

Rio Grande Inter-Basin Roundtable  
c/o San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District  
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December 13, 2012

Mr. Michael King, Executive Director  
Colorado Department of Natural Resources

Mr. Todd Doherty, Intrastate Water Management & Development  
Colorado Water Conservation Board

**Reference: Colorado Foundation for Water Education – “Headwaters”**

Gentlemen:

The Rio Grande Inter-Basin Roundtable (R.G.R.T) has determined that the single, most critical water issue confronting the Rio Grande Basin (Basin) is the current unsustainable management of surface and ground water. The R.G.R.T. has made the decision that water activities that address this issue be favorably considered for funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account, SB 2005 -179 (WSRA Funds), providing the proposed water activities meet the SWSI findings for the Basin and the CWCB & IBCC Criteria and Guidelines for funding.

The Colorado Foundation for Water Education (CFWE) is the applicant for funding to publish in 2013 a copy of their successful “*Headwaters*” magazine specifically on the Rio Grande Basin. The amount requested is \$33,327.00 from the Rio Grande Basin Account of the WSRA. To achieve the publication of the “*Headwaters*” magazine there will be some \$10,900.00 of in-kind service of CFWE Board Members. In addition there will be in-kind contributions from R.G.R.T. Members.

At the regular December 9, 2012 meeting of the R.G.R.T. there was unanimous support that this funding request goes forward to the CWCB.

The criticality of informing the public of the issues confronting the state regarding the projected water demands and limited supplies has become more relevant as the process of considering these issues by the CWCB, IBBC and Roundtables has continued. This is manifested in Governor Hickenlopper declaring 2012 the “Year of Water” and the subsequent “2012 Water” initiative, the CWCB launching the “Value of Water” campaign in 2013. The R.G.R.T. has been recognized as being a leader in 2012 with the development and implementation of its “Water 2012” initiative. The Roundtable looks forward to complimenting the “Value of Water” campaign with the continuation of the success of the “Water 2012” program and additional programs to inform the communities of the Basin on the critical water issues not only confronting the Basin but the State.

The opportunity for the Basin and the State to have a current “*Headwaters*” publication on the Basin has been embraced enthusiastically by the Roundtable. The last “*Headwaters*” publication covering the Rio Grande Basin was in June 2005 and is still used by the water community as part of the local Water Leadership Class, the Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative for their Teachers Workshop on Water and Conservation, and in local classrooms. The Basin looks forward to having a current publication that addresses Basin issues and their relationship to the rest of the State.

This CFWE “*Headwaters*” Publication Project (Project) has the following objectives:

1. With input from the Roundtable members, produce a high-quality, accurate and unbiased account of the water management history, issues and challenges of the Rio Grande basin
2. Prominently feature the Roundtable’s assessment of both nonconsumptive and consumptive needs and the projects it has funded
3. Provide information the public can use to learn more about the Roundtable’s work and become involved
4. Educate the greater Colorado public through distribution of 7,000 copies via normal CFWE channels
5. Educate local stakeholders by assisting the Roundtable and local water educators with distribution of additional copies within the Rio Grande basin
6. Educate local citizens by assisting the Roundtable and local water educators, such as the Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative, in development of additional distribution channels such as workshops, media stories, or presentations

The following is a summary of the Tasks included in the Project:

#### **TASK 1 – Story Budget Creation**

Description of Task: The first step is creation of a story budget for the issue. A story budget is an outline of the stories to be included in the issue, the length of each story and identification of sources and reviewers for each story.

#### **TASK 2 – Writing and Editing**

Description of Task: The next step is writing the copy for the magazine articles, editing the copy, fact-checking and peer review.

#### **Task 3 – Graphic Design and Printing**

Description of Task: The next step is combining the text with appropriate photographs, graphics, and other visual art. The layout will then be approved and printed. 7,000 copies of the Rio Grande Basin issue will be printed.

#### **Task 4 – Distribution and Input Solicitation**

Description: The Foundation will distribute the edition through multiple means:

- Mass mailing to all CFWE members and other recipients (approx. 5,000 copies)
- Copies to the Roundtable for distribution to members and stakeholders (1,000 copies)



- Copies available at CFWE office and booth at trade shows and conferences (500 copies)
- Copies to local water educators for use in their programs (500)
- Electronic version on CFWE website

The edition will be used by R.G.R.T. members as a tool to actively solicit feedback from their affected local governments and other stakeholders as required by CRS Section 37-75-104(2). The edition will include information on the Roundtables and describe the avenues readers can use to give input and feedback to the Roundtables. The Foundation will assist the Roundtable with distribution of the publication and will work with local water educators, such as the Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative, to develop additional means of telling the stories in the publications such as community presentations, workshops and media stories.

## BUDGET

Total Costs				
	Labor	Other Direct Costs	Total Project Costs	Total Requested Funds
Task 1	\$2,492	\$0	\$2,492	\$2,492
Task 2	\$8,542	\$0	\$8,542	\$8,542
Task 3	\$5,703	\$9,920	\$15,623	\$15,623
Task 4	\$4,080	\$2,500	\$6,580	\$6,580
In-Kind Contributions	\$10,900	\$0	\$10,900	
Total Costs	\$31,717	\$12,420	\$44,137	<b>\$33,237</b>

Personnel Budget					
Project Personnel	Project Manager	Editor	Writers	Graphic Design	Total Costs
Hourly Rate	\$62	\$50	\$.50 / word	\$85	
Task 1	16	30	0	0	\$2,492
Task 2	16	65	8600	0	\$8,542
Task 3	9	40	0	37	\$5,703
Task 4	40	15	0	10	\$4,080
Total Hours	81	150	8600	47	
Total Cost	\$5,022	\$7,500	\$4,300	\$3,995	<b>\$20,817</b>

Other Direct Costs				
	Photography	Printing (7000 copies at \$1.06 each)	Mailing	Total Costs
Task 1				\$0
Task 2				\$0
Task 3	\$2,500	\$7,420		\$9,920
Task 4			\$2,500	\$2,500
Total Cost	\$2,500	\$7,420	\$2,500	<b>\$12,420</b>

In-Kind Contributions			
Project Personnel	CFWE Committee Members*	Graphic Design	Total Costs
Hourly Rate	400	85	
Task 1	8	0	\$3,200
Task 2	12	0	\$4,800
Task 3	0	20	\$1,700
Task 4	3	0	\$1,200
Total Hours	23	20	43
Total Cost	\$9,200	\$1,700	<b>\$10,900</b>

\* Committee member hours assume 8 members at \$50/hour

Please note that the above table does not include any in-kind contributions from R.G.R.T. Members.

The R.G.R.T urges the CWCB to approve this request for funding of \$33,237.00 from the WRSA Rio Grande Basin Account.

The R.G.R.T. appreciates the support of the Department of Natural Resources, the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Interbasin Compact Commission in assisting in meeting the needs of all users of Colorado's water and in fostering intrabasin and interbasin communications and discussions. We believe that the above project will assist in this effort.

Sincerely,



Mike Gibson  
Chair, Rio Grande Interbasin Roundtable

Attachment (1)

cc: Colorado Foundation for Water Education