

Arkansas Basin Roundtable
Regular Monthly Meeting

Wednesday November 9, 2022

Start Time: 12:30 pm

The meeting will be hybrid

Pueblo Community College, Student Center Building
900 W. Orman Avenue
Pueblo, CO 81004

Zoom Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83339826655?pwd=YzY0eWhmb3Bsc1VFNDhjYWWh0T1JHZz09>

1. Welcome and Introductions – Mark Shea [10 minutes, 12:30-12:40]

Establish quorum
Approval of agenda
Approval of minutes – October 2022
Public Comment

2. Reports – [55 minutes, 12:40 – 1:35]

Executive Committee & Ariel Hacker Welcome - Mark Shea (15 min)
CWCB Report – Jeff Rodriguez, Russ Sands, Greg Felt (15 min)
IBCC Report – Jeris Danielson and Terry Scanga (5 min)
Needs Assessment Committee – Gracy Goodwin/Abby Ortega (see below)
Ag/Muni Committee – Matt Heimerich and Kent Ricken (5 min)
Enviro/Rec – Bob Hamel, and Rena Griggs (5 min)
Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative – Jonathan Paklaian (5 min)
PEPO – Jonathan Paklaian (5 min)

3. Break - [10 minutes, 1:35 – 1:45]

4. Needs Assessment Committee: Presentation of Water Plan and WSRF Grant Applications [80 minutes, 1:45 – 3:05]

Water Plan Grant Applications (ABRT Letters of Support Only)			
Item	Description	Organization	Presenter
1	Next Generation Water Leaders	River Science Center	Chelsea Nutter
2	Southmoor Drive Channel & Floodplain Restoration	Fountain Creek Watershed District	Alli Schuch
3	2023 Education & Outreach Event	Arkansas River Basin Water Forum	Jean Van Pelt
4	NRCS Planning Assistance Support	HCWCD	Carol Dunn

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Water Supply & Reserve Fund Grant Applications (ABRT Funding & Letters of Support)			
Item	Description	Organization	Presenter
1	Upper Arkansas Comprehensive Watershed Restoration Project	ARWC	Johnathan Paklaian
2	Upper Canal Automated Diversion Headgate Replacement	Beaver Park Water Inc	Steve Kastner
3	Coler Ditch Diversion Project	City of Walsenburg	Al Tucker/Gaye Davis
4	Lake Beckwith Dam Rehab	Colorado City Metropolitan District	James Eccher
5	Landscape Transformation	Colorado Springs Utilities	Lisa Pace

5. Adjourn

Upcoming Meetings

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – December 14, 2022
 - Executive Committee – 10:30am
 - Roundtable – 12:30pm
- Committees
 - Needs Assessment – **December 2022**
 - PEPOW – **TBD**
 - Environmental/Recreation Committee – None in December, Back in 2023
 - Agriculture/Municipal Committee – November **8,9,10 or 15, 2022?**
 - IBCC – TBD
- ARWC – Fourth Quarter Board Meeting - **December 2022?**
- CWCB Board Meeting – November 16-17 - Denver Water

Additional Zoom Meeting Information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83339826655?pwd=YzY0eWhmb3Bsc1VFNDhjYWWhOT1JHZz09>

Meeting ID: 833 3982 6655 Passcode: 971863

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833 548 0282 US Toll-free

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

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LETTERS OF SUPPORT REQUESTS

River Science- Next Generation Water Leaders Program

CWP Grant- Innovation and Education

Total program: \$180,000 Request: \$90,000 Match: \$90,000

Our project/program serves as a catalyst to engage, educate, and inspire the next generation of water leaders. Our program currently includes two courses (1) Water Quality & Ecology and (2) Hydrology & Watersheds. These courses are designed to give students a foundational knowledge of water quality & water quantity, build student skill sets, provide student experiences, and spark an interest in water-related careers. Now that we have established these courses and conducted initial pilot programs, we are interested in exploring how to expand these opportunities Statewide. The Water Quality and Ecology Course are moving along with eight schools currently enrolled in the program, but we wish to examine how we continue to improve this program. River Science built the Hydrology & Watersheds course specifically for Canon City High School and the Arkansas River Basin. We want to explore how we can tailor this program to serve other schools within the Arkansas River Basin as well as adapt this program for other river basins.

- Connect with Schools, Teachers, Roundtables, Water Leaders, & Local Organizations
- Identify Partners, Perform Audits, & Develop Plans
- Assist Schools with Process to Offer Courses
- Integrate & Adapt Program to Reflect Regional Characteristics
- Connect Schools with Local Stakeholders to Create Student Experiences & Opportunities
- Develop Teacher Training Program
- Continue to Support Existing Partnerships, Improve Program, & Offer New Experiences

Fountain Creek – Southmoor Drive Channel and Floodplain Restoration

CWP Grant – Total Project: \$3.5M Request: \$700,000 Match: \$2.8M

Fountain Creek Watershed District is proposing the Southmoor Drive Channel Stabilization and Floodplain Restoration project (Project) to mitigate the erosion of the subject bank, provide slope stability along this segment of Fountain Creek, and reconnect the channel/floodplain complex to promote riparian vegetation and streambank habitat.

This Project focuses on a 45-foot high cutbank along Fountain Creek which is undergoing mass wasting erosion and undercutting Southmoor Drive, resulting in the closure of the road in 2020. This road closure has limited an underserved community's access to retail and services. The bank contributes 55,088 tons of sediment to the Fountain Creek system annually, making it the second highest sediment contributing bank in the Fountain Creek system (WARSSS, 2017). As the channel has cut into and

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eroded the subject bank, the channel has become hydraulically disconnected from the floodplain and overbanks.

Arkansas River Basin Water Forum

CWP Grant – Education and Outreach

Total program: \$99,296 Request: \$49,648 Match:\$49,648

The annual Arkansas River Basin Water Forum serves as a conduit for information about the Arkansas River Basin in Colorado. The ARBWF strives to offer sessions on current water issues, better management techniques and technologies, conservation, new and innovative projects, programs/projects that may assist other water users or communities, etc. The Forum’s program is ever evolving and transitions each year to what the newest and hottest topics of the time are.

Objective 1) Conduct a successful and well attended Forum at the DoubleTree by Hilton venue to be held on April 24 – 26, 2023. Contract with the DoubleTree to serve the VIP & the Percolation and Runoff dinners and for morning refreshments and lunches for the Forum.

Objective 2) Contract for audio and visual (AV) equipment and technical support.

Objective 3) The Program Manager will successfully deliver the task deliverables on-time, on-budget and according to the Board of Directors expectations.

Objective 4) Develop the concept for the infographic. Contract with a professional to design the infographic for printing and distribution at the VIP dinner and the Forum. The Program Manager will be responsible for purchasing the materials necessary to create, print, and distribute nametags and informational signage.

Objective 5) Secure safe and reliable group transportation to 6 or more tour sites for the Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon water tours.

Huerfano Cty Water Conservancy District

No funding is being requested by HCWCD. The letter of support we request would be for the HCWCD application, on behalf of the Cucharas Basin Storage Collaborative, for a PL-566 project to be designated in Huerfano County. PL-566 provides for USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service to design projects and pay 75% of the cost of construction. The proposed project would involve a combination of the proposed new Bruce Canyon Reservoir (near La Veta) and enlargement of Maria-Stevens Reservoir (near Walsenburg). The estimated combined storage capacity of 1,900 acre-feet is desperately needed and would provide an underserved population with agriculture, municipal, industrial, and augmentation uses, as well as fishing and flat-water boating. The municipalities,

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agencies and organizations involved in the Cucharas Basin Storage Collaborative have worked through 5 phases of this proposed storage project over the past seven years. Previous efforts have resulted in 1) engineering for feasibility, initial design, and cost estimates; 2) a Water Court Decree for the storage facilities and exchange of water into storage; 3) an intergovernmental agreement for cooperation in the implementation of the storage projects. The 2015 Arkansas BIP stated, "Increasing available storage is seen as fundamental to all solutions to the Arkansas Basin's needs." Executive Summary, p. 9. Its first priority was, "Increasing available storage." Sec. 1, p. 5. Its primary theme was "Increased water storage ... capacity is critical to all solutions." Sec. 1, p. 6. Finally, its storage goal was to "Increase surface storage available within the basin by 70,000 acre-feet by the year 2020." Sec. 1, p. 10. The 2015 Colorado Water Plan contained similar goals.

Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Applications

	Grant Requestor	Organization	Description	ABRT Funds	Statewide Funds	CWP	Match	Total Project Costs	Match Percent
1	Johnathan Pakin	ARWC	The Upper Arkansas Comprehensive Watershed Restoration Project	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000		\$ 189,756	\$ 489,756	49%
2	Steve Kastner	Beaver Park	Upper Canal Automated Diversion Headgate Replacement	\$ 6,100	\$ 46,000		\$ 9,200	\$ 61,300	25%
3	Al Tucker	City of Walsenburg	Coler Ditch Diversion Project	\$ 124,184	\$ 496,736		\$ 212,500	\$ 833,420	40%
4	James Echer	Colorado City Metro District	Lake Beckwith Dam Rehab	\$ 50,000	\$ 200,000		\$ 150,000	\$ 400,000	50%
5	Lisa Pace	Colorado Springs Utilities	Landscape Transformation Grant	\$ 50,000	\$ 200,000		\$ 150,000	\$ 400,000	50%
	Totals			\$ 280,284	\$ 1,192,736	\$ -	\$ 711,456	\$ 2,184,478	

Colorado Water Plan Grant Applications

	Grant Requestor	Organization	Description	ABRT Funds	Statewide Funds	CWP	Match	Total Project Costs	Match
1	Chelsea Nutter	River Science Center	Next Generation Water Leaders Program			\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 180,000.00	50%
2	Alli Schuch	Fountain Creek Watershed District	Southmoor Drive Channel and Floodplain restoration			\$ 700,000.00	\$ 2,800,000.00	\$ 3,500,000.00	80%
3	Jean Van Pelt	Arkansas River Basin Water Forum	2023 Educational and Outreach event			\$ 49,648.00	\$ 49,648.00	\$ 99,296.00	50%
4	Carol Dunn	Huerfano Cty Water Conservancy Dist	Trying to get NRCS planning assistance						
	Totals					\$ 839,648.00	\$ 2,939,648.00	\$ 3,779,296.00	

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