

Water Funding Task Force Meeting

July 19, 2013 | Holiday Inn | Lincoln, NE

Those in attendance were:

Brian Barels, Public Power	Clint Johannes, NRC
Gerry Dale Sheets, Public Power and Irrigation Districts	David Kadlecek, NRC
Walter Dennis Strauch, Irrigation Districts	Thomas Knutson, NRC
Joel Christensen, Metropolitan Utilities District	Dick Mercer, NRC
Tim Luchsinger, Municipalities	Darrell Rains, NRC
Roric Paulman, Agriculture	Michael Reynolds, NRC
John Heaston, Wildlife Conservation	Keith Rexroth, NRC
Rex Peterson, Livestock Producers	Jeff Steffen, NRC
Lennie Adams, Manufacturing	Steven Sugden, NRC
Scott Smathers, Outdoor Recreation Users	Brian Dunnigan, Director of DNR
Garry Anderson, NRC	Senator Tom Carlson
Stan Clouse, NRC	Senator Mark Christensen
Dave Deines, NRC	Senator Al Davis
Beverly Donaldson, NRC	Senator Rick Kolowski
Kevin Fornoff, NRC	Senator Ken Schilz
N. Richard Hadenfeldt, NRC	Senator Dan Watermeier
Joseph Hergott, NRC	

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, Lincoln, Nebraska. The following member was absent: D. Chandler Mazour.

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

Notice of the meeting was published on the Department of Natural Resources web site (www.dnr.ne.gov/lb517), 13 newspapers (Beatrice Daily Sun, Chadron Record, Grand Island Independent, Kearney Hub, McCook Daily Gazette, Norfolk Daily News, Omaha World Herald, Sioux City Journal, as well as the Lincoln Journal Star, Valentine Midland News, North Platte Telegraph, and Ord Quiz). A copy of Nebraska's public meeting statutes was available in the room.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

The following informational materials were distributed at the Commission meeting:

- Agenda
- Contact Sheet for Task Force Members
- Original Call for Proposals
- Copies of Consultant Proposals
- Potential Dates for Future Meetings
- LB 517
- I-9 and related expense reimbursement forms (Only for appointed Task Force Members)

GOALS AND OVERVIEW

Nancy Shank and Alan Tomkins, facilitators from the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, reviewed the agenda and goals for the meeting.

Senator Carlson described the intent of LB 517 and expressed his hopes for the work of the Task Force. This was followed by a short question and answers session with Task Force members.

INTRODUCTION OF TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Each member stated their name, affiliation, and how they came to be on the Task Force.

GOVERNANCE

Clint Johannes moved and Kevin Fornoff seconded the motion to adopt simplified Robert's Rules of Order, moving toward consensus.

Rex Petersen motioned and Dick Mercer seconded the motion that any information going into formal report to use three-fourths majority.

Motion by Peterson Not Passed.

Aye: Peterson, Adams, Hergott, Mercer, Reynolds, Rexroth

Nay: Barels, Sheets, Strauch, Christensen, Luchsinger, Paulman, Heaston, Smathers, Anderson, Clouse, Deines, Donaldson, Fornoff, Hadenfeldt, Johannes, Kadlecek, Knutson, Rains, Steffen, Sugden

Abstain: None

Absent: Mazour

David Kadlecek revised and Clint Johannes accepted the motion to adopt Simple Robert's Rules of Order, but using consensus voting for action items.

Motion Passed.

Aye: Anderson, barrels, Christensen, Clouse, Deines, Donaldson, Fornoff, Hadenfeldt, Heaston, Johannes, Kadlecek, Knutson, Luchsinger, Paulman, Peterson, Rains, Rexroth, Sheets, Smathers, Steffen, Strauch, Sugden

Nay: Adams, Hergott, Mercer, Reynolds

Abstain: None

Absent: Mazour

(Break - 15 mins)

Chair:

Beverly Donaldson nominated Clint Johannes and David Kadlecek seconded.

Keith Rexroth moved and Michael Reynolds seconded the motion to close nominations.

David Kadlecek moved and Stan Clouse seconded the motion to vote for Chair.

Motion Passed.

Aye: Sugden, Strauch, Steffen, Smathers, Sheets, Reynolds, Rexroth, Rains, Peterson, Paulman, Mercer, Luchsinger, Knutson, Kadlecek, Hergott, Heaston, Hadenfeldt, Fornof, Donaldson, Deines, Clouse, Christensen, Barels, Anderson, Adams

Nay: None

Abstain: Johannes

Absent: Mazour

Vice Chair:

Kevin Fornoff nominated Roric Paulman and John Heaston seconded.

Keith Rexroth nominated Dennis Strauch, and Strauch declined.

Stan Clouse moved and Thomas Knutson seconded the motion to cease nominations.

Motion Passed.

Aye: Donaldson, Barels, Johannes, Rains, Deines, Kadlecek, Mercer, Anderson, Sheets, Steffen, Christensen, Heaston, Hergott, Rexroth, Fornoff, Adams, Reynolds, Hadenfeldt, Peterson, Smathers, Clouse, Sugden, Knutson, Luchsinger, Strauch

Nay: None

Abstain: Paulman

Absent: Mazour

Executive Committee:

Clint Johannes, Chair, asked for volunteers for Executive Committee.

Scott Smathers volunteered.

Mick Reynolds volunteered.

Dennis Strauch volunteered.

Rex Peterson moved and Scott Smathers seconded the motion to vote for the executive committee slate:

Scott Smathers

Mick Reynolds

Dennis Strauch

Senator Carlson – Ex Officio member

Brian Dunningan – Ex Officio member

Clint Johannes – Chair

Roric Paulman – Vice Chair

Motion Passed.

Aye: Strauch, Luchsinger, Knutson, Sugden, Clouse, Paulman, Peterson, Hadenfeldt, Adams, Fornoff, Rexroth, Hergott, Heaston, Christensen, Steffen, Sheets, Anderson, Mercer, Kadlecek, Deines, Rains, Johannes, Barels, Donaldson

Nay: None

Abstain: Smathers, Reynolds

Absent: Mazour

Consultant Selection Committee:

Brian Barel moved that after the Task Force hears all presentations, the Task Force should attempt to make a decision. If that cannot be achieved, identify a sub-committee to bring a recommendation back to the Task Force. The intention is to make a decision today.

David Kadlecek suggested that the smaller committee be the Executive Committee.

Brian Barels amended and Gerry Sheets seconded the motion that the Task Force will hear all presentations, discuss in open meeting, if no consensus can be reached, the Executive Committee will discuss and come back to the full group to report back on their opinions.

Motion Passed.

Aye: Mercer, Rains, Strauch, Christensen, Peterson, Luchsinger, Paulman, Heaston, Sugden, Adams, Smathers, Anderson, Clouse, Deines, Donaldson, Fornoff, Hadenfeldt, Hergott, Johannes, Kadlecek, Knutson, Reynolds, Rexroth, Steffen, Barels, Sheets.

Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Mazour

The Task Force discussed how questions would be managed and what criteria would be important in evaluating consultant proposals and presentations.

(Lunch – 30 mins)

PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS

- a. 12:00 p.m. HDR
- b. 12:20 p.m. CDR/TFG
- c. 12:40 p.m. Knowledge Chain
- d. 1:00 p.m. Olsson
- e. 1:20 p.m. IMS

ACTION ITEMS

I. Selection of Task Force Consultant

Clint Johannes, Chair asked Task Force members to indicate, by non-binding ballot, their first and second choice for consultant. Voting results were tabulated for first and second choices by facilitators. Results for first choice indicated 14 votes for Olsson, 5 for HDR, 4 for IMS, and 3 for CDR. Results for second choice indicated 10 votes for Olsson, 5 for HDR, 6 for IMS, and 3 for CDR.

Steve Sugden moved and Keith Rexroth seconded a motion to elect Olsson Associates as consultant.

Motion Passed.

Aye: Paulman, Heaston, Peterson, Adams, Smathers, Anderson, Clouse, Deines, Donaldson, Knutson, Mercer, Rains, Reynolds, Rexroth, Fornoff, Hadenfeldt, Hergott, Johannes, Kadlecek, Steffen, Sugden, Barels, Sheets, Strauch, Christensen, Luchsinger

Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Mazour

II. Public Meeting Notices

Stan Clouse moved and Scott Smathers seconded the motion to post on Nebraska Department of Natural Resources website and State Calendar seven (7) days in advance of a meeting.

This issue was reviewed by Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Legal Counsel and was deemed legal.

Motion Passed.

Aye: Donaldson, Fornoff, Hadenfeldt, Hergott, Johannes, Kadlecek, Knutson, Peterson, Adams, Smathers, Anderson, Clouse, Deines, Mercer, Rains, Reynolds, Rexroth, Steffen, Sugden, Barels, Sheets, Strauch, Christensen, Luchsinger, Paulman, Heaston

Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Mazour

The Task Force indicated that they will meet on Friday, July 26th. This meeting has already been posted for public notice. The Task Force discussed proposed future meeting and tour dates and determined that those decisions will be made at future meetings.

Scott Smathers moved and Garry Anderson seconded the motion to confirm the first tour on August 8th & 9th, and post notice.

Motion Passed.

Aye: Smathers, Anderson, Clouse, Deines, Donaldson, Fornoff, Hadenfeldt, Hergott, Johannes, Kadlecek, Barels, Sheets, Strauch, Christensen, Luchsinger, Knutson, Mercer, Rains, Reynolds, Rexroth, Steffen, Sugden, Paulman, Heaston, Peterson, Adams

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Mazour

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Two members of the public made comments.

NEXT STEPS

The facilitators proposed next steps for the Task Force. There was discussion about who had the authority to execute a contract with the consultant. It was confirmed by the Department of Natural Resources that they would do so at the direction of the Task Force. There was some discussion about the benefits of meeting as an entire group and it was noted that Olsson had proposed that the Task Force work as a whole, rather than breaking into sub-groups.

CLOSING

Sen. Carlson thanked everyone for attending.

Explanation on expense reimbursement sheets was given by representatives of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

A representative from Olsson Associates, Karen Griffin, indicated that Olsson is pleased to have been selected by the Task Force.

N. Richard Hadenfeldt moved and Thomas Knutson seconded a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.