



YAKIMA BASIN
FISH AND WILDLIFE
RECOVERY BOARD

Minutes of the 10/9/2014 Board of Directors Meeting

As approved at the 1/15/15 board meeting

Members Present: Dave Brown (City of Yakima), Mike Leita (Yakima County), Don Aubrey (City of Prosser), Paul Ward & David Fast (Yakama Nation), Dan Olson (City of Union Gap), Obie O'Brien (Kittitas County), Nancy Lillquist (City of Ellensburg), Adam Fyall & Mike Shuttlesworth (Benton County), Jay McGowan (City of Cle Elum), Lloyd Carnahan (City of Benton City), Dave Fast (Yakama Nation),

Staff Present: Alex Conley (Executive Director), Darcy Batura (Lead Entity Coordinator), Chantell Krider (Recovery Program Coordinator), and Heather Hadsel (Operations & Outreach Manager)

Guests Present: Abby Sanders (Peterson CPA), David Child (Yakima Basin Joint Board),

1) Decision Items:

a. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

After introductions, the Board reviewed the meeting agenda and the minutes from the August 7 meeting. The order of agenda items was adjusted to accommodate the loss of a quorum part way through the meeting. *Nancy Lillquist made a motion to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes as presented. Dave Brown seconded the motion, which carried with the support of all present.*

b. Approval of draft Quarterly Report and summary Annual Report

Dan Olson made a motion to approve the quarterly report and Nancy Lillquist seconded it. Motion carried. Paul Ward made a motion to approve the FY14 Annual Report and Nancy Lillquist seconded it; motion carried.

c. FY14 Audit Approval

Abby Sanders discussed the two letters in the packets and walked the board through the audit. *Dave Brown made a motion to approve the FY14 audit and Nancy Lillquist seconded the motion; motion carried with the support of all present.*

d. Approve 990

Dave Brown made a motion to approve having Bob Villbrandt prepare the 990 as in previous year, and that the board will review the 990 for approval at the January meeting. *Mike Leita seconded the motion; motion carried.*

e. Bureau of Land Management-funding Memorandum of Understanding with North Yakima Conservation District

Nancy Lillquist made a motion to approve the MOA and Dan Olson seconded; motion carried.

f. Response to US Fish and Wildlife Service Bull Trout Recovery Plan

Nancy Lillquist made a motion to delegate approval of a comment letter to the Executive Committee and Mike Leita seconded the motion; motion carried. Alex agreed to work with the Executive Committee to draft and approve a comment letter prior to the December 3 deadline.

g. Letter to governor on budget priorities

After discussing the value of sending a letter, Mike Leita abstained from voting to approve. Paul Ward recommended reducing it to one page and removing the passive voice. The letter will be edited at a staff level and recirculated. Board members are to reply with a yes/no vote by email.

h. Letter of Interest for RCO Communications funding

GSRO has requested that a letter of interest requesting up to \$20,000 for funding for communications planning and implementation be submitted by Nov 15. A full proposal will need to be submitted by January 30. *Mike Leita made a motion to approve the letter of interest and Jay McGowan seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

i. Pyramid Communications training

GSRO requested that we schedule a briefing with Pyramid Communications before completing the request for communication funding. *Mike Leita made a motion to hold the Pyramid Training on January 15 in conjunction with our next Board meeting, and Paul Ward seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

2) Board Correspondence & Announcements

The Board reviewed the correspondence and announcements. Nancy suggested adding a list of press coverage to the Quarterly Report. Chantell conveyed that Jane Creech of the Department of Ecology had asked the Board to provide comments on the draft Upper Yakima Temperature TMDLs.

3) Lead Entity Program

Darcy gave an update on active SRFB projects in the basin. She noted that there were no changes to the ranked project list approved by the Board in August, and that the state review panel did not identify any of our projects as projects of concern. The final SRFB funding decision for 2014 will be made in December. Darcy will work with Obie and the SRFB to draft a localized press release for release by the SRFB. Members recommended adding a list of board members to the Lead Entity Directory page. The Board reviewed the current Citizens Committee vacancies, and Darcy committed to emailing citizen committee position descriptions out to the Board.

4) Update on Threats Assessment process

The Board reviewed the status of threats assessments for submission to the NOAA 5-year review process. The Board briefly discussed the prospects for delisting Mid-C Steelhead sometime in the foreseeable future.

5) Outreach Update

Further discussion deferred to the January Meeting.

6) State and Federal Policy Updates

Discussion deferred to January Meeting.

7) Board Logistics and Finances

There is a vacancy on the board for Benton County large cities. Adam Fyall noted that West Richland might be interested, and may also be interested having the Board give a presentation to the City Council.

8) Public Comment

There were no public comments. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.