

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the
TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, in the counties of Churchill and Lyon, State of Nevada, met in regular session at the office of the District, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada, on **Tuesday, March 10, 2026** at 9:00 a.m.

The following Directors were present constituting a quorum:

Present:	Eric Olsen David Stix Jr. Robert Oakden Lester deBraga Michael Olsen Abraham Schank	President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer Director Director
Absent:	Wade Workman	Director
Others Present:	Benjamin Shawcroft Helen-Marie Morrow Rachel Enox Cody Biggs Mark Solinski Kelly Herwick Ariel Tomb	General Manager Finance Manager Water Accounting Manager Construction & Maintenance Manager Hydroelectric Facilities Manager District Water Master Assistant Secretary to the Board

Teleconference/Zoom Guests	Representing
Bethany Chagnon	United States Fish & Wildlife
Dan Lahde	Bureau of Reclamation
Laurie Nicholas	Bureau of Reclamation
Robert Owen	Bureau of Reclamation
Jason Villareal	Bureau of Reclamation
Isaac Metcalf	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Maggi Kraft	Bureau of Reclamation
Leanna Lehman	The Fallon Post
Rachel Dahl	The Fallon Post
Wyatt Golding	Ziontz Chestnut

In-Person Guests	Representing
Robert Martinez	Bureau of Reclamation
Steven Evans	Self
Albert Mulder	Natural Resource Conservation District
Doug Higby	Natural Resource Conservation District
Eduardo Gamez	Natural Resource Conservation District
Jacob Ward	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Kyle Larsen	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Valerie Roberds	Self

The following agenda items are not necessarily in the order they were heard or decided but in the order as appearing on the agenda.

1. **Call to Order**

President Olsen called the meeting to order in accordance with NRS 241 at 9:02 a.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mark Solinski.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Secretary Oakden to adopt the agenda, seconded by Vice-President Stix, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

4. **General Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

5. **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

There was no miscellaneous correspondence.

6. **General Manager and Staff Reports**

• **Ben Shawcroft, General Manager**

Shawcroft reported that information on SB 270 has been added to the District website. He met with USDA personnel last week and received an update on the funding situation. All the staff that previously worked on the project are gone so they are starting their review process over. He has been working with Herwick on the measurement workshop which is almost ready, perhaps by the next meeting. The new server arrived and is being prepared for installation. New security cameras and internet are being installed at the Dam.

• **Cody Biggs, Construction & Maintenance Manager**

Biggs reported the A-C7 project is nearly complete, the backfill will be done tomorrow. The concrete crew is finishing their replacements, pre-emergent has been applied, mowing and burning is in progress. He has completed 25 RO&Ms and is working on trouble calls. He is still waiting for the final report from UNR.

• **Kelly Herwick, District Water Master**

Herwick reported on current conditions; see the attached report.

• **Mark Solinski, Hydroelectric Facilities Manager**

Solinski reported the seep on the Truckee Canal has stopped since the Canal is turned off. The relays and generators at New and Old Lahontan will be tested by an electrical engineer. He is planning to test fire the plants tomorrow. There is a bearing out at 26' Drop but it should be back in by Thursday.

• **Rachel Enox, Water Accounting Manager**

Enox reported she is working on pre-season automation checks. FLODARs will be installed this week and next. She has an electrician hired to repair a gate on the A-

Line. Following the meeting she will begin the process for allocation letters. Later this month she will be attending a training at Cal-Poly.

- **Helen-Marie Morrow, Finance Manager**
Morrow reported she has been working on negotiations with the Employee Association, the upcoming election, and next year's budget. She received word that the District PERS will be audited this year.

7. **Bureau of Reclamation – Lahontan Basin Area Office (LBAO) Representative(s) – General Updates**

Robert Martinez, Newlands Project Coordinator, reported that Dr. Maggi Kraft is joining online today to do a weather outlook presentation. Following that presentation, Laurie Nicholas, Assistant Area Manager, informed the Board that their office received no funding under the Big Beautiful Bill.

8. **Community Updates:**

- **City of Fernley**
No representative was present to report.
- **Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe (FPST)**
Wyatt Golding, Ziontz Chestnut, reported that the annual meeting held between the Tribe, District and Bureau went well and the water cards are almost done.
- **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**
Albert Mulder, District Conservationist, reported that tractors are the number one application this year, he received \$300,000 in tractor funding.
- **Naval Air Station Fallon (NASF)**
No representative was present to report.
- **Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW)**
Kyle Larsen, Wildlife Technician, reported that waterfowl season closed on Sunday. They are preparing for the upcoming season.
- **United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) - Wetlands**
Bethany Chagnon, Deputy Refuge Manager, reported that their controlled burn was completed last month and they are starting to move water around on the Refuge. They will be starting a project to re-finish Hunter Road on Monday.

9. **Appointment of Mike Olsen as Director for District 4 (South Central Fallon)**

Appointment of Mike Olsen to the Director seat for District 4 following the retirement of Joseph Gomes. This appointment will include all Committee seats previously held by Director Gomes.

Shawcroft reported that Michael Olsen has filed his paperwork to fill the seat vacated by Joe Gomes. Mr. Olsen is President Olsen's nephew; Shawcroft reported there are no issues with the familial relation. Mr. Olsen farms about 600 acres and milks about 700 cows.

A motion was made by Director Schank to appoint Michael Olsen as the Director for District 4, seconded by Secretary Oakden, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

10. Ratification of Subdivision Split

Deliberation and decision to ratify the O&M Committee decision to allow a user to split from Subdivision 5316.

Shawcroft informed the Board that at the last meeting the O&M Committee approved a split from a subdivision. There is no clear policy on who has the final say regarding subdivision splits so he thought it would be prudent to bring the decision to the Board to ratify. Mr. Evans, the owner of the parcel in question, was present.

Herwick provided an overview of the situation; Mr. Evans is the first gate in the subdivision and could order himself without any loss of efficiency to the District or trouble to the other subdivision users. The coordinators of the subdivision do not keep an accurate record of each user's times so Mr. Evans is not able to use his full allocation because it gets used by other users. He has tried working this out with the coordinators, even helped a lot during deliveries, but the situation has not improved and the coordinators are unwilling to keep more accurate records. There are other users on the lateral that Mr. Evans could run with. Herwick believes splitting the parcel from the subdivision would be beneficial for both Mr. Evans and the District.

Discussion followed regarding the subdivision policy and whether or not common subdivision issues should be grounds for splitting.

A motion was made by Vice-President Stix to deny the subdivision split and allow staff to mediate, seconded by Treasurer deBraga, request for comment and the motion failed with a vote of 3 ayes and 4 nays.

A motion was made by Secretary Oakden to ratify the O&M Committee's decision, seconded by Director Schank, request for comment and the motion was approved with a vote of 5 ayes and 2 nays, with Vice-President Stix and Treasurer deBraga opposing.

11. Determination of 2026 Water Supply and Approval of 2026 Water Delivery Rules

Deliberation and decision relating to determination of the available water supply or allocation for the Newlands Federal Reclamation Project, Nevada, for water season 2026 and approval of water delivery rules, including, without limitation, setting of the water season start date, end date, dates upon which to commence water ordering and scheduling, and setting of dates, times, places, and format for the 2026 water user annual meeting(s), and setting of any limitations of use or uses imposed upon Newlands Project facilities during the 2026 water season.

A motion was made by Vice-President Stix to set the allocation as 100% for both divisions, start taking water orders on March 16th, and it's up to staff when deliveries begin, seconded by Secretary Oakden, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

12. Approval of Fiscal Year 2025 Audit Report

Deliberation and decision relating to approval of the audit report for fiscal year 2025 as prepared by HintonBurdick CPA's and Advisors.

Morrow reported that per the contract with the Bureau the District is required to hire an independent CPA for annual financial reviews and a full audit every 5 years. The grant funding the District has received also required an audit. The auditor was HintonBurdick, the District's CPA was Chad Atkinson. They found no federal compliance issues during the single audit for grant funds.

A motion was made by Director Schank to approve Item 12 as stated, seconded by Vice-President Stix, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

13. Appoint Inspectors and Clerks for Biennial Board Election

Deliberation and decision relating to appointment of inspectors and clerks for the 2026 Director Election, Divisions 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Shawcroft requested that the provided list of inspectors and clerks be approved for the upcoming election.

A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the list of inspectors and clerks for the Biennial Board election, seconded by Director Schank, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

14. Approval of Updates to the Employee Association Agreement

Approval of changes to the Employee Association Agreement (1) specifying the conditions required for an employee to take a leave of absence, (2) adding Juneteenth to the list of holidays, (3) increasing the time of employment required to be eligible to be paid for accumulated annual leave at the time of termination of employment from 6 to 12 months, (4) reducing the time of employment required prior to being eligible to use vacation time from 12 to 6 months, and other minor edits to the agreement.

Morrow reported that they met with the Employee Association and requested that a few modifications be made to the Agreement; namely clarifying leave of absence requirements and the ability to initiate disciplinary action if the required documentation is not met. Additional changes made included minor clerical edits, the addition of Juneteenth to the list of paid holidays, and the reduction of required time of employment before vacation pay is made available.

A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the updates to the Employee Association Agreement, seconded by Director Olsen, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

15. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Director's compensation for the month of February as provided for by NRS 539.080.
- Approval of Board Meeting minutes of February 3, 2026.

A motion was made by Secretary Oakden to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Director Olsen, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

16. Committee Reports

- **Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Committee**
Vice-President Stix reported that the subdivision split was the only item reviewed.
- **Carson Lake Pasture (CLP) Advisory Committee**
 - **Carson Lake Pasture Lease Agreement with NDOW**
Deliberation and decision regarding a lease agreement with NDOW for the Carson Lake Pasture to commence April 1, 2026 for a term of two years.
 - **Carson Lake Pasture Advisory Committee Recommendations**
Deliberation and decision relating to approval/denial of recommendations made as a result of the February 19, 2026 meeting of the Carson Lake Pasture Committee. Recommendations made by the Committee are subject to the final approval of the Board of Directors and include terms and conditions of Pasture grazing and use, contractual covenants, conditions, and terms to be imposed by the State of Nevada upon transfer of the Carson Lake Pasture from ownership of the United States, application processes relating to issuance of grazing permits, the amount of fees to be imposed, the number of grazers to be permitted, the total number of animal units to be allowed, the beginning and end times for grazing, authorized entry and facility locking, and any collateral considerations, or limitations, that may impact grazing practice –such as hunting on State Lands.

Treasurer deBraga reported the lease agreement has been reduced to a 2-year term in order to accommodate the range study that's scheduled. The grazing rate per AUM has increased to \$25, nearly double the previous rate. Shawcroft and deBraga met with NDOW and there is no willingness to budge on the amount or implement a gradual increase. The payments have been reduced from three to two.

A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the Lease Agreement with NDOW for a 2-year term, seconded by Director Schank, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer deBraga reported a request from the users to waive the requirement of paying for the full permit amount this year, as many of the users will not be bringing their full allotment because of the NDOW increase. The grazers applied to bring 1,487 head, however the Committee did not make a recommendation.

A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to waive the 100% requirement for one year and approve the applied for number of 1,487 head, seconded by Vice-President Stix, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Employee Relations Committee**
Secretary Oakden reported there is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow.
- **Policy Committee**
There was no meeting for the month of February 2026.
- **Finance Committee**
Treasurer deBraga (Finance Committee Chairman) reported that the Finance Committee met on March 9, 2026.

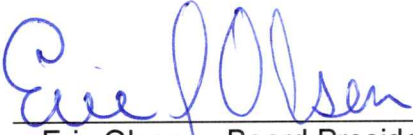
A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the Treasurer's report and Finance Committee recommendation to approve check numbers 45742 through 45806 as well as automatic, online and phone payments, and the transfer of \$176,915.76 to pay bills, seconded by Director Schank, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.


17. Additional Public Comment

Vice-President Stix asked to have a sit down discussion regarding the subdivision policy and a closed session sit down with Ben before the next meeting. He is a board member on the FFA board, need to really evaluate our membership with them. Secretary Oakden reminded everyone to fill out their forms for re-election. Herwick commented that some years ago the Board requested he make the Subdivision Modification Form to use when a subdivision split request came up; if the Board is no longer comfortable allowing subdivision splits we don't have to.

18. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m. subject to the call of the Board President.


Eric Olsen. – Board President
5/5/26
Date


Robert Oakden - Secretary
5/5/26
Date



Truckee-Carson Irrigation District

•Newlands Project•

03/10/2026

BOARD MEETING

CURRENT CONDITIONS:

- **Truckee Div.**
 - Truckee River @ Vista gauge: 891cfs
 - Truckee Canal: OFF (due to OCAP per TROA)
- **Carson Div.**
 - Carson River @ Ft. Churchill gauge: 751cfs
 - Lahontan Storage: 211,823 a.f.
 - Release below Lahontan: <4cfs
 - Total Inflows: 751cfs/ approx. 1,486a.f. at 24hrs

FORECASTING:

- **Snow Water Equivalent percent NRCS as of March 9, 2026:**
 - Truckee River Basin @ 55% of median; -21% from Feb. 19 @ 76% of median
 - Carson River Basin @ 63% of median; -24% from Feb. 19 @ 87% of median

February had above normal precipitation with one week of very cold and wintery storms, followed by a week with a rainy storm and warm temperatures which primed the snowpack to begin melting. The outlook for March is warmer and drier than normal, which means more snowmelt is likely to occur.
- **March 1, 2026: USDA NRCS National Water & Climate Current Season Allocation Outlook:**
 - Truckee River Basin: Truckee River @ Farad
 - Mar-Jul Exceedance: 70% @ 165kaf; 50% @ 210kaf; 30% @ 260kaf
 - Carson River Basin:
 - Mar-Jul Exceedance: 70% @ 75kaf; 50% @ 107kaf; 30% @ 165kaf
- **Mar-Jul Outlook Water Supply as of 3/09/26:**
 - 70+% Exceedance = 100% allocation; potentially Truckee Canal flows to supplement
 - 50% Exceedance = 100%; allocation
 - 30% Exceedance = 100% allocation
- **Recommendations:**
 - 100% Allocation Truckee & Carson Division
 - Take orders as early as: ~~Friday, March 13~~ **MAR 16TH**
 - Estimated Start-Up date: Sunday, March 22

DISTRICT STATUS:

- Water Department office employees currently working on existing scheduling & preparing WaterVize
- Diversion Dam Gate exercises completed.
- Ditchriders have been hired for the 2026 Water Season: (1) New Hire & (1) internal transfer
- "Canal Operator Training" with BOR has been completed March 3rd; scheduled in-house measurement training w/ TCID staff and BOR staff to begin after Board Meeting Mar. 10th at the Rock Ditch

2666 Harrigan Road, P.O. Box 1356, Fallon, Nevada 89407-1356
Phone: (775) 423-2141 FAX: (775) 423-5354

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Olsen, President
David Stix, Jr., Vice-President
Bob Oakden, Secretary
Lester deBraga, Director/Treasurer
Abraham Schank, Director
Joseph Gomes, Director
Wade Workman, Director
Benjamin Shawcroft., District Manager &
General Counsel