

**Minutes – Atchafalaya Basin Program (ABP)**

**Technical Advisory Group Meeting**

**September 18, 2014**

**Meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM by the Chair – Bobby Reed**

**A Roll Call was conducted and showed the following members present and that a quorum was present:**

**Bobby Reed, Dr. William Kelso, Dan Kroes, Charles Reulet, and Brac Salyers.**

**Sign-in sheet is attached to document other attendees.**

**A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Dan Kroes, and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.**

**A motion to approve the minutes from the July 30, 2014 meeting was made by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Brac Salyers and was unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.**

**A Buffalo Cove update was given by Jason Binet. The Corps is still waiting for right-of-entry on all of the features, but 7 of 10 condemnation packages are currently at the Dept. of Justice. Marti Lucore explained that the Corps has opted for condemnation to obtain right-of-entry on private lands because of difficulties associated with identifying and contacting Basin landowners (sometimes dozens of owners per tract). She also reiterated to the TAG that a 25% cost share is required on Element 10, because that feature wasn't in the original design package.**

**Don Haydel gave a presentation to the TAG on the potential projects for the 2016 annual plan. TAG members voted on whether or not to concur with ABP recommendations as follows:**

<b><u>Project</u></b>	<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>	<b><u>Result</u></b>
<b>Pigeon Bay</b>	<b>No action on this project until response is given by landowners as to whether features may be constructed on private lands. Add to priority list.</b>	<b>Motion to approve recommendation by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Dan Kroes and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.</b>
<b>East Grand Lake</b>	<b>No action on this project until response is given by landowners as to whether features may be constructed on private lands. Add to priority list.</b>	<b>Motion to approve recommendation by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Dan Kroes and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.</b>
<b>Sediment Traps in Orange Barrel and 21 Inch Canals</b>	<b>Add to priority list.</b>	<b>Motion to approve recommendation (with recommended modifications of the TAG*) by Charles Reulet, seconded by Dr. Kelso and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.</b>
<b>Murphy Lake</b>	<b>Add to priority list.</b>	<b>Motion to approve recommendation by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Bobby Reed and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.</b>

**Dredge Big and Little Bayou Pigeon**

**Add to priority list.**

**Motion to approve recommendation by Dan Kroes, seconded by Charles Reulet and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.**

**Upper Grand River Flats**

**Declare that project cannot proceed and remove from ABP project list.**

**Motion to approve recommendation by Dr. Kelso (after some discussion\*\*), seconded by Dan Kroes and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.**

**Cocodrie Swamp**

**Declare that project cannot proceed and remove from ABP project list.**

**Motion to approve recommendation by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Brac Salyers and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.**

**16" and 21" Canals**

**Declare that project cannot proceed and remove from ABP project list.**

**Motion to approve recommendation by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Brac Salyers and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.**

**Brown Bayou**

**Declare that project cannot proceed and remove from ABP project list.**

**Motion to approve recommendation by Dan Kroes, seconded by Dr. Kelso and unanimously passed by voice vote of the members.**

\* Dan Kroes pointed out that the current kidney-shaped sediment trap design tends to trap mostly sand while the more problematic silt-sized particles pass through. He suggested that construction of deeper, wider channels that are larger than what is needed to carry sediment would be a more effective design. He also recommended that studies be done on the new design. Bobby Reed noted that the recommended design would be easier to clean out than the current design.

\*\* Dan Kroes suggested that the lower portion of the drain to Grand River, which is on State Lands, would be an effective location for a sediment trap per the new design concept, because it currently functions as a delivery point for water and sediment into the unit. Don Haydel said that because this would be a fundamental change from the way the project was initially designed, building the feature as such would require a new nomination in the next annual plan process.

Summary: The TAG agreed that the following projects located on state lands / state water bottoms can proceed and should be constructed in the following priority order. The TAG requested that some or all of these dredging projects be combined to minimize mobilization costs. The ABP staff committed to the combination of project design / construction that would be the most cost effective.

1. Channel Training Breach Restoration / Grand Lake Delta Dredging – Iberia Parish (2016 Plan Nomination)
2. Little Bayou Pigeon Dredging – Iberia Parish
3. 21" Canal (St. Martin Parish) and Orange Barrel Canal (St. Mary Parish) Sediment Trap Design and Construction (New Design)
4. Murphy Lake Dredging - St. Martin and Iberville Parishes
5. Big Bayou Pigeon Dredging – Iberia Parish

The TAG also concurred that the East Grand Lake and Pigeon Bay Projects should be on the prioritized list in positions number 6 and 7 respectively until the ABP receives the final decisions from the private landowners.

Public comments were made by Charles Demas concerning the design of sediment traps. He noted that velocities less than 1 ft/sec are required to settle out heavy silts; therefore the design of sediment traps should be based on the channel volume required to slow water to this velocity. He pointed out that both Bayou Postillion and Bayou Chene are good examples of large channels that are currently functioning as sediment traps and filling with sediment in an upstream to downstream direction. He also suggested that Cross Canal may be utilized to combine the Grand Lake Delta Dredging Project with the Murphy Lake Delta Dredging Project in order to reduce mobilization costs. He noted that at the rate the Grand Lake Delta is currently growing, one high water event may completely block off the lake at the point of the channel input.

Old business: Bobby Reed stated his support for the new sediment trap design.

New business: Sara Krupa is organizing two field trips in October for members of the TAG, Research and Promotion Board, and Atchafalaya Trace Committee. She will send an email reminder and Doodle poll to all potential attendees.

Dan Kroes pointed out that the USGS is restructuring and that his office will soon become a regional office. The implications of the restructuring are still unknown.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Kelso, seconded by Charles Reulet and unanimously passed by a voice vote of the members.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.



*Atchafalaya*  
BASIN

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EVENT/LOCATION

ABP TAG meeting

DATE:

18 SEPT 2014

NAME	ASSOCIATION	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP	PHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
April Neuman	DNR	on file		342-6437		april.neuman@la.gov
Marth Lucore	USACE	on file		504-862-2057		martha.lucore@usace.army.mil
Jeff Varisco	USACE	on file		504-862-2853		jeffrey.varisco@usace.army.mil
JASON BINET	USACE	7400 CEARKE AVE MOCA	70118	504-862-2127		JASON.A.BINET@USACE.ARMY.ML
Bobby Reed	LDWF	on file		337-488-3039		breed@wfla.gov
Sara Kruea	DNR	on file		on file		sara.kruea@la.gov
Charles Reulet	DNR	on file		on file		charles.reulet@la.gov
DON HARDEL	DNR	FILE		FILE		DON.HARDEL@LA.GOV
Shane Miller	LA DEQ	111 New Center Dr. Lafayette	70508	337-262-5584		shane.miller@la.gov
BILL KEISSO	LSU	on file		FILE		wkeiso@agcenter.lsu.edu
Laura Washford	N.Hud.Soc.	on file		262 3706		lwashford@audubon-ors
BRAC SAUVERS	LDWF	on file		FILE		bsauvers@wfla.gov

