

Meeting Summary

Inyo – Mono IRWM Administrative Committee Meeting

Date: Friday, June 20, 2014
Conference call, with in-person option at:
California Trout office (3399 Main St., Mammoth Lakes)
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Call-in option:
1-866-210-1669
passcode: 6194641#

Call-in locations

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. California Trout Office
3399 Main St. Suite W6
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 | 3. Irene Yamashita's Home
2476 Dixon Ln
Bishop, CA |
| 2. Inyo County Water Department
135 South Jackson St.
Independence, CA | 4. Bridgeport Indian Colony
355 Sage Brush Drive
Bridgeport, CA |

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Comment Period
3. Governance/future of Inyo-Mono IRWM Program
 - a. Suggested bylaws from Bruce
 - b. Recent lack of RWMG participation
 - c. Meeting quorum requirements
 - Outlining the problem & time it takes to track down RSVPs
 - Potential solutions
 1. Lower quorum threshold
 2. Only active Members – attend one of last two RWMG meetings
 3. Voting by e-mail?
 - d. Group operations in the future (e.g., a RWMG Member taking meeting notes; continuation of meetings after funding dries up [June 2015])
 - e. Program Office role in the future
 - f. Admin. Committee role in the future
4. Funding
 - a. Lahontan funding area allocation
 - b. Drought Round of Implementation
 - c. Admin. Committee as fundraisers
5. Round 1 Implementation Projects
 - a. Project updates
6. Chair and Vice-Chair for 2nd half 2014

7. General updates and announcements
8. Review of action items from the meeting
9. Next Admin. Committee/RWVG Meetings

Notes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendance

In office

Holly Alpert, IRWMP Staff
Malcolm Clark, Sierra Club Range of Light Group
Rick Kattelmann, IRWMP Staff
Mark Drew, CalTrout, IRWMP Staff
Leroy Corlett, Indian Wells Valley Water District

Phone

Valerie Klinefelter, Central Sierra RC&D
Alan Bacock, Big Pine Paiute Tribe
Irene Yamashita, Mammoth Community Water District
Justin Nalder, Bridgeport Indian Colony

2. Public Comment Period
 - Justin Nalder attended the Native American Indian National Congress in Alaska and spoke on regional tribal issues.
 - RTOC Annual Conference: regional rep is Alan; focused on environmental issues and tribal programs; how to bring in funding and utilize resources; Justin suggests screening Living in the Rain Shadow; October 15-17, 2014; this is the same as the EPA/tribal conference; Sacramento Capitol Plaza. Suggestion of Mark attending in person.
 - Irene Yamashita: MCWD still working with Ormat on mitigation/monitoring program on geothermal project; asking Ormat to re-open EIS & potential impacts on groundwater. **If people would like to be on the informational email list regarding Ormat, email Irene (iyamashita@mcwd.dst.ca.us).**
 - Holly is moving to Colorado. More on that in the next agenda item.
 - Alan says thanks for the DAC/tribal water conference. He thinks it went well and exceeded expectations.
3. Governance/future of Inyo-Mono IRWM Program
 - a. Suggested bylaws from Bruce
 - b. Recent lack of RWVG participation
 - c. Meeting quorum requirements
 - i. Outlining the problem & time it takes to track down RSVPs
 - ii. Potential solutions
 1. Lower quorum threshold
 2. Only active Members – attend one of last two RWVG meetings
 3. Voting by e-mail?
 - d. Group operations in the future (e.g., a RWVG Member taking meeting notes; continuation of meetings after funding dries up [June 2015])
 - e. Program Office role in the future
 - f. Admin. Committee role in the future
 - Bigger picture: looking for feedback on where we're going, issues related to governance, meeting attendance
 - Overview on the next year: DAC grant ends September 30 (through November for reporting); Round 2 Planning Grant ends June 30, 2015 (with three planning projects and Plan updates being main efforts); will be starting to explore other sources of funding

- Leroy asked how much it would be to maintain minimal staff/operations: Mark thinks approximately \$70,000/year.
- Irene suggests we need to know where the Group is going.
- **Talk of putting together three-year budget and work plan to present to the Group at July meeting. Mark/Holly action item.**
- Regarding meeting participation:
- Program Office reviewed the challenges of meeting attendance
- Talk of interest in creating an active membership list; if a group attends a meeting after being inactive, they would be considered active for that meeting.
- Suggestion of dropping quorum requirement to a lower percentage.
- Irene reluctant to make MOU changes because she thinks just the process of going through it would lose people.
- It was suggested that AC Members reach out to all signatories to review status. Suggested requirement for attending a rolling average of 50% of meetings. Admin. Comm. members will make phone calls to MOU signatories. **Holly will coordinate to provide information and meeting attendance records.**
- Still a suggestion of reducing quorum %. **Recommendation from AC: change quorum requirement to 35% in the MOU.** Suggestions of having to renew MOU every two years or something similar.
- **At July meeting, we ask groups to re-sign MOU by September 30, 2014, so that we can determine quorum for October meeting. Also a decision item at July meeting, recommended by AC. Two separate decision items.**
- Mark talked about Program Office having more autonomy to make decisions when needed. AC agrees that the PO should do what it needs to do to move the Group forward, and if someone disagrees with a decision, it can be taken to the RWMG.
- Stay with no e-mail voting.
- Suggestion of quarterly meetings for the next year with additional meetings as needed. Leave Admin. Committee flexible.

4. Funding

a. Lahontan funding area allocation

- There's about \$10 million left for Implementation funding for the Lahontan funding region.
- Third round of Implementation is about middle of 2015.
- There were conference calls among the six IRWM regions to discuss who is going for what money.
- There was also a conversation about coming up with an agreed-upon allocation of the Implementation funding.
- The 50/50 split (equal split and population) with \$300K for Fremont is the recommended allocation for all IRWM regions to agree to. Once an IRWM region is awarded all of its allocation, it would not go for any more money. We would have to submit a proposal that meets minimum requirements. We would be allocated about \$3.2 million total, minus the \$1,075,000 we've already gotten.
- Admin. Committee asks the Program Office to agree to the allocation. **Mark will communicate that agreement with the other Lahontan funding region IRWM region representatives. Mark has authority to negotiate.**

b. Drought Round of Implementation

- Proposals are due August 1, 2014.
- We do not think we have the types of drought-related projects to compete in this round of funding and don't think it's worth spending money on a proposal.
- Program Office did not receive any input from project proponents about what to submit.

c. Admin. Committee as fundraisers

- Suggestion of approaching the counties

- Some not sure Admin. Committee members are the best ones to do fundraising
 - In work plan/budget, we will include seed money for development & fundraising
 - Possibly approach Kern County Supervisor?
 - Leroy and Alan will think about approaching the Navy/military bases. Leroy will approach the environmental director at China Lake.
5. Round 1 Implementation Projects
- a. Project updates
- Updates from Valerie
 - Round 1 Grant ends December 31, 2014. Four projects are complete; three remain. (The two Inyo County; one MCWD projects.)
 - About half the funding has been expended.
 - Appears that CSA-2 and MCWD will meet deadline and have provided updated schedules. Have not received new deadline from SCADA. All three schedules have been amended and go out through December 31, 2014. But construction needs to be completed by September. Valerie is confident SCADA is straightforward.
 - No extra period after December 31, 2014 to finish reporting; can't spend money after this date. If Valerie needs more time for reporting, she can do a schedule amendment. When the projects get done will determine if this schedule needs to get extended. If by October, construction is not complete, Valerie will look at extending the contract. This is not a difficult change.
 - Discussion of any extra funding from the remaining three projects. Looks like projects are likely to need all their funding but will give updates to Valerie.
 - **Holly will start looking at scheduling public events through the remaining three projects.**
6. Chair and Vice-Chair for 2nd half 2014
- **Leroy motioned to switching the current situation to Chair (Alan Bacock) and Vice-Chair (Leroy Corlett). Irene seconded. All approved.**
7. General updates and announcements
- AWRA Conference
 - Venues to show documentary
 - Documentary will be made public as soon as possible
 - In the process of showcasing the DAC project work
 - At Sierra Water WorkGroup, got some information on the water bond
 - No assurance of how IRWM groups will remain funded in between water bonds
 - Mark explained the SWRCB funding for Tecopa water vending machine
 - A lot happening on the water bond currently
8. Review of action items from the meeting
9. Next Admin. Committee/RWVG Meetings
- Next RWVG Meeting: July 23, 2014