



YAKIMA BASIN
FISH AND WILDLIFE
RECOVERY BOARD

**Minutes of the 07/06/2011 Annual Meeting
As adopted by the Board 8/18/11**

Those present:

Members: Terry Keenhan (Yakima County), Dave Ettl & Dave Brown (City of Yakima), Nancy Lillquist (City of Ellensburg), Dan Olson (City of Union Gap), Leo Bowman & Adam Fyall (Benton County), John Hubbard (City of Kennewick), Paul Ward (Yakama Nation), Jay McGowan (City of Cle Elum), Obie O'Brien (Kittitas County)

Guests: Lynn Hatcher (NOAA), David Child (Yakima Basin Joint Board)

Staff: Alex Conley (Executive Director), Yuki Reiss (Recovery Program Coordinator), Denise Buck (Operations and Outreach Coordinator), Darcy Batura (Lead Entity Coordinator)

1) Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes

Nancy called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. After introductions, the Board reviewed the minutes of the March 10th and April 14th meetings. Terry Keenhan motioned to approve the minutes as submitted; Leo Bowman seconded, and the motion passed with support of all present.

Darcy Batura, new Lead Entity Coordinator, was introduced and welcomed.

2) Board Correspondence and Announcements

Correspondence: Alex shared recent correspondence to the Board, including notification of Wenatchee National Forest Plan revisions, informal responses to the bull trout letter, a thank you letter for participating in the April NPCC meeting, and a thank you letter from the Governor to participants in development of the new YRBWEP proposal. Alex circulated a letter congratulating Phil Miller on his retirement for signature by those present.

Announcements:

- An Executive Meeting was held June 28; notes were included in the meeting packet.
- Alex summarized the status of state and federal budgets. He noted that funding for Board operations and the broader programs we work with is largely intact. Adam Fyall stated that the Klickitat Lead Entity agreement to extend coverage to WRIA 31 should be finalized soon, and that Benton County will be represented in the project review process for that area.

- Alex displayed the Final Draft of the VSP Section of the Yakima Steelhead Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, which has been printed in a limited amount.
- Alex informed the Board that two Community Salmon Fund projects were funded, a Wilson Creek habitat project and a Salmon-Safe project. The CSF does not have funds for an upcoming grant cycle.
- Adam Fyall announced that the Barker Ranch along the Yakima in Benton County is available to give tours to interested parties. The Barker Ranch is a 2000+ acre hunting club.
- Paul Ward mentioned the lamprey work being done in Prosser and invited the Board to visit. The Board suggested holding the August 18 meeting at the Prosser Hatchery. Paul will follow up with the Board on logistics. Paul also updated the Board on work being done with sockeye, Coho and Chinook at Lake Cle Elum and sturgeon in the mid-Columbia.
- There is an open house and salmon bake at the Cle Elum Hatchery on July 15.
- Yuki updated the Board on the bull trout task force (BTTF). The task force held an orientation and information session for 24 people on June 30. The task force is scheduled to work with volunteers at various sites throughout the basin to educate the public, creel surveys, snorkel surveys and remove recreation dams. They will be doing outreach at the Cle Elum open house and the Teanaway Festival. They are available to speak to groups and visit classrooms.

3) Approve Workplan and Budget

The draft work plan has been revised based on feedback at the March and April meetings and the Executive Committee meeting. Leo Bowman motioned that the work plan be approved as submitted, Dan Olson seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.

4) Board of Directors Membership

Alex noted that a letter went out to all ILA signatories in May asking for updates and any requests to join the Board of Directors. We received some updated contact information, and were notified that our representative from Cle Elum was no longer on the City Council. This creates a vacant Board of Director's seat for the 2nd Kittitas City slot. The City of Cle Elum has proposed that Jay McGowan, a council member, fill that vacancy. No other correspondence was received from other Kittitas County cities. Dan Olson motioned to approve Jay McGowan as the representative from the City of Cle Elum, Leo Bowman seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.

Alex will draft a letter to Kittitas County members notifying them of Jay's appointment and soliciting candidates from other Kittitas County Cities interested in acting as alternates for Jay. Leo motioned to approve the Board of Directors membership with the addition of Jay McGowan, Terry Keenhan seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.

5) Office Elections

A nomination was made to maintain the current suite of officers (Nancy Lillquist, Chair, Mike Leita, Vice-Chair/Treasurer, and Dan Olson, Secretary). No other nominations were made. Leo Bowman motioned to renew the appointment of the existing officers through June 30th, 2012. Paul Ward seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.

6) Approve Registered Agent

The registered agent is the formal point of contact for the Board, as registered with the Secretary of State's Corporations division. Alex currently serves as registered agent. Dan Olson motioned to re-appoint Alex Conley as the registered agent for the Board, Leo Bowman seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.

7) Committee Memberships

The current membership of the Executive Committee, the Technical Advisory Group and the Citizen's Committee members were reviewed. Paul Ward appointed two members (Emily Washines and McClure Tosch)to represent the Yakama Nation on the Citizens' Committee,. Paul motioned that the membership of the three committees be approved, with the Nation's additions to the Citizen's Committee, Dan Olson seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.

8) Review RCO Contract Status

Alex stated that we have maintained status quo funding for the next biennium, and that the Executive Committee had authorized the Chair's signature on the new FY 2012-13 RCO Recovery Board/Lead Entity Contract. The Board briefly discussed the new contract and affirmed the Executive Committee's action.

9) Set Board Meeting Schedule

After a discussion by the Board, Dan Olson motioned to approve August 18, October 13, January 26, 2011, March 29, and June 7 as dates for future Board of Director's meetings. Leo Bowman seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.

10) Policy Manual Update

Alex stated that he hopes to have the policy manual ready for review in August.

11) Review Bylaws

There were no recommended bylaw changes.

12) Program Updates

Darcy Batura gave a brief overview of 10 projects submitted for funding. \$1.776 million was allocated to the Mid-Columbia region. Klickitat LE has stated they have proposals requesting approximately \$750,000. The Board discussed how the Mid-Columbia funds are allocated between the Yakima and Klickitat Lead Entity lists. Members discussed how projects could be reviewed together to ensure the

best projects are funded, regardless of Lead Entity. The Board agreed that we should continue as we have, pending future discussion with the Klickitat Lead Entity.

Denise Buck updated the Board on the new website, stating that we are in the midst of design development and hope to have it completed in August. Dave Ettl offered his radio station as a means of outreach to the community. Leo Bowman suggested salmon success stories and Denise suggested bull trout task force activities as outreach topics. Alex mentioned that he would be leading development of a "State of the Yakima" report/document.

Yuki Reiss updated the Board on the Bull Trout Action Plan and reminded them of their goal to create a locally driven plan that analyzes the threats to bull trout and links these threats to specific actions. She thanked the Board for supporting her position and allowing her to work on this plan.

Nancy Lillquist asked how the projects were impacted by the flooding in the region. Alex stated that projects in the Taneum came through well. The Manastash Creek area remains a challenge. Obie O'Brien stated that he gets comments and questions regarding landowner's inability to remove debris from the creek, which they feel add to the flooding problems.

David Child described how multiple organizations worked together to survey Cowiche Creek in early spring and 27 redds were identified which indicates 50+ adults present. It has been good to document significant fish use in Cowiche Creek following the removal of several passage barriers.

Yuki described a steelhead radio-telemetry study taking place over the next 3 years to see where the steelhead are going once they pass Prosser. This study will answer a number of key questions identified in the Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan.

13) Financial Reports

The financial reports were reviewed. The Board briefly discussed the audit scheduled for August.

14) Board Member Certification Form

All present completed the form.

Leo Bowman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m., Paul Ward seconded and the motion passed with support of all present.