

**Yampa/White/Green River Basin Roundtable
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 18, 2012
- American Legion's Shadow Mt. Clubhouse –
(0.9 mile North of Holiday Inn on Right Side)
6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

Attendees:

Bruce Lindahl	Doug Monger	Ed Koucherik
Jo Ann Baxter	Jeff Comstock	Jeffrey Devere
Kai Turner	Kent Vertrees	Kevin McBride
Joel Sholtes	Ren Martyn	T.Wright Dickinson
Tom Gray	Tom Sharp	Jean Stetson
Burt Clements	Alden Vander Brink	Dave Martin
Jeff Drust	Don Jones	Dan Craig
John Redmond	Jackie Brown	Forrest Luke
Rick Henderson	John Hill	Steve Colby
Erin Light	Jim Pearce	Rick Henderson

Call Meeting to Order: Chairman Tom Gray called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Introductions of Members and Audience: Introductions of all in attendance occurred.

Approve/Modify Agenda: There were changes and additions to the agenda. Sharp/Monger approved the Agenda for this meeting. The Feasibility Study on the White River for the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District and Phase II of the Yampa River Structures Project 2nd Readings both asked to be postponed.

Review and Approval of April 20, 2012 Minutes: There was a Motion to approve the Minutes from the January 18, 2012; Doug Monger stated that Mr. Eric Hecox's name was spelled wrong. The change was made to the Minutes. Monger/Vertrees/Unanimous

Presentations:

Armstrong Creek Restoration Project – Jackie Brown – This discussion was over an hour and half. They will be back at the October 17, 2012 meeting for a third reading. The group was asking for \$100,000 grant funds from the Roundtable. T.Wright Dickinson asked several questions and wants more discussion on his questions. Secretary will get an e-mail to parties for input and send the information to Jackie. T. Wright's issues are: 1. No Roundtable money will be allocated to Administrative time; 2. The Roundtable may be willing to give half of the money that Armstrong is asking for; 3. Many questions about the possibility of an electric fence around the area to be worked on;

and 4. There needed to be a “Hot Season Rest” livestock break on the ground. There was also discussion of what is the Roundtable’s responsibility. Are these funds for projects like this? Does this project fall under the Scope of why this Roundtable was formed? Doug Monger asked if the group has asked Tri State, the City of Craig or the BLM for funds. Kent Vertrees made a Motion to approve the project as is and fund what they were asking for. Don Jones seconded. Vote of hands 3 Approved 13 Opposed, Motion Failed. Another Motion was brought forth by Burt Clements to have the project proponents return to the roundtable with a better scope of work and award ½ requested funds and no administrative fees. Show of hands 11 Approved and 5 Oppose, Motion carries.

Town of Rangely Water Plan 2nd Reading – Alden Vanden Brink – This was a second reading for the Town of Rangely Water Plan wherein the Town was asking for \$12,500 grant funding for additional studying on raw water irrigation being used to keep up grassy areas in the Town of Rangely rather than treated water. Doug Monger asked if the town had the water rights for this proposed expansion. Al stated the town did have the water rights. At this time there are several areas in the Town already on the current system and this money will be used to help with the planning of expanding the current system. Tom Sharp/Dan Craig/Unanimous

1. Reports:

- a. **Flaming Gorge Task Force Update – Kai Turner/Kevin McBride** –Kevin McBride talked about a risk of a Compact Call on the water rights. Kevin stated that they cannot comment on other issues and he and Kai are not authorized by the Roundtable to represent the Basin at a higher part of 20,000 feet concerns. Doug Monger stated that he would be okay with Kevin and Kai representing the Basin on those concerns. Tom Sharp seconded/Unanimous
- b. **IBCC Update – Doug Monger/Jeff Devere/T.Wright Dickinson**–Doug Monger stated that at the last meeting the primary concern was the Portfolio Tool. There was not a lot of discussion on other issues. At the next meeting he stated that they will be looking for a common ground with the Portfolio Tool Scenarios. Doug also stated that the goal is to get a Statewide Portfolio Plan to meet the unmet needs.
- c. **Non-Consumptive Committee Update – Geoff Blakeslee/Kent Vertrees** –This group has not met since the last roundtable meeting. Kevin McBride asked for a special meeting near the end of August to discuss non-consumptive issues.
- d. **Roundtable Education Forum-Public Education Outreach Program – Ren Martyn** – Ren stated that the 2012 Education Chair submitted the Education Action Plan in March. He stated that the goal was to have 3 Water Forums this year and the first forum was May 4th where 46 attendees registered. There were 5 speakers. The next forum will be set for July 26th.

2. Status Reports SB-179 Grants and Studies:

1. **Stillwater Irrigators Grand – John Redmond** – John appeared stating that the Reservoir has serious seepage problems on the salt bed. John stated that they have purchased a flume and at this time the reservoir is almost fully drained and they will put the Flume into the reservoir in the fall. John asked if he can extend the contract with the

CWCB. At this time the reservoir can hold 6,000 acre feet if the reservoir can hold water.

2. **Yellow Jacket Conservancy District – Tom Sharp;** Balcomb & Green sent a letter to the Roundtable apologizing for their absence. The letter was circulated to all members in attendance. There was talk from all members of a suspension of grant funding until someone comes in person from the Yellow Jacket Conservancy District to address the Roundtable's concerns and to talk about the changes to their scope of work. Dan Craig made a Motion to suspend funds until someone comes to talk to the Roundtable. Kent Vertrees seconded the Motion/Unanimous.
3. **Yampa River Structures – Kent Vertrees -** Kent stated that on July 20th he was meeting with the Steamboat City Manager to go over the project.
4. **Walker Ditch River Restoration Project –Doug Monger-** Doug Monger stated that they are still on extension from the CWCB and at this time may not be doing anything with the project. All funds are on hold until October.
5. **Projects and Methods Analysis- Nicole Rowan/T. Wright Dickinson-** T. Wright stated that they all have not meet but encourages the Roundtable to meet and have a conversation. Jacob Bornstein told T. Wright that he was interested in having a workshop about projects. Secretary is instructed to send out an e-mail with dates for a special meeting at the end of August to include just Projects and Methods and Non-Consumptive. Tom Gray approved the suggestion but stated that he wants an agenda of topics.
6. **Nature Conservancy Fallow Grant – Geoff Blakeslee –** Next meeting

Other Action Items:

Jeff Drust was at the meeting and talked about the Yampa Water System, putting in a storage tank and a filtration system. He stated that at this time Yampa has been reclassified. Tom Gray asked for a synopsis of the development. Jeff gave the Secretary a binder and CD of the project. Jeff Drust also stated that the entire study and project is on the CWCB website for interested parties.

Members stated that at the next Basin Roundtable meeting they would like a Budget Update, the group will be voting on several open seats on the Board. Members are encouraged to attend.

Announcements: None at this time.

Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings: August 27, 2012 meeting regarding Projects and Methods and Non-Consumptive; October 18, 2012 Yampa White Roundtable meeting-American Legion Hall Craig

Adjournment: No other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully, Susan R. Bengston, Secretary.