



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

Roundtable Meeting Notes

September 13, 2017

Welcome and Introductions

Sandy White called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. 32 voting members were present.

Approval of Minutes of August 2017

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

Public Comment - none

REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Sandy

Next meeting is our annual meeting. If you are interested in serving in one of the positions that is up for election or re-election, let Sandy know by October 1st.

All of the officer positions are up for election each year: chair, two vice-chairs, and the recorder. Three positions have two-year terms: the two IBCC representatives and an alternate. Jeris' slot is up for (re)-election this year. This position requires that the nominee be a resident of the basin, a member of the roundtable, and the owner of a water right. See the bylaws for more information.

IBCC – Jeris Danielson, Terry Scanga

The IBCC has not met since April, but a meeting may be held in November. John Stulp has been meeting with IBCC members individually to hear their concerns and guidance on where the IBCC is headed.

CWCB Report – Jack Goble, Ben Wade

CWCB meets next week on the 20th and 21st, in Walden. WSRF and CO Water Plan grant applications will be the main business to attend to. There were 32 grants submitted, totaling \$8.9 million. 23 of the 32 grants will be heard next week. Grant applications will be approved in November. The SWSI TAGS will be working on SWSI methodology in the next month.

Nonconsumptive Committee Report – Mark Shea, Bob Hamel

There hasn't been a recent meeting of the non-consumptive committee, and SeEtta had to leave before the roundtable meeting. They will be working with American Whitewater to see if their project should come forward with a new funding request.

PEPO/ARBWF – Jean Van Pelt

- The \$6,500 annual funding for the PEPO Action Plan has been requested, and scope of work finalized. That SOW includes the funding series which has been happening here at the roundtable.
- The Colorado Water Plan Engagement and Innovation grant application has been modified at the suggestion of CWCB staff. Two items have been removed from the scope, and the funding request has been reduced from \$29,400 to \$24,350. CS Stormwater drain art was removed, as well as Arkansas RT membership support funding.

Needs Assessment – Chelsey Nutter, Brett Gracely

- There have been a few changes to WSRF applications approved at the June meeting, including:
- ARWC and BIP Coordination grants balance of basin v. statewide funding needed adjustment.
- \$227,667 remained in our Basin account before the last round of applications. After funding these, the balance will be \$117.00.
- In January and April, another \$120,000 (each) will be released in basin funds.
- Letters of Support Policy: You should have received this draft policy by email, which describes our policy for requests for letters of support for types of funding other than WSRA grant funding:

All requests for letters of support must be presented to the Roundtable chairperson with adequate advance notice to allow him/her to present the request to the Roundtable members for consideration of approval at a regularly scheduled meeting. If the grant applicant provides sufficient justification that timing of the grant application does not allow for adequate time to be placed on the regular Roundtable agenda, the chairperson will pole the Executive Committee and, as long as the majority of the Executive Committee members concurs that a letter of support is justified, the chairperson will provide the requested letter of support.

Guidelines for approval of letters of support:

1. Will the grant application support a goal or specific project in the Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan?
2. Will the grant application avoid any direct conflicts with a goal or specific project in the Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan?
3. Will the grant application avoid any direct competition with a grant application from a organization/entity that has a member on the Roundtable? The Roundtable will not assert a preference of one project over another if it involves two organizations with representatives on the Roundtable.

The policy also provides for the ability to submit a letter of non-support, if deemed prudent.

This policy was approved by consensus.

A Needs Assessment Committee meeting was held for four such requests for letters of support: St. Charles Mesa and the Zinno Subdivision change of scope, CS Utilities and the Homestake Diversion, the Trinidad Riverwalk, and American Whitewater. Three of the four applications are recommended for roundtable support. American Whitewater was given guidance as to changes that would make their app fit the needs of the basin better.

ARWC – Mark Shea, Carol Ekarius

The draft bylaws for ARWC have been circulated to you for your review, and they are here for your approval now.

The ARWC bylaws were approved by consensus.

Mark also discussed ongoing ARWC projects, including post-fire mitigation efforts, and Lower Ark water quality.

Phase II Risk Study – Brett, Jim, Seth

Following the Roundtable's guidance, we are now relying on Ben Wade's reporting on this.

BIP Coordinator – Gary Barber: (See presentations on our website: arkansbasin.org)

Gary made a presentation on the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan priorities and how they line up with the Colorado Water Plan.

Stakeholders set basinwide goals in the categories of:

- Storage
- Consumptive Municipal Goals
- Consumptive Agricultural Goals
- Nonconsumptive (Environmental and Recreational Goals)

For each goal, the Roundtable articulated:

- Actions – what is to be done to meet the goal;
- Measurable Outcomes – What specific measurements or mileposts denote accomplishment or progress;
- Challenges – What are the constraints faced in achieving the goal.

The Ark BIP lines up pretty closely with the goals of the Colorado Water Plan.

The CWCB understands that some water projects and processes require a longer lead time in order to develop a comprehensive Water Plan Grant application. Applicants may choose to notify the CWCB board of their interest and intent to apply in the future. Gary recommends that the following projects and project areas be explored for such a possible intent to apply:

- Southern High Plains Groundwater
- Oil Creek/Canon City Corridor
- El Paso County Land Use Small Area Focus Studies
- Stream Management Planning
- Watershed Restoration
- Alluvial Aquifer Storage

PROGRAM:

Funding Series: Open Space and Conservation Excellence Grant Programs – Michele Frishman, GOCO

GOCO makes investments through Colorado Parks & Wildlife for Colorado’s State Parks, Colorado’s Wildlife, Local Governments, and Open Space.

Application Process

- Partner with eligible entity
- Selection criteria
- Matching funds
- Staff and peer review process
- Final approval by GOCO board

Contact Michele Frishman for more information, at mfrishman@goco.org.

Evans Gulch Reservoir Bypass Flume Project – Greg Teter, Parkville Water District

Greg presented this completed project, which piped stormwater that had been historically piped around Evans Gulch Reservoir in a wooden flume. This water drains a mined area and ghost town and contains heavy metals and other contaminants. There was a vital need to be sure this water did not contaminate Leadville’s drinking water supply.

“Step-in, Step-out” Administration – John Van Oort, Division 2 Engineer’s Office

Leadville to Pueblo Reservoir

- BOR Operating Guidelines
 - Twin Lakes Reservoir
 - 100cfs per hour
 - Erosion Control
 - 15% of ARKWELCO in one day
- Transit Losses

0.07% per mile
Sunnyside study

- **NO** Incremental steps on deliveries

Typically there's no account water deliveries to ditches between upper reservoirs and the Pueblo Reservoir.

Leadville to Pueblo Reservoir

- BOR Operating Guidelines
Pueblo Reservoir (500 per hour)
- Transit Losses
2011 Livingston Transit Loss Model
- Incremental steps at ditch headgates

John demonstrated the increased efficiency of stepped diversions, rather than traditionally-used non-stepped diversions.

Arkansas River Diversion Project – Ron Sanchez & Brian McCormick, Homestake Partnership/Joint Water

Authority

This project is located at the Granite Diversion on the Upper Arkansas River.

Existing Homestake Arkansas River Diversion (ARD)

- Constructed c. 1965, and is the primary intake for Otero Pump Station
- ARD continues to function as the river intake
- The ARD structure is deteriorating and requires repair to ensure and improve reliability.
- The ARD was not designed as a navigable structure and is considered non-navigable in its current condition.

Project Objective

- Improve the reliability of the diversion facility
- Manage sediment and debris at the intake
- Improve the structural stability of the intake and diversion weir
- Provide upstream fish passage
- Improve safety for river users
- Provide recreational benefit to Arkansas Basin users, if technically feasible, and if sufficient funding is available.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Next Meeting – October 11th, Pueblo Community College
- Next CWCB Meeting: Sept 19-21 in Walden, CO.
- Adjourned

LINKS:

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable: www.arkansasbasin.com
- 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/>