

**Yampa/White/Green River Basin Roundtable
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 16, 2013
- American Legion's Shadow Mt. Clubhouse –
(0.9 mile North of Holiday Inn on Right Side)
6:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.**

Attendees:

Hal Simpson	Mark McCluskey	Jeff Deverre
Tom Sharp	Steve Colby	Kevin McBride
Jacob Bornstein	Burt Clements	Jeff Comstock
Don Jones	Dan Birch	David Graf
Tom Gray	Steve Znamenacek	Dan Craig
Mary Brown	Kent Vertrees	Chuck Grobe
Zach Thode	Geoff Blakeslee	Aaron Derwingson
Jay Fetcher	Jon D. Hill	Roderick J Alfred
Jack Lewis	Richard Vangytenbeek	Colleen Hannon
Michael Simon	Kendel Fawcet	Erin Light
Todd Hagenbaugh	Jackie Brown	Rick Henderson
Brian Hodge	Michelle Dickson	David Brown
Doug Monger	Bruce Lindhal	

Call Meeting to Order: Chairman Tom Gray called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Introductions of Members and Audience: Introductions of all in attendance occurred. 15 Voting members attended the meeting this evening.

Approve/Modify Agenda: There were no changes and or additions to the agenda. Tom Gray/approval by all approving the Agenda for this meeting.

Review and Approval of October 17, 2012 Minutes: There was a Motion to approve the minutes. Doug Monger/Dan Craig/unanimous.

Presentations:

Yampa-White Basin Projects and Methods Analysis – Mark McCluskey/Hal Simpson - Mark and Hal gave the group several handouts pertaining to the tasks for the Projects and Methods. The group had several questions regarding the handouts. Tom Sharp asked for Mark to explain the revised Elk Head project. Tom Gray asked if the model can be updated with new projects and when was the last time the model was updated. Doug Monger wanted to know who qualifies to be in the model. Kevin McBride stated that Avery Lake and Big Beaver were the same project and wanted to make sure that this project was not counted twice. Make stated that he would like all IPP's identified by the April meeting and would like a subcommittee re: Development Spec. Model scenarios. The group appointed and volunteered the following: Tom Gray, T.Wright Dickinson, Jacob Bornstein, Doug Monger, Kevin

McBride, Geoff Blakeslee and Devere. The group stated that the subcommittee can appear by conference calls, e-mails or in person. It was discussed that the meetings would try to be held in Craig.

Grant Request 1st Reading for Colorado Mountain College (CMU) Center for Sustainable

Agronomy Phase 2 (Shade House and Nurseries) – Colleen Hannon - Colleen Hannon and Michael Simon presented to the roundtable a plan regarding high altitude plants, endangered species of plants that this CMU were growing in shade houses and nurseries at a historic ranch that they had been purchased. The roundtable had a good discussion about this project but ultimately stated that they were more comfortable giving a letter of support for CMU's project that they could present to other groups. Tom Gray made a motion for the roundtable to sign a letter of support. Dan Craig/ Dan Birch/ Unanimous.

Food Bowl Project in Australia – Zach Thode – Zach Thode brought the roundtable a power point presentation of what Australia did to conserve and upgrade their irrigation systems and ditch systems.

Armstrong Creek 3rd Reading – Jackie Brown – This was a third reading from Armstrong Creek asking the group for \$15,000. Armstrong stated that they had completed sites 1-5 of the original plan. Armstrong stated that they would be completing sites 2, 3, and 4 in 2013 and sites 6-8 in 2014. After a long discussion about whether the Roundtable should support a project that is on federal land, Chairman Gray called for a vote. Geoff Blakeslee stated that this Roundtable cannot discriminate on a project just because it is on federal lands. Mary Brown /Geoff Blakeslee vote of 12/3 Motion carries. Clements, Comstock, and Gray voted in the negative.

Update on the Compact Water Bank – Dan Birch – Dan talked to the group about this issue. He stated that at this time they are still trying to determine if this will work. Phase 2 is about pilot studies. There is 8 different systems on the Western Slope. CWCB looked at three ranches including Jay Fetcher, Crystal and Bill Trampee in Gunnison. Dan stated that the report should be finalized in about a month.

Yampa Fisheries Management – Dan Birch – Dan Birch and Burt Clements talked about the diminishing population of the Pike Minnow and endangered species of fish in Elk Head reservoir and the Upper Yampa River. They discussed the non-native fish in Elk Head and how they are escaping the reservoir through the spillway and such and the effects of the Northern Pike and the Small Mouth Bass on the native fish populations in the reservoir and the river. They both stated that it may not be just the additional non-native fish that are diminishing the pike minnow and other native fish. They will present more on this subject at the April meeting.

Update on IBCC No Regrets Discussion – Jacob Bornstein – Jacob talked to the Roundtable and gave a handout outlining the implementation of "No-Regrets". The hand out consisted of comments and discussions from the November 15, 2012 IBCC meeting. This handout was all about the 5 different scenarios from previous handouts given to the roundtable about the scenarios that the roundtables adopted for the State Water Plan.

Reports

- a. **Flaming Gorge Task Force Update- Kevin McBride/Jacob Bornstein-** Kevin handed out a page from the report from the last meeting. He stated that the report was actually over 200. He stated that this report will be posted on his web page for all to read. Kevin stated that they talked and talked and talked some more at the meeting. Tom Gray stated that he was very happy that Kevin was representing our basin and he felt that Kevin was the right person

to represent our basin. Kevin did exactly what the roundtable needed. Tom Sharp talked about the CDM Smith report about senior and junior water rights. Tom Sharp was concerned about the report from CDM Smith and Tom Gray stated the same concerns.

- b. **IBCC Update – Doug Monger/Jeff Devere/T.Wright Dickinson** – This update was covered in the main meeting.
- c. **Non-Consumptive Committee Update – Geoff Blakeslee** – Geoff stated again that he would like a multi-purpose workshop to state where non-consumptive fits.
- d. **Roundtable Education Forum – Public Education Outreach Program- Ren Martyn**
Tom Sharp spoke on this subject as Ren was not available. Tom Sharp stated that the bank account had closed and that a check came to him and he gave it to Ren for education and Ren gave it to Marsha for education purposes. It was announced that on March 5th at 5:30 that there would be a workshop regarding an Irrigators education forum at the Steamboat Springs Community Center.

1. Status Reports SB-179 Grants and Studies:

- 1. **Yampa River Structures Project –Kent Vertrees-** Kent stated that they were still in the permitting phase with the Army Corp engineering. When the project is ready to go forward they would post this notification in the Steamboat Pilot. They are looking to the fall for the beginning of this project and he also stated that the DOW will not allow grout to be used in the structures.
- 2. **Projects & Methods Analysis – Sue Morea** – This was discussed in the main meeting.

Other Action Items:

There were no other action items.

Announcements: It was asked that all future meetings agendas and minutes include funds available to the Basin. Jacob Bornstein also stated that the Geoff Blakeslee's seat on the CWCB Board is coming to an end. He stated that the Basin needs someone to step up and apply at the Governors web site. He encouraged someone from the roundtable to apply to the empty seats.

Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings: April 17, 2013 Yampa White Roundtable meeting- American Legion Hall Craig

Adjournment: No other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully, Susan R. Bengston, Secretary.