



1 **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**
2 **Land Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**
3 **Executive Director's Office – Kearney, NE**
4 **June 15, 2010**

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7 **Attendees**

- 8 Mark Czaplewski, Vice Chair, Central Platte Natural Resources District
9 Jerry Kenny - Executive Director
10 Bruce Sackett - ED Office
11 Justin Brei - ED Office
12 Jason Farnsworth - ED Office
13 Tim Tunnell - ED Office
14 Matt Rabbe - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
15 Matt Steffl - Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
16 Ted LaGrange - Nebraska Game & Parks Commission (by phone)
17 Jennifer Schellpeper - State of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
18 Harry LaBonde - State of Wyoming
19 Ted Kowalski - State of Colorado (by phone)
20 Jim Jenniges - Nebraska Public Power District
21 John Shadle - Nebraska Public Power District (by phone)
22 Mark Peyton – Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District
23 John Thorburn - Tri-Basin Natural Resources District
24 Larry Reynolds - Tri-Basin Natural Resources District, landowner
25 Brock Merrill - U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (by phone)
26 Jonas Davis - Ducks Unlimited (by phone)
27 Bill Taddicken – Audubon Rowe Sanctuary
28 Monte McDonald – Riverside Technologies, Inc (by phone) (PRRIP database/web contractor)

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30 **Welcome and Administrative**

31 Vice-Chairman Czaplewski called the meeting to order at 9:05 am Central Time and the group
32 proceeded with introductions.

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34 Czaplewski asked for agenda modifications. None were offered.

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36 **LaBonde made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2010 LAC meeting. The**
37 **motion was seconded by Peyton and passed unanimously.**

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39 **GC Meeting Update**

40 Czaplewski gave an update on GC activities since the LAC last met. The GC met on June 8 & 9,
41 2010 in Cheyenne, WY.



43 Land related GC action items for their recent meeting included the approval of: tract 0818 lease,
44 trade proposals for 2009003 and 2009008, removal of tracts 0911 and 0917 from consideration,
45 and removal of tract 0918 from consideration at this time.

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47 In addition, the GC approved a peer review of the stage change study and the WAC subgroup
48 recommendation for scoring the CNPPID reregulating reservoir project. The GC was also
49 introduced to the new PRRIP website and database.

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51 The next GC meeting is scheduled for September 14 & 15, 2010 in Kearney, NE. The ISAC
52 will be meeting July 13-14, 2010 in Kearney, NE.

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54 **Other Committee Coordination Information**

55 Farnsworth gave a brief update on recent TAC activities. A subgroup is meeting next week to
56 work on prioritization of the PRRIP tern & plover “priority hypotheses,” as a result of an ISAC
57 recommendation. Summer research activities currently under way include: tern & plover
58 monitoring, tern & plover foraging habits study, and geomorphology & vegetation monitoring.
59 Contracts have been awarded and work will soon begin on the vegetation research and wet
60 meadow literature review.

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62 Kenny gave an update on recent WAC activities. The WAC last met May 11. Items discussed
63 included the scoring for the reregulating reservoir (which was approved last week by the GC),
64 progress on the feasibility study for the Elm Creek reservoir, and groundwater recharge
65 investigations.

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67 Czaplewski asked whether tract 0919 had been discussed by the WAC. Kenny said it will first
68 be considered by the consultant working on sediment augmentation, and that sediment
69 augmentation feasibility work is ongoing.

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71 Reynolds and Thorburn expressed concern over the potential for use of eminent domain in land
72 acquisition for the J-2 return reservoir. Kenny said that since CNPPID is the lead agency for the
73 project, its use has not expressly been ruled out. However, the Program is exhausting all other
74 options to work with landowners, including seeking farmland to provide in trade.

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76 **Discussion of New Website and LAC Use Overview**

77 Brei walked the LAC through the new PRRIP website, located at the same address as the
78 previous site: <http://www.platteriverprogram.org>. Brei discussed the use of the site, including
79 locating LAC documents and calendaring. Logins for the site will be distributed to LAC
80 members in the next couple weeks, and in the future meeting documents will be located on the
81 site, as opposed to distributed by email.

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83 **Update on Land Management**

84 Tunnell distributed a document to the LAC that provided a tract-by-tract update of ongoing,
85 planned, and completed management activities. Tunnell will provide updates to this document at
86 subsequent meetings.



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Outdoor Recreation Policy Discussion

Sackett distributed an early rough draft of a recreation policy to the LAC. This draft represents a starting point for the LAC to have something to discuss and comment on. The document will be posted to the website, and LAC members will be asked to provide comment.

Thorburn brought up the possibility of requiring a training session of some kind for any access to PRRIP lands. This training would include things such as target species and species habitat identification. LaBonde added that it could occur online on the new website, and could provide education value to the general public as well.

Public Comment/Closing Business

Vice-Chairman Czaplewski asked for public comments, none were offered.

The next meeting of the LAC will be held in Kearney, Nebraska at the Executive Director’s Office on Tuesday August 17, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. central time.

Executive Session

Taddicken moved to go into executive session with LAC members, alternates, and technical staff to review details of land offerings. The motion was seconded by LaBonde. The motion carried and the committee entered executive session at 10:50 a.m.

Thorburn moved to come out of executive session. Taddicken seconded and the motion carried. The committee came out of executive session at 11:40 a.m.

Discussion of Tabled LAC Recommendations

Sackett brought forth tract 0905 which had been tabled at a previous LAC meeting. This tract was presented to remind the LAC of its status, and to give the LAC the opportunity to act on it should they desire.

Acquisition opportunities in the area of tract 0905 have so far been scarce. Right now there is no opportunity to link this property to a larger Program complex. In addition, the landowner would require negotiations and likely seek exceptions with related to hunting during times of target species use. Tract 0905 is being pursued as a lease.

LaBonde made a motion to remove tract 0905 from further consideration at this time. Taddicken seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice-Chairman Czaplewski at 11:45 a.m.