioners supports transfer of lands from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to USFWS refuge management for the expansion or addition of refuges. She said in exchange for that support, Clark County requested the Secretary of the Interior be directed to credit those refuge lands toward the amended permit.

Ms. Henson discussed the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Program establishing registration and titling in Nevada. She stated MSHCP mitigates for impacts to threatened and endangered species affected by OHV use.

Ms. Henson said efforts to designate the Gold Butte area as a national conservation area; to identify the Tule Springs National Monument as a national monument; and to designate additional wildlife refuge in southern Nevada are being pursued by DCP.

In response to Assemblyman Aizley, Ms. Henson replied the OHV bill includes reciprocity for OHVs registered in other states, with no extra use taxes if the vehicle does not stay more than 90 days in Nevada without being registered.

Discussion ensued between Chair Carlton and Ms. Henson regarding paring the list of the 78 likely candidate species to sixteen. Ms. Henson said she would provide staff with a list of the 16 species, along with an analysis memorandum.

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

Humboldt County

- Mike Bell, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, Humboldt County, reviewed the County's issues and priorities relating to the public lands, covering the County's good relationships with the BLM and USFS; its interest in noxious weed eradication;

the amount of activity on public lands; the county's interest in realty actions on public lands; federal legislation resulting from the efforts of the Pine Forest Working Group; and the sage grouse planning process. (Please see [Exhibit J](#)).

In response to Assemblyman Hansen's question regarding the size of the proposed Pine Forest wilderness, Mr. Bell replied it is a large area, and he will provide specific information to the Committee.

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

UPDATE ON PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN NEVADA RELATING TO THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1998 (SNPLMA)

- Karla D. Norris, Assistant District Manager, SNPLMA Division, Southern Nevada District Office, BLM, DOI, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation on the history of, and projects funded by, SNPLMA. Ms. Norris testified regarding funding trends; project completion progress; nominations; and timeline of SNPLMA. Ms. Norris noted that one SNPLMA project, the renovation of Lorenzi Park in Las Vegas, was nominated by Governor Sandoval and listed by the Secretary of the Interior as one of 100 highlighted projects in the America's Great Outdoors initiative. Regarding Round 13 of SNPLMA projects, Ms. Norris said 43 requests totaling approximately \$23 million were received, but only \$8 million will be awarded. She acknowledged an emphasis on completing projects funded in Rounds 4 through 7, and noted that the percentage of completed projects has improved from 31 percent to 45 percent in the last two years. She stated existing funding for the program will run out in five to seven years if land sales do not generate new revenue. (Please see [Exhibit K](#).)

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Giunchigliani and Ms. Norris regarding the amounts of money distributed to the education fund and the SNWA under SNPLMA. Ms. Norris reported as of September 2011, the State's education fund had received \$153 million while SNWA had received \$228 million with no restrictions on how the funds are to be used. Commissioner Giunchigliani and Ms. Norris further discussed the potential, if any, for expansion of the disposal boundary.

- Chair Carlton expressed her appreciation for Ms. Norris accompanying the Committee on their recent tour.
- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

UPDATE ON FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS LEGISLATION

- Dave Ziegler, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, LCB, provided an update on selected federal legislation relating to public lands, highlighting the legislation supported by the entire Nevada delegation. (Please see [Exhibit L](#).)

Responding to Commissioner Giunchigliani, Mr. Ziegler said the Gold Butte special designation legislation was not yet on the Library of Congress website, to the best of his knowledge.

UPDATE ON COMMITTEE SCHEDULE FOR THE 2011-2012 INTERIM

- Chair Carlton informed the Committee the next meeting is June 19, 2012, in Ely.
- Dave Ziegler, previously identified, proposed dates of August 17 or August 24 as the final meeting date, and asked members to inform staff what date they would prefer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Carlton called for public comment; however, no testimony was provided.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie J. Pieretti
Senior Research Secretary

Dave Ziegler
Principal Research Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Chair

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the “Meeting Notice and Agenda” provided by Dave Ziegler, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), Carson City.

[Exhibit B](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) submitted by John Entsminger, Senior Deputy General Manager, SNWA.

[Exhibit B-1](#) is document titled “Southern Nevada Water Authority, *A Regional Solution*, Milestones 1991-2011,” provided by John Entsminger, Senior Deputy General Manager, SNWA.

[Exhibit C](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Colorado River Commission of Nevada Overview,” dated May 4, 2012, given by Jayne Harkins, P.E., Executive Director, Colorado River Commission of Nevada.

[Exhibit D](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Overview of Activities,” dated May 4, 2012, presented by Jason King, P.E., State Engineer, Division of Water Resources, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

[Exhibit E](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Overview of the Carson Water Subconservancy District,” submitted by Edwin James, General Manager, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD).

[Exhibit E-1](#) is a brochure titled “The Carson River Watershed Map,” provided by Edwin James, General Manager, CWSD.

[Exhibit F](#) is the written testimony dated May 4, 2012, of Steve Bradhurst, Executive Director, Central Nevada Regional Water Authority.

[Exhibit G](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation dated May 4, 2012, titled “Humboldt River Basin Water Authority Overview of Organization and Key Issues,” presented by Mike L. Baughman, Ph.D., Executive Director, Humboldt River Basin Water Authority (HRBWA).

[Exhibit G-1](#) is an April 24, 2012, document titled “U.S. Drought Monitor,” submitted by Mike L. Baughman, Ph.D., Executive Director, HRBWA.

[Exhibit H](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation dated May 4, 2012, titled “Presentation of the Lower Virgin River and Basin 222 for the Nevada Committee on Public Lands,” presented by Kenneth Rock, General Manager, Virgin Valley Water District.

[Exhibit I](#) is a document dated May 4, 2012, titled “Desert Conservation Program Update on the Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan,” provided by Marci Henson, Planning Manager, Department of Comprehensive Planning.

[Exhibit J](#) is the written testimony dated May 4, 2012, of Mike Bell, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, Humboldt County.

[Exhibit K](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Presentation for the Legislative Committee on Public Lands,” presented by Karla D. Norris, Assistant District Manager, Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Division, Southern Nevada District Office, Bureau of Land Management, United States Department of the Interior.

[Exhibit L](#) is a document titled “Selected Federal Legislation Relating to Public Lands in the 112th Congress,” submitted by Dave Ziegler, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, LCB.

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.