



PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
Land Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Conference Call
November 17, 2014

Meeting Participants

Land Advisory Committee (LAC)

State of Wyoming

Matt Hoobler – Alternate, Wyoming State Engineer's Office

State of Colorado

Suzanne Sellers – Member, Colorado Water Conservation Board
Kevin Uri – Alternate, Denver Water

State of Nebraska

Ted LaGrange – Member, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

None

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR)

Brock Merrill – Member, USBOR

Power Districts

John Shadle – Member (Vice-chair), Nebraska Public Power District

Environmental Entities

John Heaston – Member, The Nature Conservancy

Local Nebraska Rep. – Central Platte Natural Resources District (CPNRD)

Mark Czaplewski – Member (Chair), CPNRD

Local Nebraska Rep. – Tri-Basin Natural Resources District (TBNRD)

Dave Raffety – Landowner, TBNRD

Local Nebraska Rep. – Joint CPNRD/TBNRD

None

Executive Director's Office (EDO)

Bruce Sackett
Justin Brei
Jason Farnsworth
Tim Tunnell

Other Participants

None

**Welcome and Administrative**

Chairman Czaplewski called the meeting to order at 9:00 am Central Time and the group proceeded with introductions.

Czaplewski asked for agenda modifications, none were requested.

Czaplewski asked for the LAC's recommendation on the minutes of the October 20, 2014 meeting.

Shadle made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2014 LAC meeting. The motion was seconded by Merrill and passed unanimously.

GC Update and Other Committee Coordination Information*GC Update*

Czaplewski updated the LAC on recent GC activities. The GC held a special session on November 12 to discuss the PRRIP budget for 2015. The entire budget was discussed, and there were little or no proposed changes. There was no formal action – approval will be at the December GC meeting.

The next GC meeting is December 2 & 3 in Denver, CO.

Other Committee Coordination

Sellers updated the LAC on recent TAC activities. The TAC and WAC have also been primarily focused on budget review in advance of the December GC meeting.

General Update

Sackett updated the LAC on upcoming and completed land acquisitions. Tract 0901, west of Kearney, is under contract and expected to close in December. Terms are very close to complete for the contract for a land exchange where the Program would receive a second property west of Kearney, in exchange for a portion of Tract 2012003. Contract discussions with The Nature Conservancy are also advancing well for a land trade to acquire property in the Fort Kearny Complex.

Farnsworth updated the LAC on the burn plan for 2015. PRRIP is planning on burning this spring. Jerry Kenny is working with Region 6 USFWS staff to see if there is a permitting process to allow burning into Migratory Bird Treaty Act time windows. EDO staff is also working with the local USFWS Refuges division to see how they proceed with burns that occur during MBTA time windows on their properties.

Recommendation for 2015 Annual Work Plan and Budget

Sackett discussed the LAC budget for 2015. The budget and work plan was sent to the LAC via email, and no comments were received. Shadle asked if there was a grazing plan in place at Cottonwood Ranch. Tunnel said yes, and it is continually adjusted in cooperation with Jim



44 Jenniges. So far only one burn was able to be completed on CWR, and some haying has been
45 done to keep vegetation low for crane migration.

46
47 **Urie made a motion to recommend GC approval of the LAC budget and 2015 work plan.**
48 **The motion was seconded by Heaston and approved unanimously.**

49
50 **Plan for Updating and Creating 5-year Management Plans**

51 Sackett said that there is no action necessary for this item, just wanted to provide an update and
52 get people thinking about management plans. Some properties that have management plans in
53 place will come up for 5-year review in 2015, and some of the latest acquisitions will need plans
54 developed. Farnsworth said that a lot of the species data collected up to this point is being
55 analyzed and close to being finished. These completed analyses will help guide the next round
56 of management activities for PRRIP properties, and we should start to receive them by early
57 summer 2015.

58

59 **Public Forum**

60 Chairman Czaplewski asked for public comments, none were offered.

61

62 **Closing Business**

63 **No future meeting was scheduled. The next meeting will be scheduled as needed, possibly**
64 **in late February prior to the March GC meeting.**

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66 With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Czaplewski at 9:40 a.m.