



## PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

### Finance Committee Conference Call Minutes

June 3, 2014

### Meeting Attendees

#### Finance Committee (FC)

##### **State of Wyoming**

Harry LaBonde – Member

##### **State of Colorado**

Suzanne Sellers – Member

##### **State of Nebraska**

Jim Schneider – Member

##### **Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)**

Gary Campbell – Member

Brock Merrill

##### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)**

Tom Econopouly – Alternate

##### **Environmental Entities**

None

##### **Colorado Water Users**

Kevin Urie – Member

Alan Berryman – Member

##### **Downstream Water Users**

Don Kraus – Member

#### Welcome and Administrative

FC Chair Campbell officially called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Central time. The group proceeded with introductions.

*LaBonde moved to approve the January 28, 2014 FC minutes; Urie seconded. Minutes approved.*

#### Independent Science Review Services

Smith discussed the three-year contract with RESPEC to provide independent science review services related to peer review, ISAC members, and manuscript reviewers.

*Kraus moved to recommend the contract to the Governance Committee for review and approval; Schneider seconded. Contract moved on to the Governance Committee for review and approval.*

**Shoemaker Island FSM Proof of Concept Experiment**

Farnsworth discussed the FSM Proof of Concept contract amendment for additional work at the Shoemaker Island Complex.

*Sellers moved to approve the contract amendment; LaBonde seconded. Contract amendment approved.*

**Vegetation Research Manuscript Preparation**

Farnsworth discussed the task order for Cardno Entrix to develop two manuscripts related to work done for the Program on vegetation scour and lateral erosion. Urie asked if the task order budget includes funding for actually publishing these manuscripts. Farnsworth said the task order will be amended to clarify that budget includes open access publication costs, and that Cardno will prepare the manuscripts for publication and the GC will take it from there. Kraus asked if this is in lieu of peer review. Farnsworth said the large portion of this work has been Program peer reviewed. We had Cardno take that data and do a subsequent analysis of lateral erosion; that secondary analysis has not been through Program peer review. The thought was to combine the lateral erosion analysis on to the original vegetation scour work and rely on the peer review associated with journal publication. Urie asked if having gone through Program peer review makes it easier to get it published. Farnsworth said it can, especially helping to short-circuit comments that might have come in otherwise. The Program peer review process is much more stringent than typical for most journals, even the high end journals in which we hope to get this work published. Urie said from his perspective that the Program thinks long and hard about where to publish and that we seek very high-caliber journals with strong peer review processes. Sellers said at the GC meeting it sounded like some members wanted to have everything peer reviewed first and then consider going to publication, and she is not clear if that issue is resolved within the GC. Sellers wanted to clarify that the FC is just being asked to approve the writing of the manuscripts and that the decision to publish still rests with the GC once the manuscripts are drafted. Farnsworth agreed that is what is being asked of the FC.

*LaBonde moved to approve the task order as amended by FC direction; Econopouly seconded. Amended task order approved.*

**Closing Business**

The next FC meeting is a conference call set for Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 from 12:00-1:00 p.m. Central time.

**FC meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. Central time.**

**Summary of Action Items/Decisions from June 3, 2014 FC meeting**

- 1) Approved the January 28, 2014 FC minutes.
- 2) Approved moving the Independent Science Review Services contract on to the Governance Committee for review and approval.
- 3) Approved the contract amendment for additional Shoemaker Island FSM Proof of Concept work.
- 4) Approved the amended task order for manuscript development related to vegetation scour and lateral erosion.