



UCSRB MEETING

Rocky Reach Dam
4th Floor Conference Room

Thursday, May 24, 2007
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Bud Hover, Okanogan County, UCSRB Chair
Bill Towey, Colville Confederated Tribes
Ron Walter, Chelan County
Lee Carlson for Paul Ward, Yakama Nation
Chuck Jones for Mary Hunt, Douglas County

Julie Morgan, UCSRB Executive Director
Derek Van Marter, UCSRB Associate Director
Barbara Carrillo, UCSRB Admin. Assistant

Others Present: Casey Baldwin, WDFW and RTT Chair; Char Beam, Okanogan County; Mark Cookson, WDFW; Chris Drivdahl, GSRO; Lynn Hatcher, NOAA; Steve Kolk, USBR; Phil Miller, GSRO; Kate Terrell, USFWS; Rob Walton, NOAA; and Chuck Peven, Chelan PUD.

Action Items

1. **Phil Miller** said the State of Washington will report back on the FCRPS BiOp process to the UCSRB at the next board meeting.
2. **Casey Baldwin** will give a presentation and update on Entiat, Okanogan, and Methow regarding the revised Biological Strategy at the next Board meeting.
3. In June, the RTT will review and comment on pre-proposals and visit the project sites for the SRFB and Trib Fund. In July, the review of NOAA monitoring evaluation appendix (P) will occur providing answers and comments to review questions, and **Casey** will forward those to Julie Morgan.
4. **Chris Drivdahl**, GRSO, reported that the Columbia Basin boards need to have a more unified look at state issues and that we need to collectively organize executive directors to identify how the boards can work together.
5. **Julie** will report back to the board regarding a meeting to be scheduled with NOAA. **Bill Towey** identified the need to look at the box on page 278 in the flow plan and then schedule a meeting with NOAA on some of the overarching policy issues.
6. **Julie** is contacting all entities regarding their fiscal status with regards to the UCSRB budget.
7. **Julie** will contact state legislators and congressional staff regarding attending the UC tour in August.
8. The Board decided to schedule a conference call for Wednesday, May 30, at 9:00 AM to discuss possible nominees to the SRFB, which **Julie** will coordinate.
9. Regarding the data steward position, the Board agreed to move forward in pursuing the position and to establish ranges for salary, benefits, travel, and to clarify expectations. The **RTT** will assist the board in the hiring process of the data steward position.

10. The Board asked **Julie** to send the data steward proposal to funding agencies after **Chuck** provides edits to the draft proposal letter.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chair Bud Hover.

Welcome and Introductions (Commissioner Bud Hover, Chair)

Julie introduced Barbara Carrillo as the new Administrative Assistant to the UCSRB. Bud informed everyone she will be working out of the office in Wenatchee. Introductions were then made around the room.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2007

Ron Walter moved to approve the meeting minutes from April 26, 2007. Chuck Jones seconded the motion and the motion passed.

2. FCRPS Bi-Op Update (Miller)

- Regarding the biological analysis overview, Phil Miller said the Action Agencies released the updated, proposed actions and biological analysis this week. The hatchery, harvest, and hydro issues will be released later. He said comments are due June 11th and signals will come from Judge Redden after the June 20th court conference and the release of additional material they are still working to prepare.
- The most significant agenda item is to draw conclusions from the biological analysis, and that there is anticipation that the judge's decision will go to appeal. However, he speculates that the proposed actions will move forward.
- Commitments have been made to work with the regional organizations and plan into the future to ensure coordination and that decisions will be consistent with recovery plans.
- Two major monitoring programs, ISEMP and OBMEP, are both identified in the list.
- The State of Washington is following-up with a letter regarding the FCRPS BiOp products, which will include comments made by the regional boards, to the judge.
- **Phil Miller** said the State of Washington will report back on the FCRPS BiOp process to the UCSRB at the next board meeting.

3. RTT Activities Update (Baldwin)

- Casey Baldwin gave the Board an activities report on the revised Biological Strategy. The revision effort ensured more consistency with the recovery plan, the inclusion of new information regarding restoration strategies and priorities, revised technical scoring criteria, and an update of the critical uncertainties section. At the next meeting Casey will give a presentation and an update on the biological priorities in the Entiat, Okanogan, and Methow sub-basins.
- Derek Van Marter reported that he received a number of positive comments regarding the revised Biological Strategy in the Methow. Casey said it will be ready for use and is located under the "resources" tab on the UCSRB website. The monitoring strategies for each location will be revised and they are developing a monitoring plan for the Methow through the Bureau of Reclamation and through PUD funded efforts.
- The Monitoring Subcommittee is currently working on comments to the monitoring plans.

- Regarding RTT membership turnover, most people are in favor of an “inactive” status, which will allow them to make decisions with one less person. They have nominated four new members to fill in the gaps.
- Regarding IC-TRT activities, the full lifecycle “matrix modeling” and survival at different life stages was discussed as well as the hatchery risk memo within population and across an MPG example. The White River is being used for the within population example.
- In June, a pre-proposal presentation workshop and project tours are scheduled. In July, the review of NOAA monitoring evaluation appendix (P) will occur providing answers and comments, which Casey will forward to Julie. SRFB/Trib Fund project review and ranking will be done in August.

4. Management, Logistics and Updates (Van Marter, Morgan)

- Derek Van Marter gave an Implementation Team update and commented that chapter eight of the recovery plan has been part of an ongoing discussion the last few years. The Board’s decision in December guided the first UCSRB Implementation Team meeting on May 1, 2007 in Chelan. The group focused mostly on administrative details – operating principles, meeting schedules, and related topics. The group agreed to meet quarterly, and the next meeting will be held on June 5th.
- Chris Drivdahl, GRSO, reported that the Columbia Basin boards need to have a more unified look at state issues and that we need to collectively organize executive directors to identify how the boards can work together.
- Bill Towey mentioned the need to look at the box on page 278 in the recovery plan and then schedule a meeting with the NOAA on some of the overarching policy issues. The Board agreed that a meeting will be scheduled with NOAA. Julie will report back to the board at the next meeting.
- Julie gave a budget status report with a reminder to the subcontractors to get their bills in to the UCSRB fiscal agent. She projected that the organization will have about \$40,000 left in the current contract at the end of June that will become part of a new contract. All the new contracts for the next fiscal year with the entities will need to be in place by the next Board meeting in June. Julie is contacting all entities regarding their fiscal status in regards to the Board’s contract with them.
- Julie reported that we are in the process of getting the office setup and office furniture/equipment purchased and installed. Julie asked for Board approval to enter into a two-year lease for space to match the duration of the new grant.

Ron Walter moved to approve a two-year lease for the UCSRB office space. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- Derek gave a review regarding the SRFB meeting in Cle Elum held on May 3. Some of the money for the 2007-2009 budgets had already been allocated, and the SRFB approved the remaining amount requested to fund the regional organizations.
- Regarding logistics for the UC tour in August, Ron Walter reported that James Lecky, of NOAA, will be here and that the USFWS wants to be involved as well. State legislators and congressional members should be invited.
- Julie will contact state legislators and congressional staff regarding attending the UC tour in August.
- At the next board meeting, Julie will present a draft agenda of logistics, BBQ’s and/or other functions for the UC tour in August.

- The Board discussed and approved the Esther Stefaniw Memorial Award letter for Sandy Cox.

Chuck Jones moved to approve the Esther Stefaniw Memorial Award letter for Sandy Cox. The motion was seconded by Ron Walter and the motion passed.

5. IAC Regional Contracts (Drivdahl)

- Chris Drivdahl gave an update to the Board regarding the 07-09 biennial contracts. She said that the SRFB is interested in getting more specific details on all contracts. Concerns related to accountability are guiding the need for more detail in the scope of work and contracts.
- Chris reported that two SRFB members are possibly up for re-appointment. She asked the group if it wanted to nominate someone from Eastern Washington. The Board decided to schedule a conference call for Wednesday, May 30, at 9:00 a.m. to discuss possible nominees to the SRFB. Julie will coordinate.

6. NOAA's Responses to Plan comments (Hatcher, Walton)

- Rob Walton, NOAA, discussed an issue with respect to a GAO report about recovery plans. He asked permission to insert a paragraph interpolating the recovery costs over 10 years as opposed to the total cost to get to recovery. In spite of comments, NOAA feels as though it does meet statutory requirements.
- Lynn Hatcher, NOAA, reviewed the technical responses to the public comments that came in about the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan during the FRN1 period. He will write the FRN2 for publication at the end of June or early July. The response to comments will go on the NOAA website the same day that the FRN2 is published.
- Regarding the plan, Rob mentioned that NOAA is looking to include "lay" explanations for the general public sometime in the near future.

7. Data Steward Proposal (Ward, Morgan)

- Mike Ward, ISEMP, addressed the Board regarding the proposal to develop a data steward position. There are three RTT recommendations:
 1. Build data management tools;
 2. Hire data management staff (data steward); and
 3. Develop an UC data management strategy.
- The proposal is for a long-term agreement between funding sources and the UCSRB. The RTT feels the UCSRB is the right entity to house the data steward because of its neutral coordination role in the ESU.
- Julie Morgan reported that she received word from NOAA for a commitment of \$50,000 over two years for the position, which is effectively seed money to pursue additional funding sources.
- The Board agreed to move forward in pursuing the position and to establish ranges for salary, benefits, travel, and to clarify expectations. The RTT will assist the board in the hiring process of the data steward position.
- The Board agreed that the letter will be sent to funding agencies after Chuck provides edits to the draft proposal letter.

Bill Towey moved and Ron Walter seconded that the draft proposal be sent to the funding agencies regarding the data steward position.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjourn Meeting

Bud adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM

Summary of Motions

Ron Walter moved to approve the meeting minutes from April 26, 2007. Chuck Jones seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Ron Walter moved to approve a two-year lease on office space. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Chuck Jones moved to approve the Esther Stefaniw Memorial Award letter for Sandy Cox. The motion was seconded by Ron Walter and the motion passed.

Ron Walter made a motion to move forward with the data steward position, seconded by Chuck Jones and the motion passed.

Bill Towey moved and Ron Walter seconded that the draft proposal be sent to the funding agencies regarding the data steward position.