

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

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

PRRIP Finance Committee Meeting Attendees		
Name	Affiliation	Member or Alternate
Department of the Interior		
Brock Merrill	Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) – 2023 FC Chair	Member
Mark Porath	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Member
State of Wyoming		
Brandon Gebhart	Wyoming State Engineer	Member
David Ray	Wyoming Water Development Office (WWDO)	Alternate
State of Colorado		
Amy Ostdiek	Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)	Member
Kara Scheel	CWCB	Alternate
State of Nebraska		
Jesse Bradley	Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	Alternate
Upper Platte Water Users		
n/a		
Colorado Water Users		
Kyle Whitaker	Northern Water	Member
Downstream Water Users		
Devin Brundage	Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District (CNPPID)	Member
Environmental Entities		
Bill Taddicken	Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary	Member
Executive Director's Office (EDO)		
Jason Farnsworth	Executive Director	
Chadwin Smith	Science Policy Coordinator	
Seth Turner	Water Plan Coordinator	
Libby Casavant	Water Resources Engineer	
Other Participants		
n/a		



WELCOME & ADMINISTRATIVE

Introductions – Farnsworth called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM Central Time. The Teams participant list will be used to record meeting attendees.

Agenda – Merrill said he would tag on a discussion about PRRIP indexing at the end of the meeting.

Minutes:

FC MOTION: *Gebhart moved and Brundage seconded to approve the February 21, 2023 FC Virtual Meeting minutes. Minutes approved.*

2023 FC Procurement Table – Smith summarized the table, the action item for today, and upcoming items for FC review.

North Platte Chokepoint Engineering Services – Turner summarized the status of the selection and contracting process for the RFP. The selected contractor is Anderson Consulting Engineers, Inc.

PRRIP PROCUREMENT POLICY

Farnsworth summarized proposed changes to the PRRIP Procurement Policy related to the “Buy America” preference. Merrill discussed possible implications for the PRRIP in the future. The Procurement Policy changes will take effect as of July 1, 2023.

DYER LODGE REMOVAL

Farnsworth summarized the purpose and need for the RFB. Gebhart asked if this is the structure that property heirs may have been interested in. Merrill said that is the big farmhouse at Myer Farms on the eastern end of Associated Habitat Reach (AHR).

FC MOTION: *Gebhart moved and Scheel seconded to approve the Dyer Lodge Removal RFB. RFB approved.*

ISAC MEMBERS

Smith summarized the five (5) ISAC member contract amendments for their 2023-2024 service on the ISAC.

FC MOTION: *Gebhart moved and Taddicken seconded to approve the five (5) ISAC member contract amendments. Contract amendments approved.*

EXPANDED RECAPTURE RECONNAISSANCE STUDY

Turner summarized the purpose and need for the RFP. Taddicken asked about the acre-feet (AF) from the Cottonwood Ranch recharge project versus the total amount of recharge water available to be released to the river by the PRRIP. Farnsworth and Turner agreed to add clarifying language on these details in the RFP.

FC MOTION: *Brundage moved and Bradley seconded to approve the Expanded Recapture Reconnaissance RFP as amended by the FC. RFP approved, pending GC review of the scope and appointment of a Proposal Selection Panel in June 2023.*

**LOWER PLATTE RIVER MODELING**

Casavant summarized the purpose and need for the RFP.

FC MOTION: *Porath moved and Gebhart seconded to approve the Lower Platte River Modeling RFP. RFP approved, pending GC review of the scope and appointment of a Proposal Selection Panel in June 2023.*

PRIP INDEXING

Merrill discussed the status of recent indexing for the PRIP. In reviewing the 2022 indexing, the actual number was about 4 points higher which will result in having to correct about three years of indexing based on the new value. That will result in a slightly lower cost ceiling than originally anticipated but inflation has already bumped up the overall appropriation ceiling for the PRIP. Merrill will be finishing up calculations this week and get that information to Colorado and Wyoming to review and then to the EDO for distribution in the June 2023 GC meeting packet.

FC MEETING REVIEW & WRAP-UP

Action Items & Meeting Feedback – None.

Upcoming 2023 FC meetings (all meetings virtual in Teams):

- Tuesday, August 8, 2023; 10:00-11:00 AM Central Time
- Thursday, November 2, 2023; 10:00-11:30 AM Central Time

FC MEETING END

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 AM Central Time.

Summary of Action Items/Decisions from May 30, 2023 FC Virtual Meeting

- 1) Approved the February 21, 2023 FC virtual meeting minutes.
- 2) Approved the Dyer Lodge Removal RFP.
- 3) Approved five (5) ISAC member contract amendments.
- 4) Approved the Expanded Recapture Reconnaissance Study RFP as amended.
- 5) Approved the Lower Platte River Modeling RFP.