

**February 23, 2023**

**Draft UCSRB Board of Directors Mtg. Summary  
Douglas County Transportation and Land Services Building  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm**



## **Formal Approvals**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action-Decision</b>
Agenda for February 23, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting	Approved with revisions and posted online at: <a href="#">UCSRB Agenda</a>
Summary from December 8, 2022, Board of Directors Meeting	Approved and posted online at: <a href="#">UCSRB Summary</a>
Consent Agenda: Revised Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual	Approved
Withdraw \$2,800 from Community Foundation account and deposit in Glacier Bank money market checking account.	Approved
Amended FY22-23 Budget (Revision 2)	Approved
Legislative Letter of Support for Lead Entity Capacity Funding	Approved
Nomination of Andy Hover for Chair	Approved
Nomination of Chuck Brushwood for Vice-Chair	Approved
Nomination of Shannon Adams for Secretary Treasurer	Approved
Nomination of Marc Straub for Finance Committee	Approved

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Shannon Adams welcomed everyone to the meeting at 9:00 am and participants introduced themselves. Chair Adams reviewed the meeting agenda and welcomed Shon Smith as the new Chelan County representation to the Board of Directors.

*Marc Straub made a motion to approve the February 23, 2023 agenda. Chuck Brushwood seconded the motion and all approved.*

Chair Adams reviewed the December 8, 2022 Board meeting draft summaries and asked for revisions or comments. One correction was noted in the Board members present section; change Chair Chelan County, Shannon Adams to Yakama Nation.

*Andy Hover made a motion to approve the December 8, 2022 Board meeting summary with correction. Marc Straub seconded the motion and all approved.*

Chair Adams reviewed the consent agenda and asked if there were any corrections or comments about the proposed revisions to the Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual. No comments were noted.

*Andy Hover made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual as presented. Chuck seconded the motion and all approved.*

## **1. Finance and Operations**

Amanda Ward and Elaine Sivey gave an overview of the budget vs. actual which reports activity through December 31, 2022 on an accrual basis. The format has been revised to show percentage spent for each line item, as per Finance Committee request. December vouchering has not been completed. The Cramer Fish consultants is 99% utilized but work has been completed under this

contract and will not be renewed. Expenses over utilized (copier, postage) are due to the second Lead Entity Large Cap Fall grant round. The copier expenses are on a quarterly basis. The annual state audit is expected to be pushed into FY 23-24 therefore the current remaining budget could be put towards the FY22-23 deficit.

Elaine Sivey discussed the activity of the five current UCSRB grants through December 31, 2022 in the revised format. The BEF contract is currently underspent due to a delayed start with Okanogan listening sessions. The DNR and RCO LE contracts are overspent because work has been billed but not yet vouchered for.

The operating reserve was reviewed. \$4,000 in donations was received for the Floodplain Restoration Workshop. Unrealized losses associated with an account UCSRB has with the Community Foundation of North Central Washington (CFNCW) were discussed. To participate in the Foundation's program (including access to grants and receiving donations made to UCSRB) a minimum balance of \$5,000 needs to be in the account. Joint client funds are invested in the same account and UCSRB can choose to take the money out of the account at any time. As of January 31, 2023 the UCSRB's investment totaled \$7,807. The Board discussed:

- Keeping the minimum of \$5,000 in the account as it provides useful benefits
- Track yearly and withdraw any funds over \$5,000 and transfer to a savings account
- Elaine to set up a Money Market account with Glacier Bank

*Andy Hover made a motion to withdraw \$2,800 from the CFNCW account and deposit it into a money market checking account. Marc Straub seconded the motion and all approved.*

Elaine gave an overview of the proposed revisions to the FY2023 Budget. This reflects the final contract amounts for BPA (additional \$12,931) and the verbal agreement with Yakama Nation (additional \$18,737). The increased revenue can go towards the \$74,000 deficit. Elaine continued that there were a few unintentional carry-over expenses (\$2,460) for training and travel from last year's budget. Other revisions to the FY22-23 include:

- Colville Confederated Tribes income contract of \$65,000 that we are expecting to get the end of February.
- Reduced audit expense for FY22-23 as State's annual audit is pushed to FY23-24.
- Additional outreach funds for prescribed fire insert for NCWFHC (funded by The Wilderness Society).

The current deficit is now \$32,307, which is a net improvement of \$46,858. Elaine will be working to prepare a high-level discussion for April Finance Committee meeting on FY23-24 Budget.

*Marc Straub made a motion to approve the amended FY22-23 Budget as presented. Chuck Brushwood seconded the motion and all approved.*

Amanda Ward provided a status update on contracts including the Yakama Nation contract which has not yet been received. There is a verbal agreement to split the contract into two periods December 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023 for a total of \$47,679 and March 1, 2022 to February 29, 2024 for a total of \$157,780. When the Yakama Nation contract is received the contracts for the Watershed Action Teams will go out to Cascadia Conservation District, Chelan County Natural Resource Department, and Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation. The Colville Confederated Tribes contract for \$65,000 is still being processed. Other contracts include:

- Income contract - The Wilderness Society for \$2,543 for Spanish translation NCWFHC outreach materials
- Partner contract - Aspect Consulting funding from BPA income contract for \$10,000 which runs through 11/30/2023.
- Partner contract – BioAnalysts funding from BPA income contract for \$6,304 which runs through 11/30/2023.

*Follow up & Recommendations:*

- Under the strategic heading of sustainability. Board responsibilities is fiscal health responsibility. Possibly creating a fiscal health subcommittee with the development of the operational plan.
- Look into fundraising opportunities that other Salmon Boards participate in. Make sure to not compete with our sponsors.
- Put together a list of public partner relationships so Board can go and talk to them. Who are we engaging with?
- Opportunities for partnership on projects – e.g. cold water refugia, snow2flow, outreach.

## **2. Legislative Outreach Planning**

Amanda summarized the legislative letters of support for Lead Entity Capacity funding to be sent to Senator Brad Hawkins and Shelly Short, Representative Keith Goehner, Mike Steele, Jacquelin Maycumber and Joel Kretz. The letter thanks them for the 2022 legislative session increased investment in salmon recovery and asks for support for the operating budget request as proposed by Governor Inslee for an increase in Lead Entity capacity funding to help provide appropriate support to local partners. There has not been an increase in capacity funding since 2011.

- Messaging when talking with Representatives and Senators must include language that the alternative do nothing approach is far worse. The Board was created by counties and tribes to implement salmon recovery.
- Marc suggested that future legislative letters put the main points at the beginning of the letter.

Q: Is there a concern about capacity increase?

A: Legislative Director Brock Miller is well aware of the capacity issue. Message received back from Governor's office is that it is not a compelling statement. We need to define what is unique about salmon work and why it needs the additional funding.

*Andy Hover made a motion to approve the Lead Entity Capacity funding letter of support as presented and include Representative Timm Ormsby Chair of Appropriations to the distribution list. Marc Straub seconded the motion and all approved.*

Amanda discussed the need for additional Board discussion to determine the objective of the Marine Mammal Protection Act letter. The Board would like additional information concerning the current Columbia River Pinniped management and asked for:

- WDFW and CRITFC follow up at the April 27, 2023 Board meeting to review current permitting and status of Pinniped removal.

Katie Pruitt from the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office presented a 2023-25 legislative update. The bills pertaining to Salmon include:

- HB 1686 – Salmon recovery reform
- SHB 1735 - Add Net Ecological Gain (NEG) to comp plans.
- HB 1775 – RFEF liability protection. Secure liability insurance
- HJM 4000 – Declare 2019 the year of the Salmon

Climate Bill Highlights all approved and on the floor:

- SHB 1138- Drought preparedness and response
- SHB 1170 and SSB 5093 – Climate resilience strategy
- SHB 1181 and SSB 5203 – Integrate climate change into state and local planning

Bills Dead in Committee but could potentially show up in the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office budget:

- SHB 1720 - Protection and restoration of riparian areas
- HB 1740 - Small forest landowner alternative harvest
- SB 5297 - Commercial gill net ban and buyback
- SB 5517 - Water resource mitigation (some elements will show up in a proviso)
- SB 5371 - Increase commercial and recreation vessel distance from orcas

Katie shared the 2023-2025 Governor's Salmon Recovery Office budget that includes 6 areas of work including habitat, clean water, fish passage, climate resilience, harvest/hatchery and predation (pinniped management) totaling \$841 million.

Amanda and Nicole Jordan shared March 22 and 23 as the best dates for a legislative outreach visit to Olympia. Amanda, Shannon Adams, Andy Hover will go in lieu of a trip to Washington DC. Next steps include:

- Schedule appointments with District 12 and District 7 Representatives and Senators.
- Create talking points and messaging flyer, highlighting specific issues.

Local project site tours for state legislatures, on either May 29/June 1 or August 23-25 were discussed. Ideas tours included a lighthawk flight and a rafting trip in the Methow. Next steps:

- Input from Board and staff on possible sites/projects to tour
- Include partners

### **3. Lead Entity Update**

Dave Hecker reviewed the \$3.5 million SRFB Grant Round which include roll over from the 2022 grant round. If additional Infrastructure funding becomes available it would be worked into the current grant round and not an additional Fall grant round. The 2023 SRFB Grant Round held it's kick off meeting on February 9 with applications due by March 10. In-person field tours will be on May 8 through 10.

### **4. UCSRB Board of Directors Officer Elections**

Shannon Adams reviewed the current and past officer rotation. The Bylaws do not require a yearly transition however, the Board has typically switched representation yearly between tribe and county to share responsibilities and commitments.

*Chuck Brushwood made a motion to nominate Andy Hover for UCSRB Chair. Shon Smith seconded the motion and all approved.*

*Shannon Adams made a motion to nominate Chuck Brushwood for UCSRB Vice-chair. Shon Smith seconded the motion and all approved.*

*Shon Smith made a motion to nominate Shannon Adams for UCSRB Secretary Treasurer. Chuck Brushwood seconded the motion and all approved.*

*Shon Smith made a motion to nominate Marc Straub for the Finance Committee. Chuck Brushwood seconded the motion and all approved.*

## **5. NOAA Update**

Justin Yeager discussed the 5-year review for the Upper Columbia River Spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead. The review is to determine if the listed classification of threatened and endangered species is accurate, and consists of new status and trend data conducted by the Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers to update reports on salmon viability. Opportunities with the 5-year review include:

- Report on progress toward recovery
- Highlight key accomplishments and successes
- Underscore key challenges and gaps
- Provide recommendations for priority actions, research, monitoring, regulatory measures
- Recommend needed updates to recover plans, and listings

Natural spawning abundance through 2022 has not improved above the abundance of 1997 when Spring Chinook and steelhead were listed as endangered. The current 5-year review did not recommend changes to listing classification status. UCR Spring chinook salmon remain at high risk (remain endangered) and UCR steelhead risk rating lower than others but still considered high risk.

Justin highlighted five key projects in the UC during the review period, including Icicle Creek Boulder Fish Passage Project, Western Rivers Conservancy Nason Ridge 3,714 acre land purchase for long term management of forest health, completion of Gray and Stormy fish enhancement projects along the Entiat River, Barkley Irrigation efficiency project, and the reestablished perennial flow in Salmon Creek downstream of the irrigation diversion dam.

Key threats to Spring chinook and steel head are poor ocean conditions, predation (avian and fish), low stream flows, high water temperatures, lack of floodplain function, and pre-spawn mortality (in the Nason, Upper Wenatchee, and Little Wenatchee Rivers).

Top near-term recovery priorities:

- Restore access to anadromous salmon and steelhead habitat in the Similkameen River above Enloe Dam.
- Address two fish passage barriers in the Chewuch River watershed that include the road at river mile 1.7 on Eightmile Creek and Twenty-mile Creek. YN has plans to fix both these issues but has to go through regulatory processes.
- Reduce road and stream interactions to restore aquatic habitat function, in-stream flow and sediment regimes, water quality, and biological functions on Federal lands.

- Implement habitat restoration actions that address anthropogenic features limiting natural riverine processes (remove or modify levees, roads, culverts, irrigation infrastructure, and bank stabilization).

Funding opportunities for recovery projects include Infrastructure Bill, PCSRF funding increase, and NOAA grant funding.

Q: What does 20 years from now look like?

A: Depends on water supply, water temperature, floodplain.

Q; What actions do we have to prevent these challenges?

A: Remove or modify barriers and make irrigation districts more efficient. Win/win options for communities and fish are not cheap.

## 6. UCSRB Strategic Planning

Chair Adams asked if there was any follow-up from the strategic planning meeting of 02/22. Amanda shared draft options for updated mission and vision statements for the Board to review and comment on. The Board suggested we answer the following questions prior to finalizing the mission and vision statement:

- What are we wanting to do that we are not doing?
- What do we want a salmon population to be?
  - ✓ healthy, sustainable, delisted
- Board members would provide their suggestions to Amanda to pass to Joyce for creating a Wordcloud

Amanda will continue working with the Board and Joyce to develop UCSRB's Vision statement and potential options for updating the Mission statement.

## 7. Public Questions and Discussion

There were no public questions.

## 8. Executive Committee Session

9. The UCSRB went to executive committee session for [\(RCW 42.30.110\(1\)\(g\)\)](#) at 2:35 pm and will resume back at 3:00pm .

## 10. Wrap-Up and Adjourn Meeting

Chair Adams thanked everyone for attending the UCSRB meeting and adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next scheduled Board meeting will be April 27, 2023.

**Board Members Present:**

**Chair, Yakama Nation:** Shannon Adams; **Vice-Chair, Douglas County:** Marc Straub; **Okanogan County:** Andy Hover; **Chelan County:** Shon Smith; **Colville Confederated Tribes:** Chuck Brushwood

**Staff Present:** Amanda Ward, Tracy Bowerman, Ryan Niemeyer, Nicole Jordan, Sarah Walker, Elaine Sivey, Dave Hecker, Alicia Meier

**Others Present:**

**BOR:** Steve Kolk; **Cascade Fisheries:** Jason Lundgren; **Chelan County:** Mike Kaputa; **Governor's Salmon Recovery Office:** Erik Neatherlin, Katie Pruit; **NOAA:** Justin Yeager; **Representative Newhouse Staff:** Rachel McClure; **WDFW:** Brock Hoenes,