

# ORBA Steering Committee Notes

## June 25, 2018

### Items for Discussion:

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Adoption of agenda
- Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting
  
- Report from the Chairperson (Harry Stone)
  
- Reports from the other committee members
  - Update from Financial Chairperson (Brian Farkas)
  - Update from Website Team (Megan Thompson/Chuck Somerville/John King)
  - Update from AWI Liaison (open position - no report)
  - Update from ORBCRE Liaison (Chris Lorentz)
  
- Reports from the working group leaders
  - Sustainable Growth and Competitiveness (Harry Stone)
  - Water Quality, Availability and Management (Ted Lozier/Richard Harrison)
  - Restoration and Protection (Sarah Hippensteel Hall/Chris Lorentz)
  - Enterprise and Infrastructure (Kari Mackenbach)
  
- Unfinished business
  - Planning for 2018 ORBA Summit
  - Outreach plan to engage more organizations/individuals in ORBA to collaborate on high priority challenges
  - Status of proposal for Ohio River Basin Initiative
  
- New business
- Adjourn

### Call to Order

### Roll Call

Steering Committee Members Present: Richard Harrison, Sarah Hippensteel Hall, John King, Chuck Somerville, Mike Steinmaus, Harry Stone

Excused: Brian Farkas, Marty Hettel, Chris Lorentz

Absent: Laurel Cornell, Ted Lozier, Kari Mackenbach, John Stark

Advisors: Brandon Brummett, Megan Thompson, Andrew Reed, Tom Meier

## **Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted by consensus.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting was tabled until minutes are received.

## **Report from the Chairperson**

Harry and Richard met with the four District Commanders (two by phone) and key planning staff in Louisville. Discussion included: review of the history and status of ORBA; progress on the Planning Assistance to States study in support of the collaborative basin-wide strategy; anticipated approach to secure match from states; potential for synergies between the ORBA Summit and the Ohio River Basin Inspection Tour. We also asked the question of how ORBA and ORSANCO can provide the greatest value to the USACE and best understand their priorities. The Commanders will be discussing our questions with Division and will follow up with ORBA and ORSANCO.

## **Reports from other committee members**

- Update from Financial Chairperson (Harry on behalf of Brian)
  - Funds have been transferred to the ORBA account at ORSANCO. Chuck Somerville reported that a check for \$3489 was being cut from Marshall to ORBA to cover ORBA's share of revenue distributions from last year's Summit.
  - Richard suggested a revision to streamline the travel pre-approval process. He and Brian will draft a revised approach for submission to the Steering Committee for Approval.
- Update from Website Team (Megan Thompson/Chuck Somerville/John King)
  - Megan reported that she had added a link for MailChimp to the ORBA website.
- Update from AWI Liaison (Chuck Somerville)
  - Chuck Somerville reported that AWI has severed their relationship with TNC, but retain a good relationship. Jordy Jordal has left AWI. AWI is putting together a case for fundraising. They are hiring a marketing company. The next report card is planned for 2020. Chuck is uncertain whether he will be able to continue as the AWI liaison. This involves monthly calls and in-person meetings twice a year.
- Update from ORBCRE Liaison (Harry on behalf of Chris Lorentz)
  - Harry attended the ORBCRE Board Meeting. (Chuck Somerville and Chris Lorentz are Board Members and were also in attendance.)

## **Reports from the working group leaders**

- Sustainable Growth And Competitiveness (Harry Stone)
  - No Report

- Water Quality, Availability and Management (Ted Lozier/Richard Harrison)
  - No Report
- Restoration and Protection (Sarah Hippensteel Hall/Chris Lorentz)
  - Working Group meeting being planned for July
- Enterprise and Infrastructure (Kari Mackenbach)
  - No Report

### **Unfinished business**

- Planning for 2018 ORBA Summit
  - Harry described the plans for the upcoming Summit. Key points:
    - Use your personal networks to invite sponsorships and exhibitors. See Thomas More website for details.
    - ORBA Steering Committee will meet on Wednesday October 17 from 4:30 - 6:00 in the Chancellor's Room at Thomas More College. This will be followed by dinner from 6:00 - 7:00. Mark your calendars.
    - Working Groups will be collaborative break-out sessions.
    - ORBA will plan for an out brief of the working groups at noon on Friday, but will follow up with a webinar in which working group priorities can be presented.
    - We want to encourage ORBA members to submit abstracts. We especially want to encourage agencies to present posters on their priorities.
    - We will plan to do an electronic vote on Steering Committee Members in advance of the Summit and announce our new leadership during the Summit. Chuck Somerville, as Vice Chair, will assume the Chairmanship.
- Outreach plan to engage more organizations/individuals in ORBA to collaborate on high priority challenges
- The potential need for expanded/revised leadership was discussed. It was agreed to establish working groups aligned with our goals, and recruit liaisons from regional organizations focused on those goals. Harry will begin discussions with our working group leaders on how best to do this and will then communicate with appropriate regional collaborations.
- The consensus was that other organizational changes should wait until the PAS work is completed. The outcome of the study should guide organizational structure.
- Status of proposal for Ohio River Basin Initiative
  - USACE legal folks are currently addressing questions related to what in-kind contributions can count and the process for including in-kind contributions to support the tentative Planning Assistance to States (PAS) agreement. Harry and Richard (possibly others) are requesting a meeting with Kentucky to discuss their interest in the PAS and requesting their assistance in securing support from other states.

### **New business**

- It was announced that ORSANCO is in a second 45 day comment period related to their pollution control standards.
- The next meeting will be on Monday, July 23, 2018 at 1:00pm.

### **Adjourn**