

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, January 14, 2016

Denver Water

1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

In Attendance

RT Members: Barbara Biggs, Cortney Brand, Marc Waage, Casey Davenhill, Robert T. Sakata, Janet Bell, Julio Iturria, Rick Marsicek, Scott Schreiber, Eric Hecox, Bob Hastings, John Kaufman, Tim Murrell, Dave Holm, Jordan Dimick, Susan Nedell, Lesley Sebol, Joe Stibrich

CWCB Staff/Recorder: Craig Godbout, Jacob Bornstein, Diane Kielty

Guests: Jacob Bornstein, Pat Mulhern, Katie Spahr, Richard Paffoth, Phyllis Thomas, Laura Belanger, Darren Beck, Matt Lindburg's, Polly Hays, Brent Gardner-Smith, Devon Buckels, Amy Conklin

1. Welcome/Introductions (5 min)

2. Approval of the December Meeting Summary (5 min) (Action Item)

Motion to Approve made by Tim Murrell, second by Scott Schreiber -
All in Favor-Approved

3. Agenda: additions or changes (5 min)

The Warrior Ditch at Mountain View Youth Services Center presentation was pulled from the agenda.

4. Committee Updates (50 min)

a. WSRA Committee

☐ Grant Requests

1. Final Recommendation

a. Advancing Direct Potable Reuse (5 min) - Water Reuse Colorado (Action Item)

Tim asked for any additional questions to come forth at this time. They will be submitting a formal application to CWCB staff.

Comment made that the concept is not clear from a non-engineering perspective. There is confusion as to whether or not this type of use will restrict any allocation for downstream users.

Response that there is no regulatory framework to "do" reuse. The purpose of this grant is to develop the regulatory framework.

There are some goals expressed in the handout. The first goal is to set a clear path of development of regulations on public health and best practices based on other states experiences. The South Platte RT did not vote on this and they are asking for clarity from the applicant. South Platte RT will be doing an email vote once language is developed with input from engineers and on water law / water rights to gain support from the State of Colorado Water Engineers Office.

This project will ultimately need to go through a full process with Water Quality Control Commission. Can only reuse water that is decreed as reusable water. With no regulatory framework to work within, water reuse would be a very costly venture for any utility to pursue. Industry

needs regulatory framework for guidance to invest in reuse options.

Clarification of language will be submitted next week.

CWCB does not have concerns with this grant request with the caveat that clarification language be in place. This project is in alignment with the water plan.

Motion to approve by John Kaufman, seconded
All in Favor-Approved

- b. Selenium Treatment of RO Concentrate (5 min) - Cottonwood WSD / ACCWA (**Action Item**)

Applicant was asked if the Cherry Creek Basin Authority was a party to this project? Responded that they go in front of Board next week to ask for a Letter of Support. The key element of the project is treatment of selenium. This implements an IPP with additional statewide benefit to address selenium.

Motion to approve by Eric Hecox, Second by John Kaufman
All in Favor - Approved

2. Concept Review

- a. Pulled - Warrior Ditch at Mountain View Youth Services Center (10 min) - Colorado Department of Human Services (**Action Item**)
- b. Horse Creek Restoration Project (10 min) - Coalition for Upper South Platte (**Action Item**)

Provided brief history of the watershed. Fires have riddled the area. Presented maps of land scarred by fires. Significant sediment and erosion issues since the Hayman fire. Discussed restoration projects to date in this area.

Planning on the main portion is now complete and USFS NEPA clearances should be finalized by this spring. Work in ephemeral drainages a new element in the restoration planning. In the grant proposal to address temporary culverts which have failed. They will be replacing culverts with clear span bridges. Many CUSP volunteers on board to help and educate on flood, water rights, fire, etc...

Due to fires There has been approximately a 15% loss in downstream reservoir capacity. Attempted to get much of the sediment out but this is very costly and needs to be done repeatedly. This project will address holding sediment in perpetuity with 10 year life or more. Project meets standards including agricultural protection, storage, endangered species, and recreation. With this project they expect to return back to pre-fire sedimentation rates.

Project cost 1.9 Million, 2 year project.

Asking Metro Roundtable for \$50,000.

Project is supported by the MRT Environmental / Recreation Committee.

Is a monitoring plan in place? Yes. The Trail Creek Project report is online and represents a good example of their monitoring program.

Question to Environmental & Recreation WSRA Committee - How much is set aside for Environmental and Recreation projects? 35/35 /20. The committee and membership will need to revisit the allocation approach for a \$50,000 request.

Does the Forest Service plan to contribute? NEPA process is included as their in-kind. At the moment the Forest Service is anticipated to contribute \$250,000.

Any discussion of Beaver reintroduction in this area? In Trail Creek beavers came back immediately. In the disturbed areas beaver dams are not stable in floods so it fails. For this reason the organization would prefer beaver not take up residence until after the area is restored.

Strong urgency to have this project move forward to CWCB for a March CWCB submittal. The proponent requested that this presentation be both a first and final reading to approve and move forward.

An additional request was made to the MRT membership to review overall WSRA monies available in order to distribute \$50,000 to this applicant's project from more than one of the MRT WSRA allocation funds. This is a multipurpose project and money could be drawn from other WSRA sub groups. Funding request will be at the full \$50,000 with internal WSRA discussion and agreement to draw from multiple WSRA sources.

Ask from the State would be for \$650,000, but State ask and allocation would need to involve the receipt of two installments over the two year project life and based on WSRA installments. There are other avenues as well to meet this distribution of funds challenge. An approach was recommended that this request be addressed similar to how the WISE grant was structured.

Move to approve made by Scott Schreiber, second by Eric Hecox ;
All in favor - approved

☐ Reserve Fund

3. MRT WSRA fund balance \$238,494 / Statewide balance \$1,898,512

b. PEPO (Davenhill – 10 min)

There is an Education Action Plan on the Water Plan Website. The two main outreach components are to educate decision makers and to build a web presence for increased outreach. Focus is on action and implementation of the Basin Implementation Plan. One proposal came forward but the committee determined it was not aligned with the priorities and objectives of the MRT Education and Outreach Plan.

Information was provided on upcoming events where PEPO is encouraging MRT membership attendance to provide MRT presence while PEPO works to advance a web presence. They are continuing to develop a budget around this and also plan to use WSRA funds to educate decision makers. Reserving monies to address both internal and external education needs. More news on a website will be brought forward next month.

PEPO is very pleased with the Metro Water Ambassador program and are coordinating with the Community College of Denver to do something similar. PEPO is helping to incubate this concept.

5. CWP (Jacob Bornstein - 45 min)

- a. CWCB presentation on Colorado's Water Plan (30 min Presentation / Video (time permitting) / 15 min Q & A)

Presentation provided overview with focus on storage and permitting. Initial slides addressed measurable objectives and actions. Funding will be the next primary focus and will likely require an ask from the public. IBCC will be working with funding committee on detailed specifics of the ask. Improving public awareness is also important element in developing the funding message. Reviewed five options under consideration as possible funding actions. Next is to hone in on funding mechanism on the "how" to fund as IBCC identifies the "what" to fund.

Exploring storage opportunities as well as improvements to the permitting process that would support bringing storage on line. A LEAN event is planned in March to address permitting process improvements. Federal and State agencies have agreed to attend to help identify improvements to process.

Comment that the two major efforts going forward appear to be the LEAN Event focused on permitting and Funding. Does CWCB plan to put effort behind other primary projects? Yes. Attention to integration to consider Conservation Best Management Practices. Guidance around this will be addressed.

A request was made for clarification on the language in the plan around the gap. Restated, by 2030 we will be able to complete all "planned" projects to meet the gap goal.

Have not finalized contracts to move forward on SWSI. Comment that SWSI and much of the Water Plan is addressing population and water resources. Would ask MRT going forward to consider a focused interest in climate change modeling. For political reasons this was not a focus in the plan and previous SWSI work. How does MRT want to go forward to address hydrologic impacts, demand impacts, storage impacts, etc..? Is this a possible place for MRT to lead and demonstrate by incorporating climate change modeling into our planning? It may be up to us to demonstrate how to do this and South Platte may be interested in joining us in an agricultural / urban / east / west collaboration to set the example. MRT may have opportunity to help fill in this void.

Question posed to MRT, "How would we proceed with this suggested avenue for climate change modeling?" A presentation from SWSI would help MRT determine how best to plug in with modeling once SWSI contracts are in place. First step is to invite Taryn Finnessey, CWCB Climate Change Risk Management Specialist, to present to MRT.

(Action Item)

6. Meeting Schedule

- a. CWCB Meeting - January 25th - 26th, 2016, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Location: Denver Tech Center.
- b. Colorado Water Congress Annual Meeting - January 27th-28th, 2016, Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center
- c. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - February 9th, 2016, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Road 24 1/2, Longmont, CO.
- d. MRT Meeting - Thursday, February 11th, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO.

Meeting Adjourn 6:10 pm