

Interbasin Compact Committee  
**Southwest Basins Roundtable Meeting**  
Durango Public Library  
Durango, Colorado  
November 13, 2013

**Members Present:**

Ken Beegles	Industrial Representative	John Porter	SWCD
Mike Canterbury	Agricultural Representative	Mike Preston	At-Large Member
John Ey	Florida WCD	Rod Proffitt	San Juan WCD
Steve Fearn	San Juan County	Don Schwindt	Dolores WCD
Steve Harris	Legislative Appointment	Bruce Smart	Montezuma Municipalities
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
Gerald Koppenhafer	Montezuma County	Bruce Whitehead	Animas-La Plata WCD
Carrie Lile	Local Domestic Water Provider Rep.	Mely Whiting	Environmental Representative
April Montgomery	CWCB Member	Michael Whiting	Archuleta County
Peter Mueller	San Miguel Municipalities	Ed Zink	La Plata County
Ann Oliver	At-Large Member		

**Liaisons Present:**

Craig Godbout (CWCB Liaison), David Graf (Co. Parks & Wildlife), Denise Rue-Pastin (Education Liaison)

**Public:**

Pauline Benetti (Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership), Doug Brew (Public), Steve Boyd (Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company), Jimbo Buickerood (San Juan Citizens Alliance), Peter Butler (Water Quality Control Commission), Mark Catlin (Montrose County), Ken Curtis (Dolores Water Conservancy District), Jim Davis (La Plata County), J.D. Feuquay (Palo Verde HOA), Sally High (Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership), Christine Johnson (Public), Deb Dion Kees (Telluride Pines HOA), Phil Lane (Pine River Irrigation District), Joe Lewandowski (Public), Kristin Maharg (Colorado Foundation for Water Education), Kate McIntire (CWCB), Allison Morrissey (Public), Fred Ochsher (Palo Verde HOA), Pat Page (Public), Kelly Palmer (San Juan National Forest), CO Senator Ellen Roberts, David Sanford (Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company), Paul Senecal (Public), Tami Sheldon (Southern Ute Indian Tribe), Kurt Shugars (Telluride Pines HOA), Adam Smith (La Plata County), Laura Spann (SWCD), Joanne Spina (La Plata County), Bill Warren (Public), Jon Waschbusch (Montrose County), John Whitney (Senator Michael Bennet)

**1. Introductions & Review Agenda**

Chairman Mike Preston called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. Introductions were made.

**2. Administrative Reports**

**Minutes Review and Approval**

Minutes from September 11, 2013 were approved.

**Officer and IBCC Representatives Reports**

Steve Harris reported on the meetings scheduled for the IBCC to discuss new supply in 2014. A statewide summit will be held in March.

**Committee/Task Force Reports**

No reports.

**WSRA Basin Roundtable Fund Balance**

Mike Preston reported that the fund balance was currently \$588,618.

### **3. Updates on IPP Additions/Refinements: San Juan, Piedra and Pine Sub-Basins**

Carrie Lile and Ann Oliver presented the updated IPP (draft) lists for the San Jan, Piedra and Pine River basins. Those consulted about possible IPPs included SWCD board members, liaisons from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Division of Water Resources, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Southwest BRT members. Ann and Carrie used 13 subcategories of non-consumptive values, irrigated lands and water critical areas, municipal and metro district boundaries and industrial uses to better evaluate basin needs.

Carrie and Ann sought feedback on two underlying assumptions being used to build the IPP list: 1) catch-all/placeholder IPPs and 2) concepts versus IPPs. Catch-all IPPs are understood as a) potential projects or processes without a specific location now, but that are anticipated to arise as needs throughout the Southwest basins and/or b) potential projects or processes that could relate to a statewide or national project addressing consumptive or non-consumptive needs. There was consensus that this definition was acceptable.

Carrie and Ann are collecting IPPs, as well as water project/process concepts. Roundtable members further delineated the difference between concepts and IPPs. An IPP is not complete but has proponents, and progress is being made toward completion. A concept is an idea that does not have sponsors yet, and no progress is being made toward completion. The IPP list would ideally be dynamic and concepts could develop into IPPs. It was clarified that a project doesn't need to be on the IPP list to get funding, if it consistent with Basin Strategies and meets the other criteria for WRSA funding.

### **Sub-Basin Focus now to January – Animas, La Plata, Mancos IPPs**

There will be an open house to discuss possible IPPs in the Animas, La Plata, Mancos River basins from before the next meeting on Wednesday, January 8. There was consensus to change the locations of the meetings to coincide with the basins being considered. The January meeting will be in Durango. The March meeting will be in Cortez.

### **Upcoming Workshops: 1) Non-Consumptive & 2) Goals & Measurable Outcomes**

Roundtables members emphasized the need to establish terminology, tools and a process to quantify and address non-consumptive needs, especially in the context of the Colorado Water Plan. There will be a workshop on quantifying the non-consumptive water supply gap at 10-12:00 before the next meeting in Durango on January 8. There was consensus to have a workshop on measurable goals and outcomes on January 8 between 12:30 and 2:30.

### **4. Discussion of 1:30 Implementation Plan Outreach Workshop**

Mike Preston summarized the 1:30 workshop on Implementation Plan Outreach. Kate McIntire, CWCB, outlined the process of developing the Colorado Water Plan and related outreach being done at the state level. At the local level, Southwest BRT Education Liaison Denise Rue-Pastin has developed a Public Education, Outreach, Participation and Implementation Action Plan. Roundtable members relayed suggestions provided at the workshop, including bringing Colorado Water Plan information back to organizations represented on the Roundtable, as well as developing a locally-focused toolkit with fact sheets, talking points and presentations to use for community outreach.

### **5. Statewide and Basin Implementation Plan Goals and Measurable Outcomes**

Craig Godbout, the new CWCB Liaison to the Roundtable, explained CWCB staff's three proposed changes to WRSA account management: 1) CWCB will retain 10% (rather than the current 5%) of grant funding until the project is complete, 2) grant recipient must use funds within six months of when grant was approved by the board and 3) WRSA basin account will be refreshed up to a limit of \$400,000 for each fiscal year. These changes have not yet been approved by the CWCB Board and the IBCC. Roundtable members suggested that CWCB Board and staff and the IBCC reconsider the second and third changes. CWCB staff will be working on templates for goals and measurable outcomes as part of the Colorado Water Plan. In addition to Carrie Lile and Ann Oliver, members Chuck Wanner, Peter Mueller and Bruce Whitehead volunteered to participate in the template goal setting process

with CWCB. Craig outlined the SWSI plan update process. The IBCC and WRSA Annual Reports have been published.

## **6. IBCC Update**

### **Water Conservation**

Steve Harris gave background on the proposed Southwest BRT Resolution supporting municipal water conservation legislative concepts for the 2014 Colorado legislative session. Specifically, the legislation will address inside conservation through the sale of certain types of indoor water fixtures within the State of Colorado and outside conservation through a limitation on lawn size for municipal water providers using water from dry up of agricultural land to serve new subdivisions. CO Senator Ellen Roberts will be sponsoring the legislation. Comments may be submitted to Steve Harris, Bruce Whitehead or Senator Roberts. Discussion and questions arose around the specific limitations. Ed Zink moved to adopt the Resolution Regarding Water Conservation. Chuck Wanner seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

### **Colorado Water Plan/New Supply**

Bruce Whitehead explained that, as the Colorado Water Plan moves forward, Western Slope entities are developing position statements on new supply. SWCD has developed a draft "Statement of Importance" addressing Southwest Colorado's new supply principles. Members provided additions and comments for the draft document. Bruce solicited comments from Roundtable members by Friday, November 29 in advance of the SWCD board meeting on Monday, December 9.

## **7. Review of WSR Application and Concept Proposals**

### **WSRA Application: Summit Reservoir & Irrigation Company**

David Sanford presented the grant application requesting \$26,000 to fund an evaluation of the cost of repairing and upgrading the Company's Summit Lake Dam and Summit Ditch near Cortez. He outlined changes in funding since the concept proposal went before the Southwest BRT in September, including an \$8,000 grant from SWCD. Roundtable members asked question about the wider public benefit of the project. Steve Harris moved to approve the WSR application. Ed Zink seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

### **WSRA Application: Telluride Pines HOA Water Augmentation**

Debora Dion Kees and Kurt Shugars presented the grant application requesting \$25,000 in support of construction of an infiltration gallery, upgrades to the water treatment plant to handle the new capacity, and upgrades to the lines at Telluride Pines subdivision near Ridgeway. Ed Tolen moved to approve the WSR application. Chuck Wanner seconded. There was consensus. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

### **Concept Proposal: La Plata County Palo Verde Public Improvement District #3**

Joanne Spina, Adam Smith, Jim Feuquay, Jim Davis, Pat Page, and Fred Ochsher presented the concept proposal of \$25,000 to assist with the construction of a water line to serve the 18-lot Palo Verde subdivision, located on the eastern boundary of the City of Durango. La Plata County views this project as a pilot for local homeowners to implement their own water service projects. Palo Verde will receive a \$50,000 grant from SWCD. Also, a loan is being sought from the Colorado Water Resource & Power Development Authority Revolving Loan Fund. Palo Verde property owners will ultimately contribute 90% of the project cost. Roundtable members asked questions and recommended the group submit a full application for the January meeting.

### **Concept Proposal: Geothermal Greenhouse Project, Archuleta County and Partners**

Sally High presented the concept proposal of \$25,000 to contribute to the construction of three agricultural domes and a geothermal botanical garden in downtown Pagosa Springs. One of the major goals of the project is the share information about the use of geothermal water to produce locally grown food with less water. Should the application be approved, WSR grant funds would comprise a portion of local matching funds (\$100,000 total)

required to qualify the project for a Department of Local Affairs grant in the amount of \$300,000. The project also receives funding from the Musser Family Foundation. Roundtable members asked questions and recommended the group submit a full application for the January meeting.

## **8. Upcoming Events**

### **2014 Bi-Monthly Meeting Schedule**

January 8 in Durango

March 12 in Cortez

May 14 in Cortez

July 9 in Durango

## **9. Adjournment**

Chairman Mike Preston adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.