

Arkansas Basin Roundtable  
Meeting of September 8, 2010  
Meeting Notes

**Roundtable Business**

Chairman Barber called the meeting to order at 12:36 pm. Members and visitors introduced themselves. Nineteen (19) members were present. There are 38 roundtable members at this time - 19 is a quorum. The agenda was reviewed.

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

**IBCC Report**

The IBCC met again and continued discussions as subcommittees.

**Flaming Gorge Assessment update**

There will be a conference call on Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:00 am for any RT members interested in being involved. The goal will be to come up with questions

**Roundtable Business**

The annual meeting will be held next month, on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Members discussed recommending that Alan Hamel be reappointed as Legislative Appointee. A motion to support Alan's reappointment was made by Mike Stiehl and seconded by Tom Verquer. The motion carried unanimously.

**Gunnison/Arkansas Subcommittee update**

Alan Hamel: They meet again Friday in Salida. There's still a lot of work to do. This basin had a lot to learn about how Blue Mesa operates. Their contracts with the Bureau are different than those on the Fry-Ark. For trans-mountain diverters, as we plan for the future, something new in our plan is how to deal with a call on the Colorado River. If there was a call on the Colorado River, Fry-Ark and Homestake have junior water rights, so they could lose that water. Any rights junior to 1922, when the compact was signed, would be subject to a call.

A Letter of Inquiry to the Bureau of Reclamation has been drafted. The Ark RT committee would like to recommend to the Joint committee that this letter be sent. The subcommittee would like consensus from the Ark RT to move forward with this.

A motion to support sending the Letter of Inquiry to the Bureau of Reclamation and to approve the recommendation as it stands so far was duly made, seconded and passed by the Roundtable, with the understanding that this work will still change and will come back to the Roundtable for final approval.

**Public Comment:**

SeEtta has copies of a new USGS Circular (#1333): Recharge Rates and Chemistry beneath Playas of the High Plains Aquifer – A Literature Review and Synthesis.

Perry Cabot: Announced the Public Education event in Salida, to be held Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 – 5:00 pm.

**PRESENTATION**

**Colorado's Water Supply future: Updates and Schedule - Todd Doherty & Sue Morea**

**Overview and Purpose**

- Provide a brief overview of major technical reports and their conclusions
- Discuss report schedule:
  - Timeframe for finalizing remaining components
  - Statewide water needs assessment scheduled for January 2011
  - Basin-specific reports 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2011

- solicit feedback from roundtable

## **State of Colorado 2050 Municipal & Industrial Water Use Projections**

- Statewide 2050 M&I and SSI Demand
- Energy Study Phase II Oil Shale Water Demands

## **M&I and SSI Gap Analysis**

- Components of M&I/SSI Gap Analysis
  - 2050 M&I/SSI Demands
    - Assume high passive conservation
    - Calculate demand increase above current conditions (2008)
  - Estimate yield of IPPs
    - Water provider interviews
    - SWSI Phase 1
    - NEPA project documentation
    - Other sources
  - M&I/SSI Gap = Demand Increase – IPPs
- 2050 M&I/SSI Gap Analysis – Medium Demand Scenario
- 2050 M&I Gaps by County and Region (Medium)
- Statewide M&I and SSI Gap Summary graphs: low, medium and high
  - Existing supply is 1,161,000 acre feet/year
  - IPPs add another 354,300 – 437,100 acre feet/year
  - If IPPs are successful, gap is 189,000 – 629,030 per year statewide for M&I & SSI use.
- Arkansas Basin M&I Gap and SSI Gap Summary graphs: low, medium and high
  - Existing supply is 255,000 acre feet/year
  - IPPs add another 75,000 – 88,000 acre feet/year
  - If IPPs are successful, gap is 36,000 – 109,000 acre feet/year

## **Agricultural Transfer and New Supply Development Strategies**

- Addressing the Statewide M&I Gap
- Example Capital Costs for Portfolio to Address Statewide M&I Gap
- New Supply Development and Ag Transfer Reconnaissance Level Life-Cycle Costs

## **2050 Agricultural Demands and Alternative Transfer Methods**

- Current Agricultural Demands
- Current Agricultural Shortages
- Percent Decrease in Irrigated Acres to due to Urbanization and Ag Transfers to Meet Gap
  - this graph showed a decrease in irrigated acres of 47,000, just over 11%, mostly due to Ag transfers to meet the gap. Timeframe unknown.
- 2050 Changes in Irrigated Acres
  - Arkansas Basin is projected to lose another 38,000 irrigated acres by 2050.

## **Alternative Agricultural Water Transfers Report**

- Technical Issues
- Legal and Institutional Issues
- Financial Issues/Economic Considerations

## **Alternative Transfer Methods – Identified Issues**

- High Transaction Costs
- Water Rights Administration
- Certainty of Long-term Supply

## **Alternative Transfer Methods Potential Next Steps**

- Presumptive consumptive use
- Canal or ditch system-wide historical consumptive use analysis
- Transfer of a portion of consumptive use

## **Nonconsumptive Needs Assessments Phase II**

- Statewide Summary of Nonconsumptive Projects and Methods Status

- Over 700 projects are recommended or proposed. 343 projects have been completed.
- Arkansas Summary of Nonconsumptive Projects and Methods Status
  - Total projects and methods = 38
  - 10 projects have been completed.

CWCB trying to implement some planning and projects

The information provided in this slideshow (including many graphs) may be found in reports online at <http://cwc.state.co.us/water-management/water-supply-planning/Pages/main.aspx>

**Review of the next meeting's agenda**

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jay Winner