

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY  
OPERATIONS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

TRPA/Zoom Webinar

September 28, 2022

**Meeting Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chair Ms. Aldean called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Members present: Ms. Aldean, Mrs. Cegavske, Ms. Diss, Ms. Gustafson, Ms. Hill, Mr. Hoenigman

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES

Ayes: [All]

**Minutes approved.**

III. Recommend Approval of August Financials

Mr. Chris Keillor, TRPA Finance Director, provided the presentation. He brought up a chart showing revenues and expenses and explained that it shows that TRPA's fees are strong. August saw an extraordinary amount of cash receipts. The Current Planning division's high level of activity set a record for August and ran higher than the last three years (\$1.7M from applicant fees). State revenues were received from both California (\$5M) and Nevada (\$2.1M) at the same time, making August a tremendous month for cash. Grants are negative because we bill in arrears. For expenses, compensation is at 13% year to date. We are filling all openings. We have a Grants Management position open, as well as our Executive Director position. Contracts show a lag, which is normal. We're getting a series of grants from the US Forest Service. This is money we will distribute to local governments and things like that. We also finalized a grant we got from the state of Nevada for our scanning project, so we're starting on that. We finished our roof work on the building and just got our permit so we can complete the rock retaining wall in front of the building. So overall, revenues are very strong. Current Planning is still running as fast as they can, still buried with work. We're seeing the positive side of that with the fees, but it is a lot of wear and tear on the staff.

Mr. Keillor then moved on to a chart showing further details of revenues and expenses. The state revenues are where I'd expect them to be at this time. Grants lag, which is normal, and as stated, fees are strong. For expenses, labor is on track. Most contract payments in July went to Fiscal Year 2022.

Mr. Keillor then brought up a chart showing the monthly/cumulative cash flow, explaining that it was a record month for cash receipts in August with \$10.2M. The breakdown is as follows: \$5.0M from California; \$2.1M from Nevada; \$1.4M from grants; and \$1.6M from other areas, mostly planning fees.

Mr. Keillor concluded his presentation and asked for questions.

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### Committee Comments & Questions

Ms. Aldean asked about the process of outsource review from outside consultants who review TRPA permits.

Mr. Keillor explained that an applicant can request outsource review, in which case TRPA would farm out the work to one of two outside consultants, either Wells Barnett and Associates, or Arlo Stockham.

Mr. John Marshall, TRPA Legal Counsel, added that there is a distinction between outsource review and expedited review. Expedited review is an internal review process for specific types of projects requiring an expedited review. Outsource review is for projects where an applicant requests that the project be reviewed by an outside consultant, and that process may be expedited more quickly in some cases, or it may not be expedited, depending on the particular project and on the consultant's workload.

### Public Comments & Questions

None.

Ms. Gustafson made a motion to recommend approval.

Ayes: Mrs. Cegavske, Ms. Gustafson, Ms. Diss, Mr. Hoenigman, Ms. Hill, Ms. Aldean

**Motion carried.**

- IV. Recommend Approval for Release of City of South Lake Tahoe Water Quality Mitigation Funds (\$540,152.48), Air Quality Mitigation Funds (\$200,000), and Stream Environmental Zone (SEZ) Mitigation Funds (\$87,395.97) towards the Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt Improvement Project

Tracy Campbell, Executive Assistant for the EIP Division, filling in for EIP Division Manager Kim Chevallier, provided the presentation. Ms. Campbell explained that the Tahoe Valley Stormwater and Greenbelt Improvement Project is a multi-benefit project benefitting stormwater treatment, stream environmental zone expansion, recreation amenities, and bike and pedestrian pathways. Funding for construction of Phase 1 includes support from Proposition 1, the City of South Lake Tahoe general fund, SNPLMA and TRPA mitigation funds. The project is located south and east of the "Y" intersection on the west side of the city and consists of a 320-acre project area bisected by Highway 50 and State Route 89. Ms. Campbell said that they would be back next month with a request to transfer some of the TRPA funds that the Committee approved last July. It's the same project but just a change of use in some of those funds to another area pertaining to construction.

Ms. Campbell concluded her presentation and asked for questions.

### Committee Comments & Questions

Ms. Aldean asked if the City would be able to complete phase one of construction using the funds that are being allocated today.

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Mr. Stan Hill, Engineering Manager from the City of South Lake Tahoe, commented and said the City is ready to move forward with Phase 1. As part of the State Water Resources Control Board Prop 1 grant, there is a large local match requirement, and the TRPA mitigation funds discussed here will assist with that.

### Public Comments & Questions

A member of the public who identified himself as “a representative of Tahoe for Safe Tech” came to the podium to address the Committee. He said he wanted to make sure that some of the money being spent would go to cleaning up the lead, plastic, and microplastic from the cell towers. He said he knows this item isn’t about cell towers, but the only way to clean up the plastics out of the watershed is with a vacuum. He asked Mr. John Marshall if he has a vacuum cleaner for cleaning up the water that he is polluting for 12 million people. He then told the Committee to make sure the money is spent to clean up the pollution that TRPA is allowing to go into the lake.

Next, Mr. Steve Teshara, on behalf of Tahoe Chamber, said the Chamber is vigorous and consistent in their support for this project and commends the City staff for weaving their way through the various grant sources to make this project of the Tahoe Valley Area Plan a reality. It has numerous environmental benefits, as well as benefits for the housing and businesses in that area. Mr. Teshara urged the Committee to move forward with the approvals before them.

Ms. Hill made a motion to recommend approval.

Ayes: Mrs. Cegavske, Ms. Diss, Mr. Hoenigman, Ms. Gustafson, Ms. Hill, Ms. Aldean

**Motion carried.**

- V. Recommend approval for Release of El Dorado County Water Quality (WQ) Mitigation Funds (\$60,000.00), for the Oflyng Water Quality Project

Tracy Campbell, Executive Assistant for the EIP Division, filling in for EIP Division Manager Kim Chevallier, provided the presentation. Ms. Campbell explained that the project addresses water quality impacts from the development of the Country Club Heights subdivision, and that the improvements include off-line infiltration systems, an infiltration basin, rolled curb and gutter and rock slope protection. The US Forest Service has awarded additional funds to meet the shortfall in programmed funding.

Ms. Campbell concluded her presentation and asked for questions.

### Committee Comments & Questions

Ms. Aldean asked whether the concrete would be removed and disposed of and replaced with a rock revetment.

Mr. Dan Kikkert, Senior Civil Engineer from El Dorado County, said that yes, they would be using the rock revetment in certain areas. In other area where it’s very steep, we’ll be looking at repairing and restabilizing the slope as part of a separate project. As it stands now, this project is focusing on some of the shallower slopes and eroding areas.

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### Public Comments & Questions

A member of the public who identified himself as “a representative of Tahoe for Safe Tech” came to the podium to address the Committee. He said he wanted to make sure that some of the money is used to stop the pollution of Lake Tahoe. He held up a piece of plastic material from a cell tower and said it had fallen in an area within two feet of where firemen line out their hoses. He said he believes this is a travesty not only for the health of the environment, but also the health of the firefighters, the health of Mr. John Marshall, the health of all of us, and future generations. He said he hopes some of the money is being put aside to vacuum up the microplastics that have lead in them and are going into Lake Tahoe, which is being polluted by the Telecom industry that TRPA has given a green light to.

Ms. Gustafson made a motion to recommend approval.

Ayes: Ms. Gustafson, Mr. Hoenigman, Ms. Hill, Ms. Diss, Mrs. Cegavske, Ms. Aldean  
**Motion carried.**

### VI. Upcoming Topics (Informational Only)

Mr. Chris Keillor, TRPA Finance Director, provided the upcoming topics presentation. For future Operations and Governance Committee meetings, on the agenda for October are CTC Acquisition using Excess Coverage Mitigation Fees, Planning Fee Inflation Adjustments, and Mitigation Fee Inflation Adjustments. Going forward after October, future agenda items will include the Investment Briefing in November, the OWP Amendment #1 in November, the TRPA fiscal year 2022 audit in December, and updates to the TRPA financial policies in January and going forward.

### Committee Comments & Questions

None.

### Public Comments & Questions

Mr. Doug Flaherty of Incline Village, Nevada, commented that according to the recent UC Davis State of the Lake Report, the Lake Tahoe Basin is in an environmental freefall and out of equilibrium and harmony as required by the bi-state compact. Mr. Flaherty said that through its malfeasance, the TRPA has mismanaged its charge under the bi-state compact and failed to adequately monitor, measure, and provide substantial project cumulative data and analysis since its 2012 regional plan update to ensure equilibrium and harmony within the Tahoe Basin. He said the TRPA has failed in its responsibilities to protect our cherished Lake Tahoe water clarity. He said that cumulative impact is the impact on the environment which results from a tyranny of incremental impacts and small decisions when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of the agency or person that undertakes such actions. He said cumulative impacts result from individually minor but collectively significant actions that take place over a period of time. Mr. Flaherty said that the long-term failure of TRPA involves the use of a sham environmental checklist that circumvents a process that would otherwise ensure the Lake Tahoe Basin cumulative impacts are analyzed area-wide. Instead the TRPA has been on a march of agenda-driven increased human capacity, increased growth and relaxation of building regulations, increased parking and transportation projects, and

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human capacity initiatives including those of high-density growth without any real cumulative impact environmental assessment.

VII. Committee Member Comments

None.

VIII. Public Interest Comments

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn.

Ayes: [All]

Chair Ms. Aldean adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgina Balkwell  
Senior Management Assistant  
Current Planning Division

*The above meeting was recorded in its entirety. Anyone wishing to listen to the recording of the above mentioned meeting may find it at <https://www.trpa.gov/meeting-materials/>. In addition, written documents submitted at the meeting are available for review. If you require assistance locating this information, please contact the TRPA at (775) 588-4547 or [virtualmeetinghelp@trpa.gov](mailto:virtualmeetinghelp@trpa.gov).*