

# **Technical Leadership Group (TLG)**

## **Meeting Summary Notes**

May 16, 2018 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Panhandle Health District Conference Room, Kellogg

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

### **Welcome/Introductions:**

Jerry Boyd (CCC Chair), Glory Carlile (BEIPC note taker), Craig Cooper (IDEQ), Terry Harwood (BEIPC E.D.), Andy Helkey (PHD), Dan McCracken (IDEQ), Kim Prestbo (EPA), Sandra Raskell (TLG Chair), Rusty Shepard (Kootenai Co. TLG Rep), Rebecca Stevens (CDDA Tribe), Jamie Sturgess (Kootenai Co TLG Rep), and Sandra Treccani (WA).

### **Approval of Draft TLG Nov 9 2017 Meeting Notes**

Rebecca Stevens moved and Jamie Sturgess 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the November 9, 2017 meeting summary notes as written. **M/S/C**

### **Restoration Partnership Update by Rebecca Stevens**

Rebecca Stevens (CDA Tribe) showed the geographic area that the Restoration Partnership is looking at for developing and implementing restoration plan activities to restore natural resources in the CDA Basin. Their Record of Decision got signed. She noted that human use projects are unique as up to 10 % of the funds can be used for human use related restoration projects. Examples are bringing back canoes and students are hatching fish eggs (salmon and trout) in the classroom and then releasing the fish.

They are looking at Eligibility Criteria for upcoming projects and she said that they want to (as well as the public of which they heard through public scoping) spend the disbursed settlement funds in the CDA Basin.

Craig Cooper asked how storm water management fits into the infrastructure. Stevens added, for example, that if the storm water was collected and used for irrigation it may be considered as a component in the restoration project design.

Stevens said that it is a good to consider point for having an Environmental Covenant so the private land owner can also be the operator and conduct O &M once a project is complete. They need to think ahead from the standpoint of the Tribe for Environmental Covenant and future O & M.

Their other criteria includes the ability for technical capability feasibility by looking at whether similar projects including if it has been done before and if it worked and what kind of lessons learned are there to glean from for future restoration projects. If it worked on the different components of the property.

Next Steps include solicitation for applications noting that anyone can apply. They have open houses and workshops for public input. Jamie Sturgess asked that the BEIPC send out the notice of the future workshops to their e-mail contact list.

Harwood suggested that they have competitive bidding for contracts on their projects. Stevens said that by law from the Tribe's Financial Accountability, they must have 3 bids for anything over a certain amount.

Stevens announced a rough timeline: The Trustees will be looking at projects in house and will rate the projects soon. She is hoping they will be starting projects within the year. They have a new Technical staff from the Forest Service and that Jeff Johnson is leaving and going to the Natural Park Service for the Columbia Basin area.

### **Blood Lead Update**

Andy Helkey (PHD) gave a Blood Lead Level summary update on the 2017 report on lead levels with information on lead health intervention program (LHIP) annual blood lead surveys which is a health screening using a blood test. Overall there is decreasing “elevated” blood lead levels over time. However, 1 kid out of 7 was high and made the average jump up. He noted that ingestion is the most common route of exposure and that at risk populations are children and pregnant women, Identified sources of exposure include disturbed contaminant barriers, strong recreational link, occupational link, antique jewelry, and lead based paint products.

New signage in recreational areas will be up soon with less wording to be easier to read. U of I has developed a video game that will be tested in some schools and then on website.

### **Lower Basin Update by Kim Prestbo:**

Kim Prestbo (EPA) gave a brief summary of activities in 2017. March 2017 Flood – Sediment Lead loading increases rapidly in Dudley Reach and they did coring in 2017 that showed concentrations are high in the scour holes.

They needed to determine what the baseline is and what to compare. It is variable and it is one of the problems. They have a good Stratigraphic Model at this time showing riverbed characterization. They are using the Sediment Transport Model now as the development is complete. They consolidated the information and the documentation is under review.

Sturgess asked about the scour holes and eroding. Cooper asked about the size between orange and blue designation as larger or smaller. Prestbo said they are variable.

Lower Basin Strategic Plan is complete and now on their website. Goals for cleanup:

- Human health - focus is relying heavily on coordination with the recreational team.
- Protect wildlife - trying to improve conditions.
- Addressing recontamination including source control - their approach to source control is to address the worse first and then
- Promote long-term Stewardship – the whole point of Adaptive Management means you are not really stuck in one place and can make adjustments

Factors that play into decision making include trying to coordinate their work with how to get this work done in the basin.

Rusty Shepard commented that he does not see any representations of local government on the Work Group. Prestbo said that they are trying to find ways to do this. Stevens added that there are representatives in other groups. Harwood agreed with Shepard that there has been isolation with the local technical people and the Basin Commission because the locals have not been involved from the beginning. He said that he wants an answer to why there are no designated representatives from the Basin Commission and from the counties (local governments) on the Work Group. Shepard’s point is that local agencies are managing the land use so they should be involved in the planning and implementation process.

Sandy Treccani gave her perceptive perception about the Work Group. State of Washington is not involved in everything and there are very technical experts that are trying to make the projects manageable and easier to understand.

Prestbo said that they are working on planning and implementing. She announced that they are having a meeting on June 13 in the Lower Basin at the Medimont Grange to gather more input.

#### **Basin Commission Website Update**

Sandy Treccani gave an update on the BEIPC website with a presentation of the new revisions being made to improve public involvement and information sharing. They have developed some structural changes and added pictures and links to partner agencies.

#### **Pilot Project Proposal**

Jamie Sturgess made a presentation of a pilot project proposal for placement of capping with rock of the sediment on the riverbed bottom to physically stabilize it. He had also presented this proposal at the last CCC meeting. Discussion was mostly positive.

Rebecca Stevens suggested he consider adding some more unknowns such as the source of their rock material and to consider the cultural resources.

#### **Flood Group Update**

Terry Harwood gave an update on the Flood Group process. The MOA has been signed by the jurisdictions and will be presented to Chair, Jack Buell, for approval for the Basin Commission and the Executive Director to take the lead and helping the community to deal with flooding.

#### **Remedy Protection Project update.**

Harwood said that the Paved Road projects should be done in 2020 and they should pretty much be done with all the infrastructure work by end of construction year in 2019.

Craig Cooper moved and Kim Prestbo 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn at 4:08