

Minutes of the 3rd Governing Council meeting of HP Aquaculture, Fishing & Marketing Society, Bilaspur -H.P.

The Third 'Governing Council' meeting of HP Aquaculture Fishing & Marketing Society was held on third December 2002 in the Chamber of Sh. S. S. Parmar, IAS, Principal Secretary (Fisheries) cum Chairman of the Society at Shimla. The following attended the meeting.

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| 1. | Sh. S. S. Parmar I.A.S
Principal Secretary(Fisheries)
Government of HP | Chairman |
| 2. | Sh. R.D. Nazeem I.A.S
Deputy Commissioner, Kullu | Special Invitee |
| 3. | Sh. Sadh Ram
Deputy Secretary(Fisheries)
Government of HP | Member |
| 4. | Sh. B.R. Kaundal
Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries | Member |
| 5. | Sh. B.D. Sharma
Deputy Director of Fisheries | Member |
| 6. | Sh. Naresh Kumar Sharma
Assistant Engineer | Invitee |
| 7. | Sh. Tapesch Chauhan
Fisheries officer, Shimla | Invitee |
| 8. | Dr. Kuldip Kumar
Advisor(Fisheries) | Member Secretary |

Initiating the meeting the Chairman welcomed the members and asked the Member Secretary to take up the agenda items for discussion:

The Governing Council confirmed the minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Society.

1)

Empowerment of Sanction Authority:

Taking up the Agenda items, the Member Secretary informed that though, the bye-laws of the society clearly stipulate that the management of the society would be undertaken by the 'Governing Council' but no specific power have been entrusted to any single member for according sanction- verily required for functioning of the said Society. A need therefore lies in 'authorization of sanctioning power' to a specific member of the 'Governing Council'.

After brief discussion, it was resolved that the sanctioning powers (viz. salary and allowances fixation, grant of leave, approval of tours, sanctioning of TA bills, contingent advances. Administrative approval & expenditure sanction, hiring consultants, approval of emergent expenditure etc) be exercised by the Chairman of HP Aquaculture Fishing & Marketing Society. The Chairman however, may delegate any of these powers to the Advisor(Fisheries) cum Chief Executive officer, if he so desires. The salary of Advisor (Fisheries) would be drawn at his level.

2)

Appraisal of progress of the departmental fish farms:

The member Secretary apprised the member about the progress of different fish farms and stated that due to spread of viral disease of rainbow trout, a serious set-back was witnessed in these farms. The help in combating the problem was sought from NVI, Oslo & CIFE Mumbai. The scientists of both these organization visited Patlikuhl farm and identified the disease as Irrido Virus infection. Being incurable, it was suggested by these scientists to decimate & bury the infected stock and undertake extensive disinfection of the hatcheries and raceways for future safety. The salient features of the recommendations made in the report submitted by NVI and CIFE scientists were enumerated by the Member Secretary. Reacting on it, the Chairman advised that Advisor(Fisheries) may hold a meeting with concerned officials and prepare a detailed follow-up action on these recommendations and submit to him for issuance of necessary instructions in the matter.

Intervening on the issue, the Deputy Commissioner, Kullu stated that the recent infection is a serious jolt, as trout farming had picked up in a big way in Kullu valley. Several trout farmers of the valley have met him and are seeking assistance for losses incurred by them due to this disease. The Chairman asked the Director(Fisheries) to prepare a list of trout-grower who have been provided assistance & inputs from the department for assessment of their losses due to disease and prepare a programme for imparting them training on hygiene standards. The Chairman also desired the Advisor(Fisheries) in consultation with Deputy Commissioner, Kullu hold a meeting with the trout growers in order to apprise them of the causes & intensity of the disease as well as ward off their fears on the issue.

The Advisor(Fisheries) referred the suggestions of NIV scientists for installation of an ozonisation plant near the hatchery's water intake point. He further added that such plants are quite common in the mineral water bottling plants. It was later decided that the

Advisor fisheries would contact DC Kullu and both will visit the functional mineral plants working in the district for procurement of requisite information on the issue.

3 a)

Financial account of the Society:

Giving details of the receipts and expenditure of the society, the Member Secretary stated that out of total receipt of Rs. 96,28,846/- lakh an expenditure of Rs. 48,95,100 was to SIDC alter requisite approval of their estimates for undertaking works at Sangla & Chamba farms. Rs. 3,82,000/- to IPH Chamba as remaining amount for water supply works of Holi farm. Rs. 3,28,800/- as refund money to Directorate of Fisheries and advanced Rs. 1.70 lakhs for Mahseer work and undertaking visit of Principal Secretary(Fisheries) & Advisor(Fisheries) to Norway. The other expenditure viz. salary/ TA of Advisor(Fisheries) / purchase of furniture and other misc. amounted Rs. 1,13,956/- .The net amount available in the Society's account on date is Rs. 37,38,281/-. The Governing Council approved the expenditure as indicated in the table A.

The proposal of the Member Secretary to deposit Rs. 25.00 lakhs as fixed deposit in the bank for a short period of six months was approved by the members.

3 b)

Deputation of Principal Secretary (Fisheries) and Advisor (Fisheries) for one week visit to Norway.

The issue regarding visit of Principal Secretary (Fisheries) and Advisor (Fisheries) for one week visit to NVI, Oslo under the 'Institutional Cooperation' and NJPC project for finalization of project's strategy and import of new strains of trout was discussed in the meeting. It was also informed that permission of the Govt. for undertaking the visit has been obtained.

The Governing Council approved the visit of the officials to Norway.

4.

Progress under NJPC Project.

The Member Secretary informed the house that subsequent to approval of competent authority, an amount of Rs. 36,60,950/- was submitted to SIDC for undertaking three development works at Sangla fish farm with the condition that work should positively be completed as per the time period indicated in the estimates... The SIDC in a recent letter however has shown their inability to start the work prior to March 2003 in view of ongoing winter season.

Taking an objection on the issue the Chairman first wanted to know the date of release of funds and on being told during September, remarked that due prudence has not been shown while release of funds. Taking the various formalities in allotting construction work and long winter spell of Kinnaur area, the funds should not have been released during September.

A decision was taken that SIDC be asked to refund the money back to the society prior to any further consideration on matter.

Pertaining to this, the Chairman also wanted to know from Director fisheries, about the funds for the same works earmarked in the 'Tribal Plan' of the department. And on being told that Rs. 6.50 lakhs have been provided in the departmental Tribal Plan for development of Sangla fish Farm, it was decided that these funds may be appropriated for the some other works and henceforth, there should no such duplicity in the funds allotment.

5)

Progress of National Mahseer Fish Farm.

The Member Secretary informed the members that a scientist of Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune visited the farm's site during September 2002 in order to offer opinion on the flood protection estimates prepared by I&PH department. A report received by him has been provided to I&PH department and Agro Industries, Shimla.

Reacting on it, the Director (fisheries) stated that he has been informed by Ex-En, IPH that on the basis of CWPRS scientist's report, they have prepared an estimate for protection work amounting to Rs. 1.2 crore and same is being submitted to the department. Sh. Naresh Sharma, A.E. stated that both the options indicated in the CWPS report seem to be unacceptable. After a brief discussion on both the options on selection of alternate site the chairman concluded that he intends to hold a meeting of all concerned at the Sidhpur farm's site shortly and a final decision on the matter would be taken at the spot only.

6)

Progress under NHPC sponsored project.

The Member Secretary informed that an amount of Rs. 12,34,850/- was remitted to SIDC for undertaking the works viz.

- i) Water supply scheme to Sultanpur farm;
- ii) Development of residential colony in Sultanpur farm;

Further, an amount of Rs. 3.82 lakhs was transferred to I&PH as final amount of 'Augmentation of water supply' at Holi farm.

As per available information an action has already been initiated for completion of these works and water supply at Holi farm is likely to be completed by March 2003.

The Chairman advised the Member Secretary that matter maybe taken up by him with NHPC for release of further installment of funds.

7)

Progress under NORAD project.

The Member Secretary apprised the members about the progress of NORAD –assisted ‘Institutional cooperation’ project viz. visits of Indian & Norwegian counterparts, establishment of laboratory at patlikuhl, initiation of training programme at Patlikuhl farm & deputation of Indian officials etc. It was also informed that progress report as well as an amendment proposal of the Project has been sent to respective agency. The item was approved.

8)

Progress under BBMB Project.

The member Secretary informed the members that an original project of Rs. 72.00 lakhs ‘promotion of fisheries in the riparian area of Suketi Khad’ submitted to BBMB has been approved in principle by the competent authorities, A clarification sought in this connection regarding schedule and implementations etc have also been sent to BBMB. As per the latest information from Chief engineer BBMB, a meeting is being convened during 2nd week of December in order to sort out pattern of release of funds vis-à-vis activity plan after which the project work should start.

9)

Sanction for purchase of chemicals/equipment/glassware etc.

Reacting on the Item, the Chairman said that in future a list of all the items should be detailed in the Agenda while seeking such sanctions. Since the spot-purchase of Chemicals/glassware/minor equipment had been done by the NVI scientists personally taking in view the immediate need of the work, as such the item was approved as a special case and sanction of Rs. 23,484/- was accorded as stated in the invoice.

10)

Sanction for modification of sedimentation tank at Patlikuhl farm.

The Deputy Director of Fisheries, patlikuhl highlighted the problems being faced in the cleaning of sedimentation tank and the need for imparting slope to its bottom. While agreeing on the need of the work the Chairman desired that work should be executed departmentally. The funds for the said work as well as other indicated items may be provided from Society’s funds on receipt of request from Director Fisheries. Sanction was accorded to Advisor (Fisheries) for incurring the expenditure. In the same context, the chairman asked Director Fisheries to prepare a list of works which fall in priority area of the department but could not be taken up for want of requisite funds and submit to him for consideration of fund’s release from society’s account.

11)

Incentive and disincentive scheme.

It was decided that the proposed ‘Incentive and Disincentive scheme’ be re-circulated to all the members for their comments.

12)

Sanctioning of hospitality and entertainment funds for visiting Norwegian Scientists.

The Member Secretary stated that as per the agreement incorporated in the 'Institutional Cooperation' Project the State Govt. is committed to bear accommodation and local transportation of scientists from NVI Oslo. However during a meeting with the Chief, monitoring unit, INPIC at Delhi it was suggested that expenditure on these items may be borne out from the Misc. head of the project's fund. It was proposed that Advisor Fisheries be authorized to accord sanctions on the expenditure incurred on the above indicted items.

The Governing Council approved the item.

13)

Regarding Appointment of Chartered Accountant.

The proposal for appointment of chartered accountant in the Society after negotiation and on lower competitive rates was approved.

14)

Sanction for pending telephone bills for Rs. 4822.

The item was discussed and the Governing Council on one-time basis granted approval of Rs. 4822/- to be paid as pending telephone bill.

15)

Training of officials on Computer operation.

The item of deputing officials on computer training was approved with the conditions that one of the officials may be selected from Patlikuhl fish farm. Continuing on the issue the Deputy Director of Fisheries, Patlikuhl said that due to installation of internet connection there is need for sanctioning of another telephone at his office. The Chairman considered the demand as genuine and the item was approved.

16)

Refund of Rs. 30.00 lakhs by FFDA to Society.

The Member Secretary stated that a Central Assistance of Rs. 30.00 lakhs was received from Government of India for setting up a laboratory in the state. The funds are lying unutilized with the FFDA. And with the finalization of decision that the 'Pathological laboratory' be set up at Patlikuhl farm, it is desired that the said money be transferred to the Society.

The Item was approved and Advisor (fisheries) was asked to take up the necessary action.

17)

Authorization of powers for operation of Society Accounts.

The member Secretary stated that as per the existing orders, two officers viz. Advisor (Fisheries) and Assistant Director, Bilaspur have been authorized for operation of financial accounts of the society jointly. Quite often, ADF Bilaspur is either on tour or away from H/Q due to leave etc. and as such there is need for authorization of one more officer for operation of Society's account.

Reacting on it, the Chairman remarked that normally for operation of joint accounts, three officers are not authorized but taking the above problem in to consideration, the operation of account's by the third officer Sh. N. S. Chaudhry (Deputy Director of Fisheries) (H/Q) is approved with the rider that he would use his powers only when one of the officer is away from the H/Q.

18)

Purchase of Feed drier.

The Chairman raised the issue of procurement 'Fish feed drier' repeatedly surfacing in the meetings. The Deputy Director of Fisheries Patlikuhl reiterated the problems being encountered in procuring the right type of drier. He also emphasized the contaminated factor involved while "sun drying" the feed.

The Chairman desired that Advisor (Fisheries) may contact the firms dealing in fabrication of such drier after taking a specific requirement on capacity, heat factor and other relevant details from Deputy Director of Fisheries, Patlikuhl.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Table-A

Detailed receipts and expenditure position of the Society

Source	Receipt (in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs.)	To whom disbursed	Balance
National Hydro-electric Power Corporation, Chamba	Rs. 20.00	1. Augmentation of water supply scheme to Sultanpur Farm 6,82,000/- 2. Development of Residential colony at Sultanpur farm 5,52,850/- 3. Alteration of water supply to Holi farm 3,82,000/-	GM HPSIDC HPSIDC XEN, I&PH Chamba	-
Total	20.00	Rs. 16,16,850/-	-	Rs. 3,83,150/-
II. Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation	Rs. 50.00	1. Construction of intake channel from Hibra khad main storage tank 2,69,800/- 2. Construction of S/R raceways 6,99,600/- 3. Construction of 6 Nos. Additional raceways 26,91,550/-	GM HPSIDC GM HPSIDC GM HPSIDC	
Total	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 36,60,950/-	-	Rs. 13,39,050/-
III. NORAD	1 st Installment Rs. 0.90	-	-	Rs. 90,000/-
III. NORAD	Rs. 0.90	-	-	Rs. 90,000/-
IV. Deptt. Of Fisheries	3,28,800/-	Awareness Centre Funds 3,28,800/-	Deptt. of Fisheries	NL
V. Farm Revenue (Deoli)	81,243/-	-	-	81243/-
VI. H.P. State Coop. Bank Interest	90,774/-	-	-	90774/-
Grand Total = (I to VI)	75,90,817/-	Rs. 56,06,600/-	-	19,84,217/-
VII. Farm Revenue lying in different places:				
1. Patlikuhl Farm	16,47,433.88/-	-	-	16,47,433.88/-
2. Nagni	2,81,553.00/-	-	-	2,81,553.00/-
3. Barot	1,09,066.00/-	-	-	1,09,066.00/-
Total	20,38,029.88/-	-	-	20,38,029.88/-
		Society's Expenditure		

VIII. Revenue from Deoli farm and interest (H. P. State Coop. Bank)	-	Office expenses, Phone security, furniture, Stationery, Hospitality and Entertainment, Printing of Stationery, Passport, Advance etc. 46,198/-	Respective Parties	-
-do-	-	Salary= 54,072/- Traveling Allowances= 13,695/-	Advisor Advisor	- -
Total	1,72,017/-	1,13,965/-	-	58,052/-
Grand Total	96,28,846.88/-	57,20,565.00/-	-	39,08,281.88/-
Source	Receipt (in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs.)	To Whom distributed	Balance (in lakhs)
		Advances		
1. H. P. State Coop. Bank Interest	-	Mahseer Breeding Programme 10,000/-	Advisor (Fisheries)	-
2. NJPC	-	Foreign visit 80,000/-	Principal Secretary (Fisheries)	-
3. NORAD	-	Foreign visit 80,000/-	Advisor (Fisheries)	-
Total	-	1,70,000/-	-	-
Amount in Hand				39,08,281.88/- (-)1,70,000.00/- 37,38,281.88/-