

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Holiday Inn Express
Montrose, Colorado
April 4, 2016**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Rick Brinkman	Mesa Municipalities
Cary Denison	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Cindy Dozier	Hinsdale County
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Ray Hanson	Delta Municipalities
John Harris	Montrose Municipalities
John Justman	Mesa County
Jay Jutten	Montrose County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Henry LeValley	Crawford WCD
Dixie Luke	At-Large Member
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Dan Murphy	Hinsdale Municipalities
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Greg Peterson	Saguache County
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Hugh Sanburg	Industrial
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Rufus Wilderson	Gunnison County

Voting Members Absent:

Kathleen Curry	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Steve Shea	Agricultural

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Dave Kanzer (CRD Liaison), David Graf (CPW Liaison).

Public: Paul Canada (Univ of Idaho, Water Resources Restoration Ecologist), Richard Vangytenbeek (Trout Unlimited), Kim Smith (GHD Services, Inc.), Julie Nania (High Country Conservation Advocate), Casey Davenhill (Colorado Watershed Assembly), Hannah Holm (Hutchins Water Center at CMU), Brent Gardner-Smith (Aspen Journalism), Brent Newman (CWCB), Michael Dale (NPS), Beth Anderson (GMUG Nat Forest), Matt Montgomery and Susan Nall (US Army Corps of Engineers), Paul Kehmeier (Orchard Ranch Ditch Co.).

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Hugh Sanburg.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call a quorum was declared to be present.

Approve Agenda

Hugh Sanburg announced a change to the agenda to remove item 3.d, since there was no update on this item.

Tom Alvey moved to approve the agenda as amended. Cary Denison seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Approve February 1, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Frank Kugel moved to approve the February 1, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Ray Hanson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Report from the IBCC Representatives

Rick Brinkman reported the IBCC met on February 23, 2016 in Broomfield. Eric Kuhn made a presentation on water supply and demand study on the Colorado River, similar to the presentation he gave at the last Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting. Each Roundtable gave update on their BIP process. Rick and Bill Trampe talked about some of our successes, how we prioritize our projects and our overriding goal of protecting existing water rights.

There was discussion on the CWCB's short fall, which is reported to be about 3 billion. The afternoon was spent talking about funding for CWCB and water supply reserve accounts. They heard several presentations about funding mechanisms and then broke into groups for discussion.

Bill Trampe added that each Roundtable reported on their perspectives. One Roundtable presented a video, which he thought was very good. The Arkansas Roundtable is improving on their roundtable process. All the Roundtables talked about their websites and efforts to continue to update them. The Southwest Roundtable is working on their agriculture deficiencies. The Yampa is trying to prepare themselves for the possibility of what happens if they are administered and are working on a biological opinion in the White River and the Little Snake.

Tom Alvey moved to ratify the reports of the IBCC representatives. Austin Keiser seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Report from the Educational Committee

Marti Whitmore reported the Educational Committee met by phone. Not everyone was able to attend so they have scheduled another meeting in a couple weeks to look at a couple of proposals which included a website and a field trip for elected officials from the Gunnison basin. Future funding was discussed at the last meeting, and it was stated we cannot assume there will be more funding in the future for educational programs. The committee is looking at educational programs that are cost effective.

Marti said Hannah Holm has drafted a one-page brochure, which is a quick glance at the Colorado River Plan and the Gunnison Basin BIP. There is still time to make any comments or additions to the draft. A copy was circulated to the members and any comments should be directed to Hannah.

Dave Kanzer announced the State of the River educational meeting is proposed to take place after the June Roundtable Meeting, but said the meeting could take place a couple of weeks later if that was preferred. He is looking for input for the meeting. The River District will take the lead but wants some local support. The Roundtable members preferred the meeting to be after the Roundtable meeting.

Dave added that the Colorado Foundation for Water Education is also doing a tour. This 2-day tour is an educational opportunity which starts on June 21. For more information contact Marti Whitmore.

Report from the CWCB Representative

John McClow was not at the last Roundtable meeting and so he gave a report on both the January and March CWCB meetings.

In January items of interest were the Board forwarded some species conservation trust fund recommendations. It also adjusted some criteria guidelines, improved the projects list, and made some instream flow recommendations.

The March CWCB meeting was in La Junta. The Board considered 29 grant funding applications. All five Gunnison basin applications were approved. They got some updates on water plan funding. They also approved the severance tax operating fund grants. These are non-reimbursable grants that come out of the severance tax revenues. There were 31 applications and 30 of those were approved.

John also mentioned the forecast in March was the severance tax will decline by 90% next year. That means that the allocations to the water supply account will likely be \$1 million total for the year for the whole state. We will have very little to work with over next 1 to 2 years.

1. **Army Corps of Engineers** – Susan Nall, Chief, and Matt Montgomery, Sr. Project Manager

Susan Nall and Matt Montgomery are with the Army Corps of Engineers in the Grand Junction office. They spoke to the Gunnison Basin Roundtable about the Army Corps of Engineers and what they do.

The jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers out of Grand Junction is everything west of Continental Divide. Mr. Montgomery discussed what the Corps does and what they regulate, specifically Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. There was also discussion regarding the Corps relationship with the EPA.

The Army Corps of Engineers will be holding a regulatory workshop next week on April 12, 2016 from 1:00 to 3:30 pm at the City of Grand Junction auditorium. The workshop will present general information such as their program, minimum standards and how to submit an application.

2. **WSRA Grant Request** – Orchard Ranch Ditch

Tom Alvey introduced the application for the Orchard Ranch Ditch. They are asking for a total of \$80,000, \$40,000 from each basin and state funds. This grant was to make up their contribution in securing a Bureau of Reclamation selenium grant. The screening committee feels it is a worthwhile project. It will pressurize 2 miles of ditch in pipe, reduce salts, protect decrees, and was recognized as a tier 1 project in our BIP.

The committee is in favor of the project but did feel that the applicant should make a larger contribution to the project. The committee recommended the applicant put in some more money as opposed to all grant money. They agreed to do so. The committee recommends approval of their new request of \$50,000, \$25,000 from each basin and state funds.

Bill Nesbitt asked how many folks are affected by this ditch. The reply was a total of 42 - 12 producers and a subdivision with 30 houses. The majority of the water is going to the irrigators.

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the grant request from Orchard Ranch Ditch for \$25,000 from Basin funds and \$25,000 from state funds. Allen Distel seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

3. **Updates**

a. Bylaws for GBRT

There was a request that the Bylaws Committee meet and look at options for approving grant requests if we do not have a quorum. The Bylaws Committee met by telephone and determined that the Bylaws include “written consent.” The committee felt this basically covered emergency situations, assuming that email would be considered appropriate for written consent. There were no objections.

b. CFWE 2016 River Basin Tour

As previously discussed, this tour will take place on June 21 and 22, 2016. There will be more information to follow. Hugh will provide the CFWE with the Gunnison Basin contact list, and they will be sending out more information when it is available.

c. CAWA (Colorado Agricultural Water Alliance) Conference

The CAWA is going to hold a conference to take place on May 3, 2016, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Delta Montrose Technical College. Hugh will be forwarding the information to the Roundtable members.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 6, 2016, at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

None.