
Wyoming Water Development Commission
Cheyenne, Wyoming
May 9, 2014

1. Chairman Jeanette Sekan called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.
2. Secretary Sheridan Little called the roll of commissioners:

Commission Attendance:

Jeanette Sekan, Chairwoman
Floyd Canfield, Vice-Chair
Sheridan Little, Secretary
Bill Resor
Nick Bettas
Karen Budd-Falen
Travis Brockie
Rodney Wagner
Todd Werbelow
Margo Sabec – via phone

Advisors in Attendance:

Abigail Boudewyns, Attorney General's Office

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Bill Resor made a motion to approve the March 7, 2014 minutes; seconded by Floyd Canfield. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Audience Introductions**

- A change to the agenda was presented; moving item #10, Municipal Water Rates Survey, ahead of item #8, Colorado River Basin Funding Opportunities, Agreed to by the Commission.

5. **Planning Amendments**

- *Lovell Master Plan, Level I – Final Amendment*
A final amendment to the engineering contract with Dowl HKM was presented. The amendment serves to document WWDC's acceptance of the final report, to document the actual cost of each task, and document the final contract amount of \$98,154.65.

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- Manville Well, Level II, Amendment No. 2
An interim amendment to the engineering contract with Wyoming Groundwater, LLC was presented. The amendment serves to extend the contract expiration date to December 31, 2014
 - Probable Maximum Precipitation Study, Level II, Amendment No. 3
An interim amendment to the engineering contract with Applied Weather Associates was presented. The amendment serves to extend the contract expiration date to December 31, 2014.

A motion to approve all planning amendments as presented was made by Rod Wagner, seconded by Bill Resor. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Construction Amendments:

- Fontenelle Water Sales Agreement
The purpose of this agreement is renew and extend the existing contract between Exxonmobil Production Company and Wyoming Water Development Commission. This agreement renews the contract and extends the expiration date to December 21, 2043.

Discussion followed. A motion to approve the agreement was made by Nick Bettas, seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- Pavillion East Water Supply Project, Level II, Amendment No. 3
An interim amendment to the engineering contract with James Gores & Associates, P.C. was presented. The amendment provides for additional costs for supervision and construction of the Phase II cisterns by increasing the total contract amount by \$250,000 from \$633,000 to \$883,000.

A motion to approve this amendment was made by Margo Sabec, seconded by Bill Resor. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of Consultant Selection

- Bench Canal Company Master Plan, Level I
Rod Wagner made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the **Bench Canal Company Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:
 1. Sage Civil Engineering
 2. Engineering Associates
 3. Holm-Blough & Company

The motion was seconded by Floyd Canfield. Todd Werbelow recused himself from the vote. The motion carried.

▪ Big Wind River Storage Study, Level II

Travis Brockie made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Big Wind River Storage Study, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Tetra Tech
2. URS
3. Trihydro

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *"To accept Tetra Tech's proposed scope alterations for the Big Wind and Little Wind River Level II Storage studies to provide for efficiency, consistency and project enhancement by integrating the two projects, but still maintaining the level of analysis for each basin as provided in their respective scopes."* The motion was seconded by Bill Resor. The motion carried unanimously.

▪ Buffalo Master Plan, Level I

Floyd Canfield made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Buffalo Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. WWC Engineering
2. Nelson Engineering
3. Cumbre Professional Group

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *"to not accept the scope alternate."* The motion was seconded by Sheridan Little. The motion carried unanimously.

▪ Cokeville Tri-Diversion Rehabilitation, Level II

Nick Bettas made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Cokeville Tri-Diversion Rehabilitation, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Anderson Consulting Engineers
2. WENCK (States West)
3. Nelson Engineering

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- *Town of Deaver Master Plan, Level I*

Jeanette Sekan made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Town of Deaver Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. TREC
2. Engineering Associates
3. Jorgensen Associates

The motion was seconded by Todd Werbelow. The motion carried unanimously.

- *Greybull Tank and Master Plan, Level I*

Margo Sabec made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Greybull Tank and Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Forsgren Associates
2. TREC
3. Jorgensen Engineering

The motion was seconded by Karen Budd-Falen. The motion carried unanimously.

- *Lower Bighorn & Nowood Basins Instream Flows, Level I*

Bill Resor made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Lower Bighorn & Nowood Basins Instream Flows, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Biota Research & Consulting
2. Arrow Land & Water
3. Altitude Land Consulting

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- *Laramie Master Plan, Level I*

Bill Resor made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Laramie Master Plan, Level I** projects in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. WWC Engineering
2. AMEC
3. Western Research & Development

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- Little Wind River Storage Study, Level II

Travis Brockie made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Little Wind River Storage Study, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Tetra Tech
2. URS
3. WWC Engineering

Further, the Selection Committee offer the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *"To accept Tetra Tech's proposed scope alterations for the Big Wind and Little Wind River Level II Storage studies to provide for efficiency, consistency and project enhancement by integrating the two projects, but still maintaining the level of analysis for each basin as provided in their respective scopes."* The motion was seconded by Bill Resor. The motion carried unanimously.

- Lower Clear Creek Irrigation District – Leiter Ditch, Level II

Travis Brockie made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Lower Clear Creek Irrigation District – Leiter Ditch, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. AVI, PC
2. WENCK (States West)

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. Sheridan Little recused himself from the vote. The motion carried.

- Means First Extension Master Plan/Gillette Regional Connection, Level II

Sheridan Little made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Means First Extension Master Plan/Gillette Regional Connection, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Dowl HKM
2. HDR
3. Morrison – Maierle

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *"Accept the Scope Alternates for zero dollars."* The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- Medicine Bow River Watershed Study, Level I

Karen Budd-Falen made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Medicine Bow River Watershed Study, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. RESPEC
2. URS
3. Sunrise Engineering

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- Meeteetsee Master Plan, Level I

Todd Werbelow made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Meeteetsee Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. James Gores & Associates
2. Lidstone and Associates
3. Jorgensen Associates

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- Midvale Irrigation District Hydropower Study, Level II

Todd Werbelow made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Midvale Irrigation District Hydropower Study, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. WENCK (States West)
2. AECOM
3. Sunrise Engineering

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. The motion carried unanimously.

- Moorcroft Master Plan, Level I

Rod Wagner made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Moorcroft Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. HDR Engineering
2. Camp Creek Engineering
3. Baker & Associates

The motion was seconded by Floyd Canfield. The motion carried unanimously.

- North Fork Shoshone Water Supply, Level I

Sheridan Little made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **North Fork Shoshone Water Supply, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of firms interviewed:

1. Engineering Associates
2. Jorgensen Associates
3. TREC Inc.

The motion was seconded by Margo Sabec. Jeanette Sekan recused herself from the vote. The motion carried.

- Pinedale Hydropower Study, Level II

Todd Werbelow made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Pinedale Hydropower Study, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of firms interviewed:

1. Applegate Group
2. AECOM
3. WENCK (States West)

The motion was seconded by Floyd Canfield. The motion carried unanimously.

- Piney Cruse Diversion, Level II

Sheridan Little made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Piney Cruse Diversion, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of firms interviewed:

1. EnTech, Inc.
2. Water Resources Solution

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: "*EnTech reduces their price proposal to no more than the advertised contract amount for this project of \$70,000.00.*" The motion was seconded by Rod Wagner. The motion carried unanimously.

- Platte River Basin Plan Update, Level I

Karen Budd-Falen made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Platte River Basin Plan Update, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. WENCK (States West)
2. Dowl HKM
3. URS

The motion was seconded by Floyd Canfield. The motion carried unanimously.

Margo Sabec made a motion to direct the Director to work with the State Engineer's Office (SEO) to coordinate implementation for the three projects (Upper North Platte Watershed Study, Platte River Basin Plan Update and Medicine Bow River Watershed Study) with an eye toward making sure they are useful and not duplicative in regards to the Platte River Compact. Bill Resor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

▪ South Big Horn County Rural Water District Expansion, Level II

Nick Bettas made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **South Big Horn County Rural Water District Expansion, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Dowl HKM
2. TREC
3. Burns & MacDonnell

Margo Sabec seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

▪ Sundance Water System Feasibility Study, Level II

Sheridan Little made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Sundance Water System Feasibility Study, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Trihydro Corporation
2. Baker & Associates
3. Morrison-Maierle

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: "accept all three scope alternates." Margo Sabec seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

▪ Thermopolis Master Plan, Level I

Todd Werbelow made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Thermopolis Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Engineering Associates
2. AVI
3. James Gores & Associates

Rod Wagner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- Upper North Platte Watershed Study, Level I

Rod Wagner made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Upper North Platte Watershed Study, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Anderson Consulting Engineers
2. Sunrise Engineering

Sheridan Little seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- Willwood Irrigation District Master Plan, Level I

Todd Werbelow made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Willwood Irrigation District Master Plan, Level I** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Sage Civil Engineering
2. Morrison-Maierle
3. Engineering Associates

Margo Sabec seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- Weather Modification Study – Wyoming Range, Level II

Nick Bettas made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services for the **Weather Modification Study – Wyoming Range, Level II** project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)
2. Hydrospheric Services

Bill Resor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

8. **Municipal Water Rates Survey**

Chris Nicholson, Director, Water Resources Data Systems (WRDS) presented information regarding the 2013 Public Water System Survey Report. He also outlined the duties and capabilities of WRDS as well as current projects. The commissioners requested he present a proposal at the June 2014 meeting regarding resources necessary to develop and complete an online project mapping tool for the commission.

9. **Colorado River Basin Funding Opportunities (BSP and MOA funding)**

Karen Budd-Falen made a motion to direct the State Engineer's Office (SEO) and WWDO to move forward with a request to study the feasibility of placing riprap on the entire face of Fontenelle Dam. Margo Sabec seconded the motion. Karen Budd-Falen asked with the permission of her second, that she be allowed to amend her motion to include the MOA as the funding source. The second agreed. The motion carried unanimously.

Margo Sabec made a motion to direct the Director to proceed with a grant application for BSP Salinity Control Funding and move forward as soon as possible. Bill Resor seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously.

State Engineer Pat Tyrrell introduced the Deputy State Engineer, Phil Stuckert

10. UW Water Research – Topics of Interest

A compilation of suggestions from agencies and commissioners was presented. Bill Resor asked Director LaBonde to re-state the statute that UW Water Research program is created by at the meeting in June. Barry Lawrence indicated the deadline for feedback regarding items on the list would be prior to May 19, 2014 as that is when the committee meets to develop the RFP. Director LaBonde also indicated Vice President of Research at UW, Bill Gern will be available to speak to, and address concerns of the commission at the June 2014 meeting.

11. Update on Weather Modification Projects

Director LaBonde gave an update on the current weather modification projects. The Sierra Madres/Medicine Bow scientific project has completed data collection and the final report is due in early 2015.

The Wind River Mountains operational program is proceeding to secure the necessary non-state funding commitments. Barry Lawrence has been the primary contact in the fund raising effort and thus far those efforts are promising.

12. Discussion

Director LaBonde discussed the memo from the Governor's office regarding public meeting notices to the media.


Abby Boudewyns, from the Attorney General's Office offered direction on the definition of a public meeting and how to handle email and group discussion.

13. Future Meeting Schedule

14. Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made by Karen Budd-Falen to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 a.m., seconded by Nick Bettas. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Sheridan Little
Secretary