

**BEIPC – TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP GROUP (TLG)  
MEETING SUMMARY NOTES**

February 5, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
WWTP Upstairs Conference Room, Coeur d'Alene ID

**Call to Order/Introductions:** The TLG Chair, Sandra Raskell, called the meeting to order at 9:05 and attendees introduced themselves.

**Attendees:** Bill Adams (EPA), Jerry Boyd (CCC Chair), Jaimie Brunner (IDEQ), Glory Carlile (BEIPC), Randy Connelly (STT), Rene Gilbert (EPA), Terry Harwood (BEIPC), Andy Helkey (PHD), Laura Laumatia CDA Tribe), Caj Matheson (RP), Ed Moreen (EPA), Jan Olsen(IDEQ), Sandra Raskell (CDA Tribe, Katherine Rowden (NWS), Bill Rust, Rusty Shepard (Kootenai Co.), Rebecca Stevens (CDA Tribe), Mike Stevenson (BLM), and Sandra Treccani (WA Ecology).

**Approval of Draft TLG Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2014:** Raskell noted that John Carpenter submitted some comments that were included in the revised latest version of the minutes that are attached to the Agenda. The following edits: Andy Helkey was an attendee. On page 2 in the RP Update, add “approach and” before “values” and change “report” to “presentation” and insert “Brochure” after “Healthy Living” under Education and Intervention on page 1.

Jaimie Brunner moved to accept the minutes with these edits and Ed Moreen 2<sup>nd</sup> M/S/C

**Accomplishment Report, Property Remediation Program and Financial Updates:** (Terry Harwood, BEIPC, Bill Adams, USEPA)

Harwood reviewed the 2014 Annual Report and the process of how it is compiled and processed. He said that after approval by the board at the February BEIPC meeting then about 50 copies will be printed and distributed. It will also be posted on the BEIPC website. The report is in 2 sections: One funded through CERCLA and the other (duties as assigned) is other activities acquired throughout the past years. He announced that the new BEIPC commissioners will be introduced at the Basin Commission February meeting.

Harwood reported that each section lists what was accomplished throughout the year including community involvement, blood lead screening report, property remediation program, (public gravel roads are all done), remedy protection projects (all of the projects in the Box will be completed at the end of 2015), paved road program, repositories, upper basin remedies, lower basin, Spokane River, CDA Lake Management activities, flood control inventory, Restoration Partnership, and the challenges ahead.

Harwood suggested in the future producing a cause and effect in the Blood Level Report showing correlation before and after cleanup and blood levels in the Basin.

It was confirmed that the jurisdictions do not receive any grant funding for O & M and sign agreements acknowledging that they are responsible for their own O & M of their roads.

Adams mentioned that they are working on a Limited Use Repository (LUR) policy with a facility to be operated for a limited time for the road waste with restrictions on how they will be used in the future.

In the last meeting minutes, it was confirmed that in Don Carpenter's report that the monitoring of the inflow and outflow during high water in East Mission Flats was inconclusive. Since there was so little difference that the results was not value added data, it was decided that the monitoring will be discontinued.

#### Basin Property Remediation Program:

Bill Adams reported that for a variety of reasons, they are transitioning the Basin Property Remediation Program over to the CDA Work Trust. The main reason is to save SA Account money which is the money received in the Hecla settlement. This year is the transition year to begin in 2015 and will be completed by 2016. The plan is to reduce expenditure to SSA and prepare for long term management. The Trust has hired a new Project Manager, Allan Davis and he will be working on the BPRP and the high risk, high priority projects. He added that IDEQ's role will continue beyond 2016 as they will be involved and providing some oversight. The main difference is that the construction work will all be done by the Trust under their contracts.

#### Strategies to address recreational exposures:

Adams reported that they are working on developing strategies to address recreational exposures. The challenge is that there are many properties identified, particularly in the Lower Basin, and the question is what to do with those in terms of remediation particularly when there is not a residence there. Realizing there can be recontamination by flooding and that they also have some risks associated with recreational use, they are trying to identify and develop some strategies on how best to approach these types of properties for the long term. Adams said there have been meetings to bring up ideas and he thought one good idea brought up by Jerry Cobb was to provide wash stations at these sites to wash off things like their boots and their boats.

#### Budget Update: Sources/Uses/Distribution of Settlement Funds, and Special Account (SA).

Adams reviewed the project budget update and the projects demand on the accounts. He reported that there is about \$104M in the Special Account and this is the only source of funds for work in the Box. It is the source of funds for all contractor support, oversight, cooperative agreements with the State and the Tribe, monitoring and investigations of site etc. The total includes \$15M court registry funds for O&M of the CTP. Total Box needs to date is \$112M and based on the projections, the SA may be exhausted by the end of FY17 depending on a number of factors and decisions.

CDA Work Trust current balance is \$515M. The funds cannot be used for work in the Box, cannot be used for oversight of Trust work, and has a spending cap of \$25M per year in order to grow the Trust. The Trust balance and growth variable is due to investment volatility. Approved budget for 2015 is \$24.5M.

#### Implementation Strategy:

Plans are to complete property remediation within 2 years but may be longer than that. Most of the program goes to the Trust in 2015 and all of it in 2016. Complete roads and remedy protection projects

as a high priority (some in Box) in 6 years, complete OU2 (Box) groundwater collection and complete upgrades to the CTP (Box) in 3 years. Also, significant progress on source control in Ninemile within 4 years. Plans are to construct and maintain repositories and begin Lower Basin projects and other Lower Basin cleanup actions within 2 years.

They will be investigating the area around the SVNRP Repository in Canyon Creek. They are about to complete agreement with Hecla trading some mineral rights in Canyon Creek to acquire the repository. They are looking to create a proper foundation and proper drainage and expand into the existing footprint of the repository. They will cap the repository and address some of the owner issues in that area.

#### Budget Summary:

Source of funds and restrictions: CDA Work Trust - Basin only and Special Account - Box or Basin.

#### Citizen Coordinating Council (CCC) Update:

Jerry Boyd, (CCC Chair) reported that the CCC will continue to have quarterly meetings. Boyd announced they are still looking to fill the vice-chair position for the CCC. CCC plays a role in the communication process by providing a means for participation and giving the opportunity for the community to give feedback. Next meeting will be in April in the Upper Basin.

#### Restoration Partnership Update (Caj Matheson, RP)

Caj Matheson reported that they are still working on the EIS plan and going through that process. He hopes that it will be ready in the summer. He announced that they have had some changes in some personnel. Ben Conner of Fish and Wildlife Service is the DOI rep on the Trustee council. Tim Kiser is the FWL service rep on the RP technical team. Matheson said that they will be revising the schedule in a couple of months. Rebecca Stevens added that they also had to get reestablished with others because some personnel have retired.

In response to a query about the last meeting report in the minutes, Matheson confirmed that their focus area is hydrologic components on their projects – wetlands, streams, and banks ecosystems. For example, work on fish population involves working on their habitat.

#### Our Gem Symposium Updates (Laura Laumatia, CDA Tribe, Jaime Brunner IDEQ)

Brunner reported on the timeline for reports and plans to synthesize a report. 2013/14 update should be ready in midyear.

*Brunner amended her report timeline initially outlined at this TLG meeting stating that she needs to go through an IDEQ internal technical review of the Lake Status report (Triggers) before she can send it outside the agency for review. That means she will get it to our State Office contact for review in the next 1.5 weeks, but it won't go out to the TLG until after that review is complete. That also means it will not be provided to the Basin Commission meeting on February 18.*

Laumatia reported on the symposium that was really well attended with about 200 attendees. She said they are using input to guide them along with next year's plan for outreach and education. They are planning another symposium in the spring of 2016.

She said that the Confluence Project continues to be very successful. They are hoping to be doing a storm water demonstration project and taking steps toward building an outdoor environmental education center along with U of I. They will be enhancing the wetlands, doing signage, eventually putting in an amphitheater area, and as part of the 4 corners redevelopment project that the City is leading, doing some bank erosion demonstration projects that the public can see innovative techniques. CdA school district is very interested in committing to the project and developing curriculum.

Nutrient Source Inventory report is still in process and they are working on a timeline for a report. It was suggested that they get reports from other agencies to contribute their information for the synthesized report.

### **Lower Basin Update GCS/CTP & Lower Basin Updates (Ed Moreen, USEPA)**

Ed Moreen gave a quick status update of the following topics: CTP/GCS Procurement, Bunker Hill Mine Water Storage Status and Lower Basin Status Update.

#### **Key Value Engineering Study Recommendation:**

Control flows to the CTP maximum to 5000 gpm: This requires controlling groundwater flows that are collected and requires controlling flows from the Bunker Hill Mine. In order to control the flows out of the mine it will take some infrastructure. Right now it undergoes heavy infiltration in the upper reaches of Milo Creek and the flows come out of the Bunker Hill Mine. They do control some flows with a Mine pool to divert some flows and pump some out. We are currently in conversations with the Bunker Hill Mine owner about what they can do to divert flows, control them and use the Mine pool in a way that meets the limits.

#### **Procurement Strategy CTP/GCS**

The project is a combination of upgrading the CTP and the design and construction of the groundwater collection system.

Design/Build – team of contractors completes design and constructs upgrades in accordance with Work Statement. Currently between Phase 1 and Phase II.

OSBO – includes operations before and after design/build, CH2MHil – provide technical assistance and play key role in preparing the Work Statement, and the Corps of Engineers –issue and manage solicitation and administer ODBO contract.

#### **ODBO Contract Milestone Dates – Corps of Engineers lead tasks:**

Currently we are in the Selection of Qualified Contracting Pool stage. Phase 2 solicitation should come out in March and a contract award in the summer of 2015. The anticipated construction completion is in early 2018.

O&M Responsibility:

Statue requires states to do O&M following RA implementation. ODBO contract requires 1 year of O&M following construction and acceptance testing of system. Idaho will assume operations following the 1 year ODBO O&M activities.

EPA in negotiations with Bunker Hill Mine Owner:

As previously reported, they are working with the Bunker Hill Mine owner to allow greatest flexibility for Mine operations in constructing and operating Mine Water Diversion/Storage System.

Questions/Comments regarding CTP/GCS:

Moreen said that part of the package will require a new sludge pond.

Low Basin Status Update:

Calibration is to be done of the 2D Hydraulic Model at the end of February. They will run validations reports to determine if focus can be shifted to Sediment Transport Model as the next step in the process. He said that the modeling tools will significantly enhance understanding of system and analysis of options. In the 3D Riverbed Mapping presentation, the Data Analysis Model of River Bed looks at different particle sizes, locations, and concentration.

**Kahnderosa River Bank Stabilization:**

Ed Moreen gave an update on the Kahnderosa River Bank Stabilization project. He said that one of the reasons the project was chosen was because the vertical banks were degrading and contaminated. Willows were harvested in their dormant or near dormant state to use on the banks. Toe, FESL and Willow Mattresses were installed. All aspects were completed without issue and in coordination with BPRP activities on the property and to avoid impact to the landowner camping season.

**Weather Status Update:**

Katherine Rowden (NWS) reported that a Short-Term Forecast is currently a rainfall forecast. The Weather Pattern this winter vs. Typical Winter showed 65% of average snowpack. After the rain that is coming up we will lose more snowpack.

Climate Predictions: Higher probability of being warmer than average. There is a 50 - 60% chance of being an El Nino winter.

Water Supply Forecast for summer volume: North Fork CDA at Enaville: 69% average, St. Joe at Calder: 73% average and CDA Lake is at 72% average.

Hydrologic Ensemble Forecast Service (HEFS) Pilot Project:

In the whole Columbia Basin, for the new pilot project, they picked 3 gauges to do and one is the North Fork at Prichard. There is Forecast Uncertainty and the new forecast will include it which is a good tool for use in answering questions.

Summary Conclusions: This weekend could be high water for the water year. Region's good on precipitation short on snowpack and this will affect the summer water supply. End of snow season is April 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a low risk of additional flooding or high water with diminishing snowpack.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:58**