



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 11, 2017

**DATE:** March 20, 2017  
**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**THROUGH:** Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Director  
Community Services Department, 328-3600, [dsolaro@washoecounty.us](mailto:dsolaro@washoecounty.us)  
**SUBJECT:** Appoint Brian Bonnenfant as one of Washoe County's appointees to the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee. (All Commission Districts.)

### SUMMARY

The Truckee River Fund is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit agency that is operated by the Community Foundation of Western Nevada, funded by Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) rate payers and established for the sole purpose of funding projects that protect and enhance water quality or water resources of the Truckee River or its watershed.

A nine member Advisory Committee reviews and makes recommendations on project proposals. The cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County each appoint three members of the Committee. Members do not serve established terms, but rather "at the pleasure of their respective local governments." One of Washoe County's appointees, Sue Donaldson, has recently resigned. Other Washoe County appointees currently serving are Susan Lynn (appointed in 2014) and Don Mahin (appointed in 2016).

Ms. Tracy Turner of the Community Foundation of Western Nevada contacted Washoe County and indicated the need for a Washoe County appointee to replace Ms. Donaldson. The Washoe County Community Services Department advertised in the Reno Gazette Journal on February 17, 2017, posted the vacancy on Washoe County's Citizen Involvement webpage and sent a C-mail to residents signed up to receive such notifications. These efforts resulted in five letters of interest/resumes.

The letters of interest and resumes were reviewed by the Director of the Community Services Department for recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners (Board).

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Stewardship of Our Community.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On May 10, 2016, the Board appointed Don Mahin to replace Jerry Purdy on the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee.

AGENDA ITEM # 5.C

On June 17, 2014, the Board appointed Susan Lynn to replace John Mosley on the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee.

April 14, 2009, the Board appointed Sue Donaldson to replace Susan Lynn on the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee.

On May 16, 2008, the Board appointed John Mosley to replace Daryl Gardipe on the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee.

On September 14, 2004, the Board appointed Susan Lynn, Arlan Melendez, and Jerry Purdy to the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Truckee River Fund is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit agency that is operated by the Community Foundation of Western Nevada, funded by TMWA rate payers and established for the sole purpose of funding projects that protect and enhance water quality or water resources of the Truckee River or its watershed. General duties of the Advisory Committee are to make recommendations to the TMWA Board and Foundation Board regarding distributions of income and principal from the Fund to potential charitable beneficiaries and any other aspects of the administration of the Fund as considered appropriate by the Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee meets at least quarterly to conduct Fund business, review and update the requests for proposal and/or review project proposals prior to funding meetings and selects potential projects for funding. Projects must be in compliance with the exclusive purposes of the Fund and the Community Foundation's policies and has the responsibility of securing preliminary approval from the TMWA Board, has the responsibility of seeing final approval from the Foundation Board and reviews project reports and reports to the Advisory Committee on the progress of funded projects. The Advisory Committee reviews accountings for the Fund at least annually.

Mr. Brian Bonnenfant has a long standing relationship with the Truckee River, and that coupled with his natural resources studies make him a strong advocate for the Truckee River. Mr. Bonnenfant currently sits on the Board of Trustees of the Nevada Land Trust, a partner with Washoe County, and the community for the One Truckee River initiative.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with Washoe County's making appointments to or participating in the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners appoint Brian Bonnenfant as one of Washoe County's appointees to the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to appoint Brian Bonnenfant as one of Washoe County's appointees to the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee."