



UCSRB MEETING

Okanogan County Fairgrounds
175 Rodeo Trail
Okanogan, WA 98840

Thursday, June 28, 2007
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Bill Towey, Colville Confederated Tribes
Ron Walter, Chelan County
Paul Ward, Yakama Nation
Char Beam for Bud Hover, Okanogan County
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; Mark Cookson, Chris Drivdahl, GSRO via phone; Mike Kaputa, Chelan County; Phil Miller, GSRO via phone; Richard Turner, NOAA Fisheries via phone; Rob Walton, NOAA Fisheries via phone; Chris Thew, Omak Chronicle.

Action Items

1. Phil Miller said in the next few weeks he will be providing information to the Action Agencies on behalf of the State of Washington and he needs to clarify that information with Julie and the UCSRB.
2. Julie and Derek will provide updates to Phil Miller regarding the progress of the IT Adaptive Management Subgroup.
3. Julie will speak to Mary Hunt regarding nominating Ron Walter and Bud Hover to the SRFB.
4. Julie will include wording for the fiscal agent contract to note that billing will not exceed \$7,500 a year without Board approval.
5. Julie will change wording of fiscal agent contract, item 1.c., to "UCSRB" instead of "District."
6. Rob Walton will have a revised plan for the Board to review based on Judge Coughenour's recent decision changing the designation of Upper Columbia River steelhead from threatened to endangered.
7. For a future meeting of the UCSRB, the Board will discuss having a representative from the Upper Columbia sit on the Washington Forum on Monitoring Salmon Recovery and Watershed Health and whether that would include using the data steward position for that purpose.
8. Julie will pursue setting up a tour of the Upper Columbia for August of 2008.
9. Julie will supply a more detailed data steward job description as well as contract information with NOAA fisheries at the next Board meeting.

10. Derek will present an updated framework regarding adaptive management to the Board in September. ☑

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM by Paul Ward.

Welcome and Introductions (Paul Ward).

Paul welcomed the group and introductions were made around the room.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 24, 2007

Bill Towey moved to approve the meeting minutes from May 24, 2007. Ron Walter seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Chuck Jones moved to take his and Casey Baldwin's names off the May 30th conference call minutes, as neither was present at the conference call. Paul Ward seconded the motion.

2. ESU Level Priorities for the Methow, Entiat, and Okanogan (Baldwin)

- Casey Baldwin gave an ESU level priorities presentation regarding tier 1 and tier 2 actions, and discussed completion for the remaining phase of biological benefits.
- Casey outlined the hierarchy of ESU components for viability and that the Upper Columbia needs all of its current populations to achieve viability in order for the MPG and ESU to be viable for each species. Therefore, the ESU priorities had to come from the sub-population level. Mike Kaputa mentioned that Wenatchee has adopted these biological priorities as well as community-level priorities, which have broad community support. He said this product could be a viable endeavor in all watersheds.
- Chuck Jones asked if NOAA ever released data on the Crab Creek issue. Casey mentioned that the status is classified as “functionally extirpated” by the ICTRT but in reality the status is “unknown”.
- Ron Walter asked about the correlation between dollars to products.
- Paul Ward mentioned that getting beyond tier 2 actions might not be a consideration based on funding levels. Casey responded that projects in Tier levels 3 and level 4 are currently getting proposed and funded with BPA and SRFB dollars. Some Tier 1 and 2 projects may not be feasible from a financial/social/community support standpoint.
- Casey reviewed Tier 1 priorities of each of the subbasins. Next step is to update the implementation schedule and redo the tier designations via RTT biological benefit criteria. The timing depends on the implementation schedule update.

3. FCRPS Bi-Op Update (Miller)

- The Judge Redden has extended the deadline for a draft Biological Opinion (BiOp) to October 31, 2007.
- The Judge has some concerns regarding proposed hydro operations related to flows and spills.
- Additional material is scheduled for June 30th with conclusions stating their bio-analysis and proposed action definitions at the ESU and DPS scale.

- Further details need to be worked out on structure and process concerning Action Agency actions in relation to UCSRB and the RTT after ESU and DPS conclusions.
- Phil Miller will soon be providing information to the State of Washington and will pass that information by Julie and the UCSRB. ☑
- Phil Miller requested updates on the IT Adaptive Management Subgroup so he can provide input. ☑

4. GSRO Staffing Update and Update on SRFB Nominations (Drivdahl)

- Chris Drivdahl noted that she and Phil will be support for UC technical and policy issues at this time. When Lloyd Moody leaves they will reassign that position to Eastern Washington.
- Chris noted that her top priorities were ESA assurances.
- Regarding SRFB, Larry Cassidy will not be seeking another term and she has not heard about Bill Ruckelshaus keeping his position.
- Paul Ward recommended sending a general letter to the SRFB stating that someone from Eastern Washington is a preferred replacement.
- Chris mentioned the delicate balance if someone from our board is appointed to the SRFB regarding possible conflict of interest.
- Ron Walter stated his interest in a position on the SRFB.
- Bill Towey suggested that a letter to the Governor be sent that recommends someone who understands Eastern Washington issues be selected and that the UCSRB knows of qualified candidates they could recommend.
- Julie will draft a letter to the Governor regarding nominating names of interest from Eastern Washington. ☑

Paul Ward moved to send a letter to the Governor recommending that someone from Eastern Washington be selected to serve on the SRFB. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

5. Contracts and Subcontracts (Morgan)

- Julie informed the group that the UCSRB Implementation Scope of Work has been reviewed by IAC, and handed out the revised document. She informed the group that the scope of work has been approved with milestone dates for completion of work.
- Julie asked the board for direction for professional services and the contract for the RTT Chair position.

Bill Towey moved to approve the professional services contract for the RTT Chair as presented to the Board. Ron Walter seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Chuck Jones moved to approve the UCSRB Implementation Scope of Work and enter into a contract with the IAC. Ron Walter seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- Julie presented the new contract to the Board for approval for the UCSRB fiscal agent, Carol Cowling, CPA.

Chuck Jones moved to approve the contract for Carol Cowling. Ron Walter seconded the motion.

- In discussion, several Board members suggested an amendment for the contract not to exceed \$7,500 a year without Board approval.

- It was also noted that under 1.c., the last word should be changed to “UCSRB” instead of “District.” ☑

Chuck Jones accepted a friendly amendment. Paul Ward called for the question on the amended motion for a “not-to-exceed” amount and to change the wording to “UCSRB” vs. “District,” and the motion passed.

- Julie addressed the group regarding the Colville Tribes’ request to use the UCSRB’s continuation funds from the current contract to fill a needed position for one year. Both Ron Walter and Paul Ward stated the need for an additional Scope of Work for that position before a decision can be reached by the Board.

Paul Ward moved to approve the contracts with the five entities, and in the future to include an amendment with the Colville Tribes’ contract for additional funds to add capacity. Chuck Jones seconded the motion and the motion passed.

6. Plan Adoption Update (Walton)

- Rob Walton discussed Judge Coughenour’s ruling and that the Upper Columbia steelhead designation had been changed from “threatened” to “endangered.” The plan needs to be current and relevant, so NOAA will add a section regarding reclassification criteria, which was originally included in the draft. It will be comparable with the language currently for Chinook.
- Rob Walton will have a revised plan for the Board to review based on Judge Coughenour’s recent decision. ☑

7. Monitoring Update (Morgan)

- Julie briefed the group regarding the Governor’s Forum on Monitoring Watershed Health and Salmon Recovery that she, Derek, and Casey attended recently. The group’s new name is the Washington Forum on Monitoring Salmon Recovery and Watershed Health, effective July 1, 2007.
- The Board decided that for a future UCSRB meeting, an agenda item will be included regarding a discussion of having a representative from the Upper Columbia sit on this forum, and whether that would include using the data steward position for that purpose. ☑

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

- Derek discussed a proposal to the Board to approve a vehicle lease through the GSA.

Ron Walter moved to approve a vehicle lease through the GSA. Chuck Jones seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- Julie discussed a proposal to the Board for approval to lease a copy machine.

Chuck Jones motioned to approve the lease of a copy machine. Paul Ward seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- Regarding a UC legislative tour for this August, Julie briefed the Board that Bill Hogarth is unable to attend an August tour this year. She suggested waiting another year for the tour so that she could have ample time to pursue setting up a tour for August of 2008. It was also recommended that the Board visit delegates and agency administrators in DC next year. ✓
- Julie briefed the Board that we have funding from NOAA for the data steward position. Ron requested a more detailed job description at the next Board meeting as well as contract information with NOAA. Julie will supply that for the next Board meeting. ✓
- Julie updated the Board regarding additional information on the UCSRB budget status and contracts.
- Derek updated the Board on the IT meeting on June 5th where groundwork was laid for developing an adaptive management framework over the next two months. The group will be working on that framework and in September will present that framework to the Board. ✓

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjourn Meeting

Paul adjourned the meeting at 2:54 PM.

Summary of Motions

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Paul Ward moved to send a letter to the Governor recommending that someone from Eastern Washington be selected to serve on the SRFB. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Bill Towey moved to approve the professional services contract for the RTT Chair as presented to the Board. Ron Walter seconded the motion and the motion passed.

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