To: Rueda, Helen[Rueda.Helen@epa.gov]
Cc: David Croxton[Croxton.David@epa.gov]
From: Opalski, Dan
Sent: Thur 4/17/2014 6:21:47 PM
Subject: RE: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Helen – I talked with Heather yesterday. At least at this point she is more comfortable with direct interaction than with a facilitator.

If we have the principals lined up for 4/30, I think we should proceed. This has been out there as a next step for too long to accommodate others who are not necessarily central to the conversation at the potential cost of another couple of months. I don't mean to sound harsh, but the flipping of the pages of the calendar really has become a factor here and I'd rather not contribute further in that direction without strong cause.

Thx, DanO.

From: Rueda, Helen
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 11:16 AM
To: Opalski, Dan
Subject: RE: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Thanks Dan. At this point the only date that works for all the principals is April 30th. Melissa has not yet responded. Neither have Jim Keating and Jim Curtin. I am thinking of resending the poll with dates in June added.

From: Opalski, Dan
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 9:46 AM
To: Rueda, Helen
Cc: Croxton, Dave
Subject: RE: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Thanks for the update. I'll talk to Heather Bartlett to assess Ecology's level of interest/anxiety a bit further.

From: Rueda, Helen
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 8:57 AM
To: Opalski, Dan
Subject: RE: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Hi Dan

Neither Judy nor Laurie is available so it looks like you will be facilitating, assuming Ecology is OK with that. I talked to Deb Robinson and she suggested Cindy Grafe or Tracy Chellis as possible facilitators. I haven't approached them yet. Let me know if you want me to explore those options.

Helen Rueda

Environmental Engineer

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From: Opalski, Dan
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 9:37 PM
To: Rueda, Helen
Cc: Croxton, Dave; Owens, Kim
Subject: RE: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Actually, Helen, what I was meaning to indicate is that while I am willing to go to a certain length to honor Ecology's request, neither Dean nor I are particularly convinced that a facilitator will be helpful for the kind of conversation we need to have. So I really was meaning that a "lite" approach could be fine, or if we can't find anyone whose workable internatlly, I'd be inclined to go back to Ecology with a commitment that I'll actively facilitate, given that we are in several respects in the middle already. I think either Judy or Laurie could be fine. I understand that Ecology could have some concern with Laurie, so I wouldn't push that approach if they raised an objection.

From: Rueda, Helen
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 3:07 PM
To: Opalski, Dan
Cc: Croxton, Dave; Owens, Kim
Subject: RE: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Hi Dan

I agree that facilitation "lite" would be a mistake. Ecology did express a very strong desire for a facilitator, though they did not state it as a requirement. I would like to look into the possibilities for a facilitator, given Ecology's strong interest.

Among the facilitators available in region, Deb Robinson has the most experience and would be my first choice. However, facilitation is no longer part of her job description, so it may be difficult to get her. Other possibilities that I am familiar with would be Judy Smith or Laurie Mann. The Tribe may have an issue with Laurie because she was on Ecology's Dispute Resolution Panel for this TMDL, so perhaps we should check with them prior to selecting her. Please let me know if there are others you would recommend or if you have preferences among the people I named.

There is some funding for Conflict Resolution available through HQ that we have been pursuing. My understanding is that this funding would be to hire an outside facilitator. Do you want us to stop looking into this option or just make sure that the funding would be sufficient and flexible enough to allow us our choice of facilitators and also allow them adequate time to prepare for the meeting?

Helen

From: Opalski, Dan
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 4:58 PM
To: Rueda, Helen
Cc: Croxton, Dave
Subject: Re: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Helen --
Sorry, I am catching up. Based upon the way in which Ecology made the request -- not a have to have, is what I heard -- and given my own and I think the Tribe's level of appetite for something more than facilitation "lite," I would not be inclined to go to an outside facilitator. If we can't find someone to help internally I'd probably prefer to do without and essentially end up playing somewhat of a facilitator role myself.

DanO.

From: Rueda, Helen
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 4:31:52 PM
To: Goodin, John; Monschein, Eric
Cc: Croxton, Dave; Furtak, Sarah; Keating, Jim; Opalski, Dan; Owens, Kim
Subject: Pend Oreille TMDL - Facilitor

Hello John and Eric,

On our call last week with Washington State Ecology the state requested that the next Pend Oreille meeting, which will include the Kalispel Tribe, have a facilitator. Our region has disinvested in its facilitation program because of budget constraints, so our resources are limited. Are there sources of funding that HQ could point us to which could be used for an outside facilitator for this meeting?

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