



Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
Phone Meeting – July 8, 2009

WORK PLAN

Barb gave an overview of the draft work plan she has been working on. Barb will work with Vic and the Coordinators to review and complete the plan which is expected to be distributed prior to the August meeting. Some of the work plan items have not progressed as expected because of all the transitions this year.

BUDGET

Lynn gave a budget update although there are a few unresolved issues that prevent her from presenting a firm budget summary. Cash in hand is approximately \$10,335.11 and there is a need of about \$12,000 through December of this year. The coordinators are continuing to work on a more exact budget need for the remainder of this year and fiscal year. It appears that there may be a need for Map conversion, data hosting and coordinator expenses of \$22,000 through December. There is \$24,118 available each year (2009 through 2011) from the Non-Point Source grant with a balance of approximately \$5,709 through the remainder of this fiscal year (July – December). There is also a pending \$20,000 grant from the state for DSN map upgrades. The map project will not proceed until the WQX conversion.

WQX CONVERSION

Gold Systems would like to start on the WQX conversion for the DSN by August 1st. The cost of this conversion is estimated to be \$10,000. Complete payment to Gold Systems would be due at end of September. In the original Sustainability Plan the cost for the WQX conversion had been estimated at \$50,000 to \$68,000 so \$10,000 is good news. There was much discussion about going forward with the conversion knowing that we would need to initiate a fund raising campaign immediately because the Council does not have all of the required funding or just wait until the funding is available. If the Council chooses to wait Gold Systems will move on to the next client and we would lose our place in line delaying the conversion. During this time the data and map portal will not be available to DSN users because the Gold System Oracle license will expire soon and it would not be cost effective for them to renew the license for just DSN use.

After the WQX conversion the data hosting cost will continue at \$1,000/month. Gold Systems has indicated that they are going to try to convince the EPA to cover the cost of hosting for non-profits due to the difficulty in raising the necessary funding.. That would be an incentive for the Council to move toward 501(3)C status.

SWAP

The question was posed to the Leadership Team if they were in favor of proceeding with the scheduled Colorado/Lower Colorado SWAP this fall. The discussion initially focused on the cost of the SWAP and whether the Council had the available funding. It was determined that the cost of the SWAP has been minimal in the past due to acquiring free conference/training locations and contributions for food and beverage. All time was volunteered and presentation materials such as maps were also volunteered. It was unanimously agreed that the SWAP should be held because it is a key element and product of the DSN and it is a valuable outreach opportunity for the Council. The lead time for preparation is about three months. It will require the assistance of the LT and Outreach committee to set up the events. Possible locations will be Craig, Dillon, and Glenwood Springs.

RETROSPECTIVES

Barb reported there has been little progress with USGS on the Yampa retrospective. She indicated USGS wants to use the DSN for their bug data. USGS may not continue work on retrospectives in the future; at least not in the fashion.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lynn expressed that she sees a need for an Executive Committee within the LT as originally designed by the Transition Team. It was not formed due to a lack of volunteers. Lynn has experienced difficulty getting decisions made on items that are time sensitive. Until an Executive Committee can be formed, she will request urgent decisions from Barb and Vic who will email the Leadership Team requesting immediate feedback.

IN-KIND TASK LOG

The Council has gotten out of the practice of sending their in-kind match hours to the coordinators. Lynn will forward a task log template to Vic who will distribute to all Committees with instructions on what volunteer hours should be recorded and when the logs should be sent to the coordinators. In the future the Committee Chairs will send out the task log with the meeting agendas.

WEB

[Hold over from last months minutes as an informational aid and response request]

Work continues on the Council website. Progress can be viewed at <http://cwqmc.coloradowatershed.org/coloradowater>. Please review and get your comments back to the Coordinators at cdsn@mtngeogeek.com. They are also requesting photos of monitoring events to be posted on the website. The DSN website will not go live until the WQX conversion.

NATIONAL MONITORING COUNCIL CONFERENCE

Barb will be submitting an abstract for a DSN presentation. Barb would also like the Council to submit a poster as well. Barb will need help with this task, please contact her if you can help her. Dave Kanser will submit an abstract for work that was conducted by the Selenium Task Force which used the DSN for data hosting. Cathy Tate asked that people send her an email explaining their abstract intentions. Please contact Cathy with your other ideas; cmtate@usgs.gov

NEXT MEETING

August 12, 2009 at a site TBD.