

11/10/15

South Platte Round table Minutes

Welcome and intro

Minutes from prior meeting were approved

Agenda Changes – None

Agenda Item 4 -- Invasive Phreatophyte control program – Roundtable endorsement

CWCB project Summary

Chris Sturm (CWCB) Program presentation (powerpoint) A copy of the Powerpoint should be available for a more detailed summary.

- Program started in 2008, Applications are due Nov 13, 2015. 2 million dollars available.
- Public and private entities are eligible.
- \$300,000 maximum funding per project
- Timeline from Feb, 2016 to June, 2018
- There will be another round of applications
- There is a 25% match requirement—Half cash, half in-kind
- Multi-objective projects are preferred, adding other benefits beyond phreatophyte eradication
- Limit bundled projects to HUC 8 boundaries
- Application Criteria
 - Detailed map showing the project area, infestation any other pertinent details
 - Plan for secondary/subsequent weed control
 - Monitoring and maintenance plan
 - Organizational capability
 - Outreach
 - Scope of Work
 - Other* Knowledge of biocontrol impacts
- Budgetary requirements

Applicant presentations

- Wildlands Restoration Volunteers – Ed Self
 - St. Vrain and Boulder Creek – 4 Sites
 - \$123,000 request
- Republican River Restoration Program --
 - Republican River -- South Fork
 - \$300,000 request
- Weld County – Tina Booten

- South Platte, Little Thompson, Big Thompson
- \$300,000 Request
- 5 Year Monitoring will be completed by Weld County Staff
- Larimer County Weed District – Maxine Guill
 - Poudre, Big Thompson, South Platte, St. Vrain
 - TREE Project – Tamarisk, Russian Olive, Elm Eradication Project
 - Educational outreach to private landowners
 - Fort Collins, Loveland, Larimer County and private landowners
 - \$300,000 grant request
- Colorado Youth Outdoors-- Greg Mullen
 - Second Phase of Project
 - Poudre River between Fort Collins and Greeley, 240 acre project

Motion and second to send letters endorsing each project

Discussion on inadvertent spread of invasive species due to chipping and mulching being a need for the applicants to address

Additional Discussion on potential water savings gained by the elimination of the invasive phreatophytes. Is there a quantifiable amount of water savings for each project?

Bob Longenbaugh related technical information to the roundtable on the consumption of water by the phreatophytes

Motion Passes to endorse the projects

Agenda Item 5 – Committee updates

WSRA Needs Committee discussion

Water Diplomats Update, Students from all disciplines and state schools were invited. 40 students were interested, with only 30 openings. 29 students finished the training (1 got sick and had to withdraw). The students were exposed to a tremendous amount of information, and were charged to take what they had learned back to their communities to spread the information. The final report has all of the presentations and work that the students did to spread the information. The project was a great success, and done on a strict budget since the grant was \$28,000.

Education Funding and Outreach

Digital presence budgetary discussion, work is proceeding to figure out a budget.

Funding Update

7 Applications were received

\$180,000 of requests with \$121,000 available.

Greeley, Fort Collins, WaterReuse CO, Coalition for Upper South Platte, CO Dept. of Human services, CO Stormwater Council, CO AG Water Alliance were the 7 applicants.

Roundtable will make recommendations at the January Meeting

The Roundtable discussed the amount budgeted versus the amount available and the reserves that were set, the process for analysis of the applicants and when the expenditure for the grants occurs – The money leaves the budget when the grant is awarded.

The Metro Roundtable has asked applicants to have projects that are BIP focused from the outset.

Process for moving forward—Committee will go through the applications in November, make a recommendation. The roundtable will be able to take the recommendations under consideration, and decide if the set aside funds should be used for funding the shortfall or not, if that is necessary.

Asking the applicants to present for 5-10 minutes.

Chair Frank asked for any public input at this point in the meeting, there were 2 introductions of members of the public who were not at the start of the meeting, but no substantial comments were made.

Bob Longenbaugh commented on the pilot project and the technical committee and the need to move ahead. The meeting was moved to this Thursday, he would have liked to report to the roundtable tonight. He is concerned that decisions should be made in the next 30-60 days in order to move the project forward. Bob wants to encourage consideration of the pilot project sooner rather than later.

Groundwater Subcommittee update

Meeting is set for Thursday afternoon, at CCWCD.

Enviro-Rec Needs Committee

Greg updated the group on the database. He talked about a pause between now as the last project is wrapping up and the startup of the next project (or next phase of the project?)

Sean Cronin discussed payment of outsourced work, and their efforts exceeding what they may have been paid for.

**I did not have enough context on Sean Cronin's (and others) comments on the financial situation and the update to provide a good summary **

Greg talked about reviewing the objectives, picking out the ones that are high priority and building the scope of work around that, and putting it out to RFP.

Waiting for the water plan to come out will give the group some direction.

At-large Nominating Committee

The deadline for applications may be the 13th or the 19th? The roundtable will follow the same procedure as the prior vacancy. The vacancy will be filled at the January 2016 meeting.

Legislative Update

No bills passed out of the interim water committee.

Colorado Water Plan – John Stulp

CWCB is meeting next week, the 18th and 19th. The Water Plan will be presented to the governor on the 19th. Approx. 500 pages. Will be the beginning of a new process. John mentioned elevating water infrastructure needing to be elevated to the level of our other priorities—Transportation, education, etc.

“Implementation of the water plan is going to be a longer and more arduous process than creating the plan.”

John touched on the fundamentals of the plan

Chapter 11 on continuation of water plan since it is a living document-- long term for the overall plan and the BIPs -- CWCB as the holder of the keys to revamp the Plan in the future.

Basin Implementation Plan

Public Comment

**AG Water Summit December 15th 2015 www.coagwater.org

They will talk about the water plan and the future of Colorado's agriculture.

Keynote speakers, Gov. Hickenlooper, former secretary of food and ag- California, Justice Greg Hobbs

A reception will be held at the end of the day

**Boulder County offered up their meeting room near the airport at St. Vrain road and Airport road, if needed

**AWRA Joint meeting with CFWE and one other group_____ Tuesday Nov. 17th

**American groundwater trust Friday December 4th 2015

**December 8th roundtable meeting will be canceled, the next meeting

** Sean asked about indications from current officers if they were interested in serving another term.