

Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2007 Conference Call
Missouri River Association of States and Tribes (MoRAST)

Mary Sexton called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM CDT. Roll was called and updated later to establish who was on the conference call, as follows:

Present:

MONTANA: Mary Sexton, (Vice Chairperson)

WYOMING: Sue Lowry, Jody Pring

NORTH DAKOTA: Terry Steinwand, Dale Frink, Todd Sando

SOUTH DAKOTA:

NEBRASKA: Ann Bleed, Kirk Nelson (Treasurer), Gene Zuerlein

IOWA: Mike McGhee

KANSAS: Mike Hayden, Steve Adams, David Barfield

TRIBES:

OTHERS: David Pope

Mary Sexton, Vice Chairperson, chaired the meeting, as John Cooper had been delayed due to airline delays. The first discussion item consisted of the proposed contract with Pope Consulting, LLC for the services of David L. Pope as Executive Director of MoRAST and the proposed work plan. The contract was approved as presented; Mike Hayden moved for approval and Ann Bleed seconded. The decision was unanimous. The work plan was minimally amended by consensus. The primary changes were to Item A to add an additional activity related to drafting documents, Item B to clarify language related to participation in Missouri River Recovery Programs, Item C to include timeframes, Item D related to the Missouri River AOP process and then to adjust the estimated percentage of time spent on legislation by increasing Item E to 20%, while decreasing Items A and C, 5% each. The approved version is attached. Mike Hayden moved approval; Sue Lowry seconded, and all participants agreed to the amended work plan.

The conferees discussed progress with MRRIC. Given concerns regarding the process, David Pope will convene a conference call of the MoRAST representatives before the Omaha meeting on July 19 to coordinate MoRAST participation and to discuss options.

Based on a discussion with John Cooper, David Pope described the proposed involvement of MoRAST in the July 11th visit to Pierre, South Dakota by Assistant Secretary of Army for Civil Works, John Woodley. Mike Hayden moved and Kirk Nelson seconded the approval of an expenditure of about \$250 covering costs of a break at the meeting along with meeting facilitation costs. Mr. Pope said he understood the plans were coming together nicely and tribal participation is expected to be good.

Sue Lowry sought input on possible dues increases because of her budget cycle. Several members agreed the dues may need to increase in coming years, especially by FY10, perhaps to as much as \$15,000 per state director.

The Mississippi River Commission visit to Missouri River Basin states in August was discussed. John Cooper was tasked with contacting representatives of the Commission to make an appointment with them during the South Dakota visit. John Cooper, with the assistance of David Pope as needed, will introduce MoRAST to the Commission and describe the objectives of the group.

All member states need to compile member lists and contacts. This will be an agenda item at the Glasgow meeting. Mary briefly summarized the schedule. People should plan to arrive on the evening of Tuesday, August 28, plan on an all day tour on Wednesday with evening activities. The business meeting will be held on Thursday, August 30 with adjournment around noon. Mary will work with Chairman Cooper and David Pope to finalize the agenda for distribution to the directors and others.

The meeting adjourned at just after 3:30 PM, CDT

Mary Sexton
Vice Chairperson