



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

ROUNDTABLE MEETING NOTES

March 14, 2018 – Pueblo Community College, Fortino Ballroom B

Roundtable Business

Sandy White called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Members and visitors introduced themselves. Thirty-three (33) members were present.

Approval of Minutes of January 2018

A motion to approve the minutes of February 2018 was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Public Comment - none

REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Sandy White

- The April meeting will be moved to Tuesday, April 10th, in La Junta, at Otero Junior College.
- There will be a Front Range Joint Roundtable Meeting on our June 13th meeting date. Stay tuned for more information about how that will affect our regular June meeting.

IBCC Report –Jeris Danielson, Terry Scanga

The IBCC met February 20th and split into three task workgroups.

Conceptual Framework Task Group

Members agreed that education and outreach efforts are needed. CWCB staff will make a presentation to each roundtable. There are seven elements, but emphasis has been on #4: A Project of Statewide Significance.

Funding Concept Task Group

One recommendation as to spending was to incorporate IBCC recommendations into the approach, to clarify agriculture's position, and include the importance of grassroots roundtable input, rather than shifting to a top-down approach.

Education/Outreach

IBCC members agreed to create a letter to candidates for public office. The letter will describe the Colorado Water Plan, the status of (lack of) funding, and ask candidates to support funding efforts legislatively. John Stulp will write a letter to statewide candidates. Roundtable Chairs will be asked to send a letter to candidates in their basin before the primary elections are held. A draft letter will be circulated by early May.

The next meeting will be held May 2nd in Summit County.

CWCB Report – Jack Goble, Ben Wade

Jack – CWCB has not met since the last Ark RT meeting. A meeting will be held next week in Broomfield. Staff will update the board on water plan implementation efforts, including Phase 2 of the Colorado River Risk Study. WSRF and CO Water Plan grant requests will be heard, including five grant applications from the Arkansas Basin. If these apps are approved, our basin fund balance will be around \$95,000. This is the 3rd and final round of CO Water Plan grants for this year.

CWCB has hired Brian Macpherson as the new Decision Support System specialist. He will take over Andy Moore's role managing the Ark DSS development.



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Ben – Reminded members that the CWCB website has a tab for the SWSI process that includes a lot of information. The rest of this year will be spent crunching numbers, with a final SWSI report in 2019. CWCB will produce a draft BIP guidance document by the end of the year.

A joint Water Availability/Flood Task Force webinar meeting will be held March 23rd, at 9:00 am. Members can join the call, and an email will be sent with info as to how to join the meeting.

A Joint East Slope Roundtable Meeting will be held June 13th. The agenda will include:

- Funding
- CO Risk Study
- SWSI/BIP connection
- SP Storage Study
- CO River demand management
- IBCC project of statewide significance
- Your ideas welcome. Contact Ben Wade.

The Joint West Slope Meeting will be held April 25th, probably in Summit County.

Non-Consumptive Committee Report – SeEtta Moss

Next meeting: April 2nd, 1-3pm, BLM office, Canon City

PEPO/ARBWF – Jean Van Pelt

- PEPO is assisting Water Education Colorado (WECO) with their Water Fluency Program in Pueblo this summer. Registration is open now and closes April 14th. The program targets policy makers.
- Funding Series is complete for the time being. Report any new funding opportunities to Jean – she'll arrange for a presentation.
- Documentary is with PBS, should air sometime in May. Lot of interest in showings around the basin.
- VIP dinner April 10th. Please RSVP if you'd like to attend. VIP dinner at Inspiration Field, La Junta
- ARBWF will be held April 11 and 12. Arbwf.org to register.
- Bob Appel award nominations are due by April 2nd.
- Fountain Creek Watershed District – PEPO will be helping to update their website.
- Working with the Kansas Division of Water Resources, Brent Newman, and Bill Tyner on a tour for Ark River compact admin.
- PEPO partnered with others for a tour of Ag in the Lower Valley in late February.
- CO Water Plan funding has not been tapped into yet.

Zinno Water Project Update – Jean Van Pelt

Jean was asked to give an update. The Zinno subdivision has had an extremely unstable water supply. They have a temporary hookup to the St Charles Mesa Water District, which has agreed to buy out the old water provider and improve infrastructure for a permanent move to that water district. Funding is still being secured for this project, which hopes to be under construction in June or July. 98 homes in the neighborhood.



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Needs Assessment Committee – Chelsey Nutter

- Please visit the arkansasbasin.com website for updated information regarding grant applications and letters of support. June 1st is the next date to keep in mind. New grant apps are due then for funds that would be awarded by CWCB in September.

Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative – Mark Shea, Lisa Patton

- The ARWC board of directors addressed two things:
 - Master policy document – received additional input that will be incorporated, then brought back in April for approval.
 - Participation agreement with USFS Comanche Grasslands, regarding the Picket Wire Canyon trail. Opportunity to partner with USFS to address erosion that has a potential to impact water quality. Participation will not use ARWC funds. The agreement was approved by the ARWC BOD.
- ARWC is holding monthly business calls to discuss matters on the first Monday of each month. The next call is April 2nd at 10 am. Remember that all Roundtable members are members of ARWC. Call-in information will be made available to all roundtable members.
- Grant balances and projects:
 - Hayden Pass Fire
 - CWCB Watershed Resto, 2017
 - Recipient, LAVWCD
 - Award: \$100,000
 - Balance: \$64,224
 - CWCB Watershed Resto, 2017
 - Recipient, Fremont County
 - Award: \$100,000 (not yet distributed)
 - Beulah Hills Fire
 - CWCB Watershed Resto, 2017
 - Recipient, LAVWCD
 - Award: \$50,000
 - Balance: \$15,582
 - Junkins Fire
 - CWCB Watershed Resto, 2017
 - Recipient, LAVWCD
 - Award: \$100,000
 - Balance: \$0
 - USFS Cost Share
 - Recipient, CUSP
 - Award: \$10,000
 - Balance: \$4,700
 - CDPHE, WPA, 2017
 - Recipient, Custer County: Hardscrabble Creek Drainage
 - Award: \$373,274
 - Balance: \$161,228
- In addition, funds have been approved and are in the contracting process for another \$630,000.
- Lisa, Carol and Mark discussed other work that ARWC has been participating in or managing.



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BIP Coordinator – Gary Barber

Arkansas Basin grants that go in front of CWCB next week:

Lakeside Estates HOA	\$ 2,891
Parkville Water	\$ 6,681
Huerfano CWCD	\$ 8,480
Poncha Springs	\$ 6,000
Town of Walsh	\$ <u>1,000</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 25,052
Current Balance	\$ 120,117
Net Balance after March	\$ 95,065

Proposed new projects (for July CWCB): \$ 19,250.

BREAK

PROGRAM

Meeting notes contain only a summary of presentations. Please check out the full presentations at www.arkansasbasin.com

PRESENTATION: Fountain Creek Flood Control Needs Assessment Study – Larry Small & Chip Paulson

- **Phase 1** – Appraisal Study >> Feasibility of Three Alternatives and Sub-alternatives
 - Completed January 2017
- **Phase 2** – Needs Assessment >> Screen Alternatives and Select Preferred Alternative
 - Completed early 2018
- **Next Phases** – Financing, Permitting, Design, Construction

Scope of Phase 2

- Stakeholder-driven process
- Select alternatives for study
- Select evaluation criteria
- Evaluate alternatives
- Select recommended alternative

Design Objective

- Prevent 100-year flooding in Pueblo
- Reduce 100-year discharge from 39,400 cfs to 14,000 cfs
 - Prevent flooding of areas in Pueblo currently in 100-year floodplain
- Use natural processes to the maximum extent practical

See arkansasbasin.com for the bulk of this presentation.

Recommendation

- The Floodplain Management Alternative is the recommended flood management alternative for Fountain Creek upstream of Pueblo as it:
 - provides multiple benefits in addition to flood management
 - has consensus stakeholder support
 - could attract outside funding for certain components
 - could be combined with localized floodplain measures in Pueblo at currently flood-prone locations to address the key flood control objectives along Fountain Creek in Pueblo



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Floodplain Management Alternative

- Elements from Fountain Creek District Fountain Creek Corridor Master Plan
 - Channel stabilization
 - Bank stabilization
 - Reconnect floodplain
 - Restore habitat
 - Acquire easements
 - Wetland restoration
 - WARSSS projects
- 3-6 small detention basins

Next Steps

- Commence planning and funding for Floodplain Management Alternative implementation
- Incorporate individual projects in District's Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee CIP as appropriate
- Keep the Stakeholders and public informed

PRESENTATION: Arkansas River Decision Support System (ArkDSS) – Kelley Thompson

ARKDSS State MANAGEMENT

- NEW! Brian Macpherson, CWCB Project Manager
- Bill Tyner, DWR Project Manager
 - John Van Oort, River Operations
 - Bethany Arnold, Well Augmentation
 - Chris Brown, Ina Bernard, Janet Dash-GIS
 - Water Commissioners
 - Aug Coord, Reservoir Ops, etc
- Kelley Thompson, GIS/Modeling Tech. Lead
- John Rodgers, Admin Tools Technical Lead
 - Scott Cuthbertson/Doug Stenzel - Tool Man.

ARKDSS PHASE 1 CONTRACTS

- Late June 2017 – 3 Contracts Signed
- GIS canals, aerial photos and irrigation parcels
- Modeling
 - ditch/reservoir data
 - CU analysis
 - SW model-STATEMOD
- Admin Tools
 - well meters tool
 - transit loss tools

dashboard - operations requests, color-of-water

GIS

NEARLY COMPLETE:

State / QC by WWG

- 2010, 2015, 2016 (HIM) Irrigated Parcels

HRS

- Canal Line Mapping



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- Historical Aerial Photos 1954, 1978, 1988
- Soil Data Evaluation

GETTING STARTED- HRS

- Irrigated Parcels: 1954, 1978, 1988, 1998/99
- Well log data for URF zones (WWG contract)

MODELING

NEARLY COMPLETE:

State

- ET Datasets based on ASCE Standard (like HI)

WWG – Interview Memorandums

- Water Commissioners – 13 Water Districts
- BuRec, CoSprings, UAWCD
- Ft Lyon, ColoC, Hol, LAVWCD, Huerfano

IN PROCESS:

- Ditch and Reservoir Data Development
- Definition of STATEMOD coding requirements

ADMIN TOOLS

6.1 Collection/Evaluation of Groundwater Pumping Data

- DWR/Div2 Defining Requirements with Well Assocs.
- DWR/Div2 Migration of Processes into Hydrobase
- DWR/OIT (state) Team Developing Meter Tools
- LRE Concentrate on Power Records

6.2 Tools for Production of Provisional Records

- Evaluating use of AAA Tool for Well Depletions etc

6.4 Reservoir and Exchange Operations Tool Suite

- LRE Working on Requirements/Initial Design

6.5 Improve TLAP Transit Loss Accounting Program

- For both Pueblo to JMR / JMR to Stateline
- Still based in Excel running Livingston Models

LRE/Brannon Work Nearing Completion

NEXT STEPS/LINKS

- Next Meeting – April 10th, 12:30 pm, Otero Junior College, La Junta
- 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/>