

BEIPC/Citizen Coordinating Council (CCC) Meeting

DRAFT SUMMARY NOTES

April 20, 2016, 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Wallace Inn Gold Room, 100 Front St., Wallace Idaho

Jerry Boyd, CCC Chair, was unable to attend due to illness of pneumonia so he asked that Terry Harwood, BEIPC E.D., run the meeting for him. Harwood began the meeting at 3:30.

Introductions of Attendees: Each attendee introduced themselves.

Signed In Attendees:

Shirley Ackerman (St. Maries Chamber), Bill Adams (EPA), Matt Beehner (Citizen), Glory Carlile (BEIPC, note taker), Julie Dalsaso (CCC member), Jack Domit (Spokane River Assn.), Rene Gilbert (EPA), Terry Harwood (BEIPC), Andy Helkey (PHD), Bruce Schuld (IDEQ), Rusty Sheppard (Lakeshore Owners), Leslee Stanley (Shoshone Co. Commissioner), Robin Stanley, (Mullan School District), Wendy Lowe (The Participation Co.), Valerie Wade (PHD), Kathy Zanetti (Citizen)

Citizen Discussion of Issues and Concerns:

Matt Beehner brought up his concerns regarding truck traffic to the Lower Burke Canyon Repository. He said that there are problems with the sewer line manhole covers being run over by trucks on the highway, problems with the old sewer line being impacted and the water lines, and also the diesel smoke going into homes close by. He also encouraged more ads about the meeting that will be held on the 27th stating that if you want participation then you need to knock on doors.

Julie Dalsaso agreed and said that she knocked on some doors regarding bank stabilization. Her opinion is that more evaluation and a position from IDEQ is warranted and should have been done for the jet boat races. She agrees that there is not enough participation and understanding of the impact. She added there should be an evaluation of the process with more participation and input before these kinds of events. Adams confirmed that EPA will sample the river water and monitor before, during, and after the race.

Harwood said that he assumes none of the projects including bank stabilization will fail. He suggested that you look at the 2015 Accomplishments Report (Annual Report) Lake Management section that provides information about what has been done and implementation plans.

Robin Stanley commented that there had also been concern about bank stabilization, birds being disrupted, and other things impacted by events on the St. Joe River such as the traffic. But he noted that the boats are noisy and skim the top with roster tails that do not stir up the bottom or damage the river. He is bothered that the EPA already has a bad reputation for government overreach and he would not like to see EPA take over and look for a reason to stop the races. He said that “People are down on what they are not up on.” We must be careful to keep the balance and not let one side get control.

Rusty Shepard commented that most of the banks on the south side of the CDA river banks are already completed but the north side is not done. Harwood said that he has asked the State and Tribe to put together a list of all the things that have been done to deal with the water quality in CDA Lake so we have some idea of where we are at.

Bruce Schuld said that IDEQ has not been involved and have not commented for or against the races. They have stated that we do not understand all that may happen with the effect of the races but that EPA has established a plan to monitor the races. They are interested in collecting information to determine if there are any effects. Bill Adams noted that EPA does not have regulatory authority to stop the races. Leslie Stanley said Shoshone County has a process that they follow and concerns but they have not addressed any issues concerning this matter.

It was asked if there has been information about what the agencies are doing in the newspaper and Andy Helkey confirmed there has been an article about the Jet Boat Races. Rene Gilbert added that they are being very proactive in getting the message out asking viewers to stay on the trails and use public access. They are displaying health messages along the trail and along the water. Communication is one of their goals pertaining to outreach and education.

Presentation and Discussion of Basin Property Remediation Program Downsize – Bill Adams, EPA; Bruce Schuld, IDEQ

Bill Adams gave an overview of a number of topics involving projects and the EPA Budget. Current balance of the special Account (SA) is \$90M. He noted that they increased the roads budget in Kellogg this year to accommodate all the sewer work that is occurring.

Rusty Shepard asked about the cost projection for the Central Treatment Plant (CTP). Adams said there is a cap of \$50M. Contract will meet the criteria to operate, design, build, and operate. O&M funding is with the Idaho State Endowment Fund that had been taken out of the Hecla settlement.

CDA Trust current balance is \$490M after 5 years of work. The average annual expenditures total is about \$20M. Estimated annual budget for 2016 is \$23M.

2016 Basin Property Remediation Program: Fully transitioned to the CDA Trust but will still have continued IDEQ oversight/support role. Bruce clarified that Northwind was awarded the contract to oversee the property remediation construction contractor.

Schuld added that the Trust is going to remediate about 75 properties this year.

Shirley Ackerman asked if there was a list of the properties that still need to be done and Schuld responded that there is a partial list.

Adams also reported that the recreation team is working on strategies to help manage the risks at dispersed recreation sites along the CDA River, presenting proactive information and will develop implementation plan in the next year.

Fish Tissue Study: Collecting additional information in the Upper Basin, Lower Basin etc. with sampling, lab analysis and data analysis. Adams distributed a Fish Tissue Data Collection Summary with a draft summary of CDA basin fish sampling design logistics that is attached to these CCC notes.

Julie Dalsaso suggested that there could be information listed on other websites besides just under Health & Welfare. Harwood said it will be on updated Gem maps and on the website with fish consumption advisory. Adams confirmed that signs will also be updated along the river.

Lower Basin: Looking at pilot projects and exploring techniques for remediation of some of those areas, Beach Augmentation evaluation and ongoing work on Sediment Transport Model.

Schuld added that through a pooling of money that acres were purchased to convert into a wetland.

Additional Activities:

Adams reported that other activities include Implementation Plan Update, Diesel Emissions Strategy, Basin Environmental Monitoring Plan (BEMP) refinement and optimization, and ongoing outreach.

Comments/Questions:

Julie Dalsaso asked if there is information about the Schlepp Wetlands Project and if viewing of the property is available as a public outreach. Adams said that the Schlepp's would probably be OK with having access for a tour of some sort for people to see what was done.

2016 Bunker Hill Paved Roads Program – Bruce Schuld

Schuld distributed handouts of his presentation particularly for better viewing of the maps. He introduced himself and shared that he is Program Manager with IDEQ, Kellogg Bunker Hill Superfund Office and that he, along with EPA cohorts, also oversees and facilitates the Paved Roads Program throughout 9 jurisdictions - City of Mullan Wallace, Kellogg, Pinehurst, Osburn, Wardner, Smelterville, Shoshone County, Eastside Highway District - for these local jurisdictions to select their priorities for roads remedial work. He showed this year's work proposals and planned completed projects. All the asphalt concrete waste will come down to Limited Use Repositories (LUR's). A top cap will be put on the LUR and then the land can be used for development.

2016 Roadway Remediation:

Schuld showed the Bunker Hill Box phase 2 in Kellogg roads and sewer projects under the roads program. In addition, in Smelterville many roads were done and there will be other projects to be done. Pinehurst is almost done. He said the focus is to coordinate all the work to be done. Harwood added that all the Remedy Protection work in the Box is done now.

Schuld also said that \$780K was put into each kitty after it was decided to split the funding and that is how the budget was created. All the jurisdictions are working great together. He shared that Kellogg waste was determined to be a great fill material and will not go into the Page Repository resulting in a great savings and that it also saves repository space.

Key point he is hoping to convey to the community: Anytime you tear up anything, find another use for the waste material. Julie Dalsaso wondered what is the standard for managing soil contaminants and how do you decide if soil is clean enough to not have to go into a repository. Schuld said the process uses a device that measures heavy metal concentrations and that they set their threshold values, then pull and process a number of samples to come up with a rough estimate of contamination. They apply the same engineering criteria for waste containment, storm water management, dust abatement, and access restrictions for these LUR's and community fill projects as we do at the repositories. He noted that when we are done they have documentation available when they do commercialize the area.

Kathy Zanetti asked if all the contracts are out on all the Roads Program and Bruce said no that they are in various stages, they should be all out, but he does not have the latest update. Adams added that the Trust has a requirement that 80% should be local workforce.

Facilitated Discussion about the Basin Commission's Public Involvement Process – Wendy Lowe, The Participation Company

Wendy Lowe reported that as a "Public Involvement Specialist" she was hired by EPA to support the BEIPC/CCC. She explained that she is going to be assessing what might be done differently for opportunities for providing public input to the Basin Commission and will interview staff and CCC members. She solicited suggestions for interview questions about the public input to the Basin Commission work as she is looking to come up with strategies for improving the public involvement.

- Andy Helkey: Where do they get their information from? What is the response time to their questions?
- Bruce Schuld: Where is the source or agency that they are asking for information from? What are their media sources and who do they trust in terms of where they get their information?
- Julie Dalsaso: She commented that it is not always a question but suggestions or comments and wonders who will be responsive to the public input. How do you find out whom to address or submit a question to?
- Andy Helkey: Do you feel that you are actually being represented?

- Julie Dalsaso: She commented about the agencies and duplicate presentations at sometimes several meetings. How can agencies have better use of their time? She likes the idea of data driven information for decision making but she feels that it does not seem that CCC meetings are really needed. The same information is presented at the Basin Commission meetings. Is a separate meeting from the BEIPC meeting really needed?
- Bruce Schuld: What will it take to get the general public to come to a CCC meeting? What does it take (better ways) to get you involved, and thus come to a meeting?
- Rusty Shepard: He commented that he thinks that the meeting should be focused on a good solid subject on the project area geared for the local people in that area. How do you decide to go to a meeting? What do you think should be the structure of a meeting?
- Bruce Schuld: When you can plan to attend a meeting what would you like the topics to be? What improvement can be made for providing input to the Basin Commission?
- Kathy Zanetti added a comment that only people affected in some shape or form want to go to a meeting.
- Rusty Shepard: What other ways do you have for providing input?
- Julie Dalsaso: How does the CCC manage misinformation? Are there cultural myths? How can the CCC correct and/or confirm information?
- How can the CCC help route questions for correct information? Terry Harwood shared that the Chair, Jerry Boyd, routes inquiries to him.
- Are there reasons you have for going to a meeting? (pertaining to Conflict of Interest)

Announcements:

Terry Harwood announced the next Basin Commission meeting will be on May 18, 2016 at the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Wellness Center in Plummer.

Julie Dalsaso announced the next Kootenai County Commissioners meeting will be on April 28, the last Thursday of the month, and they will talk about the possibility of eliminating the shoreline buffer and also when to implement action tables.

Harwood also announced that all CCC members are invited to the August BEIPC meeting and tour.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.