

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
April 5, 2006**

ITEM 6

SUBJECT:

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT A \$1.378 MILLION FEDERAL GRANT TO SUPPORT THE LAKE TAHOE TMDL DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

DISCUSSION

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) are jointly developing the Lake Tahoe TMDL and associated water quality restoration plan to restore and protect Lake Tahoe's famed clarity. The Lahontan Water Board has been offered \$1,500,000 to assist in this effort from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), which obtained the funds via the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA).

On April 11, 2005, USEPA notified the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) that it plans to use the SNPLMA funds to fund two projects supporting the Lake Tahoe TMDL: 1) extending the Lake Tahoe TMDL EPA interagency personnel agreement assignment (\$121,297), and 2) Lake Tahoe TMDL Phase 2 projects (\$1,378,303).

The grant will be used, through contracts, to accomplish the following tasks critical to TMDL development and implementation:

1. Develop an Integrated Water Quality Management Strategy to evaluate load reduction scenarios and determine the most cost effective and feasible alternative Lake Tahoe TMDL load allocations and implementation plan;
2. Support meeting facilitation services associated with an established local stakeholder advisory group;
3. Obtain the support of the United States Geological Survey's Tahoe Decision Support System for evaluating potential land use changes associated with future development; and
4. Continue the services of a Science Advisor/Research Director for TMDL Implementation Plan development.

POLICY ISSUES

Should the State Water Board accept \$1,378,303 in USEPA grant funds for TMDL development and implementation planning work to support the restoration and protection of Lake Tahoe?

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to state general funds. Existing budget authority is currently adequate to accommodate the anticipated grant.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board accept \$1,378,303 in USEPA grant funds to support Lake Tahoe TMDL implementation planning.

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2006-**

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OR DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT A FEDERAL GRANT TO SUPPORT LAKE TAHOE
TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND
WATER QUALITY RESTORATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT**

WHEREAS:

1. The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Regional Water Board) and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) are jointly working to develop the Lake Tahoe TMDL;
2. The Lahontan Regional Water Board and NDEP are working with other federal, state, and local partners to develop a water quality restoration plan to restore and protect Lake Tahoe's famed clarity;
3. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region IX has received a grant of \$1,500,000 through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) to fund Lake Tahoe TMDL development and water quality restoration work for Lake Tahoe;
4. On April 11, 2005, the USEPA notified the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) that it plans to use the SNPLMA grant to fund two grants for the Lahontan Regional Water Board's Lake Tahoe TMDL: 1) \$121,697 through USEPA grant No. X97915401 for costs associated with extending the Lake Tahoe TMDL USEPA interagency personnel agreement assignment; and 2) \$1,378,303 through a new grant for Lake Tahoe TMDL Phase 2 projects; and
5. To utilize the grant monies, the State Water Board must establish an account for such monies and allocate them to the Lahontan Regional Water Board for contracts supporting the Lake TMDL and water quality restoration plan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to accept, and amend, as necessary, the USEPA SNPLMA grant in the amount of \$1,500,000; and
2. Allocates these monies to the Lahontan Water Board for contract services to support the Lake Tahoe TDML and water quality restoration plan development.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on April 5, 2006.

Song Her
Clerk to the Board