

December 7, 2004 – 3:00 PM
Great Salt Lake Water Quality Steering Committee Meeting
DEQ Building #2, 168 N. 1950 W., Room 201, SLC, UT

Walt Baker, Chair opened the meeting.
The roll call of the steering committee members and alternates was performed.
Introductions of Stakeholder and visitors were given.

Steering Committee Members and Alternates in Attendance:

Joel Frandsen
Karen Hamilton
Henry Maddux
Don Leonard
Jim Huizingh
Dave Naftz
Kelly Payne
Richard Bay
Leland Myers
Maunsel Pearce
Lynn DeFreitas
Ed Blaney
Delane McGarvey
Dianne Nielson
Walter Baker

Old Business

The Meeting Summary from the November 2, 2004 meeting was approved as amended.

Walt Baker talked about signatories on Sen. Bennett's letter. Mr. Maddux said the letters of support are very critical, even if they come from individual stakeholders. Mr. Baker told the steering committee that DEQ would send e-mails to stakeholders to encourage them to send letters to Sen. Bennett if they wish.

New Business

Dr. Bill Moellmer talked about the science panel meeting on November 8, 2004. He briefly mentioned that Dr. Theron Miller and Richard Bay gave presentations to the science panel on current studies on wetlands and Jordan Valley Conservancy Water District plan to discharge treated water by direct osmosis in the GSL. Dr. Moellmer gave a presentation on the round robin sampling methods and procedures that the science panel is planning to perform.

A Q&A session followed Dr. Moellmer Presentation. Maunsel Pearce asked if the science panel intends to use filtered or unfiltered Great Salt Lake (GSL) water. Dr. Moellmer answered that the science panel will have to address this issue.

Walt Baker asked the steering committee if they had any questions for the science panel.

Kelly Payne asked what items are included in the next science panel meeting agenda. Bill Moellmer replied that the agenda would include the round robin protocol (sample spiking, chain of custody etc.), William Adams' presentation of his paper "Derivation of a chronic site-specific water quality standard for selenium in the Great Salt Lake, Utah, USA," and Joseph Skorupa's literature review.

Richard Bay proposed that the Steering Committee ask the Science Panel to rapidly identify the scope of work for the selenium studies in the next three months. Leland Myers commented that after reviewing Adams' paper, the Science Panel would identify the gaps in knowledge and data to be filled and have a better idea of the scope of work. Walt Baker asked Richard Bay if he was suggesting giving the Science Panel a time frame. Richard Bay replied that the Science Panel needed to identify the gaps and quickly try to describe the scopes of work.

Bill Moellmer talked about the assignments of the Science Panel members, including the Joseph Skorupa literature review on selenium round robin studies done in San Joaquin Valley, California, Bill Moellmer's creation of tables of Laboratories, and Anne Fairbrother's matrix for the laboratory analysis.

Leland Myers suggested looking at preliminary studies to identify the background concentrations of the GSL. Based on Bill Adams' studies, the Science Panel will have to identify where the scientific gaps are.

Kelly Payne proposed that maybe some details on the round robin protocol might be handled by email to save time.

Dave Naftz commented that maybe the round robin results in the long run might not be the answer to some selenium speciation issues.

Walt suggested getting feedback from the Science Panel on what elements of this study can be done now, such as literature review, or coincident with the round robin.

Walt Baker mentioned that an account has been established and DEQ is ready to receive funds. An accounting of funds will be provided at each Steering Committee meeting.

Karen Hamilton asked Walt Baker and Dianne Nielson what DEQ is planning to do to request funds from EPA. Walt replied that DEQ is planning to request funds through the consolidated funding process. Karen Hamilton commented that there might be some competition on a national or regional EPA level for funds.

Dianne Nielson asked Karen Hamilton if EPA funds studies and projects for Fish and Wildlife or other entities on an annual basis. Also, she asked if there is a way for the Steering Committee to raise EPA's level of interest in order to secure some monies for Utah and the western regions. Karen Hamilton replied that there is not a set amount that EPA provides annually for these types of efforts. Ms. Hamilton also said that she would certainly work toward raising the level of interest of EPA towards the GSL study.

Maunsel Pearce mentioned a scholarship through the University of Utah for the GSL study.

Dr. Moellmer asked Richard Bay if he would like to talk to the Science Panel about rapidly getting scopes of work. Richard Bay answered that he would be willing to do it.

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

Accounting Report
Science Panel Report
Public Outreach Efforts

Next Meeting: Tuesday January 11th, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 201, DEQ Bldg #2, 168 N. 1950 W., SLC, UT.