**PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (PRRIP -or- Program)**

**Governance Committee (GC) Virtual Special Session**

*Monday, December 18, 2023*

Drue DeBerry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – 2024 GC Chair

Jason Farnsworth, PRRIP Executive Director (ED) – Moderator

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| **PRRIP Governance Committee (GC) Special Session Attendees**  **Monday, December 18, 2023** | | |
| **Name** | **Affiliation** | **Member or Alternate** |
| **Department of the Interior** | | |
| Brock Merrill | Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) | Member |
| Drue DeBerry | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) | Member |
| Mark Porath | USFWS | Alternate |
| Matt Rabbe | USFWS | Alternate |
| **State of Wyoming** | | |
| Brandon Gebhart | Wyoming State Engineer | Member |
| Jason Mead | Wyoming Water Development Office | Alternate |
| Barry Lawrence | Wyoming Water Development Office | Alternate |
| **State of Colorado** | |  |
| Emily Zmak | CWCB | Alternate |
| Kara Scheel | CWCB | Alternate |
| **State of Nebraska** | | |
| Jesse Bradley | Department of Natural Resources (DNR) | Alternate |
| Jennifer Schellpeper | DNR | Alternate |
| **Upper Platte Water Users** | | |
| Dennis Strauch | Pathfinder Irrigation District | Member |
| Bob Mehling | Goshen Irrigation District | Alternate |
| **Colorado Water Users** | | |
| Kyle Whitaker | Northern Water | Member |
| **Downstream Water Users** | | |
| Devin Brundage | Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District (CNPPID) | Member |
| Kent Miller | Twin Platte Natural Resources District (TPNRD) | Member |
| John Shadle | Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) | Member |
| Lyndon Vogt | Central Platte Natural Resources District (CPNRD) | Member |
| **Environmental Entities** | | |
| Rich Walters | The Nature Conservancy (TNC) | Member |
| Brice Krohn | The Crane Trust | Member |
| Melissa Mosier | Audubon Nebraska (virtual) | Member |
| **Executive Director’s Office (EDO)** | | |
| Jason Farnsworth, BCES | Executive Director | |
| Chadwin Smith, Ph.D. | Science Policy Coordinator | |
| Tim Tunnell, M.S. | Land Plan Coordinator (virtual) | |
| Malinda Henry, Ph.D. | Science Plan Coordinator | |
| Justin Brei, P.E. | Water Resources & Engineering Coordinator | |
| Ed Weschler, E.I.T. | Junior Civil Engineer | |
| Libby Casavant, P.E. | Hydraulic Engineer (virtual) | |
| **Other Participants** | | |
| Barry Lawrence | Wyoming Water Development Office | |
| Caitlin Kingsley | Nebraska DNR | |
| Jim Jenniges | NPPD | |
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| **#1** | **WELCOME & ADMINISTRATIVE** | **Agenda Item Objective:** Greetings, roll call, review agenda. |

**Introduction** – Chair DeBerry called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM Central Time. Attendance was recorded via the Teams participant list.

**Agenda** – No modifications offered.

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| **#2** | **EXECUTIVE SESSION** | **Agenda Item Objective:** GC member discussion of sensitive land, water, and policy items. |

**GC MOTION:** *Miller moved and Strauch approved to enter Executive Session. Motion approved, GC entered Executive Session at 12:02 PM Central Time.* Motion approved.

**GC MOTION:** *Scheel moved and Whitaker seconded to exit Executive Session. Motion approved, GC exited Executive Session at 12:53 PM Central Time.* Motion approved.

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| **#3** | **EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTIONS** | **Agenda Item Objective:** GC consideration of motions discussed during Executive Session. |

**GC MOTION:** *Whitaker moved and DeBerry seconded to authorize the EDO to develop a purchase contract for and acquire Tract 2024001 as non-complex property that would count toward the First Increment Land Milestone but not toward the Extension plus-up, with a closing date on or after April 1, 2024.* Motion approved.

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| **#4** | **GC MEETING REVIEW & WRAP-UP** | **Agenda Item Objective:** Discuss action items, meeting feedback, and upcoming meeting schedule. |

**2024 GC Meeting Schedule:**

1. **2024 PRRIP Science Plan Reporting Session:** February 20-22, 2024 @ Omaha, NE
2. **March 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** March 11-12, 2024 @ Kearney, NE
3. **June 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** June 11-12, 2024 @ Cheyenne, WY
4. **2024 Summer ISAC Meeting:** July 16-18, 2024 @ Kearney, NE
5. **September 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** September 10-11, 2024 @ Kearney, NE
6. **GC Virtual Special Session on FY2025 Budget & Work Plan:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024**;** 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Central Time *via Teams*
7. **December 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** December 3-4, 2024 *@ Loveland, CO*

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| **GC MEETING END** | 12:45 PM Central Time |

**Summary of Action Items/Decisions from December 2023 GC Special Session:**

1. Directed the EDO to develop a purchase contract for and acquire Tract 2024001 as non-complex property that would count toward the First Increment Land Milestone but not toward the Extension Plus-Up, with a closing date on or after April 1, 2024.