## Interbasin Compact Committee Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting Holiday Inn Express Montrose, Colorado October 5, 2015

### **Voting Members Present:**

Thomas Alvey
Mike Berry
Allen Distel
Joanne Fagan
David Harold
North Fork WCD
Tri-County WCD
Bostwick Park WCD
Ouray Municipalities
Montrose Municipalities

John Justman Mesa County

Wendell Koontz

Frank Kugel

Henry LeValley

Dixie Luke

Delta Municipalities

At-Large Member

Crawford WCD

At-Large Member

John McClow House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison

Chuck Mitisek Ute WCD

Bill Nesbitt Gunnison Municipalities

Mark Roeber Delta County

Michelle Pierce Hinsdale Municipalities

Hugh Sanburg Industrial
Neal Schwieterman Recreational
Ron Shaver At-Large Member

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
Cary Denison Environmental

Steve Fletcher At-Large Member
Jay Jutten Montrose County
Austin Keiser Grand Mesa WCD

Steve Shea Agricultural

George Sibley At-Large Member Steve Snyder Saguache County Stan Whinnery Hinsdale County

#### **Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:**

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), David Kanzer (At Large), Jedd Sondergard (BLM Liaison).

**Public:** Mary Jacobs (Dixie Luke's Guest), Fritz Raish (Ag), Paige Blankenbuehler (High

Country News), Craig Ullmann (Applegate Group), Beth Karberg (CO Dept Ag), Michael Dale (NPS), John and Kathy Bradbury (Public - Delta County), Brent

Newman (CWCB).

### 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 2 persons short of a quorum. Eventually more members arrived and a quorum was declared to be present.

#### **Approve Agenda**

Neal Schwieterman moved to approve the agenda as circulated. Bill Nesbitt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **Approve August 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Neal Schwieterman requested a correction to a typographical error on page 3.

Dixie Luke moved to approve the August 3, 2015 minutes as amended. Ron Shaver seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Report from the IBCC Representatives**

Bill Trampe reported that the IBCC met on August 25, 2015. The IBCC members had an extended discussion about the conservation stretch goal and where it should be in the water plan. The conservation stretch goal was challenged by some municipal providers, but it was agreed to keep it in the plan with some minor changes. There was also discussion about language in the Conceptual Framework, as well as the imminent domain issue brought up by this Roundtable.

After lunch they discussed funding to implement the water plan and the next steps, including a roadmap, for the future of the Roundtables.

John McClow moved to ratify the IBCC representative's report. Ron Shaver seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Report from the Educational Committee**

George Sibley was not present and there was no report.

John McClow asked if the insert George was preparing, summarizing the water plan, has been put into the newspapers. Different members stated they had not seen it in their local papers.

### **Report from the CWCB Representative**

John McClow reported the CWCB met for 3 days in September in Montrose. They spent the first day hearing about contested instream flow applications, primarily on the Dolores River. The Southwest and River Districts proposed that the CWCB should create a carve out for future development. The Board did not accept their suggestion.

The next day the Board spent a couple of hours on refinements to the water plan. They will meet tomorrow in Denver to complete revisions to the draft water plan. The draft has a complete Conceptual Framework as approved by the IBCC, but it doesn't address eminent domain. John said he will try to get at least some commentary on that subject into the document.

They also did a lot of finance work on water supply reserve account grants and loans. The Roundtable was informed that the projection for severance tax for the next few years is very poor and the funding for the Roundtable account comes from severance funds. John stated there may not be as much funding in the future and to plan ahead. There is stiff competition for state money and we may need to use more basin funds.

### 1. The NASA Airborne Snow Observatory

Jeffrey S. Deems, Research Scientist for the National Snow and Ice Data Center gave a presentation on the Observatory's efforts to map mountain snowpacks to enable next generation water management.

Mr. Deems explained there is a need for additional information to provide forecasting for various operations relying on runoff. Forecasting is a challenge in unusual years, and years are getting more unusual.

With this service data is available within a couple of days, providing new opportunities in water management. The cost varies, but is approximately \$150.00 per square mile. The NASA Airborne Snow Observatory website at <a href="http://aso.jpl.nasa.gov">http://aso.jpl.nasa.gov</a> has more information.

#### 2. Roundtable Membership

Michelle Pierce reported on the status of member appointments and applications for atlarge seats. The next Roundtable will have to advertise for at least one at-large seat.

Since a full membership is not yet appointed or reappointed, action cannot be taken to appoint at-large members or hold the annual meeting and have an election of officers.

### 3. Roundtable Leadership

Tonight is Michelle Pierce's last meeting as Chairperson of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable. Because there is not yet at full membership of appointed seats to hold an election of officers, an Interim Chairperson will be appointed until a full membership is reached. Tom Alvey offered to serve as Interim Chairperson but emphasized he can only serve as interim Chairperson.

Bill Nesbitt moved to appoint Tom Alvey as the Interim Chairperson of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable. Marti Whitmore seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Michelle Pierce stated she had files to turn over to the new Chairperson and Tom Alvey asked that she take her paperwork files to the Upper Gunnison office to keep for the next permanent Chairperson.

Bill Trampe stated that Director Stulp has indicated he thought it would be a good idea to have new blood in the IBCC. Bill said he is not resigning as IBCC representative, but it is possible he will not be reappointed to his seat by the River District. In any case, if the Roundtable has any wish to replace him on the IBCC, he is okay with that.

### **Commemoration Gift for Michelle Pierce**

John McClow presented a gift from the Gunnison Basin Roundtable to Michelle Pierce to commemorate and thank her for 10 years of service to the Roundtable.

### **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2015, at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose.

### Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Mike Berry, Recorder

# **Action Items**

None.