

**South Platte Basin Roundtable
Tuesday, November 10, 2009
Longmont, CO
Southwest Weld County Building**

Please send any corrections to the minutes to Lisa McVicker: mcvicker1@q.com (NOTE: Change of email address.)

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2010 4 PM WELD COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING, LONGMONT, COLORADO

Jim Yahn calls meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

--Approval of minutes:

--Harold Evans: Move to accept as presented; Gary Herman: Seconds. Minutes approved as presented.

Bert Weaver: Introduces guest Pete Heph: Clear Creek County Open Space Commissioner

Standard Reports:

- **IBCC Report:** Mike Shimmin: Next meeting is December 2. Have not met since last meeting; no report. See email of IBCC annual report. Also, highly suggests to review email from Eric Hecox re: CWCB report.
- **CWCB Report: Eric Wilkinson: Next meeting Nov 16-18:** Hearings on any litigation on instream flows; hearing: Stapleton Bros on instream flow; Wed: presentation on conservation and demand reduction to 2050: 1%/per year reduction. Rest of agenda will be normal business of CWCB; attempt to putting together a report of the IBCC subcommittee, members of IBCC and CWCB...night of IBCC meeting on Dec 2. Part of discussion would include apportionment of moneys between basin funds and state funds; historically: 73% to state and 27% to roundtables. Without taking into account shortage of funding, this was historically the division of expenditures. A number of roundtables are advocating a percentage toward basin roundtables as opposed to allocation for statewide accounts...even as high as 50/50%. Wilkinson requests input from roundtable of our opinion. In the past, Wilkinson has defended the 73/27% split based on the fact that the intent of basin split is meant to go toward state wide collaboration between roundtables, or specifically pursuing projects of state wide interest. Requests input. McVicker: expresses strong belief in split for statewide projects to have majority of money; stay with the 73/27 split.
Harold Evans: Seems that most has been spent on basin account; however, if you look at distribution of state accounts, looks as though it is working.
Wilkinson: There is a higher threshold to meet state-wide interest for these funds and CWCB has more say in the expenditure of these funds; CWCB looks at the fact of whether or not basins have chosen to spend money without the purview of the CWCB.
Todd Doherty: Thought is that we could increase the % to the basins, to make the basin accounts have a more stringent oversight, and do away with state accounts, having though strong criteria guidelines and oversight from CWCB. Guidelines can be changed.
Wilkinson: Guidelines and criteria have changed very little from inception; this is when there was \$10 million available. Utilization of water supply account is 100%; CWCB did not make March appropriations until September because of shortage of funds; end of September, most of applications received only a portion of what was applied for; CWCB looked at what projects

realized the best usage of these funds. If more of the percentage is moved to the basins, could be a bit more free utilization of funds, but ...

Doherty: DNR and CWCB staff have discussed directing more of the funds to more specific projects.

Legislative report: Don Ament: December 1: legislators need their first 3 bills introduced. At last Water Congress meeting, Rep Fisher withdrew bill to elect water conservancy members; Rep Pace thinking of introducing basin of origin bill...not sure what will happen there. To recall that these are confidential until they come forth.

Harold Evans: Bill introduced as per foreign water and the use of fully effluent waters: reuse water can be used; however, will this occur without oversight by engineer's office or without quality control?

Jim Hall: Would there be a metering of the user's use of water?

Wilkinson: My understanding is that this is to facilitate projects like Prairie projects bill so that any entity's water can be used by any other entity because this is developable.

Some would say that there are controls on the reuse water; not trying to affect contractual obligations; but in Aurora, for example, 80% of the water is reuse water as well as nontributary water from Denver aquifer—all reuse water.

Per basin of origin bill: this paints a target on South Platte agriculture; this sets up a barrier and other impediments for bringing water from another basin. Receiving basin would have to compensate for this; with most of the growth in the future in the South Platte Basin, conversion of basin of origin bill, would make it more appealing to look to ag water for source rather than looking to another basin. In the past, it was area of origin, not basin of origin.

Joe Frank: State Affairs committee scheduled to meet November 30.

Jim Hall: There is still dominion and control requirements, but there is a desire for greater flexibility for reuse water.

Wilkinson: There also could be a water conservation bill in front of the legislator, enhancing the water conservation duties of CWCB such as data reporting. No additional knowledge to that.

Sean Conway: Long-term fiscal stability committee: good things: there will be a resolution introduced to put forth a study done by University of Denver independent of legislature. Have not done a tax study since 1959. Also, able to put forth some proposals on rainy day fund. Most contentious issue is the constitutional review commission: how this would be structured contentious: 19 members: 6 appointed by governor, 6 by house, 6 by Senate, 3 each from leadership, and 1 from Chief Justice. Commission would not have to comply with single title rule. Don't have legislative oversight...once articulated, would go directly to the ballot. This issue will be taken up by the legislature. Also, Senate Morris, higher education flexibility act..Tuition flexibility not part of this. Therefore, Commission put forth 5 bills and one resolution.

Education Liaison Report: Bert Weaver: Expresses hopes that rainy day fund could have some provisions for drought mitigation. ☺ Unable to attend the last meeting of the education liaison report or to participate in conference call. Understand the need to stay involved but...will try to improve participation of what is coming up next. Rely on Reagan Waskam to keep us on track. Reagan Waskam: RFPS are pending for the contract...next meeting has not been set because not an active contract in place. Education survey was presented to the IBCC; summarizing the basins now and will have a report by the end of this year, would like to present first of 2010. Also, the South Platte Headwaters Magazine was a "best seller" and is out of print now. Holding one box

for Dec 17 meeting. This group should decide if we want to reprint. Logistics for making sure that box of issues (about 100) gets to the Dec 17 meeting discussed.

Bert Weaver: Would be glad to have an alternate for this responsibility of being education liaison. Jim Yahn attended last one in Bert Weaver's place.

Mike Shimmin: Idea: What would it cost for a second printing of the Headwater's issue on the South Platte? Should we have a donation at the Dec 17 meeting.

Jim Yahn: Any idea of 2nd printing?

Reagan Waskam: Could be as much as \$5000 for 1000 copies.

Non-Consumptive Sub-Committee: Bob Streeter not present. No report.

Phreatophyte Sub-Committee: Bob Streeter reported to Jim Yahn that funding is just now beginning; contract is in place but funds have not come through. However, funding beginning to come through. By next spring hoping for phreatophyte mitigation.

Alternative Ag Transfer Methods Sub-Committee: Joe Frank: Asking that the 6 recipients could present to roundtable; asking Doherty about status?

Doherty: Upcoming newsletter of CSU Water will highlight alternative methods and a few other projects and articles from grant recipients.

Reagan Waskam: All ag transfer projects will be represented; also Ag water summit: Dec 1 Jeffco Fair Grounds.

Jim Yahn: News on funding for additional studies on ag water transfer statewide?

Doherty: Yes, manages that committee and will have a meeting in December; have been waiting for some of these projects to get off the ground. December or January. Looking at September when the board would consider first rounds of grants; expecting a 60 day deadline...July or September deadline for application.

Jim Yahn asks Jim Hall to update the South Platte Basin:

Jim Hall: Best situation in 10 years; no call on the River because several of the ag reservoirs are doing work on their ditches: Burlington, Milne, Empire dam work, North Sterling turned on a new day's ago; anticipate that Empire would be turned on around Dec 15 and will have a call on the South Platte; in such good shape compared to 2001-2002; we were in good shape in 2001, but then lost that. But we are in very good shape and so much water going over the state line. If we had storage in the Poudre...would be helpful.

Discussion of the December 17th Needs Assessment Presentation.

Jim Yahn: Began as Harold Evans idea; he is doing bulk of work. Very good idea; part of charge as Roundtable is to educate the public on the needs of our basin; this is first attempt at reaching out to public; in this meeting, trying to reach out to elected official. Will prepare handouts, letter to elected officials for invitation, proposed agenda. Review agenda--anything missing, or anything in topics that perhaps should be highlighted?

Summary: December 17 meeting at The Ranch off I25 near Loveland area. 1-5

Harold Evans: Would like to thank Larry Howard and Ken Huson for their help. Boulder, Larimer and Weld Counties. Thanks to Greeley, Longmont water departments for mailing letters; towns and cities mayors and city managers. This letter is a copy of letter to municipalities; each letter was customized (see handouts and emails). Sent to all county commissioners, water conservancy districts, to all state senators and state representatives representing areas in these counties. All on roundtable welcome. RSVP phone number and email. City of Greeley accepting RSVPs. Most importantly is that we can get message out. If there is anything left out, please let us know. Concept is that we have one unified

presentation; get everything to Todd ahead of time; lots to cover in short time frame. Needs to be run carefully. Please get RSVPs back. Anticipating 200 people. To invite all city council, key staff, list has expanded. Chandler Peter is Corp project leader on Halligan-Seaman. Would like contact for EPA. Bottom line is that our needs assessment has shown a significant deficit in water supply by 2050 and this message must be out to leaders. Purpose is not to say how we will deal with it, but that the deficit is there and this must be on everyone's radar screen.

Originally, roundtable would be the one to sign the agreement with The Ranch but liability policy is such that we will work with Larimer county or Weld County to be contracting party.

Few specifics: we are soliciting donations for refreshments: Weld County, Todd Doherty. Not sure what this price will be. In need for some funding partners. Need some input as per what do we need for handouts that people can take home and what do we want for display boards, i.e.: nonconsumptive needs map. Will do status and scope of IP&Ps in our areas: Scope of these projects, not advocacy of these...just presenting the facts. Pertinent display material to get message across. As for those of you who will be presenting: keep in mind that the audience does not have familiarity with terms of water, so "non-consumptive needs consumption" should be "environmental and recreational uses." Make sure that you consider that these people may not be familiar with these terms; must be direct and simpler. Also will be inviting media, McVicker will prepare draft of press release. This is an opportunity to get this message out. Thinking of posting this on various websites. i.e. IBCC website, CWCB website.

Need to invite the AK and Metro Roundtables: Jim Yahn will. Should we extend invitation to North Platte? Yampa/White Roundtable? Opportunity to invite chairs of other roundtables.

List of Online references? World of material coming together—will prepare a reference sheet that directs where people can go find this information. Need to make sure that we help direct people to these sources; make accessible.

Mark and anyone from Corn Growers are welcome to come; any others from ag groups, let us know, we will get this out.

Jim Hall: This is an open invitation?

Evans: Yes, although main focus is to elected officials in Boulder, Weld and Larimer County. Will be a public meeting. Decision is to focus on elected officials. Depending on how this goes, then can do follow up meetings. Focus is ag shortage, for example. Presentation of consumptive needs (industrial, municipal, ag) and nonconsumptive (rec and environmental.)

Allyn Wind: Lower counties: Morgan, etc?

Harold Evans: Decision was that South Platte Basin is really divided in 4 parts. Start with northern basin and if it works then move to lower basin. But of course, any one in lower counties should hear this, yes, needs to be included.

Reagan Waskam: Water districts?

Harold Evans: yes, all water districts in three counties included. For example, Central Weld or Northern. The invitations went to directors or managers. The one to Northern, for example, went to director—Eric Wilkinson—then asked them to invite appropriate people.

Waskam: So Loveland mayor will invite important staff?

Larry Howard: Yes, we are trying to get to that level.

Janet Bell: Just looking at a report comparing the outreach via social media: twitter, blogs, etc...this seems to be surpassing print media. Something to think about in outreach. Seems like it is important to get this message out via this media.

Harold Evans: Yes, we have emails for these elected officials and will do a follow up.

Ken Huson: Yes, we are following up with the staff and encouraging them to explain to the elected officials. Important to remember that the goal is to get to the elected officials. Councils, commissioners, board members, elected officials.

Jim Yhan: State reps?

Harold Evans: Yes, all legislative elected, for example, Senator Gibbs covers part of Boulder even though out of Summit county. Made the decision not to go to federal/national level; although, Pam Shaddock, Senator Udall's liaison in Weld Cty has responded. But we are focusing on a state and local level.

Sean Conway: Any legislators rsvp?

Harold: No.

Sean: Boulder County? New city council out of Longmont?

Ken Huson: Boulder representative, Karen Martinez, has been notified. Longmont: waited until after the election last week. Yes, following up.

Janet Bell: Conservation Districts?

Harold: Yes, all domestic water districts included; water conservancy districts, conservation districts. Big thing is to get presentation ready. Try to aim for December 4 ready; gives time to organize. Assuming power point presentation and that these would be integrated into a computer that is already loaded. Will have a backup computer, preloaded as back up.

Janet Bell: Presentation on value of economy of agricultures, productivity and amount of water was very excellent; this is something that many are not aware of; this would be a good handout.

Harold Evans: this was Bill Jerke's presentation; good suggestion. Other thoughts on handouts: 1) handout on 3 major IP&Ps; 2) websites; 3) basic info on gap; 4) definition of terms? 5) list of roundtable members;

Displays: 1) 3 major IP&Ps; 2) maps of nonconsumptive—4 of these...one for each subarea, and pick a map that shows a different topic—sample of what these maps are; 3) geographic coverage of roundtable; 4) chart that has upward growth of demand; 5) population chart;

(Todd has most of these)—size of fonts, colors, think about readability to big audience...might need modification.

Jim Yhan: To recall, that the overall map is useful.

Harold Evans: Leave this up to Bob Streeter since he will be presenting.

Todd Doherty: We will print these up, but make sure your specifications are clear.

Harold Evans: Would like you to do all the display boards so there is consistency.

This is an important occasion and it is important that it is done well.

Bert Weaver: How will you address a common theme of the fact that conservation should be the answer.

Harold Evans: The theme is not to produce solutions; this is to present the demand. Eric Hecox will present some of the strategies: ag transfer, conservation, new water projects, IP&Ps. But intent is not to approach solutions but rather to present a factual presentation per HB1177; presenting to the elected decision makers in our area these findings. We do have a Q&A, but we are not approaching a debate.

Jim Hall: Are you going to present the concept that conservation as source rather than as meeting demand?

Harold: Yes, Eric Hecox will do this.

Sean Conway: Thanks to all hard work on this. Would like to encourage each of us to make a personal outreach to elected official. The tipping scale is to actually reaching out and letting them know that this is important. If you have contacts with mayors, council members, etc, reach out and this personal interaction will determine our turnout.

Harold Evans: For those who are presenters, I have started outlining what each of these presentations would cover. Call and will give outline of what I have sketched out.

Janet Bell: Unappropriated water, or firm yield...M&I...make sure that you are clear in your definitions and watching our language as we present.

Harold Evans: Very important to note what Janet has mentioned: make sure that you are spelling out what we are talking about.

Janet Bell: Again, thinking of the presentation on ag economies ...how important the values and the financial impact.

Mike Shimmin: If anyone has any ideas about what should be covered for topic 6: Where do we go from here. Some ideas could be developed: I agreed to do this, because this should be a set up for Q&As'; one goal is to get the decision makers involved in the debate. Thus, try to set this up to decision makers as per choices to make: major theme: if we do nothing else...ag dryup. And if we don't want this to be our choice...must make other choices. The 4 choices: IPPs, conservation, develop water on other side of mountain or ag dryup. Try to frame this to make clear that ag dryup is default. Will be helped with presentation of this in the fact that people in other parts of the state want that to be the choice.

Attempt to get people focused on this. Request for slides from Bill Jerke's and Harold's presentation on economic value of agriculture. This would be a good setup. Also, process piece as per IBCC and Roundtable process has demonstrated some dialogue that has never happened before or otherwise, everyone in the state will be on their own. Help participants understand that the process is here.

Jim Yhan: Exactly; to let these people see how this process is here but that elected officials need to be part of this process. Thus, very important to point out that this process is in place.

Shimmin: Indeed, attempt is to get these people talking to us.

Harold Evans: Has invited Bill Jerke.

Mike Applegate: Emphasizing fallacy that ag dryup in South Platte Basin will not have impact state-wide important.

Harold Evans: Challenge will be to keep this in the 1-5 timeframe and get message across.

Harold: Special thanks to Weld Cty commissioners; Brad Muhler.

Mark with Corn-Growers: Best source to get info out?

Harold Evans: Take letter and change address and use this as a sample.

McVicker: Press Release will go to Harold; Harold has mass list and will disseminate. Doherty will get Denver Post contact to Harold.

Harold: Local media plus major tv, etc.

Jim Yahn: Per task list...presenters should meet.

Harold Evans: Will visit building this week. Please advise Harold of any details and suggestions.

Dinner

Elections/Appointments:

--At-large Representative: Replacement of Tom Iseman:

3 candidates: Adam Bergeron present: recently began with Nature Conservancy; was previously with Attorney General's Office.

Harold Evans: This at-large position was one of 10 at-large positions; this is one of five that must be filled by someone who either own water rights or represent someone who owns water rights; all three meet that criteria. Also, previously discussed that there is merit in having one more rep for environmental rep; currently, Bob Streeter is only environmental rep on table.

Greg Koernahan is recreational rep.

Jim Yahn: Any questions for Adam? Entertain a motion to replace Tom Iseman.

Harold Evans: Move to appoint Adam Bergeron to at large position vacated by Tom Iseman.

Bert Weaver: Second.

Discussion: none

Vote: Unanimous for Adam Bergeron.

--Replacement for Industrial Representative.

Jim Yahn: Amy Willhite: Water Resource analysis for Xcel Energy; since 2002; first job was working with zebra mussels in MN. Long interest in water issues.

Diane Hoppe: Replacement?

Harold Evans: Yes, Paul Czhehank from Anheuser Busch.

Gary Herman moves to appoint Amy Willhite.

Larry Howard: seconds.

Unanimous vote for Amy Willhite.

--Discussion of Shared Vision Planning press release.

Harold Evans: On Dec 7 & 8, Halligan Seaman Project Planning will have 2 day seminar; moving ahead; anticipating good results; environmental matrix coming along well; national implications on how to do water planning; encouraged about process; one exception is that Save the Poudre is not willing to engage. Final report probably in March.

--Discussion of basin roundtable schedule for 2010:

Jim Yahn: Next meeting on December 17 – North Basin Presentation at The Ranch

Per scheduling 2010 meetings: Note that funds are limited; consumptive and nonconsumptive needs finished. However, important that we stay abreast with IBCC. 3 meetings March 5 Denver, June 17 Summit County, October 14 in AK basin.

Shimmin: Would like to have roundtable meeting before and between each of those so we could have input on issues for IBCC discussions. Thus meeting in Feb, May and September to interface with IBCC process would be good.

McVicker: Per the Bylaws: Regular meetings at least once a calendar a quarter; annual meeting shall be had on or before Jan 31 of each year. Can we move to amend or have the meeting in January?

Shimmin: Bylaws can be altered by 60% of vote provided that notice be given with notice of meeting.

Yahn: No notice; therefore, next meeting January 12. Then: May 11. Sept 14. Final meeting either in November or December.

Yahn: Please forward any ideas for agenda items to Yahn.

Harold Evans: Would like to have presentations on all projects approved by Roundtable.

Janet Bell: Since planning on three additional presentations out to public, would there be a need to meet for these?

Jim Yahn: Republican River not ready; Upper Mtn Counties not ready; Lower County will start us focusing on presentation process.

Joe Frank: Would be smart to present to entire lower basin population at one time.

Don Ament: Would like a presentation from the South Platte Decision Support System and where it is in future meetings.

McVicker: When will presentation on shared visioning be ready?

Harold Evans: Deliverable in March; would like that presented to the CWCB meeting as well.

Yahn: Other projects funded that would like to volunteer for future agenda items?

Doug Korkouhan: DU has project finished and would be ready for main meeting for the January meeting. Lower South Platte and recharge project would be ready to present. Both will be finished. Also SPDSS in January also.

Joe Frank: In-depth technical information from State could give overview. Can get decree from the Support System; available now.

Don Ament: Reminder that Senator Isgor left as chair of Senate Ag committee; Senator Mary Hodge is the new chairman with Bruce Whitehead as vice-chair.

House: Rep Curry is chair of Ag committee.

Jim Yahn: Entertain motion to adjourn:

Sean Conway: Move to entertain; Bert Weaver: Second;

Adjourn: 7 pm.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2010 4 PM WELD COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING, LONGMONT, COLORADO