

Meeting Summary
Lower Platte River Consortium Meeting
Monday, October 29, 2018 at 9:30 am
Lower Platte South NRD
3125 Portia Street, Lincoln Nebraska

Consortium members present included the following:

LPSNRD – Paul Zillig
P-MRNRD – Marlin Petermann & Paul Woodward
LPNNRD –Daryl Andersen
NeDNR – Jennifer Schellpeper
City of Lincoln – Steve Owen & Steve Huggenberger
MUD – Rick Kubat

Other attendees included John Engel (HDR), Simone Rock (HDR), Nick Walsh(NEMA), Larry Ruth (LPSNRD), Dick Ehrman (LPSNRD) and Gary Aldridge (LPSNRD)

BOR/WSF Reporting Items: The next BOR semi-annual report for period April1 through September 30 is due October 30th. The next semi-annual/annual reports are April1 which may coincide with final project report (depending on final comments from BOR and final adoption by Consortium).

The group discussed preliminary comments on the October 2018 version of the draft Plan. Comments included adding more information in the main plan text on the potential mitigation projects, specifically the strengths/weaknesses/unknowns so the group has more to consider than costs alone. Possibly include in existing or new table, as well as further discussion in section 5.2. Request to add summary to the basin water Demands (Section 2.7) – while different demands are presented and summarized separately, want some way to compare magnitudes between demand categories. Request to add demands vs supplies in 2012 or 2002-2005 drought (possibly pull from Basin Plans).

LWS led discussion on expectations of the Consortium on the obligations/commitments of each member that would be expected as part of the Plan and future efforts. Discussion included:

- What are the next steps towards mitigation projects – a group effort or individual effort?
- What is expected for reporting of each member with respect to drought management actions that are separate from the Drought Plan, etc?
- A table top drought response exercise was suggested following plan adoption as a means to evaluate coordination of activities during a hypothetical drought situation.
- Potential funding of projects, and specifically funding partners outside of the Consortium members was discussed.
- Potential ramifications of an administrative call placed on the river were also discussed. The table top exercise would inform the Consortium members of the mechanics and ramifications of an administrative call on the river.

The final Draft should incorporate these assumptions/obligations (i.e. work toward implementing a mitigation option).

Any additional comments on the October 2018 draft Plan were requested to be sent to HDR by Friday, November 2nd.

The next Consortium meeting was scheduled for November 26th at 9:30 am. The 2nd Public Open House is scheduled for December 5th at the offices of LPSNRD from 5-7 pm.

LOWER PLATTE RIVER CONSORTIUM

PURPOSE: To study long-term water supplies available to the lower subbasin for enhancing streamflows or aquifer storage to support sustainable public water systems.

PARTIES TO THE CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT:

- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
- Lower Platte North NRD
- Metropolitan Utilities District
- Papio-Missouri River NRD
- City of Lincoln-Lincoln Water System
- Lower Platte South NRD