



Lower Boise Watershed Council

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING IDEQ State Offices Thursday, July 9, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Tom Dupuis, Dennis Searle, Johanna Bell, Lee Van De Bogart, Liz Paul, Clyde Lay, Andy Waldera, Jon Gould, Craig Shepard, Larry Bennett, Erica Anderson Maguire, Robbin Finch, Henry Hamanishi

Meeting called to order, introductions made. The minutes from the May 14, 2009 meeting were reviewed and, with several minor edits, approved by the Directors.

May 2009 IDEQ 303(d) List

Craig passed a summary table of the latest list. The list showed the Category 5 (TMDL needed) water bodies, including comments on which ones should be delisted, or moved to other categories (i.e., 4C) or HUCs (watersheds). All previous comments on the list are posted on DEQ's website. He said the new list is OK with EPA except for the delisting of nutrients for the mainstem Boise River. Larry Bennett said he had heard that that delisting issue had been advanced to EPA headquarters, and Craig confirmed that that.

Craig noted that a number of the streams are intermittent and may need UAAs. Also, the Lake Lowell TMDL will be provided to the WAG as a pre-draft in a couple of months. He also noted that, although the Boise River is listed for temperature, the cause is mostly natural warming. A "potential natural vegetation" (PNV) analysis could be done, but more riparian vegetation won't accomplish much for the mainstem river because it's so wide in the lower reaches.

He said that when Susan gets done with her work on the Payette that she'll be looking at the lower Boise with regard to nutrients and the Micron settlement.

Status of 319 Program

Existing 319 Grant

Tom provided a handout showing the project tasks and workplan for the 319 grant to the WAG for Canyon County BMPs. The main topic of discussion was the need to establish membership for the technical review committee and its operating procedures. In particular, there is a need for someone representing agriculture from the LBWC to be on the committee. Dennis suggested that Alan Newbill should be the first choice, with Dan Steenson another good choice, and if they are unable to do it, then he would be willing. Craig also suggested that someone from NRCS for Canyon County could be

considered. Tom said he would pass the suggestions on to Sherrill Doran who will be further coordinating this.

Outcome of BAG Ranking of Current Year Submittals

Craig passed out a table showing the 11 applications from the southwest region and how they were ranked by the BAG. The total requested from the SW was \$1.3 million, with \$2.4 million available statewide for FY 2010, and so Craig thought that 5 or 6 projects from the SW will get selected for funding at the Super BAG meeting. The only submittal from the lower Boise watershed was for Dry Creek, which was ranked #8. Henry noted that one reason it ranked low was because the work would be too far up in the watershed to be of much help to the mainstem Boise River sediment TMDL.

FY 2010 Planning

Johanna led the discussion on this agenda topic. She noted that because of the DEQ budget cuts for monitoring, and other concerns about fundraising in a poor economy, that we need to review our priorities so budget decisions can be made at the September meeting. She said we also should use the “human capital” in the LBWC, harness the skills and experiences of the Directors and others to help achieve our goals. She then went through each of the goals in the Strategic Plan, and the discussion identified associated tasks that are likely to be needed in FY 2010. The goal was to start the discussion about which task should CH2M HILL do, which might other partners in the community do, which ones might Directors be on point for, and which ones might other members want to volunteer for. Johanna also noted that we should develop a more formal business plan to facilitate funding and accomplishment of our highest priority goals.

Because we didn't have time to identify assignments or make decisions at this meeting, Tom suggested that a follow meeting or call would be needed between now and the September meeting. Johanna then summarized the next steps:

1. Members and Directors should think about their interests and which tasks they would be willing to do or be the point person for.
2. All should look at the current mailing lists for contributions, check for corrections and additions (a copy of the list was provided at the meeting).
3. Provide information (such as posters) for the upcoming IEF meeting on August 12 (Johanna, Liz and Sherrill assigned to this).
4. Have a follow-up conference call for continued discussion of FY 2010 planning before the September regular meeting, tentatively scheduled this call for Sept. 3.

Meeting Adjourned