

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY

May 26, 2005

Participants:

Phillip Cernera (Chair)	Terry Harwood
Rob Spafford	Lloyd Brewer
Ron Roizen	Randy Connolly
Rogers Hardy	Dave Sternberg
Paul Woods	Rusty Shepherd
Nick Zilka	Ginny Dierich
Mark Stromberg	Jeri DeLange (Note Taker)
Brian Spears	

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.

Agenda Items: Five-Year Work Plan, BIF Meeting, TLG Meeting

Phillip Cernera indicated that he sent the draft five-year work plan out to everyone for their review. He also reminded everyone that the BIF meeting will be next Thursday, June 2 at the USFS Building (Caribou Room) on Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and the TLG meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 21. Cernera indicated that the meeting location has not been set up yet and will be announced later.

Other Discussion:

Terry Harwood mentioned that he has been working on contacting all of the BEIPC commissioners and alternates for their direction on involvement with other issues such as Blackwell Island, St. Maries, the St. Joe River, and the Spokane River that pertain to the lake and along its tributaries. So far, he has only received a few responses and these indicated the BEIPC should not become more involved except on issues germane to the LMP (Lake Management Plan). Cernera responded that one of the TLG's functions is to review issues with other agencies and bring them forward to the BEIPC if concerns or problems are warranted.

Cernera discussed that he was going to bring up the 404 permit application for Blackwell Island in the round table today to alert everyone. Harwood responded that he will see if he receives instructions from the Board for involvement in this issue.

Harwood also mentioned that a few of the commissioners believe that the TLG should only look into issues where directed by the BEIPC. Harwood will bring this up at the next meeting in order to have a vote. Cernera remarked that good issues have been raised and the TLG may desire to prepare a recommendation for the BEIPC's approval for what to be involved in. Harwood discussed that Cernera's suggestion was a good idea and believes the TLG should be involved in many issues.

Nick Zilka mentioned that just because the TLG or the BEIPC is not actively involved in some issues, it does not mean there is no involvement by the individual entities represented in the TLG.

Ron Roizen stated that he believes it is not the board's desire to expand the TLG's work.

Randy Connolly discussed that there are reasons for the TLG to be watching issues for potential risks.

Certera mentioned that dredging, decanting dredged material and other such projects are definitely issues that fit perfectly within the TLG's charter since they will inform us how best to implement the ROD which calls for pilot river dredging, wetlands work and remediation of splays.

Roizen mentioned that he was just commenting on Harwood's original statement.

Rusty Shepherd discussed that with regard to getting involved in the issues, there are two basic laws to be concerned with: 1) The CWA (Clean Water Act); and 2) CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act).

Ginny Dierich discussed the regulatory requirements. She mentioned that looking into sediments and contamination problems would fall under the CWA protection of the environment. For Blackwell Island, she wondered how this would play into an ICP (Institutional Control Program).

Shepherd mentioned that it may be difficult as some of the same people work on both and that different entities have different charters.

Certera stated that it seems appropriate for the TLG to put this issue on the table and decide how critical it may be to the TLG. He also mentioned that the TLG is comprised of personnel with all the agencies and with all the issues. Certera then asked if it was being suggested that the TLG narrow their scope of round table discussions.

Harwood discussed that there are TLG representatives who will bring issues forward. However, there are some members who will not know all of the issues such as Blackwell Island. He explained that a member can inform the TLG of an issue, but this does not mean it is an official call from the agencies for the TLG to take a role.

Brian Spears remarked that the technical leaders are only trying to learn about what is going on and how to apply that knowledge to future projects. He believes the comments about not becoming involved are counterproductive.

Harwood stated that the TLG needs to continue to function as before until directed by the BEIPC. He has been trying to relate the BEIPC's purpose to the commission, public, stakeholders, etc.

Shepherd stated that he believes issues should come into the BIF and that is what Phillip Cernera has done by inviting the agencies to inform other agencies at the BIF.

Cernera mentioned that this issue will be discussed further at the next TLG meeting. If this issue is on the BEIPC agenda in August, he would like the TLG to have a position.

Harwood replied that he will not put this issue on the agenda unless the TLG recommends it.

Spears moved that he would like a majority statement from the TLG on what it may discuss and what the group feeling is about discussing items.

Cenera replied that Harwood brought this issue up and if it is on the board's agenda, the TLG should have a discussion to air its views.

Harwood remarked that the TLG should be prepared just in case. In some issues, such as funding for the lake modeling, it does not make sense that the BEIPC is not involved in the lake.

Hardy mentioned that the TLG needs to look at issues on a case-by-case situation and reserve the right to bring up the issue to the BEIPC so the board can choose if it should become involved.

Round Table:

Roizen: Inquired if Fred Brackenbush could have a few minutes to comment at the BIF meeting.

Cernera: Answered that the BIF agenda was full, but maybe at the TLG meeting on June 21. In addition, the BIF agenda has time for an open discussion.

Woods: Reported that he is very busy with the lake sampling and will be unreachable by phone while he is out on the lake. He advised anyone trying to contact him to leave a message at the Ameritel Inn in Coeur d'Alene (Ph: 208-665-9000).

Hardy: Discussed the lake education map and recreational issues. He mentioned the Avista dam relicensing survey which reported that most people are satisfied with the amount of recreational amenities.

Zilka: Mentioned that the request for proposals (RFP's) for the Sisters mine are due June 10.

Stromberg: Reported that between 35-40 properties have been completed in the yard program.

Spears: Discussed that he is monitoring bullhead on the lake.

Harwood: Nothing to report.

Brewer: Nothing to report.

Connolly: Mentioned that the Spokane Tribe is hiring a contractor to analyze fish data.

Shepherd: Nothing to report.

Dierich: Asked Stromberg about amount of funding for the Golconda mine.

Stromberg: Replied that he has \$1M for next year.

Schedule: As the BIF meeting is next Thursday, the next TLG conference call will be scheduled 6/9/05

Thank you for your participation.