

**Lower Platte River Basin Water Management Plan Coalition
Management Committee Meeting
April 28, 2015, 1:30 – 3:30 PM
Offices of Lower Platte South NRD
3125 Portia St, Lincoln, NE 68521**

Meeting Summary

Present: Simone Rock (HDR), David Kracman (TFG), Butch Koehlmoos (LLNRD), Tim Freed (NDNR), Mike Sousek (LENRD), John Myoshi (LPNNRD), Russ Callan (LLNRD), Marlin Petermann (PMRNRD), Glenn Johnson (LPSNRD), Adam Rupe (JEO), Anna Baum (ULNRD), Lalit Jha (JEO), Dustin Wilcox (NARD), John Engel (HDR), Dennis Schueth (UENRD), Paul Zillig (LPSNRD), Frank Kwapnioski (Public)

- I. Technical Committee meeting update: John Engel reviewed the meeting minutes from the April 2, 2015 Technical Committee meeting.
- II. J. Engel led a discussion on feedback from the first waterbanking workshop. Overall, it sounds like the managers have received good feedback from board members. Additional comments included the following:
 - a. How can a water bank result in water in the Platte (MUD wellfield)? (LPSNRD)
 - b. Water not making it past Columbus, where are losses occurring near North Bend? Can water released from an upstream storage facility even make it past Fremont? (LPNNRD)
 - c. Needs to be made clear that the Coalition is not intended to setup and run water bank. Coalition is intended to establish a common methodology for water accounting and establish framework should member NRDs choose to set up a water bank in their NRD. (PMRNRD)
- III. Discuss topics to cover at second water banking workshop: Building off the previous topic, the group held a discussion of topics to discuss at the next water banking workshop. Comments included the following:
 - a. Review the purpose of the Coalition and its goal with respect to avoiding fully-appropriated status as a whole basin. What the Coalition is and what it is not.
 - b. Review goals and objectives.
 - c. Lead into a common basin accounting method to quantify supplies and demands by NRD.
 - d. Discuss options for quantifying the amount of “excess supply” and “allowable development” by NRD and how the to build a factor of safety into allowable development (e.g. reduce allowable development by a percentage).
 - e. Explain how this would be used as a baseline by NRD going forward. Allowable development would be difference between near term and long term demands (GW Depletions versus GW Consumptive use at a point in time).
 - f. Items c through e above would be a result of agreement within the Coalition.
 - g. Discuss period of record for basin accounting (rolling average, drought period or mitigation plan for drought years).
- IV. Excess Flow – J. Engel presented information regarding the excess flow analysis conducted on the lower Platte, Loup, and Elkhorn gage locations.
 - a. Make clear that excess flow is typically available in the NonPeak Season and that shortages still occur in the Peak Season (UENRD).

- V. Conjunctive Management Examples
 - a. Handout of potential projects suggested by NRD and the 4 projects being investigated further as part of this analysis.
 - i. Isolated aquifer recharge (LPSNRD – Valparaiso area)
 - ii. Irrigation Canal Recharge (LLNRD - Sargent Irrigation District)
 - iii. New multi-purpose reservoir (LENRD – Battle Creek Reservoir)
 - iv. Existing reservoir modification (LLNRD – Sherman Reservoir)
 - b. Needs to be made clear that any projects highlighted are for examples of how the basin accounting could be used for member NRDs to set up a water bank and work together. These projects are not being implemented by the Coalition - just examples of how it could be used.
 - c. Sargent example – expand results to monthly to show retiming benefit.

- VI. Action items:
 - a. HDR to send Basin Accounting Draft TM out to technical and management committee
 - b. HDR to send Draft Basin Wide Management Plan, Sections I-III to group by end of May for comment.

- VII. Schedule Update
 - a. Technical Committee meeting
 - i. May 12, 2015 at LLNRD in Ord, NE; 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 - b. Management Committee meeting
 - i. June 3, 2015 at MRNRD in Curtis, NE to immediately follow the NARD Manager’s meeting (tentatively 4:00PM to 6:00 PM)
 - c. Water Banking Workshop II
 - i. Tentatively June 18, 2015 at Platte College in Columbus, NE; 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

- VIII. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:15 PM