

# YAKIMA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE RECOVERY BOARD

AUGUST 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

## MINUTES

As approved on 10/12/06

### *Attendance:*

Board: David Bowen (Kittitas County), Paul Ward (Yakama Nation), Ed Revell & Nancy Aldrich (West Richland), Phil Mees (Benton County), Mike Leita (Yakama County), Bryan Robinson (Benton City), Matt Bleich (Richland), Morgan Everett (Prosser/Benton County Small City Alternate)

Staff: Alex Conley.

Other: Terry Keenhan (Yakima County), Richard Visser (WDFW), Jim Milton (Tri-County Watershed Planning), David Gerth (Kittitas Conservation Trust), Jeff Tayer (WDFW) & Phil Miller (GSRO), one unidentified citizen.

Chair David Bowen convened the meeting. Roll was taken and the presence of a quorum confirmed. Paul Ward made a motion to accept the agenda as presented; Matt Bleich seconded the motion and the motion carried. Mike Leita made a motion to approve the June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006 meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Phil Mees and carried.

### **AmeriCorp Volunteer Proposal**

Alex Conley presented the Board with a revised position description for an Americorp Volunteer that he developed with Bob Tuck of the Yakima Basin Environmental Education Project. The new description is tied closely to the Scope of Work of the Board's SRFB contract and splits the time of the volunteer between the Board and YBEEP. The position would start in January and continue for one year. Alex recommended that the Board approve the position description and commit to providing the required \$5,500 in cash match. All expenditures would come out of the existing budget and the commitment would be only for one year. There would be a MOU or exchange of letters between YBEEP and the Board to coordinate supervision of the volunteer's work. A motion to approve the grant submittal, the associated position description, and the \$5,500 cash contribution was made by Mike Leita and seconded by Phil Mees. Motion Carried.

### **Bi-Op Remand Status**

The Board briefly discussed the status of the Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Remand and reviewed a letter drafted by Alex Conley for Board review. The idea for the letter came out of discussions with the Upper Columbia and Snake River Recovery Boards. The letter is addressed to Bob Nichols at the Governor's office. It makes three points: 1) it thanks the state for involving the recovery boards in the Biop process, 2) it expresses concern over how qualitative information provided by the Board has been changing into quantitative survival estimates, and requests that these figures not be misused, and 3) it encourages the state to advocate for the role of local recovery boards in implementation of habitat mitigation efforts that

may be required by the Biop. A motion to approve the letter as presented was made by Mike Leita and seconded by Matt Bleich. The Yakama Nation abstained from voting on this motion.

### **Update on Lead Entity Activities**

Alex updated the Board on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board project solicitation for the Yakima Basin. Twelve applications were received and are under review. Presentations to the Technical Advisory Group and the Citizen's Committee were made on August 16<sup>th</sup>, with a TAG meeting planned for the 29<sup>th</sup>, and a Citizen's Committee meeting scheduled for the 7<sup>th</sup> of Sept. The 12 proposals add up to \$2.6 million in requests. The Klickitat Lead Entity only got \$360,000 in project requests which leaves approximately \$1.2 million of the Mid-Columbia allocation for Yakima Basin projects. Nancy Aldrich asked about the number of proposals per County; there is 1 from Benton county, 5 from Yakima County and 7 from Kittitas County.

### **Update on Recovery Plan Status**

Alex Conley updated the Board on the status of draft edits to the Board's Salmon Recovery Plan. David Lind is making good progress on the actions tables. The technical team will work to amend cost information. NOAA wants this by Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. Textual changes have been proposed; the Board discussed the need to determine the threshold for making changes to the that would require additional public review and participation. Board members also discussed the need to work with federal agencies to encourage their participation with the local governments in implementing the recovery plan.

### **State and Federal Funding Status**

The Board reviewed the current status of state funding for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the federal funding received by the Board from the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund, and authorized staff to draft and send letters calling for maintaining/increasing these funding sources based on the drafts presented at the meeting. The motion was made by Paul Ward and seconded by Phil Mees. The motion passed with no abstentions.

### **GSRO Status**

The Board briefly discussed the pending sunset of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, and agreed to consider developing a position on GSRO's future at the September meeting so that a letter could be out to the Governor's office when budgets are being drafted in early October.

### **Date for Next Meeting**

The next board meeting was set for September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 from 6 to 8 p.m. A proposal was made to hold it at the Zillah Civic Center.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Ward and second by Mike Leita. Motion carried.

**YAKIMA BASIN FISH & WILDLIFE RECOVERY BOARD**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

11:15 AM TO 12:30 PM, August 18, 2006 at the Upper Kittitas County District Court

**MINUTES**

As approved on 10/12/06

Board: David Bowen (Kittitas County), Paul Ward (Yakama Nation), Ed Revell & Nancy Aldrich (West Richland), Phil Mees (Benton County), Mike Leita (Yakama County), Lloyd Carnahan (Benton City), Matt Bleich (Richland), Morgan Everett (Prosser/Benton County Small City Alternate).

Staff: Alex Conley.

Other: Terry Keenhan (Yakima County), Richard Visser (WDFW), Jim Milton (Tri-County Watershed Planning), David Gerth (Kittitas Conservation Trust), Jeff Tayer (WDFW), Phil Miller (GSRO) & one unidentified citizen

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Paul Ward & seconded by Phil Mees; motion carried.

**Annual Officer Elections**

Paul Ward nominated David Bowen for Chair, with a second by Morgan Everett.

A motion to close nominations and elect David Bowen as Chair was made by Mike Leita and seconded by Morgan Everett; motion passed.

A motion to nominate Neil McClure as Vice-Chair/Treasurer was made by Morgan Everett and seconded by Mike Leita. A motion to close nominations and elect Neil McClure as Vice-Chair/Treasurer; motion passed.

A motion to nominate Leo Bowman for Secretary was made by Mike Leita and seconded by Matt Bleich. A motion to close nominations and elect Leo Bowman as Secretary was made by Morgan Everett, and seconded by Nancy Aldrich; motion passed.

**Review and Approval of FY 2007 Budget and Work Plan**

The Board reviewed the work plan and noted the need to look more holistically in the future, even as the current workplan focuses fairly narrowly on the deliverables associated with the Board's existing contracts with the state. Comments on specific workplan objectives include:

*Objective A:* The Board discussed the need to ensure the continued involvement of key stakeholders but deferred to future meetings to discuss how this would be structured (via non-voting memberships? An advisory committee?) The Board asked Alex to add a sentence to this effect to the work plan. The Board also discussed the possibility of rotating the meeting locations and to encourage broad stakeholder involvement.

*Objective B:* Board Members asked for current lists of committee memberships and more information on the process by which they are appointed. The Board also discussed the need to ensure that the Lead Entity Strategy is consistent with and does not duplicate the Salmon Recovery and Subbasin Plans.

*Objective C:* No issues.

*Objective D:* The Technical Planning Team was defined as the support staff that have been closely involved in drafting the Subbasin and Salmon Recovery Plans. In response to comments from Phil Miller of the GSRO, Alex proposed changing the references to ‘projects’ in Task D1 to the broader term, ‘recovery actions’. The Board accepted the proposed changes.

*Objective E:* The Board discussed the proposed Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group and the monitoring needs related to the Recovery Plan that it would address. Richard Visser also noted that the Board needed to ensure that it met its obligations to monitor the status of SRFB funded projects in the Basin.

*Objective F:* No issues.

A motion to adopt the Work Plan for FY 2007 as amended in preceding discussion was made by Mike Leita and seconded by Matt Bleich. The motion carried.

### **FY 2007 Budget**

The Board discussed the search for long-term office space. The FY 2007 budget includes rent for a larger space that includes a large meeting room, but the Executive Director is inclined to look for smaller office space to preserve long-term financial options. Board members expressed that there are enough governmental offices available to cover needs for meeting space.

The Board briefly discussed the Board’s current sources of funding through contracts with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife.

Mike Leita encouraged that when we are allocating money for technical consultants that we look to local resources, including staff of participating governments, when possible.

Phil Miller noted that the references to GSRO in the draft budget should be changed to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, as GSRO is not the funding agency for that contract. Richard Visser noted that the references to the Lead Entity Contract should refer to Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife. These changes were agreed to by the Board.

The Board discussed the process for amending the budget and workplan; amendments can be made by an action of the Board of Directors provided that proposed changes are distributed to all Board members at least 15 days prior. Paul Ward moved to adopt the budget as proposed and amended in the preceding discussion, a second was made by Morgan Everett. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Ward and seconded by Lloyd Carnahan. The motion carried.