

HB 1177 Southwest Basin Roundtable Minutes

April 11, 2011 – Cortez

Members	John Taylor	Steve Fearn	Gary Kennedy
Present:	Meghan Maloney	Val Valentine	Jack Rogers
	Tim Hunter	Bruce Smart	Chuck Wanner
	Bruce Whitehead	Ann Oliver	Steve Harris
	John Porter	Carrie Lile	Mike Preston
	Ken Beegles	Jenny Russell	April Montgomery
	Chuck Lawler	John Ey	Peter Ortego
Guests:	Denise Rue-Pastin	Larry Lynch	Don Magnuson
	Ben Harding	Erin Wilson	Ray Alvarado
	Matt Brown	Ken Curtis	Diane Bower
	Finn Kjome		

Chairman Mike Preston called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Introductions were made.

Administrative Reports

Review & Approve Minutes – Jan. 12, 2011

The minutes of Jan. 12, 2011 will be reviewed at the July 13 meeting.

Officer/IBCC Representative Reports

Steve Harris reported that the last IBCC meeting focused on water availability. The next meeting is April 29th. Prior to that meeting, two sub committees, New Supply, and Water Conservation, will meet, of which Steve is a member of both. John Porter added that there were about 275 people at the state-wide roundtable meeting, including 11 SWRT members. One message taken away from that meeting is that there needs to be a portfolio of solutions; no single solution will suffice. And there is a desire for local control.

WSRA Basin Roundtable Fund Balance

Mike Preston reported that SWRT received \$54,000 to the basin fund in April; current balance is now \$114,304. \$1.3 million went to the state account. The La Plata Rivers Ops was approved. The Rico request was approved for \$20,000 from basin and \$68,000 from state funds.

Adoption of Education & Outreach Plan

The Education & Outreach Plan was distributed prior to the meeting. Denise Rue-Pastin asked if anyone needed 2010 member notebooks. Mike P. added that the plan addressed two dimensions: community outreach education and member education. He suggested that we develop a kit of information that can be used for community outreach. We may need to go back to bimonthly meetings in order to include internal education, or schedule optional educational opportunities. Discussion occurred. Steve Harris moved to adopt the Plan. There was general consensus.

Response to Basin Comments on Water Supply Availability Study

Ray Alvarado, CWCB, headed up the team that worked on the Water Availability Study. In March 2010, the draft WSAS, Phase 1, was released. The team is now working to finalize the Phase 1 Report. He

introduced Ben Harding (climate analysis), Erin Wilson (modeling), and Matt Brown (Project Manager). Matt referred the members to the public comment/response matrix that was distributed. The comments gathered today will help complete the Phase 1 report. The final report will include all public comments posted for public viewing. The team will a) gather input today on potential study refinements, and b) meet with roundtables again to get a better understanding of the results and how can be tested. Climate projection selection refinements are being done now; runoff hydrology will be refined based on that work.

Discussion occurred on the following points which were raised in comments from SW Basin Roundtable and comments submitted by Roundtable member entities:

A.1 Complex study requires more outreach

Comments: ½ day workshops focused on each basin roundtable outside regularly scheduled roundtable meetings; technical workshop to deal with complex technical aspects with agendas distributed prior to workshops.

A.9 Unintended use of study data

Comments: clarify assumptions and limitations of study; clarify appropriate use of data.

A.2-4 Concern on range of study results

Comments: GCM vs. focus on historical results. That report section be replaced with challenges and lessons learned. GCM historical will be posted online and that section will be rewritten.

A.5, A.10 Is there “accumulated probability range”?

Comments: They will write a report to clarify inherent uncertainties such as climate models, downscaling, hydrology models and emission scenarios.

A.7 VIC (Variable Infiltration Capacity) model procedures not well described nor were assumptions for natural vegetation

Comments: They will report to clarify uncertainty for vegetation and natural flow model approach.

A.8 Weather station location descriptions and request for average annual temperature data

Comments: They will add more graphics and we'll have access to all data online.

B.1, B.2, B.3 Request for CDSS modeling refinements

Comments: How well do the models represent reality? They will look at refining reclamation reservoirs McPhee, Vallecito, Jackson Gulch and Lemon. McElmo natural flows are not accurate. Concern with endangered fish flow demands. They will remove downstream demands and will meet to scope out/clarify data & operations.

From page 3 of the matrix regarding #6-8:

Comments: requests for additional related work

Trends in Irrigated Agriculture in Southwest Basin since 1940's

Ray Alvarado gave a presentation on a study that compared GIS agricultural land between 1948 and now. The Dolores and San Juan Basins (including San Miguel) are the only basins in the state where ag land has increased. The presentation is available online at CWCB's website.

SWSI 2010 Basin Report

Non-consumptive IPPs and Material Drafted for the Report

Meghan Maloney described the Non-Consumptive report from the NC subcommittee. Only projects that had “feet on the ground” were included in the report based on the criteria agreed to by the Roundtable and the subcommittee. There was discussion about having completed projects in the report. This IPP report does not include all the NC needs that have been identified. Some projects are entered more than once in order to meet GIS requirements. There are 3 additional projects that were not included in the first report Meghan distributed. Members are to get updates to Meghan and she will coordinate with Jim Siscoe. They still need to discuss additions of hydro-related projects.

Consumptive IPPS

Mike discussed the basin Consumptive IPP list distributed to the Roundtable. Members are to review and give input to Mike as soon as possible. A non-consumptive narrative will be developed by Bruce Whitehead to go with the report. Jane Maxson will do a summary list, and the final draft report will be emailed to members.

Greg Johnson, CWCB, commended SWRT on their efforts.

Consideration of Proposals for Basin & Statewide Funds

Pagosa Lakes Area Village Lake Dam

Larry Lynch discussed the application and distributed highlights from the application. The request is to be used to repair/rehabilitate a failing outlet pipe. The total project cost is \$173,338; they are asking the Basin for \$25,000. Additional funding is being requested from Southwestern Water Conservation District and there will be a 72% cash match from the Pagosa Lakes area. Sixty percent of Archuleta County population is served by this dam. Bruce moved to approve \$25,000. It was seconded and discussion occurred. There was general consensus to approve. Mike will prepare a letter to the State.

Norwood/NWC M&I water supply gap – Concept Proposal

Finn Kjome, Chair of Norwood Water Commission, explained the concept. The request is for \$20,000 Basin funds and \$160,000 State funds. Discussion occurred and recommendations were made to the applicant to improve the request. Legal fee costs would NOT be included in the funding request. There was general consensus that it is worthwhile for Norwood/NWC to submit a full application.

Upcoming Events:

Children’s Water Festival	May 4	Ft. Lewis College, Durango
CWCB Meeting Reception	May 16	Durango
CWCB Meeting	May 17-18	Durango
West Slope Roundtable	May 26	Grand Junction
2011 Quarterly Meeting	July 13	Durango
2011 Quarterly Meeting	Oct. 12	Cortez

Adjournment

Mike Preston adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.