

**Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board – Meeting Notes**

**Date: June 16, 2015**

**Place: Governor Hotel, Olympia, Washington**

**Summary: Agenda items with formal action**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Formal Action</b>
Meeting Notes	Approved
Communication Strategy	Approved (getting Pyramid Consulting under contract)

**Summary: Follow-up actions**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Follow-up</b>
Draft work flow schedule	WDFW will produce another iteration based on the discussion at today’s meeting
Draft Workplan	Neil will edit workplan as discussed and present another iteration for adoption at the July meeting

**Board Members/Alternates Present/on the phone:**

David Price, Chair, WDFW	Chris Hanlon-Meyer, WDNR
Julie Henning, WDFW	Brian Abbott, GSRO
Paul Wagner, DOT	Carl Schroeder, AWC

**Welcome/Introductions/Agenda Review**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by facilitator Neil Aaland. Neil reviewed the agenda for the day. Gary Rowe and Jon Brand previously notified Neil that they were unable to attend due to a previous conflict. A motion was made by Julie Henning to approve the May meeting notes; Carl Schroeder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comments:** No member of the public was present to offer comments.

**Updates on Legislative Session**

The legislature is still in session for the second special session. Julie asked about the transportation budget. Carl said it is still in active discussion, and it has momentum. He thinks the mitigation concept is still in there. Next week will be key timing.

**Subcommittee Report on Communications Strategy**

Brian Abbott provided this report. He met with Carl Schroeder, Dave Price, and John Brand two weeks ago. They discussed what is needed to move forward. He has been working to access \$50,000 in federal funding for this. He thinks they need to get moving soon. We can use an existing contract that GSRO has with Pyramid Consulting and hire them to assist. He passed out a proposed scope of work.

Questions and comments included:

- Is the scope of work doable for \$50,000 [Brian believes it is]
- Carl thinks it is a good effort from AWC’s perspective
- Paul agreed and suggested that specific deliverables should be identified
- We should get them under contract and have them come to the next FBRB meeting
- The subcommittee should work with them on deliverables prior to coming to the next FBRB meeting

Carl moved to authorize getting Pyramid Consulting under contract for this project and have them come to the next FBRB meeting to start working with the Board; Paul seconded. Motion was approved 6-0.

**Draft Work Flow Schedule**

Dave Price reviewed his handout on the schedule, which is a work flow timeline for project list. It is meant to be done in concert with the FBRB work plan. He hasn't laid them side by side yet. He thinks we need an approved project list by August 2016. WDFW worked up this proposal to get a sense of the workload, gearing up for a decision package.

There are different categories of projects: watershed, opportunity, and coordinated track. Dave thinks that the FBRB should approve stream reaches as focus areas in six months, then they become a target area for FBRB. Carl is concerned that there is not enough time for focus areas to get ready to apply. There was agreement that this was a good point. Carl suggested that we're dealing with startup of a program so that's more challenging. He thinks there needs to be some sort of solicitation for projects in a project area (focus area). He doesn't want to lose the "watershed approach", wants to have projects coming up rather than a top down approach. It was suggested to move up the December 15 approval of project areas to an earlier point. Chris suggested that initial submittals could focus on more "shovel-ready" projects. Dave added that anyone should be able to apply under the "coordinated project" umbrella. Carl supports the notion that we don't have to have the whole state ready at once. He also suggested that a different name be considered for "coordinated approach".

A lunch break was taken from 11:25 till noon.

After the FBRB reconvened, Dave continued the discussion and brought up the "coordinated pathway" category. This is similar to the watershed approach. There is a call for projects; sponsors submit a package of projects; WDFW conducts an assessment. The assessment is not determined yet, it could include different things including a possible ranking.

Questions and comments from FBRB members:

- Paul thinks a clearinghouse of information would be helpful
- Carl noted that cities produce project lists as part of their GMA-required capital improvement plans
- For evaluation criteria, being the next barrier to be corrected is important (next in a geographic context)
- The recency of the project seems important
- It's important to factor in the "linear gain" – how much linear feet of habitat will be opened by a project
- Quality of habitat to be opened is also important
- Brian suggested that WDFW should look back at the 1999 program and compare the criteria

Another iteration will be produced for the next meeting.

### **Discuss Work Plan**

Neil Aaland reviewed the changes made since the previous meeting. There were not significant changes, but rather responses to the comments from last time. The goal statements were revised to look more like goals, other changes were made throughout, and the final table listing projects in chronological order was filled out.

Comments and discussion points included:

- The reference to "institutional hurdles" might be daunting; should consider that as aspirational
- Are we thinking about ongoing maintenance for projects
  - Brian thinks there should be minimal maintenance requirements if constructed properly; he pointed out that the SRFB has a ten year requirement to maintain projects
  - Carl said cities expect to maintain them
- Julie asked about a timeframe for completing the communication strategy; Brian thinks it should be done by the end of this year

- Down the road, the FBRB needs to have a more focused discussion on match requirement for grants
- Paul suggested that a clearinghouse for successful projects would be useful; Dave thinks they can query databases for this type of information, and they will do a test of that

**Summary/Next Steps**

For future meetings, the FBRB will return to the third Tuesday of each month. However, for July, due to several absences we will meet on July 28.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

**The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for July 28, 2015.**

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**Others present at meeting:**

Neil Aaland, Facilitator	Alison Hart, WDFW
Cade Roler, WDFW	