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Meeting Notes September 4th, 2008 Last Resort, Tucannon River Road

Board Members Present: Del Groat (GC), Dick Jones (CC), Roland Schirman (CC), Dick Isaacs (AC), Doug Matoon (AC), Stuart Durfee (WWC)

Via Phone:

Others: Steve Martin (SRSRB), Kris Buelow (SRSRB), Anne Chapman (SRSRB), Jerry Hendrickson (AC), Dave Karl (WDFW) Larry Hooker (WWCCD), Brad Johnson (WRIA35)

Chairman Del Groat called the meeting to order.

There was no quorum present at the start of the meeting (6 board members present) and no action to be taken until such time that a quorum is present.

Welcome:

Del welcomed all to the Last Resort and thanked Anne for making the arrangements for the meeting/BBQ.

Agenda Additions:

Discussion: Steve announced that he would like to have a discussion with the Board about a pending proposal for regional boards to help coordinate the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program implementation and related programs (Fish Accords and BiOp). The effort is being led by the Governors' Salmon Office with a general understanding that regional boards support salmon program coordination and localized guidance. Preliminary thoughts are for 1 FTE in each region to assist Council staff implement the new Fish and Wildlife Program and related programs in a more localized approach than a more centralized approach.

The Board asked that Steve provide more information (proposal if available) as well as funding implications, i.e., will this reduce our project dollars?

Quorum Issue – Need to fill vacant seats (4) and/or change quorum requirement:

Discussion: Steve stated that there are many ideas including reducing membership from 3 to 2 for each entity; proxies within entities; those that are in attendance constitute a quorum; and others.

Roland asked about voting by proxy, i.e., submitting a written vote in advance of a Board meeting. Dick Jones stated that sometimes discussion at the board meetings changes the vote of board members and that thorough discussion with all possible information at a meeting is very important. Those in attendance agreed that there is no need to change the quorum requirements now as there has only been 1 meeting in the last year where we failed a quorum.

Steve reported that the Vacant Seats are: Garfield (1), Whitman (1), CTUIR (2), Nez Perce (3) and new members are currently being recruited.

Report on Colin Thorne/Janine Castro flood foresight community meetings (Week of August 25th):

Discussion: Steve reminded the board that they approved providing travel expense up to \$2,000 for Dr. Colin Thorne from the UK to discuss with our communities concepts about flooding and flood preparedness. Dr Thorne was joined by Dr. Janine Castro to talk about Channel/river properties. Steve, Alex Amonette, Dr. Thorne, Dr Castro and others met individually with the City of Waitsburg and their staff; met with landowners; toured the levees in Dayton and Waitsburg and held two "community" meetings, one in Dayton and one in Waitsburg. About 20 community members, CTUIR, WDFW, DOE, USACOE and others attended those gatherings. The reports were very informative and suggest that our communities develop an approach for working together and identifying flood minimization plans and a flood preparedness plan. Janine Castro also spoke about channel evolution, stream energy and provided photos/stories from other rivers. Steve reported that there was a strong consensus from people at the Dayton community gathering that a coalition should be organized and this topic be continued.

Steve suggested that the board invite Dr. Janine Castro back to present her presentation to the board this fall/winter. It was agreed by those present that this would be a good idea and to include public works staff, emergency management staff, etc

Report on Hatchery Scientific Review Group visit (July 28th, Lyons Ferry Hatchery) and process update:

Discussion: Steve reported that he, Roland Schirman and others met at Lyons Ferry on the 28th of July to review hatchery management for the Lyons Ferry and Tucannon fish hatcheries with the HSRG. The conversations were led by the hatchery managers joined by Glen Mendel and Mark Schuck, fisheries biologists. Brood stock source, collection, handling; spawning and juvenile rearing, feeding, marking/tagging and release were discussed for steelhead, spring/summer Chinook and fall Chinook. The HSRG recommendations will be available in October and Steve plans on attending and then reporting back to the Board as more information becomes available.

Some of the likely recommendations will take a long time to be implemented, will be a work in progress/learn as we go, and will be expensive.

Update on Mid Columbia steelhead ESU recovery plan:

The Mid C ESU recovery plan is in DC going through legal review and should be out for public review in September. During the 90 day federal register notice period this fall Steve suggests we do two things (1) comment on the plan with an emphasis on the out-of-basin measure, hatchery recommendations and harvest recommendations and (2) revise our recovery plan for the WW and Touchet Populations based on the recommendations we provide for the Mid C plan. Steve will provide the Board with recommendations that should be considered. The HSRG recommendations will be out later this month and the Board should review the recommendations and advance those supported by the Board to NOAA for inclusion in the Mid C Plan.

Steve said that he will be discussing the priority areas and actions maps with the RTT and that there may be changes to the maps based on new information. Changes in status on the map will also probably be made changing priority restoration areas. Mill Creek, for example, should be a real focus now for recovery at this time because the fish passage barriers are rapidly being corrected. Mill Creek is a highly visible area and to succeed in addressing the multiple uses of Mill Creek through town we would have a great public relations message to share. It was also stated that we need to not lose sight of the other areas (Asotin, etc).

Report on Regional Road Maintenance Program and selected contractor:

Steve reported that Dave Mastin, of Mastin & Mastin was the only contractor that bid on the project. He reminded the board that at the last Board meeting a committee of Doug Mattoon, Roland Schirman and Michael Largent was formed to review the proposals and approve a contractor and contract with them. Steve stated that the contract is currently being reviewed by WWCC and then it will be reviewed by the committee for endorsement. The work should start next week and will wrap up by the end of January, 2009.

Intensively Monitored Watershed proposal update:

Steve stated that at the last Board meeting he had apprised the board of the proposal being developed for \$377,900 for implementing the IMW and that the deadline precluded his ability to share it with the board. He reported

that the proposal is in this meeting packet and prior to contracting he would like to suggest the board establish an IMW contract committee or if preferred, he can present the contract to the full Board for review and approval. Those present agreed that this is a big enough contract that the Board as a whole should review and approve subsequent contracts related to the IMW.

Governors Salmon Office meeting in Asotin:

Steve reported that Jerry Hendrickson, Herald Thompson, Steve Martin and the Governor's office staff met for lunch in Asotin. Steve thanked Jerry for taking time to participate. The meeting was an information discussion with landowners/local citizens who have witnessed the changes in the Asotin watershed over last years and willing to share their perspectives with the GSRO. The information will be included in a new section of the annual State of the Salmon Report titled "local perspectives".

Update on travel expense cost reimbursement for Tim Beechie, NOAA representative:

Steve stated that the Board had asked that he send a letter to NOAA prodding them a bit about the need for their continued participation and engagement. He has called Lynn Hatcher and followed up with an email to Rob Walton. Steve reported that he received a response email last night. He reported that there has been a communication issue within NOAA (Science and Policy). This should be resolved soon. Lynn Hatcher is going to follow through and make the budget happen if he can, so that Tim Beechie can attend.

Review Lead Entity Committee process and recommended project list for the 9th Grant Round:

Steve stated that the 9th Project Round started this year in March with project solicitation notices and had wrapped up last week with final project review and ranking. He gave a big thanks to Don Howard and Jerry Hendrickson for sticking it out and making every meeting. Unfortunately other citizen members could not make that level of commitment and the list provided today represents input from only two citizens (Don & Jerry) and two technical committee members of the RTT, (Bill Neve from the Dept of Ecology and Tom Schirm of the WDFW).

Steve went over the Tables in the Meeting booklet. He explained the first table was how the score cards ranked the projects in order. The second table reflected the Lead Entity Committee's recommendation with the assumption that the funds were \$1,850,000.

The third table is a table that has evolved out of the realization that the monies available are only going to be \$1,770,000.

Discussion then continued about why the Columbia County False Indigo project really needs to be addressed now. It was stated that this is a fast growing weed on the Tucannon and if it is not controlled now, it could easily be a major problem in the near future in the river, just like the yellow star thistle problem.

The Mill Creek Assessment project was then discussed. The assessment is consistent with the plan, but right now a restoration project would not be. With the assumption that the status of Mill Creek will change in the near future to a priority restoration reach; the Mill Creek Assessment project would be a good alternate project.

An easement discussion then ensued: (Cost, etc...) It was explained that these easements are perpetual, and the restrictions will be recorded on the deed to the property to make sure subsequent owners of the property know the conditions for its use. Doug suggested that we revisit this issue before the next round and that the cost share may need to be adjusted. Dick Jones asked why we would change the rules from round to round. Doesn't this send the wrong message to the SRFB? Kris walked the board through each easement, their boundaries, and the plans for each.

Del explained to the board/lead entity that they can move anything on or off the list for recommendation to the SRFB for funding.

Steve and Kris stated that they would like to start the grant round earlier next year and have monthly check-ins with the goal of having the final ranked list developed by July so that the board will have more time to interact with the projects and sponsors. Steve stated he has a few ideas that would be worth discussing with the board and the project sponsors in the future.

12:00pm BREAK FOR BBQ LUNCH – Provided by the Last Resort
Chairman Del Groat called the meeting back to order @ 1pm.

A Quorum was verified. (10 board members present)

Board Members Present: Del Groat (GC), Dick Jones (CC), Roland Schirman (CC), Dick Isaacs (AC), Doug Matoon (AC), Stuart Durfee (WWC), Virgil Klaveano (GC)
Via Phone: Gary Thorgaard (WC), Yancey Reser (WWC), Gary James (CTUIR)
Others: Steve Martin (SRSRB), Kris Buelow (SRSRB), Anne Chapman (SRSRB), Jerry Hendrickson (AC), Dave Karl (WDFW) Larry Hooker (WWCCD), Brad Johnson (WRIA35)

The Action Items were then presented:

Review Lead Entity Committee process and recommended project list for the 9th Grant Round: (Continued)

Discussion: Discussion was continued about projects. Del Groat expressed concern for the Coppei Creek Instream Habitat Enhancement project. He stated that the cost of the project just was not adding up in his judgment. The area has projects that have been done on this area and the system is responding well.

ACTION 1: Dick Jones moved to remove the Coppei Creek Instream Habitat Enhancement project from the funded category and move the Mill Creek Assess & Project Design up into the funded category. The Coppei Creek Instream Habitat Enhancement project would then become an alternate. The Coppei Creek Instream habitat Enhancement Project would be placed below the Coppei Creek Assessment & Project Design becoming alternate #3. Doug Matoon seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried by consensus.

Develop final prioritized project list for submittal to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board:

ACTION 2: Roland Schirman moved that the Prioritized list in Table 3 (in the meeting handouts) with the adjustment of moving the Coppei Creek Instream Habitat Enhancement project to the third alternate, funding the Mill Creek Assessment Project as the 10th project, Walla Walla from Froghollow Bridge to Last Chance Rd. Bridge as Alternate #1, Coppei Creek Assessment & Project Design as Alternate #2 be approved for submittal to the SRFB for funding. Del Groat seconded the motion. Dick Jones neighed. Yancey abstained. There being no further discussion the motion carried with one neigh.

As a matter of record, it was stated that Bryan Martin (Martin Easement Project) is Steve's brother, and Steve reported that he has no financial interest in this Easement Project.

Approve July 2008 Expenditures:

Action 3: Dick Jones made a motion to approve the invoices/vouchers totaling \$\$13,128.21 expended in July 2008 in the RCO Budget. Additionally he moved to approve the invoices/vouchers totaling \$2,131.52 expended in July 2008 in the WDFW Budget. Roland Schirman seconded the motion. Del Groat Abstained. The motion carried by consensus.

Approval of July 22nd, 2008 Meeting Notes:

Action 4: Doug Matoon moved to approve the July 22nd, 2008 meeting notes. Dick Isaacs seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried by consensus.

Set Next Board Meeting September 23, 2008 in Clarkston, Walla Walla (WWCC – ITV):

Discussion: Steve commented that there are no time-sensitive items for the potential September 23rd Board meeting but did note that there may be more information to discuss regarding the GSRO

request/proposal to the NWPCC for funding coordination activities by the regional boards. IMW contract/status updates may or may not be available. He stated that the comments from the SFRB on our projects will not be available yet and the road maintenance contractor will not have anything to share until at least late October or more likely December/January.

ACTION 5: Stuart Durfee moved to keep the regularly scheduled meeting. Virgil Klaveano seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried by consensus.

The next Board Meeting will be September 23, 2008 at 6pm at the WWCC Campus' in Clarkston and Walla Walla. (ITV Format)

Steve will attend the meeting in Walla Walla and Anne/Kris will attend in Clarkston.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2pm.

Review of Tasks	
Task Title	
Task 1: Provide board with recommended changes to our recovery plan through the FRN process for the Mid C ESU roll up recovery plan. (Steve)	
Task 2: Tim Beechie, Expense Reimbursement, follow up. (Steve)	
Task 3: Submit final Priority Project list to the SFRB (Kris/Steve)	
Task 4: Provide Board information regarding the GSRO request/proposal to the NWPCC for coordination funding (Steve)	
Task 5: IMW contract/status updates (Steve)	

Review of Actions

Action Title	Motion	Second	Consensus	Vote	Pass
Action 1: Remove Coppei Creek Instream Habitat Enhancement Project to Alt #3 and Mill Creek Assess & Project Design to funding status.	Dick Jones	Doug Matoon	Yes		
Action 2: Approve Prioritized List in Table 3, with adjustments in Action 1 for submittal to SFRB for funding.	Roland Schirman	Del Groat	NO	8-1 (1 Abstained)	Yes
Action 3: Approve July 2008 Expenditures	Dick Jones	Roland Schirman	Yes	(1 Abstained)	
Action 4: Approve July 2008 Meeting Notes	Doug Matoon	Dick Isaacs	Yes		
Action 5: Set next Brd Meeting, September 23, 2008	Stuart Durfee	Virgil Klaveano	Yes		

Name	Attendance for 2008											
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Doug Mattoon	Yes			Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes				
Dick Isaac		Yes	<i>Yes</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Jay Holzmilller	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes							
Dick Ducharme	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes						
Dick Jones	Yes		<i>Yes</i>	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes				
Roland Schirman				*Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Gary James	Yes	Yes						Yes				
Virgil Klaveano	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes				
Del Groat	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Cathy Schaeffer	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes					
Yancey Reser	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Stuart Durfee	Yes	Yes	<i>Yes</i>	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes				
Michael Largent		Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes					
Gary Thoorgard						*Yes	Yes	Yes				

No meeting was conducted this month.

* First meeting as a SRSRB Board Member