

CFKRBC Executive Committee Meeting Notes - 11/16/2018

Members Participating: Tom Cox, Molly Davidson, Bonnie Holzworth, Susan Lake, Verdell Jackson, Travis Ross, Jennifer Schoonen, Dave Shively. Guest: Vicki Watson

Update on Statute

Draft bill submitted to WPIC, and moving forward (to be carried by Sen. Cohenour) will amend the State Water Plan statute (85-1-203), removing reference to Clark Fork Task Fork and referring instead to basin councils, also addressing plan implementation. CFTF statute (85-2-350) will be repealed.

Update on Funding

- Shively provided an update on the BEF and WMG grants.
- The Council will ask for extension through 2019 to allow spending remaining funds on activities this year & next. There are ample funds for logo, 2019 domain, website design. The Communication Work Group recommends recruiting a student to maintain web site. Might utilize funds for public outreach associated with the Central Clark Fork Basin WRP planning process.
- A BEF goal for the Council was to see it raise \$5000 in local donations – a Development effort needs to begin and ExComm and others should document in-kind services and external funds paid to students helping with projects.
- MWCC has a watershed fund that could be used by basin councils.
- Shively showed a proposed structure for a CFKBC web page, including a place to accept donations.

Work Group Reports

NSH&WA – Developing a Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP) for the Central Clark Fork. The Work Group has presented the need for a WRP for the central river to Missoula Conservation District and Missoula Water Quality Advisory Council, and is planning a stakeholder meeting on the central Clark Fork WRP (11/30/18).

Watson passed out a couple of handouts describing the need for the WRP, required elements of a WRP, the process, area covered by the central Clark Fork, key documents to summarize for the WRP, etc.

The plan is to have a small stakeholder meeting focused on folks with technical expertise on November 30th, and have stakeholder meetings for a wider group in spring (probably one in each of the 3 counties of the central Clark Fork – Granite, Missoula, Mineral).

Communications – had phone conference calls on 8/20/18 and 11/6/18.

Data – This group had a phone conference call on 8/31. Topics addressed included: need to identify data needs of groups, & what data they are collecting (Joanne Wallenburn of the Clearwater Resource Council suggested this). Michael Howell continues his work on the Bitterroot River Navigation Portal.

Bonnie Holzworth is investigating the development of a dashboard to track State and Basin Water Plan implementation.

Bylaws

Still in development by Susan Lake and Maureen Connor.

Planning Annual Meeting

Since \$12000 is left in the budget and only \$2500 spent on the Annual Meeting last year, we should have ample money for the next iteration.

Ideas for topics – MBMG report on its water research; panel on legislative issues (like stream gauging bill); pulp mill status.

Need to form an annual meeting planning committee. Jackson, Schoonen, Shively, and Watson volunteered.

Other

Letter on pulp mill cleanup – Ross will edit and relate it to the current request for comments on a public involvement plan. Will say that CFKBC wants to be involved and kept informed of progress – and that our ultimate goal is for the floodplain to be cleaned and restored, and the rest of the site redeveloped.

Letter of support for CSKT's EPA grant application for Jocko wetlands assessment. Ross will indicate that the Council is willing to write a letter of support once details of the proposed project are available. Hopefully, their proposal will include their list of past achievements – these could be recorded in our list of what projects are being done that will accomplish some goals of the Basin/State Water Plans.

Natural Resource Damages Program – Clark Fork Restoration Plan update – Travis will check with the Clark Fork Coalition to see if it likes the plan. If so, we'll probably support.

Note: Bitterroot Valley prioritized for 319 funds by DEQ.