



Lower Boise Watershed Council

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING USDA Farm Service Center, Caldwell Thursday, June 10, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.

Introduction

Attendees: See attached sign-in list.

Meeting called to order, introductions made. There were no additions or changes additions to the agenda.

Old Business

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from the May 13, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved with minor corrections.

Board Business

Board Orientation Packet, Updated Timeline: Erica provided edits to the draft timeline that had been prepared by Robbin. It will be included in the Board orientation packet.

Board Retreat Results: Erica said regular meetings will start at 7:00 pm, and generally go until 9:00 pm. She has been tasked with looking into various agenda formats, with the most important business at the top of the agenda. One example is a “consent agenda” approach where standard items requiring Board approval, such as review of minutes, 319 reports, etc. can be sent to Board members prior to meetings so they can be quickly approved at the meeting.

Lee said that agendas will have a theme for the month, e.g., DEQ report on TMDLs and 5-year reviews, and there will be an annual schedule for meeting topics, which will allow lead time for preparation.

Henry said that we will be expanding our sights on who to tap for donations; in the past we’ve relied on the regular membership group, but now with budget crunches that regular donors are facing we need to refine the approach and include others. Requests for donations will be made in sync with when donors are in their individual budget setting cycles.

Bob gave a brief summary of the discussion about rights and expectations of Board members; having these in writing now will help new and existing Board members aware of what is expected of them.

All agreed that the retreat was productive and will likely be an annual event.

TMDL Program

Indian Creek TMDL: Tom announced that there will be a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting in the morning of June 14th at Meridian City Hall to discuss details of this ongoing TMDL. So far, DEQ has released a pre-draft of Chapter 5 of this TMDL. Susan gave a brief summary of some of the key elements of this TMDL, including use of urban park shade curve to set riparian shade targets. She deferred detailed questions to the TAC.

Lake Lowell TMDL: Tom announced that there will be a TAC meeting in the afternoon of June 14th at Meridian City Hall to discuss details of this ongoing TMDL. Formal public comments are due on this TMDL by July 2nd.

Implementation Activities

319 Grant Status: Tanya presented a series of before and after pictures to highlight improvements that have been made for five grant-funded BMP projects. Projects included sediment basins and conversions to sprinkler and drip irrigation. Delwyne has calculated sediment load reductions for these projects, and noted that they are on Tier 1 lands, and therefore we are getting a lot of bang for the buck. Henry asked if we can get tours of the projects, and Tanya said yes, with July being the best time for those. Henry noted that since we are going after another 319 grant this year, it will be important for us to show the success of these existing projects. He noted that the grant process is getting more competitive, with more applications state-wide, thus less money will be coming to the southwest region.

Summer River Float: Cyndy provided a handout with float details. It would be from Notus to Hwy 95 and include visit to proposed Dixie Drain pollution abatement site. IRU will arrange boats, guides and gear. LBWC would be host. Invited would be LBWC members, 319 grant partners and grantees, municipal TAC, and local elected officials and public works directors. July 23rd was identified as a likely good date with the 27th and 29th as alternates, but subject to confirmation with Liz and others not present at the meeting.

New Business

General

SWBAG and IDEQ-BRO Coordination: Lee attended BAG meeting, as did Henry who is on the BAG. Jim Moyer, chair of the BAG was in attendance at this LBWC meeting and was introduced. The 319 grant application ranking meeting will be in September. Henry said LBWC is doing the right things by submitting pre-applications and communicating with DEQ and the BAG.

IDEQ-BRO Workplan: Johanna had met with Craig and Pete to discuss DEQ plans and help coordinate between DEQ and the LBWC. She had identified a series of 5 TAC meetings that would be useful to have for each TMDL that DEQ is developing. Craig said that DEQ is amenable to that so that the WAG can be fully informed. Lee suggested that 5 meetings may be appropriate for the more complex TMDLs, but some could be combined for less complicated or controversial TMDLs.

High Priority TMDLs: Susan said DEQ is currently working on 4 tributary TMDLs (Indian, Sand Hollow, Willow and Mason creeks) and will be working on 5/10/15-Mile Creek next calendar year. These are high priority TMDLs that were supposed to be completed by 2006

according to the settlement agreement. Craig noted that it appears that LBWC has given up on use attainability analyses for these, and therefore the applicable standards are known. Tom noted that LBWC has not decided to not pursue UAAs, but that with budget cuts they have not been the highest priority. Craig said DEQ will not be doing TMDLs for Black's, Upper Indian or Cottonwood creeks.

FY2011 LBWC Workplan Prioritization: This was another topic at the Directors' retreat. The question is how to prioritize between monitoring, fundraising, outreach and other activities for the upcoming FY. Erica said that the outcome of the retreat discussion was that monitoring and TMDLs will have to continue to be the primary focus given the numbers of TMDLs that DEQ is working on and the possibility of a nutrient TMDL for the mainstem river. Mark noted that we will need matching fund commitment to USGS earlier this year than previous years. It was agreed that a monitoring TAC should be held the last week in June. Mark also noted that the Lower Boise session at the DEQ/BSU water quality conference was very well received, and they would like us to it again next year (week of February 11th).

Meeting Adjourned at about 9:00 p.m.

CH2MHILL

MEMORANDUM

TO: _____ (OFFICE)

_____ (OFFICE)

_____ (OFFICE)

FROM: _____ (OFFICE)

DATE: 6/10/10 PROJECT NO: _____ (OFFICE)

RE: LTBC Regular Meeting _____ (OFFICE)

Attendees

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