

MEETING OVERVIEW

For the October 7, 2020 YBFWRB Board of Directors Meeting

This will be an online meeting that you can join via computer and phone. We have cancelled the pre-meeting work session, so the meeting will commence at 2 pm.

Meeting link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/670480981>

Dial in: +1 (408) 650-3123

Access Code: 670-480-981

NOTES ON DIGITAL MEETING:

- 1. We are using GoTo Meeting. Please join the meeting 5-10 minutes early so that you have time to set up any required plug-ins, etc.*
- 2. If you are having trouble joining the meeting, email or text Tricia ((575) 636-0625; tsnyder@ybfwrb.org) or Alex (509 654-0394; aconley@ybfwrb.org)*
- 3. Please do use the computer link so that you can view shared materials and use the chat bar to participate and request a chance to speak.*
- 4. Use of video is optional but recommended.*
- 5. Note that using computer audio and/or video requires a fast web connection; if your connection is struggling, call in via phone.*
- 6. We will be monitoring the chat bar during the meeting; please do use “??” if you would like us to call on you to speak. We may also use the chat function to call for Yeas and Nays on motions.*
- 7. When not talking, please mute yourself on the GoTo meeting control panel to avoid feedback and background noise.*

MEETING OVERVIEW

Numbers refer to agenda items. Item #s refer to Board Materials email attachment numbers.

1. Introductions: We'll start the meeting with introductions, review/approval of the agenda, and review/approval of the minutes from our August 13 Annual Meeting. The **agenda** and **draft minutes** are attached (items #1 & 3).

2a. Announcements and Updates, to include:

- a. Covid updates
- b. Appointment of Board members to the Washington Invasive Species Council
- c. Ranking of Yakima Projects in the proposed Fish Barrier Removal Board List
- d. Award of additional \$20,000 to our BLM funding agreement
- e. Retirement of Terry Keenhan and departure of Paul Ward
- f. Change of SRFB Chair and thank you letter to Phil Rockefeller?

2b. Correspondence

The only correspondence flagged for review is the 2020 SRFB grant round press release send out to all local media outlets after the SRRFB approved our annual ranked project list (item #4).

3. FY 2020 Audited Financial Statement and IRS 990 Tax Form

Abby Bailey, CPA has completed drafts of the Fiscal Year 2020 Audited Fincial Statement and IRS 990 tax form for your review (Items #5 & 6). She'll be joining our meeting to review them with us and answer any questions. We can either approve both for submission, or if you want more time to review, delegate approval to the Executive Committee, pending resolution of any edits proposed by Board of Directors members via email. There are no big surprises in either report, other than the reduction in spending associated with deferred hiring and reduced travel during the pandemic. While we are still heavily reliant on our base funding from RCO, we continue to make progress diversifying our funding base. We also are improving our overall fincial position each year. Where I once joked that if we closed tomorrow, you'd need to sell the furniture to pay the last few bills, now we'd have a little cash and the furniture left over to donate to another Non-Profit.

4. Contract/MOA Ammendments

- a. Our Bull Trout Coordination MOA with the Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group provides us with up to 1/3 FTE of one of their staff members who works with me to convene the Yakima Bull Trout Work Group and complete specific tasks and projects identified by the Work Group. The attached amendment (Item #7) increases funding and amends the scope of work to include all activities expected between now and the end of 2021. All work proposed is covered by funding we have already secured from the Department of Ecology. We will be lo9oking for a motion to approve this amendment as presented.
- b. The Board is taking on the Washington Salmon Coalition facilitation contract from RCO and will be reimbursed for contract expenses by the RCO as part of Tricia's agreement as chair of the WSC. We originally wrote the contract for \$20,000, but RCO was able to award us \$24,000 to cover the cost. The contract amendment with Natural Resource Consultants, Inc (the facilitator) adds that \$4,000 in additional funding to the facilitation contract (Item #8). We'll be looking for a motion to approve the contract amendment with NRC, Inc as presented.
- c. We have a set of MOAs, one with the Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group to complete revegetation work at Ringer Road, and one with Kittitas County, to provide us funding to be used to pay for that revegetation work on county owned land. We will need to make minor amendments to one or both this fall to accommodate additional weed control and related actions, but details still need to be determined. Since the Board of Directors next meets in January, we will be looking for a motion to delegate authority to amend the Kittitas County and MCFEG revegetation MOAs to either the Chair or the Executive Committee.

5. Lead Entity Program

Tricia Synder, our Lead Entity Coordinator, will give us an update on the now-completed 2020 Grant round and plans for the 2021 grant round. She'll touch base on the status of Citizen Committee membership and ask the Board for feedback on offering members reimbursement for overnight lodging during multi-day project tours and meetings.

6. Recovery Program Updates

- a) Alex will update the Board on **current activities of the Bull Trout Working Group** and the Work Group's work with USFWS on the Five-Year Review for Bull Trout;
- b) Alex will discuss a **proposed partnership with the Yakama Nation to update the Satus and Toppenish Steelhead Population information and actions** from the 2009 Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan and will be requesting that the Board delegate authority to provide funding from our steelhead recovery plan update budget to the Executive Committee.
- c) Alex will review the recent discussions about Lower Yakima River actions, and the role that the Board is playing in helping coordinate these discussions.
- d) Alex will open a discussion with the Board on the current developments in Columbia River policy, including the Columbia River Partnership and WDFW harvest and hatchery policies.

7. State Policy and Budget

- a) **State Budget Proposals:** We will review salmon recovery related 2021-23 budget proposals submitted by state agencies to OFM and the governor's office and discuss which of these the Board would like to highlight in its outreach efforts with the Governor's office and legislators. A draft statement of priorities based on the Board's identified priorities from 2018 and the just-submitted agency request amounts is attached as Item #9. We will discuss how we refine and approve these priorities, and whether/how we use these as the basis for letters and other communications with OFM and the Governor's Office.
- b) **SRFB Monitoring Polices:** Alex will briefly review the SRFB monitoring policy decisions to be made at their November meeting and ask for feedback on how he should represent the Board in those discussions, and whether a letter by the Board chair should be drafted once the specific proposals under review by the SRFB are released.

8. Outreach

Tricia will update the Board on the recently completed web site update and the soon-to-be released Habitat Restoration outreach booklet aimed at landowners and other community members.

9. Board Logistics

- a) Alex will request Board authorization to donate an old and currently unused but high-quality Dell Precision laptop to Benton Conservation District, which has need of a computer for Lower Yakima field use.
- b) The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group has let us know that they will be ending their sublease of the office adjoining our in mid-November. We'll want to discuss whether we try to hold on to that adjoining office space, and how we think about our office space in general as in-person meetings continue to be curtailed.
- c) We will briefly discuss future contract and hiring plans.
- d) We will review the **quarterly financial reports** for July to September (Item #10).