

**Citizen Coordinating Council of the  
Coeur d'Alene Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission**

*December 11, 2002 Meeting Highlights*

The following document provides highlights from the December 11, 2002 meeting of the Citizen Coordinating Council (CCC). The CCC is being established to provide citizen input to the Coeur d'Alene Basin Environmental Improvement Commission (Commission), and, specifically, the Commission Board, on issues related to the cleanup of heavy metals in the Coeur d'Alene Basin of Idaho.

**Meeting Participants (Who Signed in)**

Randy Siemers	Robert Garrett	Jack Gunderman
Mike Noble	Mark Compton	Nancy Mitchell
John Snider	Tom & Connie Fudge	Jim Hollingsworth
LaVerne Reffalt	Bret Bowers	David Clark
Nick Zilka	John Osborn	Oliver Lee
Terry Sverdsten	Leta Campbell	Dick Martindale
Eric Frutchey	Jeffrey Jordan	W.C. Rust
Linda Boyd	Charles Miller	Dave Enos
Richard Costa	Mark Stanger	Mike Dexter
Frank Frutchey	Bob Martinson	Jeff Walkley
Rose Frutchey	Russell Lowry	Jana McCurdy
Chuck Fisk	Roland Craft	Keith Shannon
Dr. Noel Logan	Vinetta Ruth Spencer	Buell Hollister
Lloyd Brewer	Dan Whiting	Ron Green
Mike Mihelich	Jack Domit	Kristy Reed Johnson
Matt Ellsworth	Neil Beaves	Bob Bostwick
Shallan Dawson	Carol Bergin	Kathy Zanetti
Jerry Boyd	AC Sanchez	

Bill Ross and Anne Dettelbach of Ross & Associates facilitated the meeting. Luke Russell, John Roland, and Phillip Cernera attended as interim Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission staff.

**Highlights from the December 4, 2002 Basin Commission Board Meeting**

Phillip Cernera (interim staff to the Basin Commission and staff to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe) reviewed highlights from the Basin Commission Board meeting. Mr. Cernera began by describing the interim staff group's presentation on behalf of the citizens who met on November 13, 2002 to discuss formational issues related to the CCC. The presentation emphasized the following points raised by citizens:

- More than 60 people have expressed an interest in the CCC;
- The citizens understand the roles they will play to advise and support the Basin Commission;
- The citizens want to pick their own membership and leadership (rather than have it be approved by the Basin Commission Board);
- The citizens would like support (facilitation and administrative) for the CCC;
- Some citizens are unsure whether and how the Basin Commission Board will listen to their voices while others expressed hope for a "new beginning."

Mr. Cernera communicated the Basin Commission Board's strong desire that the CCC be inclusive of all citizen perspectives.

### **CCC Interactions with Board and Technical Leadership Group (TLG)**

Luke Russell (interim staff to the Basin Commission and staff to IDEQ) also reviewed highlights from the interim staff presentation to the Basin Commission Board. His presentation focused on issues related to CCC interactions with other parts of the Basin Commission, especially the TLG and the Board. Mr. Russell emphasized the following points:

- The CCC will have an opportunity to report out at every Board meeting;
- TLG members plan to participate on the CCC (to encourage communication and interaction between the groups);
- The TLG will post meeting agendas and summaries on the Basin Commission website [www.basincommission.com](http://www.basincommission.com);
- A CCC representative is welcome to participate on TLG conference calls;
- The TLG recommends that its leadership (not yet named) work with the CCC leadership to figure out ways for the two groups to communicate more regularly.

Mr. Russell also announced that IDEQ has provided funds to fill a new part-time administrative support position at the Basin Commission. This person will, in part, be available to provide support to the CCC and help the CCC and TLG share information and interact.

CCC members were comfortable with the presentation, generally, and with the TLG's plans and ideas but expressed an interest in having the TLG email their agendas and summary notes to CCC members.

NOTE: The TLG has begun to email meeting notes related to 2003 workplanning to interested citizens. Please see *2003 Workplanning*, below, for more details on this.

### **Overview of TLG**

Luke Russell provided a short overview of the Technical Leadership Group. He reviewed the group's "job" (to serve in an advisory role to the Basin Commission on workplan scopes and other technical and/or regulatory issues related to heavy metals remediation in the Coeur d'Alene Basin of Idaho) and reported that the TLG had established Project Focus Teams (or, PFTs) at its meeting (November 19-20) to undertake Basin Commission workplanning for the 2003 work season. In early spring, the PFTs will begin developing a proposed 5-year workplan. These PFTs have begun to meet.

Mr. Russell then reviewed a "project evaluation matrix" being developed by the TLG to rate and rank potential projects in the Basin and discussed the draft "community issues" criterion. *The TLG is especially interested in citizen input to the description of, and ratings for, the community issues criterion being used to rate potential projects for the 2003 work season.*

## Potential Basin Commission Funding Sources

Next, Luke Russell described three different sources of potential (or appropriated) monies that may be overseen by the Basin Commission. Each is described below.

### *Clean Water Act Appropriation--\$2 million*

Congress appropriated \$2M in its 2002 budget to support the Basin Commission's work. This appropriation cannot be spent on projects eligible for Superfund monies. A request has already been made for this money; it is to be allocated as follows:

- Water quality monitoring: \$225k/year for three years = \$775,000 total
- Bank stabilization: \$445,000 total
- Citizen education re: stewardship of the lake: \$40k/year for two years = \$80,000
- Groundwater inflow, infiltration in the Upper Basin (Mullen pilot project) = \$800,000.

### *Superfund FY '03 Application*

EPA Region 10 is competing for national Superfund monies to support work in the Basin. EPA Region 10 submitted its request in September and presented its case in October. EPA requested funds to support Coeur d'Alene Basin cleanup work in the following areas:

- Human health—residential and recreation areas
- Upper Basin Source areas
- Rex Mine
- Washington State—Spokane River. [NOTE: Because the Basin Commission has jurisdiction only in Idaho, it will not be directly involved in recommending or overseeing any projects that are funded in Washington State.]

It is not clear which of these areas will be funded or at what level. As a general rule, monies cannot be shifted between project areas (e.g., between human health and Rex mine).

### *Future Congressional Appropriations*

An additional \$2M has been inserted in the '03 Congressional budget request. This appropriation has not yet been approved by Congress. If approved, it could be earmarked for the Basin Commission. At this time, the funds are not proposed to be designated for any specific purpose.

## 2003 Workplanning

The CCC reviewed the TLG's schedule for developing a proposed 2003 workplan and discussed forming citizen teams to provide input to and coordination with the TLG's Project Focus Teams. Key dates for the TLG workplanning are:

- December/January:* PFTs meet to develop preliminary recommendations for '03 workplan around specific topic described in CWA appropriation and Superfund request.
- January 17, 2003:* PFTs distribute preliminary recommendations to full TLG
- January 28, 2003:* TLG meets to discuss preliminary recommendations and develop full proposal
- Early February:* TLG sends full workplan proposal to Basin Commission Board

*February 26, 2003:* TLG presents recommended workplan to Basin Commission Board.

To participate in workplanning, citizens then signed up to join teams formed around the following specific topic areas:

- Human Health
- Streambank Stabilization
- Upper Basin Source Areas
- Lake Management/Monitoring
- Water Treatment
- Criteria/Evaluation Matrix

NOTE: PFTs have been formed by the TLG to address the same topics.

The CCC requested that PFT leaders (temporarily, EPA contacts on each of the PFTs) contact them and begin to share agendas, meeting notes, and schedules via email (and fax, where necessary) so that CCC members could begin to track and provide input to the PFT workplanning process. The facilitators volunteered to work with the PFT leaders to make this happen quickly.

NOTE: Please contact Anne Dettelbach at Ross & Associates ([anne.dettelbach@ross-assoc.com](mailto:anne.dettelbach@ross-assoc.com) or 206/447-1805) if you would like to be added to the roster for any of these groups.

### **CCC Leadership**

Bill Ross of Ross & Associates then facilitated a discussion around TLG leadership issues. The group briefly debated naming a chair and vice-chair but decided, instead, to form a small committee to work through several organizational issues. Several individuals then volunteered to participate on the Organizing Team. This group will work with the project facilitators (Ross & Associates) to discuss organizational issues, including:

- CCC leadership: should the CCC name a chair, vice-chair and Small Integration Group?
- Voting: how should the CCC elect its leaders?
- Job Descriptions: what specific roles are the CCC's leaders expected to play?
- TLG interactions: how can the CCC and TLG communicate most effectively?

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### **Next CCC Meeting**

The next CCC meeting is being scheduled for the evening of *January 27, 2003*. At that meeting, the CCC will discuss leadership issues and review the Organizing Team's proposal. As well, the TLG will be asked to make a presentation to the TLG and discuss its recommended 2003 Basin Commission workplan.