

**Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program  
Water Activity Summary Sheet  
Agenda Item 23.d**

**Applicant:** The Community Agricultural Alliance on behalf of the Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Roundtables

**Water Activity Name:** Development and Implementation of Water Education and Networking 3-Year Program of Discussions, Forums, Workshops, Tours

**Water Activity Purpose:** Education & Outreach (nonstructural)

**County:** Jackson, Routt, Garfield, Rio Blanco & Moffat

**River Basin:** Yampa-White-Green

**Water Source:** N/A

**Amount Requested:** \$30,000 (Basin Account)

**Matching Funds:** None

<b>Staff Recommendation</b>
Staff recommends approval of the applicant's request of \$30,000 from the Yampa-White-Green Basin Account for the purposes of Roundtable education and outreach, and community engagement.

**Water Activity Summary:**

The Yampa-White-Green Rivers Basin Round Table is submitting this proposal to obtain funding to contract with Community Agriculture Alliance to focus on education and community engagement. Decision making and oversight will remain with the YWGRT Education Committee and PEPO Representative, Ren Martyn. CAA will serve as the coordinating force related to the education activities. A minimum of three events/activities per year for the three year period are being targeted in the region. Specific activity plans, content and details will be developed in partnership.

Objectives:

This proposal is primarily focused on community education, outreach and stakeholder participation. Objectives include:

- Provide professional, informative educational activities in the region
- Provide increased understanding of YWGRT activities
- Provide information on regional water projects, studies and related issues
- Engage with community members and regional stakeholders
- Encourage community participation in solution based discussions, issues and solutions.

YWGRT and CAA recognize that topics of immediate interest will happen throughout the three years of this grant application and YWGRT and CAA will be responsive to the topics and needs of the targeted audiences within the basins. YWGRT and CAA intend to search for venues that will be the most effective for the targeted audience. Ideas include the standard forums and tours which we have used in past years plus “outside-of-the box” discussion areas such as social media, college sustainability classes, individual ditch meetings, joint roundtable meetings and barbeque on the river event. The planning committee is looking for new ways to reach people and will refine our ideas as we develop each education event.

For each of the nine (or more) educational events, CAA will perform the following:

- Event Planning and Marketing
- Event Hosting
- Event Reporting and Roundtable Coordination
- Project Management

In addition, for each of the nine (or more) educational events, CAA will:

- Coordinate, network and partner with YWGRT members including meetings, email, telephone
- Manage partner relationships including meetings, email, telephone
- Contact sponsors, speakers and panel members via phone with follow up mail/email
- Communicate with regional media, press releases, email, event listing, advertising
- Manage ongoing event related activities, to do lists providing coordination and assistance as needed

And finally, for each of the nine (or more) educational events, CAA will:

- Assure that all education activities, including discussions, events, forums, tours, print publications and community outreach activities focus on meeting YWGRT goals
- Assure that all education activities achieve the highest professional standards.
- Assure that YWGRT and CAA will provide informative education and work to engage community members in a positive, solutions based manner.
- Assure that all education activities will allow for ongoing community assessment and program improvement

WSRA funding will be utilized to develop and implement:

- A series of public education and participation events. Specific discussions, workshops, forums, and tours will be focused on helping residents, organizations and stakeholders better understand water related issues in Northwest Colorado.
- Collaboration with area water interest groups to encourage constructive discussions and actions regarding water issues and projects in Northwest Colorado.
- Networking opportunities between YWGRT, water stakeholders, the general public and other roundtables.

Ongoing education events will align with YWGRT goals and objectives.

YWGRT, led by their PEPO representative and their education committee, will provide:

- Coordination with CWCB
- Guidance, decision making and approval of all YWGRT education activities
- Evaluations of all YWGRT education activities

CAA will provide the following:

- Full cooperation and disclosure with YWGRT
- Coordination and structure for the YWGRT education activities
- Development of a minimum of three education activities per year, each open and accessible to the public
- Full implementation of YWGRT education activities, including but not limited to contracting speakers, facilities, sponsors, volunteers, advertising and agenda development
- Use of timely, up-to-date and accurate resources including Headwaters Magazine and CWCB publications

- Region wide marketing and collaboration

Jointly, YWCRT and CAA will provide:

- Development of specific plans for YWGRT education activities for the three year granting program
- Full utilization of partnership opportunities with other water-interest organizations, agencies, stakeholder groups and civic groups

The application builds on previous work conducted in the Yampa-White-Green Basin by the Community Agricultural Alliance during 2009 and the work of the IBCCs Public Education, Participation, and Outreach work group and is the second application by the CAA for these purposes.

#### *Threshold and Evaluation Criteria*

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria.

#### **Funding Overview:**

Grant funding in the amount of \$30,000 is being requested from the Yampa-White-Green Basin Account. No matching funds are proposed.

#### **Discussion:**

HB 05-1177 (37-75-104) indicates that each basin roundtable has powers and responsibilities that include the following:

- “(c) .... Basin roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs.
- “(d) Serve as a forum for education and debate regarding methods for meeting water supply needs; and
- “(e) As needed, establish roundtable subcommittees or other mechanisms to facilitate dialogue and resolution of issues and conflicts within the basin.”

The previous grant to the Community Agricultural Alliance was successfully completed.

#### **Issues/Additional Needs:**

No additional issues or needs were identified.

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval of the applicant’s request of \$30,000 from the Yampa-White-Green Basin Account for the purposes of roundtable and IBCC related education and outreach, and community engagement.

All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation. This information will in turn be made widely available to Basin Roundtables and the general public and will help promote the development of a common technical platform. In accordance with the revised WSRA Criteria and Guidelines, staff would like to highlight additional reporting and final deliverable requirements. The specific requirements are provided below.

**Reporting and Final Deliverable:** The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the scope of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues. At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project

was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

**Engineering:** All engineering work (as defined in the Engineers Practice Act (§12-25-102(10) C.R.S.)) performed under this grant shall be performed by or under the responsible charge of professional engineer licensed by the State of Colorado to practice Engineering.