



DRAFT

Minutes of the August 3, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting held from 2 to 4 pm at the YBFWRB Office

Board of Directors Members Present:

Paul Ward (Yakama Nation), Laura Osiadacz (Kittitas County), Terry Keenhan (Yakima County), Adam Fyall and Jerome Delvin (Benton County), Jay McGowan (City of Cle Elum), Dave Brown (City of Yakima), Nancy Lillquist (City of Ellensburg), Dan Olson (City of Union Gap), Bob Elder (City of Prosser).

Member City Representatives:

Linda Lehman (Benton City), Sherry Raymond (City of Selah), Lance Hoyt (City of Toppenish), Richard Bloom (City of West Richland).

Staff Present: Alex Conley (Executive Director), Tricia Snyder (Lead Entity Program Coordinator), Ashton Bunce, Jason McCormick.

Others Present: Doug Mayo (Citizen Committee)

Additional Open House Attendees: Tim Hill (Ecology), Holly Cousens (City of Yakima), Jim Leary, Geoff McMichael (Mainstem Fish Research), Hoda Sondossi (Water Pushing Dirt Llc), Cassandra Anderson (MCFEG)

The Annual meeting commenced with an open house from noon to 2 pm. Chair Dan Olson opened the business meeting at 2:10 pm.

1) Approval of Agenda and Minutes

All present introduced themselves. The Board reviewed the meeting agenda and the draft minutes for the 6/1/2017. *The 6/1/2017 minutes were approved as submitted with consent of all present.*

2) Board Correspondence and Announcements

Announcements:

Alex updated the Board on the status of the state budget and its implications for the Board. The SRFB project funds that fund our ranked project list cannot be awarded without a budget, and the SRFB cancelled its September meeting. Department of Ecology water quality grants and all new Yakima Basin Integrated Plan funding are on hold until a budget is passed, along with the Floodplain by Design program and the Fish Barrier Removal Board program. At this time, **many millions of \$s of**

Yakima Basin projects are being put on hold. Staff funded through capital programs are being told to stop work; fish passage surveys in Kittitas County that were to be conducted by WDFW for the Fish Barrier Removal Board have been cancelled.

Alex noted that while most of the SRFB project funds and our operating funding are federal, the authorization to use them is made through the state capital budget. The lack of a state capital budget means that the Board has been directed to minimize operating costs and work with RCO to identify ways to maintain operations until a budget is approved. Alex noted that we have maintained sufficient unspent funding to cover short-term operations and that new funding sources from the BLM, and potentially, Kittitas County, would help to cover a portion of operating costs in the absence of a new RCO contract.

Correspondence:

The Board reviewed the letters in the meeting packet, including:

- A letter to from the Board to state representatives in support of Board budget priorities that was approved at the June meeting;
- A letter CCed to us by the Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery Board regarding the SRFB allocation for the White Salmon Basin; and,
- An example of the letters sent to the 5 cities in the Yakima Basin that have not signed the ILA creating the Board.

The Board discussed a **proposed letter from the Council of Regions to state legislators** regarding the impacts of the capital budget shutdown on salmon recovery around the state. The Board authorized Alex to sign on behalf of the Board, contingent on an email review of the final draft by Board Members.

3) Lead Entity Program

2017 Yakima Basin SRFB Grant Round: Tricia gave a presentation to the Board on the status of the 2017 grant round and the proposed ranked funding list. Following her presentation, the Board moved to:

- 1) **Approve the Lead Entity ranked list** as presented to be submitted to RCO
- 2) Approve the use of up to **\$501,587** of Mid-Columbia allocation within the **Klickitat Lead Entity**
- 3) Delegate **authority to staff to allocate** any additional SRFB project funding

All motions passed with the support of all present.

4) Board Membership

The Board reviewed the current Board of Directors membership. Richard Bloom of the City of West Richland was nominated to fill the vacant Benton County City seat on the Board of Directors; the nomination was approved with the consent of all present. No other changes were proposed.

5) Election of Officers

The current slate of officers (Dan Olson as chair, Adam Fail as vice chair/treasurer, Nancy Lillquist as secretary) was nominated to serve another year. No other nominations were received and the officers were approved by the consent of all present.

6) Approval of Registered Agent

The Board appointed Executive Director Alex Conley to serve as the registered agent for the Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board.

7) Review and Appointment of Committee Members

The current at-large members of the Executive Committee (Paul Ward and Jay McGowan) were nominated to serve another year on the Executive Committee. No other nominations were received, and the Executive Committee membership (the three officers and the two at-large members) was approved by the consent of all present.

Tricia Snyder led the Board of Directors in a discussion of the declining participation rates for the Board's Technical Advisory Group and the Citizen Committee. The Board directed Tricia to develop written job descriptions and simple applications for TAG and CC members, and agreed to review and appoint future TAG members, rather than basing the process on informal agreements between committee members and staff. Benton County and the Yakama Nation representatives noted the need to solicit applications for vacant Citizen Committee seats. The Board recommended further discussion with committee members and the Board before recommending any additional roles for the existing committees (e.g. greater engagement in recovery plan updates).

8) Set Board Meeting Schedule

The Board reviewed the proposed dates for Board of Directors meetings through June of 2018. The dates were approved. The next meeting will occur on October 12, from 2 to 4 pm. The decision on the time slot for future meetings was deferred to the October 12 meeting.

9) Review and Approval of Changes to Board Bylaws and Policies

No proposals to change the bylaws or minutes were made.

10) Review and Approve FY2018-2019 Work Plan and Budget

The Board of Directors approved the work plan and budget as presented, with the support of all present. Alex noted that the budget and work plan had not been adjusted to reflect current budget uncertainties, but that those would be addressed at future meetings as outcomes were clearer.

11) Financial Reports

Abby Sanders presented her audit results and the draft FY2017 Financial Statement. She noted that there were no significant audit findings, but did mention that low staffing levels meant reduced internal review of finances (something offset by having a CPA to bank reconciliations, etc), and that the current funding uncertainty would impact future operations. The financial statement was approved by the consensus of all present, pending completion of minor adjustments to the distribution of functional expenses.

Alex noted that once the Financial Statement is issued, Bo Villbrant will complete the annual 990, which will be presented to the Board for approval at the October meeting.

12) Public comment: No public comment was received.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.