



YAKIMA BASIN
FISH AND WILDLIFE
RECOVERY BOARD

MINUTES for the March 28th, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting

As approved by the Board of Directors on April 25th, 2007

Time & Location:

5:30 to 7:30 pm, at the Yakima County First St. Conference Room, Yakima

Attendance:

Board: Paul Ward (Yakama Nation), Neil McClure (City of Yakima), Nancy Aldrich (City of West Richland), Phil Mees (Benton County), Nancy Lillquist (City of Ellensburg) & Morgan Everett (City of Prosser) *By phone:* Mike Leita (Yakima County)

Staff: Alex Conley, Director and Tiffany Bishop, AmeriCorps Volunteer

Other Participants:

Brown (City of Yakima alternate), Walt Larrick (BOR), Jim Milton (Water Resources Advisory Committee), Carol Ready, and Phil Miller and Chris Drivdahl (GSRO)

Meeting Topics:

Agenda & Minutes

Treasurer/Secretary Neil McLure convened the meeting. Roll was taken and the presence of a quorum confirmed. The agenda was rearranged to move all action items to the front of the agenda to accommodate Mike Leita's participation by speaker phone. Minutes for the January 24th, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting were approved as presented by a motion of the Board.

Confirmation of Board/staff participation in Watershed Planning and BOR Storage Study

After discussion of the separate roles of the Board, as an advocate for fish & wildlife recovery, and of individual board members representing the full range of their constituencies' interests, the Board made a motion to confirm the participation of the Board in 1) the Water Resources Advisory Committee as an observer/resource (not a formal decision making member), and 2) the BOR Storage Study Roundtable. Director Alex Conley was directed to act as the Board's representative and provide regular updates.

Discussion of SRFB Funding Allocations

The Board discussed the need to work with Klickitat County to allocate the SRFB's Mid-Columbia Region project dollars. Alex presented the Board with an overview of past funding rounds and potential metrics to be used in splitting the funds between the two lead entities. Metrics include miles of salmonid habitat, number of listed species, and past SRFB formulas. The Board requested that staff continue discussions with Klickitat County, but refrain from proposing any specific allocations or allocation percentages until project requests have been submitted to both lead entities.

Approval of Steelhead Extract Concept

The Board discussed the status of revisions to the Yakima Subbasin Salmon Recovery Plan and NOAA's efforts to incorporate that plan into its Mid-Columbia Steelhead Recovery Plan. The Subbasin Salmon

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Recovery Plan addresses both steelhead and bull trout, while NOAA's plan focuses solely on steelhead. Alex asked the Board to agree to the concept of developing an up-to-date extract of the steelhead portions of the plan for submission to NOAA for inclusion in NOAA's recovery plan. The Board made a motion to support development of an extract, provided that 1) it is made clear that the extract supplement but does not replace the Board's Salmon Recovery Plan and its emphasis on both species, and 2) the extracted document comes before Board for review prior to release.

Approval of Pending Expenditures

The Board confirmed its August 16, 2006 decision to pay Northwest Service Academy \$5,500 for the services of an Americorps Volunteer. The Board reviewed and approved the following upcoming expenditures proposed by Alex: 1) color laser printer (up to \$1,500), 2) digital projector (up to \$1,600), 3) large format printer (up to \$2,500 if refurbished or up to \$5,000 for new), 4) possible technical Writing Contract for final editing of Steelhead supplement (up to \$5,000).

At this point Mike Leita left the meeting (many thanks Mike, for hanging in with us by phone despite the flu). The decision making part of the meeting was adjourned; all following items are informational only.

Presentation of Draft Outreach Materials

Tiffany Bishop, the AmeriCorp volunteer serving with the board for 2007, presented a tabletop display and a draft brochure she has developed for the Board and gave an overview of her work since coming on Board in late January.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Update

Alex briefly updated Board members on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's 8th Funding Round. SRFB materials will be available in early May, and the overall Lead Entity process will largely parallel last years' process. The main changes will be use of a more developed pre-proposal due in late May or early June meant to facilitate earlier engagement of the State Technical Review Panel. The Board will be presented with a schedule for approval at the April meeting. The total funding amount to be available has not yet been set; we expect the Mid-Columbia allocation to be equal to or greater than the \$1.6 million in 2006, but do not yet have an indication of the level of funding likely to be requested by Klickitat Lead Entity.

Update on NOAA Stock Status Reports and Recovery Scenarios

Alex briefly reviewed the status of the revisions to the Board's salmon recovery plan, the current status of NOAA's Interior Columbia Technical Recovery Teams stock status determinations and recovery scenarios, and the inaugural bi-state coordination meeting convened by NOAA in order to coordinate development of their Mid-Columbia Steelhead Recovery Plan.

Legislative Update

Alex and GSRO staff gave brief informational updates on the status of SB 5224 (which calls for continuation of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office), HB 1598 (regarding the application of Public Records requirements to recipients of SRFB funding) and budget proposals for the SRFB.

FCRPS Biological Opinion Update

Phil Miller of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office gave a brief update on the Federal Columbia River Biological Opinion remand process and noted that the state would be asking for the Board's input on biop proposals in late April/May.

Financial and Activity Reports

The Board received written reports on Board finances and the Executive Director's activities and briefly discussed the status of current board funding sources and upcoming contracts for FY 2008 to 2009.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, April 25th. No additional public comment was received. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m..