

From: "Eugene T. Glock" <eugeneglock@risingcity.com>
To: "Steve Gaul" <sgaul@dnr.state.ne.us>
Subject: The 27th
Date: Mon, 17 Jan 2005 19:53:20 -0600
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2800.1409

I haven't heard from you so wondered if you are the unlucky staffer to help us or if it is someone else.

Let me know please.

Eugene

From: "Eugene T. Glock" <eugeneglock@risingcity.com>
To: "Tom Schwarz" <tschwarz@atcjet.net>,
"Steve Gaul" <sgaul@dnr.state.ne.us>,
"Ron Bishop" <rbishop@cpnrd.org>,
"Roger Patterson" <rpatterson@dnr.state.ne.us>,
"John Turnbull" <jturnbull@upperbigblue.org>,
"Jay Rempe" <jayr@nefb.org>,
"Don Krauss" <dkraus@cnppid.com>,
"Dave Sands" <dsandsnit@alltel.net>,
"Ann Bleed" <ableed@dnr.state.ne.us>,
"Lumir Jedlicka" <lumjed@fbnetusa.com>

Subject: Jan 27th

Date: Mon, 17 Jan 2005 19:50:33 -0600

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So far everyone has indicated they will be in attendance. Jay tells me that the Governor's budget provides for \$4.5M. I will feel very good if we can hold that number based on my discussions with some of the Senators. I think our job, and the rest of the Task Force too, is to contact the Senators we know and educate them to the necessity of the funding. Then we will need to have something for the next session ready as soon as possible. I may be an old pessimist but if we don't get the necessary provisions before the change of Senators in two years, we will have a rougher time than ever to get it I'm afraid.

I'll see you all the 27th.

Eugene

From: "Eugene T. Glock" <eugeneglock@risingcity.com>
To: "Steve Gaul" <sgaul@dnr.state.ne.us>
Cc: "Ann Bleed" <ableed@dnr.state.ne.us>, "Roger Patterson" <rpatterson@dnr.state.ne.us>
Subject: Finding funding
Date: Wed, 5 Jan 2005 09:12:52 -0600
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2800.1409

Welcome back Kotter, oops, Steve. You will be getting a memo from me to all the committee members. In it I state that I have asked you for some numbers. I assume that someone has told you that we were told you would be the staff member working with the funding sub-(as Lumir put it submarine)committee. I'm glad we don't have to have this whole thing put together for this session of the legislature. It will be difficult enough to come up with funding sources but tied to that is "how much funding do we need and for what purposes". I am asking all the members to try to come up with numbers for their pet proposals and where possible to come up with cost estimates for the various actions that will need to occur to meet requirements of joint management plans.

I would appreciate any numbers you can provide, especially regarding cost estimates and also what might be likely amounts raised by various scenarios presented by the members of the committee. I have summarized them in the letter I'll be sending right after I send this note to you.

Please keep in touch with me.

I think we also need to set up a meeting with the new governor when that change takes place but I'm not sure if that should be the committee's responsibility or the Exec committee. You and Roger will have to be the judge on that.

As I understand our responsibilities, the immediate need is support for the \$4.7M in some fairly secure fashion. Then we need to develop proposals for making that \$4.7M permanent and to allow for the raising of other funds to carry out LB962 in the future.

Thanks for your help.

Eugene

From: "Eugene T. Glock" <eugeneglock@risingcity.com>
To: "Tom Schwarz" <tschwarz@atcjet.net>,
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"Ann Bleed" <ableed@dnr.state.ne.us>,
"Lumir Jedlicka" <lumjed@fbnetusa.com>

Subject: January meeting

Date: Wed, 5 Jan 2005 09:58:11 -0600

X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2800.1409

I'm attaching a memo about my thoughts for the meeting and our responsibilities.

Please let Ron or I know if you will be attending by the 25th so we can get the lunches ordered.

See you the 27th.

Eugene



[Jan 4 summary.doc](#)

Eugene T. Glock
Cedar Bell Farms
3031 G Road
Rising City, NE 68658

Members of the Funding Sub-Committee:

From the responses I have received, I think we are all on the same wave length regarding our "charge". I first thought I would send along all the comments I received but it appears that none of you are really set on any certain approach so I'll let you all prepare your thoughts and we will try to deal with them the on 27th.

Here is my summary of your responses.

The \$4.7M will not be enough to even cover all the administrative costs, maybe the state agency share but even that is doubtful. When addressing the "local" share we must include municipalities and environmental concerns as they will have increased administrative costs in dealing with whatever restrictions or incentives are available.

Long term or permanent conversion of land from irrigated to dryland may be needed. Funding for this should come from federal, state and local sources in some matching percentages. Municipalities and environmental entities must also be prepared to share in funding this effort.

The link between water quantity and water quality must be developed and all parties, including the taxpayers, must be educated to the positive results from properly managing our water resources.

Providing a variety of authorizations for NRDs, municipalities, irrigation districts and others to raise funds through differing mechanisms will be needed. The situations for each different entity and location will differ greatly, both in what is needed and the political acceptability of differing fund-raising mechanisms. Suggestions in your comments range from sales tax, "water" tax on all water including domestic, (I use the term tax although many of you have studiously avoided that nomenclature even though that best describes it in my opinion. A rose by any other name is still a rose. We may have to call it a daisy or orchid to get it accepted.), wellhead tax (municipal as well as agricultural), acreage tax on developed acres, license fees for all water uses, fee on each irrigation water withdrawal point whether groundwater or surface water. As far as I can recall, everyone favors a dedicated source of funding for the base but just how to achieve that brings forth differing views.

Research to assist in making "smart" decisions is still needed and funding this should be a responsibility of everyone, including the federal government, not just local districts.

Money for addressing environmental issues involved in the whole problem need to be funded by the federal government.

Some local funding is essential so that the local entities can control how and where the money is used rather than having to meet state or federal guidelines.

Federal funding should be a substantial part of the picture, particularly since the federal government provided the majority of the funds for the surface water irrigation development. The USDA program being implemented in the Republican River area should be expanded to other problem areas.

I think that covers your comments in a nutshell. I have talked with the university, Congressman Osborne's staff, others in Washington and a couple of state senators. I will talk with them more when they get their leadership positions all arranged.

Now some of my observations from the discussions I have held.

First, I think I am correct that the immediate challenge for the whole task force is getting the \$4.7M funded in the current state budget structure in as secure a manner as possible. Then we will be presenting options that the whole task force will have to adopt to obtain the necessary funding for the future.

Getting new programs funded in D.C. will likely be impossible. It may be possible to extend current program funding - research funding for university, USDA land retirement programs, etc - but it will take a lot of effort to even maintain the funding, let alone expand any of it. Some agencies that, under more normal conditions, might have funding for water projects would be USDA, EPA, Dept of Interior, National Science Foundation and Department of Energy. There are some others but they are farther from water issues and under the present climate, are not likely to be looking for new projects. Congressman Osborne's staff is very willing to help, as is Senator Hagel's staff, although not quite as enthusiastic as Congressman Osborne's staff. I still am waiting to talk with Senator Nelson's folks.

From the brief discussions I held with state senators, they don't feel there is much chance of getting the dedicated funding out of sales tax unless the legislature changes its philosophy.

As for "taxes" on water in the various forms mentioned above, I have been somewhat surprised at the number of folks who are becoming concerned about their future water supplies and are grudgingly willing to look at some form of use taxes *but only if everyone, including domestic users, is involved also.*

I would suggest that any of the group who have specific plans to present should try to get numbers on their proposals. This will enable all of us to better judge the risk/benefit ratio of different ideas. I'm asking Steve to try to pull together estimated costs and would like the NRDs, municipalities, and others to try to do the same. I know

this is like shooting at a moving target from a bucking bronco but we need something to start with.

My calendar shows our meeting to be at 10:00 AM at the Central Platte NRD office in Grand Island. Ron will only be available until noon but we will have enough to discuss that we can continue after he has to leave. I would appreciate hearing if anyone has dietary restrictions because I would like to have lunch brought in. I like Valentino's pizza but am open to whatever Ron and his crew finds the easiest to deal with.

Please let me know if I'm getting off base on any of this stuff.

See you the 27th.

Eugene

From: "Eugene T. Glock" <eugeneglock@risingcity.com>
To: "Ron Bishop" <rbishop@cpnrd.org>, <ableed@dnr.state.ne.us>
Cc: "Dave Sands" <dsandsnlt@alltel.net>,
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"Tom Schwarz" <tschwarz@charter.net>,
"Steve Gaul" <sgaul@dnr.state.ne.us>,
"Jody Gittins" <jgittins@unicam.state.ne.us>
Subject: Re: FW: January meeting
Date: Thu, 16 Dec 2004 15:06:50 -0600
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I can try to make any of those dates work. I've had several conversations with Osborne's office and they are going to provide me with info if Bob can't make the meeting.

They wanted to know what kind of funding we needed and for what purposes. I told them there was a great variety of known and possibly unknown needs. I summarized by telling them that we need administrative funding at the state levels and at the NRD/Irrig Dist level. Hopefully the \$4.7M will handle the state portion but the local portion will get difficult, especially if funds are needed for implementation of water use practices, incentives or compensation as a part of any management plans. I told them that funds would likely be needed for a wide range of compensation or incentive schemes, some of which can probably be considered in the area of conservation. I suggested that land rental was certainly a possibility and even purchase of land might be considered in some cases. I also suggested that some of the funds might be considered as matching funds for other sources of revenue.

I hope this meets with your approval.

Eugene

----- Original Message -----

From: Ron Bishop

To: ableed@dnr.state.ne.us

Cc: [Eugene Glock](#) ; [Dave Sands](#) ; [Roger Patterson](#) ; [Lumir Jedlicka](#) ; [John Turnbull](#) ; [Jay Rempé](#) ; [Don Kraus](#) ; [Tom Schwarz](#) ; [Steve Gaul](#) ; [Jody Gittins](#)

Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2004 12:32 PM

Subject: Re: FW: January meeting

Ann:

January doesn't look too good . The only available dates are :

Thursday, Jan. 6th

Thursday, Jan. 13th

Friday, Jan. 14th

Mon., Tues., or Wednesday, 17th, 18th, or 19th

Thursday, or Friday , January 27th or 28th

Ron B.

Ann Bleed wrote:

Gene asked me to find a time for a funding committee meeting. Would you please let me know your availability for a meeting. (Please see Gene's note below.)The meeting will be at the Central Platte NRD office in Grand Island. Thanks. Ann

-----Original Message-----

From: Eugene T. Glock [<mailto:eugeneglock@risingcity.com>]

Sent: Friday, December 10, 2004 5:10 PM

To: Ann Bleed

Subject: January meeting

I think Grand Island would be the best location. Lincoln would be alright with most of us but for Gloria and Tom, it is another hours drive. The January dates I have already filled are Jan 8 and 12. I have asked Congressman Osborne to provide a resource person to bring us up to date on what grants might be available from USDA, EPA, F&WS, National Science Foundation, etc. Since he will be holding listening sessions the week of Jan 10th, that whole week is out. I assume we would like to meet as early as possible so that we can present something to the exec committee the first of Feb. I appreciate your willingness to make the contacts on this. Thanks Eugene