



PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
Finance Committee Conference Call Minutes
 January 20, 2015

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 – Chair

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)

None

Environmental Entities

Marian Langan – Member

Colorado Water Users

Kevin Urie – Member

Alan Berryman – Member

Downstream Water Users

Don Kraus – Member

Welcome and Administrative

FC Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Central time. The group proceeded with introductions.

Kenny pointed out an edit in the November 4, 2014 FC minutes. Smith made the change in the minutes.

Schneider moved to approve the November 4, 2014 FC minutes; LaBonde seconded. Minutes approved.

LaBonde asked who would be replacing Campbell on PRRIP committees (he is retiring as of March 1, 2015). Campbell said whoever replaces him will take the BOR spot on those committees. LaBonde said he likes the BOR chairing the FC committee but it might be a good idea to let that person “get their feet wet” with the Program before taking the spot.

Schneider nominated LaBonde to serve as 2015 FC Chair; Langan seconded. LaBonde appointed 2015 FC Chair.



Independent Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC)

Smith discussed the 2015 ISAC amendments for Bledsoe, Farmer, Galat, Hoeting, and Andrews and the 2015-2015 ISAC agreement for Marmorek.

Berryman moved to approve the 2015 ISAC amendments and the Marmorek ISAC agreement; Langan seconded. ISAC amendments and agreement approved.

Tern/Plover Monitoring

Smith discussed the RFP for 2015-2018 tern/plover monitoring and noted the TAC approved a motion to move the RFP on to the FC for consideration and on to the GC for final consideration and approval.

Kraus moved to approve moving the RFP on to the GC for final consideration and approval; Campbell seconded. RFP moved on to the GC for final consideration and approval.

Smith discussed the 2015 Predator Trapping Agreement. LaBonde asked what kind of predators are targeted by this effort. Smith said primarily terrestrial predators like skunks, raccoons, and coyotes that primarily impact off-channel nesting habitat.

Campbell moved to approve the 2015 predator trapping agreement; Schneider seconded. Agreement approved.

Program Database

Farnsworth discussed the 2015 contract amendment for RTI to provide Program database services. Kraus said dates in Section 2.4 (Page 8) need to be updated. Farnsworth said those changes would be made.

Langan moved to approve the 2015 contract amendment as amended; Urie seconded. Contract amendment approved.

Prescribed Fire

Farnsworth discussed the Prescribed Fire RFP and the change this year to help spread some of the risk of things like weather instead of the Program taking on all of that type of risk. Also, housing will not be provided. LaBonde asked if we had a fire contract in place in 2014. Farnsworth said we passed because we were coming out of the drought. Tunnell said we were also trying to initiate discussions with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about burning in relation to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. LaBonde asked how that issue stands. Kenny said the EDO is still discussing this with the Service and Service personnel in the Denver Regional Office continue to review a memo from the Program regarding this matter. Unless the Program hears differently, the intention is to move ahead with procedures as followed by the Rainwater Basin Refuge Unit. Urie asked how the EDO arrived at the estimated 2015 costs. Farnsworth said it is based on what is cost to burn per acre in the past.

Urie moved to approve the prescribed fire RFP; Kraus seconded. RFP approved.

Closing Business

The next FC meeting will be a conference call on February 25, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon Central time.

FC meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m. Central time.



Summary of Action Items/Decisions from January 20, 2015 FC meeting

- 1) Elected Harry LaBonde as 2015 FC Chair.
- 2) Approved the November 4, 2014 FC minutes.
- 3) Approved the 2015 ISAC amendments and the 2015-2017 Marmorek ISAC agreement.
- 4) Approved moving the tern/plover monitoring RFP on to the GC for final consideration and approval.
- 5) Approved the 2015 predator trapping agreement.
- 6) Approved the 2015 Program database contract amendment.
- 7) Approved the 2015 prescribed fire RFP.