



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Excellence in Service and Leadership

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Thursday, July 8, 2010

3:00 pm

Chelan PUD Auditorium

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Dale Bambrick, NMFS

Chris Fisher, CCT

Bob Rose, Lee Carlson, YN

Dennis Beich, Casey Baldwin, WDFW

David Morgan, USFWS

Ben Lenz, GCPUD

Carl Merkle, CTUIR

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Meeting Attendees:

Dale Bambrick, NMFS

Ben Lenz, GCPUD (by conference phone)

Casey Baldwin, WDFW

Mickey Fleming, CDLT

Richelle Beck, DRA (by conference phone)

Chris Fisher, CCT

Lee Carlson, YN

Bob Bugert, CDLT

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Rohr to discuss with Bugert the SC questions regarding the CDLT proposal, and to work on a draft document outlining the proposal details.
2. Rohr to discuss particularly stewardship funding questions with Bugert.
3. Lenz to do follow up within Grant PUD regarding the acceptability of the CDLT proposal working within the Grant PUD process.
4. Lenz to talk with Bugert and Fleming regarding combining approved project proposals into a single Habitat Funding Agreement.

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A. **June 18, 2010 Conference Call** – The June 18 minutes were approved.

II. Action Items Review: Reviewed throughout the meeting discussion.

III. Habitat / NNI Funds Review: Nothing new to Report

- IV. Discussion of Pioneer Irrigation Diversion, Lower Wenatchee River:** Rohr commented he had received email from Morgan that he had no additional information regarding this project. Morgan will keep the committee advised.
- V. Nason Creek LWP Floodplain Reconnection Assessment:** Rohr noted he had received e-mail that indicated the scheduled field trip/site visit for the Design Team was going to be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts. The visit will likely be rescheduled for late July. Habitat SC members will continue to stay involved in the process.
- VI. Presentation from Bob Bugert and Mickey Fleming, Chelan Douglas Land Trust (CDLT):** Before the CDLT presentation began, Rohr asked Lenz to discuss the concept of combining CDLT projects into a single Habitat Funding Agreement (HFA) when possible. Lenz stated the combining of contracts would probably shorten the HFA processing time. Lenz discussed his consideration to combine the White River Nason View project and the Tall Timber Ranch project into one HFA. Lenz, Bugert, and Fleming agreed to talk soon via telephone to coordinate details. The committee members had previously discussed this subject and felt it was a good idea and affirmed their concurrence. Committee members will be kept apprised of the Lenz and CDLT discussions regarding this consideration. In continuing the meeting with the CDLT presentation, Bugert stated there are still many more projects in the White River Basin they want to move forward on, but administrative costs are his biggest concern. He discussed the challenges that come with working from a percentage basis to determine administrative funding, as well as the issues surrounding stewardship funding. Accordingly, regarding administrative costs and to help alleviate this CDLT issue, he is requesting consideration of a flat rate to cover administrative costs of \$10K for fee simple projects or \$14K for projects related to conservation easements. The funding amount would depend upon the type of project, with the higher rate for the more difficult and time-consuming conservation easements. Additionally, he also requested consideration of a flat rate of \$10K for stewardship funding for all approved projects. After committee member questions, Bugert agreed he would expect no funding at all until project proposals are approved by the Habitat SC for further investigation. Following the presentation, Bugert and Fleming departed the meeting, and the committee members discussed Bugert's proposal.
- The committee members overall had a favorable response to the proposal, but some questions remained. Lenz will discuss the proposal within Grant PUD regarding it being acceptable to the Grant PUD process. Additionally, committee members questioned the stewardship funding discussion and commented that while funding consideration could perhaps be given for application to fee simple projects, when working with conservation easement proposals, the funding should perhaps be the responsibility of the property owner. Committee members agreed that more discussion was needed to clarify the details of the proposal. Further, Rohr was directed to contact Bugert to discuss committee member questions, and to work with Bugert on producing a draft document that clearly outlines the proposal. Committee members noted that discussion with Morgan and Beich upon their return will also be necessary.
- VII. Project Updates:** There were no project updates.
- VIII. Next Meeting: Thursday, August 12, 2010, Wenatchee**