

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE CREATION  
OF A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE  
ADJUDICATION OF WATER LAW  
CASES.

ADKT 0576

FILED

MAR 09 2021

ELIZABETH A. BROWN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY   
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

*ORDER CREATING COMMISSION TO STUDY  
THE ADJUDICATION OF WATER LAW CASES*

On February 8, 2021, James W. Hardesty, Chief Justice of the Nevada Supreme Court, filed a petition seeking to create a Commission to Study the Adjudication of Water Law Cases in an effort to improve education, training, specialization, timeliness, and efficiency of Nevada's district courts in the judicial review process.

This court solicited public comment on the petition and a public hearing was held in this matter on March 3, 2021.

Having considered the petition and public comment, we conclude that such a commission should be appointed. The Commission shall conduct all hearings in public and post all meeting minutes and documents considered by the Commission on the Supreme Court's website. The commission shall file a report with this court on its findings and recommendations no later than April 1, 2022.

Accordingly, the Chief Justice shall appoint and chair a commission comprised of representatives from at least some or all of the following groups, entities, and industries:

1. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources/Division of Water Resources;

2. Practicing Water Rights Engineer/Hydrologist: involved in a wide range of projects and industries throughout Nevada;
3. Practicing Water Rights Attorney: involved in a wide range of projects and industries throughout Nevada;
4. Urban Municipal Water Purveyors: representing approximately 80% of the Nevada population:
  - a. Southern Nevada Water Authority;
  - b. Truckee Meadows Water Authority;
5. Rural Water Interests:
  - a. Central Nevada Regional Water Authority;
  - b. Humboldt River Basin Water Authority;
6. Agriculture: representing the largest water users in Nevada:
  - a. Nevada Farm Bureau;
  - b. County Farm Bureau;
7. Irrigation District;
8. Mining;
9. Environmental/non-governmental organizations:
  - a. The Nature Conservancy;
  - b. Nevada Conservation League;
  - c. Great Basin Water Network;
10. District Judges;
11. Rural Counties:
  - a. Eureka County Natural Resources;
  - b. Nye County Water District;
  - c. Lincoln County Water District;
12. Urban Nevada Counties:
  - a. Clark County;

b. Washoe County;

c. Carson County;

13. Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc.

Dated this 9<sup>TH</sup> day of March, 2021

*J. Hardesty*, C.J.  
Hardesty

*Parraguirre*, J.  
Parraguirre

*Stiglich*, J.  
Stiglich

*Cadish*, J.  
Cadish

*Silver*, J.  
Silver

*Pickering*, J.  
Pickering

*Herndon*, J.  
Herndon

cc: Eric Dobberstein, President, State Bar of Nevada  
Kimberly Farmer, Executive Director, State Bar of Nevada  
Bradley Crowell, Director, Department of Conservation and  
Natural Resources  
Adam Sullivan, Acting State Engineer  
All District Court Judges  
Clark County Bar Association  
Washoe County Bar Association  
First Judicial District Bar Association  
Elko County Bar Association  
Douglas County Bar Association  
Administrative Office of the Courts