

**Interbasin Compact Committee**  
**Southwest Basins Roundtable Meeting**  
Dolores Water Conservancy District  
Cortez, Colorado  
September 11, 2013

**Members Present:**

Ken Beegles	Industrial Representative	John Porter	SWCD
Mike Canterbury	Agricultural Representative	Mike Preston	At-Large Member
Anthony Edwards	San Juan Municipalities	Rod Proffitt	San Juan WCD
John Ey	Florida WCD	Don Schwindt	Dolores WCD
Steve Fearn	San Juan County	Bruce Smart	Montezuma Municipalities
Steve Harris	Legislative Appointment	John Taylor	Hinsdale County
Celene Hawkins	Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe	Ed Tolen	At-Large Member
Tim Hunter	Recreational Representative	Val Valentine	At-Large Member
Dan Huntington	La Plata WCD	Chuck Wanner	At-Large Member
Gary Kennedy	Mancos WCD	Bruce Whitehead	Animas-La Plata WCD
Carrie Lile	Local Domestic Water Provider Rep.	Mely Whiting	Environmental Representative
Peter Mueller	San Miguel Municipalities	Michael Whiting	Archuleta County
April Montgomery	CWCB Member	Ed Zink	La Plata County
Ann Oliver	At-Large Member		

**Liaisons Present:**

David Graf (Colorado Parks & Wildlife)

**Public:**

Norman Butler (Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company), Clyde Church (Falls Creek Homeowners Association), Ken Curtis (Dolores Water Conservancy District), Mike Hicks (Falls Creek Homeowners Association), Renee Lewis (Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation District), Deb Dion Kees (Telluride Pines Homeowners Association), Don Magnuson, John McHenry (Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company), Dennis Miller (Summit Reservoir & Irrigation District), CO Senator Ellen Roberts, Denise Rue-Pastin (Water Information Program), David Sanford (Summit Reservoir & Irrigation District), Tami Sheldon (Southern Ute Indian Tribe), Kurt Shugars (Telluride Pines Homeowners Association), Laura Spann (SWCD), Todd Street (Leonard Rice Engineers), Linda Tolle (re. McElmo Creek Flume), Steve Wallace (Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company)

**1. Introductions & Review Agenda**

Chairman Mike Preston called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Introductions were made.

**2. Administrative Reports**

**Minutes Review and Approval**

Minutes from July 10, 2013 were approved.

**Officer and IBCC Representatives Reports**

April Montgomery invited everyone to the CWCB Board meeting in Telluride on September 24-26. IBCC representative reports were given with the general IBCC discussion later in the meeting.

**Committee/Task Force Reports**

Subcommittee updates were given by Bruce Whitehead, Mike Preston and Steve Harris with the general IBCC discussion later on in the meeting.

### **WSRA Basin Roundtable Fund Balance**

Mike Preston reported that the \$344,198 balance takes into account the \$30,000 approved for the Ute Tribe Water Conservation and Management Plan and \$51,015 for the Basin Implementation Plan (BIP).

### **3. Election to Fill Roundtable Seats**

There were two applications to fill open seats: Ed Tolen for the at-large seat and Mely Whiting for the environmental seat. John Porter moved to elect by acclamation Ed Tolen and Mely Whiting to the Southwest BRT. Gary Kennedy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **4. IBCC Update**

#### **No/Low Regrets Discussion and Pending Memo**

Steve Harris explained his handout summarizing IBCC activities for July and August. At the last IBCC meeting, representatives gave their opinions on statements related to six different categories: agriculture, conservation, non-consumptive, Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), BIP, storage and reuse. Using this process, IBCC members arrived at a foundation of consensus for each issue area. Consensus could not be reached quickly around new supply, however. The group agreed to address new supply at the October meeting.

#### **4 Legs of the Stool**

Steve Harris outlined the IBCC Conservation Subcommittee's work around the "4 Legs of the Stool," or focus areas of the Colorado Water Plan, which are: IPPs, conservation, ag dry up and new supply. To the issue of conservation, Steve explained that the last time the Southwest BRT discussed mandatory statewide conservation laws, there was not consensus. Some IBCC members have proposed the idea of statewide voluntary goals, i.e., local water utilities reducing usage by  $x\%$  in  $y$  years. This option would not require legislation. Steve received input from the Southwest BRT regarding this idea. Among the comments, there was general support for voluntary conservation goals, legislation that targets major uses, (such as outside irrigation) and conservation education.

#### **IBCC New Supply Subcommittee Meeting**

Mike Preston explained the handout summarizing the morning's IBCC New Supply Subcommittee Meeting. There was discussion around expanding the definition of new supply. The subcommittee recommended two concurrent conversations: a conceptual agreement and further exploration and understanding of the supply gap. The goal of the New Supply committee is to deliver the best agreement to the CWCB in one year, including any remaining areas of disagreement and reasons for disagreement. Mike Preston explained the handout "Overlap of New Supply Ideas" as a starting point for IBCC members to identify common ground. Bruce Whitehead noted that it was not easy to participate in the New Supply Meeting, given the quality of the teleconference and conflicts in scheduling. Outreach to local roundtables needed to be improved.

#### **Development of Southwest BRT New Supply Principles**

Steve discussed the set of guidelines circulated by Dan Birch of the River District for evaluating new supply projects. The River District hoped that all the Western Slope Roundtables have the same principles. Steve suggested that given the overlap of the Southwest BRT and Southwestern Water Conservation District, the District should lead in the development of new supply principles, in coordination with the Southwest BRT, to provide regional continuity. There was general consensus that after the Southwestern Water Conservation District develops a new supply principles document, the Southwest BRT would give input. There was a suggestion to revisit the definition of new supply itself in the process.

### **5. Basin Implementation Plan**

Carrie Lile and Ann Oliver gave a presentation on principal objectives of the Basin Implementation Plan, the scope of work and schedule, an updated structure for the IPP list, a review of the IPP questionnaire and deliverables for the next meeting. Carrie explained their tasks with proposed completion dates and a timeline of

work based on the BRT meeting schedule. Generally, the San Juan, Piedra, Pine River basins IPPs will be discussed at the November meeting; Animas, La Plata, Mancos IPPs at the January meeting; and Dolores, McElmo, San Miguel IPPs at the March meeting. She detailed the IPP heading concepts being considered, as the list is no longer separated by consumptive or non-consumptive.

Carrie and Ann asked that Roundtable members complete the questionnaire about any IPP they may be sponsoring, and circulate the form to other community members who may know about other possible IPPs.

Ann detailed underlying assumptions of the Colorado Water Plan. Among them, to qualify for funding under the WRSA-water supply reserve account, a project or process must be on the IPP list. Carrie clarified that there are some catch-all IPPs that some projects can qualify under for funding even though they are not individually on the list. Bruce suggested the assumption about funding be changed to include “or is part of a basin-wide strategy.” Ann gave some examples of Roundtables goals and explained their process for developing goals based on the IPP list.

Steve Harris thanked Southwestern Water Conservation District for providing interim funding for IPP list development in the interim while Carrie and Ann were waiting for CWCB funding.

## **6. Public Survey Regarding Water in Colorado**

This presentation by Steve Harris was postponed.

## **7. Review of WRSA Concept Proposals**

### **Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company**

#### **Evaluation of Infrastructure Upgrade Alternatives**

Members of the not-for-profit Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company—Norman Butler (President), David Sanford (Secretary-Treasurer), Steve Wallace, John McHenry, and Dennis Miller (engineer)—presented the concept proposal to fund an evaluation of the cost of repairing and upgrading the Company’s Summit Lake Dam and Summit Ditch. The project would allow full utilization of the company’s existing water rights from Lost Canyon Creek. The reservoirs are located in Montezuma County approximately 10 miles northeast of Cortez. They service 4,000 acres and 149 shareholders. Roundtable members asked questions about and suggested improvement for the proposal. Roundtable members expressed support for the proposal as a viable application for funding. Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company will also be applying for funding from Southwestern Water Conservation District in October.

#### **Turner Reservoir: Outlet Pipe Rehabilitation**

Clyde Church, former dam manager for Falls Creek Ranch Association, and Michael Hicks, current dam manager, presented the concept proposal to fund \$28,500-\$37,000 in support of correcting a deformity in the outlet pipe that threatens the integrity of Turner Dam. Turner Reservoir is located on Falls Creek Ranch, 8 miles north of Durango; it serves 92 developed lots. Roundtable members recommended that rather than a 50% match, a 25% match would be more appropriate for a private recreational reservoir, in other words, \$20,000 maximum.

#### **Telluride Pines: Water Augmentation**

Members of the Telluride Pines Homeowners Association, Kurt Shugers (President) and Debora Dion Kees (Secretary), presented the concept proposal to fund \$20,000 in support of construction of an infiltration gallery, upgrades to the water treatment plant to handle the new capacity, and upgrades to the lines. Telluride Pines is a small subdivision of 24 developed lots for 39 people located between Ridgeway and Telluride. The subdivision often faces water shortages. There was consensus that the concept proposal was a worthy project to pursue. It was

recommended that Telluride Pines apply as well for a CWCB loan. Roundtable members expressed support for the proposal.

### **Preservation of McElmo Creek Flume**

Linda Tolle, representing Montezuma County, made a concept proposal of matching funds up to \$40,000 in support of the rehabilitation of the McElmo Creek Flume located east of Cortez—the only wooden flume remaining from the Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company water delivery system originally built in the 1890s. It is listed under Colorado Preservation Inc.'s Endangered Places and the National Register of Historic Places. Funding is also being sought from Southwestern Water Conservation District and Colorado State Historic Fund. Montezuma County has committed \$2,500 to match the State Historic Fund grant. Some members expressed questions about whether this would be an eligible project for the Roundtable to fund.

## **8. Upcoming Events**

### **2013-14 Bi-Monthly Meeting Schedule**

November 13 in Durango

January 8 in Cortez

March 12 in Durango

May 14 in Cortez

July 9 in Durango

## **9. Adjournment**

Chairman Mike Preston adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.