**November Boardman River Dams Implementation Team Meeting**

**APPROVED Meeting Notes**

**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 1:30 pm

**Facilitator:** Frank Dituri, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

**Notes:** Kimberly Balke, Conservation Resource Alliance

**Location:** Traverse City Governmental Center, Commission Chambers

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**Implementation Team**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grand Traverse County</th>
<th>City of Traverse City</th>
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<td>Traverse City Light and Power Department</td>
<td>Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians</td>
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<td>Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition</td>
<td>US Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
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<td>Michigan Department of Natural Resources</td>
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<td>Grand Traverse Conservation District (Ex officio)</td>
<td>Conservation Resource Alliance (Ex officio)</td>
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<td>Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay (Ex officio)</td>
<td>Charter Township of Garfield (Ex officio)</td>
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<td>Grand Traverse County Road Commission (Ex officio)</td>
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**IT Members Present:**

- **Frank Dituri** (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians)
- **Kimberly Balke, Casey Ressl** (Conservation Resource Alliance)
- **Jim Cook, John Nelson** (Grand Traverse County Road Commission)
- **Rick Westerhof** (US Fish and Wildlife Service)
- **Marty Colburn** (City of Traverse City)
- **Jen DeHaan** (Grand Traverse County)
- **Carl Platz via phone** (US Army Corps of Engineers)

**IT Members Absent:**

- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Traverse City Light and Power Department
- Charter Township of Garfield

**Non-IT Members Present:**

- **Dan DeVaun** (AECOM)
- **Chuck Lombardo** (Communications Team/CML)
- **Lori Herald** (Stakeholder)
1. **Introductions** – Introductions were made by those in attendance.

2. **Public comment** – No comment received.

3. **Miscellaneous**

   **Agenda deletions/additions** – The group discussed and agreed to add one item to the agenda as follows:
   - NEPA fulfillment for USFWS grants was added under item #10

   **Review and potential approval of the October IT meeting minutes** – Approved with correction on page 5 last paragraph, last word already reflected in revised minutes from Winkler.

   **Action item review from the October IT meeting** – Reviewed by Kim B.; those not complete were noted as owing and placed on the “Pending Action Items” list (at end of these notes) unless determined to no longer be relevant.

4. **AECOM update: report and discussion (Dan DeVaun)** – DeVaun presented the following updates on the local effort:

   **Boardman Dam**
   - GTB is working with Stream Mechanics in adjusting the direction of the monitoring plan. Incorporating that adaptation into the monitoring plan to be approved by MDEQ will need to be timely since MDEQ approval before construction can commence, ideally spring 2017.
   - Minor MDEQ comments were received regarding the due care plan for sediment site-specific treatment and the plan is close to finalization.
   - Forty questions were processed from contractors in response to the bid distribution and those responses were included in the formal amendment issued by USACE noted in Carl Platz’s update below.

   **Sabin Dam**
   - On Monday, Nov 7 AECOM hosted the 30% design review meeting. It was well-attended. The updated cost estimate was among the items reviewed. USACE provided comments; these comments are processed through a design review checks system.
   - Anticipate scheduling a of 60% design plan completion by or on December 9, 2016. Joint Permit Application will be submitted shortly thereafter to MDEQ.
   - Goal of having the project fully permitted and project bid out by September 2017.
   - Stormwater management and utility line locations are being explored. Consumers Energy may be able to de-energize some of their on-site power lines instead of moving them.
• AECOM is preparing to submit the JPA shortly after reaching the 60% design plan completion milestone in December 2016.

5. **Army Corps update: report (Carl Platz, USACE)** – Platz provided the following information:
   • USACE issued a formal amendment today and this included modifying the bid package due date to December 8, 2016, resulting in an award date of February 3, 2017. This date revision is largely in response to contractors requesting more time. Once bids are submitted USACE is scheduled to start reviewing them December 12, 2016.
   • Continued coordination and development of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in order for USACE to utilize grant funds raised by partners to supplement the EPA funding provided for the Boardman Dam Removal and Restoration phase of work.
   • The second pre-bid site visit was held last week on November 1, 2016 in order for contractors to go into the powerhouse; this visit was well-attended.
   • There will be a meeting on Monday, November 14, 2016 between USACE, AECOM and InterFluve to review the construction management process including contractor oversight, change orders, etc.

6. **Bi-directional fish passage update: report (City of Traverse City & GTB)** – Colburn and Dituri reported on the following:
   • Great Lakes Fishery Commission hosted a kick-off two-day meeting in Windsor in October with an estimated 70 people in attendance from different disciplines (academia, engineers, biologists, business, legal, communications), entities (state, local, tribal, federal, non-profit, university, private), and nations (USA, Canada, Great Britain, Netherlands).
   • The October meeting was constructive, and well-organized. GTB, City and MDNR were in attendance from the IT. The goal is for a 2019/2020 construction completion, with 10 years of monitoring and adaptive management, contingent on funding.
   • It was asked which agency/partner specifically is responsible for deciding which fish to pass on a Michigan river. The State of Michigan, in consultation with the Tribes, is the decision-maker. The MDNR public comment process will likely be initiated in December 2016.
   • The next meeting is being planned for May 2017 in Traverse City, now that Union Street has been formally selected as the dam for this flagship fish passage project. Ideally, a formal site survey will be completed by then so that preliminary design discussion can commence; Colburn will touch base with Andrew Muir of Great Lakes Fishery Commission regarding next steps for completing/funding site survey. The next 2-3 workshops will likely be held in Traverse City.

7. **Bottomlands update: report (Dituri)** – Dituri and Kim B. noted the following:
   • The SEP final walk through was completed with County Soil Erosion officer satisfied with site conditions. Partners are all pleased. Stream Mechanics is preparing a final report and that should be available in December 2016, Dituri will provide copy to CRA.
The MDEQ permit for large wood installation at Brown Bridge has been issued
A meeting between the County Parks and Recreation Department and the District was recently held to discuss contract details for NER management for 2017

8. Communications update: report (CML/CRA/IT) – Lombardo and others provided updates on communications-related topics including the following:
   • 2017 will be an active year for the Communications Team
   • The Communications workplan will be distributed to the IT at the December meeting for their approval.
   • Great Lakes Fishery Commission communications team people met with CRA and CML, and are very interested in collaborating on outreach regarding Union Street and potentially helping to fund said work.
   • GLFC communications team members will meet with CRA and CML on December 14 and also attend the IT meeting on December 15.
   • There was a recent channel 9&10 News clip (thank you Dituri for doing the interview) and Record Eagle article on the project, highlighting the utilization of Brownfield Development funds for the Boardman Dam removal project.
   • The Team is working on minor follow up and fine tuning information in response to the recent RE article, including soils information.
   • On Monday, November 14, IT members (Dituri, Beyer with DeVaun and Ressl on hand) will present a project update to the City at their 7pm meeting.

9. Prosperity Plan update: an update was not provided at this time

10. Funding updates: report (IT):
   • Communications continue between USACE, GTB, City, County, CRA, and grantors regarding the development and details of the MOA and PPA, and flowing and timing of funds for Boardman and Sabin phases.
   • Dituri noted the RFP for the next round of BIA funds is coming out in the next few months.
   • The MDNR Dam Management grant proposal is being submitted by CRA tomorrow for Sabin, requesting $200,000.
   • Attached draft materials represent the current funding plan to be discussed and revised with Private Philanthropy Team on 11/21.
   • No material changes to the comprehensive grants table since we last met – therefore not included in packet.
   • Consideration of Frey Foundation proposal shifted out to February at Frey’s request; Rotary met with GLFT and they will accept proposal in March 2017.
Westerhof is processing the NEPA, SHPO, ESA requirements associated with the USFWS grants for the Boardman project in order to accept the USACE completed NEPA as a formal “adoption.” Westerhof has to do a review and FONSI with a 30 day public comment period. In order for USFWS to have directly accepted the USACE NEPA, the agency would have had to been actually written into the Environmental Assessment.

11. Open forum (IT):
Jim Cook noted that GTCRC will re-coat/paint over the graffiti on Cass Road Bridge ($4500 if subcontracted versus $2500 with GTCRC labor) after the contract with Davis Construction is closed out at the end of the calendar year, and the outside temperature is 40°F and rising.

Dituri noted that USACE sediment analysis team is floating the Boardman River this afternoon.

12. Meeting closing:
IT meeting agenda and action items were reviewed for December.

Public comment – Sea lamprey management discussion for future Union Street dam modification and/or reconstruction.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

**Action Items**

**New:**
- **Winkler** to distribute draft November IT meeting notes to the IT.
- **Winkler** to post approved October IT meeting notes to the project website.
- **Colburn** will touch base with Andrew Muir of Great Lakes Fishery Commission regarding next steps for completing/funding site survey.
- **Dituri** to provide SEP final report to CRA for IT distribution.
- **Kim B.** to provide meeting notes from Boardman Dam upstream erosion locations to IT via future IT packet.

**Pending:**
- **Largent** to forward 2014/2015 water temperature data to **Dituri** and **Winkler**
- **Hettinger** to provide **Colburn** MDNR endorsement (via meeting notes) of GLFC selection of Union Street Dam
- **Winkler** to solicit input from the IT on meeting scheduling/frequency
- **Hettinger** to provide raw data from Sabin Dam discretionary survey to **Winkler**

**Discussion:** None
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