



# PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

## Finance Committee Conference Call Minutes

March 2, 2012

### Meeting Attendees

#### Finance Committee (FC)

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

Mike Purcell – Member (Chair)

##### **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)**

Mike George – Member

#### **Environmental Entities**

No participants

#### **Colorado Water Users**

Alan Berryman – Member

Kevin Urie – Member

#### **Downstream Water Users**

Don Kraus – Member

Brian Barels

#### Welcome and Administrative

Finance Committee Chair Purcell called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. Central time. No agenda modifications offered. Schneider moved to approve the January 30, 2012 FC minutes; Kraus seconded.

**Minutes approved.**

#### Sediment Augmentation Bid Package

Chad Smith discussed the sed aug big package. Urie asked why the Cottonwood Ranch work is listed as 40,000 cubic yards and the Cook/Dyer work is listed as 50,000 tons. Purcell noted it is because the Cottonwood Ranch work is excavation and pushing of sediment. Chad Smith agreed. Campbell moved to approve the bid package; Urie seconded. **Bid package approved.**

**Fire Services Contract**

Farnsworth discussed the process of selecting a fire services contractor and the contract with Firestorm. Purcell asked if this was the low bidder. Farnsworth said he thinks they were the second low bidder that was only off the low bid by \$500. They were by far the most responsive bidder. Sellers moved to approve the contract; Schneider seconded. **Contract approved.**

**Water Quality Monitoring Contract**

Steve Smith discussed the contract with EA for water quality monitoring and data analysis. Steve Smith noted that the monitoring will be event-based (focused on Program management actions) which is a change from the previous years of baseline monitoring. The approved budget is slightly lower than the contract, so final approval of the contract (if approved by the FC) will require GC approval of a small budget revision from IMRP-2 to WQ-1 (\$13,800). Purcell asked if the FC can move money from budget line items. Kenny said his understanding is that moving money between Program budget line items requires GC approval. Kraus asked if this is needed or not needed for the permits. Chad Smith said he believes this will be required for getting permits related to sediment augmentation, as well as getting basic Program water quality information. The water quality monitoring protocol is intertwined in the sediment augmentation project monitoring protocol. Urie asked if sediment augmentation does not move ahead, will it affect EA's budget. Steve Smith said yes, they would spend less money because they would not have to be in the field monitoring related to sediment augmentation. Urie asked if EA is aware that this is a possibility. Steve Smith said they are. Urie moved to approve the contract pending GC approval of the associated budget revision; Kraus seconded. **Contract approved.**

**Elm Creek FSM Contract Amendment**

Steve Smith discussed the Elm Creek FSM contract amendment. Berryman asked if there are any reports out of the work done so far. Steve Smith said they will be presenting at the AMP Reporting Session at the end of March and are working on an associated report right now. Berryman moved to approve the contract amendment; Campbell seconded. **Contract amendment approved.**

**Habitat Availability Assessment Sole-Source**

Chad Smith discussed the sole-source agreement. Kraus asked about what off-channel habitat means for terns and plovers. Chad Smith said sandpits, and RBJV is calculating available sandpit habitat. Campbell asked why this isn't being pursued as an amendment to the existing RBJV agreement instead of a new sole-source agreement. Chad Smith said part of the reason is the new WC scope that will be part of the work. Kenny said he advised going with a new agreement because of the perception issue. Purcell said we can discuss both of these options at the GC. Kraus moved to move the sole-source agreement discussion on to the GC; Schneider seconded. **Sole-source agreement to be discussed with the GC during the March 2012 meeting.**

**Closing Business**

The next FC meeting is Friday, May 1 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Central time.

**FC meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. Central time.**

**Summary of Action Items/Decisions from March 2, 2012 FC meeting**

1) Approved January 30, 2012 FC minutes.



- 94 2) Approved the sediment augmentation bid package, subject to release after acquisition of proper  
95 permits.  
96 3) Approved the prescribed fire services contract.  
97 4) Approved the water quality monitoring contract, subject to GC approval of the associated budget  
98 revision.  
99 5) Approved the Elm Creek FSM contract amendment  
100 6) Approved a motion to move the sole-source agreement discussion on to the GC during the March  
101 2012 GC meeting.