

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

**November 30, 2010
1:00-3:00pm**

Sheraton Denver West
Lakewood, CO

PEPO Workgroup Mission:

- 1. Create a process to inform, involve, and educate the public on the IBCC's activities and the progress of the inter-basin compact negotiations. This will be accomplished by communicating the vision, mechanics and relevance of the 1177 process to the general public, and securing and relying upon other groups whose focus is to provide water education to the public.*
 - 2. Create a mechanism by which public input and feedback can be relayed to the Interbasin Compact Committee and compact negotiators. This will be accomplished by encouraging participation of a broad range of stakeholders through Roundtable representatives.*
 - 3. Provide water education opportunities to Roundtable and IBCC members to help them make more informed decisions.*
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MEETING MINUTES

ACTION ITEMS ARE UNDERLINED

I. Attendees

George Sibley, Gunnison
Caroline Bradford, Colorado
Kristin Maharg, CFWE
Ken Neubecker, Colorado
Jeff Devere, IBCC
Judy Lopez, Rio Grande
Jacob Bornstein, CWCB

Carl Trick, IBCC
Eric Hecox, CWCB
Perry Cabot, Arkansas
Reagan Waskom, CO Water Institute
Deb Alpe, North Platte
Denise Rue-Pastin, Southwest
Bert Weaver, South Platte

- II. Approve minutes:** No one objected to the minutes from the 10.14.2010 PEPO meeting.

III. Updates

CFWE and Education Liaisons in attendance reported on the status of the roundtable Education Action Plans. Deb reported that the North Platte has approved a WSRA application to implement their EAP. The education package includes a resource document and presentation to be used in a speaker's bureau and public meetings. Perry reported that the Arkansas will complete their third public outreach meeting in La Junta. They also want to

host a nutrient criteria workshop. Perry will talk to George about a joint water quality workshop and think about an Extension-sponsored grant. Caroline reported that the Colorado has had a few Education Committee meetings to talk about Headwaters as an outreach tool. The key will be to produce a balanced and accurate publication while incorporating the unique concerns of the basin. George reported that the Gunnison hasn't made much progress but they'd like to do a water quality workshop in late winter. There is also an opportunity to work with the Colorado Water Workshop. They will present the EAP at the January meeting. Judy reported that the Rio Grande has revised their EAP to include film-making of outreach events to build a video library that RT members will use in educating their own constituents. Eric noted that this type of stakeholder engagement by RT members is what the roundtable process is intended to achieve. Bert indicated that EAP development is on the agenda for the South Platte. Denise reported that the Southwest's draft EAP is in review and will be presented at the January meeting. Jeff told the group that the four community workshops are done in the Yampa and the cultural heritage tourism industry was a great partnership since there are visible commonalities in water. Kristin will check in with Marsha at the Community Agriculture Alliance on the evaluation of these workshops.

Jacob suggested that we see the feedback form to be used for other roundtables' programs. Kristin will develop a template that the Education Liaisons can use and modify for evaluating their own activities.

Judy commended the progress of PEPO over the past six months and has truly been more engaged in the roundtable process. The Rio Grande RT has articulated that they want to understand their role in the statewide planning and understand what other roundtables are going through. Eric appreciated those sentiments and suggested that PEPO look at their mission to see if another item is needed to reflect inter-basin interaction. Carl echoed the need to build interest in the statewide process since roundtables are so concerned with their own issues. Ken said that the IBCC is becoming just as insulated and top-down. Kristin noted that dialogue around these dynamics is what we hope to achieve with the Summit.

IV. Statewide Summit discussion

Kristin asked for everyone to share what they compiled from their basins on the afternoon session of the Summit focused on pioneering solutions and future collaborations.

Caroline shared that the Colorado is concerned about how the IBCC is putting together the report for the Governor as the roundtables did not have an appropriate chance to comment. The Summit could be an opportunity for roundtables to approve/comment the IBCC report. Ken doesn't think the recommendations are necessarily ready to discuss implementation priorities. He would like to see an opportunity for the Colorado to have a dialogue with the Metro and South Platte roundtable members.

Carl asked if Ken thinks that the IBCC representative reports have been enough of an involvement in the process. Ken responded that there wasn't enough time in between drafts and subcommittee meetings to provide meaningful input. Carl commented that everyone is nervous about the report but it's intended as a living document as it's passed from one

governor to the next. The recommendations need to be finalized at some point in order to move forward.

Eric responded to these concerns by indicating that Alex Davis' idea is for the report to be a package of recommendations that will be taken out for a broader discussion. Some roundtables are taking a more active role in calling separate meetings to discuss the documents, which can't necessarily be forced upon roundtables to do. There should be recommendations in the document that make each constituent group happy as well as some recommendations that make each constituent uncomfortable so we're creating something that everyone can live with. Eric suggests that we revise the tabletop questions to reflect current progress as the Summit will be a launching point to receive roundtable input. Ken indicated he sees the priority question to be how the roundtables should be involved in the statewide IBCC process.

The group discussed whether we need more than 30 minutes for the IBCC report in the morning. Judy's idea is to maximize the tabletop discussions to be structured by an hour for each recommendation. That way all participants understand each one and every stakeholder has a chance to comment. Part of the discussion could include what strategies the roundtables are already doing that fit within each recommendation. That would address the roundtable-to-roundtable interaction part of the afternoon session. People want to be careful to avoid the silo effect of discussing each recommendation separately.

Another idea is to have each roundtable to report on their impressions of the report as a whole package, and then move into table discussions with guided questions. Reports from nine roundtables may take too long, so another suggestion is to provide a 15 minute overview for each recommendation by the subcommittee chairs so attendees are primed for table discussions. By March, most roundtables will have heard the presentation, yet for those that haven't done their homework we have to provide firsthand education at the summit so everyone is on the same page. PEPO, CWCB and IBCC need to articulate the process for priming the roundtables for the Summit within the next three months, through mechanisms such as meeting presentations, preview packets and/or an informational webinar.

Kristin noted that during Summit registration, we'll assign each attendee with a table to ensure diverse interest representation and cross-basin engagement in the discussion. PEPO and IBCC members can moderate each table to record and submit group feedback. Kristin asked which other questions should be part of the table discussions. Everyone felt that the implementation questions and outcomes are premature for the timing of the Summit. Jacob agreed with this suggestion and noted that depending on the direction of the state agency, CWCB might expect to enter a two-year implementation phase in July 2011. He offered table questions include: considering this package of solutions, what are you getting that you didn't have before; what are you willing to give up; and can you agree with that compromise?

Jeff commented that we need basic agreement on the appropriate set of discussions in revising the IBCC report. It will be an iterative process that begins tomorrow. The morning session of the Summit will present the recommendations that have been propagated, which are full of controversial issues, but now we need input from roundtables and stakeholder

groups. What will be members' motivation to attend the Summit? Marketing efforts will communicate the tangible benefits of attendance such as comment on the report will be received from roundtables, meet and greet fellow cohorts from around the state, and celebrate Colorado's water future.

New outcomes to consider:

- Cross-RT-IBCC-CWCB discussion
- Roundtables understand that this is a package of solutions and provide feedback
- Prepare us for the next phase of implementation

Reagan thinks we're getting ahead of ourselves in terms of how the report will be received by the Governor tomorrow. Based on the results of the IBCC meeting, PEPO will have another meeting to finalize the agenda and related tasks. PEPO will meet again as a conference call, scheduled for Thursday, December 16 from 1:00-3:00pm.