



PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

Finance Committee Conference Call Minutes

January 28, 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)

Eliza Hines – Member

Environmental Entities

None

Colorado Water Users

Kevin Urie – Member

Downstream Water Users

None

Welcome and Administrative

FC Chair Campbell officially called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Central time. The group proceeded with introductions.

Urie moved to approve the October 24, 2013 FC minutes; LaBonde seconded. Minutes approved.

Sellers nominated Campbell for 2014 FC Chair, LaBonde seconded. Campbell elected 2014 FC Chair.

System Scale Geomorphology & Vegetation Monitoring

Farnsworth discussed the contract amendment for 2014 geomorphology and vegetation monitoring. This amendment includes both 2014 monitoring as well as \$67,000 (existing in IMRP-2) for Tetra Tech to update the 1-D model to assist with analyzing geomorphology and vegetation monitoring data. Campbell asked if the monitoring contract goes through 2016. Farnsworth said he would double-check the contract termination date but the current contractor has been put on notice monitoring in 2015 and beyond will likely be scaled back.

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

Shoemaker Island FSM Proof of Concept Experiment

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

Schneider moved to approve the contract amendment; Urie seconded. **Contract amendment approved.**

Elm Creek Island Rebuild

Farnsworth discussed the bid package to rebuild tern/plover nesting islands at the Elm Creek Complex. Campbell asked if this is the expected outcome of a short-duration high flow. Farnsworth said yes, lower level sandbars are expected to be overtopped, eroded, and re-worked at flows of this magnitude. Smith said this is part of the learning happening on the river and it will generate data that will be delivered to the GC for decision-making in the near future.

LaBonde moved to approve the bid package; Urie seconded. **Bid package approved.**

Program Database

Farnsworth discussed the contract amendment for ongoing maintenance and administration of the Program web site and database.

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

Tern/Plover Monitoring

Smith discussed the one-year monitoring agreement with the USGS for 2014 tern/plover monitoring.

Sellers moved to approve the monitoring agreement; Schneider seconded. **Monitoring agreement approved.**

Independent Science Review (ISR) Services

Smith discussed the RFP for selecting a new contractor. Sellers asked if the peer review schedule for 2014 would go back to the TAC for more discussion. Smith said yes, if any changes in the schedule are made.

LaBonde moved to approve the RFP with the caveat that the 2014 peer review schedule will be submitted to the TAC for additional comment prior to moving that schedule on to the GC for final approval at their March 2014 meeting; Schneider seconded. **RFP approved.**

Independent Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC)

Smith discussed the agreements for the six members of the ISAC to serve in 2014.

Campbell moved to approve the 2014 ISAC agreements; LaBonde seconded. **2014 ISAC agreements approved.**



Water Management Projects Modeling

Kenny discussed the contract to develop a more comprehensive modeling tool to evaluate how water projects interact and whether the project scores are realistic. Campbell asked if this is a sole source contract. Kenny said yes so this will be moved to the GC for final approval either by electronic vote with the ISR RFP or at the March GC meeting. Urie asked if there were economies of scale that are important to consider for using the COHYST as part of this effort. Kenny said yes this modeling tool is integrated into Nebraska's accounting for water and the Program would then be using the same tool as Nebraska and the Nebraska water users are using to evaluate their water projects.

Urie moved to support moving the modeling contract on to the GC for final approval as a sole source contract; Campbell seconded. Modeling contract approved.

NCF Items

Kenny discussed the proposal to revise the fee structure in the original Land Interest Holding Entity (LIHE) Agreement.

Campbell moved to approve the revised fee structure for PRRIF as a Trustee of the Land Interest Holding Trust and the associated 1st Revision to the Trust Agreement; LaBonde seconded. Revised fee structure and 1st Revision approved.

North Platte Chokepoint

Kenny discussed the contract amendment for permitting related to flood proofing activities at the State Channel at the North Platte Choke Point. Urie asked if we will be successful in getting a permit for this work. Kenny said he believes a permit can be secured.

Urie moved to approve the contract amendment; Schneider seconded. Contract amendment approved.

Closing Business

Campbell said he invited Kenny to discuss sediment augmentation last week in Omaha with several federal officials working on the Missouri River and he represented the Program very well. Kenny said it was a good opportunity to get in front of an important audience.

The next FC meeting will be March 4, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to noon Central time.

FC meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. Central time.

Summary of Action Items/Decisions from January 28, 2014 FC meeting

- 1) Approved the October 24, 2013 FC minutes.
- 2) Campbell elected 2014 FC Chair.
- 3) Approved geomorphology/vegetation monitoring and 1-D model update contract amendment
- 4) Approved Shoemaker Island FSM Proof of Concept contract amendment.
- 5) Approved Elm Creek island rebuild bid package.
- 6) Approved Program database contract amendment.
- 7) Approved 2014 tern/plover monitoring agreement.
- 8) Approved moving the Independent Science Review Services RFP on to the GC for approval after seeking additional TAC input on the 2014 peer review schedule.
- 9) Approved the 2014 ISAC member agreements.

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- 142 10) Approved the water project modeling contract.
- 143 11) Approved revision of the fee structure for PRRIF as a Trustee of the Land Interest Holding Trust and
- 144 the associated Agreement 1st Revision.
- 145 12) Approved the contract amendment for State Channel flood proofing and permitting activities.