

Meeting Minutes
WORKSHOP OF THE
CLEAN WATER AND DRINKING WATER PRIORITY LIST

June 14, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Richard H. Bryan Building
Tahoe Hearing Room
901 South Stewart Street, 2nd Floor
Carson City, NV 89701

Held virtually using Microsoft Teams:
Meeting ID: 291 349 481 49

NDEP Present:

Jason Cooper
Kyle Casci
Benjamin Miller
Charles Wolf
Elizabeth Kingsland
Krista Wahnefried

Public Present:

Honey Menefee, Storey County
Max Sosa, Nevada Rural Water
Kevin Baughman, Nevada Rural Water
Tara Huntington, Land Baron Investments
Siobhan Fox, City of North Las Vegas
Tim Parks, City of Las Vegas
Kathy Flanagan, Las Vegas Valley Water District
Taryn Stephenson, Land Baron Investments
Sienna Stierman, City of Elko
Kirk Swanson, DOWL Engineering
Michelle Hammond, Humboldt County

Clean Water and Drinking Water Priority List Workshop

1) Call to order

Jason Cooper of the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) opened the workshop.

2) Public comment

There were no public comments.

3) Presentation and discussion of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Priority List effective June 2023

Review of numeric ranking criteria on the priority list

Mr. Cooper of NDEP gave a presentation outlining the ranking criteria for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Project Priority List Effective June 2023. He explained how the list is created, and ranking points as they apply to priority classes A, B, and C.

- **Class A:** Project benefits public health and/or the environment.
- **Class B:** Project necessary to increase reliability or sustainability.
- **Class C:** Other Clean Water needs projects.

Review of projects on the priority list, project readiness to proceed, and bypassing projects on the priority list

Mr. Cooper gave a presentation on reviewing projects on the CWSRF Priority List, project readiness to proceed, and bypassing projects on the priority list. Mr. Cooper noted that applicants must be on the priority list to receive funds. Once they are on the list, applicants are left on the list until their projects are complete in case additional funding is needed.

The priority list currently has 76 projects:

- **17 – Fundable projects that are moving forward**
- **7 – Projects that are not ready to proceed**
- **11 – Projects that are already funded**
- **41- Undetermined**

Public comment

Michelle Hammond, with Humboldt County inquired what makes a project being ready to proceed. Mr. Cooper responded each project is different, but there is a start to finish checklist for each program on the website to show the steps for a project readiness to proceed.

4) Presentation and discussion of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Priority List effective June 2023

Review of each numeric ranking criteria on the priority list

Mr. Cooper gave a presentation outlining the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Project Priority List Effective June 2023 ranking criteria. The ranking reflects the policies and goals of NDEP regarding the use of the DWSRF.

Mr. Cooper began by discussing how projects are ranked:

- **Class 1:** Address demonstrated illnesses that are attributed to a public water system. These projects are for significant non-compliance, such as court-ordered compliance issues and acute health risks as defined by NDEP and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- **Class 2:** Address systems with chronic contaminants.
- **Class 3:** Address rehabilitation of a deteriorated system.
- **Class 4:** Address systems that need refinancing. These projects incurred debt after July 1, 1993 and followed federal requirements.

Review of projects on the priority list, project readiness to proceed, and bypassing projects on the priority list

Mr. Cooper gave a presentation on reviewing projects on the DWSRF Priority List, project readiness to proceed, and bypassing projects on the priority list. Mr. Cooper noted that applicants must be on the priority list to receive funds. Once applicants are on the list, they are left on the list until their projects are complete in case additional funding is needed.

The priority list currently has 177 projects:

- **34 – Fundable projects that are moving forward**
- **26 – Projects that are not ready to proceed**
- **29 – Projects that are already funded**
- **88 - Undetermined**

Public comment

Kevin Baughman, with Nevada Rural Water asked if any emerging contaminant projects were on the priority list. Mr. Cooper answered currently there is none of those projects on the list at this time.

Mr. Baughman inquired on procedures for new projects to be added during the year. Mr. Cooper responded that pre-applications can be submitted in NIFS at any time. The list does not need to be open to receive a pre-application, but the list must be open to add a project to the priority list.

Tara Huntington, with Land Baron Investments asked if a water system can qualify for both clean water priority list and the drinking water priority list. Mr. Cooper answered no, a system cannot unless the water system has jurisdiction over sewage. Assembly Bill 20 which was approved at the recent Legislative Session expands the eligible use of the Clean Water program which will eventually include drinking water systems as well.

Mr. Cooper stated the Clean Water Priority List is closed as of today's workshop, and the Drinking Water priority List will be closed at the Board for Financing Water Projects meeting on June 28, 2023.

5) Adjourn

The priority list workshop adjourned at 3:11 pm.