



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Excellence in Service and Leadership

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 14, 2017

1:00 pm

Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Dave Duvall, Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel (alt), GCPUD

Justin Yeager, Dale Bambrick (alt), NMFS

Jeremy Cram, Carmen Andonaegui (alt), WDFW

Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Chris Fisher, CCT

Lee Carlson, YN

Carl Merkle, CTUIR

Erin McIntyre, GCPUD, Admin Assistant

Meeting Attendees

Chris Fisher, CCT

Lee Carlson, YN

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Justin Yeager, NMFS

Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Associates

Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GCPUD

MEETING MINUTES

- I. **Agenda Review**
- II. **Approval of Minutes for July 13, 2017 Meeting (D. Rohr) - Approved**
- III. **Action Items Review from May 16, 2017 Meeting (D. Rohr) - Completed**
- IV. **Habitat Funds and NNI Report (D. Rohr) – No new updates**
- V. **UPDATE: Silver Side Channel Acquisition (K. Terrell, D. Duvall) – Terrell has had discussion with Project Sponsor Chris Johnson, MSRF, and negotiations continue to take place with the seller. Currently under discussion is the amount of acreage to be sold with possibly some additional acreage to be included with the original amount under discussion. Committee members decision was to monitor and allow Chris Johnson to continue negotiations with the seller. Fisher also commented that the purchase would be a large amount of money, and he questioned the benefits to be received for fish. He wanted to remind committee members that the habitat funds are to be used as mitigation for the numbers of fish lost at the**

- hydro projects, and he wanted everyone to be sure the benefit is being received to offset those losses. He asked that the committee members keep in mind the fish benefits being received as a result of land acquisitions. Additionally, committee members discussed the question of an expiration date for the current appraisal that has been completed for the original property to be sold, and is it still valid. The status and expiration date of the current appraisal will be discussed further at the next meeting after some research is completed on the question.
- VI. **Newby Narrows Project (L. Carlson, D. Duvall)** – The previously agreed upon reimbursement from the Yakama Nation has been received by Grant PUD. Accordingly, \$2931.45 has been deposited into Habitat Funds Account 602-28H.
- VII. **Icicle-Wenatchee Confluence Flood Plain Phase 1 Proposal (J. Yeager)** – Rohr commented that a signed land owner agreement had been received by Duvall and distributed to the HSC. The HSC had requested the signed land owner agreement prior to moving forward with an appraisal of this land acquisition. Accordingly, an email vote was performed and the HSC approved moving forward with an appraisal. During today's meeting, Yeager reported that some questions have come up regarding details of the acquisition and the scope of the appraisal. After discussion, committee members concluded that Yeager will talk with Chelan Douglas Land Trust to gain some clarification, and Pavlik-Kunkel will notify Duvall to wait on initiating an appraisal. Discussion will continue at the next HSC meeting in October.
- VIII. **Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project (J. Yeager)** – Pavlik-Kunkel informed the committee members that some questions had come up regarding contracting details and indemnification regarding this project. It was noted that discussions are taking place between the Washington Water Trust and Grant PUD attorneys regarding the indemnification question. Committee members concluded to monitor these discussions and discuss further at the next meeting in October.
- IX. **Review of Primary Appraiser for Land Acquisitions Contract, 602-25H (D. Duvall, D. Rohr)** – The HSC approved account used to fund appraisals was initially set at \$50,000. Rohr was informed by Duvall that the fund has approximately \$10,000 remaining and might the committee want to replenish the fund with another \$50,000. Committee members next discussed appraisal activities and the consideration of adding additional names to the list of appraisers to be used. After discussion, committee members concluded that before addressing the funding account question, additional discussion is needed regarding additional names possibly being added to the list of appraisers. Accordingly, the discussion will continue at the next meeting in October when Duvall will be present and involved in the discussion.

Project Updates

- A. **McIntyre Dam – Improving Fish Jumping Efficiency (Placeholder for 2016 Activities) (C. Fisher)** – Fisher raised the question of the committee perspective regarding ONA submitting a request for future funding to continue monitoring, and if yes, under what configuration. Further discussion will take place on the configuration question, but the committee supported ONA continuing to monitor and they will submit a funding proposal accordingly.
- B. **Shuttleworth Creek Projects (C. Fisher)** - Removal of the dams or keep in place is still under investigation. Geotech surveys are to be completed soon which will assist in answering some of the questions involved, including the cost of dam removal. Review and discussion will continue.

- C. **Roaring Creek Flow Restoration and Diversion Removal Project** (K. Terrell) - The Roaring Creek agreements have been signed! After a long struggle and months of waiting the agreements between ERV Orchards and USFWS has finally been signed and recorded. The team has decided to put the bids out on the street this fall for an early spring construction start date. They are also hoping that by bidding during the winter months that we will get a better bidding climate. They also generally worked on solidifying construction planning throughout August and spent time setting up contracts, bid doc's and tabulation sheets. In addition, with the Entiat River flows at low levels in the later part of August, TU decided to do a pump test on the ERV pump station alcove. This consisted of running a 3" and a 2" trash pump from the alcove which could pump around 350 GPM between the two of them. ERV was also watering another orchard block out of the alcove at the same time with a rate of 450 GPM. So in total they were pumping around 900 gpm from the alcove and the water level dropped 3 inches total. This demonstrated to the team that the alcove should handle both pumps for the ERV Orchards. They are keeping all parties up to date on the project.
- D. **Icicle Creek Boulder Field PIT Tag Array** (J. Cram) – no update
- E. **Trout Unlimited – Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II** (J. Cram) - In August, Trout Unlimited had several conversations and a meeting with a representative from the Jones Shotwell Ditch Company Board of Directors. These conversations typically involve updates on the internal water rights due diligence process which has been ongoing for nearly two years. At the recent meeting, a contingent of the JSDC Board of Directors asked how much advance notice Trout Unlimited would need in order to go to construction in 2018. Since there will need to be an engineering, permitting, and ROW/easement review in advance of bid process and contractor selection, we estimated we would need at least 6 months. They also reminded JSDC that the TU extension on the SRFB grant will expire at the end of calendar year 2017 if there is no movement on the part of JSDC.
- Trout Unlimited would like to see these Wenatchee River instream flow projects come to fruition. Despite a stellar snowpack entering the growing season, long periods of high temperatures have quietly pushed us into a small drought. Wenatchee River instream flow rule kicked in on August 22 when flows at the Peshastin gage fell below 800 cfs. The Monitor gage is now reading below 500 cfs. TU looks forward to continuing their open, honest dialog with JSDC and are confident Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Phase II will be put on the ground sooner or later.
- F. **MVID – Methow Valley Irrigation District** (K. Terrell) – In August TU was able to get the one remaining well in the Poorman creek area completed, with this last well checked off the list and the end of the irrigation season approaches so does the warranty period of few remaining wells. The few remaining trees in the MVID easement have been checked off the list as well. The Wright Road water issue site visit in August went very well, the team was able to locate and verify where the two sources of water were coming from and also where a possible collection site could be located on the MVID easement to collect the water flow. BOR will be putting together a possible options and cost estimate for dealing with the Wright Road runoff. TU is expecting to see this in the first part of September.
- G. **Silver Side Channel PIT Tag Array** (J. Cram) – no update

- H. **Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion** (July 12, 2012) **plus 2015/16 O&M Funding** (May 14, 2015) - (J. Yeager) – no update
- I. **Entiat Enlow Flood Plain Protection Acquisition** (J. Cram) – No update
- J. **Stormy Creek Fish Passage Project** (K. Terrell) - Construction is expected to begin around the end of the month. Two hardened fords to be installed.
- K. **Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project** (C. Fisher) – Evaluation is being done. Currently a low sample of fish. Monitoring will continue. A thermal barrier is a problem with late returns. A report is expected near the end of December.
- L. **Newby Narrows Activities** (L. Carlson) – Project completed.
- M. **Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project** (J. Yeager) - See discussion above.
- X. **Next Meeting:** Due to scheduling conflicts, committee members approved changing the next meeting to Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 1:00 pm, Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

Action Items from September 14, 2017 Meeting

1. Status and expiration date of the Silver Side Channel Acquisition will be investigated and discussed further at the October meeting.
2. Regarding the Icicle-Wenatchee Confluence Flood Plain Phase 1 Proposal, Yeager will seek clarification from CD Land Trust regarding details of the acquisition consideration, and Pavlik-Kunkel will discuss appraisal activities with Duvall.
3. Committee members will continue to monitor ongoing discussion of attorneys regarding indemnification question related to the Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project.