

**PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (PRRIP -or- Program)****2025 Q1 Finance Committee (FC) Virtual Meeting** *(held online via Teams)*

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

PRRIP Finance Committee Meeting Attendees		
Name	Affiliation	Member or Alternate
<b>Department of the Interior</b>		
Brock Merrill	Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) – 2025 FC Chair	Member
Matt Rabbe	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (UFWFS)	Member
<b>State of Wyoming</b>		
Jason Mead	Wyoming Water Development Office (WWDO)	Member
David Ray	WWDO	Alternate
<b>State of Colorado</b>		
Emily Zmak	Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)	Member
<b>State of Nebraska</b>		
Jesse Bradley	Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	Member
<b>Upper Platte Water Users</b>		
n/a		
<b>Colorado Water Users</b>		
n/a		
<b>Downstream Water Users</b>		
Devin Brundage	Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District (CNPPID)	Member
<b>Environmental Entities</b>		
Rich Walters	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Member
<b>Executive Director's Office (EDO)</b>		
Jason Farnsworth	Executive Director	
Chadwin Smith, Ph.D.	Science Policy Coordinator	
Malinda Henry	Science Plan Coordinator	
Seth Turner	Water Plan Coordinator	
Justin Brei	Water Resources & Engineering Manager	
<b>Other Participants</b>		
n/a		

**WELCOME & ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Introductions** – Merrill called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM Central Time. The Teams participant list will be used to record meeting attendees.

**Agenda** – None offered.

**2025 FC Chair:**

**FC MOTION:** *Zmak moved and Rabbe seconded to appoint Merrill as 2025 FC Chair.* **Motion carried.**

**Minutes:**

**FC MOTION:** *Ray moved and Walters seconded to approve the 2024 Q4 FC Virtual Meeting minutes.* **Motion carried.**

**FC BUDGET ACTION ITEMS**

Smith summarized the FY25 PRRIP Procurement Table and the discussion item for today (PRRIP Public Outreach).

**PRRIP Website & Database**

Brei summarized the 2025 scope and budget for DJ Case to provide Program website and database services. Zmak asked about a feature that DJ Case is exploring to add to the website to facilitate electronic voting that sometimes occurs with the Governance Committee (GC). Farnsworth said DJ Case is exploring their own programming options that could be integrated within the PRRIP website to facilitate better GC communication, voting, and information sharing as opposed to just using email. They are also exploring a public-facing website design refresh since our current website is about 6-7 years old. Rabbe asked if editing/commenting on documents will be part of the online interface. Farnsworth said he is not 100% sure how that might work and that may be one of the last items that will be addressed once the other items are ironed out.

**FC MOTION:** *Ray moved and Rabbe seconded to approve the 2025 PRRIP Website & Database Contract Amendment.* **Motion carried.**

**PRRIP Expanded Recapture Reconnaissance Study (now Elwood Outlet Feasibility Study)**

Turner summarized the 1-year Contract Amendment for LRE Water to continue work on the Elwood Outlet Feasibility Study. Zmak asked if the GC voted on continuing design work on the Elwood outlet. Turner said he doesn't recall a specific vote, this continued work is based on discussion with the GC in September and the guidance was to continue looking into the design of the Elwood outlet. Merrill asked the results of this will be queued up for the September 2025 GC meeting. Turner said yes, Merrill said that is good timing for the GC to look at this and how things are in flux with the Water Plan.

**FC MOTION:** *Rabbe moved and Zmak seconded to approve the 2025 PRRIP Elwood Outlet Feasibility Study Contract Amendment.* **Motion carried.**

**PRRIP Trapping Projects**

Henry summarized the 2025 scope and budget for USDA-APHIS predator trapping at PRRIP properties. Mead asked if we are getting our money's worth for what USDA charges versus what they actually do (especially as it relates to pooled costs). Henry said their overhead time is comparable to what we see being charged for other contractors like UNL and SIU on the pallid sturgeon projects. Mead asked how we pay out the pooled costs. Henry said we typically don't hit the topline budget, not sure how that annual amount breaks down in terms of what is paid for pooled job costs. Merrill said overhead costs were similar to Federal overhead, for example Bureau overhead is usually between 16-18%. Pooled costs were somewhere around 30% when USGS was doing the monitoring, so APHIS charging 11% is lower compared to that.

**FC MOTION:** *Walters moved and Bradley seconded to approve the 2025 PRRIP Trapping Projects Contract Amendment.* **Motion carried.**

**FC MEETING REVIEW & WRAP-UP**

**Action Items & Meeting Feedback** – None.

**2025 FC Virtual Meetings** (all meetings will be in Teams from 10:00-11:00 AM Central Time):

- Tuesday, February 25, 2025
- Tuesday, May 27, 2025
- Tuesday, August 26, 2025
- Tuesday, November 4, 2025

**FC MEETING END**

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 AM Central Time.

**Summary of Action Items/Decisions from the 2025 Q1 FC Virtual Meeting:**

- 1) Appointed Brock Merrill 2025 FC Chair.
- 2) Approved the 2024 Q4 FC virtual meeting minutes.
- 3) Approved the 2025 PRRIP Website & Database Contract Amendment.
- 4) Approved the 2025 PRRIP Elwood Outlet Feasibility Contract Amendment.
- 5) Approved the 2025 PRRIP Trapping Projects Contract Amendment.