

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Western State College – College Center Ballroom (upstairs)
Gunnison, Colorado
June 4, 2012**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Jennifer Bock	Environmental
Rick Brinkman	Mesa Municipalities
Tim Decker	Montrose County
Cary Denison	Ouray County
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Wendell Koontz	Delta Municipalities
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Henry LeValley	Crawford WCD
Dixie Luke	At-Large Member
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Michelle Pierce	Hinsdale Municipalities
Hugh Sanburg	Industrial
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
Steve Shea	Agricultural
George Sibley	At-Large Member
Ken Spann	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier

Voting Members Absent:

Allen Brown	Hinsdale County
Marc Catlin	At-Large Member
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Rachel Kullman	Montrose Municipalities
Olen Lund	Delta County
Rufus Wilderson	Gunnison County
Vacant	Mesa County
Vacant	Saguache County

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Bob Hurford (CDWR liaison), David Kanzer (At-Large), Jedd Sondergard (BLM liaison), Denis Reich (CSU Extension Agent liaison).

Public: Jim Pokrandt (Colorado Basin RT), Norm and Dena Brooks (Tri-County Water Conservancy District), Ken Coleman and Steve Westbay (City of Gunnison), Paul Buck (Irrigation), Ralph D' Alesandro (Delta Conservation District), Michael Dole (NPS), Lynn Johnson (summer resident), Joan Johnson (interested citizen), Wayne Nation (Project 7 Water Authority), Ellen Harriman (City of Gunnison), Ralph (Butch) Clark (Gunnison Basin Power), Ben Stonth (USFS GMUG NFS), J. Wessum and Dan Brauch (Colorado Parks & Wildlife), Ted Dunn and Dan Crabtree (BOR), Jen Coates (Town of Ridgway Municipality), Matt Peacock and Vicki Spencer (UGRWCD), Jennifer Gimbel (CWCB), Gail Schwartz (State Senate District 5), Jeff Dykes (Western State Water Law Instructor), Anthony Poponi (Coal Creek Watershed Coalition), Steve Glazer (UGRWCD/CCWC), Eldon Reynolds (individual), David Seymour (individual).

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Michelle Pierce.

Roll Call/Introductions

Following roll call it was declared that the meeting was two members short of a quorum. Eventually enough members arrived to complete a quorum.

Michelle Pierce asked the visitors to introduce themselves.

Senator Gail Schwartz gave a report on the Legislative Session for this past year.

Todd Doherty, CWCB, gave a brief report on the funding available to the Gunnison Basin Roundtable.

Approve Agenda

Bill Nesbitt made a motion to approve the agenda. Ron Shaver seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Approve May 7, 2012 Meeting Minutes

George Sibley made a motion to approve the May 7, 2012 minutes. Bill Nesbitt seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Report from the IBCC Representatives

Bill Trampe and Rick Brinkman reported that they were unable to attend the IBCC meeting last week. John McClow (CWCB Director) said that the meeting was devoted to scenario and portfolio planning and taking a detailed look at all the roundtable scenarios. CWCB staff facilitated a discussion to reduce all the scenarios into a group of smaller portfolios. This moved the process forward quite a bit and a subcommittee was created.

Todd Doherty also reported on the meeting and the discussion of the portfolio work at the IBCC meeting. He stated that the objective was to “boil down portfolios” to see how they would perform in different scenarios. The ultimate goal is to use the information for future planning for the next 30 years.

Ron Shaver made a motion to ratify the IBCC report. Frank Kugel seconded, and the motion carried.

Olen Lund, who was not present at the Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting, did attend the IBCC meeting and later forwarded his report to the Roundtable members.

Report from the Educational Committee

George Sibley announced that the educational publication will hopefully be ready for the August Roundtable meeting in Hotchkiss. Hannah Holm has been collecting articles from around the valley and assembling the publication.

Michelle Pierce thanked George for the Blue Mesa Dam tour earlier in day.

Report from the CWCB Representative

John McClow said that he attended the CWCB meeting on May 15 and 16 in Glenwood Springs and the following topics were discussed:

- The Colorado River District Board was in attendance and discussed areas of common interest.
- An update was given on water bank activity.
- Another look is being taken at the SWSI 2010 work plan.
- Several pages of task orders were reviewed and will be what guides the staff to create the next iteration of the report.
- The “water efficiency guidance” document was approved by the CWCB.
- A plan was discussed to lease water for emergency applications this summer.
- A work plan for CFWE was reviewed and approved.

John stated it had been a challenge to get the water bill through legislation. He thanked Gail Schwartz, and said that that bill had been “held hostage”. The Governor called a special session, at which the bill passed. John also discussed some other bills.

1. Project Proposal – Town of Ridgway, Lake Otonowanda Renovation Project.

Tom Alvey stated that grant money was awarded in the past to study this project. Now they are coming forward to proceed on renovation of the reservoir to provide reliable storage. The reservoir will be able to hold a greater amount of the decreed portion of water. This is a vital project that serves the needs of the basin. The committee recommends approval.

Ron Shaver mad a motion to approve the project for \$540,000 from Statewide Account Funds and \$60,000 from Basin Account Funds for the Town of Ridgway Lake Otonowanda Renovation Project. Neal Schwieterman seconded.

Some discussion continued regarding approval being contingent upon other funding sources. John McClow stated that it was a standard condition that all funding must be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Project Proposal – Colorado Parks & Wildlife/City of Gunnison, River System Assessment and Restoration on the Gunnison River near Gunnison, Colorado.

Tom Alvey stated that this project is non-consumptive use and consists of 4 parts. There is broad support from a number of agencies. The Committee recommends approval of this request.

Ken Spann made a motion to approve the proposal from Colorado Parks & Wildlife/City of Gunnison for \$200,000 from Statewide Account Funds and \$20,000 from Basin Account Funds for River System Assessment and Restoration on the Gunnison River near Gunnison, Colorado. Bill Nesbitt seconded, and the motion carried with one no vote from Bill Trampe. Bill will provide a minority report to the Roundtable.

3. Project Proposal – Delta Conservation District, North Fork of the Gunnison River Corridor Project.

Tom Alvey stated that this project is a continuation of the project initiated in Paonia Parks for invasive species control. The Conservation District is seeking to continue mapping of invasive species above and below the Paonia dam. Other mapping efforts will be combined to get a more comprehensive map. The Project also intends to have an educational component to the public on invasive species, and will try to publish a brochure. The Committee recommends approval of this project.

Hugh Sanburg stated he was concerned that this was a no results oriented [part of the] project. He is not sure that doing only mapping meets funding criteria.

Tom Alvey made a motion to approve the proposal from Delta Conservation District, for \$30,000 from Statewide Account Funds and \$4,600 from Basin Account Funds for North Fork of the Gunnison River Corridor Project. Cary Denison seconded. Five members voted against the project and the motion failed (Bill Trampe, Hugh Sanburg, Dixie Luke, Chuck Mitisek, and Ken Spann). Per the Bylaws, the project proposal will be considered again at the next meeting.

4. Project Proposal – Trout Unlimited, Relief Ditch Diversion Modification Construction.

Tom Alvey stated that this project was a relief ditch diversion modification, accomplishing a complete change of diversion on the main stem of the Gunnison, altering a push up that creates impediment to boating and other river health issues. The entire project is for over \$900,000, but the funds requested here are for specific portions of the project.

Frank Kugel stated that although the subcommittee had not met to officially vote on the project, the subcommittee is generally in support of the project.

Frank Kugel made a motion to approve the proposal from Trout Unlimited for \$40,000 from Statewide Account Funds and \$10,000 from Basin Account Funds for Relief Ditch Diversion Modification Construction. Neal Schwieterman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Basin Roundtable Project Exploration Committee: Flaming Gorge – Report and Update, Rick Brinkman and Ken Spann.

Rick Brinkman gave an update on the Task Force meeting he attended last week in Silverthorne. It was a 5 hour meeting with presentations from the BOR from Salt Lake regarding available water, and Tom Chart of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program.

6. Public Trust Initiatives – Supreme Court Ruling on Ballot Title Setting.

John McClow circulated a 2 page memo of copies of the initiatives assembled from several sources. He provided 3 resolutions offered as samples of positions from other entities all stating opposition to initiatives. John stated the initiatives were “bad news all around”.

Petitions have been approved and 86,000 valid signatures need to be collected by August 6. The Water congress is sponsoring a meeting, and John will get the information to Michelle to circulate to the Roundtable members.

Wendell Koontz suggested an educational piece for the publication. John agreed to get information to George Sibley for the publication.

Other

A Roundtable Dinner, Public Reception with Dessert & Coffee, and State of the River Meeting followed the Roundtable meeting.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2012, at the Memorial Hall in Hotchkiss.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

Bill Trampe will provide a minority report regarding his vote against the Colorado Parks & Wildlife/City of Gunnison project.

John McClow will forward information to Michelle Pierce regarding the Water Congress meeting on Water Trust Initiatives. Michelle will circulate the information to the roundtable members.

John McClow will get educational information to George Sibley on the Water Trust Initiatives for inclusion in the Education Publication.