

ARKANSAS BASIN ROUNDTABLE

Website: www.arkansasbsin.com

Email: arkbasinrt@gmail.com

Wednesday July 8, 2020

Start Time: 12:30 pm

Virtual Meeting using the following link:

GoToMeeting Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/631824957>

- 12:30-12:40** **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – Mark Shea [10 min]**
Introductions
Approval of minutes – May 2020
Public Comment
- 12:40 – 1:50** **Reports [90 min]**
Executive Committee – Mark Shea (20 min)
 -No In Person Meetings for 2020
CWCB Report – Sam Stein, Russ Sands, and Greg Felt (20 min)
IBCC Report – Jeris Danielson and Terry Scanga (5 min)
PEPO – Amber Weber (5 min)
Needs Assessment Committee – Abby Ortega (5 min)
Environmental and Recreational – Bob Hamel, Amber Shanklin, and Rena Griggs (5 min)
Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative (ARWC) – Chelsey Nutter (10 min)
- 1:50 – 2:30** **BIP Workshop – Mark Shea, Will Koger, Brett Gracely [40 min]**
- 2:30 – 3:30** **Needs Assessment Projects [60 min]**

Italian Lateral and Bessemer Ditch

Round Mountain Reservoir

Headgate 199 Lining

***** Note all grant application will be posted to the website prior to the meeting**

ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings

Arkansas Basin Roundtable – August 12, 2020 (virtual)

Subcommittees

- Enviro/Rec Comm. – July 27, 2020 @ 10:00 am

CWCB – July 15 & 16

Additional GoToMeeting Information:

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ROUNDTABLE MEETING NOTES

July 8, 2020

GoToMeeting Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/631824957>

More information and presentations may be found at: www.arkansasbasin.com

Roundtable Business

Mark Shea called the meeting to order at 12:33 pm. Members and visitors introduced themselves. Twenty-six (26) members were present.

Approval of minutes of prior meeting

The meeting notes of the June 2020 meeting were approved by consensus.

Public Comment - none

REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Mark Shea

The Executive Committee met this morning. Based on ongoing Covid-19 issues and the resulting economic impact on CWCB, our plan is to meet virtually for the remainder of 2020.

CWCB Report – Greg Felt, Sam Stein, Russell Sands New website: cwcb.colorado.gov

The CWCB meets next on July 15 and 16.

Every year, the governor calls attention to specific goals that he identifies as “WIGS”. In the category of Natural Resources, the following goal has been identified around water: “Coordinate with Colorado’s eight major river basins to create a prioritized statewide database that identifies accurate costs for 160 critical and readily implementable (Tier 1) projects.”

That means that each basin is tasked with the job of coming up with 20 Tier 1 projects.

Dan Gibbs will give a better overview of this at our next CWCB board meeting. It will be vital to have the best data possible for the BIPs in order to achieve this WIG.

Appreciate those of you who attended the June listening sessions. We’re compiling comments and results of those sessions. Good news: All the grants that were held up in May will move forward in the July meeting.

IBCC Report – Jeris Danielson, Russell Sands

The IBCC met on June 17th. Focused on the topic of equity around demand management. Members and interested parties were emailed a summary of IBCC discussions around equity in demand management earlier today. The IBCC sent out a survey and got feedback regarding subjects that IBCC members would like to work on. Trying to better connect the loop about how the IBCC interacts with the roundtables. The IBCC will meet next in October.

PEPO – Amber Weber

- Story map is showing good progress. Working to gather all of the projects that we’ve ever done and get them added to the map.
- BIP update – working with the local experts on outreach and education aspects of the BIP.



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Needs Assessment – Abby Ortega

You received a link to today's grant applications. There will be three presentations later in the meeting.

Environment/Recreation Committee – Bob Hamel, Rena Griggs, Amber Shanklin

Arkansas River Basin Water Forum: We've gotten word that Kristie Nackord is resigning effective August 1st. The Forum board will meet in August to make a plan for what's to come. A new hire may stay on hold for a bit while we identify what that job will entail for the next year.

The Enviro/Rec Committee met on June 29th. We've also been meeting with other enviro/rec groups in the state, learning what their priorities are. For example, Stream Management Plans (SMPs) are a much bigger deal in other basins. Because we have the Voluntary Flow Management Plan (VFMP), we've done a lot of that work already. Re-use is also something that other enviro/rec committees have looked at. We talked about how enviro/rec projects can be incorporated into WIGS. We have realized that east and west slope enviro/rec issues are very different. We're looking at whether some of those issues should be on our plate as well. And we've been talking about how to produce combined projects with adjacent basins at junctions (like where national forests overlap more than one basin).

Julie Knudson, from the Purgatoire, described their Stream Management Planning process. It's a multi-step process that includes interviewing stakeholders as to what they need. Stakeholders include all types of water users. We work on gathering needs together, prioritizing them, developing collaborative multi-beneficial projects. Education is a big part of this. Once we've shown that we've done our due diligence, the next step would be to apply for funding for these projects. A stream management plan must ensure that water rights are not harmed.

Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative – Chelsey Nutter

Chelsey has made the decision to step down as of September 1st. She thanked all for their encouragement, support and guidance. ARWC is in a good position to move forward.

Project Updates:

- Moving forward with post-fire recovery projects after the Decker Fire in partnership with Chaffee County. Design is complete and moving into construction. We saw some pretty serious storms last weekend, but no flows from the burn scar thus far.
- Spring Fire – alluvial hazard mapping. Next task in our next grant is to convene a stakeholder group, sit down with the modeling, discuss mitigation locations. Where do we want to put our money and our time.
- Hayden - still doing some work there. We're a few years out from that burn. Hoping that we're moving more into long-term sustainability there.
- Working with a couple folks on the potential for Stream Management planning. Figuring out who needs to be on that board, who needs to be represented. Chaffee County. South Arkansas River. Doing data collection. ARWC is collecting GIS data, putting them all into one map. Bring in key stakeholders.
- Meeting tomorrow with Amber about the story map and the science plan work.
- Working with CS Utilities on an early warning system for Fremont County for flooding that might happen from the Decker Fire. Monitoring that would warn Fremont county so that they could shut off their water intake.



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Mark thanked Chelsey for her work with ARWC. She has really stood up this fledgling non-profit, creating great opportunities for the future of ARWC and for the future of watershed management in this basin. She has initiated, managed and completed numerous watershed health projects.

BIP Workshop – Mark Shea, Will Koger, Brett Gracely

Brett and Will went over the BIP Update Work Plan. Please review the work plan and submit your feedback to them.

The Work Plan will be posted on our website, as well as links to the project list and to the form for updating project information. The basin has been divided into six regions, and workshops will be held in each region in the next two months, in order to gather projects and information. If you're comfortable filling out forms yourself, please feel free to do that. Whatever works best and you are comfortable with is how you should submit information – so feel free to contact Will and Brett directly if that works better for you.

Six Regions:

1. Upper – Headwaters downstream to Chaffee-Fremont County line includes Chaffee, Custer and Lake counties.
2. Central – Fremont and Pueblo counties along the Arkansas River
3. Lower – Mainstem of Arkansas from Pueblo – Otero/Crowley county line to state line includes Bent, Crowley, Otero and Prowers counties.
4. Northeast – Tributary watersheds north of the mainstem includes Cheyenne, Kiowa, Lincoln counties.
5. Southeast – Tributary watersheds south of the mainstem comprised of the Purgatoire and Huerfano-Cucharas basins includes Huerfano, Las Animas, and Baca counties.
6. Fountain Creek – Northern tributary watershed includes El Paso and Elbert counties.

Brett Gracely: brett.gracely@lrewater.com

Will Koger: wkoger@forsgren.com

Needs Assessment Projects – Abby Ortega

Italian and Suburban Lateral Water Efficiency Case Study (structural process-conversion of open ditch to pipeline)

Applicant: Pueblo County (for Suburban Lateral Ditch Company)

Basin Funds Request:	\$ 46,400
Statewide Request:	\$ 162,900
USDA NRCS funds:	\$ 462,700
Suburban Match:	\$ 50,000
Pueblo County In-Kind:	\$ 186,700
Bessemer Ditch In-Kind:	\$ 20,000

Round Mountain Reservoir

Applicant: Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District

Basin Funds Request:	\$ 15,500
Statewide Request:	\$ 155,000
Round Mtn W&S:	\$ 41,330
UAWCD (cash & in-kind):	\$ 20,670



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Headgate 199 Lining

Applicant:

Basin Funds Request: \$ 18,000

Statewide Request: \$ 180,000

LAVWCD: \$ 252,000

All three grant applications moved forward by consensus.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:21 pm.

Admin Email: ARKBASINRT@GMAIL.COM

MEETINGS/LINKS: (all meetings in 2020 will be virtual)

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable: August 12th Meeting www.arkansasbasin.com
- Enviro/Rec Committee – July 27 at 10:00 am
- CWCB Meeting: July 15 & 16
- IBCC Meeting: October 21
- In-Stream Flow Workshop: August 3 (rule revisions due to new legislation)
- PEPO: www.pepoarkbasin.com
- Arkansas River Basin Water Forum: <http://www.arbwf.org/>
- CWCB: <http://cwcb.state.co.us/Pages/CWCBHome.aspx>
- Colorado Water Plan: <http://coloradowaterplan.com/>
- Colorado Flood Threat Bulletin: www.coloradofloodthreat.com
- Stream Management Plan Resource Library: <https://coloradosmp.org/>

ARKANSAS BASIN ROUNDTABLE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:30 am

GoToMeeting Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/631824957>

Greetings and necessary introductions

Minutes/Notes of the previous meeting

ARWC Board Meeting

- Projects Update

Reoccurring matters

- Chair Comments – Mark Shea
- ABRT BIP Update/Local Expert
- COVID-19 Financial Implications for the RT
- Other Outstanding Reports – Any executive member

New Business

- None

Work Session

- None

Old Business

- None

Needs Assessment Meeting

- Applications Received by June 27th and reviewed on June 30th

Roundtable Business

- None

Upcoming Meetings

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – August 12, 2020
- Subcommittees
- Enviro/Rec Comm. – July 27, 2020
- CWCB Board Meeting – July 15 & 16

Adjourn

Committee membership: Mark Shea (Ch), Bob Hamel (VCh-NonC), Mike Weber (VCh-Cons), Mike Fink (Rec), Sandy White (Past-Ch), Greg Felt (CWCB), Jeris Danielson (IBCC), Terry Scanga (IBCC), Tim Canterbury (IBCC Alternate), Abby Ortega (Needs Assessment), Amber Weber (PEPO), Paul Fanning (Legislative Rep)

Additional distribution: Sam Stein (CWCB Staff), Chelsey Nutter (ARWC Coord.), Elise Bergsten (Secretary), Amber Shanklin (Environmental), Sara Mudge (ARWC Board Member)

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Executive Committee Meeting Notes

July 8th 2020 – GoToMeeting

www.arkansasbasin.com

Executive Committee Present: Mark Shea – Chair; Mike Weber - Vice Chair; Mike Fink – Secretary; Abby Ortega – Needs Assessment Committee; Al Tucker, Jeris Danielson, Amber Weber – PEPO; Amber Shanklin – Secretary of ARWC; Chelsey Nutter – ARWC; Paul Fanning, Sandy White – Past Chair; Greg Felt - CWCB Representative; Bob Hamel – Vice Chair; Brett Gracely and Wil Koger - Consultant; Terry Scanga - IBCC, Russell Sands & Sam Stein – CWCB; Sarah Mudge.

Call to order:

Chairman Mark Shea called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM. Greetings and introductions were performed.

Minutes:

No consensus approval for the June 10th, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

ARWC Board Meeting:

- **Project update:** Chelsey Nutter has submitted her resignation as Director of ARWC, effective on September 1st 2020. Mark asked Chelsey to help the Roundtable with the transition and to have an exit interview with the Executive Committee (Board of Directors for ARWC) on Wednesday July 29th 2020 at 2:00 PM.
- Chelsey briefed the Executive Committee on the Budget, in the revenue section you will see all the grants that have been approved but not yet contracted by the board. The two big projects being the Spring Fire Project and the Fire and Flood Project.
- Majority of projects have been pushed into 2021 because they are still not contracted.
- Chelsey mentions ARWC has sufficient funding to move forward with the Monarch project.
- The Salida office expense will no longer be in the Budget; staff have demonstrated that working from home is viable.
- Chelsey requested for ARWC staff to have an increase in wages; the work that ARWC does is not just grant administration ARWC addresses projects from start to finish this includes scope work, stakeholder engagement, writing of the grants, managing the grants, and then implementing the projects (boots on the ground).

Reoccurring Matters:

- **Chair Comments (Mark Shea):** Pueblo Convention Center will be unavailable for the remainder of the year, so, based on that and the COVID 19 instructions from the CWCB, the Arkansas Basin Roundtable will schedule the work of the Roundtable, including all Committees and Sub Committees, to meet via electronic means for the balance of 2020. This is at the direction of CWCB and recognizes the positive adaptation to the electronic meeting format that we have held for the past few months.
- **ABRT BIP Update/Local Expert:** Brett Gracely reported that the team has been working on two main tasks, one of is coordinating with the General Contractor (Brown & Caldwell) and the other



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is updating the Project Listing. Brett presented the work plan; defining the process and the elements of the work for the Roundtable through the Fourth Quarter. Questions about the inclusion of small, rural communities, ditch companies and counties into the Projects Listing were discussed and Brett outlined the outreach efforts. Brett demonstrated the BIP Update fill-in-the-blanks is on the Arkansas Basin Roundtable Web Site, which allows uploading input into one of the 6 folders.

- **COVID-19 Financial Implications for the RT:** There was an all-chairs update transmitted to the Roundtable by Russ Sands. We will meet virtually for the remainder of the calendar year.
- **Other outstanding reports:** No other outstanding reports.

New Business:

- None

Work Session:

- None

Old Business:

- None

Needs Assessment Meeting:

- Applications Received by June 27th and reviewed on June 30th.

Roundtable Business:

- None

Upcoming Meetings:

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- CWCB Board Meeting – July 15 & 16 Virtual Meeting with information to follow.

Mark Shea adjourned the Executive Committee Meeting at 12:15 PM.