

Report on the March 27, 2013 TRPA Governing Board meeting submitted by Shelly Aldean.

Following is my monthly report on the activities of the TRPA.

At the Governing Board meeting on Wednesday of this week, we heard an informational report from the South Tahoe Public Utility District on its Strategic Plan and presented certificates to 13 recipients of the Agency's Best in the Basin Award. This program, which is in its 23rd year, allows the TRPA to publically recognize projects in the Tahoe Basin that are well designed, planned and implemented and that complement the environment. At a reception following the presentation, I confirmed with a number of the honorees that TRPA was, in general, easier to work with than many of the local jurisdictions. This is a true testament to how the TRPA has evolved into a much more collaborative and less autocratic agency. At lunch, a meeting of the Local Government Committee was convened to discuss the status of Area Plan development by local jurisdictions, the review process for determining conformance with the new Regional Plan, the delegation of certain permitting authority to local governments through the MOU process, monitoring, certification and enforcement. Currently every local jurisdiction at Tahoe (with the obvious exception of Carson City) is preparing one or more area plans.

Later in the afternoon, the Governing Board held a public hearing on the draft environmental document for the Upper Truckee River and Marsh Restoration Project which is one of a number of projects being implemented along the river to restore the watershed as part of a multi-agency undertaking. As you may know, the Upper Truckee watershed is the single largest contributor of fine sediment and nutrients to Tahoe. Approximately 2,078 tons of material finds its way into the Lake each year from this single source.

Under the Executive Director's report, Joanne Marchetta recounted the meeting that she and I and Clem Shute attended before the California Budget Subcommittee on March 7th in support of the Agency's budget request. As of today, the budget remains open pending the outcome of certain efforts in Nevada that would reaffirm its philosophical commitment to the Bi-State Compact and pending delivery by the Agency of "four-year measurable performance benchmarks for all of the implementation measures and programmatic provisions included in the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's 2012 Regional Plan Update". In response to this demand, the Agency, through its Regional Plan Implementation Committee, has begun the hard work of expediting completion of the 4-Year Performance Benchmark Work Program Element by no later than the end of the fiscal year. The original delivery date for this work was in February of 2014. To aid the committee in its work, the members voted to establish a 5 member stakeholder advisory group which, in terms of composition, largely mirrors the bi-state

consultation task force that helped the Agency develop consensus on a number of unresolved issues that ultimately lead to the adoption of the new Regional Plan.

Under our General Counsel's report, John Marshall advised that the firm of Remy Moose Manley has been selected as outside counsel to help the Agency defend the updated Regional Plan that is being challenged by the Sierra Club and the Friends of the West Shore. In addition, it was noted that the number of parties interested to filing amicus briefs in support of TRPA is growing.

On a lighter note, Joanne Marchetta was honored by the North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce and Resort Association at their 59th annual Community Awards Dinner as this year's winner of the Public Servant of the Year award for her leadership in ushering through the Regional Plan Update. Kudos to Joanne for inspiring a new era of cooperation and collaboration at Lake Tahoe!

As usual, if you have any questions or would like additional information on any of the aforementioned topics, please feel free to call.

Best to all,

Shelly