

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE YAMPA-WHITE ROUNDTABLE  
HELD IN CRAIG, OCTOBER 21, 2009**

Tom Sharp called the meeting to order.

Members in attendance were Tom Sharp, Geoff Blakeslee, Bruce Lindahl, T. Wright Dickinson, Tom Gray, Steve Colby, Kent Vertrees, Jeff Devere, Dan Craig, Mary Brown, Don Jones, Forrest Nelson, David Smith, Kelly Sheridan, Kai Turner, Jeff Comstock, Dan Birch and Paul Strong.

The revised agenda was moved, seconded and approved.

The September minutes were moved, seconded and approved.

IBCC report: Jeff Devere. Last IBCC meeting was primarily about M&I demands to 2050 which will be presented later by Jacob Bornstein. Harris Sherman has taken a position with the USFS and will no longer be at DNR.

**Presentations**

Kristin Maharg CFWE presented the results of the Yampa-White Round Table Education survey. Roundtable has good representation from the various groups. Of five issues identified, energy needs ranked as needing the most education for roundtable members and for the roundtable. General water concepts that need the most education were Colorado water quality regulation, how to access funding for water-related projects, climate variability and potential changes, groundwater hydrology, in-stream flow program and drought planning. No one thought we had been highly effective in educating the public; 80% said we were moderately effective or below. Tom mentioned that Kristen had met with the Education Committee at 4:30 to begin work on the Yampa-White issue of Headwaters magazine.

Jacob Bornstein presented the M&I Demands to 2050 and Portfolio Tool. What are our water needs? What water is available under current and future conditions? What could we do to meet these needs? How do we ensure that Colorado's future is the one we want? How are we going to mitigate for risks? The first three questions have studies that are ongoing. There is a Compact Compliance study and drought mitigation plan that the State is funding. By 2050, Colorado will require between 830,00 and 1.7 million additional acre-feet by 2050 as Colorado's population could nearly double. (Our basins' population triples.) CWCB forecasts it will cost between \$2 and \$2.5 billion per 100,000 acre-feet for new water supply projects. Comments on M&I Demand Study need to have comments on draft plan in by 11/11/09. There was concern expressed regarding the lack of municipal input on the demands in the plan. The Identified Project & Processes is now the Basin Needs Decision Support Systems.

Jacob gave a demonstration of the Portfolio Tool. It was developed to take the status quo and change scenarios and portfolios (combinations of strategies) to identify different outcomes. The tool shows that the status quo approach is not a desirable outcome for Colorado. We agreed to keep the Phase I numbers in place until Phase II is completed.

## **Reports**

Energy Needs Assessment Phase II is using the National Oil Shale Association as a clearing house on industry information. Exxon is looking at moving Colorado River rights to the White.

Non-Consumptive Needs Assessment Phase II sub-committee is refining the scope of work for the contractor.

Agricultural Needs Assessment; CDM is identifying the best lands that might be available for irrigation. A draft should be finished by the end of January.

Town of Yampa Study is undergoing further legal review and had a site visit a week ago. Preliminary documents should be available for the Town to review soon.

Sand Wash Basin Groundwater Study is ready to start testing well and surface water to determine links.

Sparks Reservoir Study will report at next meeting.

Yellow Jacket Water Study is making progress.

Community Agricultural Alliance Education Grant. Marsha Daughenbaugh presented a proposed agenda for the first educational forum. There was discussion whether topics should only be related to Roundtable topics and activities. There was consensus that the planning committee should reevaluate the agenda at the meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **Other Discussion Items**

It appears there will be a Basin of Origin bill in the legislature. There may be included a role for Counties and Conservancy Districts. Everyone should monitor the bill's progress.

Dick Wolf will have a scoping process regarding a Compact Curtailment process of which we should be aware and possibly comment on.

The Million Project has an effort to develop a coalition to develop the process.

There is a potential nuclear plant in Utah that is looking at 30,000 acre-feet from the Green.

There is talk of legislation that would keep the Roundtables but abolish the IPCC.

Should we encourage including the effect of beetle kill in the study on forest water supply.

## **Other Business**

The Roundtable recognizes the appointment of the following members by the following bodies:

Moffat County Municipalities: Don Jones

Rio Blanco County municipalities: Forrest Nelson

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District: Tom Sharp  
Juniper Water Conservancy District: Daryl Steele  
Yellowjacket Water Conservancy District: Kelly Sheridan

Tom Gray was nominated as Chairman and a motion to elect was made, seconded and approved.

Tom Sharp was nominated as Vice-Chairman from the Yampa and a motion to elect was made, seconded and approved.

Forrest Nelson was nominated as Vice-Chairman from the Yampa and a motion to elect was made, seconded and approved.

Paul Strong was nominated as Secretary-Treasurer and a motion to elect was made, seconded and approved.

Dan Birch and Jeff Devere were nominated to continue as representatives to the IBCC. A motion was made to elect, seconded and approved.

The next regular meeting is January 20, 2010 in Craig.

There is an alternative date for a possible special meeting on November 11, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned.