

Minutes of NPBRT Meeting: 7-28-15
USFS Conf. Room (7-9 PM) 100 Main Street, Walden, CO

Members/Liaisons Present

*Mike Allnutt
Deb Alpe
Mike Alpe
*Jimmer Baller
*Kent Crowder
*Blaine Evans
Russ Gross
*John Rich
Amy Thornburgh (ANWR)
*Carl Trick II
*Doug Waldron
*Ty Wattenberg
*Rick Wyatt
*Barbara Vasquez

Members/Liaisons Absent

Paula Belcher
Pete Conovitz
Michael Dixon
Debbi Heeney
*Mike Honholz
*Randy Miller

Others Present

Judy Evans
Craig Godbout
Dan Henrichs
Jim Murphy
Matt Reddy
Brent Gardner Smith
Caid Waldron

I. Agenda Review

The agenda was accepted as published.

Craig Godbout passed out the Colorado Waterplan News and Updates. The CoWP will be presented to the Board in November.

II. Approval of Roundtable Minutes: 7/28/15

The minutes from the 6/24/15 NPBRT meeting were approved unanimously with minor corrections.

III. Consideration of Revised WSRA Grant Application for MacFarlane Dam Rehabilitation Project— Submitted by Ducks Unlimited, Inc. in partnership with Evans Land Company, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management

Matt Reddy, DU, gave a brief presentation on the final MacFarlane Reservoir Project Grant Application. The design stands at 90%. This application requests \$600k from WSRA with \$500k from basin funds and \$100k from state funds, with all participants as co-applications. Matt explained that Paula had reported that BLM has funded their 15%. Kent asked Blaine whether the loan application for his portion of the funding of the project is completed. Blaine explained that Steve Jameson is not yet done with the feasibility study, which is needed to be completed for the loan application. Craig

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explained that the loan application would be required by Monday to go into CWCB staff with the grant application. Craig said it would be possible to do a conditional approval of the loan application when the grant application is considered. Blaine reported that recent sonar work on the reservoir shows capacity of 5600AF versus the original decree of 6507AF. There's enough freeboard on the dam to raise the spillway to recover the permitted storage. It will be done with the cement walls, with rip rap on both sides.

Kent called for the vote. All voting members present at the meeting voted to approve.

IV. Update on Education Outreach including report on Hay Days – Deb Alpe, Education Liaison

North Park Hay Day event was held on a very rainy July 8 at the Grizzly Ranch. Approximately 110 cattle and hay producers attended from surrounding Colorado and Wyoming counties. The North Platte Basin Roundtable was announced as an event sponsor and 2015 Education Action Plan funds were used to assist in costs of the event. Alan Berryman, Assistant General Manager of the Engineering Division of Northern Water gave a 40 minute presentation during the morning program. He spoke about the history and implementation of the Platte River Recovery and Implementation Program. The Citizen's Guide to Colorado Water Law, the North Platte Basin Special Report, the North Platte BIP fact sheet, Colorado Water Plan Draft Executive Summary and fact sheets were all distributed to attendees. Deb Alpe set up a table with our table top display board that features some of our WSRA projects as well as the handouts.

We used \$826 for educational materials out of 2015 EAP funds to purchase and ship 100 copies of the most recent edition of The Citizen's Guide to Colorado Water Law and \$99.34 of 2015 EAP funds to purchase supplies including plates, utensils, napkins, cups and bottled water used during the Hay Day event. Deb Alpe worked with the North Park Conservation District to purchase these items. Reimbursement requests were sent to the CWCB, of which \$826 has been received and \$99.34 was submitted on time and is being processed.

On March 30, 2015, Deb Alpe submitted our updated and approved the 2016 EAP. Deb has now learned that the Education Committee will need to reconvene soon to amend this plan because the CWCB has requested EAP's now be created on a 3-year basis and updated with an annual budget each year, based on the PEPO funds available each year. The 2016-2019 EAP is to be submitted with the 2016 budget by Sept 1 to the CWCB for approval. For fiscal year 2016 (July 1- June 30 2016) each basin roundtable has \$6,500 to use for PEPO expenses.

Deb distributed the Public Education, Participation and Outreach Workgroup Criteria and Guidelines for Funding document received June. A date will be set for the Education Committee to meet. Since there is now \$6,500 for EAP expenditures, ideas for public education and outreach were again sought by the board.

Deb set a time/date for the next Education meeting to develop the 2016 budget: 6PM prior to the NPBRT meeting in 8/25. Deb commented that she would appreciate suggestions on how to use the budget. Several suggestions were offered. Jimmer asked whether a full day presentation on water law. Jim Murphy offered that the Winter and Spring Stock Growers meeting could be considered venues for speakers on water issues. He also asked rhetorically whether Justice Hobbs, who is now retired, might still be available for speaking engagements. Craig commented that CWCB had approved funds for videos in the Rio Grande basin..that they're done quite

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professionally.

Deb also brought up the status on the Climatology project running under an existing WSRA grant headed by Nolan Doesken at CSU. She talked with Nolan who said he has received the lysimeters and aims to install them in Aug or Sept in Carl Trick's meadow. But with Wendy moved on to the WWG, the budget in the grant is unlikely to cover the charge rate for her time, which is probably 3x greater than the budgeted amount. So who will do the actual work is not yet clear. Carl asked whether the company that makes the lysimeter would be sending a representative to help with the installation. The grant budget also has 3 years for readout and maintenance of the lysimeters. Craig agreed to contact Nolan to see whether he had a solution for the installation that could be covered under the current grant budget, or whether an amendment to the grant would be required to cover the increased costs for Wendy's time. There was some conversation about the possibility of a local subcontract for the ongoing readout and maintenance, but who could do such work was left undefined.

V. CWCB/IBCC Update - Ty Wattenberg, John Rich and Mike Allnutt

CWCB: Ty gave a brief update from the July CWCB meeting in Ignacio. There was a hearing on the RICD on the Colorado, just above the Roaring Fork confluence. In his opinion, Glenwood was too aggressive, asking for approximately 4000cfs in a project that was linked to the Shoshone Power Plant, which historically has pulled a max of 1250cfs. The CWCB opposed the project primarily for this reason. However, the project will go on to Water Court, which is not bound by the CWCB advice.

IBCC: John gave a brief update from the mid-July meeting of the IBCC. There is still disagreement over the '7 points' document. The Rep from the CO River Basin would not agree and they are now trying to schedule another meeting. In the discussion, they referred to the Garfield Workshop where the consensus was 'not another drop to the East Slope'. The lunch speaker was the Governor's Budget Director. The main message was that the ability to fund water projects is declining. The budget is being impacted by declining severance tax income combined with mandated growth in spending on K-12 and Medicare/Medicaid.

VI. Old Business/New Business

Old Business: none

New Business: Russ Gross passed out a flyer for the August 3 meeting called by the Colorado State Forest, asking for public input on the development of an updated Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Forestry, county emergency services managers, county officials, federal land management officials and local fire department officials will meet with area landowners to discuss the development of an updated county-wide CWPP. The meeting will be held in Gould at 7PM in conjunction with the Gould potluck (starts at 6:30PM).

VII. Date for the next meeting

The next meeting was set for Tue, Aug.25, to be held from 7-9p.min the FS Conference Room at 100 Main Street, Walden.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned