

12/9

WPTF Funding Subcommittee

I. Ray Snydale

Lease vs. purchase price equivalents.

Rental

15 yr. Purch. 6% int.

70

If objective = CU - or what - need to be careful.
Inred. stream flow concern = CU
RICA - fixes rel. B/C CU + water applied.

Policy implications

Purchasing rather than long term leasing will be cheaper over the long run.

- Doing it right means retaining least productive land as close to mt. value as you can.
- Purchase vs. to irrig. - NOT right to farm.
- Purchase rather than lease unless need is short term.
- Use water alloc. programs where allowing land applied water helps.

D Smith - Reducing least productive ground - expand?

RS - Less productive in variety of ways.

By river - hard to irrigate - configuration

Sandy soils - area hard to get uniform

GG -

DS - Don't see. save any more water - it's just cheaper

RS - Be careful re: cost per CU of water

RS - Community projects

How understand + share?

Looked @ LR context + RR context. In

both cases, - look @ where was $B/4$

10-20% growth occurred for 2 things:

1) Rel. econ. act. + growth.

2) What it would need to go backwards.

Finds: Rel. $B/4$ irrig. dev. + employment

NOT there. What see is employment

gone down ev. in times of

high level. in last few yrs.

Positive effect on income, too.

GR - Employment not correlated, but income is?

RS - Growth in irrig. didn't stop. it must.

Saying you're not looking at an economic disaster.

Q - impact on prop. tax rev's?

RS - next thing on agenda

What drives values: Chgs. in returns. -

if decrease profits - will impact.

Community Psychology Effect - another ball game.

Conclude:

Chgs. in irrig. across dist affect ^{employment} ~~sp.~~ much
direct effect ^{are} largely a ^{function} of gross ag. sales.
Effect of chgs. in irrig. small when compared
to ag. price effects.
disrupt in grain handling and
farm supply firms for 10-20% redup.
in irrig. likely to be less than effect
of crop ~~sh.~~ shifts.

Prop. tax base will go up more slowly,
but unlikely to decline.

GG - Have to have comparison re: cost to area + so
does legislators.

Wanted to get back on how much is cost
going to be to areas that have to & water.
Some areas substantial - some less.

RS - Depends how you do it.

E.g., reduce spraying -

Also Q re: how much you cut the back

GG - Need to look @ cost of incentives

Might talk us \$1000 / acre to retire land -
validate that.

Q re: Cutback funds - $\frac{1}{3}$ ag. $\frac{2}{3}$ non-ag.

Meaning?

RS - Who gained in growth from irrig. - how

showed ? - $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{2}{3}$ was a guess - need to
look @ who gained + how distributed.
RS - Hard # to pin down. I my guess
of $\frac{1}{3}$ + $\frac{2}{3}$ based on multiple
relationships. Also - politically - have to sell the

Concept is there.

Ag producers in the area affected.

J Connis - J Gittins - C. Harris - J Rye - J Turnbull -
D Krus - G Glock - R. Bishop - D Smith - M. Cleets - AB
SG - AD - DC - T. Schwanz (late)
Art Hovey - D. Kramer

II TF Recommendations Discussion

Items 1+2 < H.O. >

NRP Fully auth = 8 1/2 < 4 1/2 + 1 + 3 >

Item 3 - # for statewide use for efforts.

Benefits everybody.

Elkhorn - Longs - Blue - putting # into studies

Discussions re: trying to prioritize needs.

Whether WPTF should endorse efforts.

A lot goes bad to LD 962 implementation.

AB - SG - set spread sheet -

SG - wish list

LG - From variety of sources - add to record of TF?

Whether record or not - some of these

will be forwarded.

Q - do we want to record funds to deal w/?

Hear from Elkhorn + Long from people reviews about possible delay.

AB -

JC - looked @ how devel. COMYST + what was needed for models

AB - as Dept's priorities - not see in this order.

These would change what already getting / doing -

RB - Hard for me not to suggest Bk I've been saying for yrs. What's needed in Platte + RApub + need info elsewhere, too.

JG - Work thru approp. committee to be sure adequate & to reflect real situation.

RB - Whether 3.2 or June's 2-2.5 - need to get a # + support it.

DS - Couple yrs. ago, was 4.7...

DK - 4.7 included redup

RB - Was unrealistic - had no #'s.

DK - But concept was "everything was in there".

RB - Agreed.

DS - #3 okay - maybe add - continue ALL modeling efforts (not just COMYST).

DK - have a placeholder than anything else.

me - would rather see @ 3.2 than 2-2.5.

JT - ~~It~~ in range + keep general.

DS - need to adequately i.d. needs

UG - What to ask for meeting?

AB - Re: details - to what extent want to i.d. "by the Univ." - to some extent looking to Univ. as a consultant,

JR - Frankly - now we can point work by Univ. - now it helps.

AB - Don't want to give them thoughts they're the only ones were working by "Univ. - USGS - NRPB + others".

Tim Schwanz come to mtg.

DL - Realistic range + give folks flexibility ; ,

DK - Each kind of unique.

DL - Group gave you $\$$ this yr when you asked for $\$3.5$.

List bears little relationship to fiscal reality.

I see $\$$ committed to this level of funding.

My guess - go to $\#$ before: $3\frac{1}{2}$ or top of DNR Ops. budget.

Prioritized based on most pressing need.

DK - Same is verifiator.

DL - What be the to make the case for a lot of stuff. We'll have an slot to try to change their minds from $\$$ last yr.

AB - 8.6.

1.1 = carryover

7.5 = 7 given to us.

6 mill for incentives.

\approx 1.5 mill

DL - Wouldn't feel worse to asking for 3.5 above what you've asked for.

GB - Possible fed. funding?

John - maybe research $\$$ thru NRCS - haven't done research but would be happy to do so. Has to be way to leverage state dollars w/ fed dollars.

DL - Have to look @ every possible source.

DS- Our resp. to i.d. what's needed, let legis. take it from there.

DK- AB + SG have done good job re: "here's the program." Think we ought to i.d. 3.2 will budget - work on add'l refinement of #. Go thru end of these to see what other partners there might be.

AB- We should come up w/ # + promise re: Dept. will work hard, (for added #). Reluctant to say now will work on leverage - don't have time.

DK- First 6 items = no choice - have to do.

AB- Already doing some of these.

DK- You'll have prob. of don't know diff.

RB- Chart says "add'l not prev. funded."

AB- Have Repub. model using - writing on add'l studies re: epstein #. 60 K = in addition.

JK- Recognize needs. Seal figure around \$2 m. level & go to legis. & i.d. that have i.d'd in excess of \$3. m. but will try to work w/ \$2 m + leverage

RB- ID greater need = \$3.2, but want commitment of \$2. m.

AB- Agree to approach.

JK- Helps get us started.

DK - Some things are very 1 priority - want to be able to say will get these things done.

RB/DK/AB "Add 2 m. to address 3 m of need."

AB - to work on presentation.

JT - + balance has to come from other sources.

Item #4

JR - for next yr., B/C legis looking @ budget adjustments, need to go to legis w/ specific ideas - specific goals.

One = Capping of Republican River,
+ Also Platte.

DNR working w/ Repubs, re: ideas to be implemented in next 1-2 yrs.

To extent can bid + what cost might be - any to legis. "Initially this is what need" + save

bigger fight for another day, to get them to do more over a longer term this yr would be difficult.

Whittle dollar figures down as far as can, 5-10 m was wild guess on my part

GG - Anyone cost figures?

AB - Dept trying to develop - not easy.

GG - How specific does group want to get?

DK - Don't want legis. to pick among these...
JK - Up to NRDs + DNR re; work out a
Plan. Recognize those in process/in
the works + reminder TF put some
dollars into that.

DK under heading "Water use reduction"

GG - Go by 4A + 4B - + bullets below
are for our group's consumption

JK Re: \$ figures...

AB - To save later, what wht. will bear -
Can always use more \$. Vegetation
mgmt would take a lot of \$.
Re: Veg. mgmt. - a pilot project re:
feasibility. Could do big or small
pilot project.

GG - Are things that will come up - if
spend - \$ - get us in compliance?
If doesn't why spend?

DC - not approp. to have discussion in
this form.

GG Q Case to re.

MC - 5-10 = big gap. - will look @
5 + figure out where to cut from there.

DK - Re: 4(b) - look @ specific projects -
When go to legis. - would need some
things i.d'd -
At some point -

AB - Can for e.g. purposes -
EQIV on Pupkin Cr. - know \$.
Could put "These are kind of
programs - kind of cost"
Don't want so tied in on legis.
that we're restricted.

DK - Agree - don't want 5-10 + they
start cutting on the 5.

John - Regardless of amount you ask for
isn't there going to be reliance to
approp. when some NRDS haven't yet
allocated water?

AB - All Platte River NRDS in O-A areas
are putting together ITPs -

John - All in place BM proposal.

AB - No - but will have to be met.

DK - 8 roll into 2 - or 4 - the
regulation part. + say no
pilot programs till #8...)

John - Just recommending it's more saleable if

have local buy-in, whether statutory or not,
Don't have to restate that 7hp process
is in process.

Lunch

Congr. Osh. re: possibility of fed. \$ < Osborn + Boetger >

Except 2 yrs. - 40 yr. time frame used was wet
cycle.

- Cerven -
- 1) Casewater practices
< K. State professor article >
 - 2) CR&I report not figured in.

Want people to sit down + discuss.

Q = Where go from here? Cerven re:
where \$ comes from.
If falls back on irrigators will be
devastating.

Hope wouldn't be over from Bostwick.
- Don't know how figure value of water
per a.f.
If \$20 m. - not so bad.
Smith has creative ideas.
Purch. water etc. Assume long shot

Don't see we can get another CRPM
more fed dollars.

If could get \$ for vegetation - looked
into several months ago & will
try again this yr. - might help.

Re: \$ - landscape @ fed level.

\$50 mil. budget rev. cut.

Out 4.5 Bill.

Reduced to 3.7 Bill. (cut out.)

→ Set to vote re: financial climate.

To be optimistic re: new program - totally
optimistic.

Concern re: where lines are going to be
drawn - COHYST - Jerhus.

@ least 4 Coop Agree - had COHYST.

Controversy re: 28/40 + 10/50 - you need
to figure out.

EQIP - isn't a lot - notes difficult.

ch Budget:

100 mil. was to come from EQIP & d

told them I wouldn't support

60% of EQIP goes to cattle ops -

Wish see more EQIP dollars.

might apply for grant & show special
need.

Don't know where we could get a lot of
\$ right now.

Want to be part of solution.

Q re: Ozallala Ag. studies in TX / OK -

O - Have gotten some dollars for Univ. to study ag.

JR - NE ought to be priority to some of tech.

O - Will take another shot @ that,

AB - Discussions re: what new EQIP + CREP
would look like?

O - No.

To get EU to come down - we proposed
cut Arbo Box payments
if would come to pass - far bill as
we know it would be non-existent.

Only 40% of price supports there,

[Conservation or larger fixed payments.
Concern = long end of net less \$.

This part of world has done pretty
well over all w/ farm bill.

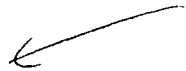
Large city - conservation goes over better
than price supports.

"Greener farm bill - less price supports -
hopefully EQIP goes up."

Things after 1st of year.

Year from now will have better view
of direction. Also move towards

Art Hovey
wants to
know what
the 70,000
you referred
to ~~was~~ is.



reverse insurance" ^{looking at past levels} to guarantee ~~past~~ ~~tax~~ future.

TS- Appreciate what you've gotta so far. In legal have had Regulation + your programs.

AB- CREP designed for habitat conservation. If do ~~not~~ new CREP could address a lot of the water conservation better.

Working w/ fed. lawyers not 70K per say - but 1st case - 1st rule - just keep restrictions of 5K above MCL ^{1/2} of CP: -

DS- Re: CREP + EQIP interest.

O- Get one to Pughin Creek?

AB- Fed approved EQIP for Pughin Cr. - States agreed 187 match. Whether can expand beyond for the CREP - not sure.

Feds say expanding way of CREP acres more difficult. A 2-step process.

1st step - list allow + next step will

take longer

O - Tell us what you want to do + will try to do it.

Loup - Nebraska - Elkhor - unmapped re: hydrology,

AB - Work w/ USGS on models. 40% Cost share.

O - Want aware of.

Anyone = good sense re: how widespread damage re: KS Agree could be.

DZ - Can discuss in public forum. Offered to talk privately.

TS - All keep pushing for (I)'s - will be an important tool.

AB - So S Smith get water to Platte.

TS - What he's proposing technically could be done. depend on Platte for hydrologic standpoint, - not that great. Politically - GTI would have weighed.

DC - Consultation w/ Paul would take years.

AB - Agree w/ everyone else - + will help w/ tech - side. (I)'s are huge.

DK - Need to point out areas that won't make a lot of sense.

AB - Can save water - but where shall we

put it - & that's a policy Q.

Bob B - Agencies get together to discuss how
fed. \$ spent & if it's in best use.
Local groups can prioritize EDIP \$.
if continue to push conservation -
maybe can get idea or two out of them.
Wang Hardy re: permanent easement idea.
maybe tweak it - early on give
incentive + buy out water rights.
Look @ anything that might be possible.

AB - NET folks - significant project -
retire land to dryland so customers
to be productive + work w/ GAP
to use pivots ~~corners~~ corners
for habitat. Work out program
for farmers to get pd thru GAP
program to open this led to
hunters.
Tie trust objectives to their \$.

JG - on hunting portion - for last 12 yrs. -
Sen School tried to get program in -
has been adamantly opposed by every
sportsman's group in NE.
B/c in state of NE - rely on good
nature of farmer to allow to hunt.

Not that don't want to pay - but idea
that we don't have open hunting area
AS- Rep + Kent Nelson thought might be good
idea.

O- CRP land could be turned into
good hunting ground.

S Dst = \$150- / guest day for hunters.

Bring people back - rural econ. devel

G+P has CRP mapped.

Intro'd bill in Congress re: way for
walk-in hunting.

Controlled hunting area brings higher amt of \$ -
up to \$500 / day / person

DS- Preventive planting.

Doesn't help compliance - but look @
making less restrictive ... Progra needs
to be looked @ as option to help
producers "weather the storm".

O- Was an at-time deal (if we drought - couldn't).
But had been pretty good @ being loose.
Slow to get an answer to farmers in spring.

John - on Senate side, trying to tie RMA
down. They're coming back + saying
"Compact related".

Growers playing by rules they don't understand

O Part of Compact = Conservation Study -
was to run over 5 yrs - wiggle
room til done ^{B/C} such a big
compact

DL Double-edged sword. Compromise.
BOR - Am. Corps - wanted to
cont water not getting to states
as result of conservation as "CU"
if did - we wouldn't have water
for irrig.

We said we'd look at it,
Can use some of info while
getting to assist in assessing where
we are in Compact.

Ⓚ to see where we are & what
we can take from that.

AB - Ⓚ hasn't been studied.

Q = of water not running off -
how much evap + how much recharge.
Whole realm of studies re: Conserv.
that we need to do.

if had included conserv. as part
of CU - would have to
regulate that - all 3 states
did NOT want to do that

O- Studied by western states probs of
30-40 yrs ago that were just
starting to see.

CA - AZ

Are we looking @ some of those projects?
Look @ what people w/ similar problems
are doing. Store here in web years.

AB- Part of RR settle. to work on leasing.

DL TF of looked @ other states -

esper. concept of water users paying.

Sought to avoid for now.

E.g. CO - augmentation.

O- Try Tamish in Republ. + tell
KS that how will solve it.

DL Couple recharge areas could work

off - trib. supply for round

Prob = working w/ environmentalists.

~~RB~~ AB- Are working w/ some of these thru
to districts.

RB- Raised FSA (J) re: FOIA.

DS- Reiterated.

Break

JR - We support plan for

- 1) Capture ②'s in Regent
 - 2) Reducing funds in Platte.
- + if do 90%/100% - whatever w/ recog. to NKDS doing efforts

JG - Possible re: take #4 + use statement from #8 to head into

- a) - b) - + just returns of a) - b) - not bullets.

Bring 90/10 split to opening # - To accomplish incet. prog. listed below, this body is recording 90/10 split.

Take #5 - what is discussed under #3. drop #5 on later areas.

JR - Statement in 5 under both 3+4.

JG - + assuming 8 = lead - in

mc - Concern - concern re: camouflaging # ants asking for. Bottom line - need to ask for #. If don't - will

look @ as lowest possible #.

GA - more Captable not stating a # than
stating a # we're not sure of yet.

Don't have # yet.

But B/Y then + of #'s avail.
by 22nd - we can add.

DS - #'s + need haven't chg'd

GA - Not going to get \$30 m/yr.
Can record "need to address" +
let DNR + NRDS figure out priorities -
won't get whole list @ once.

AB - Prob. w/ #'s - like RS said -
can core up w/ #'s to retire +
evening can chg. All over the place

OK - Recommendation to legis. w/ funds effective
7/1 for ten til 6/30 - has to
fix it - what kind of program w/
that time frame?

AB - in terms of what can do in next
yr. - more doable.
B/Y looking @ ALL over 10 yrs.

DS of stick w/ 1+2 -

1) legis. needs to look @

2) Can be NPA all by itself.

Item #2 seems re. Too easy for legis. to say "NPA A" you haven't used auth. @ all."

+ can say "Why should we give - not using all."

Need strong statement from LA 962 will have huge cost - must be funded.

Could have #10 r. program up + running in 3 wks.

GG - See if understand JR + JG re: part 4.

JR - Open stat. from #8 + lang. re: resp = state load
ris 90/10 -
directive program. 2) - not specific + b) not specific + c) = rewording of 5 + 5 as subject to 3 as well.

GG - bit. # #'s a ~~4~~ 4

RB - Why not a 4? What's wrong w/ saying 5-10 for next yr.

AB- Want know til you can tell
me property prices.

RB- We know more than 5-10 bill. -
Benefit to let legis. know a large #-
if don't approve - doesn't unit need.

DK- Q- article here info by 12/22 - at any
diff. point than today?

AB- Hoping a lot further along on Repubs

DK- #'s on 22nd? Approp. for
funds request for legis.?

DS- Just shot team.

AB- Have best #'s we've got on acres.

DK- At some point need # for legis.
We need to understand it.

GG- Long term. 1st request - only for
coming fiscal yr. ~~the~~ For
next biennium -

DS- 2 (I)'s - ST + LT

RB- if no #- - concern it doesn't
get put in.

JG - What looking @ for next yr.

JR - That's #4. Scratching for now -
maybe by 2nd have better feel.

AB - Better

DK - AB + DC talk B/4 2nd.

AB - AB + DC talk re: Repub.

Have CREP - use redump...

DK - other people on Platte work a b), you
get # re: a). = our goal for
2nd.

me - Last mtg. - handout.

Repub - 11 mill. / yr. for retirement.

Another mtg. where stuff went away?

#'s half what they were last mtg.

GG - For coming yr.

DK - Don't know we'd developed. We're
doing more nice - right re:
spending for short term (< #4).
Other #'s may have been averages.

GG - #'s threw me into shock B/c
discussion of legislators - had been
no prior discussion of those #'s.
Baded off B/c can't go B/4 group
of #'s - after Ray S - maybe ARE

real - but need to know how to address
short session.

#7 = "whole of big load" + check
support in NE for dedicated
funding - don't reword how
at this point.
Know needs to be done

JR - 5-10m was in throwing
figure in - don't attach significance.
Don't attach anything to figure.
Other thoughts = what's double legis?
Need to go to legis. 4 specific
ideas + say "Here's how going to
work + here's benefits".
A lot of states shock from
prior figures.
Look @ what can do next yr.
+ 7 goes to future.
Even if get legis. to do
something - e.g. ear marking -
takes while to do + can't get
funds immediately.

GA - if I were NRD org - I would resign,
you're screwed. Not long time to get
of magnitude you need to solve it.

Need to talk what can get.

But see solution for short term.

RB - \$ out on #4 for short term.
#7 - leave # out now - + may
or may not have # on 22nd
Will say # is in + need
dedicated source.

DK - Placeholder.

RB - \$ out for now til better - defined.

MC - Copies of revisions $\frac{1}{4}$ 22nd??

JR - Rough draft to JG + SG + see
if it jives + all agree - will
go to everyone next wk.

GG - By 22nd - need figures,
#6?

DK - still meeting for TF?

GG - Suggest 7 preced 6 + 6 = last

MC - 25¢ fee / acre? statewide? (ye)

AB - Superior legis. looking for prioritization.

DK = 7 = 1st - dedicated funding.

JR - TF reminds to DNR.

AB - What is TF view?

JG - For whole TF to say/try to reach
consensus on.

AB - Gives TF meeting to react to.

GG/RB - Present in this order.

RB - Reward that '06 funds are for - get fed
+ tax receipts.