



410 B East Main
Dayton, WA 99328

phone: 509.382.4115
fax: 509.382.4116

www.snakeriverboard.org

**Meeting Notes January 13th, 2009
Walla Walla Community College Campus'
Walla Walla WEC Room #2017, Clarkston WWCC Room #164
6pm**

Board Members Present:

Walla Walla: Roland Schirman (CC), Cathy Schaeffer (WWC), Dick Ducharme (CC), Richard Jones (CC), Yancey Reser (WWC)
Others: Steve Martin (SRSRB), Kris Buelow (SRSRB), Terry Bruegman (CCD), Larry Hooker (WWCCD), Dave Karl (WDFW)

Clarkston: Dick Isaac (AC), Jay Holzmiller (AC), Bob Johnson (GC), Doug Mattoon (AC), Gary Thorgaard (WC), Michael Largent (WC)
Others: Brad Johnson (WRIA35), Anne Chapman (SRSRB), Butch Klaveano (GC)

Via Phone: Gary James (CTUIR)

Vice Chair Cathy Schaeffer called the meeting to order and verified a quorum present. (12 board members present)

Welcome:

Vice Chair Cathy welcomed all to the meeting.

Approval of November 25th, 2008 meeting notes.

Action 1: Doug Mattoon moved to approve the November 25th, 2008 meeting notes. Roland Schirman seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried by consensus.

Recognition of Board Member Virgil (Butch) Klaveano for his service to SRSRB.

Cathy announced that Virgil (Butch) Klaveano was one of the founding members of the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board back in 2002 and has dedicated one night a month for the last 7 years. She stated that his commitment to this process and his wisdom expressed from a commissioner's perspective through the years has really helped shape where we are and as Vice Chair, she wanted to take a moment to thank Butch. Butch thanked everyone for the kind words.

Agenda Additions:

None

Approve November/December 2008 RCO & WDFW expenditures :

***RCO November - \$25,793.34 / December - \$25,471.27**

***WDFW November - \$5,991.01 / December - \$4,621.55**

Discussion: Dick Jones questioned the lateness of WWCC Financial Charges, Anne stated that the college charges for financial services happen at no particular time that she was aware of. Dick Ducharme asked to clarify the \$8,089.35 WDFW expense in October, asking what that expense was. Steve stated that most of the expense went towards tagging fish for the IMW (Pit tags and that process). It was noted that the Mastin and Mastin Contract also had monies left. The Mastin and Mastin contract is not complete and he is still working through that process. The weather has contributed to this. Cathy stated that on the Budget sheet the WRIA 32 and WRIA 35 December Expenses might be switched, Anne will check. Doug Mattoon asked just to clarify that any unused monies will be turned back? The answer was yes.

Action 2: Doug Mattoon made a motion to approve the invoices/vouchers totaling \$25,793.34 expended in November 2008 and the invoices/vouchers totaling \$25,471.27 in December 2008 in the RCO Budget. Additionally he moved to approve the invoices/vouchers totaling \$5,991.01 expended in November 2008 and the invoices/vouchers totaling

\$4,621.55 in December 2008 in the WDFW Budget. Jay Holzmillier seconded the motion. The motion carried by consensus.

Budget Revisions to RCO Budget– move the following amounts from Goods and Services to:

***\$6,000 to travel due to unanticipated travel costs**

***\$3,821.82 to equipment for two computers**

***\$6,929.06 to Contractors for Cascadia last of contracted amounts billed.**

Discussion: Steve stated that we are over spent in the three line items listed above and a budget revision would be appropriate to reconcile the RCO budget. If you have questions Anne can help us understand. Discussion then continued about the Travel amendment and monies needed to finish out the year. It was then suggested that \$10,000 be moved to travel instead of \$6,000.

Action 3: Dick Ducharme moved to approve the RCO Budget Revisions presented with an amendment to the travel amount being \$10,000 instead of \$6,000. Doug Mattoon seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried by consensus.

Task 1: Anne, Contact Janet Snell (WWCC) to amend Budget Revision to travel to \$10,000 instead of \$6,000.

Information about process to set recreational fishing quotas for steelhead and salmon in the Columbia Basin and Board's interest in engaging in the process:

Discussion: Cathy stated that the executive committee discussed this topic last Tuesday and suggested that Steve evaluate the return on investment of engaging in this process. Steve stated that he was glad that Gary James was present on the phone. He also stated he had talked with Glen Mendel today about this subject. But as a reminder, Steve stated that we acknowledged that as a Board we have no authority or ability to influence the US v Oregon or North of Falcon process where the overall commercial and recreational harvest levels are set across the Columbia basin. However, once the recreational harvest level is established for the State of Washington the Board may want to engage in setting the quotas for recreational fishing in our state. In other words Steve stated that the board may want to weigh in on what percentage of the fish quota that is set for recreational fishing is allocated to our region. The quotas affect the public, local economies and the real-time ability to manage fisheries and escapement. In a nut shell our recovery plan not only addresses ESA recovery but also addresses restoration levels to support the economic benefits of recreational fisheries.

Dick Ducharme stated that the board doesn't want to get involved in the allocation process, but after the allocation processes it is more "where" those fish are taken. The reason the other regions (Lower regions) are not involved in this is because they are getting all the fish. In terms of the overall recreational fisheries, the fish are all being caught in the lower Columbia. The communities on the upper end are being unfairly treated. More escapements need to happen on the lower end of the allotted fisheries. Gary James stated that he was now seeing what the board was saying. That it is a general/equitable distribution of the allocation from the mouth to headwaters. He stated that the tribes are also affected by this and feel the same way. Doug Mattoon stated that the Clarkston faction was also in agreement. Gary stated that the letter should state that an equitable distribution of the allocation of fisheries would be desirable, to show recovery where habitat and restoration efforts are being done to show improvements.

Task 2: Dick Jones and Dick Ducharme suggested that Steve with Glen Mendel's and Gary James input draft a letter to present to the board. It was also suggested that the Nez Perce may be interested in contributing also.

Predatory game fish regulations and Board's interest in engaging in the process:

Discussion: The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission sets game fish regulations and will be asking for input this spring for the 2009-2010 season. The executive committee asked Steve to evaluate the return on investment and workload for this process. The most direct and cost effective approach is the one we used last year where he worked with the RTT to identify recommendations and rationale and then presented those to the Board. A letter from this Board is influential in the state's process and is not burdensome on staff or the Board. Does the Board want staff to work with the RTT on recommendations for fishing regulations pertaining to predatory game fish?

Dick Ducharme suggested limiting to Non-native species. Dick Jones supports addressing this issue also. Gary James stated that it seems that the board is interested in any activities that take away from Salmon to escape. (Escapement, Estuary, Hydro, Predatory Fish, etc...) It seems that the board should monitor in general to keep responsible parties active in doing their part. Roland stated that when the board talks about these issues, it helps him to respond properly to the general public when questions are asked. Brad Johnson stated that these issues on non native

fish are going to be very political. There are others/organizations that will oppose the taking of bass for example, or non native fish due to their activities and interests. Dick Ducharme stated that when they set limits on Non Native Predatory fish that are preying on endangered native fish that is wrong. Gary James stated that the board had better have some science to back up the position that the board may take on this subject. The Sea Lion problem may be more of an issue. Dick Ducharme stated that we are using millions of dollars, changing agricultural and personal properties, etc.... to fix the salmon problem and we need to address these issues because of this.

Native Predatory Fish: Bull trout, Northern Pike Non Native Predatory: Bass(Small mouth, Walleyes), Channel Cats, Crawfish

Task 3: Steve will work with the RTT to evaluate the science and level of impact on salmon/steelhead by non-native predatory fish and present the findings to the Board for consideration.

Strategic Planning Committee update:

***Current (2007-2009) Operating Budget Review**

***Forecasted (2009-2011) Operating Budget**

- *Current (2007-2009) Operating Budget Review*

This is an update to describe where funds are being used as well as to discuss our predicted year-end unspent fund balance of roughly \$29,000. The strategic planning committee reviewed this information when it met last Friday as a starting point for the next two years but did not evaluate scenarios regarding the unspent balance. Two general observations – the Board has relatively fixed costs or base costs (staff, fiscal service, office expenses) and discretionary costs (contractors and partners). With respect to the unspent funds there are a couple of things to consider (1) if we don't spend these dollars we illustrate disciplined spending to SRFB but all this approach has gotten us in the past is thank you but no real incentive and (2) we depend on technical support and project sponsorship from WDFW and with near-term staff reductions and/or re-assignment of tasks to existing staff we are in jeopardy of losing support from WDFW. Steve asked if there are any comments/questions of this near-term budget report.

- *Forecasted (2009-2011) Operating Budget*

At our last meeting we decided to create a strategic planning committee to evaluate our current work plan and budget and begin developing work plans and budgets for 2009-2011. Steve reported to the committee last Friday that the Governor's budget shows an \$8 million reduction from \$18 million down to \$10 million for the upcoming biennium. The federal budget is anticipated to be similar to 07-09 which was about \$67 million annually to the eligible states of which about \$24 million has been allocated to Washington. It is important to remember that the Board's operating budget is federal in origin. The committee recognized that the current budget and anticipated 2009-2011 budget contains base operational expenses (office expense, fiscal service, staff and travel) and expanded or discretionary expenses (contract services and partner support). They were also mindful of the state budget situation and acknowledged that the 09-11 budget and work plan should present a conservative budget and another one that represents the level of funding needed to complete what really needs to be done. It was recommended that the conservative scenario represent a 10% reduction from the current level of \$338,000 per year. Anne put this together for you to see and from the pie chart you can see the impacts to partners and/or contract services. The financial hit to partners/contractors is because the other slices of the pie are somewhat fixed expenses. Steve is working on the deliverables and tasks that are doable with a 10% reduction and with 0% reduction and will present these two scenarios for the Board at its next meeting. He will work with the committee to review and recommend before then. The committee also requested that Steve provide the Board a list of staff work priorities for the Board to review.

Dick Ducharme asked if the current IMW pit tagging activities that we contracted would be needed in the next budget? Steve stated that we may choose to contract with them, but it will most likely be funded through a different grant source next time.

Cathy stated that the Budget Strategic Planning committee talked about in planning for the future budget, the committee discussed being good partners; But also that the strategy might be to sit down and identify the things that need to be done vs. what we would like to do and basically starting a \$0 based budget. It was explained that due to Kris Buelow not coming on board until January of 2008, the pie charts between the current Staff, Benefits & Travel is really disproportionate between the current pie chart and the projected 2009-2011 pie chart.

Dick Ducharme stated that he would like to see a pie chart that encompasses project costs. He stated that this pie chart basically only shows the administrative costs and there needs to be one that shows also the monies that go to the actual

projects. The pie chart needs to show monies that are on the ground also.... It is important for PR to show the whole picture. Steve stated that these pies were really meant for the board to understand what the operational costs are.

Discussion concerning contracting with the WDFW: The WDFW Budget (Governors Decision) needs to be looked at; If they are not going to cut the monies that support the SRSRB, then we would not need to contract for these field technical services. If they are going to cut the department that participates in the RTT/SRSRB, then we may want to step up and look at contracting with WDFW for the Technical services we require. It was stated that we need to preserve the field technical services that we have now, however the board as a whole is hesitant because they do not want to set a precedence/or be dictated to that we pay for these field technical services no matter what. Steve stated that the contract/if we elected to do it in this Operating budget would be a few months that would be a pilot program, so to speak, to see if contracting with them is feasible in the future. Contracting with the WDFW now for approximately March through June 2009 also allows us to test the waters, see what the Governors budget in terms of real cuts is and evaluate the effectiveness of a contract with the WDFW such as this without a long term commitment.

Steve stated that the Watershed steward has brought to the table many projects and he wanted to reflect with the board these projects: The Touchet Consolidation, The large wood placement in the upper Tucannon, the Curl Lake barrier, the Gose Street, the Mill Creek Assessment. Steve thanked Dave Karl for all of his and Glenn Mendel's support.

The contract would require the WDFW to invoice us for the deliverables that they deliver to us according to the contract and the services/tasks that would be set out in the contract and agreed upon by both parties. The invoices would be submitted to the SRSRB office, Anne prepares the paperwork, Steve reviews and okay's, and Anne submits them to WWCC for payment.

Steve stated that the projected monies are calculated at approximately 160 hrs for the contracted deliverables @ \$50 per hour = approximately \$8000. Steve stated that a contract if needed for this fiscal budget would need to be moved ahead asap, to get through the contract process.

Task 4: Make a pie chart encompassing all entities and monies to show accomplishments (RCO, WDFW, Project Monies, etc...)

Task 5: Steve and Anne should bring back to the board some deliverables that would be expected/needed of the WDFW technical support in contract format. Roland suggested that we give the director the authority to move ahead with contract process for this fiscal period with WDFW as a pilot program in the amount of \$8000. The executive committee should review the deliverables expected.

Lead Entity Committee (easements, calendar, scorecard, etc) Discussion

Discussion: The Co-Leads (county conservation districts) were scheduled to meet in December to develop recommendations for the Board/Lead Entity but weather precluded safe travel. The Co-Leads will meet the last week of January to finalize their recommendations for the board but the important thing to remember is that these recommendations and the decisions of the Board will serve as the basis for the 2009 grant round for projects.

Task 6: Steve will send out a notice to the board about exactly when this meeting will happen. So that those who want to participate may.

Letter of Support for WRIA 32 Partnership/Water Management Initiatives:

Discussion: Cathy stated that the partnership completed its report to the legislature and is now looking for partner support for this legislation to pass. The Board has acknowledged the importance of local water management and recognizes that managing water has been the authority of ecology so new legislation will be required. This initiative is in the best interest of salmon as it will increase stream flow and provide flexibility for water users in WRIA 32. Cathy stated that a draft letter of support was in the meeting packet for the boards review.

Upon review of the draft letter by the board members, discussion pertaining to editing the letter and taking out the house bill references and other minor edits followed.

Edits:

- Strike the "as identified in house/senate bill #" reference in the first sentence, putting a period after program.
- Change the word "scale" to "level" in the first sentence of the second paragraph.
- Change "the proposed legislation" to "this shared governance" in the first sentence in the third paragraph
- Strike the "as described in house/senate bill #" reference in the third paragraph.

Action 4: Dick Ducharme moved that we allow Cathy Schaeffer to send this letter with the discussed edits to the local Watershed Initiative group in Walla Walla County. Dick Jones seconded the motion. Yancey Opposed sending letter of support. The motion carried by a vote of the majority.

Approve Cascadia Consulting Land use policies/conservation easements report:

Discussion: Cathy stated that the board received this report last fall but never approved it. There have been opportunities to review this report on the website. People have been requesting the report and we need to approve it, or not. She then asked for discussion.

Action 5: Roland Schirman moved to approve the evaluation of land use policies and conservation easements final report prepared by Cascadia Consulting. Doug Mattoon seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried by consensus.

Task 7: Doug Mattoon stated that there has been talk about having a session about how we should be implement the findings of this report in our counties. Dick Ducharme stated that the January 30th meeting was meant for this.

Set/Cancel January 27th, 2009 SRSRB Board Meeting; confirm February 24th board meeting.

Action 6: Roland Schirman moved to have a teleconference meeting January 27th, 2009 board meeting in Dayton to discuss the WDFW Contract. Doug Mattoon seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carried by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:23 pm.

Review of Tasks

Task Title

Task 1: Anne, Contact Janet Snell (WWCC) to amend Budget Revision to travel to \$10,000 instead of \$6,000.

Task 2: Dick Jones and Dick Ducharme suggested that Steve with Glen Mendel's and Gary James input draft a letter to present to the board. It was also suggested that the Nez Perce may be interested in contributing also.

Task 3: Steve will work with the RTT to evaluate the appropriateness of the board addressing fishing regulations pertaining to predatory game fish. And then draft a letter if needed to present to the board.

Task 4: Make a pie chart encompassing all entities and monies to show accomplishments (RCO, WDFW, Project Monies, etc...)

Task 5: Steve and Anne should bring back to the board some deliverables that would be expected/needed of the WDFW technical support in contract format. Roland suggested that we give the director the authority to move ahead with contract process for this fiscal period with WDFW as a pilot program in the amount of \$8000. The executive committee should review the deliverables expected.

Task 6: Steve will send out a notice to the board about exactly when this meeting will happen. So that those who want to participate may.

Task 7: Doug Mattoon stated that there has been talk about having a session about how we should be implement the findings of this report in our counties. Dick Ducharme stated that the January 30th meeting was meant for this.

Review of Actions

Action Title	Motion	Second	Consensus	Vote	Pass
ACTION 1: Approve November 25 th Meeting Minutes	Doug Mattoon	Roland Schirman	Yes		
ACTION 2: Approve Dec/Nov RCO/WDFW Expenditures	Doug Mattoon	Jay Holzmilller	Yes		
ACTION 3: Approve Budget Revisions: Amendment to travel \$10,000.00	Dick Ducharme	Doug Mattoon	Yes		
ACTION 4: Approve letter of support to WRIA 32 Partnership/Watershed Initiative with edits	Dick Ducharme	Dick Jones		11 yea-1 nea	Yancey opposed
ACTION 5: Approve Cascadia Consulting Land use policies/conservation easements report	Roland Schirman	Doug Mattoon	Yes		
ACTION 6: Set/Cancel January 27 th , 2009 SRSRB Board Meeting	Roland Schirman	Doug Mattoon	Yes		

Name	Attendance for 2008-2009											
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	September 4 th	September 23 rd	October	November	January 13 th , 2009
Doug Mattoon	Yes			Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dick Isaac		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jay Holzmiller	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes						Yes	Yes
Dick Ducharme	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes
Dick Jones	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Roland Schirman				*Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gary James	Yes	Yes						Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Del Groat	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cathy Schaeffer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yancey Reser	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stuart Durfee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Michael Largent		Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes			Yes		Yes
Gary Thorgaard						*Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Mike Cassetto											*Yes	
Bob Johnson											*Yes	Yes

No meeting was conducted this month.

* First meeting as a SRSRB Board Member