



Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

April 5, 2019
Board Meeting
Skamania County Hegewald Center
710 SW Rock Creek Drive
Stevenson, WA 98648

Draft Minutes
For Approval: June 7, 2019

Present: Taylor Aalvik, Mike Backman, Lee Grose, Tom Linde, Richard Mahar, Hal Mahnke, Gary Medvigy, Don Swanson, and Olaf Thomason.

Absent: Todd Olson, Gary Stamper, Dean Takko, Jade Unger, and Dennis Weber. Chairman Linde excused the absent members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments were given.

Director Manlow introduced the newest member of the Board to the group. Gary Medvigy, Clark County Councilor, has filled the seat left by Marc Boldt. Director Manlow stated that he and Ms. Smee met with Mr. Medvigy earlier in the week to give him information and background on the Board.

At 1:07 p.m. Board member Grose arrived.

PARTNER PRESENTATIONS

- **Dan Richardson, Underwood Conservation District:** Mr. Richardson highlighted fish habitat projects in the Wind River and White Salmon watersheds his organization conducted over the last 20 years. Project types include culvert replacement, log jams, fish habitat work, and riparian habitat. He also highlighted projects that will be constructed in 2019, including the Little Wind River project that resulted from the LCFRB's Wind River Community Based Habitat Strategy.
- **Brice Crayne, Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group:** Mr. Crayne highlighted projects from Bonneville to the mouth of the Grays River, which covers 16 watersheds. He focused his presentation on the Upper Washougal projects that were completed over the last 5 years. Project types include riparian and habitat restoration, log jams, and designs.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2019 SRFB grant round is underway. We have received 16 project applications with 7 sponsors, involving \$5.4 million in matching funds. Field site visits are scheduled for 4/30, 5/1, and 5/2. This year the Board will rent two 15 passenger vans instead of individual vehicles for field visits. Board members should contact Ms. Smee or Ms. Clark to reserve a spot in the van. Virtual tours are scheduled for 5/7 at our office in Vancouver. Draft review is scheduled for May 21 & 22 at WDFW in Ridgefield and final review/scoring is scheduled for July 10. The Board will meet on July 26 to review/approve or remand the ranked list for submission to SRFB.
- Small Grants Program: The Board received 4 Letters of Interest and 3 were asked to go to final application submittal. On April 18, LCFRB staff, a WDFW staff member and the TAC Chair and Vice Chair will review and score the applications.
- Statewide initiatives:
 - Director Manlow stepped down as COR Director and was replaced by Alex Conley of the Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board.
 - Director Manlow has been appointed to the WDFW Budget Policy Advisory Committee.

- Mr. West has been appointed to the WDFW HPA Committee.
- An update on the Columbia Basin Partnership (CBP) - Phase 1 products have been included in the back of the Board packet. The next meeting is scheduled for April 23 & 24 in Portland.
- New Executive Director for GSRO has been selected to replace Steve Martin. Erik Neatherlin from WDFW will begin his new position on 4/16/19.
- Legislative Contacts: Staff is looking to expand legislative contacts. Ms. Smee will draft a letter to the legislature for Board review. Ms. Smee noted the importance of Board member contacting their legislators. She is currently working with RCO to ask what our key budget points are going to be.
- The Salmon Recovery Conference is scheduled for April 8 & 9 in Tacoma. Director Manlow and Ms. Johnson, along with Phil Trask, will present at the conference.
- Staff is looking to schedule a WDFW and LCFRB question and answer science discussion for a future Board meeting. This is an opportunity for the Board to have direct conversations with the experts and fish managers. Mr. Manlow asked the Board whether they are interested in such a discussions.
- Egg Box Information: Staff provided the Board with some technical information on egg boxes as a potential recover tool. This is a follow up to the February meeting. Ms. Smee passed the document out.
- LCFRB Policy Review: Since Ms. Smee started with the Board, she has been reviewing the Board policies, personnel manual, and Bylaws. Staff will work together to provide recommended updates to the policies. Updates will be submitted to the Executive Committee for initial comments and recommendations, and then presented to the Board in a future work session.

BUSINESS MEETING

Item #1 Consent Agenda

Board member Mahnke moved and Board member Grose seconded to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

Motion carried.

Item #2 Funding Request and time Extension for the Recovery Plan Programmatic Review

Director Manlow presented the item. In July 2017, the Board approved the original contract for the East Fork Lewis River Pilot Program in the amount of \$65,000. The purpose of the project was to: (1) inventory and identify programs and related recovery plan actions that have been implemented since recovery Plan was adopted, (2) review programs to document key achievements and gaps across all of the "H's", including outcomes relating to improving the effectiveness of recovery efforts, (3) provide data that can be used to update our online recovery tracking tool, SalmonPORT, and (4) summarize the results of the evaluation in both reports and presentations. This request is for an additional \$5,000 in funding and a time extension until July 31, 2019, to allow completion of the additional tasks outlined in the action summary. Carry over funds from delays in the adoption of the state capital budget last year are sufficient to cover the cost increase.

Board member Taylor moved and Board member Swanson seconded to approve an additional \$5,000 in Funding, a Time Extension, and authorize the Director to sign a new Scope of Work to complete the pilot project of the East Fork Lewis River Program Review.

Motion carried.

Item #3 Request to Enter into Contract for Landscape Habitat Analysis

Director Manlow presented the item. He stated that assessment of habitat conditions across the entire region is beyond what can be accomplished with our existing budget. However, WDFW's High Resolution Change Detection (HRCDC) provides a cost-effective alternative for assessing changes in land cover types and riparian over time and to coarse scales. Currently this item would cover Clark County with the option of expanding the scope to other counties if funding from partner organizations could be secured. The Board would need to enter into subcontracts with those partners if there is funding in the future. This project is part of landscape habitat status and trends monitoring called for in the recovery plan, and helps to evaluate changes in stream habitat and landscape conditions over time. This tool has been used in the Puget Sound area, within several different recovery regions.

Director Manlow stated he has requested authorization from RCO to use carry over funds to apply to this project. Funding is contingent upon approval from RCO.

Questions and comments from the Board:

- Board member Medvigy asked, what is the platform for the survey? Mr. West responded it is aerial photography and fits very nicely with other data that is available. This is National Agriculture Inventory Program (NAIP) data and he believes it is derived from fixed wing flights. This data can be used to look at channel changes in rivers with up to 1 meter in accuracy.
- Board member Swanson asked if lidar was more granular. Mr. West stated he could not speak to that. He added that according to the people he spoke with at Clark County GIS, they are very excited about the program. He added this data has been effectively applied to the VSP program in Lewis County.

Board member Grose moved and Board member Mahnke seconded to authorize the Director to negotiate and enter into contract with WDFW for Landscape Habitat Analysis for consulting services to conduct a High Resolution Change Detection (HRCDC) land cover change analysis in Clark County with the option to expand the scope to other counties if we could get additional funding from other partners.

Motion carried.

Item #4 Request to Hire Student Interns

Ms. Smee presented the item. Staff developed a list of research and project opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students that will help the Board move recovery plan implementation and reporting forward, while providing essential skill sets and job experience to students. Staff prioritized opportunities for advertisement and selected two positions as high priorities for completing the 17-19 Work Plan.

The first would be a Communications and Outreach intern to help with development of handouts, website, newsletter, and general outreach materials on what the Board and its partners are involved in. The second would be Data Management intern to help collect data from existing reports from agencies to inform Recovery Plan implementation.

Director Manlow stated this would address a key element of our Communication Plan under outreach and education.

Staff will reach out to the local community colleges and universities to recruit students. Interns will be paid \$15.00 per hour and work approximately 10 hours a week. These are temporary positions and do not qualify for benefits. Carry over funds from last fiscal year will be used to fund the interns.

Questions and comments from the Board:

- Board member Medvigy asked if the Board is targeting graduate students. Ms. Smee said that the Data Management piece would lend itself more to a graduate student since it is more of a research and science based position. The Communications intern could be someone getting their Bachelor's degree in graphics art.

Board member Swanson moved and Board member Aalvik seconded to hire two part time temporary interns for Communication and Outreach and Data Management.

Motion carried.

At 3:00 p.m. the Board adjourned.

/lc

Approved in open session on _____

Signed: _____

Tom Linde, Chairman