

**Governor's Upper Yellowstone River Task Force
Meeting Summary
December 15, 1999
Best Western Yellowstone Inn
Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.**

I. Introductions

Members Present:

John Bailey, Chair	Brant Oswald
Mike Atwood, Vice Chair	Jim Woodhull
Roy Aserlind	Bob Wiltshire
Dave Haug	
Tom Lane	
Jerry O'Hair	

Others Present:

Allan Steinle, Ex-Officio	Ken Weaver
Terri Marceron, Ex-Officio	Drew Overholser
Laurence Siroky, Ex-Officio	Jerry Johnson
John Logan, Ex-Officio	Dennis Glick
Liz Galli-Noble, Coordinator	Will Rizzo
Amy Miller, Administrative Secretary	Pete Story
Chuck Dalby	John Stillman
Jim Robinson	Duncan Patten

II. Prior Meeting Minutes

The November 16, 1999 minutes were approved as written.

III. Financial Business (Budgets and Grants)

(a) Grant spending report

Amy Miller reported the following to the Task Force:

Start-up Grant-DEQ	Grant amount:\$49,138.00	Spent:\$16,321.37	Balance:\$32,816.63
319 Grant-DEQ	Grant amount:\$40,000.00	Spent:\$10,839.93	Balance:\$29,160.07
RDGP-DNRC	Grant amount:\$299,940.00	Spent:\$44,271.36	Balance:\$255,668.64

The grant balances reflect expenses through December 15, 1999.

(b) Budget summary report

Jim Robinson discussed the budget as reported in the first draft of the Annual Report. John Bailey mentioned the budget in this version (\$2,120,289 million) had increased from the amount that the Task Force had agreed upon in August of 1999 (\$1,551,320 million). Jim explained that in-kind services and proposed areas of the study had been included in this final budget. Task Force members were confused with the budget in the Annual Report. John requested that Liz Galli-Noble and Jim Robinson explain the budget using more detail as follows: secured and non-secured funding, in-kind services, proposed study areas, contracted services, and spent grant amounts. They will develop multiple tables for the next version of the annual report for Task Force review.

IV. 1999 Annual Report

The Task Force reviewed the first draft of the Annual Report and made several changes. Liz Galli-Noble will modify the report as suggested by the Task Force and will work with the subcommittee, Michelle Goodwine and Rod Siring. The Annual Report will be mailed to Task Force members before the January 12, 2000 meeting for final review. The mailing list for the Task Force is: 20 Task Force members and administrative staff, 15 Technical Advisory Committee members, and 120 public individuals. The Task Force discussed having 250 copies made of the 1999 Annual Report; no final decisions were made. Dr. Ken Weaver, Montana State University, Local Government Center and the Political Science Department suggested producing an Executive Summary of the annual report (a shorter version) for community members.

V. Technical Advisory Committee Studies

The Task Force reviewed the latest updated version of the Wildlife proposal. Duncan Patten, TAC Chair, gave a brief summary of the proposal and answered several questions from the Task Force. The proposal was tabled, because the Task Force could not come to consensus with the proposal as written. Jerry O'Hair, Task Force member, was unable to approve the Wildlife proposal until further discussion with his landowner constituents, of particular concern was finding endangered species on private property while conducting surveys. Duncan will contact individuals and get information on endangered species. The Task Force will make a final decision on the submitted Wildlife proposal at the January 12, 2000 meeting.

VI. Social/Economic Assessment

Dr. Ken Weaver (Director) and Dr. Jerry Johnson (Lead Researcher) with the Montana State University, Local Government Center gave a presentation on Social Assessments. Dr. Weaver explained the Local Government Center's possible involvement with this portion of the study, as a non-biased partner. Dr. Weaver and Johnson presented background information about the Center and a brief overview of social research and methods employed by the Center. They have been invited back to a second meeting in February, where research considerations, Task Force expectations, and the Local Government Center's capacity to meet those expectations will be discussed.

VII. New Business

Due to time constraints, discussion of the 2000 workshops was tabled and will be discussed at another meeting.

VIII. Schedule Future Task Force Meetings

Liz Galli-Noble would like Task Force members to call her if they will be unable to attend scheduled meetings.

Next meetings are:

January 12, 1999 Wednesday at the City/County Courthouse building.

February 15, 1999 Tuesday at the City/County Courthouse building.

Please make note that the location of our next few meetings has changed. The Task Force will be meeting in the Community Room in the basement of the City/County Courthouse at 414 E. Callender Street. To enter the building at night, you must use the rear entrance, which is located behind the fire department.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.