

1. **Call to Order** – at 1:05 PM EDT

2. **Roll Call**

**Steering Committee Members Present** – Richard Harrison, Marty Hettel, Sarah Hippensteel-Hall, John King, Chris Lorentz, Jordan Lubetkin, Kari Mackenbach, Heather Mayfield, Chuck Somerville, Harry Stone, Jeff Thomas, David Wicks

**Steering Committee Members Absent** – Laurel Cornell, Brian Farkas, Carey Johnson, Robin Peak, Mike Steinmaus

**ORBA Advisors Present** – Brandon Brummett, Peter Cinotto (Tom Ruby by proxy), Jim Lazorchak, Tamara Sluss

3. **Adoption of the Agenda** – CS requested the following alterations to the standard agenda:

- a. Proceed through approval of minutes, item 4
- b. Go to 8.h., ORBA Steering Committee Election
- c. Go to 7.d. Knowledge & Education to Inform Decisions, nominee approval
- d. Go to 8.a., Status of ORB Strategic Plan
- e. Go to 8.d., ORBA/ORBCRE Meeting
- f. Go to 8.g., Communication Plan

Hearing no objections, the altered agenda was adopted as described, above.

4. **Review and approval of minutes of the 24 August 2020 Meeting** - Hearing no objections, the minutes of the 24 August meeting were accepted as distributed.

5. **Report from the Chairperson** (Chuck Somerville) – no report in favor of other business

6. **Regular Reports from Other Committee Members** – no reports in favor of other business

- a. Financial Update (Kari Mackenbach)
- b. Update on Website/Social Media (John King/Heather Mayfield)
- c. Update from the AWI Liaison (Marty Hettel)
- d. Update from the ORBCRE Liaison (Chris Lorentz)

7. **Reports from Working Group Leaders** (Groups in Alphabetical Order)

- a. Abundant Clean Water (Richard Harrison) – no report in favor of other business
- b. Healthy & Productive Ecosystems (Jordan Lubetkin) – no report in favor of other business.

- c. Nation's Most Valuable Transportation & Commerce Corridor (Marty Hettel) – no report in favor of other business.
- d. Knowledge & Education to Inform Decisions (Heather Mayfield) – [*by the altered agenda, this was the second topic addressed*] HM has proposed three people to be approved by the Steering Committee as members of the Knowledge to Inform Decisions (KID) Working Group. CS circulated a document with names and brief biographies prior to the meeting. The nominees are [*brief bios are included in an addendum to these minutes*]:  
Jen Bowman (Ohio University, Voinovich School of Leadership & Public Affairs)  
Brandon Brummett (Outreach Coordinator, USACE Louisville District)  
Lisa Cochran (Communications Coordinator, ORSANCO).

HM indicated that further nominations would be forthcoming. HM asked for objections to the approval of the three nominees. Hearing no objections, the nominees were approved as members of the KID working group.

- e. Reliable Flood Control & Risk Reduction (Sarah Hippensteel-Hall) – no report in favor of other business
- f. World-Class Nature-Based Recreation (David Wicks) – no report in favor of other business

## **8. Unfinished Business**

- a. ORB Strategic Plan (H. Stone/Laura Mattingly) [*by the altered agenda, this was the third topic discussed*] – the final version of the plan was received by HS on the morning of this meeting. USACE had addressed the final comments/edits that had been received from ORBA. The plan is now final as far as USACE is concerned, and now the question is about how to release the plan to the public. Jordan Lubetkin, on behalf of the National Wildlife Federation has endorsed the plan. There was brief discussion on whether or not the Steering Committee should officially accept or endorse the plan at this meeting. CS was hesitant to call for official recognition without the SC having seen the latest version of the document. CS recommended that the committee review the document prior to the ORBA Summit on September 30<sup>th</sup>, and that the document be officially accepted at that meeting. HS said that he would send the final version of the plan to SC members after the call today. HS stated that no official action is required by USACE regarding approval/acceptance/endorsement of the plan. CS asked whether or not ORBA was seeking additional endorsements from the organizations represented on the Steering Committee. Richard Harrison (RH) noted that an official endorsement from ORSANCO could not occur before February of 2021. HS is interested in having other organizations make statements of support for the plan, but is not sure what the process should be for getting those endorsements. HS asked Jordan for more information about how the

process worked in the Great Lakes. JL recommended that we should not ask for quick, official endorsements of the plan, but could discuss the process of seeking endorsements during the summit. He said that the endorsement process could take some time, and that we also need to decide how and when we start talking about the plan in public settings. HS noted that the plan has been accepted by ORBA and is already publicly available. David Wicks (DW) expressed an interest in public relations and how the plan would be rolled out to the media. CS recognized that the discussion was turning to the development of a communication plan, which is needed in order to get positive benefit from the release of the plan. In the interest of time, CS requested to return to this discussion when more time was available, and requested to move on to item 8.d.

- b. ORBA Strategic Planning for 2020-2023 – no discussion at this meeting
  - i. ORBA Critical Success Factors
- c. ORBA Reception/Visits on Capitol Hill – no discussion at this meeting
- d. ORBA/ORBCRE Meeting, Fall 2020 [*by the altered agenda this was the fourth topic of discussion*] – CS noted that a summit agenda had been distributed the evening before this meeting and that Tamara Sluss (TS) was on the call to help answer questions about the summit and symposium. CS asked how a person could get a link to attend one or more of the sessions during the summit/symposium. TS noted that paid registrations have closed and that links for the paid sessions would be sent out to people who had registered soon. TS walked through the agenda. She mentioned that 92 people had registered for the meetings. The Friday Zoom meeting (Seizing the Day for Ohio River Restoration) registration is still open. Registration for that event is free, and the link is being distributed widely and will be posted on the web site. TS shared a Google Doc showing that the meetings had been broken up into blocks, and there is a link for each block. TS has been practicing Teams meetings with speakers and moderators to work out any problems that may occur. Since the registration for the summit meetings was closed, CS asked how people who had not yet registered would get access to the meeting. TS indicated that CS could share the links with members of the Steering Committee. RH asked if he could also send the links out to ORSANCO employees and commissioners with an agreement to make payment for attendance afterward. TS was most concerned about increasing participation, and was not worried about the probability that some people would attend without having made payment. DW asked if a formal email was going to be sent out to registered attendees. TS said that that communication was going out prior to the meetings. She had held the links until registrations were closed. JL asked whether or not presenters would need to get permission from TS in order to share their screens during meetings. TS said that it would be best to join the meeting through the Edge browser, and that they would be able to share their screens. In other browsers (e.g. Firefox, Chrome),

it would be necessary to download the Teams app. HM mentioned that she was having a practice session with her group tomorrow, and that JL was welcome to join in that work session. TS mentioned that she can be available for practice sessions during the day tomorrow (29 September 2020). RH also asked about finding a time to practice for his presentation on 30 September. TS said that she would be available to help both RH and MH practice their presentations. DW asked about how transitions between session blocks would be handled. TS said that the moderators would have to control the time so that people had time to leave one link and join a second link in time to join the second meeting. CS asked TS for access to the Google Doc with the meeting block links, and indicated that he would share those links with the ORBA Steering Committee and Advisors mailing list.

- e. Seeking Partnerships with Mitigation Banks – no discussion
- f. ORBA working groups – confirmation of nominated group members [see above]
- g. Communication Plan for Strategic Plan Release & Notification to Governors – time did not allow a discussion of the communication plan at this meeting.
- h. ORBA Steering Committee Election – *[by the altered agenda, this was the first topic addressed after the approval of the minutes]* As of Monday morning (28 September 2020), 63 votes had been received. Eight people received votes for SC membership. Six SC nominees as presented received 38 to 46 votes. There were two people who received write-in votes for SC membership: Caren Glotfelty, 21 votes; Annie Quinn, 6 votes. There are enough open seats to seat all people receiving votes. Craig Butler received 47 votes. There were two write-in votes for ORBA SC Vice-Chair with one vote each. CS asked for discussion on the update. Richard Harrison (RH) asked for more information on the write-in nominees. Harry Stone (HS) read brief bios for Annie Quinn and Caren Glotfelty. CS proposed that all eight people receiving votes be seated on the ORBA Steering Committee for the 2020-2022 term. RH reiterated the need to add Steering Committee members from the southern part of the basin, and asked if it was possible to add them prior to the next regular election. HS responded that the bylaws allow for elections to occur prior to the last meeting of ORBA of the year. The only exception is if someone steps down from the Steering Committee creating a vacancy, which could be filled by the SC. But the current bylaws do not include a mechanism for electing new members prior to the year-end election. HS did note that the bylaws could be amended. RH said that he did not have new candidates in mind now, but did feel that the Strategic Plan would be in trouble if southern states in the basin were not engaged. HS noted that the Steering Committee has two members from the TN River basin. CS added that working groups were encouraged to engage committee members from all over the basin. CS asked for other comments on the slate of people proposed for SC

membership. Hearing no discussion, CS asked for any objections to approval of the slate of eight people to join the Steering Committee:

Mekayle Houghton  
Carey Johnson  
John King  
Chris Lorentz  
Robin Peak  
Jeff Thomas  
Caren Glotfelty  
Annie Quinn

No objections were raised, and the slate named above will start terms on the ORBA Steering Committee starting on 30 September 2020.

The election also included a ballot for the Vice Chair position. Craig Butler received 47 votes, with the next highest vote-getting receiving one vote. CS proposed that the election of Craig Butler as ORBA Vice Chair be recognized by the Steering Committee. Hearing no discussion and no objection, Craig Butler will start his two-year term as Vice Chair on 30 September 2020.

CS congratulated the newly elected members of the Steering Committee and Craig Butler as the newly elected Vice Chair.

**9. New Business**

- a. Next SC Meeting – 26 October 2020, 1:00 PM EDT
- b. Other

**10. Adjourn**

**Addendum to ORBA Steering Committee Meeting Minutes for 28 September 2020 –** supporting information for approval of members for the Knowledge to Inform Decisions (KID) working group.

<p><b>Jen Bowman</b>  Director of Environmental Programs  OU Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs</p>	<p>Jen Bowman is the Director of Environmental Programs at Ohio University’s Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs. She has 20 years of experience in watershed and data management and water quality assessment. She aligns environmental needs in the region to the expertise across the University; bringing ‘real-world’ projects to the School where students, faculty, and professional staff work cross collaboratively to solve complex environmental issues. Over the course of the past 14 years Jen has led the effort to produce an online ESRI GIS based data platform called <a href="http://watersheddata.com">watersheddata.com</a> to host chemical and biological data for the state of Ohio. This system contains an ‘Education’ page that provides teachers access to free online lesson plans, virtual tours, and training videos. This is the home for “My Backyard Stream” an online mapping citizen scientist data platform for the state of Ohio. This platform contains over 59,000 records of water quality data; includes a graphing and mapping feature.</p>
<p><b>Brandon Brummett</b>  P.E., PMP, Outreach Coordinator  Louisville District  US Army Corps of Engineers</p>	<p>Brandon Brummett has served as the Outreach Coordinator for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District since 2007. He works to educate state and local governments and Congressional staff about USACE programs and processes and helps them to better understand how USACE can assist in solving their water resources related issues. He holds a Bachelor's of Science and a Master's of Engineering from the University of Louisville. A registered Civil Engineer in the Commonwealth of Kentucky since 2002 and certified Project Management Professional since 2007, he has worked for USACE since 1995 in a variety of roles supporting both civil works and military missions within the Louisville District.</p>
<p><b>Lisa Cochran</b>  ORSANCO</p>	<p>Lisa Cochran is the Communications Coordinator for the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO). Cochran coordinates the communication of ORSANCO technical programs outputs to the public. Cochran coordinates regulatory communication of ORSANCO’s Pollution Control Standards program. To complement the communication strategies of ORSANCO’s eight member states, Cochran serves as a liaison to ORSANCO’s Public Information Advisory Committee and ORSANCO’s Public Information Workgroup. She develops ORSANCO’s social media campaigns and visual content. She also manages the annual volunteer program, the Ohio River Sweep that hosts volunteers from six states. Cochran holds a bachelor’s degree in Organizational Communication from Miami University, Ohio.</p>