

Arkansas Basin Roundtable  
Meeting of September 9, 2009  
Meeting Notes

### **Roundtable Business**

Chairman Barber called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm. Members and visitors introduced themselves. Twenty seven (27) members were present, sufficient for a 50% quorum, but not for a 75% majority.

A motion was made by Jim Broderick and seconded by Anthony Nunez to approve the minutes of the August meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The agenda was reviewed.

### **Bylaws Discussion/Vote**

Section 3: Term of Office and Term Limits. Jim Broderick brought the proposed change to the table, which would eliminate term limits for officers. No vote was held, due to lack of quorum.

Public Comment: none

### **CWCB/IBCC Reports**

#### **Danielson, Winner, Vanderschuere, Dils, Doherty**

The next IBCC meeting is September 14, 2009. The roundtable asked Todd Doherty to distribute the Resolution passed last month to the other roundtables.

### **Feedback on Education Survey for the Arkansas Basin – Kristin Maharg**

#### **Colorado Foundation for Water Education**

Perry Cabot thanked members for participating in the Public Education, Participation & Outreach Workgroup (PEPO) survey and introduced Kristin Maharg. An action plan will follow the survey, based on results. The survey addressed education needs.

#### ***Highest Priority for personal water education needs***

1. Water Quality
2. Water Supply Availability
3. Ag to Urban Transfers

#### ***Highest Priority for roundtable water education needs***

1. Ag to Urban Transfers
2. Water Quality
3. Env and Rec Water Needs

#### ***Self-rating of knowledge on general water concepts***

Highly knowledgeable: water rights and/or water law, Colorado water administration, Surface water hydrology.

Least knowledgeable: Colorado water quality regulation, River restoration practices, Groundwater hydrology

#### ***How Basin Roundtables (BRTs) get and transmit information***

Respondents prefer presentations, fact sheets and joint meetings and email to get their information. The least desirable methods are media, websites and special events.

#### ***Rank current CWCB information methods***

The majority use CWCB staff and IBCC representative reports at meetings to keep informed.

#### ***Which events are most helpful for learning?***

- Other roundtable meetings
- IBCC meetings

#### ***Methods the RT has used for public education***

- Public comment at BRT meetings
- Newspaper coverage
- Distribution of electronic information
- RT members reporting back to constituents

***How effective has the RT been in promoting public participation?***

Moderately effective

***What aspects of your roundtable work best?***

Building common understanding and relationships

Open discussion

Presentations

***What should be the top priority of the Roundtable process?***

ID projects & processes to meet future consumptive & non-consumptive needs.

Promote sustainable water use

Promote statewide vision and solutions

**Presentations**

**Water & Energy in the Arkansas Valley – Stacy Tellinghuisen - Western Resource Advocates**

**Goal 1:** Assess water demands for municipal needs, electricity generation, and agriculture in the Arkansas Basin in 2015 and 2030.

**Goal 2:** Recommend alternatives to reduce water demands – municipal conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable sources of energy.

**Energy**

Electricity generation

Conventional methods use around 600 gallons per megawatt hour (gal/MWH)

Coal, PC, with carbon capture would use over 1,400 gal/MWH

Wind and solar-voltaic use no water.

Geo-thermal technology is available that would use no water, but binary Geothermal with wet cooling would use up to 1,600 gal/MWH.

Electricity generation 2006:

Mostly coal, followed by natural gas, used 21,000 AF of water to produce 15,000,000 MWH.

If sources remain the same, the projections for 2030:

50,000 AF of water to produce 38,000,000 MWH.

Tri State G&T's proposed Southeastern Colorado Power Project

1,400 MW plant, located in Prowers County, CO.

Would consume 21,000 AF of water per year primarily from the Amity Canal.

Would follow 16,817 acres of agricultural land (closing on farms this fall)

Wind Potential

SB91 map shows a potential for 96 GW in the entire state.

37 GW potential for wind energy in the SE part of the state.

Solar Potential

26 GW potential for solar energy, mostly in the SE part of the state.

**Transportation fuels**

Water use: Ethanol

1 gallon of ethanol requires 4.2 gallons of water to process the crop for fuel, but 1000

– 1200 gallons of water used, including the irrigation of the crop.

**Competing Demands**

Municipal Growth is expected to increase by 400,000 by 2030.

SDS will supply 52,000 AF/year. Will require ~60 MW of power/year.

Climate Change

The dust bowl could become the rule rather than the exception.

New Water Demands: Business As Usual

Project an increase in water need of 140,000 AF/year by 2030.

Of that amount, over 80,000 AF/year would be caused by climate change, ~ 20,000 for municipal use, and the remainder for energy production.

**Western Resources recommendations**

Integrated planning

Accelerate water and energy conservation, support renewables.

Adopt “water smart” fuel and renewable portfolio standards.

Accurately value energy and water in utility planning processes.

***What is the role of the roundtable?***

Continue developing/implementing sustainable water transfer agreements.

Encourage energy utility

[www.westernresourceadvocates.org](http://www.westernresourceadvocates.org)

[stacy@westernresources.org](mailto:stacy@westernresources.org)

**Round Mountain update – Chris Haga**

Chris introduced the General Manager for RMWSD, Tracy Garcia, and fellow board-member Jerry Lacey.

*Public Water System Improvement Project – Gallery Well*

The 2006 water system had low water pressure, insufficient chlorine contact time and an unreliable single well control system.

Improvements partially funded by roundtable funds solved those problems with a new wireless control system, a new pressure zone, the Gallery Well and a new water treatment building.

**Discussion**

**Projects and Methods to meet the needs of the Arkansas Basin – Gary Barber**

Sustainability Values

Economic, Social, Environmental – if all are present, the project is sustainable.

The questions at each intersection:

Economic/Social – Is it equitable?

Social/Environmental – Is it bearable?

Environmental/Economic – Is it viable?

Reed Dils: Requested definition of the terms viable, bearable and equitable. Not sure there is enough clarity to give value to the answers given.

Viable: capable of being done with means at hand and circumstances as they are, feasible, executable

Bearable: capable of being borne though unpleasant – can be endured

Equitable: fair to all parties as dictated by reason and conscience

Discussed the usefulness of the matrix. Defined the values. Discussed the understanding that members have subjective opinions about these subjective values.

Gary asked for comments on the conclusions he reached in the report, matrix ratings by the end of September, and general comments and concerns anytime.

Tom Verquer commended Gary for his work.

Todd commends this basin in being so directed in its objectives. He sees this product as becoming part of the SWSI update.

**Review of the October Agenda**

Other business

Meeting adjourned 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Winner

**Links:**

Arkansas Basin Water Forum

[www.abwf.org](http://www.abwf.org)

Fountain Creek Watershed

[www.fountain-crk.org](http://www.fountain-crk.org)

IBCC

<http://ibcc.state.co.us>

Colorado River Water Availability Study

<http://cwcb.state.co.us/>

Ag to Urban Water Transfers Report

[www.secwcd.org](http://www.secwcd.org)