

Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC) Meeting Summary
Tuesday, May 24, 2016
Salida SteamPlant Event Center

IBCC Members Present

Bill Trampe
Bruce Whitehead
Carlyle Currier
Cleave Simpson
Eric Kuhn
Jay Winner
Jeff Devere

Jeris Danielson
Jim Yahn
Joe Stibrich
John Stulp
Melinda Kassen
Peter Nichols
Rick Brinkman

Sean Cronin
Senator Sonnenberg
Stan Cazier
Steve Harris
Travis Smith
T. Wright Dickinson

IBCC Members Absent

John Rich
Kevin McBride
Marc Waage
Mike Alnutt
Representative Vigil
Taylor Hawes
Wayne Vanderschuere

Staff

Bob Randall
Becky Mitchell
Brent Newman
Craig Godbout
Dori Vigil
Ben Wade
Kevin Reidy
Mara MacKillop
Viola Bralish
Kirk Russell

The Arkansas basin roundtable PEPO liaisons (Jean Van Pelt and Chelsey Nutter) gave a presentation on their program in the basin and showed the roundtable storage trailer.

Mara MacKillop the new CWCB Public Engagement Specialist introduced herself to the IBCC and spoke briefly about her role and potential IBCC involvement in statewide education and outreach activities.

2016 Legislation – John Stulp and Becky Mitchell discussed the legislative session; a summary of the South Platte storage bill and the 2016 Projects Bill is going forward as proposed and will not be affected by funding issues.

Conservation and Land Use - Kevin Reidy provided a brief overview of the water loss bill and the potential way forward, as well as the land use trainings which will be occurring statewide.

WSRA Criteria and Guidelines Discussion, Subcommittee Update – The WSRA Criteria and Guidelines workgroup held a meeting the night before the IBCC meeting to discuss the future challenges of the program and look at possible changes/improvements. Sean Cronin talked about the 10 points that came out of the meeting;

1. Let's not reinvent the wheel, look at other grant programs (staff will do analysis)
2. How money is used to hire contractors, requirements for big grants 100k or more would have a bidding process.
3. Financial need analysis, approving grants on a sliding scale; needs further discussion
4. Match requirements, have at least a minimum and the greater the match the greater the reward
5. Accountability back to the basin roundtables when it comes to conflict of interest. Give basins tools to expand the possible number of grantees
6. Possibly hold back funds before grantees get final payment, don't fund grantees that don't perform on a previous grant.
7. Progress reports back to basin roundtable as an education tools
8. Carryover of unused basin roundtable grant funds
9. Education and outreach projects be discouraged to be funded from WSRA funds
10. Basin roundtables hire a WSRA coordinator

LEAN Process Update – Becky Mitchell gave an update on this ongoing process

Funding – Brent Newman, John Stulp, and Bob Randall (EDO)

Provided a summary of the Supreme Court case and the fallout, this will likely affect incoming severance tax revenues by 12.5%. The recent senate bill has proposed a way forward which will cut Tier 2 severance tax funding – this means no money into the WSRA program for FY16-17.

Brent gave a presentation that Tim Feehan gave to the board at their May meeting

Questions that came from the IBCC; what is the mechanism for distributing the 10m, likes the idea but sees it as a 5 year interim program, may need some sort of initiative. It's important for somebody to start establishing interim measurable goals, how do we move forward toward the goal with the money that CWCB is going to put in.

Container Fee – Dick Brown with the Statewide Funding Committee (dickscuba@gmail.com)

We need a stream of revenue for the water plan; this is where the notion of a container fee comes in. It would generate 114 million dollars a year, net would be 110m a year. Containers that hold any beverage product that was intended for human consumption, such as; soda, water, juice, etc. There is no competition at this time for the revenue. What might go into structuring the fee itself, where would you apply that revenue should you get the money into the state system? There won't be any lack of groups who would want to participate but I would be very cautious because then that would dilute what is available. I would encourage taking a holistic view of the revenues, the more revenue streams you have coming in the more stability that you get. We have seen groups running programs somewhat similar to this but there is hypersensitivity to the word tax. If there is no water then there's no product. John Stulp added that we have yet to hear an alternative that would generate the type of revenue that this concept has. Joe Stibrich said he thought there is general support but we really need to find a way to identify what this will be used for? Maybe have Dick Brown come out to the roundtables to discuss this a bit more. If everyone agrees on at least a concept of how this money will be spent, then you get the beverage companies on board. How do we get the general public to support something like this? Melinda Kassen felt that you have to make sure it's consistent with the conceptual framework. We need to spend a lot of time on messaging with an economically viable plan. Jeff Devere said this needs to be about something larger, it needs to apply to everything. Anything that has a broad low cost then maybe you will get people to vote for it. He suggested starting a bank with the money and the reason is because they must have a charter and you have to structure the way that money is spent.