

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY

March 17, 2005

Participants:

Terry Harwood	Mike Beckwith
Dave George	Ed Moreen
Mark Stromberg	Randy Connolly
Rogers Hardy	Ginny Dierich
Ron Roizen	Dave Sternberg
Rob Hanson	Jeri DeLange
Nick Zilka	

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

Agenda Items: None

Terry Harwood mentioned that Anne Dailey asked him to chair the conference call in her absence since the TLG Chair (Phil Cerner) is on vacation.

2004 CWA Grant: Terry reported that he has completed the 2004 CWA grant requests and sent them to Boise. IDEQ will review the package to ensure that the scope of work meets CWA requirements and grant specifications and then submit it to the EPA. The 2004 funding should start in July and will continue for three years.

2005 Work Plan: Mark Stromberg reported that the work plans from the contractors are slow coming in and that he has received only a few responses so far. Terry Harwood mentioned that all of the information needs to be received in time for the work plan to be approved at the Basin Commission meeting on May 11.

BEIPC: Terry Harwood mentioned that the draft minutes of the Board meeting on February 16 and the draft workshop summary from January 19 have been distributed to all of the Commissioners, Alternates, and Staff for review and comment. After he hears back from everyone, they will be posted to the web site.

2004 Annual Report: Terry Harwood reported on the progress for the 2004 Basin accomplishment report. All of the 2002 work is completed, and all but five projects for 2003. The five remaining are:

- Page WWTP (Waste Water Treatment Plant)
- Woodland Park Groundwater Quality
- Fish Monitoring
- Sediment Transport Study
- Lake Model

The report will contain all of the work completed, costs, goals, and performance for each of the CWA and CERCLA projects. Terry mentioned that Mark Stromberg is assisting him with the report. Both Terry and Mark hope there is no confusion with their requests for the 2004 accomplishments, 2005 work plans, and adjustments to the 5-Year Plan as they need to receive this information as soon as possible.

Lake Use Map: Terry mentioned that he was asked to review and comment on the revised lake education map by Rebecca Stevens (Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District). Comments need to be turned in as soon as possible in order to complete the final copy for the Board's approval in May.

BEIPC Press Release: A press release will be sent to local newspapers today in response to Idaho House Bill 60 regarding state leasing of mineral rights in navigable waters that apply to deposits in their natural state, tailings and dumps. Recent news articles suggested that Coeur d'Alene Lake would be dredged as part of the ongoing Superfund cleanup actions and the proposed legislation would allow for the recovery of minerals in the contaminated bottom sediments. Terry Harwood commented that he requested input from the Basin Commission on the best method to address these concerns. A draft press release was then sent to the Commissioners, Alternates and Staff for review and comment. In addition to the environmental problems associated with dredging, he mentioned there could also be issues with parties staking claims and then filing tort claims for "takings."

Dave George commented that dredging would be difficult to control downstream and would result in sediment loading.

Ron Roizen discussed that he had attended a meeting and heard Jonathan Swift Mining Co. make a presentation in regards to this issue and reported there was misinformation. He stated there were two questions to address: 1) The dredging actions listed for the river in the ROD; and 2) How the dredging would affect the people in Cataldo.

Terry Harwood answered that there was merit in these concerns and the press release was carefully crafted in its language. However, there were definite statements in the press regarding dredging in the lake and this misinformation needs to be corrected. There are no actions in the ROD to dredge the lake and the LMP (Lake Management Plan) will address the management of the contaminated sediments on the bottom. He stated that he wished the press would have contacted the Basin Commission first before releasing the information that the Tribe, EPA, and IDEQ were going to dredge the lake and it could have been corrected. In regards to creating provisions for the recovery of minerals from dredging operations in other areas, this could be a method of handling the material instead of burying all of it in a repository.

Ron Roizen requested a copy of the press release and Terry replied that he would send him one as soon as it was reviewed by the Commission.

Funding PFT: Terry discussed that he would like to get a project focus team started to look for other sources of funding for work in the Basin.

Other discussion: Rogers Hardy commented on the BEIPC staff. He does not understand the need for staff when there are other volunteers helping the Commission too. Terry Harwood replied that he has talked with Rogers about this matter and would be glad to talk with him later instead of taking up all of the TLG conference call time.

Round Table:

Terry Harwood - discussed the upcoming election on April 5 for a new TLG Chair. He also mentioned the TLG has lots of work to do and one important item includes reviewing the CWA project deliverables to ensure that we are getting our money's worth and heading in the right direction.

Dave George – nothing to report.

Mark Stromberg - mentioned that he had emailed a copy of a report concerning the number of Superfund projects involving properties and schedules to the TLG members. He discussed the schedule of getting the work done in 5 years and believes it is attainable if there are increases in resources and manpower. However, the communities may not be receptive to this. The ROD envisioned two types of properties: 1) Residential (1379 properties); and 2) Unspecified (number of properties unknown due to right-of-ways, commercial areas, common areas, etc.) The costs for these two categories are:

1) Residential	\$42M
2) Unspecified	<u>\$35M</u>
Total	\$77M

Ron Roizen asked about the issue of sampling and the number of projects discussed in the ROD. Mark Stromberg replied that it is impossible to do randomized sampling. The data is sufficient to do cost estimates and to evaluate and select the remedy. Ron asked how many years are implied. Mark mentioned that the ROD does not specify for the 2nd category. Ron replied that the community believed the yards were the top priority and they would be done in five years. Mark stated that he does not know the actual number of properties.

Rogers Hardy - inquired if the state legislature had approved funding for a lake manager. Rob Hanson replied that a full time employee (FTE) position had been approved for July 1, 2005.

Ron Roizen - discussed communication to the TLG on technical issues of concern and how in certain cases there is misinformation. In particular, the ASTDR report in November mentioned that a play area in Mullan had 12,000 ppm of lead. When inquiries were made to ASTDR about the location of the contaminated area to see why it had not been cleaned up, the specific data could not be found. According to ASTDR, the data was collected by URS during the EPA removal. When the IDEQ was contacted, they were also unable to locate the data due to the thousands of records on file. Rob Hanson is checking into this matter. Ron commented that sometimes information is used erroneously by an agency in order to influence public opinion on the basin, when in fact the information is misleading and cannot be backed up.

Rob Hanson - discussed the 5-Year Plan and the efforts made to get the yards done.

Nick Zilka – nothing to report.

Mike Beckwith - mentioned that he will be working with Paul Woods on sampling starting the first week in April.

Ed Moreen – reported that he had checked the ROD in regards to Ron Roizen’s earlier question about dredging the river near Cataldo and this information is listed in the ROD.

Randy Connolly - mentioned that he talked with John Rowen about the beaches on the Spokane River. The Corps of Engineers is doing design work on Star Road to remove sand and bank stabilization on the island site.

Ginny Dierich – nothing to report.

Dave Sternberg – discussed the draft cleanup action plan for the Upriver Dam site on the Spokane River. The plan will be released on March 21 for public comment.

Rogers Hardy - reported that the water level on his property was extremely low and that he had never seen it this low in the past. He said that iron oxide is staining the sediment. Paul Woods had analyzed it last year and Rogers wondered if there should be any additional work?

Schedule: Next TLG meeting scheduled 4/05/05 from 9AM – 4PM (Idaho Department of Transportation)

Thank you for your participation.