

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Holiday Inn Express
Montrose, Colorado
April 7, 2014**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Jennifer Bock	Environmental
Rick Brinkman	Mesa Municipalities
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
John Justman	Mesa County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Wendell Koontz	Delta Municipalities
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Henry LeValley	Crawford WCD
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Michelle Pierce	Hinsdale Municipalities
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Hugh Sanburg	Industrial
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
Steve Shea	Agricultural
George Sibley	At-Large Member
Steve Snyder	Saguache County
Ken Spann	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Rufus Wilderson	Gunnison County

Voting Members Absent:

Tim Decker	Montrose County
Olen Lund	At-Large Member
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Stan Whinnery	Hinsdale County
VACANT	Montrose Municipalities

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), David Graf (CDPW Liaison), Bob Hurford (DWR Liaison), David Kanzer (Non-Voting Liaison), Gary Shellhorn (USFS Liaison).

Public: Steve Schrock (No Chico Brush), Richard Vangytenbeek and Cary Denison (Trout Unlimited), Sarah Sauter (Western Slope Cons. Ctr.), Rhianna Williams (Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership), Aaron Denningson (The Nature Conservancy), Greg Johnson (Wilson Water Group), Michael Dale (NPS), Zach Thode (Lehi Water Users), Hannah Holm (Water Center @ CMU), Kathryn Sellars (Ouray, Olathe and Lake City), Brent Newman (CWCB).

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 present.

Approve Agenda

Ron Shaver made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Frank Kugel seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approve March 3, 2014 Meeting Minutes

John McCloy requested to strike the first sentence from the last paragraph on the second page.

Frank Kugel made a motion to accept the amended March 3, 2014 minutes. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Report from the IBCC Representatives

Bill Trampe gave his report on the IBCC meeting held on March 25, 2014. The meeting was about new supply development, and started with each member giving their viewpoint of the documentation from the February meeting. Bill reiterated the Gunnison Basin's position on those four points at the meeting.

A document containing eight summary points was created and circulated to members. Denver Water created the first statement; that the east slope is not looking for firm yield from a transmountain diversion project, and would accept a west slope hydrologic risk for that project. That started the discussion that led to the other seven points. As a result, eight task groups were appointed to work on those points and discuss all the issues. Bill feels this is the IBCC's effort to try to move the new supply development forward.

Rick Brinkman spoke about the task group he is on, which is looking at what will happen when there is a new supply project but water is not available, what they are going to do for a backup source for water. That involves things like potentially storing water in the Denver Basin aquifer and alternatively agricultural transfers and other non-west slope water sources, including some sort of terminal reservoir to store water. It is their attempt to give the west slope some sort of comfort with the idea of a transmountain diversion in that they'll have a backup plan when the water is not available.

Ron Shaver made a motion to ratify the IBCC Representatives' report. Hugh Sanburg seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Report from the Educational Committee

George Sibley discussed the various public input meetings that have been held, and others that folks are trying to organize. There was a meeting in Gunnison last week that was attended by over 30 people, including the county commissioners. The subject of most interest to people was transmountain diversion and it is not a popular thing. It's hard to get them to think about inbasin topics that are a focus of concern.

Some key things:

- People generally do not understand what is going on.
- Transmountain diversion is the focus for most people.
- We need to explain what the real concern is about a call.
- The feedback form can be picked up on the website.
- This is an opportunity for us to identify our needs and to promote projects.
- Improve the meeting presentation to define the common terms.

There is a meeting scheduled for April 16th in Lake City and Martha Whitmore is working on scheduling a meeting for early May. George urged other members to get other meetings organized, to encourage people to come, as well as attend the meetings themselves.

Report from the CWCB Representative

John McClow said that the CWCB met for three days in March. The first day they worked on the Colorado Water Plan reviewing several draft sections that the staff prepared. The CWCB members have been asked to read and edit each of those drafts.

The first half of the 2nd day was spent on the water plan, implementation plans, public input, and the progress of the SWSI 2016 effort. They discussed how they will deal with the inevitable conflict that will arise when all of the Basin Implementation Plans reveal different ideas, and how they will work out a process for resolving the differences.

The Board reviewed a number of applications for the water supply reserve account. The two basin applications from the Gunnison Basin were approved. The statewide applications that are currently presented were put on a delayed status until they know what the additional funding will be. They are working on a policy on how to address new applications until the funding is increased. Staff is working on a memo to the roundtable chairs to explain that situation.

In addition the members spent some time on both 2014 and 2015 instream flow appropriations. They did some work on policy on acquiring instream flow rights that involve conversion of agricultural water, and John thinks the policy is now much improved so that it takes into account the fact that this program should not be incentive for removing water from irrigated agriculture.

Tom Alvey asked what advice should be given to applicants that have a state component to their request, and was told to go ahead and process those applications so staff and the Board are aware of them and what the amounts are. Some applicants have time sensitive projects, but all we can do is fund those projects as soon as funds are available. The applications that are currently pending will be funded first, beyond that there has been no determination made.

Report from BIP Committee

Frank Kugel said that the committee had a meeting this afternoon at 2:00. The purpose was to review sections 2 and 3 of the recently submitted draft that was sent out in an email to members. Greg Johnson gave a summary, stating the documents have a lot of placeholders and are a work in progress. Frank thanked everyone for the comments received said they are very helpful. They are planning to incorporate those comments near the end of the process.

1. **New Supply** – Review and discuss summaries of the March 25, 2014 of the IBCC and March 17, 2014 All-Chairs Conference

Michelle Pierce said the Roundtable chairs were requested by the IBCC to meet regarding the topic of new supply and that there had been four meetings. There was a followup conference call on March 17, and a special meeting of the IBCC on March 25th. Summary of those meetings were included in the meeting packet.

A West Slope Caucus took place in Glenwood Springs with the topic of new supply and the west slope roundtables being in consensus. The roundtables expressed a concern in new supply, and there was no conclusion at the West Slope Caucus. All roundtables got their issues out on the table. Risk management, and who would be subject to it, was an issue. We need a consistent unified position from the west slope. Any suggestions on how to achieve this goal would be good.

John McClow asked the members if the Gunnison Basin Roundtable is willing to discuss a transmountain diversion with conditions, or if our position is “not one drop”? Roundtables members discussed the topic at length and generally came to the conclusion that the Gunnison Basin Roundtable may be forced to have this discussion, but that it will have to include risk management and conditions. We should be very conservative and careful. John McClow stated that this discussion is inevitable, and we should make best deal while we can make a deal. The IBCC is simultaneously discussing this subject.

Michelle Pierce summarized the Roundtable’s position as: Risk management applies to all depletions. We are willing to “talk” but not “negotiate”.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2014, at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose.

April 7, 2014

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MB', is written above a horizontal line.

Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

None