



Consortium Technical Committee Meeting Summary

JANUARY 3, 2024 CALLED TO ORDER: 1:32 PM ADJOURNED: 3:15 PM

QUORUM PRESENT – YES – 17 MEMBERS

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM/VIDEOCONFERENCE

Approval of November 1, 2023 Meeting Summary

Todd Heidgerken made a motion to approve the November 1, 2023 meeting summary as presented. Mike Grimm seconded the motion. The November 1, 2023 meeting summary was unanimously approved as presented. (17:0:0)

Director's Report

Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Managing Director shared the following updates:

- Rebecca recently met with Tom Reid from Metro. Metro is updating their UGB and Growth Management Report. This is something they are required to do every 6 years. As part of that work they will be updating the buildable lands inventory (vacant, redevelopment, infill), population and employment forecast and review city requests for UGB expansions (Sherwood only city). The draft report will be coming out in June. Then policy decisions will start to be created. Tom anticipates that in September those policy proposals will be ready to share with Metro Council. Rebecca suggested having Tom come to either the June or September CTC meeting to talk about this. In addition Metro plans to update their 2040 Growth Concept Plan (last updated in 1995). Once Metro Council approves and provides direction that work would begin in 2025. The plan looks at where growth is expected to happen and will be considering climate change, racial equity, housing and affordability. Now may be a good time to re-engage with MTAC.
- Reminder – The Consortium Board voted unanimously to recommend the adoption of the IGA to individual Boards, Councils, and Commissions at their meeting in October. The IGA and talking points were sent to all Board and CTC members. Signed IGAs should be sent to Patty Burk. Hoping to get all signed IGA from members by June 30, 2024.
- Reminder – Send Patty FY 2024-25 dues information by Friday, January 12.
- Lake Grove Water District has expressed interest in joining the Consortium. The Lake Grove Board meets January 16 to approve the membership request. If approved, their membership request will go before the Consortium Board at their February meeting.

- Consortium staff recently sent out to CTC members a draft one-page document on PFAS for the Consortium website. Comments received were incorporated. Rebecca will re-send to CTC for final review.
- A written program update report was included in the meeting materials packet.

FY 2024-25 Budget and Work Plan Discussion

Rebecca noted that Consortium staff has completed the FY 2024-25 budget and workplan. The City of Portland has provided staffing costs which have been incorporated and are in-line with what was expected. With support of the Consortium Board, two new funding initiatives have been added. These have been added to the “English Media Campaigns, Digital Campaign, Public Outreach and Public Relations” line item in the budget and include:

- \$15,000 to support multi-cultural events and ad buys
- \$20,000 for Public Relations Contract

Rebecca recommended increasing hours for the Management Assistant position from .7 FTE to .8 FTE to incrementally increase staff capacity. With a carry-over of \$125,796 the dues would increase approximately 7%.

It was the consensus of the CTC that the additional staff capacity and dues increase seemed reasonable and directed Consortium staff to share the proposed budget and work plan with the Executive Committee at their meeting next week.

February Consortium Board Meeting Draft Agenda

Rebecca reviewed the February Consortium Board meeting draft agenda. Agenda items included approval of minutes, adoption of the Five-Year Strategic Plan, director and program reports, the adoption of the FY 2024-25 Consortium work plan and budget, and a place holder presentation. Presentation topics suggested included general regulatory update, member roundtable and cybersecurity. Rebecca will reach out to Kari Salis from OHA to see if she is available to do a regulatory update and CISA (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency) to see if someone could be available to talk about cybersecurity.

Deep Dive Discussion – Planning

Rebecca reminded CTC members that as Consortium staff was developing the Consortium Five-Year Strategic Plan, a few topics warranted more discussion and direction/feedback from the CTC because they are important components of the Consortium’s work and programs.

Today’s discussion focused on planning projects the Consortium has completed over the past 27 years with the goal of discussing what past work is still relevant, how/if planning documents are used, determine if additional updates or investments are needed, and identify next steps.

Rebecca gave an overview of significant Consortium planning projects including the Regional Water Supply Plan, Regional Transmission & Storage Strategy, Source Water Protection Strategy, Interconnections Map/Geodatabase and Evaluation Project, and Emergency Drinking Water Framework.

CTC members were asked to consider how these documents can remain relevant to the Consortium's current work, what they want to do with this work moving forward – what is worth updating and what is worth archiving as historical frame of reference, and is there new planning work the Consortium should take on?

Discussion Outcomes:

- The document and presentation met the need of members to learn/re-learn what planning work we have done and what has been accomplished – especially for new members.
- Value in updating the interconnections and GIS work.
- What gaps do we have in the region? Storage? Ability to move water? Emergency water supply?
- What practices do we need to do annually to ensure that plans are aligned with the strategic plan and ensure members are engaged in them?
- Identify what plans should be archived e.g. RWSP, Source Protection Strategy
- Future work: Framework plan, especially how it interfaces with Regional Transmission and Storage and interties. Curtailment – what is the Consortium role and what work needs to be done/resources need to be updated/developed
- Need to identify goal for updates to existing work and future work
- The RWSP was the catalyst for regional utilities to sit down and make projects like the WWSP possible. The source horizon in 1996 was MUCH different than it is today. Important to decide – what is it we need? How do we strategically address/fix the need? What do we get from the plan – how is the plan a vehicle to get us to another point, how does this dovetail with our strategic plan goals and initiatives?
- Emergency Drinking Water Framework issues are probably more dynamic than the others. Transmission Storage is 24 years old now, interconnectivity is 14 years old. Both of those should be updated in the next few years and a roadmap planned to go forward.
- Adaptive planning could be a model for some of this work. Discuss relevant plans periodically against different scenarios or review for updates. Benefit of this approach is it keeps the documents living, addresses emerging issues, builds relationships, and helps educate new staff.
- Could updating the interconnections database be done internally by members? Pete Boone from TVWD recommended subregional groups to tackle this work.
- Consider convening subcommittees of members to look at Consortium plans and provide recommendations for next steps and how to tackle them.
- There is value in developing regional plans and studies – even if they are not always used. Invites collaboration, challenges staff, educates new staff, usually includes exercises/TTX and trainings.
- Need to identify which of the Plans plug into the Strategic Plan's major focus areas. Do these plans support the priorities of the Strategic Plan and in what way?

Next Steps:

- Scope of work for Framework will help inform what next steps might be; explore marrying framework to

interconnections geodatabase and update

- Develop criteria/matrix for success of these plans.
- Consortium staff to come back to CTC with additional ideas on how to move forward.

Rebecca thanked CTC members for a thoughtful discussion and their feedback. It was noted that the Plan summary document was very helpful and a great tool. For the next CTC deep dive discussion which will focus on equity and translation, CTC members suggested materials that include a summary of work and what the Consortium has accomplished to date in this area, e.g., website enhancements, traffic, accessibility, printed materials – number of piece and languages translated, community response, etc.

Meeting Attendees:

David Winship – City of Beaverton

Todd Heidgerken – Clackamas River
Water

Greg Robertson – City of Forest Grove

Jessica Dorsey – City of Hillsboro

Justin Poyser – City of Gladstone

Bret Bienerth – City of Lake Oswego

Brad Albert – Oak Lodge Water Services
Authority

Sarah Santner – City of Portland

Kari Duncan – Rockwood Water PUD

Ryan Wood – City of Sandy

Rich Sattler – City of Sherwood

Wyatt Parno – South Fork Water Board

Brian Rager – City of Tigard

David Schaffer – City of Troutdale

Rachel Sykes – City of Tualatin

Nick Augustus and Pete Boone –
Tualatin Valley Water District

Mike Grimm – West Slope Water
District

Bonny Cushman, Riley Berger and Patty
Burk – RWPC Staff

Next CTC Meeting: March 6, 2024, via Zoom/videoconference.