

## **HB 1177 Southwest Basin Roundtable Minutes April 11, 2012**

<b>Members</b>	Mike Preston	John Porter	Gary Kennedy
<b>Present:</b>	Steve Harris	Carrie Lile	April Montgomery
	Bruce Smart	Ken Beegles	Mike Canterbury
	Wendy McDermott	Val Valentine	Rod Proffitt
	Don Manguson	Bobby Lieb	Steve Fearn
	John Taylor	Tim Hunter	Jenny Russell
	Denise Rue-Pastin	Ann Oliver	Don Schwindt
	Tim Pierce	Peter Mueller	John Ey
	Gerald Koppenhauser		
<b>Guests:</b>	Bob Becker	Pat Greer	Greg Johnson
	Don Shahan	Chuck Wanner	Nicole Rowan
	John Sanderson	David Graf	Dale Smith
	Tami Sheldon	Russell Klatt	Meghan White
	Dennis Miller	Judy Schutza	

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

### **Election of Roundtable Officer & IBCC Representatives**

Mike announced that the following seats are up for election:

Incumbents:

Chair: Mike Preston  
Vice Chair 1 Bruce Smart  
Vice Chair 2 Steve Fearn

John Taylor moved that current incumbents remain in position; it was met with general consensus.

IBCC – (Currently held by John Porter)

John Porter thanked the members for the opportunity to be an IBCC representative from this roundtable, and announced he will not be seeking reappointment.

Nominations included: Don Schwindt, Bruce Whitehead, and Peter Mueller.

Each was allowed to address the membership; John Taylor spoke on behalf of Bruce Whitehead.

Ballot sheets were distributed. Denise Rue-Pastin counted ballots and a runoff between Bruce Whitehead and Peter Mueller was held. Bruce Whitehead received the majority of these votes and will replace John Porter.

IBCC – (Currently held by Steve Harris)

Nominations included: Peter Mueller and Steve Harris.

Denise Rue-Pastin counted ballots and it was announced that Steve Harris received the majority of the votes. He will remain as IBCC representative.

## **Administrative Reports**

### **Review & Approve Minutes – Jan. 11, 2012**

The minutes of Jan. 11, 2012 were approved.

### **Education and Outreach**

CWCB committee updated the education and outreach plan, and have asked for input to be returned by April 23.

Steve Fearn, Colorado Water Congress spoke about the Initiatives #3 and #45 that would substantially change the way water rights are administered in the state; he distributed a handout from CWC. The Supreme Court has not yet made a ruling on the title challenge.

### **WSRA Basin Roundtable Fund Balance**

Current basin balance is \$206,304. The State balance is about \$5 million; they are likely to get a July installment. Applications for the next State review need to be presented at the July basin meeting.

### **Statewide Roundtable Summit – Debrief**

(time:00:08:10)

Greg Johnson, CWCB, recapped the summit and asked for feedback from SWRT members who were able to attend. Nearly 300 people attended the event; Governor Hickenlooper spoke to the summit attendees. The main focus was portfolio outcomes and to learn what portfolios different roundtables selected. The roundtables have an opportunity to make changes to their original selections. The CWCB website includes a summary and presentations from the summit.

Comments from SWRT members who attended included:

- The Governor said he would favor trying to move ahead the IPPs and would lend his support on promising solutions.
- There is both funding and staff support to get all IPPs finished, both consumptive and non-consumptive.
- Summary talks about a “state water plan”; that can mean different things to different people. “Adaptive Management” is going to be applied to build a plan from the portfolios. Another term being used is “risk management” – new project will have to have some risk on whether the water is available or not. It’ll be important to monitor these 3 concepts to see how they develop, what they mean, who implements them and what the impacts are.
- It was beneficial to talk to others in the state. Two-thirds of SWRT’s portfolio consisted of how to get water to the East Slope, and one-third was about conservation. There is more movement in the Gunnison Basin than has been in the past. The Front Range Water Council is serious about conservation being applied to both West and East Slopes. The portfolio exercise was valuable in educating people about the tradeoffs and that there is no one silver bullet. Now we need to get more specific about how we’d mix and match the portfolio elements to begin to develop a state-wide portfolio.
- Every project has to have a passionate sponsor. And it was interesting that the venue for the event provided one-use cloth towels in the restrooms.
- The Gunnison Basin is having a joint meeting with members from the Metro Roundtable to discuss conservation in more detail.
- Learn more with materials on the website.

- Greg brought several copies of the latest Headwaters edition. More copies are available through the CFWE,

## **Non-consumptive Needs**

### **Summary of Non-consumptive Workshop**

Greg Johnson, CWCB, gave a presentation on where the non-consumptive process is. The presentation is attached. It was the recommendation of the IBCC sub-committee on NC IPPs to start implementation of 3-5 projects by the end of the year. Mike Preston emphasized that if anyone would like assistance for a specific non-consumptive (or consumptive) IPP, be ready to bring those projects forward for discussion at the July meeting. Wendy McDermott gave input from the workshop held prior to the roundtable.

### **Overview of Non-consumptive Tool Kit**

John Sanderson, CWCB, reported that a lot of time was spent in the earlier workshop on quantification of flows as they relate to the non-consumptive attributes. Two basic approaches have been employed in the state-wide non-consumptive needs assessments. 1) Site Specific, and 2) Regional. A draft of the tool kit will be complete in June and CWCB will get input from SWRT at the July meeting.

## **Review of Applications**

### **Mancos River Habitat and Diversion Project – Phase II      \$20,000 Basin      \$99,340 State**

Ann Oliver presented the request and introduced Bob Becker and Russell Klatt. The project intends to improve aquatic and riparian conditions in a 2.4 mile reach of the Mancos River. Partners include Mancos Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Trout Unlimited. Discussion occurred. The District wants to continue to work with irrigators outside this phase and may develop additional phases. Steve Fearn moved to support the project as requested. There was consensus for approval.

### **Concept Proposal – Red Mesa Reservoir**

Pat Greer and Dennis Miller presented a concept proposal to perform spillway analysis on the Red Mesa Reservoir. The request is for \$19,400. This is the only reservoir on the La Plata River at this time. Individual assessments have been raised from \$9 to \$20 per share. Discussion occurred. Chuck Wanner moved to support this as a viable application. There was general consensus in support.

### **Concept Proposal – Priest Lake Dam Reconstruction**

Judy Schutza, US Forest Service, Norwood distributed a summary of the Priest Lake Dam status. The Forest Service owns the lake and water rights for both storage and augmentation. The dam was breached in 2004, and the Forest Service wants to rebuild it to its former size. Total reconstruction costs are approximately \$1.1 million. Discussion occurred. Jenny Russell and Peter Mueller offered their services to help with the application. The Forest Service was encouraged to come up with a significant cost share. There was general consensus that the concept would be an appropriate application with significant Forest Service participation.

Don Shahan, Spring Creek Ranch, spoke about a need for funding to assist with a dam rehabilitation project near the New Mexico border. The dam is in New Mexico, but approximately one-half of the water is used for irrigation in Colorado. Don was given advice on how to proceed with an application if he wishes to do so. It would need to be presented at the July meeting if State funds are requested.

### **Upcoming Events**

July 11	Regular meeting	Durango
October 10	Regular meeting	Cortez

### **Adjourn**

Chair Mike Preston adjourned the meeting at 5:40 pm.