



1 **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**
2 **Governance Committee Special Session Conference Call Minutes**
3 November 16, 2012
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5 **Meeting Attendees**

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7 **Governance Committee (GC) Table**

8 **State of Wyoming**

9 Harry LaBonde – Member
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11 **State of Colorado**

12 Don Ament – Member

13 Suzanne Sellers – Alternate
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15 **State of Nebraska**

16 Jim Schneider – Member
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18 **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)**

19 Michael Thabault – Member

20 Mike George
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22 **Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)**

23 Gary Campbell – Member
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25 **Environmental Entities**

26 John Heaston – Member

27 Bill Taddicken – Member

28 Duane Hovorka – Alternate
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30 **Upper Platte Water Users**

31 Dennis Strauch – Member
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33 **Colorado Water Users**

34 Alan Berryman – Member

35 Kevin Urie
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37 **Downstream Water Users**

38 Brian Barels – Member

39 Don Kraus – Member

40 Kent Miller – Member

41 Mark Czaplewski – Proxy for Ron Bishop, Member
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Executive Director’s Office (EDO) Staff

Jerry Kenny, Executive Director (ED)

Bridget Barron

Beorn Courtney

Jason Farnsworth

Bruce Sackett

Chad Smith

**Welcome & Administrative**

Thabault called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Central time and the group proceeded with a roll call. No agenda modifications offered.

Draft PRRIP FY2013 Budget

Kenny provided an overview of the current drafts of the FY2013 budget and associated work plan, including Exhibits A and B of the Executive Director contract for 2013. Czaplewski said 2013 will be a precedent year in land because we will be selling or auctioning off surplus land, so how do we handle income in this budget? Kenny said that income is not reflected in the budget. From a cash flow perspective, that money will go through the NCF and then back to the participants. One option the income provides is when looking for funds for J-2, that money might be a windfall. Campbell asked about WP-4(c). Kenny said that is Net Controllable Conserved Water and the Program will either take or reject that water in 2013. Kraus said offering that water is part of CNPPID's FERC license requirements. Kenny said he picked the \$250 price but this water is institutionally easy because up to 6,000 acre-feet of water is available every year and would be taken in Lake McConaughy. All of that might justify paying a premium. Barels asked if the \$250 per acre-foot is for just next year or for the remaining years of the First Increment. Kenny said that is a lease price that would hold for the rest of the First Increment.

LaBonde asked about the Program's share of the initial payment for the J-2 project. Kenny said the Program initial payment we be about \$13 million. The rest would come from CNPPID and the State of Nebraska. Taddicken asked about WC-6 and if it is the Program's purview to do a study that extends beyond the Associated Habitats. Kenny said there was a lot of discussion about this at the TAC and the thought was the information that would be obtained beyond the Platte River would ultimately be valuable for assessing our work on the Platte. Urie asked about the billing rates included in Exhibit A of the ED contract for 2013. It looks like what is in the budget spreadsheet is based on a lower billing rate, but the GC is being asked to approve higher billing rates. Kenny said the billing rates listed at the top of Exhibit A are average rates per category. The rates at the bottom are the maximum billing rate. So, the budget estimate is based on those average rates listed at the top and the number in the budget spreadsheet is accurate in terms of being based on those average rates. Barels thanked Kenny and the staff for all the work put into the spreadsheet and work plan, as well as the associated explanations. The EDO has learned from previous questions and the lack of questions today reflects the good job done by the EDO. Kenny thanked Barels for the kind words.

PRRIP Land Item

Sackett discussed Tract 1210 and the terms of potential acquisition. Sackett said the LAC recommendation is to acquire the tract as complex habitat. Strauch asked about access. Sackett said there is deeded access to the south.

LaBonde moved to approve allowing the ED Office to enter into a contract and complete acquisition of Tract 1210 as complex habitat. Motion approved.

Closing Business

Upcoming GC meetings:

- December 4-5, 2012 @ Denver, CO at the Warwick Hotel

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Central time.



95 **Summary of Action Items/Decisions from November 2012 GC meeting**

- 96 1) Approved allowing the ED Office to enter into a contract and complete acquisition of Tract 1210 as
97 complex habitat.