

**Public Education, Participation and Outreach Workgroup
Interbasin Compact Committee**

October 14, 2010
The Abbey in Canon City

MEETING MINUTES
Action Items Underlined

I. Convene & introductions

In attendance:

Kristin Maharg, CFWE; Nicole Seltzer, CFWE; Judy Lopez, Rio Grande Basin Roundtable; Jacob Bornstein, CWCB; Jeris Danielson, Arkansas Basin Roundtable; Ken Neubecker, Colorado Basin Roundtable; Debbie Alpe, North Platte Basin Roundtable; Jeff Devere, IBCC; Eric Hecox, CWCB; Dennis Reich, CSU Extension; SeEtta Moss, Arkansas Basin Roundtable; Perry Cabot, Arkansas Basin Roundtable; Jeff Crane, Colorado Watershed Assembly

II. Approve minutes from 08/30/2010 PEPO meeting

There were no comments on the 8/30/10 minutes.

III. Updates: Current Scope of Work

Kristin asked roundtable members to give updates on their current activities.

Judy reported on the Rio Grande BRT. They are bringing in a series of speakers for the BRT, will get local media involved and are doing educational events with kids.

Ken said the Colorado BRT has not yet met. They are discussing meeting before the next BRT meeting. CFWE's grant proposal to do a *Headwaters* on the Colorado River basin was approved and the BRT education committee will meet on October 25 to discuss this and other educational activities.

Debbie gave an update on the North Platte. They are waiting for a WSRA grant proposal from CFWE to develop marketing materials and a presentation on their needs assessments. They are also discussing putting signage around the basin marking water features and information. They approved their Education Action Plan at the last meeting.

Jeris told the group that the Arkansas Basin has approved their EAP as well. They held a public meeting a few months ago and had about 55 people. They invited county commissioners and other local decision-makers and were a bit disappointed with attendance by that group. They are doing a second in La Junta in a month or so. Jeris also noted that the roundtable is now asking WSRA recipients to give reports to the roundtable after the project is complete.

Jacob attended and spoke at the recent Yampa Water Forum. They had about 44 attendees who learned about various water issues. This is their third out of four forums, which was funded by a WSRA.

Jacob also reported on the Metro BRT. They are going to do a forum on December 8 to inform decision-makers and local elected officials about BRT activities. They would like to get around 300 people to attend.

Kristin reported on the Gunnison, Southwest and South Platte. They have not yet approved their action plans but all are in process.

CFWE is planning to hold a new member orientation workshop for recent IBCC and basin roundtable members. We developed a new member notebook that is being handed out to all basin roundtables.

IV. Statewide Summit

CWCB will hold a one-day statewide summit for all BRT and IBCC members in early 2011. The goal is to celebrate the past successes of the process and set the stage for activities in 2011 and beyond, as well as initiate the new administration into the process. CWCB will pay for three BRT members and the two IBCC reps to attend from each basin, and the hope is that others whose work will cover their attendance will also attend. The interested public is also invited to attend, but they will be responsible for paying for their meals at the event.

PEPO has discussed the outcomes and deliverables from this meeting at the last two meetings. At its 9/29 call, PEPO members decided to focus on two objectives for the summit:

- 1) Increase communication and interaction between roundtables and the IBCC
- 2) Identify and address barriers to implementing collaborative water supply solutions.

At today's meeting we would like to set the date and discuss an agenda. Judy asked about location. Kristin commented that we are hoping to get the new governor to attend and so we are looking at a Denver location. SeEtta asked how we plan to get people from outlying parts of the state to attend. CWCB will pay for travel and lodging for 2 or 3 people from each roundtable. Eric Hecox wants to make sure that it is not dominated by front range roundtable members so we must make a concerted effort to bring in a good mix.

Thursday 2/24, 3/3 and 3/10 are the dates up for discussion. Eric noted that the IBCC does have a meeting scheduled for 2/4 or 11 and 4/29. All preferred the March 3 date.

Kristin had the group look at the draft agenda from the 9/29 minutes. Nicole suggested revising the primary goal statement to something a bit more clear. Judy suggested:

“Connecting the Roundtables’ activities and the IBCC’s goals of developing strategies to meet future consumptive and non-consumptive needs”

Judy has spent a lot of time discussing this concept with her roundtable. She has found that they focus on local projects, and even though they were listening to information from SWSI and the IBCC, they do not fully understand it or know how to use it in their own activities. An interconnection between IBCC goals and roundtable activities is needed. She asked if others see this also.

Perry asked the group what they would do to create this connection. Jeris responded that for the Arkansas, he and Jay do a good job of informing the roundtable on IBCC activities. This may not be happening elsewhere. Maybe set aside time at an IBCC meeting to have reports from the roundtable? Kristin responded that the idea is to make this summit take the place of an IBCC meeting so that they function as de facto IBCC members for the day.

Judy thinks that the summit should begin with a discussion by CWCB that stresses how the IBCC and roundtables fit together. Eric thinks that we need to address some communication process issues, but more important is to talk about what the IBCC is working on with roundtable members and then have the roundtables discuss local projects they are doing that support this work. He sees this as an opportunity to have roundtable representatives involved in the “kick off” of the next phase of implementation.

Ken sees disconnect between work being done by the IBCC and the 5 or 10 minute report that gets back to the roundtables. The two branches are on their own tracks and are not talking to the other. Nicole agrees—at today’s IBCC meeting there was great discussion on the strategies to meet statewide needs, but the word “roundtable” only occurred once during the meeting. Eric thinks that some roundtables are better than others at connecting with their IBCC reps and using roundtable meetings to give them specific input and direction. There should be a good relationship between these “branches” and in some cases there is, so let’s not say the system is broken, but it could be improved. He does not want to see a summit to talk about how people could communicate better, but rather to talk to each other about their activities.

Jeff Devere agrees that of late there has been a “pause” because the IBCC reps are not sure what they are supposed to bring back to their roundtables. We are at a point of culmination now and by March there will be more substantive information to share. Jeris thinks that the IBCC, with the exception of the new supply strategy, is feeling like they are close to completing certain tasks. There has, however, been very little roundtable input on this and the roundtables have noticed. The roundtable members need to weigh in on this stuff soon so they do not feel left out of the process.

Jeff Devere agrees and noted that this has been bothering him lately. The IBCC needs to discuss how they are going to move information up and down the chain so that there is true consensus around statewide solutions.

Ken agrees and wants to see the IBCC's work given out to the roundtables prior to the summit so they can spend time at the summit dealing with the more important information. Eric agrees—in the December timeframe the IBCC will wrap up some work and the roundtables will meet at least once before the summit so they can discuss the information that comes out from the IBCC. The summit can be an opportunity to communicate IBCC work and then have presentations/panels/discussions to flesh out how this work can be integrated into the roundtable work. Kristin asked what type of forum we should use to do this.

Eric reworked the agenda from 8:30-12:30 to be 1) Gov statement of why we are here, 2) IBCC director goes over the recent document, 3) panel discussion of roundtable members to react to the document contents. Perry was concerned about having too many people in a room and how that limits good discussion. He wants to resurrect the idea of smaller group discussions. Jeff likes this idea and could see it broken down into interest groups. Kristin responded that we could have an IBCC member at each table in the morning portion and they could lead a discussion with their table. Nicole asked if we hold onto the idea of assigning people to a table or a room so that there is balanced geography and viewpoints. All felt there was merit here but that we should work this detail out later.

Eric suggested structuring the agenda to be Roundtable/IBCC interaction in the morning and then BRT/BRT interaction in the afternoon. Ken asked what is BRT-to-BRT interaction? Eric mentioned the joint West Slope roundtable meetings as a way to share lessons and practices. We could also highlight the cross-basin discussions about strategies like Blue Mesa Task Force, 10825, etc. What kind of structure do we want to create to facilitate this? How do we choose the topics? Jacob suggested that we should ask the roundtables what they want to know from others and what they would like to share and see what we get. All agree with this.

Nicole asked if we should ask BRT members about length of time spent on IBCC-to-BRT discussion versus BRT-to-BRT discussions. Eric thinks it should be at least ½ to the IBCC/BRT, and maybe more. The details can be discussed later, but we need something now that will be a save-the-date and give a broad enough overview of the day to entice people to come.

Nicole asked what value the summit can bring to BRT-to-BRT discussions when they can do this on their own. Perry agrees this is something we should pay attention to, but that there is likely enough interest from roundtables to participate in this. Ken thinks that we should get more BRT-to-BRT discussion started, and this could be a way to do this. Jacob thinks this approach can get a wider group of BRTs to talk, rather than just West Slope ones together and Front Range ones together. Eric agrees that the summit is an opportunity to push this.

There are two ways to organize this: start with a plenary from those who have successfully discussed issues with other BRTs and then discuss how to outline what works and what has not. Then discuss what other topics need this approach. The other is to have specific break-out discussions where BRTs give their presentation and then make

time for a larger discussion, and people can choose what they want to attend. Judy asks if we can do both: start with a plenary that discusses all the break outs, then break out. All agree they like this.

The group discussed how elected officials should participate. The original idea was to have the Governor or DNR director to participate in the full day and then wrap up the event with non-prepared remarks that tell the group what he heard. All feel this might be hard to achieve, but is worth a shot. Another approach is to ask legislators to fill this role. Many liked this idea.

Next steps: ask each Ed Liaison to take the question of what they would like to see in the BRT-to-BRT section to their roundtables.

Kristin asked the committee if they had any comments on the 9/29 minutes. There were no comments.

V. New Member Orientation

Kristin asked how we should do the orientation. The original idea was to hold one or two central meetings that members from different roundtables could attend. The other option is to have each Ed Liaison coordinate a new member orientation with those who feel they need it and those who have been there less than 18 months or so. This should include the chair and the two IBCC reps. CFWE will coordinate suggested content and provide materials. They will also hold a conference call with the Ed Liaison, Chair and IBCC reps to plan out the orientation.

VI. Next meeting

The next IBCC meeting is December 1. PEPO will meet the afternoon of November 30th at the Sheraton on Union Blvd. in Lakewood from 1:00-3:00pm.