



**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

PRRIP Governance Committee (GC) Special Session Attendees Monday, December 18, 2023		
Name	Affiliation	Member or Alternate
<b>Department of the Interior</b>		
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
<b>State of Wyoming</b>		
Brandon Gebhart	Wyoming State Engineer	Member
Jason Mead	Wyoming Water Development Office	Alternate
Barry Lawrence	Wyoming Water Development Office	Alternate
<b>State of Colorado</b>		
Emily Zmak	CWCB	Alternate
Kara Scheel	CWCB	Alternate
<b>State of Nebraska</b>		
Jesse Bradley	Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	Alternate
Jennifer Schellpeper	DNR	Alternate
<b>Upper Platte Water Users</b>		
Dennis Strauch	Pathfinder Irrigation District	Member
Bob Mehling	Goshen Irrigation District	Alternate
<b>Colorado Water Users</b>		
Kyle Whitaker	Northern Water	Member
<b>Downstream Water Users</b>		
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
<b>Environmental Entities</b>		
Rich Walters	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Member
Brice Krohn	The Crane Trust	Member
Melissa Mosier	Audubon Nebraska (virtual)	Member
<b>Executive Director's Office (EDO)</b>		
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)
<b>Other Participants</b>	
Barry Lawrence	Wyoming Water Development Office
Caitlin Kingsley	Nebraska DNR
Jim Jenniges	NPPD

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<b>#1</b>	<b>WELCOME &amp; ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>Agenda Item Objective:</b> Greetings, roll call, review agenda.
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8 **Introduction** – Chair DeBerry called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM Central Time. Attendance was  
9 recorded via the Teams participant list.

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11 **Agenda** – No modifications offered.

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<b>#2</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE SESSION</b>	<b>Agenda Item Objective:</b> GC member discussion of sensitive land, water, and policy items.
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13 **GC MOTION:** Miller moved and Strauch approved to enter Executive Session. Motion approved, GC  
14 entered Executive Session at 12:02 PM Central Time. **Motion approved.**

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

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<b>#3</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTIONS</b>	<b>Agenda Item Objective:</b> GC consideration of motions discussed during Executive Session.
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19 **GC MOTION:** Whitaker moved and DeBerry seconded to authorize the EDO to develop a purchase  
20 contract for and acquire Tract 2024001 as non-complex property that would count toward the First  
21 Increment Land Milestone but not toward the Extension plus-up, with a closing date on or after April 1,  
22 2024. **Motion approved.**

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<b>#4</b>	<b>GC MEETING REVIEW &amp; WRAP-UP</b>	<b>Agenda Item Objective:</b> Discuss action items, meeting feedback, and upcoming meeting schedule.
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24 **2024 GC Meeting Schedule:**

- 25 1) **2024 PRRIP Science Plan Reporting Session:** February 20-22, 2024 @ Omaha, NE
- 26 2) **March 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** March 11-12, 2024 @ Kearney, NE
- 27 3) **June 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** June 11-12, 2024 @ Cheyenne, WY
- 28 4) **2024 Summer ISAC Meeting:** July 16-18, 2024 @ Kearney, NE
- 29 5) **September 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** September 10-11, 2024 @ Kearney, NE
- 30 6) **GC Virtual Special Session on FY2025 Budget & Work Plan:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024; 10:00  
31 AM-12:00 PM Central Time via Teams
- 32 7) **December 2024 GC Quarterly Meeting:** December 3-4, 2024 @ Loveland, CO

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<b>GC MEETING END</b>	<b>12:45 PM Central Time</b>
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35 **Summary of Action Items/Decisions from December 2023 GC Special Session:**

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