

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Holiday Inn Express
Montrose, Colorado
December 1, 2014**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Tim Decker	Montrose County
Cary Denison	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Wendell Koontz	Delta Municipalities
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Dixie Luke	At-Large Member
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Michelle Pierce	Hinsdale Municipalities
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
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Rufus Wilderson	Gunnison County

Voting Members Absent:

Rick Brinkman	Mesa Municipalities
David Harold	Montrose Municipalities
John Justman	Mesa County
Henry LeValley	Crawford WCD
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Hugh Sanburg	Industrial
Steve Shea	Agricultural
Stan Whinnery	Hinsdale County

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), David Graf (CDPW Liaison), Bob Hurford (DWR Liaison), David Kanzer (Non-Voting Liaison), Perry Cabot (CSU Extension Liaison), Jedd Sondergard (BLM Liaison).

Public: Brent Gardner-Smith (Aspen Journalism), Beth Karberg (Delta CD), Barbara Biggs (CDM Smith), Julie Nania (HCCA), Brent Newman (CWCB), Aaron Derwingson (TNC), Dan Birch (CRWCD), Steve Schrock (No Chico Brush), Jesse Kruthaupt (TU), Hannah Holm (Water Center at CMU), Michael Dale (NPS/Black Canyon), Sarah Sauter (WSCC), Camille Richard (LFVC), Hal Simpson and Mark McClusky (CDM).

Welcome

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

Roll Call/Introductions

Following roll call the meeting was two members short of a quorum. More members arrived and a quorum was declared to be present.

Approve Agenda

Tom Alvey requested addition of a brief discussion to the Agenda on where the Gunnison Basin Roundtable stands regarding the Yampa Basin's desire for a "carve out" for future basin development. This topic will be added as Item # 5.

Frank Kugel moved to approve the agenda as amended. George Sibley seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approve November 3, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Bill Nesbitt moved to accept the November 3, 2014 minutes as circulated. Wendell Koontz seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Report from the IBCC Representatives

Bill Trampe had no report but urged the members to continue to think about the integrated conceptual agreement and be prepared for a discussion at the next meeting.

The Roundtable was reminded about the upcoming four west slope roundtable meeting on December 18. Everyone who plans to attend should RSVP to provide numbers for the lunch. The meeting will take place at Ute Water in Grand Junction starting at 9:00 a.m.

Report from the Educational Committee

George Sibley said he met with folks engaged in the grass root efforts for water education around the Gunnison basin. He is working to improve coordination between those groups to gather input for the water plan. Meetings should take place in February and March.

Report from the CWCB Representative

John McCloy said the CWCB met a week ago. The water plan was the main discussion. The directors read the draft ahead of time and submitted written comments. There was some input from citizens expressing interest and concerns; the majority of them were about transmountain diversion and a desire that it not happen again. About 13,000 public comments were received from the web portal. There will be another revision of the draft before it is ready to go to the Governor December 10.

The Board approved the water supply reserve account application from the Gunnison Basin Roundtable to fund some additional BIP work, with some conditions. The Town of Olathe application was also approved. They looked at some instream flow right applications for January, and also made some additional loans from the construction fund.

Report from the BIP Committee

Frank Kugel said there is an effort by the west slope roundtables to compare BIPs in advance of the December 18 west slope roundtable meeting. They are trying to schedule a conference call for this advance meeting. Some of the topics they will be discussing are ways to meet the municipal gap and how to address IPPs.

1. **WSRA Project Update** – Henson Creek and Lake Fork Confluence Channel Improvement Project

Camille Richard, Executive Director of the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy, gave an update to the roundtable members regarding the Henson Creek and Lake Fork Confluence Channel Improvement Project. Ms. Richard showed photos of the progress of the project, and also provided a table showing the project expenditures.

2. **WSRA Project Update** – Colorado State University, Expansion and Improvement of CoAgMet System.

Perry Cabot, Water Resources Specialist for Colorado State University Extension Service, updated Roundtable members on the WSRA grant for the Expansion and Improvement of the CoAgMet System project. Mr. Cabot gave a budget synopsis stating there is about \$13,000 left in the budget and only about one month left to use it. They recently purchased two new stations and he invited input on where to install them. Mr. Cabot also showed the eRAMs website, which is the interface between several software tools.

3. **Colorado Water Bank Project** – Update by Aaron Derwingson, Agricultural Outreach Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy.

Aaron Derwingson from The Nature Conservancy and Dan Birch from the Colorado River District updated the Roundtable on what has been going on in the last few years regarding a Colorado water bank project. They explained the idea of water banking, why there should be a water bank and discussed how a water bank can work with irrigation

systems. There was also discussion about weed issues and how they are secondary impacts, as well as how to manage the water bank.

There is a water bank work group currently developing a comprehensive proposal for a pilot project.

4. **Aspinall Water Bank Project** – Update by Mark McCluskey, Water Resource Engineer, CDM Smith.

Mark McCluskey and Hal Simpson from CDM Smith discussed this project funded by the Arkansas and Gunnison Basins and the state to evaluate a potential implementation of a water bank project at Blue Mesa/Aspinall. Mark discussed the 5 project tasks and their progress to date, describing the water bank design and management options. The draft report was distributed this past summer.

5. **Yampa “Carve out” Idea**

The Roundtable members discussed the basin’s position regarding where it stands with differences in the BIPs, and what will be discussed at the west slope roundtable meeting. There should be some compromises for really different positions as there should be unity on the western slope. Gunnison Basin members want more certainty with existing uses and how to protect those uses. Existing uses should not have to protect any future uses.

The four west slope roundtables meeting will be on December 18 at Ute Water in Grand Junction at 9:00 a.m. An agenda will be sent out for the meeting. There will be a Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting on January 5, 2015. The Project Screening Committee will meet next week.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2015, at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

None.