

TONOPAH TOWN BOARD
PUBLIC WORKSHOP MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2014

Town Board Chairman Horace Carlyle called the workshop to order at 6:00 p.m. Also present were Janet Hatch and Tom Seley; Duane Downing and Ron Kipp were absent. Four others were in attendance. Chairman Carlyle led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Presentation: To provide Board members with training concerning the duties and responsibilities of a governing board as those duties and responsibilities relate to the technical, managerial, and financial management of the Tonopah Public Utilities.

Dan Tarnowski from Nevada Rural Water conducted the presentation. Mr. Tarnowski first discussed roles and responsibilities, meetings and open meetings law. Mission to provide safe, dependable drinking water to customers at a rate that captures all budgeted costs. Mr. Tarnowski went over basic capacity for system operations, management levels, financial capacity, and technical capacities. Mr. Tarnowski discussed system protection vs. consumer protection, as well as legal roles and responsibilities. Mr. Tarnowski explained common challenges for utility managers, operational issues and workforce complexities for a well managed utility.

Mr. Tarnowski discussed and explained the ten key management areas which are:

- Water Resource Adequacy
- Product Quality
- Customer Satisfaction
- Community Sustainability & Economic Development
- Employee & Leadership Development
- Financial Viability
- Operational Optimization
- Infrastructure Stability
- Operational Resiliency
- Stakeholder Understanding & Support

After explaining these key areas, Mr. Tarnowski handed out a self assessment worksheet for the Board to rate the system. The Board then discussed their answers to the survey. The Board felt they did not have enough knowledge to make good decisions. Mr. Tarnowski suggested they can

set up specific training in key areas the Board thinks they need to know more about. He also recommended the Board have discussions with staff to gain more knowledge of the TPU system.

3. Public Comment

Bruce Jabbour of North Tonopah Development stated he appreciated being able to sit in on the workshop. He observed a slight disconnect and told the Board to set their expectations with the staff so they know it is professional and not personal. Mr. Jabbour explained to the Board that they need to let staff know what knowledge they are looking for so that staff knows what to provide them.

4. Adjourn

Workshop was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by:



Arlene Neiderman

Approved:



Horace Carlyle, Chairman

Duane Downing, Vice Chairman

Ron Kipp, Clerk



Janet Hatch, Member



Tom Seley, Member