



**PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (PRRIP or PROGRAM)
Governance Committee (GC) Special Session Minutes**

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 – 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Note: All times Mountain.

Meeting Location:

Aloft Denver International Airport
16470 East 40th Circle
Aurora, CO 80011

Governance Committee (GC)

State of Wyoming

Harry LaBonde – Member
Bryan Clerkin – Alternate

State of Colorado

Don Ament – Member
Suzanne Sellers – Alternate

State of Nebraska

Jeff Fassett – Member (phone)

Upper Platte Water Users

Dennis Strauch – Member
Bob Mehling – Member

Downstream Water Users

Brian Barels – Member (phone)
Kent Miller – Member
Mark Czaplewski – Member (phone)
Tracy Zayac – Alternate

Executive Director’s Office (EDO)

Jerry Kenny, ED
Bridget Barron
Jason Farnsworth
Bruce Sackett
Chad Smith
Seth Turner
Kevin Werbylo

Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)

Chris Beardsley – Member (2017 GC Chair)
Brock Merrill – Alternate

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)

Tom Econopouly – Alternate

Environmental Entities

Bill Taddicken – Member

Colorado Water Users

Alan Berryman – Member
Deb Freeman – Alternate

**Welcome & Administrative**

Beardsley called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM Mountain Time. The group proceeded with introductions.

GC Decision – *LaBonde moved to approve the September 12-13, 2017 GC Quarterly Meeting minutes; Ament seconded. Minutes approved.*

PRRIP Slurry Wall Project – Follmer Tract

Farnsworth and Werbylo discussed the contract for the slurry wall project. Econopouly asked if the contractor would make presentations to the GC and the WAC. Werbylo said additional interactions with the WAC have been built into the contract. Sellers asked about daily site visits. Werbylo said they will be on site all day when the slurry wall is going in but otherwise will just stop by. Sellers said the contract language should be clarified on that point, Werbylo agreed. LaBonde asked about the score for this project. Werbylo said the preliminary storage capacity is 1200-1500 acre-feet and the score will be 2200-2800 acre-feet.

GC Decision – *LaBonde moved to approve the Slurry Wall Project Contract; Ament seconded. Contract approved.*

Public Comment

Beardsley asked for public comment. None offered.

Executive Session

*Ament moved to enter Executive Session; Miller seconded. **GC entered Executive Session at 9:45 AM Mountain Time.***

*LaBonde moved to end Executive Session; Ament seconded. **GC ended Executive Session at 11:45 AM Mountain Time.***

PRRIP Executive Session Motions**GC Decisions:**

LaBonde moved to approve authorizing the EDO to sell at absolute auction Tracts 1716 (461 acres) and 1717 (181 acres) as surplus habitat lands; Strauch seconded. Motion approved.

LaBonde moved to approve authorizing the EDO to acquire Tract 1702 (784 acres) as complex habitat contingent upon the Service agreeing to count 241 acres toward the First Increment Extension goal of 1,500 acres of new complex habitat; Ament seconded. Econopouly abstained. Motion approved.

PRRIP FY18 Budget & Work Plan

Kenny and EDO staff discussed the draft FY18 budget and work plan. Key discussion items:

- LaBonde asked if the EDO could bring back the cost-share proposal related to channel spraying before the GC can approve the funding for this line item. He would like to see the other partners that are contributing and how that relates to what the Program will be contributing. Czaplowski discussed some of the funding contributions that he is aware of. LaBonde asked if 50% of the phragmites problem is attributable to the Program and whether this is cost-effective. Czaplowski said we have to stay ahead of this for target flow purposes. Ament asked what the timeline is for getting a grant from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Czaplowski said he thinks Riparian Task Force monies are available now. Kenny said at the March 2018 GC meeting there will be a detailed accounting of how the spraying program is funded and what the various cost-shares are among all parties.



- 91 • Econopouly asked why the FY18 number for broad-scale recharge is higher than what was previously
92 estimated. Farnsworth said the total costs are still in line, but some things need to be sequenced a little
93 differently.
94 • Czaplewski said CPNRD will not do its water market this year. Turner said that line item would be
95 zeroed out for FY18.
96

97 **PRRIP Web Site & Database**

98 Farnsworth discussed the RFP for updating the Program web site and database.
99

100 **GC Decision** – *Miller moved to approve the PRRIP Website and Database RFP; LaBonde seconded. RFP*
101 *approved.*
102

103 **Future Meetings & Closing Business**

104
105 *Upcoming GC meetings:*

- 106 • GC Quarterly Meeting – **December 5-6, 2017 @ Denver, CO**
107

108 **Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM Mountain Time.**
109

110 **Summary of Action Items/Decisions from November 14, 2017 GC Special Session**

- 111 1) Approved the September 12-13, 2017 GC Quarterly Meeting minutes.
112 2) Approved the Slurry Wall Project contract.
113 3) Approved authorizing the EDO to sell at absolute auction Tracts 1716 (461 acres) and 1717 (181 acres)
114 as surplus habitat lands.
115 4) Approved authorizing the EDO to acquire Tract 1702 (784 acres) as complex habitat contingent upon
116 the Service agreeing to count 241 acres toward the First Increment Extension goal of 1,500 acres of
117 new complex habitat.
118 5) Approved the PRRIP Website/Database Update RFP.