

# Integrated Management Plan Stakeholders Meeting

## Twin Platte Natural Resources District

### May 15, 2006

**Stakeholders present:** Phil Armstrong, Don Colvin, Ann Diers, Jim Goeke, Marion Kroeker, Frank Kwapnioski, Jim Meismer, Dudley Oltmans, Roric Paulman, Robert Petersen, Page Peterson, Kenneth Schilz, Jerry Steinke, Joe Wahlgren, Mike Wheeler.

**Stakeholders absent (excused):** Burdette Cooley, Lisa Dominisse, Jim Hawks, Steve Krajewski, Tina Kurtz, Dennis Schilz, Steve Van Boening, Jerry Weaver, Robert Wiseman.

**Stakeholders absent (unexcused):** John Kilpatrick, Mike Svoboda.

**Resource People:** Ann Dimmitt, Kent Miller.

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The Stakeholders Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. CDT.

#### Updates

- **Kent Miller** reported that the TPNRD Board of Directors has approved a motion that the TPNRD collect and compile information and research related to the South Platte River Compact and that the TPNRD file the necessary documents, materials, and permit applications with the Department of Natural Resources (and any other necessary State or local agency, whether located in Colorado or Nebraska), in order to fully use and exercise the rights and entitlements described in Articles IV, V, and VI of the South Platte Compact. Mr. Miller explained provisions of the South Platte River Compact and reported that the TPNRD legal counsel was currently researching what documents, materials, and permit applications need to be filed. They will be filed as soon as possible.
- **Jerry Steinke** reported that the Supreme Court has dismissed CNPIP from being a part of the Pumpkin Creek lawsuit. They may pursue other avenues to address the issue of ground water users negatively impacting stream flows.
- **Roric Paulman**, in meetings with Tom Osborne during the primary campaign, learned that KREP funding is unlikely to continue long-term. The new Farm Bill gives little indication that supplemental dollars for this purpose will be continued long enough to do any good.

#### Objectives – Draft proposals

At the last meeting Tina Kurtz and Roric Paulman agreed to combine and streamline brainstorming concepts into a draft of proposed objectives. They worked independently on this but scheduling conflicts precluded combining their lists prior to this meeting. Both lists of objectives were presented to Stakeholders. Ann Diers shared Tina's list explaining that she had tried to combine duplications and reflect all objectives identified in last month's brainstorming activity. Results of her efforts are below. Numbers in parentheses refer to the specific brainstorming ideas (see Meeting notes for April) that were combined into each objective:

#### IMP Objectives (Tina's List)

1. Reach and maintain fully appropriated status through management of the water supply in the District. (13, 15, 16, 19)
2. Provide for educational programs related to integrated management for the District. (1,2,3,4)
3. Work with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure the best information is being utilized and collected. (8)
4. Develop studies and do research to identify and quantify the components of the District's water budget and the level of sustainable use. (5,6,7,9,14)
5. Protect existing users and the local economy to the extent possible while maintaining or enhancing environmental health, recreational uses and quality of life. (10,11,12,17,18)
6. Develop a mechanism for water banking, and/or water transfers, and/or pooling. (20,22)
7. Develop a schedule of updating information. (23)
8. Maintain plan flexibility in light of changing information or conditions. (24, 25)
9. Develop a plan to maintain at least minimum pools in Lake McConaughy.
10. Encourage efficient use of water to maximize benefits to the ecology and economy of the area. (26, 27, 28, 29)
11. Manage total water supply in the district to achieve sustainability of supply while allowing for growth and changes in use. (30,31,32,34)
12. Develop/explore new sources of water. (33, 35)
13. Coordinate with other basin NRDs through basin-wide plan. (38)

Roric's took a more global approach to objectives believing that specifics fit in the Tools section of the IMP:

**IMP Objectives (Roric's List)**

- A.** Maintain surface and ground water as a dependable resource in the TPNRD
- B.** Protect the value of all land in the TPNRD
- C.** Protect the availability of the total water supply and define a sustainable balance between supply and effective utilization
- D.** Base IMP program on a sustainable level of long-term water consumption
- E.** Prevent over-regulation, bureaucracy, lost development potential and waste
- F.** Prevent shifting the mitigation requirement between the various water consumers
- G.** Pursue a concept acceptable to all water users on a state-wide basis
  - 1. A simple and straight-forward process that recognizes physical realities
  - 2. Can't be too complex, cumbersome or expensive
  - 3. A willingness to trade water credit potential for consumption control
  - 4. A uniformly applied process based on a least-common-denominator concept implemented across the entire state using common supply and consumption factors and equations to deal with local water supply issues that can be developed and implemented over a 10-year time period
- H.** Recognize the similarities and differences between local water (precipitation minus natural consumption), surface water and groundwater
- I.** Recognize water is a zero sum game, if you give it to one user, you must take it away from another.

**Objectives – Combining the two lists**

Small groups discussed similarities between the two lists of objectives and considered how these lists might be combined. All ideas from all groups are consolidated in the following list. Note: Tina's objectives are in bold type face while Roric's are in italics:

- 1. Reach and maintain fully appropriated status through management of the water supply in the District. (10) Encourage efficient use of water to maximize benefits to the ecology & economy of the area.** *(A) Maintain surface and ground water as a dependable resource in the TPNRD.*
- 2. Provide for educational programs related to integrated management for the District.**
- 3. Work with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure the best information is being utilized and collected.** *(E) Prevent over-regulation, bureaucracy, lost development potential and waste.*
- 4. Develop studies and do research to identify and quantify the components of the District's water budget and the level of sustainable use.** *(C) Protect the availability of the total water supply and define a sustainable balance between supply and effective utilization. (D) Base IMP program on a sustainable level of long-term water consumption. (H) Recognize the similarities and differences between local water (precipitation minus natural consumption), surface water and groundwater.*
- 5. Protect existing users and the local economy to the extent possible while maintaining or enhancing environmental health, recreational uses and quality of life.** *(A) Maintain surface and ground water as a dependable resource in the TPNRD. (B) Protect the value of all land in the TPNRD. (F) Prevent shifting the mitigation requirement between the various water consumers.*
- 6. Develop a mechanism for water banking, and/or water transfers, and/or pooling.** *(G3) A willingness to trade water credit potential for consumptive control. (I) Recognize water is a zero sum game, if you give it to one user, you must take it away from another.*
- 7. Develop a schedule of updating information.**
- 8. Maintain plan flexibility in light of changing information or conditions.** *(E) Prevent over-regulation, bureaucracy, lost development potential and waste.* **9. Develop a plan to maintain at least minimum pools in Lake McConaughy.** *(A) Maintain surface and ground water as a dependable resource in the TPNRD.*

- 10. Encourage efficient use of water to maximize benefits to the ecology and economy of the area.** (C) Protect the availability of the total water supply and define a sustainable balance between supply and effective utilization. (D) Base IMP program on a sustainable level of long-term water consumption. (E) Prevent over-regulation, bureaucracy, lost development potential and waste.
- 11. Manage total water supply in the district to achieve sustainability of supply while allowing for growth and changes in use.** (C) Protect the availability of the total water supply and define a sustainable balance between supply and effective utilization. (D) Base IMP program on a sustainable level of long-term water consumption.
- 12. Develop/explore new sources of water.**
- 13. Coordinate with other basin NRDs through basin-wide plan.** (G) Pursue a concept acceptable to all water users on a state-wide basis.
- (F) Prevent shifting the mitigation requirement between the various water consumers. (I) Recognize water is a zero sum game, if you give it to one user, you must take it away from another.
- (B) Protect the value of all land in the TPNRD.
- (H) Recognize the similarities and differences between local water (precipitation minus natural consumption), surface water and groundwater.

Roric and Tina will consider these recommendations and work together to form a final consolidated list of objectives for review at the next meeting.

#### **Future Meetings**

The group discussed meeting times and whether to meet during the summer months. It was decided that we would continue to meet monthly but change the meeting times to 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. CDT. Our next meeting is:

#### **Monday, June 26, 2006 at the Quality Inn in North Platte from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. CDT**

- Continue discussion of Objectives for the TPNRD Integrated Management Plan.

#### **Upcoming meetings:** All meetings will be from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. CDT

July 17 -- Quality Inn  
August 21 -- Holiday Inn  
September 18 -- Quality Inn  
October 16 -- Holiday Inn  
November 20 -- Holiday Inn  
December 18 -- Holiday inn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m. CDT.