Memorandum

To: Idaho Water Resource Board

From: Helen Harrington

Date: September 9, 2013

Re: Rathdrum Prairie CAMP Status Update

ACTION: Consider request for CAMP funding to Kootenai-Shoshone Soils and Water Conservation District in the amount of $20,000

Funding Requests

On July 24, 2013, the Rathdrum Prairie CAMP Advisory Committee met to discuss implementation activities and review several funding requests. Three funding requests have been received over the past several months. They are for the following projects:

1. Rathdrum/Spokane Aquifer Technology Project (sponsor: Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District). The objectives of the project are to install technologies and demonstration projects which will lead to water and energy savings. The project is a three-year term, with the first year budget of $50,000. The US Bureau of Reclamation has committed $30,000. Multiple partners will be providing in-kind match. **RP CAMP AC recommendation: $20,000**. Staff agrees with funding as recommended by RP CAMP AC. This project can implement RP CAMP actions through good stewardship of the shared water resources of the region and demonstrate strategies to use the water resources efficiently. There are long-term benefits which this initial funding can leverage with local water districts and agencies.
2. Evaluation of Alternative Ground-Water Pumping Schemes as an Approach to Mitigating Problems of Critical Low Flow in the Spokane River at Spokane, Washington (sponsor: Ralston Hydrologic Services). Low flows in the Spokane River at critical times during the year are a potential conflict in the basin. The objective of this project is to evaluate feasibility of mitigating the extreme low flows by reducing or relocating ground-water pumpage at strategic locations to increase stream flow. Proposed budget for the study is $70,000. *Applicant has requested delay in IWRB consideration of this funding request until November to allow for applicant and RP CAMP AC members to be present during the discussion*. **RP CAMP AC recommendation: $70,000 with efforts to obtain local support for the project.** The AC recommendation recognizes that financial match may be difficult to obtain, although local support for the project has been voiced. Staff recommends the funding as recommended by the RP CAMP AC. This project has potential to demonstrate different approaches to preventing conflicts.
3. Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Water level Water Quality Response Model (sponsor: University of Idaho). This project is a characterization and analysis of the aquifer geochemistry and sediments to evaluate the potential water quality effects of introducing

water into the aquifer through activities such as recharge of surface water. The project is proposed for completion over three years with a total budget of $656,000; RP CAMP funding request is $328,000. **RP CAMP AC recommendation was to not fund at this time**. Staff agrees with RP CAMP AC recommendation.

During the review process, it became apparent that a protocol and formal process needs to be designed to provide RP CAMP AC and others with a framework for receiving, reviewing and recommending actions for funding requests. The above described requests have come in over time and it was felt that the applicants deserved a response. However, the AC has recommended that any future requests be held pending the development of the framework.

The framework will be developed with staff and AC participation and presented to the Board at an upcoming meeting. A key element of the framework will be a clear description of the priority actions for which proposals should target. The components of the framework will be:

1. Solicitation for Proposals Document
2. Schedule of Solicitation Issuance, Deadline, Review Period
3. Submission of AC Recommendation to IWRB
4. Notice to Applicants of Outcome

Staff anticipates the completion of the framework to be submitted to the IWRB in January 2014, with the issuance of the Solicitation for Proposals in early 2014. This framework will be designed to be used in CAMP implementation funding requests throughout the state.

RP CAMP Membership

Stimpson Lumber Company recently requested that the current appointed representative, Hal Keever, be replaced with Mr. Ed Squires. Mr. Squires is a consultant who has worked closely on hydrogeologic issues on properties in north Idaho for several years with Stimpson Lumber Co.

Staff recommended this request be delegated to the Planning Committee for consideration and recommendation.

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF PROJECTS ASSOCIATED	)	
WITH RATHDRUM PRAIRIE COMPREHENSIVE	)	A RESOLUTION
AQUIFER MANAGEMENT PLAN	)	TO ALLOCATE FUNDS
IMPLEMENTATION	)	
_____	)	

WHEREAS, the Idaho Water Resource Board (Board), pursuant to its planning authorities in Article XV, Section 7 of the Idaho Constitution, and Idaho Code 42-1779, and as directed by House Bill No. 428 passed and approved by the 2008 Idaho Legislature, adopted the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan on July 29, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Board has set aside funds to be used for implementation actions which support implementation of actions contained in the Rathdrum Prairie Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan and other aquifer management plans developed in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District (KSSWCD) has requested financial support in the amount of $20,000 with match from other funding sources to support the Rathdrum/Spokane Aquifer Technology Project whose purpose is to demonstrate innovative technologies which can improve the efficiency of water use in the Rathdrum Prairie region; and,

WHEREAS, the KSSWCD has developed a work plan and quarterly reporting schedule; and

WHEREAS, the Rathdrum Prairie CAMP Advisory Committee reviewed the proposal and recommended funding $20,000; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby IWRB approves the expenditure of a total of $20,000 from the IWRB Revolving Development Account's Rathdrum Prairie/Treasure Valley CAMP Subaccount, to the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District.

DATED this 20th day of September, 2013.

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Roger Chase , Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST _____
Bob Graham, Secretary