

Governance Committee Minutes
Platte River Recovery Implementation Program
Country Inn and Suites, DIA
May 2, 2007

Agenda Modifications - None

Minutes – Suggested edits and clarification were proposed. Nebraska moved to accept the modified minutes. Minutes were approved as amended.

Updates

- Colorado Depletions Plan – Ted Kowalski noted that similar to Wyoming, recovery agreements would not be required to be signed under the Colorado depletions plan. Colorado is also going to have this change to the Templates and a discussion of the schematic. A redline version of the Colorado Depletions Plan, with Templates, will be distributed for review and approval at the June meeting.
- Program Legislation – Ted Kowalski reported that there has been progress since last meeting. There have been hearings held by subcommittees in both the House and Senate. Ann Bleed, Dan Luecke, Mike Purcell, Jason Peltier, Alan Berryman, and Ted Kowalski testified in the House hearings. The hearings went very smoothly on the House side with broad based support.

The hearing was more rushed on the Senate side. Mike Purcell testified for the Governance Committee as well as an individual from the upper North Platte region. There may be an amendment proposed at some point to the Pathfinder Reservoir portion of the bill. The next step is a formal mark-up on the bill in the subcommittees, which would include any amendments. The bill will then go to the full committee before getting voted on to the floor. A senator will need to formally provide an amendment during the mark-up period. Many members of the GC expressed concern with the federal government getting involved in state water right issues. George Williams expressed concern that the water users in the upper North Platte region are not adequately protected and will be harmed under the Program without the amendment.

- North Platte Channel Restoration and Enhancement Project – Clayton Derby reported that the contractor (SEH) met with personnel from the NGPC and FWS to review the proposed modifications to the project. SEH is currently waiting on cross section information to confirm that the proposed modification will convey the same amount of water as the project originally developed by JF Sato. Mark Butler will check with FWS on status of cross-sections
- Long-term Program FME – Ted Kowalski reported that Colorado will not require a new contract with the NCF for a five year extension, with two stipulations. One is a restatement of the contract with all amendments identified (original language and new language) and second would be to have all parties sign each parties modifications/or amendment. The Program should start immediately with this process. The Finance Committee was directed to begin reviewing the contract/fee structure with the NCF and report back at the June Governance Committee meeting.

Executive Director Selection Committee Report and Recommendation - The Selection Committee recommended Dr. Jerry Kenny for the Executive Director and recommended that Dale Strickland, working with the Selection Committee, commence negotiations. The Governance Committee approved the recommendation.

LIHE – Deb Freeman reported that Governance Committee input and additional comments from the LIHE subgroup have been incorporated into the draft contract that will be used for negotiating with the NCF. Deb stated that the subgroup believes that the contract is complete enough to start negotiations but that there may be further modifications as a result of the negotiations. Mike Purcell moved that the contract be approved as the foundation to begin negotiations. Governance Committee approved the motion. A copy of the contract will be sent to each of the signatories for internal legal review. A group of Dale Strickland, Margot Zallen, and David Smith were asked to begin the negotiations with the NCF.

2007 Work Plan - Dale Strickland provided the report. A revised work plan was distributed before the meeting with the summary showing all 2007 Program budget items, as requested at the April Governance Committee meeting. The revised budget of \$2,272,400 was approved as the new budget ceiling.

Budget Related Items

- Task H-4: Unsteady flow model documentation and calibration – At the Governance Committee request, a more detailed proposal was prepared by the BOR and circulated before the meeting. Dale recommended approval of the \$23,471 for the BOR to proceed with the work, with further clarification on the “peer review” identified in the proposal. Should likely be renamed “internal review” to avoid confusion with the Program’s peer review process. GC approved the requested budget request. Dale will get modified proposal from BOR to get clarifications on deliverables.
- Task WP-3: 2008 pulse flow modeling and monitoring
 - Further EA Modeling – Does not require a Governance Committee decision or funding, this is done internally within the FWS.
 - Develop RFP for field monitoring – RFP for field work will be brought back for approval before announcing for proposals. Governance Committee approved development of RFP
- Task WMV-1: Review existing vegetation mapping effort and evaluate whether it provides utility to the program to document existing location/extent of wet meadows (need to update 1998 map). Dale noted that this is an existing proposal that was discussed at the last meeting. The TAC was asked to review and provide comments. Dale recommended that the Governance Committee ask for additional details, as recommended by TAC comments. Felipe agreed to update the proposal for a decision on funding at the June meeting.
- PS-2: Lower Platte River Stage Change Study (Year 1 of 3) – Governance Committee agreed with proceeding in developing an RFP.
- Database Management System – Dale reported that he is bringing the current protocol up-to-date and identifying pros/cons of various options for implementing management system.

The availability of future RFPs will be posted on the Program’s web site, distributed to the standing list of contractors, and published in regional newspapers.

Public Comment Period

Ann Bleed noted that Kirk Nelson will be Nebraska's Governance Committee alternate and names for subcommittees will be forthcoming.

PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: May 2, 2007

LOCATION: Country Inn & Suites, Denver

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Row Bishop	DW Users
BRIAN BARELS	DW Users
Don Kraus	DW User
Kent O. Miller	DW Users
Dennis Strauch	Upper N. Platte Water Users
Mom Dematt	" " " "
Geore P. Williams	" " " "
Date Strickland	ED
Mike Purcell	WT
Chris Bleed	NDNR
Felipe Chavez-Kamirez	Whooping Crane Trust
Deborah Freeman	Colorado SP water users
Don Ament	Colorado Rep.
ALAN BERRYMAN	CO WATER USERS REP
Ted Kowalski	CWCB
MIKE RYAN	U.S BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
JOHN LAWSON	U S BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mark Butler	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Clayton Derby	EDO
DAN DUECKE	NWF
KEVIN URIE	Colo. Water Users Rep.
Mark Czaplowski	Central Platte NRD
Harry LaBonde	Wyoming

PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: *May 2, 2007*

LOCATION: *Country Inn & Suites, Denver*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>
<i>Larry Scholz</i>	<i>Reclamation</i>
<i>Becky Fulkerson</i>	<i>Reclamation</i>
<i>Cathryn Tapet Sperling</i>	
<i>Blaine Dwyer</i>	<i>Boyle Engineering</i>