

**CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the July 1, 1998 Meeting**  
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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, July 1, 1998 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 E. William St., Carson City, NV at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Mark Kimbrough  
Claire Clift  
David Johnson  
Barbara Wright  
James Zimmerman

**STAFF:** Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director  
Vern Krahn, Park Planner  
Katherine McLaughlin, Recording Secretary  
(CRAC 7/1/98 1-0000.5)

**NOTE** - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Chairperson Kimbrough. Individuals speaking are identified following the heading of each item. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. This tape is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

**A. CALL TO ORDER** - Chairperson Kimbrough called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Members Battaglia, Johnson and Piccolo were absent.

**B. DEPART FOR CARSON RIVER PARK TO VIEW AREA AND RETURN TO SIERRA ROOM/COMMUNITY CENTER FOR BALANCE OF MEETING** - The entourage visited the park and returned for the rest of the meeting. Member Johnson was now present.

**C. COMMITTEE ACTION**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes - June 3, 1998** - (1-0025.5) Member Clift moved to approve the Minutes of the June 3, 1998 meeting as is. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0-2-0.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT** - (1-0035.5) Rocky Connor provided the Committee with copies of information on his operation. (The secretary did not get a copy.) He commented if the Committee or the Open Space Advisory Committee did not want development in the area where his business is located they should pass a resolution to purchase it from him. He said the reason the area is not messed up is because they have had the claim for forty years. He felt otherwise the Pinion development would have gone on down to Deer Run Bridge. He also talked about the problems a proposed parking lot would cause, the placing of rocks to deter traffic going to the river, petrochemical river pollutants, sewage, lack of beavers, etc. and his disagreement with the Master Plan for the river in general. At this point Mr. Kastens said he had been speaking for ten minutes and suggested that Mr. Connor request the Chairperson to put an item relating to his concerns with the Carson River Plan on a future agenda. He explained that the Committee could not take any action on his concerns at this time was because this was not agendized. Mr. Connor said he would like this agendized and said he would contact Chairperson Kimbrough to handle it.

**E. DISCLOSURES** - None.

**F. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA** - None.

**G. PUBLIC HEARING** - 7:00 p.m.

**G-1 PRESENTATION BY CARL LACKEY, NEVADA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE, AND RICHARD TAYLOR, BEAVER CONTROL SPECIALIST, REGARDING BEAVERS ALONG THE CARSON RIVER** - (1-0368.5) Mr. Lackey said he was at the meeting to provide an overview of beaver biology.

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He presented information on their history in the rivers of Nevada, the different species, where they are found, their reproduction, diet, population, etc. He said most of the problems are a result of their contact with humans. He also talked about the damage they can do and the cost to farmers.

(1-0535.5) Jade Greytak felt that the beavers are dropping the cottonwoods quicker than the trees can regenerate. Mr. Lackey said the best way to save them is to wrap all different ages and size of trees which would deter the beavers from assaulting them and they would move on. However, he said there are established populations and the chance of eliminating them is not possible.

(1-0591.5) Member Johnson asked about environmental degradation caused by the beavers. Mr. Lackey said a lot of this has not been assessed along the river here. He noted they are not damming the river as a whole and are not really providing a benefit to the fish.

(1-0745.5) Dan Greytak asked about predators. Mr. Lackey said coyotes, wolves, bears, and bobcats will take them but there are none here that rely on beaver.

(1-0763.5) Mr. Taylor said the beaver do promote feed and growth for wildlife. However, when they start damaging trees and vegetation along the river during low water periods it does affect the fish. He added that they sometimes compromise banks and explained how this is done and what the remedy is.

(1-0831.5) He then noted when trees are wrapped it should be remembered it has to be in a way that would not make it easy for a beaver to get to them and explained how the wrapping is accomplished.

(1-0868.5) Chairperson Kimbrough asked if property owners have concerns that beavers are knocking trees down can they request help in removing the beavers. Mr. Taylor said they can call DOW who can recommend a trapper or have their people handle it. At this point Mr. Lackey said the beaver are a protected species. He added there is a trapping season but it is not year round. He said the procedure is to advise the citizen if it is feasible they should wrap the trees. He added they also issue depredation permits to land owners and that the permits indicate the style of removal which DOW allows. He also commented that they usually go to the site and assess the situation and determine which procedure would be best. He added that they do not relocate beaver and explained.

**G-2 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CARSON RIVER PARK MASTER PLAN; SPECIFICALLY, THE CLOSURE OF THE WEST SIDE RIVER RIPARIAN AREAS AND THE EAST SIDE BOWL AREA, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO** - (1-1015.5) Rich Schock with Stantech Consulting - Chairperson Kimbrough said this is a point of discussion after the trip to the park earlier. Mr. Kastens said because of the way this item is worded the Committee would be restricted to discussion on the closure of the west side riparian areas, the east bowl area and the ramifications of those closures. Member Johnson said it was his understanding it was not the closure of the entire riparian area but rather blocking the extension of the road past the point where it is paved. Member Clift felt it would be premature for the Committee to take action on the closure because they do not have any alternatives at the present. Member Johnson said he did not have a problem with closing the road but wanted to make sure that, in trade for that, some of the other things the Committee has discussed to enhance the area that would remain open could be considered. Chairperson Kimbrough suggested perhaps this could be agendized again with new concepts in mind.

(1-1115.5) Mr. Schock said a couple of years ago they had been asked to prepare a Master Plan for what was then Camp Carson Park. He said they had worked with the Committee to prepare some alternatives and that a final Master Plan was never acted on by the Committee or the Parks and Recreation Commission. He said it could be opened up again to prepare additional alternatives based on revised conditions because of the acquisition of the Silver Saddle Ranch. He suggested the Committee might want to entertain re-convening an advisory committee to work together with his company to look at some of the issues that have been brought up subsequent to the work Stantech did through last summer when their work was tabled. Member Johnson moved that the Committee designate a sub-committee consisting of perhaps three people to meet with whoever Parks and Recreation or

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Stantech can designate to represent this group and re-examine the alternatives in view of completely different circumstances now that the Silver Saddle has come into public hands and perhaps come up with something they could use to get closure on the Master Plan. Member Clift seconded the motion. Member Johnson moved that a sub-committee be created to work with Parks and Recreation and Stantech or whoever the designated consultant is; the sub-committee should consist of three people and that they work towards developing perhaps different alternatives in view of the changed circumstances so they can bring this process for the Carson River Park to a close. Member Clift accepted the amended motion. Mr. Kastens said when a sub-committee is formed the Committee is required to follow the open meeting law which means that meetings would need to be agendized, publicly noticed, and a recording secretary must be present. He noted if that is the way the Committee wants to go staff will accomodate them. However, he said when a sub-committee had previously been formed it had been considered a task force and that volunteers had been invited. He explained when a sub-committee is created it is a body that can only consist of a lesser number of members than the full Committee and staff and expert advice is sought as input only, not as direct participation. He added that a recommendation is then taken to the full Committee for review and ultimately final approval. Member Johnson amended his motion again and changed it to be a volunteer task force rather than a sub-committee and that members of the public would be invited to participate. Mr. Kastens suggested he add that the motion be changed to include that the Chairperson develop the task force. Member Johnson amended his motion to include that. Member Clift accepted the amended motion. Motion carried 5-0-2-0.

(1-1225.5) At this point Chairperson Kimbrough asked if an item on re-negotiating a contract with the consultant should be agendized for the next meeting. Mr. Schock said there were some funds remaining but did not know how much. Mr. Kastens said if the previously budget allocation is exceeded staff would come back to the Committee for their review and recommendation. However, he said if staff can renegotiate with Stantech within the existing budget he would ask the Committee to have them do that. Mr. Schock said the previous task force might have enough information with the existing maps of the park and also the Silver Saddle Ranch to make progress in this area prior to re-drawing maps, etc. Member Johnson felt the Committee might be able to save time by at least discussing it and looking at the existing materials and coming up with recommendations. He felt in that way the task force would have something with which to go forward and give to Stantech to work up.

Member Clift left the meeting at 8:22 p.m. A quorum was present.

**G-3 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEVADA STATE PRISON PROPERTY FOR AGRICULTURE AND ACCESS ISSUES - (1-1319.5)** Member Zimmerman said a task force consisting of Chairperson Kimbrough, Member Piccolo, Member Clift and himself toured the prison area north of the river on June 19. He added they had met with prison officials and discussed general opportunities and options for handling the issues. He said in the past the Committee had been made aware of the importance of security on the prison land and that it had been reiterated. He commented in previous visits to the property it had been noted the dairy operation gets significant income and this would be another aspect of what the Committee would be looking at doing in the area. He also indicated the desire to pursue the dialogue with the prison on the riparian and recreational areas. He felt in order to accomplish that one of the things the task force had evaluated was to invite James Schmidt from the Conservation Service to visit the riparian areas along the river on prison land and provide an evaluation of what potential grazing impacts could be. He felt that could best be done when the river is lower which he felt would be late summer. He said once that information has been gathered in continuing discussions with the dairy operation staff recommendations could be made to the Committee to come up with a proposed action plan for resolving the grazing impacts to the riparian area and also development of recreational areas along that corridor. He then suggested a motion to invite Mr. Schmidt to go out there later in the summer to look at the areas from a riparian impact standpoint. Member Johnson moved to invite Mr. Schmidt to visit the area later in the summer to look at them from a riparian impact standpoint. Member Wright seconded the motion. Chairperson Kimbrough suggested adding "with concurrence of the ranch manager" to the motion. Member Johnson amended his motion to include that. Member Wright accepted the amended motion. Mr. Kastens said he had received a call from Ken Dorr, a member of the Ormsby Sportsmens Association and also associated with dog training associations, and that he had asked for input on what action might happen. Mr. Kastens added that Mr.

Dorr uses the park for dog training and has also hunted on prison land and had been asked to leave. Mr. Kastens said he had explained that the Committee was trying to work with the prison in developing possible access points to the river. However, he said the prison has reservations about allowing the public in that area. He then said Mr. Dorr had asked him to tell the Committee he would strongly support them in their action toward any kind of access or public use of the area anywhere from the north river bank to the south. Motion carried 4-0-3-0.

**G-4 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION FOR PURSUING THE SYMMS TRAIL GRANT FOR SEDGE ROAD - (1-1509.5)** Chairperson Kimbrough said he did not believe any action would be taken because it is due in early August. He added an option was to give them an alternative place to park and one was on Sedge. He said BLM is agreeable to that. He commented there is grant money available and they are asking people to apply for it. However, it is a 25 percent match and it takes money or in kind services. He then said he was looking for a way that the Committee could show BLM they would support that. He felt even if they passed a resolution at this meeting and gave it to them the deadline of August 7 for them to put it together would probably not be possible. Member Johnson felt it was up to BLM and if they could make it and if the support of the Committee would help them he believed it would be unwise not to. Chairperson Kimbrough felt perhaps a letter could be sent to Arthur Callan. Mr. Kastens suggested a motion could be to have the Chairperson write a generic letter of support to BLM for any development opportunity and not restrict it to just this grant. Chairperson Kimbrough felt that would be helpful. Member Johnson moved that a letter be drafted to go to BLM signed by the Chairperson that the Committee goes on record as being in support of BLM efforts, whatever they may be, in support of the Master Plan, Sedge Road. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. Member Piccolo asked what kind of trailhead that would be. Member Zimmerman said it could be for horses, mountain bikes, dirt bikes, etc. Motion carried 4-0-3-0.

Chairperson Kimbrough declared a recess at 8:45 p.m. When he reconvened the meeting at 8:51 p.m. a quorum was present.

**G-5 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ON WEED ABATEMENT - (1-1629.5)** Mr. Kastens had provided the Members with copies of a resolution advising the Board of Supervisors of the potential harm that could be caused by noxious weeds. He said Senior Planner Juan Guzman had worked on the resolution and had provided some of the language. Chairperson Kimbrough said he had met with the river groups and had also learned there is somebody in the community who is purchasing chemicals to abate the problem. He talked about grants that relate to the problem. He also noted that the person with the chemicals agreed to work with Mr. Kastens on this. He then said a similar resolution had been sent to the Board a couple of years ago and they had approved it. However, nothing had ensued to resolve the problem. He also talked about what each of the river groups is attempting to do about it. Mr. Kastens felt that no action needed to be taken at this time although he believed Mr. Guzman should be thanked for his effort in putting the resolution together. Dan Greytak asked if the resolution suggests any coordinator to lead the project. Chairperson Kimbrough said Street Superintendent John Flansberg was at the meeting referred to earlier and had indicated his willingness to help because he has funding and chemicals. Mr. Greytak asked if only public lands would be involved. Chairperson Kimbrough said no and explained what property owners could do. Larry Taylor then talked about how he had become aware of the situation, where the weeds are, and what action he hoped could be taken. No formal action was taken.

**G-6 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REVISION AND REALIGNMENT OF MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES OF THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - (1-1871.5)** Chairperson Kimbrough suggested that the Committee continue this until the next meeting when they would have the new Member. Member Johnson moved to table the item. At this point Member Wright said she did not believe the land owner categories should be changed and would probably vote against it. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. He then commented that the existing alignment is fine. However, he believed there should be a functional alignment as to how the Committee does things. He felt the Committee could benefit by discussing it at the next meeting. Motion carried 4-0-3-0.

**G-7 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON - (1-1901.5)** Member Johnson moved that the Committee table that item until the next meeting when they have more Members present. Member Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-3-0. Chairperson Kimbrough moved that a volunteer nominating task force be set up to discuss this and bring their recommendation to the next meeting. Member Wright seconded the motion. Member Johnson asked when the Board would fill the position vacated by Marian Battaglia. Mr. Kastens believed it would be at their July 2 meeting. Motion carried 4-0-3-0.

**H. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (NON-ACTION ITEMS)**

**H-1 Committee Member Reports**

**A. Discussion and Review of Carson River Raft Trip and its Environment - (1-1961.5)**

None.

**B. Discussion on Completing the Plans for Carson River Access off of Deer Run Road - (1-1963.5)** Chairperson Kimbrough said this was merely for information on what BLM would be working on to finish the project with the grant and that an extension had been requested until early September.

**C. Update on Carson River Celebration Week Activities, September 20-26, 1998 - (1-1987.5)** Chairperson Kimbrough said he would put this on each agenda to remind everybody that they need to commit themselves for September 26 activities.

**D. Update on National Park Service Grant for a Resource Study on the River - (1-2001.5)** Chairperson Kimbrough said Member Clift had asked that this be tabled for now because of the deadline and that more time was needed to understand how the grant works.

**E. Update on Forest Stewardship Grant - (1-2011.5)** Chairperson Kimbrough said the Committee had received a \$2,500 grant of which \$1,500 was for River Day on September 26 and some funding for film maker Dave Morgan to do a video. He then said the Committee needs to agendize discussion on the brochure and video to come up with an idea of what they want them to say. Mr. Morgan felt the video should be narrative driven and said he needed to go to the river to shoot it according to the narrative.

**F. Discussion on Length of Committee Agendas and Possible Earlier Starting Time - (1-2045.5)** Chairperson Kimbrough commented that the Committee only meets once a month, there are a lot of items they need to stay current on, and that there are priority items that are long lasting. Member Zimmerman did not believe these could be handled in less than three hours. Recording Secretary McLaughlin said some of the other Committees, Commissions and Board recognize that all the Members cannot get to meetings all the time. She added at times lesser items such as status reports are not discussed so that the more important items can be handled. At this point Mr. Kastens explained how a consent agenda works and felt some items this Committee might have could be dispatched in the same manner. He then commented on the busy schedule of the recording secretaries and also said if there are items the Committee feels really need to be pursued sooner than once a month then the Chairperson could call a special meeting and staff could work on a time and place at which a recording secretary could be available. Recording Secretary McLaughlin also suggested the possibility of doing workshops. She explained if a workshop is held without any action it does not use any of her staff although it utilizes those of other departments such as that of Mr. Kastens. She said workshops seem to attract more people because they are not so formal and issues can really be resolved. She emphasized that the Committee needs to be very cognizant that they cannot take any action at workshops. Member Zimmerman felt that a workshop would be a perfect place to talk about the Carson River Park Master Plan. Mr. Morgan said workshops also tend to attract more reporters because they tend to get higher priorities from the city desk. Member Wright said Member Clift felt taxpayers should be involved. Recording Secretary McLaughlin said a workshop is still an agendized meeting that is posted and that nobody is prohibited from coming. Chairperson Kimbrough liked the idea and asked that when Members want to

agendize items they should remember perhaps these things could be discussed at a workshop, perhaps every couple of months. He said he would work with Rosemary Johnson of Community Development to make sure agendas make sense.

**H-2 Staff Comments**

**A. Discussion and Status Report on Progress Regarding Action on BLM Plan for Silver Saddle Ranch; and Discussion and Possible Action on Bridge Feasibility Study - (2-2281.5)** Mr. Kastens felt this had been covered earlier with the comments on the Silver Saddle Ranch. He explained there had been a meeting with the planner who had taken the position Tom Abbett vacated at which time she had been educated on the things that had taken place prior to her taking the job. He added she was planning to be at the next meeting.

(1-2319.5) Mr. Kastens referred to the copy of the 1996 and updated Stantech bridge feasibility studies in the packet. He said it was basically the same except the fee had been increased from \$5,000 to \$5,800 which is their current fee structure.

**B. Status Report Regarding Irrigation for the Silver Saddle Ranch - (1-2375.5)** The Committee had visited the ranch earlier in the day and had noted it is green and being irrigated.

**H-3 Future Agenda Items for the Next CRAC Meeting on August 5, 1998 - (1-2383.5)** Member Johnson said he had received a copy of the next Open Space Advisory Committee agenda and one of the items referred to acquisition of the Anderson Ranch. He asked that CRAC get copies of the report on this from staff. Chairperson Kimbrough said Silver Saddle was to come with the three alternatives and felt that would be the item that takes the lead. He also felt there could be a report on the prison property and Member Zimmerman said he would provide that. Recording Secretary McLaughlin suggested they agendize it as discussion and possible action in the event they take action. Chairperson Kimbrough commented that Mr. Connor had suggested a review of the Master Plan. Member Zimmerman said he would at least like to review sections of it and cited the prohibition on mining along the river and prohibition of motorized vessels as examples. Chairperson Kimbrough then provided a chronological history of how the Committee had developed the plan, the process it had gone through, and how it had ultimately gone to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors. He then explained for Mr. Connor that it should be brought to the Committee in specific pieces which could be agendized. He also asked Mr. Connor to write him a brief letter detailing what he would like to see changed or incorporated into the plan.

**H. ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business Member Zimmerman moved to adjourn. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-3-0. Chairperson Kimbrough adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

The Minutes of the July 1, 1998 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee

ARE SO APPROVED \_\_9/2 \_\_\_\_, 1998

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Kimbrough, Chairperson

