

CHARACTERISTICS OF IDEAL CHAIR FOR MRRIC PLANNING GROUP

The following list of desired characteristics for the ideal Chair for the MRRIC Planning Group process was developed by the MRRIC Federal Working Group in June 2006. This list of desired characteristics was used to initially brainstorm a list of potential Chair candidates. This set of criteria continued to be used to then further identify and recruit potential Chair candidates, as well as evaluate the suitability of the final selected Co-Chair candidates, Cheryl Chapman and John Thorson.

- Proven Ability to Lead
- Charisma
- Familiar with Federal Government
- Respected/Stature
- No Baggage
- Appreciation of Technical Issues
- Good Communication Skills
- Practitioner of Collaboration
- Respect for Others and Their Beliefs and Values
- Available for the Required Time Commitment
- Politically Savvy
- Broadly Acceptable
- Positive Attitude Regarding Tribal Sovereignty

The MRRIC Federal Working Group suggested that a Chair be appointed for the Planning Group process in its “Proposed Framework for Establishing the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee – The Journey Towards Collaboration,” which was widely distributed throughout the basin on August 31, 2006.

The section of the “Proposed Framework” on appointing a Chair stated:

The MRRIC Planning Committee is proposed to be chaired impartially by a selected individual who is familiar with the issues in the basin but who has no personal stake in the outcome. This person is to be an effective, facilitative leader who has relevant experience with collaborative efforts. Applications, nominations, and selection of a suitable chair may be solicited by the FWG prior to the selection of the MRRIC Planning Committee members. (Page 15 of Proposed Framework)

This “Proposed Framework” was accompanied by a cover letter from General Gregg Martin, on behalf of the Federal Working Group, that requested comments and feedback on the proposal from all interested parties. An invitation was also extended to all interested parties to participate in the additional discussions and public meetings that were being scheduled following the release of the “Proposed Framework.” Six “Open House” meetings were conducted throughout the basin in September and October 2006 to present the “Proposed Framework” and to receive feedback and suggested improvements. Suggestions on candidates to potentially Chair the MRRIC Planning Group process were also solicited from the Open House participants. Over twenty individuals also submitted written comments on the “Proposed Framework for Establishing MRRIC.” These comments resulted in significant revisions by the Federal Working Group that were incorporated into their “Framework for Establishing the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee,” which was distributed to interested parties throughout the basin on February 6, 2007.