

Attachment 3

Fee Adoption Ordinance

Summary - An ordinance levying a fee in Washoe County, Nevada District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation), ratifying action taken by County officers, and providing other matters related thereto.

BILL NO.

ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A FEE ON THE PARCELS OF LAND IN WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA DISTRICT NO. 24 (GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION) TO PAY THE COSTS OF DEVELOPING AND CARRYING OUT A PLAN FOR REMEDIATION; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

WHEREAS, Washoe County in the State of Nevada (the “County” and “State,” respectively), is a county organized and operating under the laws of the State of Nevada (the “State”); and

WHEREAS, subsection 1 of Nevada Revised Statutes (“NRS”) § 540A.250 provides that the Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) shall create a district for the remediation of the quality of water if the county or district health officer (the “Health Officer”) or Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (the “Division”) certifies in writing to a Board that a condition exists in an area of the region which is affecting or will affect the quality of water that is available for municipal, industrial and domestic use within the region; and

WHEREAS, the Board has received certifications in writing (the “Certification”) as described to in subsection 1 of NRS § 540A.250; and

WHEREAS, subsection 2 of NRS § 540A.250 provides that on receipt of the Certification, the Board must proceed in cooperation with the Health Officer and the Division to verify the existence and extent of the condition and establish the appropriate boundaries of a district for the remediation of the quality of water (the “District”); and

WHEREAS, subsection 3 of NRS § 540A.250 provides that:

“The District created pursuant to this section must include, without limitation:

(a) The area where the condition which requires remediation is determined by the Board to be present, or for which remediation is determined by the Board to be necessary, including any area to which the condition is expected to migrate unless remediation is carried out; and

(b) If the Board determines that the condition which requires remediation affects the quantity or quality of drinking water within the region, the wholesale and retail service area of any provider of water that has used or uses for any portion of its supply wells located in the area described in paragraph (a)”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NRS § 540A.250 and the Certification so received, the Board has proceeded in cooperation with the Health Officer and the Division of Environmental Protection to verify the existence of the condition and establish appropriate boundaries of the District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NRS § 540A.250, the Board has had prepared for it a plan for remediation designated the “Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District Final Work Plan February 22, 1996” as updated by the “Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District Remediation Management Plan” dated October 28, 2002 (as updated, the “Plan for Remediation”); and

WHEREAS, the Plan for Remediation (including the update) has been submitted to the Division and approved by the Division pursuant to Subsection 1 of NRS 540A.260; and

WHEREAS, the Plan for Remediation indicates that, and based upon such plan the Board has determined that, the condition which requires remediation affects the quality of drinking water within the region; and

WHEREAS, the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 1000 adopted and approved on November 14, 1997, as amended by ordinances adopted and approved on June 16, 1998, June 22, 1999, June 12, 2000, June 12, 2001, June 11, 2002, June 9, 2003, June 22, 2004, June 14, 2005, June 13, 2006, June 12, 2007, June 10, 2008, June 9, 2009, June 22, 2010, June 14, 2011, June 12, 2012, June 11, 2013, June 17, 2014, June 9, 2015, July 12, 2016, June 13, 2017, June 19, 2018, June 11, 2019, and June 16, 2020 (as amended, the “Creation Ordinance”), created a

district (the “District” or “District No. 24”) for the remediation of the quality of water pursuant to NRS § 540A.250 through § 540A.285 (the “Act”) whose boundaries in accordance with NRS § 540A.250 include the wholesale and retail water service area of Sierra Pacific Power Company (herein “Sierra Pacific”) and its successors in the water business, the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (“TMWA”), which was in the case of Sierra Pacific and is in the case of TMWA, and further includes a portion of the wholesale and retail water service area of Washoe County’s Community Service Department (“CSD”), and its successors in the water business, TMWA, which was in the case of CSD and is in the case of TMWA, providers of water service that have used and use for at least a portion of their water supply, wells located in the area where the condition of PCE exists in the groundwater and where remediation is required as hereby determined by the Board, based upon the Plan for Remediation; and

WHEREAS, the Board has heretofore determined and does hereby declare that a portion of the cost of developing and carrying out the plan for remediation has been deferred with the proceeds of bonds (the “Bonds”) which have been heretofore retired; and

WHEREAS, the Board has heretofore determined that the operation and maintenance in connection with carrying out the Plan for Remediation is to be paid by a fee imposed on the properties in the District; and

WHEREAS, in the Creation Ordinance, the Board determined that the condition which requires remediation affects the quality of drinking water within the region and therefore, pursuant to subsection 1(a) of NRS § 540A.265, the fee apportioned must be based on a percentage of the total amount billed in the preceding calendar year to each parcel of property within the District for water by the provider of retail water service to the parcel of property; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined and hereby determines that the Bonds have been retired, and therefore no amount will be included in the fee to pay principal and interest on the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Board has also determined that the costs of developing and carrying out the plan for remediation is to be paid from the fees collected through 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined and hereby determines that the estimated amount required to pay TMWA for one year's operation and maintenance (“O&M”) costs as

provided in the County's agreement with Sierra Pacific, to which TMWA has succeeded, is \$300,000; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined and hereby determines that the annual amount necessary to pay the one year's cost of additional expenses and monitoring, administration, collection and other continuing costs in furtherance of and in connection with developing and carrying out the Plan for Remediation (collectively, "Ongoing Costs") is \$3,425,951.67 and

WHEREAS, it is therefore necessary to raise \$1,250,000 in fiscal year 2021-2022 (the Fiscal Years' Amount) to pay one year's O&M and Ongoing Costs; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined at this time that considering the nature of the capital projects previously funded with the Bonds and the nature of the Ongoing Costs being collected at this time, it is appropriate to weight or adjust the amount billed pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS § 540A.265, and consequently that the methods of weighting or adjusting outlined in paragraphs (b) and (c) of such subsection are being applied to the fee being apportioned by this ordinance, and the Board hereby finds and declares that such apportionment is just and equitable; and

WHEREAS, there has been submitted to staff of the County a list of all parcels of land in the District (excluding all property owned by the federal government), together with the amount billed for water to those parcels in calendar year ending December 31, 2020, in which, in the cases of properties within the District where retail water service was not provided for a full calendar year, or where a full calendar year's billing was not available, the estimated amount billed for water for a full calendar year was provided or developed, taking into account a partial year's billing extended to 12 months, or an average of fees on parcels of property within comparable zonings or uses; and

WHEREAS, there has been prepared and filed with the County Clerk on April 13, 2021 a list, entitled "District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation) 2020 Fee Apportionment List" (the "Fee Apportionment List"), of each parcel of property within the District (excluding parcels owned by the United States) and an apportionment of the Fiscal Years' Amount to be raised by the fees described above to each parcel of land in the District, which apportionment is based on the amount billed to that parcel for water, weighted and adjusted as described in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subsection 1 of NRS § 540A.265; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined and hereby determines that the apportionment provided in the list described above is fair, just and equitable and is hereby adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF WASHOE, IN THE STATE OF NEVADA, DO ORDAIN:

Section 1. All actions, proceedings, matters and things heretofore taken, had and done by the County and the officers thereof (not inconsistent with the provisions of this Washoe County, Nevada District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation) Fee Imposition Ordinance (the “Ordinance”)) concerning the District and the Plan of Remediation, and the imposition and apportionment of a fee therefore are ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 2. For the purpose of paying the cost of developing and carrying out the Plan for Remediation, there is hereby imposed against each of the lots, tracts and parcels of land in the District (except property owned by the Federal Government), the amount shown for that tract or parcel of land in the Fee Apportionment List as filed in the office of the County Clerk on April 13, 2021. The Board hereby finds and determines and to impose and apportion the fee in the amounts shown in the Fee Apportionment List, all in accordance with the Act.

Section 3. In accordance with subsection 2 of NRS § 540A.265, the fee imposed by this ordinance shall be collected by the County Treasurer with the general taxes of the County, and payment therefore must be enforced in the same manner and with the same remedies as provided for the collection of general taxes. The amount of the fee shall be due with the first installment of property taxes and shall be payable in full on that date. There shall not be any option to pay the fee in installments. The Clerk is hereby directed to certify a copy of the Fee Apportionment List to the County Treasurer for collection purposes.

Section 4. The officers of the County are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this ordinance, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the preparation of all necessary documents, legal proceedings and other items necessary or desirable to impose and apportion the fee provided herein.

Section 5. All ordinances, resolutions, bylaws and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent only of such

inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or order, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

Section 6. In accordance with NRS § 244.100 and 540A.262, this ordinance when first proposed is to be read by title to the Board, immediately after which several copies of the proposed ordinance are to be filed with the office of the County Clerk for public examination; thereafter, the County Clerk is authorized and directed to give notice of the filing together with the title of the ordinance and an adequate summary of the ordinance, and the date upon which a public hearing will be held on such ordinance by publication at least once in the Reno Gazette-Journal, i.e., a newspaper published and having general circulation in the County, at least fifteen (15) days before the date set for such hearing, i.e., at least fifteen (15) days before the 8th day of June, 2021, such publication to be in substantially in the following form:

(Form of Publication of Notice of Filing of Bill for an Ordinance)

Bill No. _____

Notice of Public Hearing Before

The Washoe County Board of County Commissioners

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County, Nevada, will hold a public hearing at the Commissioners' Chambers, Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, the 8th day of June 2021, for the purpose of hearing objections to the adoption of a proposed ordinance. At such hearing, interested persons may present their views. The ordinance is entitled:

BILL NO. _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

(of Washoe County, Nevada)

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A FEE ON THE PARCELS OF LAND IN WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA DISTRICT NO. 24 (GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION) TO PAY THE COSTS OF DEVELOPING AND CARRYING OUT A PLAN FOR REMEDIATION; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

An adequate summary of the ordinance is as follows:

The preambles of the ordinance recite that the Board of County Commissioners has created Washoe County, Nevada, District No. 24 (the "District") for the purpose of remediating the quality of water and various other matters in connection therewith, and recite the costs anticipated to be incurred therefore and the appropriation of those costs on the various parcels of land in the District, and make certain findings.

The ordaining clause is then set forth.

Section 1 ratifies the action previously taken and Section 2 imposes and apportions a fee for remediation on each parcel of land in the District except parcels owned by the Federal Government.

Section 3 provides for collection of the fee with general taxes.

Sections 4 and 5 authorize the County officials to take any action necessary to effectuate the ordinance; and provide a repealer clause for conflicting provisions.

Sections 6, 7 and 8 provide for notice by publication of the June 8, 2021 hearing on the ordinance, and for this summary of the provisions of the ordinance; provide that the ordinance shall be in effect from and after its publication for two weeks following its final adoption on June 8, 2021; provide the form for such publication which includes the names of the Commissioners voting for and against the adoption of the ordinance; and provide a severability clause.

Copies of the proposed ordinance are on file in the office of the Washoe County Clerk at the Washoe County Administrative Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street., Reno, Nevada, for public examination. The Board shall adopt or reject the ordinance (or the ordinance as amended) within 35 days after the date of the final public hearing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County, Nevada, has ordered this notice to be published.

Dated this May 11, 2021.

/s/ Jan Galassini
County Clerk

(SEAL)

(End of Form for Publication)

Section 7. This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its publication as hereinafter provided, and after this ordinance is signed by the Chairman of the Board and attested and sealed by the County Clerk, this ordinance shall be published by title only, together with the names of the Commissioners voting for or against its passage, and with a statement that typewritten copies of said ordinance are available for inspection by all interested parties at the office of the County Clerk, such publication to be made in the Reno Gazette-Journal, a newspaper published and having general circulation in the County, at least once a week for a period of two (2) weeks by two (2) insertions, pursuant to NRS § 244.100 and all laws thereunto enabling, such publication to be in substantially the following form:

(Form for Publication After Final Adoption of Ordinance)

BILL NO. _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A FEE ON THE PARCELS OF LAND IN WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA DISTRICT NO. 24 (GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION) TO PAY THE COSTS OF DEVELOPING AND CARRYING OUT A PLAN FOR REMEDIATION; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that typewritten copies of the above-numbered and entitled ordinance are available for inspection by the interested parties at the office of the County Clerk of Washoe County, Nevada, at her office at the County Administrative Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street., Reno, Nevada; and that said ordinance was proposed by Commissioner _____ on May 11, 2021, and following a public hearing, was passed and adopted without amendment at a regular meeting held not more than 35 days after the close of the hearing, i.e., at the regular meeting on June 8, 2021, by the following vote of the Board of County Commissioners:

Those Voting Aye:

Those Voting Nay:

Those Absent:

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after _____, 2021, i.e., the date of the second publication of such ordinance by its title only.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County, Nevada, has caused this ordinance to be published by title only.

Dated June 8, 2021.

/s/ Bob Lucey
Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Washoe County, Nevada

(SEAL)

Attest:

/s/ Jan Galassini
County Clerk

(End of Form of Publication)

Section 8. If any section, paragraph, clause or other provision of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or other provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

Proposed on the 11th day of May, 2021.

Proposed by Commissioner _____.

Passed the 8th day of June, 2021.

Those Voting Aye:

Those Voting Nay:

Those Absent:

Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Washoe County, Nevada

(SEAL)

Attest:

County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the ____ day of _____ 2021, i.e., the date of the second publication of such ordinance by its title only.

STATE OF NEVADA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF WASHOE)

I, Jan Galassini, am the duly chosen and qualified Clerk of Washoe County, and in the performance of my duties as Clerk do hereby certify:

1. The foregoing pages are a full and correct copy of an ordinance introduced and read by title at the Board of County Commissioners of the County (the “Board”) held on May 11, 2021 and adopted on June 8, 2021 which relates to District No. 24 (Groundwater Remediation). Minutes of the meeting on such District held on May 11, 2021 and of the hearing on the Ordinance held on June 8, 2021 are attached as Exhibits A and B, respectively. Except as recited in this paragraph, no actions were taken concerning such District at such meetings. The copy of such ordinance is true, correct, compared copy of the original proposed and adopted at such meetings.

2. The members of the Board voted on such ordinance as set forth in the ordinance.

3. An affidavit evidencing notice of filing of such ordinance is attached as Exhibit E and an affidavit of publication of the notice of adoption of the ordinance is attached hereto as Exhibit F.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this June 8, 2021.

County Clerk

The undersigned does hereby certify:

1. All members of the Board were given due and proper notice of the meetings held on May 11, 2021 and June 8, 2021.

2. Public notice of such meetings were given and such meetings were held and conducted in full compliance with the provisions of NRS 241.020 and NRS 540A.262. A

copy of the notices of meeting and excerpts from the agendas for the meetings relating to the ordinance, as posted no later than 9:00 a.m. at least 3 working days in advance of the meetings at the Board's office, the County's website, the Nevada Public Notice website, and three other locations, i.e., at:

- (i) Washoe County Administration Complex
1001 East Ninth Street
Reno, Nevada
- (ii) Washoe County Courthouse
75 Court Street
Reno, Nevada
- (iii) Washoe County Library
301 South Center Street
Reno, Nevada
- (iv) Justice Court
1675 E. Prater Way #107
Sparks, Nevada

are attached as Exhibits "C" and "D."

3. No later than 9:00 a.m. at least 3 working days before such meetings, such notices were mailed to each person, if any, who has requested notice of meetings of the Board in compliance with NRS 241.020(3)(b) by United States Mail, or if feasible and agreed to by the requestor, by electronic mail.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of Washoe County, Nevada, this June 8, 2021.

County Manager (or representative thereof)
Washoe County, Nevada

(SEAL)

EXHIBIT “A”

**(Attach Copy of Minutes of May 11 Meeting on
District No. 24 Boundary Amendment)**

EXHIBIT “B”

(Attach Minutes of June 8 Hearing on Ordinance)

EXHIBIT “C”

(Attach Copy of Notice of May 11 Meeting)

EXHIBIT “D”

(Attach Copy of Notice of June 8 Meeting)

EXHIBIT “E”

(Attach Affidavit of Publication of Notice of Filing of Amendatory Ordinance)

EXHIBIT “F”

(Attach Affidavit of Publication of Title of Amendatory Ordinance Twice)