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Clark Fork & Kootenai River Basins Council

Environmental Studies

2-22-2019

Executive Committee meeting notes, February 2019

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NOTES
Clark Fork and Kootenai River Basins Council
Executive Committee Meeting
Room 327
University Center, UM, Missoula
Friday, February 22nd, 2019, 1-4 PM

- **Attending:** Meg Casey, Maureen Connor, Molly Davidson, Bonny Holzworth, Michael Howell, Verdell Jackson, Travis Ross, Jennifer Schoonen, Dave Shively
- **Guest(s):** Vicki Watson (Nat Systems Health and Water Availability Work Group, Annual Meeting Planning Subcommittee)
- **Apologies:** Tom Cox, Susan Lake, Evan Norman

- Welcome and Ground Rules
 - Consensus (Thumbs)
- Overview/Additions to Agenda
- Update on Statute
 - SB 47 has been passed by the Senate and transmitted to the House where it will first be heard by the Natural Resources Committee.
 - An information sheet has been prepared to disseminate to committee members (and other House members later), along with compiled list of all 2015 BAC members and the 2015 State Water Plan Executive Summary and Recommendations.
 - Concern was raised regarding the Fiscal Note that was attached to the bill (2/4/19) noting that the long-term impact of the bill will incur a significant cost to the State (the cost of the 2015 Plan development was noted as being just over \$2.3 million). Shively will communicate this concern to Senator Cohenour and Erin Farris-Olsen. We will suggest that the Fiscal Note be removed as the State has an obligation to complete the next iteration of the Plan.
- Update on Website and Logo
 - Several members asked if it would be possible to review a version of the logo with the word “River” moved to the second line.
 - Shively reported that the domain name for the website will be cfrkbc.org.
- Recruit an Intern
 - To assist with communications (website, etc.) and outreach.
 - Offer \$12/hr (from BEF Grant) @ 100 hours with explicit outcomes specified.

- Work Group Reports – Not offered due to time constraint.
- Bylaws
 - Connor will work with Lake on this.
- Annual Meeting Draft Plan – Discussion and help to finalize choices w/ contingency options
 - The question of whether an Annual Meeting for Spring, even in the Flathead basin, with the goal of engaging more Flathead and especially Kootenai basin participation, will be effective. With the Montana Lakes Conference having already occurred, and the legislative season in progress or soon concluded by the time an Annual Meeting might be possible, there is concern that participation would be limited.
 - The pressing need for direct ExComm engagement with Flathead and Kootenai interests was highlighted.
 - Conclusion: the Excomm recommends to defer the Annual Meeting to later in 2019 (perhaps late summer or fall – it was noted that the Charter requires an Annual Meeting), and engage Flathead and Kootenai interests during spring and early summer by having a team of several Excomm members coordinate visits with interested parties in Libby, Kalispell (central to the Libby and Eureka areas), and/or Eureka.
- Other Items:
 - Letter Concerning CF Floodplain Restoration and Smurfit Stone Container Plant Waste Pond Cleanup
 - Ross will recirculate a revised letter for ExComm review and approval.
 - Letter of Support for CSKT & EPA Grant for Jocko Basin Wetlands Assessment
 - Ross will inquire of the Tribes about the status of the proposal and need for a letter from the ExComm.