

UCSRB Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 26, 2004

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

@ City of East Wenatchee Council Chambers

271 Ninth Street NE

East Wenatchee, WA 98802

(509) 884-9515

Board Members Present:

Paul Ward, Yakama Nation

Ron Walter, Chelan County

Craig Vejraska, Okanogan County

Mary Hunt, Douglas County

Bill Towey on behalf of Joe Peone, Colville Confederated Tribes

Others present: Denny Rohr, UCSRB Facilitator; Chuck Jones, Douglas County; Dick Nason, UCSRB Staff Coordinator; Julie Dagnon, Okanogan County; Bob Bugert, GSRO; Keith Wolf, KWA/Colville Confederated Tribes; Sammi Buzzard, KWA; Bob Rose, Yakama Nation; Sandy Cox, Okanogan County; Mike Kaputa, Chelan County; Kate Terrell, US Fish & Wildlife; Dennis Beich, WDFW; Tony Grover, NPCC; John Hunter, WDFW

Action Items:

1. Board to review and vote on approval of the July 22, 2004 meeting minutes at the September meeting
2. Board to review the budget the first week of January, putting the Tech Writer's contract as a priority and then looking at all others
3. Sandy to send out final version of bylaws to everyone
4. The 5 entities plus WDFW are to submit their refined budgets to Sandy by noon tomorrow
5. Sandy to submit the refined budgets to Tony by EOD on Monday for his meeting on Tuesday
6. Staff to put something together that can be reviewed at the next Staff meeting regarding the plan of Action on how to proceed with contacting Legislators regarding the integration of lead entities, watershed planning units, RFEGs and other Salmon Recovery related groups as was discussed at the last Council of Regions Meeting
7. Bill to get info to Mary about BEF
8. Bob Rose to create letter of invite to Watersheds etc for evening BEF meeting
9. Bob Rose to forward that letter to Sandy
10. Sandy to distribute Bob Rose's letter out to the Staff and Board for comment
11. Staff and Board to invite the surrounding watersheds to participate in BEF evening meeting
12. Staff to create distribution list for invitation

Regular Meeting Call to Order: Paul called the meeting to order at 9:12am.

I. Welcome and Introductions (Paul Ward, Chair, and Denny Rohr, Facilitator)

II. Meeting Agenda Review (Ward)

- Board agreed to agenda as is

III. Review/Approval Meeting Minutes (Ward)

- A. July 22, 2004
- B. July 27, 2004
- C. August 3, 2004

Bill moved to approve the July 27, 2004 meeting minutes, Craig seconded the motion and the motion was passed

Craig moved to approve the August 3, 2004 meeting minutes, Mary seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Board agreed to review and vote on approval of the July 22, 2004 meeting minutes at the September meeting.

IV. Review of Outstanding Action Items (Rohr)

- July 22, 2004
- Outstanding List

V. Budget Review (Ward)

- Craig stated that the RC&D can't back up and they are about \$10,000.00 short
- We need to figure out a way to recuperate \$10,000.00
- Dick suggested to the Staff that
 - Leave everything as is
 - Lessen the Tech Writer contract to \$20,000.00 for now
 - This \$20,000.00 would take us through to December
 - Change RC&D from \$15,000.00 to \$5,000.00
- Jay doesn't have a contract amendment from the Colvilles and needs a verbal commitment from the Yakamas on their contract amount
- Bill suggests that along with looking at the Tech Writer needs and the budget status in December that we review everyone's budget and look at what may have fallen off the table
- Ron suggested that the next time we go through a budgetary process that we build in a contingency and we may avoid the situation we are in

Mary moved to review the budget the first week of January, putting the Tech Writer's contract as a priority and then looking at all others, Craig seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

BOARD ACTION

VI. Consideration of amendments to Bylaws

- Bob Bugert asked if the removal of the RRS was going to lessen the emphasis on public outreach
- Ron answered Bob's question with "No there was never really a link"
- Paul stated that he believes that the model has changed
- Sandy to send out final version of bylaws to everyone

Ron moved to approve the changes made to the bylaws, Craig seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

BOARD DISCUSSION

VII. SBP Planning Response Loop Discussion (Tony Grover)

- Staff adoptability review (Meet beginning on 8/13 for a week), representatives from each state, attorneys etc. – purpose of the meeting was to determine what if anything needs to be done prior to adding this into the
- NOAA was absent from the list of reviewers (Bob Lohn said that there was no time to prepare legal comments from NOAA) Tony has received the unofficial comments from NOAA and will distribute them as soon as is possible)
- Every subbasin in the Upper Columbia had good to excellent remarks
- 30 plans can be adopted immediately
- 25 plans that can be amended and then adopted
- 5 plans are not adoptable (Crab, Palouse, John Day, Upper Snake, Grand Ronde)
- Everyone was dinged about the RME except Okanogan – so the Council will take this on as part of their action items through the Pacific NW Aquatic Council....
- Another point that everyone was dinged on was the Integrated artificial production
 - Council will remove that requirement and work on how to accomplish
 - Council still sees this as an obligation of theirs – Out of subbasin effects analysis
- Most important strategy to accomplish in their subbasin – in the response loop or prior to the next round of the proposals the Council will request an explanation / decision tree on how you prioritize the projects
- Willamette, Flathead and Kootenai are good examples of prioritization
- Bob Bugert mentioned that prioritization is consistent with recovery planning
- Keith stated that they didn't have the resources (time) to connect with the public to get their feed back
- Bottom lines for the Upper Columbia:
 - Upper Middle Mainstem is adoptable as written
 - Lake Chelan is very close to being adoptable, very much based on the EIS and just needs a page or two that says that this analytical process is how we arrived and shows how the assessment was constructed
 - Methow/Entiat are very close to being adoptable, - Methow needs further development in the inventory and the gaps, description of the Coho reintroduction and the most important link the management structure to the limiting factor and address the limiting factors, and then based on those limiting factors develop

- objectives and strategies to correct, and the 4th step is to prioritize those objectives (good example of gaps and factors – 15 mile, Kootenai, Flathead, Willamette)
 - Entiat needs a reference to the HCP process, recognition of the HCP process, what it is and how it does or does not connect, artificial production – describe in general how you resolve the conflicts of hatchery vs wild fish (a general description) – would come out in the management plan not the assessment. This isn't an adoptability issue
- The management plan is the only part of the plan that is the adoptable portion
- Okanogan/Wenatchee – the assessments look good
 - Okanogan needs a clear description of the limiting factors and the linkage to the strategies and objectives then the prioritization – more gap analysis is needed in the inventory, laying out ordinances and projects – something that has not been addressed by any group – artificial production comment
 - Suggestion: try condensing the entire plan into 20 pages as an exercise
 - Wenatchee – very similar to the Okanogan – linkage issue – how do you link the good information to the objectives and strategies and then getting to prioritization
- Timing – Looking at a mid-October deadline – Staff attorney will take this to council during the September meeting and will be asking for a deadline extension into November – this should allow contracts to be put in place without being in a panic
- Craig asked about how the council handled the public outreach comments especially in the Okanogan area – Tony stated that the comments were not substantive in regards to adoptability. The council needed to assess if the process was made public and Okanogan did a very good job
- Approximate monies available \$800,000 – about \$30,000 per subbasin
- Craig raised the issue of what the public's concerns were and how the council is dealing with those concerns
- Keith mentioned that the BPA has some obligation to mitigate the effects of the plans in this area. Craig agreed but stressed that if the concerns of the community are not being heard there will be no buy in from the public no matter what the mitigation is.
- Bob asked if meeting today and the information Tony is presenting is the only info that we will be getting to work with.
- Tony stated that he needed to receive the individual budgets by Monday
- Dick suggested that the 5 entities plus WDFW submit their refined budgets to Sandy by noon and she will submit them to Tony by EOD on Monday for his meeting on Tuesday.
- Contracting would be very similar to an L2 contract and moderated by RC&D
- Tony thought that by end of the day on Tuesday we should have a better idea of what \$ will be allocated
- March or April for next project solicitation cycle may start during this timeframe
- Looking at cost sharing for project funding
- **Chuck asked when all of the other comments will be available – Tony has asked Staff to prepare packets for each subbasin and to fax those packets – no time commitment as of today on when those will be done**
- Bill asked why this fixit loop budget process didn't happen prior to now – there seems to be no foresight that has gone into this – what happens when we get to implementation and have to repeat this process
- Keith asked about the solicitation ? – is it an annually or a 3year block

- Kate asked how much administration costs will be for the Response Loop
- Craig stated that in the last process we burned up people and we burned up credibility and then asked what would prevent us from repeating that now
- Tony asked for Budget information in two parts – 1) what is your absolute must have that will push you across the adoptability threshold and 2) the second part is what else would you need to accomplish things that have been concerns or are specific to the county
- Dick commented to Tony that getting a dollar amount to you by Monday helps planning but it does not help with the implementation because we still can't get contracts in place.
- Ron stated that if we have to have all of these contracts in place we need to be able to have them approved by September 8th (which is the next RC&D BOD meeting)
- Denny asked Tony what could be done by the Board to help him with this process
- Tony's answer was a "full court press on council staff and tell them what we need"
- Dick suggested that we use the same format as the L2 contract since it has been put through the approval loop already
- Paul mentioned that the Yakamas are dealing with the Klickitat, Wind River and want to work with the UCSRB and RC&D
- Dick suggested that we take a look at the original submittals and make sure that we don't go over the amounts that we originally stated
- Dick reminded us that we had to allocate people and hours similarly to how we submitted before

VIII. Discuss plan of Action on how to proceed with contacting Legislators regarding the integration of lead entities, watershed planning units, RFEs and other Salmon Recovery related groups as was discussed at the last Council of Regions Meeting

- Craig felt that there was a fundamental question to ask – who thinks that this is feasible
- Dick stated that they are looking for cost saving methods
- May not require that all LEs be combined – it may mean that different methods/projects be combined
- Ron mentioned that a large group of Legislators are seeing a lot of overlapping processes and much money being spent on administration and some of those groups want to see more implementation and less planning
- Ron stated that it was not clear as to what the deficit covers
- Ron felt that it wouldn't be a one size fits all – because of the unique requirements of each area
- Dick reminded everyone that we are supposed to have a proposal put together for our current contract by the end of November
- Keith stated that it sounded like we need to come up with a plan or a plan will be drawn up for us
- Bob Bugert mentioned that Nichols is putting together legislation on what he has heard from everyone
- September 20 – meeting with Bob Nichols 1 – 4pm in Olympia
- Keith asked who is going to speak for whom at this meeting? – How do we go forward and get that conversation started?
- Dick stated that they are looking at combining the Lower Snake, Upper Columbia, Yakima, and another area in order to gain political clout

- Kate thought that Dave would be looking at the best way for the East side boards to cooperate
- Craig suggested that Staff bring options to the BOD
- Dick suggested that Staff put something together that can be reviewed at the next Staff meeting
- Bob suggested that Staff contact stakeholders (LE's, Planning Units Watersheds etc)
- Dennis stated that he is concerned that since the 2496 process is going good, that combining it with the 2514 which is not going so well it will disrupt, stall, impede the ground gained in the 2496 process
- Bob Bugert stated that everyone should be mindful that there are only 2 BOD meetings between now and the deadline for proposals

IX. July 29th Quarterly Review Meeting Update

- No discussion

X. Review Implementation of Recovery Planning Process

- No discussion

XI. Council of Regions Meeting Update

- No discussion

XII. Review / Update of Bonneville Environmental Foundation

- Does the board want to be “fundamentally involved” (contractually committed)(pros & cons) or do they want to be otherwise involved
- Todd Reeve call could cover:
 - Funding (supplemental)
 - Monitoring
 - Public Involvement
 - Looking for 8 – 10 projects (model watershed)
- They are a non-profit organization
- Keith thought that BPA would be interested in the network of resources
- Ron stated that single source funding would probably be limited in the future and it will take more than one source
- Dick mentioned that they are funded by green power
- Bill mentioned
 - Programmatic, leverage funding
 - Funding and implementation
- Kootenai and Lower River Project
- Bill suggested starting with the broader umbrella – relationships – don't have to come up with the preferred funding method right away, fill the gaps type projects
- Bill to get info to Mary about BEF
- Bill suggested that Angus present what BEF is all about – would be more beneficial
- Dick mentioned that BEF is looking for something this size because they don't have anything this size that they are involved with at the present time
- Chuck suggests that we invite appropriate watershed type people in for the audience to listen to Angus' presentation

- Need to invite the surrounding watersheds to participate
- September 23 Board meeting (evening meeting)
- Find a venue
- Bob Rose to create letter
- Rose to send letter to Sandy
- Staff to create distribution list for invitation

XIII. Staff Report

- No discussion

XIV. RTT Report

- Tour of
- October 15, 2004
- September 1, 2004 is Bob's official "beginning his new job" date
- Bob will be working part time for the GSRO and part time with his BioPhilia commitments
- Quarterly reviews for all 3 eastern
- Bob Bugert will continue to be involved in the recovery process – he is committed to seeing the contract through
- BioPhilia is the name of Bob Bugert's new company
- RTT chairmanship has not been decided – NOAA will step up to cover the cost for that if no one else
- TRT is being paid by NOAA

XV. General Report/Discussion

- Workshops Discussion: Heather Bartlett
- October 28th
- Harvest and Hatchery
- 3 hours
- 6-9pm
- Panel discussion
- NOAA, WDFW, Tribes USFW
 - Technical or Policy
 - Hatcheries: Mitchell Act, HCMPs
 - Susan – Artificial production
 - Chelan or Wenatchee as far as location
- Paul asked that Dennis bring the Board a list
- Chuck suggested that we provide an official press release to the Wenatchee World
- Standard invitation would be needed too

XVI. Other

- No discussion

XVII. Public Comment

- No discussion

XVIII. Next Regular Board Meeting

- September 23, 2004

Paul adjourned the regular meeting at 2:37pm

Summary of Motions

Bill moved to approve the July 27, 2004 meeting minutes, Craig seconded the motion and the motion was passed

Craig moved to approve the August 3, 2004 meeting minutes, Mary seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Mary moved to review the budget the first week of January, putting the Tech Writer's contract as a priority and then looking at all others, Craig seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Ron moved to approve the changes made to the bylaws, Craig seconded the motion and the motion was passed.