

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
January 06, 2005

Participants:

Lloyd Brewer
Phillip Cernera
David Fortier
Dave George
Rob Hanson

Rogers Hardy
Jeff Johnson
Rob Spafford
Brian Spears

Dave Sternberg
Rebecca Stevens
Paul Woods
Note taker: Holly LeBret

This summary provides the salient issues. These notes are intended to capture key topics, conclusions, and next steps and not the nuances of the discussion.

Agenda Items:

1) First on the agenda was a review of the upcoming schedule: on January 19th is the Basin Commission workshop, to be held at the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Casino and Resort; on January 20th, at 10:00 a.m. is the meeting to review the draft lake education map; on January 26th is the next CCC meeting and Phillip Cernera has been asked to attend and give a TLG update; on February 15th is the next Basin Information Forum (BIF); and on February 16th is the next Basin Commission meeting.

Regarding the BIF, there is a need to flush out the agenda. Paul Woods said he will give an update on his work in the lake and he will contact John Tracy, who is very involved in watershed remediation. Also, he will contact Steve Lipscom who could give an update on the Coeur d'Alene River model. Other suggestions included: Nick Zilka giving an update on the river bank stabilization project; Dan Audet giving an update on the biological data they have collected; Golder & Associates giving a report on the recently released lake water quality draft report; Matt Mora may provide information on work they are doing on a wetland project on the Schlepp ranch (they are looking at release of metals from oxygen saturated versus oxygen depleted water.) Lloyd Brewer suggests getting a presentation on the ATSDR Human Health report.

2) On February 1, 2 and 3rd, ATSDR will come back into the basin to hold information sessions with the public on their draft report. The Human Health PFT could get together on those dates. Lloyd Brewer will raise that issue with the HH PFT.

3) Discussion about the CWA funding memo to the Basin Commissioners: The revised memo did incorporate the changes mentioned on last week's TLG call, specifically that the Commissioners looked at two reports and selected projects from both; that the TLG recommends that the alluvial sorting project go forward with surplus funds; and that the three county TLG representatives have elected to not participate in TLG calls.

Rogers Hardy said that he does not like the changes, saying that the paragraph about the county TLG reps not participating will antagonize the county Commissioners. Cernera asked him to

rewrite the paragraph so that the memo would not give that impression. Hardy also said that the minority report was not identical [to the TLG CWA recommendations] and that should be mentioned. There was discussion about getting clarification for the TLG members to understand the current role that the county TLG reps are electing to play. Hardy stated that Bill Rust had been in contact with Commissioner Sherry Krulitz, to talk about resigning as a TLG rep unless funding could be found. Hardy said that he is in the same boat soon. There was discussion about the fact that many members of the TLG are tasked to represent agencies and consequently are paid for their time. In addition to the fact that county TLG reps are volunteering their time, Hardy said it is not a question of a lack of participation but that they feel out voted, that because they are not paid they do not have the same ability to effectuate decision making. Cernera said that he spoke with Frank Frutche, who said that he has formally resigned. Cernera also spoke with Commissioner Krulitz, who told him that Bill Rust has formally resigned too.

Brian Spears, new to the TLG meetings, said he is interested in why it is important to single out the fact that the three county representatives have not participated in recent months. He went on to say that it isn't pertinent to the memo to mention those who are not participating on previous calls. Spears would like to speak about technical issues, not about group dysfunction. Rebecca Stevens pointed out that when the TLG votes, there is not an effort to individualize who voted "no."

Paul Woods said the county reps singled themselves out and Cernera explained that they specifically requested that the memo reflect that they have not participated in development of the final CWA recommendations.

There was discussion about other agencies not participating in the TLG calls. David Fortier, with the BLM, said that he tries to attend and so does Mike Stevenson, but they have to juggle other priorities and funding constraints. He said it takes a lot of energy and time to support the TLG process.

4) Workshop update: Rob Hanson said that an information package will be mailed out this week to the Commissioners. He also gave a brief overview of the items on the agenda, saying the purpose is to get everyone on the same page (as pertains to the authority of the Basin Commission). There will be presentations to educate people on the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), the Statue, the 5-year plan, the Record of Decision (ROD) and funding, and decision making. They will also discuss how to handle their recent addition of personnel in an Executive Session.

Hardy said he spoke with the new Executive Director, Terry Harwood, about whether the core staff should participate in the Commission's Executive Session and said that it might make the Commissioners feel ganged up on. Harwood said that only the Commissioners will be present.

5) February Basin Commission Meeting: Cernera said that both the 1-year and the 5-year plans may be on the agenda. He will wait for the discussion about them at the workshop.

Once this word smithing discussion was over, Cernera finally asked Rogers Hardy (the only county TLG representative present on the call,) whether he had anything to add concerning the

technical merits of the memo. Hardy responded by saying he had no comment about the proposed projects.

Round Table:

Rebecca Stevens: She told the group that she would like to finalize a date for the lake education map review. After discussion it was decided that January 20th is the best date.

Lloyd Brewer: On the 13th of January, the WCAC will hold a General Meeting. There will be presentations from the Lands Council and two presentations from both the business and the environmental perspectives. Spokane County Commissioner, Todd Mielke, will speak about his perspective on the clean up of the Spokane River.

Schedule:

Washington Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC) is meeting on January 13th – call Lloyd Brewer for more information: 509-625-6968. Workshop for the Basin Commission: January 19th, 2005, at the Coeur d'Alene Casino & Resort, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thank you for your participation.