

**Interbasin Compact Committee  
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting  
Holiday Inn Express  
Montrose, Colorado  
July 1, 2013**

**Voting Members Present:**

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Rick Brinkman	Mesa Municipalities
Tim Decker	Montrose County
Cary Denison	Ouray County
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Wendell Koontz	Delta Municipalities
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Rachel Kullman	Montrose Municipalities
John McCLOW	House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Michelle Pierce	Hinsdale Municipalities
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
George Sibley	At-Large Member
Steve Snyder	Saguache County
Ken Spann	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District

**Voting Members Absent:**

Jennifer Bock	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
John Justman	Mesa County
Henry LeValley	Crawford WCD
Olen Lund	At-Large Member
Hugh Sanburg	Industrial
Steve Shea	Agricultural
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Stan Whinnery	Hinsdale County
Rufus Wilderson	Gunnison County

**Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:**

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), David Graf (CDOW Liaison), Jedd Sondergard (BLM Liaison).

**Public:** Eric Kuhn (River District), Jacob Bornstein (CWCB), Hannah Holm (CMU Water Center), Joanne Snyder (rancher/water user/environmentalist), Chris Menges (American Whitewater, Micheal Dale (NPS), Kenneth Nelson (North Delta Irrigation), David Brown (USGS), Marti Whitmore (Ouray County Attorney), Torie Jarvis (Northwest Colorado Council of Governments Water Quality/Quantity Committee), David Baumgarten (Gunnison County Attorney), Jesse Kruthaupt (Trout Unlimited), Terry L. Commander (SDWD/Somerset, CO), Matt Brown and Erin Wilson (Wilson Water Group), Mike Drake and Ralph D'Alessandro (Delta Conservation District).

### **Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Michelle Pierce.

### **Roll Call/Introductions**

Following roll call it was declared that a quorum was not present. However, eventually enough members arrived to fill a quorum.

### **Approve Agenda**

Neal Schwieterman made a motion to accept the Agenda. Steve Fletcher seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Approve June 1, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Neal Schwieterman stated that in the minutes Steve Snyder was introduced on page 3, however was listed as absent, and felt the minutes should accurately reflect Mr. Snyder's attendance.

Bill Nesbitt made a motion to accept the amended June 1, 2013 minutes. Cary Denison seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Report from the IBCC Representatives**

Rick Brinkman stated that he had attended the IBCC meeting in place of Bill Trampe on June 5. The whole day was spent on the Governor's executive order to develop a water plan for the state. The discussion was centered on the process. There is a concern about agricultural dry up and conservation.

Ron Shaver made a motion to ratify the IBCC Representative's report. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Report from the Educational Committee**

George Sibley distributed a draft copy of the newspaper insert he has been developing on the Gunnison River Basin, and requested input by email from the Roundtable by next Monday. George stated that the publication is timely with the startup of the statewide water plan.

### **Report from the CWCB Representative**

John McClow stated there has not been a CWCB meeting since the previous Roundtable meeting and he has nothing else to report. The next meeting will be July 16 and 17 in Alamosa.

**1. Gunnison Basin Implementation Plan** – Jacob Bornstein, Water Supply Section Chief, Colorado Water Conservation Board

Jacob gave an overview presentation on the Colorado Water Plan (CWP) and discussed how the study would be accomplished. He mentioned that the drought mitigation study would need to be integrated into the plan. A rough timeline for the completion of the CWP calls for a draft to the Governor in 2014 and a final in 2015. A draft outline is due in 2 weeks.

**2. Risk Management/Colorado River Development Issues** – Eric Kuhn, General Manager of the Colorado River Water Conservation District.

Eric Kuhn gave a presentation on how much Colorado River water is available to develop and the sources of uncertainty.

The discussion began asking why the Gunnison Basin should enter into negotiations without meaningful assurances regarding risk. There should be no risk to the western slope. The Gunnison Basin Roundtable has a sound working relationship with the other basins on the west slope. We're in a strong position, and all the basins on the west slope are on the same page. There is value in having one united voice. However, [John McClow stated] we are currently in a unique position [to negotiate], and may not be that way in the future when a crisis hits. It may be worth the risk.

The goal in this process is to have water development. The state has no specific expectations. If the plan is not accepted then that is where negotiations begin. If you don't have a compact curtailment then the administrative issues go away. Eric Kuhn suggested we preserve what we have.

What is the process for hiring a contractor to do prepare the plan? Some Roundtables have already gotten large grants and a couple have already selected their contractors and are using CDM. Others have not taken any action in this regard. The Gunnison Basin is not ready to hire anyone as we are not yet sure what we want to accomplish. We want a product that we can stand behind.

The Roundtable decided that a committee needs to be formed to create a process to present at the August meeting. Frank Kugel agreed to serve on this committee as Chair. The other members are: Joanne Fagan, John McClow, George Sibley, Bill Trampe, Rick Brinkman, and Michelle Pierce. Michelle Pierce will help Frank schedule a meeting of the committee.

**3. Public Trust Initiatives** – Douglas Kemper, Executive Director of the Colorado Water Congress

Due to a misunderstanding of the meeting date, Mr. Kemper was not present and this topic was tabled.

**4. Project Proposal Reevaluation** – Delta Conservation District, \$4,800 in Basin Accounts Funds and \$43,200 in Statewide Account Funds for the Somerset Diversion Improvement Study – North Fork of the Gunnison River Corridor Project.

Tom Alvey stated that he has no new details to add from the previous information. He indicated that the project is sponsored, meets the guidelines, has a complete application, and meets the threshold criteria.

Ralph D'Alessandro discussed in kind matching funds and Terry Commander of the SDWD/Somerset spoke in favor of the proposal. When asked where future funding would be coming from, the response is they are planning to bring a separate WSRA to the Roundtable, as well as some other possible funding sources.

Ken Spann made a motion to approve the application from the Delta Conservation District for \$4,800 in Basin Accounts Funds and \$43,200 in Statewide Account Funds for the Somerset Diversion Improvement Study – North Fork of the Gunnison River Corridor Project. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**5. Other**

There will be an informal caucus meeting in Glenwood Springs on July 15, 2013 at 10:30. Make reservations with Jim Pokrandt for lunch.

**Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 5, 2013, at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.



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Mike Berry, Recorder

**Action Items**

No action items.