

**TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY**  
**November 18, 2004**

Participants:

Phillip Cernera  
Anne Dailey  
Ginny Dierich

Dave George  
Rob Spafford  
Dave Sternberg

Paul Woods  
Notes: Holly LeBret

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:**

Recap of Approved Projects

There was a discussion about the last Basin Commission Board Meeting and Cernera read the list of projects that were approved. The total obligated amount is \$1.505 million. He suggested that the Commissioners had achieved a good compromise of upper basin/lower basin projects. The TLG had ranked some of the approved projects pretty low, but in the political arena some factors seemed to override technical merit.

There was a discussion about why some projects did not get funding. Paul Woods spoke about possible funding for Phase II of the River Sediment Project. Cernera suggested that a presentation of the model to the CCC would make them more informed and that they may support the project.

It was decided that a presentation of technical information would be developed for the Basin Commissioners and that it might be in the form of another Basin Information Forum (BIF) that they would be invited to, before the next board meeting.

Cernera said that at the board meeting, Butch Otter's assistant told everyone that funding for CWA will not be available for FY06.

Due to lack of funding in FY06, the Lake study may be in its third year with no money for lake monitoring. Paul Woods said that the sampling is scheduled to end October 2006 and that the project is designed for long-term modeling, which will be less expensive. He said that monitoring the two critical stations (C4 & C5) should cost around \$150k/year or less.

There was a discussion about the proposal for a Lake Management Plan audit, that it did not receive support from the Board and that both Steve Allred and Chairman Stensgar had asked their staffs to develop the proposal. Phillip Cernera wrote it with the State. There needs to be a funded and implementable LMP in place. Cernera said that we haven't seen any indication that the state or federal governments will match the Tribe's \$5-million pledge. The Tribe is hopeful that we can get a summit together of those concerned about the lake deletion (from Superfund): such as realtors, Chamber of Commerce, and others; and ask the question, 'how can we get

there?"

### 1 and 5 year Plan Development

Anne Dailey is busy writing 15 sections for the EPA 5-year review. Cernera and Spafford will get out a draft of the Commission 5-year plan in the next three weeks. The 1-year work plan is already in motion. An annual report would be the Executive Director's project.

Ginny Dierich suggested that tying in the last 5-year plan with the CWA projects is critical. Cernera said that we should have vision and be informed on how to move forward in the next 5-year plan.

Paul Woods said that with the EPA 5-year report coming out and the NAS report, there will be lots of information for the TLG to address. Rob Spafford said that there appears to be a void in the TLG membership number. There was a discussion about how to increase participation. Spafford summarized the TLG priorities: 1) how to deal with the balance of the CWA funding, 2) the 1 and 5-year plans, and 3) adaptive management.

### Core Staff Discussions re: CWA Monies Still Available

Cernera will speak with Dick Panabaker to see what his thoughts are on the Commissioners holding a meeting in December rather than putting discussions off until February.

The non-appropriated CWA funds can not just be earmarked as surplus money, but must be used to fund projects. He said that the Basin Commission and the CCC Chair both want the upper basin/lower basin split as close to the 75/25 as possible. Discussions at the last board meeting regarding the TLG were very direct and he told everyone that the TLG needs to think hard about what was said. Cernera stated that there may be something in the upper basin to fund. Cernera also mentioned that the TLG still wants to advance the River Model and suggested funds be earmarked for continued lake monitoring.

### **Round Table:**

Paul Woods: The next lake sampling trip will be a joint open water and near shore sampling, the week of the 29<sup>th</sup> and we are still waiting for the first flush event. During the winter they will sample at low water and a rain on snow event. He is writing a report on data from last year and getting the data ready to update STORET. He offered to do a sediment model presentation at the February Basin Commission Board Meeting.

Anne Dailey: Recently attended a national STORET meeting to learn what the other agencies are doing and saw that we're on the edge compared with Superfund sites around the country. The EPA Office of Water will continue funding this work. The Box data should be live by next week; we've made substantial progress forward. She is also working on the 5-year review.

Dave Sternberg: It seems that some of the work that Paul Woods has done is some of the best science coming out of this process. The river model is good for the entire basin, including Washington.

**Schedule:**

There was discussion about having a Basin Information Forum before the next Basin Commission Meeting (in February). Cernera will ask the Commissioners what type of technical information they would like to see.

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, there will be no TLG conference call on **November 25<sup>th</sup>**. The next TLG conference call is scheduled for **December 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

Thank you for your participation.