South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting
Tuesday, September 20, 2011
University of Northern Colorado
Kepner Hall –0030 Computer Lab
Greeley, Colorado
5 pm – 8 pm.

Please contact Lisa McVicker at mcvicker1@q.com with any changes or corrections.

Standard Reports
--IBCC Report: Eric Wilkinson: Meeting held in Grand Junction last week; well attended; everyone introduced themselves and explained a bit of what was happening in their basin. RE: State has selected CDM to continue in role of consultant for IBCC efforts; discussion included portfolio; CO Main Stem talked about the learning curve with the portfolio report; Basin was taken aback a bit at amount of dry up with different scenarios; for example: one portfolio attempted to get 350,000 acft to each side of the hill; medium conservation—default settings—ended up with ¼ million acft dry up on South Platte and about 100,000 acft on West Slope; then went with high demand and no supply, saw loss of 310,000 acft loss in South Platte; ¼ million acft on West Slope. From urbanization, number of ag dry up is about 7% in South Platte. Mike Shimmin: There was an intention to look at low number to see how it would result.
Number of subcommittee reports: New Supply: Trouble in developing universal criteria; Risk management prevails to be biggest concern on both sides – east and west.
Discussion on spreading diversion around; Eric Kuhn proposed development in three different basins; conversation about economy of scale;
Desire for a realistic range of parameters per conservation and reuse; affects all the basins;
IPPS; appears to be buy-in with task force made up of agencies within the state that would review the water projects under guidance of DNR.
Mike Shimmin: IBCC authorized letter to the governor to ask to set up agency task force.
Ag transfers: Location, timing and amount along Front Range—emphasized that local community if water ownership stays with Ag;
Conservation subcommittee: legislature looking to modify indoor plumbing code;
Interim water committee expressed interest in moving this forward.
Funding looking better, thus looking at two times a year for funding decisions; still consensus to stay with 20% matching requirement and stay with basin and state split;
Loan/grant combinations being considered to move forward to implementation;
Discussion of moving projects into the portfolio tool.
Discussion of CO River Water Availability Study.

--CWCB report: Eric Wilkinson: One of best attended meetings by the public; 11 WRSA grants—7 of them included both basin and state wide funds; one, the process for discussion of project such as that of Flaming Gorge discussed; other focus: contested instream flow for San Miguel River upstream from confluence of Dolores; also discussion on nonreimbursables that would be funded in new projects; detail on projects and funding. More than 20,000 email petitions to stop flaming gorge project; half of which from outside of CO; 15% outside of United States. Public testimony intense; board gave staff direction to parse out proposal into definable tasks.
San Miguel instream flow was controversial as well (6 hours+); staff recommendations were adopted.
Discussion of instream from Blue to Eagle as alternative to Wild & Scenic Act; conditions put on by CWCB as part of intent to appropriate. CWCB will cooperate with Denver as part of the agreement between Denver and 34 West Slope entities—final action at next meeting.

Chatfield Storage moving forward;
Initial discussion on reporting water use (HB1051 from 2010) of larger water entities – have to report water use and conservation efforts.
New loans approved for Lake Canal on Poudre.
Board issued first loan for hydropower.
Dianne Hoppe: Question: Expresses appreciation of chairing committee of IBCC; question on approval for study on Flaming Gorge project?
Eric: 3 tasks: Identification, exploration and exploration of what would be needed to address those issues. State wide funding: $50,000 ($2000 from this roundtable); other condition was that all the other parameters would stay in place; thus this roundtable would need to appoint 2 members. Total of 25 on exploration committee: 2 from each roundtable (1 from Rio Grande and 1 from North Platte)…4 from environmental and rec; 1 at large from each side of the slope…DNR, CWCB, DOW each would have a seat. Thus, this roundtable needs to appoint 2 people to Exploration
Jim Yahn: did that last time…you and I (Jim Yahn and Eric)
Eric: Discussion on whether it was appropriate for CCWCB board member to be there.

--Legislative Report:
Water Resources Interim committee will meet on October 17 at Capital. Another meeting on Oct 18 if business is not finished on the 17th.
Jim Yahn: No upcoming legislation that you know of?
Mike Shimmin: A few items: 1) asked for a bill to be drafted dealing with grey water use; coalition of people involved with this that includes CSU profs..when asked what they want it to include, answer was unsure; only current authority for grey water system under authority of health department; want to authorize the health dept to define parameters of grey water use or reuse; no one has seen the draft bill. Committee asked the drafter to have something ready by Oct 17.
2) Another one that deals with evapotranspiration for all mining operations; the law already applies to gravel pits, this one would apply to all mining ops. State has recently said that mining ops need to replace all evapotranspiration; this would increase Aug water demand 10 xs, the rationale is that other mines are no different that gravel pits, so why should any mine have to replace water.
Indoor plumbing bill: IBCC was in the midst of generating a report that we should do this; Senator Schwartz asked Denver to get on the band wagon to get it done; bill is being drafted to be presented in October.
Key: Page on website for General Assembly and the specific topics to be considered will appear there. Just because a bill appears there, does not mean that the bill will be endorsed.
Joe: Question: Does the grey water bill seem more directed to people with wells, or to municipal systems?
Mike: Very vague; the presentation by the CS profs were about how to build a grey water system in your house and use outside, so seems like it would include municipal systems…but guess.

--Education Report: Bert Weaver has resigned as education liaison; public thanks to Bert to be the liaison; will still be on the committee. Have found someone to be the new education liaison: Sean Cronin.
Sean Cronin: Introduces Kristen with CO Foundation for Water Education. We do have a legislative obligation to do some things: HB 1177:
Basin RTs shall actively seek input from water providers and will serve as a forum for education and debate, to facilitate dialogue and to resolve problems. This RT took this to heart and had two public meetings and got the ball rolling in terms of public outreach. This was taken Public Education and

Participation Outreach Committee (PEPO); Pepo got ideas back to RT; we need to develop and Education Action Plan (EAP); this will include items that we will facilitate over time.
Meeting before this meeting of Education Committee; generated ideas: 1) are we doing something in talking with other basin; we need to communicate what we see as the "4 legs of the stool": what does the South Platte RT envision as the portfolio; there will be a meeting in October about what our focus will be. We will meet for draft EAP then at January meeting we will propose our EAP. There is $1800 for EAP activities and CFWE has contact with state and CWCB to assist—so we will have resources to implement our EAP; please get involved in the education committee; contact Sean.
Sean.cronin@sbvlhwcd.org
Charles Baily (Arapahoe County): We have had some interface with Metro Roundtable, will we expand that; they are running some seminars in terms of water quantity.
Jim: Good idea
Sean: Talked briefly of this at earlier meeting; comment was that it is important that the South Platte goes beyond the Metro roundtable; also discussed the importance of messaging for both roundtables and to look at making sure that there is consistency.
Kristin: I provide assistance to all roundtables so we are providing connection among all of the roundtables; lots of those opportunities.
Sean: There is also revolving fund money and we can apply to those funds.
Kristin: 7 out of 9 RTs have adopted their EAPs; so we are pushing the South Platte RT to go forward with your EAP and to articulate your plan and we are here to encourage you to build on what you have done.
Mike Shimmin: Can we read these other plans?
Jacob: Each roundtable has a link to their EAP online.
Sean: These are very brief.
Kristin: Southwest has quite a long one. Trying to not make it onerous; try to come up with a strategic vision.
Jim Yahn: Talked about Water 2012 (celebration of water for 75 years…); we are obligated to come up with four different panels for the tour of our basin; there will be a tour of this panel and we need to come up with our panel;
Sean: The foundation has asked for feedback by October so there will be more info on our Oct meeting.
Kristin: Traveling exhibit so let us know about county fairs or other venues where this exhibit should "live"; one third of this display will focus on the South Platte; bring ideas for exhibit at next meeting.
Mike: You will have a draft of this? Could extract this from our needs assessment document.
Sean: Asking for substance and where it should be exhibited

--Nonconsumptive: Bob Streeter is dancing and drinking in Ireland.

-- Phreatophyte: Bob Streeter is dancing and drinking in Ireland…

--Alternative Ag Transfer Methods: Joe Frank: There are groups that have been very active, DU and Corn Growers…this project was initiated within the subcommittee; those projects will be available online soon. That project has expanded to several other projects.

John Stencil Announcement: CO Ag Water Alliance will have its meeting at the Ranch on December 1. Open to the public. Reception at hotel adjacent to Ranch. Ag Water Alliance and IBCC will do meeting together; panels and speakers for day. Go online to see agenda: website: Coloradoagwateralliance.org If you would like to be a sponsor, please do.

Joe Frank: COWAGA has been very active.

Chair: Charley Barnett is very active.
Mike Shimmin: Do you if IBCC members have to pay fee? Please bring that up tomorrow during your conference.
IBCC meeting is on November 30 at the Ranch; IBCC will meet all day on Nov 30 in conjunction with COWAG meeting.

Flaming Gorge (South Platte basin funding match): We pledged $10,000 originally but we offset the statewide match; when it went to the board, this did not offset state match.
Our commitment was $2000 for the initial 3 tasks. Request clarification.
Eric W.: Because the scope was paired back, the contributions were paired back also. Some of the roundtables dedicated funds for travel. Some confusion for purpose of match. So need clarification.
Eric W.: Under the proposal the $2000 was for basin roundtable travel.
Jim asks for clarification: Will this go for
McVicker: Move that the first $2000 of the $10,000 will go for the travel of our 2 representatives.
Shimmin: Second
Jim Yahn: Call the question—all in favor. Unanimous.

Portfolio Tool: (See report summarizing the Basin Roundtable's Approach to the Portfolio tool development sent on 9/29/2011:

Todd Doherty and Jacob Bornstein:
(All members have access to a computer so that Jacob can walk us through the use of the portfolio.)
Jacob B. has distributed a worksheet.
Todd and Jacob talk about what the Metro RT is doing and focusing on conservation reuse with their portfolio.
Jacob: Metro had a technical meeting on conservation and reuse. Metro conservation has put together a memo in which they say they think they can get to total daily use of 130 gallons/per individual, system wide.
Harold: You know that this is location specific; it must be recognized that if there is a large industry use such as a packing camp, more; for Greeley, for example, we are already at 135 not including industry.
Harold emphasizes that numbers must be looked at carefully.

Jacob: CO and Yampa have met in subcommittee; both turned on Windy Gap and Moffat at 100%; quite a bit of discussion on conservation piece; CO started with low conservation; bumped up ag to medium; both looking at ag being statewide seeing that what happens in South Platte will affect statewide—i.e.: alfalfa on South Platte will affect cattle ranching their side.
Yampa/White has not met yet.
Jacob: One story where a study was done, if there are 20 choices of jams and jellies, too many choices; but if there are three or five, a choice can be made. So focus is on creating only 1-3 portfolios.
Mike: Our roundtable might need a subcommittee of the municipal reps similar to what the Metro is doing to determine where these muni reps could help us determine similar
These portfolio results rely heavily on where you are putting the checks; as a member of the IBCC I have anguish that we do not have a good idea of what boxes we should check. We need real municipal water providers with data saying that certain numbers are realistic, keeping in mind the numbers that environmental groups are suggesting per conservation. I have heard that 50% reuse is achievable …but need municipal input. The metro is ahead of us.

Harold: Todd, can we get some technical help particularly on reuse; reuse will be very dependent on transbasin water. Here our transbasin is CBT that is single use; we are different—our reuse is less, so we need technical help in terms of which of these reuse is available.
Todd: We are talking about reuse for new transbasin diversions.
Harold: On new ag transfers, very little.
Jacob: We can help but that info needs to come from you.
Jim Hall: Important that we clearly understand how these terms are being used.
Joe Frank: I have also heard pushback about how much can be applied to the gap; we need input at DNR.
Mike: How much is achievable and how much can you put toward the gap; thus important to focus on this.
Todd: Explains handout: Portfolio Tool Simplified
Five Parameters:

1) Define Demand levels in 2050
2) Define IPP Success levels by basin and project type
3) Define conservation level and how much can be applied to gap
4) Define amount of new supply & ag transfer water for West and East Slopes
5) If desired, define percent of water can be reused.

Three scenarios on each page (user defined, alternative, status quo)
Link for website can be found at CWCB website; technical resources, towards top are portfolio tool.

This uses a simplified worksheet to define how to move forward;
We will have a discussion on each of these questions and then see tradeoffs.
Jacob B. walks everyone through use of excel spreadsheet for portfolio:

1) Start with demands: low medium or high
   2050:
   (question: demands reflect by taking passive conservation off, but just look at population growth….medium will be similar to what we have seen; high would be like 90s; these reflect SWASI 2010)
   Joe Frank suggests that we should look at Status Quo first.
   Jacob walks through status quo:

   Two ways to discuss IPPs; by basin we asked each basin how much are you planning on…in basin projects, transbasin project (windy gap), in basin firming---total volume metrics for each of these…look at total percent volume for each of those projects.
   For instance, AK said we are planning on 10,000 from ag transfer, we are saying 75%
   South Platte..In-basin project: 0%
   Note: all ag transfers are future projects not current.

   Note 2050 Average Annual Portfolio Accretion: This page helps focus on three state agreements among other points.

Dinner: Break at 6:50 pm

Portfolio demonstration and discussion continues.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.
Next meeting: Southwest Weld County Building, Longmont, CO: Tuesday, October 11 2011.