



1                   **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**  
2                   **Land Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
3                   **Holiday Inn Express – Kearney, NE**  
4                   **March 11, 2009**

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7                   **Attendees**

- 8                   Scott Woodman, Chair  
9                   Mark Czaplewski, Vice Chair  
10                  Bruce Sackett  
11                  Chad Smith  
12                  Justin Brei  
13                  Harry LaBonde  
14                  Greg Wingfield  
15                  John Shadle  
16                  John Thorburn  
17                  Kent Aden  
18                  Ted LaGrange  
19                  Larry Reynolds  
20                  Tim Tunnell  
21                  Jim Jenniges  
22                  Brock Merrill  
23                  Jason Farnsworth  
24                  Ted Kowalski  
25                  Mark Peyton  
26                  David Raffety  
27                  Kirk Schroeder  
28                  John Nestler, ISAC  
29                  Robb Jacobson, ISAC

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32                  **Welcome and Administrative**

33                  Scott Woodman called the meeting to order at 9:00 am Central Time and the group proceeded  
34                  with introductions. Woodman asked for agenda modifications and none were provided.

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36                  **Harry LaBonde made a motion to approve the January 15, 2009 minutes without revision.**  
37                  **The motion was seconded by Mark Czaplewski and approved.**

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39                  **GC Meeting Update**

40                  Mark Czaplewski gave a brief update on the February GC meeting held in Kearney, NE.  
41                  Czaplewski reported that the GC approved the purchase of an airboat and an Argo ATV to aid  
42                  Program field activities. Chad Smith gave the GC a presentation on adaptive management  
43                  activities.



45 Czaplewski reported that the GC accepted the LAC recommendations to proceed with appraisals  
46 and negotiations for Tracts 0845, 0849, and 0850. The GC also approved Tracts 0803, 0842, and  
47 0847 to enter the contract phase.

48

49 **Appoint Committee to Outline Land Exchange Program and Future Land Plans**

50 Bruce Sackett informed the LAC of a GC request to outline a process and guidelines for buying  
51 Program lands intended for trade. Sackett requests a subcommittee of the LAC to meet and  
52 discuss this process before the next LAC meeting. This committee would be charged with  
53 becoming educated in the land trading process and specifically 1031 exchange processes, and to  
54 create strict guidelines for the acquisition of trade lands for the Program. Once the process and  
55 guidelines are established they will be presented first to the LAC for approval, then forwarded to  
56 the GC.

57

58 Sackett recommended the following people serve on the committee: Greg Wingfield, John  
59 Shadle, Scott Woodman, Larry Reynolds, John Heaston, and Bruce Sackett.

60

61 **Ted Kowalski made the motion to appoint the committee with the recommended**  
62 **membership. The motion was seconded by Mark Czaplewski and approved.**

63

64 **The committee will provide a progress report to the LAC at the May meeting.**

65

66 **Update on Land Management**

67 Tim Tunnell introduced the Wyoming Property and Cottonwood Ranch Management Plans.  
68 Tunnell updated the LAC on work already done or planned for these properties in 2009. Chad  
69 Smith talked briefly about the properties' role in the Adaptive Management Plan and plans for  
70 channel widening and construction of nesting islands on the properties. Mark Czaplewski said  
71 that management plans should incorporate new tracts and be constructed at a complex level as  
72 opposed to an individual tract level. Jason Farnsworth said that the Land Plan requires each tract  
73 to have a management plan, but agreed that future acquisitions in a complex should be  
74 considered when the plans are created. John Thorburn suggested that five years could be too  
75 long a timeframe for these plans and that the LAC should be informed of activities more  
76 frequently. Bruce Sackett explained that these management plans present broader long-term  
77 objectives, and that the LAC will see annual work plans with more detail for each tract on a  
78 yearly basis. Thorburn said that the LAC may be the face of the Good Neighbor Policy, but it is  
79 a Program-wide responsibility so the LAC should stay informed of other committee actions.  
80 Chairman Woodman agreed and expressed interest especially in the adaptive management  
81 activities. Jenniges offered to show Cottonwood Ranch activities on-site to interested members.  
82 Smith and Farnsworth agreed to give short TAC/AMWG and WAC updates later in the meeting  
83 and at future meetings.

84

85 Chairman Woodman brought the group back to the Wyoming Property and Cottonwood Ranch  
86 Management Plans. **Harry LaBonde moved approval of the Wyoming Property**  
87 **Management Plan. Motion seconded by John Shadle and approved.**

88



89 Ted LaGrange expressed concerns about design of the bridge on the Cottonwood Ranch  
90 Property. Tunnell said the details have not been decided and that engineering design is  
91 scheduled for 2009. LaGrange said to ensure designs for any infrastructure consider possible  
92 future plans so as not to become a hindrance. John Shadle suggested a structural change to the  
93 document - moving the responsibilities to section II with no changes to the content. **John  
94 Shadle moved approval of the Cottonwood Ranch Management Plan with the  
95 Responsibilities moved to section II. Motion seconded by Mark Czaplewski and approved.**

96  
97 **Other Committee Coordination Information**

98 Chad Smith talked about the ties between adaptive management and land acquisition. Smith  
99 gave an overview of planned adaptive management implementation sites.

100  
101 Smith invited any interested LAC members to an Adaptive Management Working Group  
102 workshop on mechanical actions on July 7-8, 2009 at the Executive Director's Office in Kearney,  
103 NE. The workshop will be focused on creating objectives and experimental design for  
104 mechanical actions on sand pits, off-channel sand and water habitat, and wet meadows. Contact  
105 Smith for more information.

106  
107 Jason Farnsworth gave an update on Water Advisory Committee activities. Farnsworth reported  
108 the WAC is still working on a process for acquisition of water rights. Farnsworth also reported  
109 the WAC is investigating the possibility of pumping groundwater to the river or to storage in  
110 order to augment river flows. The WAC will also begin preliminary feasibility investigations on  
111 two potential reregulation reservoir sites.

112  
113 **Public Comment/Closing Business**

114 Chairman Woodman asked for public comments. None were offered.

115  
116 **The next meeting of the LAC will be held in Kearney, Nebraska at the Executive Director's  
117 Office on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. CST.**

118  
119 **Executive Session**

120 Brock Merrill moved to go into executive session to review details of land offerings. The motion  
121 was seconded by Harry LaBonde. The motion carried and the committee entered executive  
122 session at 10:27 a.m.

123  
124 Ted Kowalski moved to come out of executive session. Harry LaBonde seconded and the  
125 motion carried. The committee came out of executive session at 11:40 a.m.

126  
127 The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Woodman at 11:43 a.m.