

Technical Leadership Group (TLG)

Meeting Summary Notes

October 23, 2019 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Panhandle Health District, Hayden Lake, Idaho

(These summary notes are intended to capture key topics, conclusions, and next steps and not every detail of the presentations or discussions.)

Welcome/Introductions:

Terry Harwood (BEIPC E.D.), Gail Yost (BEIPC, note taker), Bonnie Douglas (Citizen, CCC), Keri St. John (IDEQ), Jamie Brunner (IDEQ, TLG Vice Chair), Dan McCracken (IDEQ), Mary Rehnborg (PHD), Rebecca Stevens (CDA Tribe, Acting TLG Chair), Jerry Boyd (CCC Chair), Jamie Sturgess (Kootenai Co, TLG Rep) and Craig Cooper (IDEQ)

Participants by phone: Kim Prestbo (EPA), Bonnie Arthur (EPA)

Others who came in after introductions: Matt Nykiel (ICL), David Leptich (IDFG)

Rebecca Stevens started off the meeting as acting Chair as Sandra is no longer with the Tribe. She made an announcement that this building (Panhandle Health District) participates in the Storm Water Erosion Education Program and works closely with PHD on their storm water features.

Review Calendar Year 2020 BEIPC Work Plan – Terry Harwood

Terry Harwood shared the process of creating the annual work plans and 5-year work plans, as well as a yearly Accomplishment Report. The work plans are divided into two sections – Part 1 covers environmental cleanup work performed through CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act). It includes work to implement the Record of Decision (ROD) for Operable Unit 3 (OU-3) and the Upper Basin ROD Amendment (RODA) for OU-2 and 3. Part 2 includes Other Activities and Responsibilities – Lake Management Plan, Natural Resource Trustees, work on recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and requests from the communities and citizens of the Basin.

Terry recently reviewed the recommendations from NAS and found that we have addressed all the concerns in their study except for funding a clinic in the basin. He continued with the first section going over human health activities including property remediation and drinking water supply remediation (as it pertains strictly to private wells and not public water systems), paved roads program and recreational sites. He did not include Remedy Protection as they are anticipating finishing this program in December. Rebecca asked on the remedy protection program if there were environmental covenants completed and Terry answered yes.

Other cleanup work: Repository Development and Management, remedial actions in the Upper & Lower basin (including related human health activities) and the Basin Environmental Monitoring Program (BEMP).

Terry gave an update on the Basin Property Remediation Program (BPRP), after this year there will be 216 properties in the Upper and Lower Basin requiring sampling and 43 properties that require remediation; in

the Box there are eight properties remaining. A total of 3,918 properties in the Basin and 3,235 in the Box have been remediated at the conclusion of 2019. On the paved roads program – 606 total segments were eligible: Wardner, Smeltonville, Eastside Highway District, Pinehurst, Osburn, Wallace, Mullan and Shoshone County Box have completed all their eligible segments. In 2020, Kellogg will finish their last 2 roadways; there will be 50 remaining road segments in Shoshone County Basin that will be addressed with remaining funding.

The Lead Health Intervention Program continues yearly for residents living within the Bunker Hill Superfund Site. \$30 incentive is given to children between ages 6 months to 6 years. PHD is also very active in lead health education and community outreach.

Recreation Sites Program expects to start cleanup at the Cataldo Boat Ramp, continue to update and install new signage at identified sites, and hand washing station installations at select boat ramps.

Repository Development & Management – all the LUR's (Limited Use Repositories) have been closed; Big Creek repository has undergone many expansions increasing waste holding capabilities – the BCRA (Annex) uses existing access, decontamination and ICP staging facilities saving money. East Mission Flats (EMFR) and Lower Burke Canyon (LBCR) still have a lot of capacity left. Increasing Basin long-term capacity will be needed in the Upper Basin. The Waste Consolidation Area (WCA) finalized construction in 2016. This year construction began on the Canyon Creek Repository (CCR), rebuilding the old Silver Valley Natural Resource Trustee (SVNRT) Repository. Jerry Boyd asked if they were going to line Canyon Creek and Bonnie Arthur answered that there would not be a bottom liner due to long term operation and maintenance, there will be a top liner.

Upper Basin Remedies – The Upper Basin RODA identified \$635 million for work in the Upper Basin including work at 125 mine and mill sites. The Superfund Cleanup Implementation Plan (SCIP) identifies the priority setting process and outlook for sequencing the work over the next ten years. Other Upper Basin projects include: Interstate Mill Site, Tamarack Complex, East Fork Ninemile Waste Consolidation Area, Dayrock Mine and Lower East Fork Ninemile Creek riparian area, Canyon Creek Complex (Repository/Waste Consolidation Area) and Douglas Mine and Mill in the Pinecreek Basin. Work will also continue on the Central Treatment Plant/Central Impoundment Area.

Lower Basin Remedies – projects include Gray's Meadow for clean waterfowl feeding habitat. Jerry Boyd asked if they were going to have a CCC for the Lower Basin Projects next year and Terry's certain they will have one – he will get with Ed and Kim and figure out a schedule. Kim will also provide information on the Coeur d'Alene Basin Environmental Monitoring Program Data Summary for the Water Year 2018. This report will be in the work plan before the BEIPC meeting in November.

Data management for the Bunker Hill site is transitioning to Scribe.net and Rebecca asked how the management was going to work with all the parties listed (EPA, IDEQ, and CDA Trust) and support from EPA Environmental Response Team. Kim answered that they were still working on it, no short answer at this time.

Part 2 – Other Activities and Responsibilities include work on: Lake Management, Flood Control & Infrastructure Revitalization, Communication & Public Involvement, State of Washington activities, and Coordination with the Restoration Partnership.

The Lake Management Nutrient Inventory draft report is also out.

Flood Control and Infrastructure Revitalization – Terry currently working with COE and FEMA on flood zone analysis on the South Fork. They will determine the best approach to coordinate new flood inundation maps for implementation. Current and updated data from the COE to the data that FEMA used shows significant changes in flood flows. Terry also reported that from the Infrastructure Revitalization list of needs including sewer, water, stormwater drainage, flood control and roads – almost everything has been done with over \$150 million worth of work, funded in various ways – big accomplishment!

Lots of outreach coordination between IDEQ, PHD, CIC's, EPA, BEIPC. Bonnie Douglas thought that there was a requirement on communication with governmental and city agencies and Terry answered that's why there are three County Commissioners on the Basin Commission, to represent their counties and cities. They both agreed that thru the CCC they communicate with the public, as well as thru the basin bulletins which Bonnie thought were better than they have been. Rebecca asked Bonnie if she thought the CCC meetings were issue driven, but Bonnie had not attended one for quite a while due to evening meetings. Terry stated there has been a lot of work completed, feels good about the work done and communities look great, but now that we will be working in more rural areas is the BEIPC still viable? More discussion to come....

Rebecca gave a quick update on the Restoration Partnership – The Trustees will be holding a meeting tomorrow to go over applications on projects that were submitted. The meeting has been pushed back several times, so there will not be a list of projects in the one year plan. Selections will not be made until December, after the November Basin Commission meeting. Terry said he can add an addendum later to the work plans. Jamie Sturgess asked if these were the projects that were submitted last year – Rebecca answered yes, the full applications are taking more time.

There was a question from Jamie Sturgess on the lower basin, asking specifically on the pilot project selection process, for a when will this happen. Kim answered hopefully by the end of 2020 they will be able to finalize the approach and selection for a pilot project in the Dudley Reach area – they are working with the CDA Trust gathering data. Jamie Sturgess moved to accept the 2020 work plan with corrections, Dan McCracken 2nd M/S/C

Review Five Year (2020-2024) BEIPC Work Plan – Terry Harwood

Rebecca suggested everyone taking a minute to go thru their hardcopies, then if corrections need to be made instead of going page by page. Terry generally just updates the five-year work plan. He suggested to Dan McCracken that the Paved Roads program be changed to complete in 2 years instead of one, they both agreed due to the County roads left. Jamie Sturgess asked a question on the remedy protection for the trail – short conversation from Rebecca about protecting the trails remedy, the asphalt cap, as lower basin projects take place. Rebecca also asked about the inventory of recreational beaches and banks, ongoing process? Mary from PHD said they just took a boat tour in September, looking for changes and new pop ups – so the language in the 5-year plan will read “**update** the inventory of recreational beaches and banks”. Jamie Sturgess questioned this as well as its always 5 years after 5 years. He wants to identify the beaches in high use and see an immediate reduction in exposure. Dan McCracken said that was the purpose of the boat tour, they gave the Trust specific beaches to come up with short term actions to prevent exposure, these are not permanent remedies and the problem will not be solved in the next 5 years.

No other changes, Jamie Brunner moved to accept the 5-year work plan with corrections, Jamie Sturgess
2nd M/S/C

Update on the agenda for the 11/6/19 Our Gem Symposium (Rebecca Stevens and Jamie Brunner, DEQ)

Rebecca started the update on the ‘Our Gem’, an agenda is done and presenters have been selected. Representatives from all over will be there, panel discussions as well as presentations to be given. Jerry Boyd asked if they will have new maps – and Rebecca said they were waiting for the fish consumption advisory to come out. Bonnie stated the updated charts were good, but do they have recommendation on how to prepare and store their fish? Rebecca said they do not have that information on the map. Mary from PHD suggested skinning and fileting, getting rid of the fat before freezing. Rebecca announced that they will let everyone know when the new maps will be coming out.

Comments due date on the Draft Nutrient Source Inventory – Craig Cooper DEQ

Craig Cooper asked for comments and suggestions to the Draft Nutrient Source Inventory report by the end of November – Jamie Sturgess asked for more time to review, all agreed to have comments due by December 15th. Matt Nykiel asked if Craig was looking for gaps in the information and he stated that they covered a lot of the basics, but felt more feedback needed especially in the waste water area to make sure it’s accurate. A lot of information over the last 4 years went into this report, areas of expertise and fresh sets of eyes to help review. Dan McCracken asked what the next steps would be and Jamie Brunner said the Nutrient Action Reduction Plan would come next. Jamie Sturgess stated that most people won’t read the whole report, so Craig said there is an executive summary. He also explained that most of the nutrient loads come from the rivers. Matt was surprised to read that the CDA river had higher impacts than the St.Joe, and he thought that with the land use and industry there it would be more.

Overview of FY20 anticipated construction season (Upper and Lower Basins, Kim Prestbo and Bonnie Arthur EPA)

Bonnie said Terry covered some of the 2020 construction already (yard remediations, remedy protection projects). She briefly touched on the projects up EFK Nine Mile – hauling mine waste from the Interstate mill site, Tamarack Complex design, Success and Dayrock riparian area. Rebecca asked about a spill up EFK Nine Mile – Bonnie said it was a guar spill into the creek, they did respond and report it. Dan added that it was about 3-4 gallons, the white dye in the guar made the creek look milky for quite a while. Bonnie also covered projects in Canyon Creek – the Canyon Creek WCA (SVNRT and Canyon Creek waste) Bonnie stated the SVNRT waste will be the first to go in then they will start Canyon Creek waste which will be the Hecla Star complex waste in 2022. She also said they have some new projects coming in from Canyon Creek in 2020 – Flynn Mine, Black Bear Fraction and Standard Mammoth Reach in 2021, also Douglas Mine design in Pinecreek.

Kim expects the box work – the CTP/CIA and Groundwater Collection system to be substantially complete this year 2019. By the end of December, they anticipate transfer from the temporary system to

the upgraded CTP. In January, they will start treating the mine water first, then the individual wells. By February, they should be ready for both systems. In March, they will start their acceptance testing, then wall gaps filled in April and complete in May when the wall will be capped. They hope to start their one year O&M schedule in May 2020. The seeps are still being monitored, as of now they have stopped. Rebecca asked how long after everything is up and running will the management and maintenance be transferred from EPA to the State of Idaho. Kim hopes that they will be able to keep to the O&M schedule starting in May, then there would be a one year period before transferring over – Dan McCracken also said the State is preparing to take over May of 2021. Matt wanted to clarify when Kim stated the CTP would take mine water in January and ground water in February – is that the official transfer to the upgraded system? Kim said they are treating mine water now with the temporary system – they will completely transition over to the new system when it's ready – hopefully in this time frame.

Kim spoke about Dudley Reach – CdA Trust started their characterization in this area, installed erosion pins in the beds of the river, and some will be installed on the banks in November. They are also starting to look at some waste consolidation areas in Dudley Reach. Rebecca asked to coordinate the Tribe and the Trust when they are installing the pins for safety purposes due to Tribal staff potentially sampling the Thompson and Swan Lakes at the same time.

In Gray's meadow – one characterization study completed in 2019, more data to collect – they hope to have a draft 30% design on the 700 hundred acres known as Black Lake Ranch property, 30% and 60% in 2020 with final design and construction to hopefully start in 2021.

They are continuing research work in Lane Marsh area with an amendment study – they will continue to monitor and analyze data. EPA and the Trust are working to develop a Historic Property Management Plan for the lower basin similar to the upper basin, but not identical.

Update on the Recreational Sites Strategic Workgroup (Dan McCracken, DEQ)

Dan started on some of the issues in the Basin – the Larson fishing pond above Mullan, the Trust remediated an area around one of the ponds and the parking areas; Nine Mile fishing pond had a remove and replace on the elevated soils; continuing to update signage and provide hand washing stations during the summer months at some of the boat launches; some sampling completed at the Cataldo boat launch which is on hold for now, hopefully address next year. Another small project at Gray's Bridge in Woodland Park – there is an unremediated area across the road from the apartments, the Trust sampled and hope to have a quick turnaround to limit surface contamination, and also discussed with Hecla access issues there.

In the Box – Mountain View Park in Kellogg, just east of the old drive-in theater, 6" capped placed there in the 1990's but gets frequent use by dog walkers, hikers and river access. Sampling complete – most of the capped areas still intact, but closer to the river higher levels. They are looking at more signage here – and maybe a more durable barrier as the City of Kellogg owns it and is interested.

The swimming hole at the Theater Bridge – signage placed on both sides of the bridge. Sampled areas around here and parking area, found a couple of piles that sampled high so they need to be removed. ITD owns the parking area – working with them to remediate for parking or blocking access.

Airport river walk and Smeltonville flats – remedial action in the 1990's with 6" cap, public access and walking trail concerns, sampling revealed that the cap is still intact. There were a couple of hot spots associated with wetland vegetation when they dug around them for tailings removal, will do additional sampling. Also see some river concentrations – adding signage along the trail system there. Pinehurst Trail Head – hot spots along the trail and river from vegetation removal for water line repair, the water district is continuing to do bank stabilization work – more signage here for trail use and parking.

There are three areas now for public fishing ponds – Larsen, Nine Mile and Gene Day Park. They have been remediated and are stocked with fish. They are highlighting these as good spots to take the kids, and continuing to look for other location in the basin to take similar actions, maybe thru coordination with IF&G. There is a pond near Smeltonville flats that they are looking at additional sampling as it has already been remediated around.

The Trust and their contractors have also been looking at the public river access locations, looking at sediment control and signage – updating to more appealing signs, sediment management, minor grading fixes and curbing. Next year – targeted outreach campaign for river property owners, help information, fish consumption advisory, boating safety. The Trust is also looking for more feedback from the public who use the river. Rebecca stated that Andy Helkey and Val Wade went before the Trail Commission for approval for redoing the Schlepp Ag to Wetland sign and the Harrison signs.

Election of TLG officers

Dan McCracken volunteered to take over the TLG Chair position, Rebecca offered to stay on as Vice Chair. All approved....

Meeting adjourned.