Colorado Water for the 21st Century Metro Roundtable – Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2008 4:00 – 6:10 PM At the Denver Water Board Room

Doug Scott chaired the meeting.

Chips Barry and Doug Scott provided an update report on the previous IBCC meeting. At that meeting, there was a lengthy discussion of visions of Colorado's water future in 2058, with a wide variety of views presented. There will be further discussion at the May IBCC meeting.

Barbara Biggs gave an update on the Colorado Water Conservation Board and described the status of pending bills at the state legislature. The IBCC basin roundtables are likely to receive additional funding of \$300,000 per roundtable for next year.

Rod Kuharich, Executive Director of the South Metro Water Supply Authority, described the proposed Regional Aquifer Supply Assessment study. The objectives of the study are to develop a better understanding of the bedrock aquifer characteristics for well production, recharge, and conjunctive use, to assess the drawdowns that have been encountered in recent years, to characterize costs for various operational concepts, and to identify potential locations for a regional aquifer storage and recovery project. The Metro Roundtable members unanimously approved \$100,500 for this study.

Bert Weaver and Hal Simpson described the proposed Upper Basin County Groundwater Study. The study will include Clear Creek, Gilpin, Park, and Jefferson counties. Thousands of potential additional homes will likely be constructed in the foothill areas, almost all of which will rely on groundwater. Therefore, there may be substantial impacts on water quality and groundwater availability. The proposed study will assess the potential long-term impacts. Clear Creek County is the applicant for this project, but the three other counties are participating through an intergovernmental agreement. The South Platte Roundtable recently approved \$130,763 for this project. Metro Roundtable members unanimously approved an additional \$43,587 for the study.

Dave Acres of the Water Quality Forum, Membrane Treatment Group gave a presentation on the need for a pilot project to assess the feasibility for zero liquid discharge related to reverse osmosis water treatment plants. He anticipates that his group will make a more detailed presentation at a later date and seek funding this fall.

There was a presentation by members of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable, followed by questions and answers.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9 at Denver Water.

Prepared by: Gary Thompson April 4, 2008