

TLG MEETING MINUTES

Technical Leadership Group (TLG) Meeting

July 15, 2010, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Spokesman Review Building (1st Floor Conference Room)
608 Northwest Blvd., Coeur d'Alene, ID

Rebecca Stevens, CDA Tribe (TLG Chair)

Bill Rust, Shoshone County TLG Rep.

Terry Harwood, BEIPC

Nick Zilka, IDEQ

Rusty Sheppard, Kootenai County TLG Rep.

Bill Adams, EPA

Ed Moreen, EPA

Glen Rothrock, IDEQ

Kenny Hicks, Shoshone County TLG Rep.
(TLG Vice-Chair)

Brian Spears, USFWS

Jeff Johnson, USFS

Vera Williams, CCC Member

Denna Grangaard, IDEQ

Jeri Delange, BEIPC (Note-Taker)

This summary provides the salient issues. These notes are intended to capture key topics, conclusions, and next steps and not the nuances of the discussion.

Call to Order/Introductions: The TLG Chair, Ms. Rebecca Stevens, called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Approval of TLG Draft Meeting Minutes for April 8, 2010: Ms. Stevens asked if there were any corrections or changes to the draft minutes from the April 8 TLG meeting. Mr. Kenny Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nick Zilka and approved.

Update on CWA Funding and Projects: Mr. Terry Harwood provided an update on the third and final CWA grant that closed on June 30, 2010. He said that there will be one last CWA report made on the South Fork Sewer District (SFSD) Page wastewater treatment project which will be presented at the August BEIPC meeting. He also noted that Mr. Jeff Johnson sent in the final CWA report on the Moon Gulch habitat restoration project, and that he will post the executive summary on the BEIPC website.

Update on Flooding Issues and Remedy Protection: Mr. Harwood gave an update on flood control issues. He mentioned that staff members from the Corps of Engineers (COE) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be coming to the BEIPC meeting in August to make a presentation on levees and funding. Any possibility of funding for construction projects will require a 50% match. Mr. Harwood has scheduled a field tour of the levees and streams in the Silver Valley on August 19 (the day after the BEIPC meeting) for the County Commissioners, Idaho Silver Jackets, COE, FEMA, and other agency staff such as the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security and possibly the U.S. Weather Service who deal with flooding issues. He has asked Mr. Jon Cantamessa, Shoshone County Commissioner and the BEIPC Chair, to help build the tour agenda for what they want to look at regarding their concerns.

Mr. Harwood will be meeting with the Silver Jackets again next week. He has also been working with Mr. Chuck Peterson on the Milo Creek project. Mr. Ed Moreen pointed out that EPA looked at the Reed Russell discharge drainages above Milo Creek as part of the ROD Amendment for dealing with the discharges.

Update on East Mission Flats (EMF) Repository: Mr. Harwood provided a brief update on the status of the construction at EMF. Currently, he is finishing up work for the Institutional Controls Program (ICP) entrance at the east end of the facility. Concrete is being poured for buildings such as the pump house, employee station, wash facility, etc. He is working on getting EMF completed as soon as possible and hopes to have it done about the middle of August.

Ms. Stevens commented that concerns are being stirred up about EMF as some citizens have received emails with misinformation. The Tribe has been working on informing people of the correct information.

Update on BEIPC Work Plan: Mr. Harwood brought up that the BEIPC draft work plan will need to be prepared by November for approval by the Basin Commission. He explained that the draft plan will need to include the work for the Basin, and that they will need to coordinate the list of items with the EPA as this will be the list that EPA provides to the Trustee.

Ms. Stevens inquired if the Trustee, Mr. Dan Silver, will be giving an update at the August Basin Commission meeting. Mr. Harwood answered no; and suggested that we wait until Mr. Silver gets his office set up.

ROD Amendment/Proposed Plan Comment Period: Mr. Bill Adams gave a presentation on the Proposed Plan for the ROD Amendment. He also provided everyone with informational handouts of the following:

- *FAQ sheet for the Upper CDA River Basin Proposed Plan - EPA Invites Your Comments: Proposed Upper Basin Cleanup Plan;*
- *Community Involvement Toolbox - Have a say in the Cleanup Plan for the Upper Basin; and*
- *The Road to the ROD Amendment and Beyond - Making Cleanup Decisions with Community Input.*

Mr. Adams announced that EPA has released the proposed plan for public comment for 45 days instead of the usual 30 days due to the high level of public interest. The public comment period will be from July 12 through August 25. EPA also plans to hold a public meeting on August 4. There will be an open house from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. for people to meet project staff, see displays, view information, and ask questions. From 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., there will be a formal opportunity for people to provide written testimony or oral comments as there will be a court recorder to record them. He encouraged everyone to attend.

During the public comment period, EPA will also be meeting with elected officials, local chambers of commerce, other community organizations, etc., to make additional presentations to inform the public, as well as making a presentation at the BEIPC meeting in August.

Other TLG Discussion: TLG members discussed various issues and concerns regarding the EPA's proposed plan for the ROD Amendment. Items included:

- *Flood control and remedy protection;*
- *Questions regarding substituting human health for ecological work;*
- *Drinking water standards versus site specific water quality criteria;*
- *Water treatment and Central Treatment Plant (CTP);*
- *Reductions in loading for surface water and groundwater;*
- *Water rights/adjudication;*
- *Yard program;*
- *Socio-economic impacts;*
- *Funding;*
- *Job creation;*
- *Mining;*
- *CERCLA regulations; and*
- *Getting the most "bang for the buck."*

Mr. Adams suggested that EPA could possibly have another session to discuss these issues.

Special Presentation: Mr. Adams made a special acknowledgement to recognize Mr. Nick Zilka for his upcoming retirement from IDEQ. He presented him with a "Certificate of Deletion" and card from EPA in Seattle.

Lake Management Plan Update: Ms. Stevens informed the TLG that Robinson Research Consulting is working on designing a questionnaire to conduct a web-based public outreach survey on the CDA Lake Management Plan (LMP) needs assessment for what the State and Tribe are doing. Once the questionnaire is completed, it will be put on the web for public input. They will also be sending out postcards to land owners around the Lake to participate in the survey as well as conducting a phone survey. Mr. Glen Rothrock said that he is convinced there is a need for information and noted that the consultant believes that phone surveys work the best. The survey results should be available sometime in November.

Mr. Rothrock then gave an update on the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) process in the LMP which affects water quality for the CDA, St. Maries, and St. Joe Rivers. He added that Idaho State Law requires that the State do a TMDL review every five years. They are currently in the process of writing some new TMDLs and a new implementation plan. Ms. Stevens said that the State and Tribe are continuing work on a three-year inventory of nutrient sources to develop a nutrient management plan; and that the CDA Lake monitoring is ongoing. She also informed everyone that the "Our Gem" lake maps have been revised and printed. The newest panel has info on quagga mussels; and they updated some of the Idaho codes. She confirmed that the maps are acknowledged as a BEIPC product.

North Idaho Fair Booth Update: Ms. Denna Grangaard gave an update about the preparations for the joint fair booth being sponsored by the BEIPC/CCC, CDA and Kellogg IDEQ, and CDA Tribe-LMP for public education and outreach. They are also partnering with the Panhandle Stormwater and Erosion Education Program (SEEP). There will be a variety of brochures

available such as the new aquifer maps, Our Gem maps, etc. They are working on the layout of the booth and looking for ideas on the header board and simple quiz questions for the trivia wheel. She asked the TLG for their suggestions.

Communications PFT Update: Ms. Jeri DeLange provided an update on the Communications PFT meeting that was held yesterday (July 14) at the Idaho Fish & Game office in CDA. PFT members discussed arrangements for the upcoming fair booth, final revisions to the draft CCC survey, developing a FAQ sheet on effective public commenting, and possibly conducting a training session or workshop on this topic either this fall or next spring. She then gave a brief update on the Recreation Education Subcommittee (RES) chaired by Ms. Tina Elayer of IDEQ that also met on July 14. Ms. Elayer is working on promotional items for the fair booth, as well as checking with the Panhandle Health District about updating “Riley Raccoon” for use by the RES in the future to help educate children about the dangers of lead.

Lower Basin PFT Update: Ms. Stevens said that she talked with Mr. Ed Moreen about scheduling a Lower Basin PFT meeting sometime in August.

TLG Conference Call Schedule: Ms. Stevens reviewed the TLG bi-weekly conference call schedule and suggested the following changes:

- July 22 – Cancel Call
- August 5 – Keep
- August 19 – Cancel Call (due to BEIPC meeting on August 18)
- September 2 – Keep

Update on Gulf Wildlife Refuge Operation: For informational purposes, Mr. Brian Spears provided an update on the work that is currently going on for wildlife refuge operation in the Gulf.

Adjourn: As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.