



## **Minutes of the June 21, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting**

*As approved by the Board on 8/2/2018*

*Meeting held from Noon to 4 pm at the YBFWRB Office*

### **Members Present:**

Adam Fyall (Benton County), David Lind (Yakama Nation), Ron Anderson & Terry Keenhan (Yakima County), Richard Bloom (City of West Richland), Bob Elder (City of Prosser), Holly Cousens (City of Yakima), Julie Schilling (City of Union Gap), Nancy Lillquist (City of Ellensburg) and Jay McGowan (City of Cle Elum).

By phone for work session but not business meeting: Nancy Lillquist (City of Ellensburg)

**Staff Present:** Alex Conley (Executive Director), Tricia Snyder (Lead Entity Program Coordinator)

**Others Present:** Mark Peterschmidt (DOE).

### **Pre-Meeting Work Session**

During the Work Session, the Board reviewed the current two year work plan (of which the upcoming fiscal year is the second year) and proposed updates and edits to be considered at the Board's August annual meeting. Alex was directed to revised the work plan and budget accordingly and circulate it for review prior to the July Executive Committee meeting.

Tricia Snyder then led the Board in a review of the Communications Work Plan and the products currently under development, including the press packet and Board Member on-boarding packet. The Board committed to providing additional review of these products prior to the July Executive Committee meeting, so that they can be presented in final form at the annual meeting.

The business meeting of the Board was called to order at 2:05 pm.

### **1) Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Acting Chair Adam Fyall opened the meeting and all present introduced themselves. The Board reviewed the meeting agenda and the draft minutes for the 03/15/18 Board of Directors meeting. Adam proposed changes to the sequence of agenda items. A motion to approve the 03/15/2018 minutes as submitted, and the agenda, as amended, was made by Bob Elder, seconded by Richard Bloom, and approved with consent of all present.

## 2) Announcements and Correspondence

Alex updated the Board on:

1. The FRN Notice seeking new members for the YRBWEP Conservation Advisory Group;
2. The appointment of Kelly Susewind as the new Director of WDFW;
3. The Council of Region's recent meeting with the State Fish and Wildlife Commission about how WDFW and the regional boards can best work together to promote salmon recovery;
4. The recent Supreme Court decision upholding the lower court decision requiring the State of Washington to repair fish passage barriers;
5. The recent announcements of BPA funding cuts for the Fish & Wildlife Program;

The Board briefly reviewed the correspondence received and sent since the last Board meeting, including support letters from the Board for grant proposals by Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group and Heritage University and the thank you letter to the SRFB send based on direction at the last Board meeting.

Alex highlighted the letter from the City of Yakima to the Bureau of Reclamation and noted that he had participated in a follow-up meeting earlier in the week, and committed to work with Dave Brown to explore funding options for the project. Holly Cousens announced that the annual meeting of the Association of Washington Cities would be in Yakima the next week, and that the tour would visit the City's Nelson Dam project.

## 3) Letter to the US Forest Service

The Board reviewed the letter to Forest Supervisor Mike Williams drafted by Alex based on direction given at the March Board meeting, when the Board met with the District Rangers from the Cle Elum and Naches Districts of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Nancy moved to approve the letter and Richard Bloom seconded. The motion passed with the consent of all present.

## 4) Lead Entity Program

Grant Review Committee Status: Tricia updated the Board on the new members added to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAG) and reminded the Board that we still have one more Citizen's Committee vacancy for Benton County and four for the Yakama Nation. The Board made a motion to accept Benton County's nomination of Gloria Boyce as a Benton County area Citizen Committee representative. The motion was approved with the support of all present. Tricia updated the Board on the results of her off-season work with committee members, with led to an increase in participation for both groups.

2018 SRFB Grant Round: Tricia updated the Board on the 2018 SRFB grant round. There are a total of 10 projects, with 6 unique project sponsors. The total request is \$2,056,762 and total request with match is \$2,834,248. Tricia updated the Board on the Klickitat Lead Entity grant round and the

2018 PCSRF funding amounts, which are expected to remain at status quo. Tricia requested approval of 70/30 split of Mid-Columbia allocated funds between Yakima Basin Lead Entity and Klickitat Lead Entity. This represents funding roughly 57% of the Yakima Lead Entity's total requests and 39% of the Klickitat Lead Entity's total requests. Jay motioned to direct staff to negotiate final ranked funding lists with Klickitat County based on a 70/30 funding split, and Nancy seconded the motion. The motion was approved with the consent of all present.

Funded Projects: Tricia reviewed recent scope amendments and cost increases.

LEAN Study: Alex gave a brief overview of the LEAN study being conducted by the SRFB in order to identify potential improvements to the SRFB grant review process. He noted that he is one of the two Council of Regions representatives on the LEAN project steering committee.

## 5) BLM Contract Update

Tricia updated the Board on the Technical Working Group meeting held for Ringer Loop area in May and the vegetation restoration work currently underway. The Board reviewed the basic terms of the proposed MOAs with The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (MCFEG) and Kittitas County that will allow the use of Kittitas County funding for revegetation work completed by the MCFEG. Nancy motioned that the two MOAs be approved for signature by the Chair, pending chair review. Ron seconded the motion which passed with the consent of all present.

## 6) Bull Trout Recovery

KDRPP Comment Letter: Alex updated the Board on the status of the *Kachess Drought Relief Pumping Plant and Keechelus Reservoir to Kachess Reservoir Conveyance Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement*, which is out for public comment until July. The Board reviewed the draft comment letter prepared at the request of the Executive Committee. Jay McGowan moved to send the letter with chair signature, and Richard Bloom seconded the motion, which passed with the consent of all present.

Recommendations for YBIP Bull Trout Funding: Alex reviewed the process used by the Bull trout Working Group to develop the funding recommendations requested by the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan's Habitat Subcommittee. These recommendations will be used by the Department of Ecology and its partners as they develop the 2019-21 state budget request for YBIP. The Board reviewed the recommendations and noted its appreciation for the Habitat Subcommittee's request. Discussion of the Bull Trout Coordination Contract was deferred to the annual meeting.

## 7) Communications Updates

The Board deferred further discussion, given the detailed review in the pre-meeting work session.

## 8) Board Logistics

Annual Meeting: The Board confirmed that the Annual Meeting will be held on August 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Roslyn area, and will include a morning tour, lunch, awards and presentations and a 2 to 4 pm business meeting. Adam recommended we authorize staff to spend up to \$300 for room rental and move forward with logistical arrangements. Alex updated on efforts to recruit a guest/keynote speaker. Nancy suggested someone with US Forest Service or Teanaway Community Forest. Adam reiterated that a topic tied to the area would be nice. Awards were discussed. In the past, we have given out: salmon hero, partner of the year, and project of the year awards. Nancy thought it was good and worth doing but stipulated staff would need to sort out nominations. Alex asked for suggestions on awards to be sent to him by 07/10.

Future meeting times: Alex passed out a list of proposed board meeting dates, as well as possible topics for pre-meeting workshops. Alex asked the Board to review the proposed schedule and to let him know if there are any obvious changes. He also asked the Board to review their schedule for Wednesdays before each proposed date, as some present noted that Wednesdays might work better for most members. Adam mentioned that the last week of May is Memorial Day and that meeting would need to be moved to the week before. The Board briefly discussed possible topics for pre-meeting workshops.

Finances: Alex passed out financial reports, current up to June 19. Staff is in the process of finalizing the RCO contract for next biennium. Our remaining contract balance will carry over into the next fiscal year. Generally we finished the year at about 65% of planned expenditures due to the spending freeze associated with the delayed passage of the state Capital Budget. Alex highlighted that the food and beverage line was over budget as all food and beverage expenses were moved into the food and beverage expense, rather than putting some in program expenses.

## 9) State and Federal Policy Update

Alex updated the Board on the Governor's new Orca Task Force, and asked the Board to review the draft letter of input from the Board to the Task Force. The Board recommended some minor edits and approved sending the letter as amended, with the signature of the chair.

Adam turned meeting facilitation over Nancy. With his departure the Board no longer had a quorum, and subsequent discussions were limited to non-decision items.

Alex gave an update on his trip to Washington DC as part of a joint group from Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Idaho. He noted the broad support for the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund among those the group met with.

Alex shared the list of fundable projects he shared with the SRFB as part of their development of a delisting emphasis funding request to be discussed at the June SRFB meeting.

The Board briefly discussed the Ruckelshaus Center Road Map process and directed Alex to ask the Council of Regions to consider a statewide letter highlighting the role of our regional recovery plans.

Alex noted that the legislative tours to be organized by Steve Martin of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office were proposed to be combined with the tours being organized by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, and that he was working with Steve to determine the Board's role.

#### **10) State and Federal Policy Update**

Alex opened the discussion of the possible changes to the Board's bylaws. After reviewing the list of questions regarding the bylaws, the members present recommended that Alex develop language:

- 1) Allowing alternates to be appointed by the members governing body from among official and staff of that body or other members of the community (rather than limiting alternates to elected or appointed officials of that body).
- 2) Clarify that alternates may serve as officers and members of the Executive Committee,
- 3) Specify that at Membership meetings, each member government present be allotted one vote, and that decisions be made by consensus of members present.
- 4) Clarify that at the Annual Meeting, the selection of the two City Board of Directors members for a given County would be made by all city members from that County present. In the absence of consensus among those members, the Board would refer the choice from among the nominated Cities to the County Commission for that County.
- 5) Edit the language of the mission statement as proposed in the written handout.

Alex agreed to draft proposed language implementing these recommendations for review at the Executive Committee meeting and possible consideration at the annual meeting.

**11) Public comment:** No public comment was received. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm