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

February 13, 2008 4:00 – 6:35 PM At the Denver Water Board Room

Doug Scott chaired the meeting.

There was no IBCC update report because the previous meeting had been cancelled due to a snowstorm.

Doug Scott led a discussion of potential responses to the inquiry from Harris Sherman, dated January 15, 2008, concerning the Metro Roundtable's vision for Colorado's water future 50 years hence. Members were encouraged to send comments to Doug that he might verbally report at the March 7 IBCC meeting. Such comments, however, will be considered only as a "starting point" for a more formal response to be provided after additional deliberation by the Metro Roundtable.

Nicole Seltzer, Executive Director of Colorado Foundation for Water Education, provided an update on its activities. There was discussion of potential financial support by Metro Roundtable to the Foundation.

Robert Sakata gave a presentation concerning the work of the Colorado Supreme Court Water Court committee.

Heidi VanHeugen, from the Colorado Division of Natural Resources, provided a summary of pending bills that are being considered by the legislature.

Aaron Million, from the Million Conservation Resource Group, presented information about a proposed water diversion project from the Green River in Utah. Such diversions might be in the range of 165,000 to 250,000 acre-feet per year for delivery to water users in the Colorado Front Range area. He believes that this amount of water is surplus to the reasonable future demands of Colorado's Western Slope water users. The proposed water right for the project would have a proposed December 2007 priority date for administration purposes.

John Bickerman provided general information concerning ongoing talks among Denver Water, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, and Western Slope interests. He anticipates that meaningful discussions related to water supply will begin within the next few months.

The members gave Erich Hecox permission to try to find a permanent site for future Metro Roundtable meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12 at a site to be determined (later set for Denver Water).

Prepared by: Gary Thompson March 7, 2008