



# Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR  
WATER FUTURE

## Roundtable Meeting Notes

July 12, 2017

Pueblo Community College, Pueblo CO

(Presentations and reports may be found at [www.arkansasbasin.com](http://www.arkansasbasin.com))

### Roundtable Business

Sandy White called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. 31 members were present, with 19 liaisons and visitors.

### Approval of Minutes of June 2017

A motion to approve the minutes of June 2017 was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

### Public Comment - none

### Executive Committee - Sandy

The Joint Roundtable meeting was held on June 20<sup>th</sup>, and included a presentation by Becky Mitchell regarding Colorado Water Plan Implementation, and another by Chris Sturm covering Stream Management Plans. Jean Van Pelt made a presentation about our education and outreach efforts, and Carol Ekarius and Mark Shea spoke about ARWC. Other roundtables discussed some unique functions. Jack Goble talked about the Needs Assessment committee and other RTs talked about how they do that.

At the Exec Committee meeting, we talked about other pots of money that are now available from CWCB, where Roundtable approval is not required, but letters of support are recommended. The Exec Committee agreed to give letters of support for two projects seeking CO Water Plan funding: City Lake in Huerfano County, and Adobe Creek Dam for Fort Lyon Canal Company.

At-Large Ag rep Garry Clark has resigned. Nominations are now open. Submit nominations to Sandy within the next month, and there will be an election for that seat in August or September.

### IBCC – Jeris and Terry

The IBCC has not met since May.

### CWCB – Alan Hamel, Jack Goble, Brent Newman, Ben Wade

Alan turned the microphone over to Jack Goble, our new CWCB board representative. Becky Mitchell has been selected as the new CWCB Director. Next week is the CWCB meeting: July 19 and 20, in Crested Butte.

Brent Newman – There is an opening for an Arkansas River Compact Administration person. There is one big annual meeting in December. Nominees must be a resident of District 14 or 17, and a water rights holder. This is a governor's office appointment, and the nomination form is available online.

Ben Wade – Grant applications and instructions are now available online for CO Water Plan Grant apps. Deadlines are: Aug 1, Oct 1, Feb 1. Year 2 deadlines will be Aug 1 and Oct 1. Applicants should expect this funding source to be very competitive.



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SWSI methodology is taking a little longer than expected, but will be presented to the CWCB board next week. Technical advisory meetings are expected in September.

## **Non-Consumptive - SeEtta**

No meeting has been held.

## **PEPO – Jean Van Pelt**

Jean wrote an article for the Rio Grande RT's quarterly newsletter. It can be found on our website as well, under presentations and reports. PEPO is now closing out the \$50k WSRA grant, and starting in July, they will be accessing the \$26k in new WSRF funding. PEPO is looking at the Engagement and Innovation Grant Program, reaching out to RT members for project ideas. Please contact Jean if you have a project in mind, as the list of projects is due to Mara McKillop by the end of this week. Jean also discussed other upcoming PEPO activities, such as Creek Week clean-up, the Lower Ark water quality project, and the new water festival development. Lastly, Jean has received info from CWCB for a Tap-In reverse pitch event. This approach sends problems to entrepreneurs, asking them to look for a solution.

## **Needs Assessment – Chelsey Nutter, Brett Gracely**

A meeting was held on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Seven applications came forward, and six will be presented today with the Needs Assessment recommendation for approval.

## **Year 3 BIP Coordinator SOW – Chelsey Nutter**

Needs Assessment decided to move this application to the Exec Committee. Gary met with Sandy and Chelsey on Monday. Chelsey recommends that the heads of various committees get together and clarify scopes of work in order to avoid duplication of efforts. Members discussed the role of Needs Assessment Committee as analytical review, with BIP Coordinator putting needed projects together, and providing inspiration and development of projects.

## **Non-Consumptive Use – SeEtta Moss**

- Has not been a meeting.

## **Watershed Health – Mark Shea, Carol Ekarius**

- July 6<sup>th</sup> – WFDSS Workshop: worked with GIS reps from entities and also with others that don't have GIS data handy.
- July 13<sup>th</sup> – Meeting regarding the renewal of the Lower Ark Watershed Management Plan. Reaching out to local stakeholders who have water quality concerns.
- July 27<sup>th</sup> – BLM will be hosting a meeting on the Wild and Scenic River designation section of the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan.
- Have been supporting the Lower Ark river water quality work group. 1<sup>st</sup> stakeholder meeting tomorrow, 10-12:30 for master plan.
- Will be sending out a re-write of the draft bylaws for ARWC.

## **CO Risk Study – Jim Broderick**

An update will be distributed to the roundtable.

## **BIP Coordinator – Gary Barber**



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- Gary has been working to get grants ready.
- If you'd like help with CO Water Plan grant apps, Gary is available.

## **BREAK**

### **GRANT APPLICATIONS – Needs Assessment Committee**

#### **Arkansas River and Wildhorse Creek Levees – Pueblo Conservancy District**

Basin Fund:	\$	30,000
Statewide:	\$	270,000
Env & Rec:	\$	400,000 (matching funds)
CWCB Loan:	\$	12,000,000 new

After Hurricane Katrina, the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) began to require levees to be inspected. Levees through Pueblo had incurred considerable damage since construction. Homeowners are assessed a fee based on assessed valuation that pays for much of the repair work. This project assists funding for recreation and creating amenities along the levee. Partners include Pueblo Conservancy District, City of Pueblo, DOLA, GOCO, CDOT.

This grant moved forward by consensus.

#### **Adobe Creek Dam Rehabilitation – Fort Lyon Canal Company**

Basin Fund:	\$	100,000
Statewide:	\$	1,000,000
CWCB Loan:	\$	8,100,000

State Engineer has restricted the reservoir by seven feet, causing a loss of 33,000 acre feet of storage, due to the following issues:

- Alluvial sand layer identified in the dam foundation
- Uncontrolled seepage exits in the sand layer
- Exit gradients are higher than allowed by the Colorado Dam Safety Branch
- The 112-year-old outlet works has exceeded its design life

This grant moved forward by consensus.

#### **Trinidad River Walk Improvement Project – Purgatoire Watershed Partnership**

Basin Fund:	\$	14,300
Match:	\$	10,700
Total Cost	\$	775,000 (other funds will come from other applied-for grant sources)

Restoration project from the Trinidad Dam to Kit Carson Bypass as it runs through the City of Trinidad  
Scope of Work - Phase 1

1. Invasive Species Removal
2. Bank Stabilization/Fishery Enhancement
3. Recreation & Education
4. Collaborative Flow Management Program

They will pursue Watershed Restoration and Colorado Water Plan grant funding sources



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- Colorado Watershed Restoration Grants
- Education & Innovation
- Environmental & Recreational

This grant moved forward by consensus. \*

## **Arkansas BIP Coordination – Huerfano County Water Conservancy District**

Basin Fund: \$ 25,000

Statewide: \$ 50,000

This app funds the next year of BIP Coordination funding.

This grant moved forward by consensus.

## **Watershed Health (ARWC) – Coalitions & Collaboratives, Inc.**

Basin Fund: \$ 16,000

Statewide: \$ 240,000

This app funds another two years for ARWC.

This grant moved forward by consensus.

## **Upper Canal Lining Removal & Replacement – Beaver Park Water**

Basin Fund: \$ 40,250

Statewide: \$ 77,750

Canal lining has many damaged areas with full failure in some sections, resulting in leakage and heavy transit losses. Project has been divided into four phases of 1,200 linear feet per phase. This funding is for the first phase.

This grant moved forward by consensus.

\*Regarding projects that have approved basin-fund grants, but funding from other sources have not yet been secured, that basin funding is contingent on the remaining funding being secured, unless the piece funded by basin funds can stand alone.

Meeting Adjourned.

## **Next Steps/Links:**

- Next Meeting – August 9<sup>th</sup>, Pueblo Community College, Ballroom
- Arkansas Basin Roundtable: [www.arkansasbasin.com](http://www.arkansasbasin.com)
- PEPO: [www.pepoarkbasin.com](http://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/>