



MINUTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM QUARTERLY MEETING DECEMBER 5, 2014

Date of meeting: Friday, December 5, 2014, 12:30 p.m.

Location: USFS-RO

Date minutes posted: December 8, 2014

Roundtable contact: Gali Beh, c/o Beh Management Consulting, Inc., 637-B South Broadway, #134, Boulder CO 80302, 303-499-1576, gali@behconsulting.com

ATTENDEES

Gali Beh (Beh Management Consulting), Carol Ekarius – by phone (Coalition for the Upper South Platte); Glenn Casamassa (USFS); Terra Lenihan (Beh Management Consulting); Greg Aplet (TWS); RC Smith (El Paso County); Erin Connelly- by phone (USFS); Chuck Dennis (West Range Reclamation); Mike Lester (CSFS); Cindy Domenico (Boulder County); Megan Davis – by phone (Boulder County)

AGENDA:

1. The group did introductions and ice breakers.
2. Issue/Conflict Resolution – Issues will include the current RFP, team support, mastication and Executive Team seats/changes.
 - a. RFP – Gali and Terra looked at the RFP. The RFP went out late about 10 days due to server problems at GoDaddy, so Gali asked if they want to extend the deadline? Gali also asked if they want us to stay on past December 15 if another person hasn't been hired by that time? Carol suggested we could work month by month until someone comes on. Gali suggested that Terra could be hired part-time by an agency with benefits. CUSP may be hiring a person that could be dedicated to the Roundtable. They talked about the timing. Carol said they could reissue it and keep Gali and Terra month by month until someone else is hired. They will extend the RFP deadline to January 9. If they could decide by January 30. They should do interviews and try to have someone on before the next Roundtable meeting.
 - b. Team Support – Greg gave an update about team support. The LR team would want the continued support that they are getting. They at least need some level of support. He brought up that some of the CFLRPs have hired FT monitoring coordinators that do the reports, taking the CSE data and putting in a spreadsheet; sampling. We don't have the money in our budget for that kind of role, but maybe pieced together or with CFLR money that could be a possibility. Gali brought up that we have always had a no-content approach to our facilitating. Carol said they wrote into the RFP to have someone give



significantly more time to teams. Support for teams like Community Protection and Recommendations Refresh? They have that on their radar.

- c. Mastication – Gali gave a refresh on the mastication subject; issue between NRCS and CUSP on the issue. The last Roundtable meeting we had a panel on the issue. Carol said the discussion is more of the question of what, where, when with mastication, not just an issue between NRCS and CUSP. After reading the minutes from the last Roundtable, she thought it was a productive discussion. Mike brought up that there is still a wide range of outcomes. He thinks we can't expect only a narrow outcome. We can't be too dogmatic about what we support. Greg brought up an even bigger issue. Where is the line between restoration and fuels treatment? If we're trying to influence fire behavior, how much do you get out of mastication? Bigger question at the root is a degree of comfort with what we consider ecological restoration. There's two different objectives. Gali thanked Carol for bringing up issues in a constructive place. It's a critical discussion. She apologized for how she brought up and it was perceived as a fight between NRCS and CUSP on a specific project. Gali brought up that every couple of years there is a conflict within the Roundtable. Carol said we're also trying to figure out what perfect restoration is— three different scenarios are going to have three different approaches to prescription. Next step is Chuck will take the existing materials and look through it and then we would get a group together to go through the material. Glenn brought up the outcome would be that the Roundtable would have a statement – perhaps brought to the Roundtable at the February 20 meeting and be voted on then. There would be some BMP. Mike said they have some research going on with practices that may be changing with their research. Our statements can be based on the present science. Chuck and Brett are working together on this. RC asked about the data they have; Mike and Glenn said there was some data from British Columbia. Glenn talked about the discussion of what's socially acceptable. Is it in the short term, or long term? It all depends. The group talked about prescribed fire, and the roadblock that it is. Megan mentioned USFWS proposed to do a prescribed fire at Rocky Flats. There is a local group that is opposing the prescribed fire. They want to make sure the position is NOT against prescribed fire. Chuck brought up when he was on the Golden FD, there was a lightning fire in Rocky Flats, it was positively seen because the regrowth was so positive.
- d. Executive Team restructuring – We've talked about adding chairs on the executive team for emergency management, academia and wildlife possible. Marilyn is not able to do it. Do they want to keep looking at someone? Chuck asked if Marilyn suggested anyone. Justin Whitzell was brought up. Megan talked to him about being more engaged. Justin has come to a handful of CPT meetings, he has a Larimer County/ Front Range perspective. Mike Lester will invite Justin.



3. Plan Next Roundtable Agenda –
 - a. Gali brought up if we want to do a Roundtable gut check. The group talked about the pros and cons of doing the sticker process. Greg thought it maybe a flawed process in some ways. Mike thought if that's true – we could make it a two-meeting process. Brainstorm at one meeting, and then vote at the next meeting. Brainstorm could be part of the refresh process.
 - b. The group talked about having a regular legislative update. Glenn can talk to Casey Becker and bring that up. Mike thought we need to figure out our objective. Another option is Roberts. She's SW Colorado (Archuleta County). Mike knows her. Megan brought up maybe we should look at Front Range.
 - c. Take off Missoula off the big list, Terra send Rob and Paige an email that we're recommending that they move forward on Missoula and make that part of the Refresh team.
4. Community Protection team update – Megan gave an update, they are meeting next week. Group has bringing back some research for their focus area for 2015. They will be able to narrow that down next week. Biggest area of interest is to work with CSFS around their CWPP – implementation, where they are as far as moving the CWPPs forward, should happen in the spring.
5. The group talked about the Farm Bill topic. We should do a refresh of everyone's understanding of the public law. Announcement at the February 20 meeting. Glenn will give the update.
6. Fundraising - Larimer and Jefferson Counties are unpaid.
7. Meeting adjourned.