

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, April 14, 2016
1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

Members in Attendance:

Casey Davenport, Courtney Brand, Dave Holm, Eric Hecox, Gary Thompson, Janet Bell, John Kaufman, Joran Dimick, Julio Iturreria, Lesley Sebol, Marc Waage, Mark Koleber, Rick Marsicek, Rob Sakata, Scott Brink, Scott Schreiber, Susan Nedell

Guests:

Greg Peterson, Matt Welch, Royal Koepsell, Kevin Urie, Jerry Kenny, Amy Conklin, Daren Beck, Matt Lindburg, Phyllis Thomas, Tiffanie Basore, Barbara Warneke, Steve Farabaugh, Will Keyn, Lurna Kaatz, Daniel Gallen

CWCB:

Craig Godbout, Diane Kielty

1. Welcome/Introductions (5 min)

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

All in Favor - Approved

3. Agenda: additions or changes (5 min)

4. Public Comment (5 min)

The Spring Gem and Mineral Show is this coming weekend. There will be a silent auction on Saturday. See flyers on table.

5. Committee Updates (50 min)

a. WSRA Committee

- **Water Information Dashboard project update (John Rodgers, P.E. - 30 min)**

This was an update on an already approved MRT project. This is a custom web based water information tool funded by CWCB in Open Source platform in real time so community can access and use information. A demo was performed. They are in the process of rolling out the system which should be ready to launch this summer or fall. A full announcement will be made at that time. If interested in more information, go to cowaterinfo.com. This was recently presented to the South Platte and Arkansas basins. They are willing to take this presentation to the West Slope basins.

To what extent is the system able to look back in time on conditions for analysis? Are there any tools built into the dashboard for this type of analysis? Yes, but it is dependent upon what type of analysis you want to perform.

Do you have reservoir information? Yes. What type of reservoir data? Reservoir storage unit information.

Can a tool be added to analyze water quality data? In regard to water quality they have collected this information as a company. Water quality is not in the scope of this project.

Is it possible to analyze the quality of the infrastructure delivering water? That would depend on what information already exists. If it's data, it can go in the system.

- Account Balance
 1. WSRA fund balance sheet was provided in meeting packet. MRT balance is \$214,337. The Statewide account is now \$198,135 which is relatively low compared to the past. MRT committees are continuing to track our basin account. Balances have not changed since the last balance. Balance does not include April dispersal. There will be another infusion in July.

b. PEPO (Davenhill – 20 min)

- South Platte RT WSRA Needs Committee will convene a special workshop for the SPRT to discuss prioritizing elements of the BIP. Does MRT want to provide PEPO funds to support this workshop? Who from the MRT would want to participate in these workshops? We have a role and responsibility to provide public information and host workshops. This is a legitimate use of PEPO funds. Handouts of outreach materials were provided to the room. PEPO also has the Republican River outreach materials.

In the past couple of years MRT and SPRT have been trying to work as one. Does this make sense for granting criteria going forward or should MRT begin to operate separately? Both. We made fundamental changes in the MRT approach this year. It will take a while to see the results from the changes. Waiting a year to see how the new process works would be a desirable approach.

The previous Criteria and Guidelines Committee hasn't met for several years. They are reconstituting the committee. Suggestions will come from staff, CWCB, and IBCC. Some criteria may change. Matching requirements may be increased. No change in the criteria is anticipated for several months. At the moment each basin has a different screening criteria, but all basins are subject to the guidelines of the Criteria and Guidelines committee.

- www.southplattebasin.com website will be transferred to a Wordpress content management platform. The purpose of this change is to work in a content management system that is easier for a lay person to manage. A map will be added in the future and functionality will grow over time.
- PEPO is asking for feedback from MRT on a June 9th date for an Environmental/Recreation Needs Workshop in order maximize participation in the workshop? This would be a combined meeting with SPRT. This may align us better with the SP basin at least from a recreational and environmental standpoint.
- There has been interest expressed in reinvigorating the Environmental Needs Committee. It may be worth revisiting to ensure MRT has good representation and that there is CWCB staff interface on SWSI. Scott Schreiber is willing to be involved in this committee and offered to provide future updates to MRT. There are several agency liaisons in our membership that we may want to engage and represent MRT. A Metro water provider would also be ideal to have participate on this committee to provide diversity of perspective. This will be a topic for broader discussion in a future MRT meeting.
- There is interest for Metro RT to leverage funds for Colorado Agricultural Water Alliance (CAWA) Workshop(s). There are funds set aside for these workshops. It is a decision to be made by the PEPO workgroup. Greg Peterson of CAWA has made a \$1,500 request. CAWA is focused on water education for producers. They have been doing a series of workshops on various topics including water leasing, agricultural producers engaging in efficiency leasing projects, and project pilots on irrigation efficiency. They are adapting the workshop topics based on the workshop location by tailoring to basin interests and needs. They are asking for PEPO funds as opposed to

going through the WSRA process. A concern of interest for a workshop topic from a municipal perspective is infrastructure. This should be a part of the discussion if MRT is supporting with funds.

How does the process work to develop a workshop for MRT? It begins with an initial discussion to identify topic and speakers. Craig Godbout suggested Greg contact Craig. MRT membership expressed support for this use of PEPO funds.

6. Climate Change Update (15 min)

- a. Consider MRT playing a leadership role.
 - Should MRT consider hedges be built into projects?
 - Is MRT funding projects that are adaptive to these type of changes?
 - Would MRT consider partnering with other Round Tables on this issue?

There was a short presentation on the SWSI approach to climate change. Taryn Finessey with CWCB has asked MRT to put together comments and send them to her on what the MRT would like to see addressed by SWSI. They are not going deep into the supply analysis and are not sure as to what scale they will use (basin, county, etc....). It will not include water rights. The consulting team has not been fully contracted yet.

What needs to be done for planning at the basin scale? Suggestion made that MRT form a small group to develop questions for SWSI to bring forward in the SWSI process. For the long-term possibly form a climate change committee to identify what types of questions need to be addressed in the grant process. This would also go forward to the IBCC and be brought to the Criteria and Guidelines committee. Mark Waage was given a go ahead from MRT to develop a working group.

7. Platte River Recovery Implementation Program / South Platte Water Related Activities Program Update (20 min)

- a. Jerry Kenny, Executive Director & Kevin Urie Denver Water/SPWRAP
A presentation was given on the basin management actions regarding recovery efforts of endangered species in the basin and restoring habitats for those species. They are doing science to monitor best use of the area covered. Program covers existing use of area as of July 1997. Provides framework for future water development. Phase II of the program is devoted to continued use of water going forward. The South Platte Water Related Activities Program SPWRAP (Nonprofit Organization) is designed to continue the partnership to fund the program and run the program to meet the milestones of the project. Handouts were provided.

8. IBCC Update (15 min)

- a. Discussion of West Slope Round Table study
CWCB Board approved \$32,000 grant with other entities matching funds. Two provisions; 1) Michelle Garrison will be part of the study team, 2) it will include east slope members on the Technical Committee. They will broadcast meetings through webinars starting in May with an anticipated finish in July. Deliverable anticipated in the fall. There will be a series of 3 – 6 pairs of meetings. All are welcome to attend. All of the meetings including the educational component will be open to the public and held as webinars. This is still in the planning process.

9. Meeting Schedule

- a. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - Tuesday, May 10th, 2016, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Road 24 1/2, Longmont, CO.
- b. MRT Meeting - Thursday, May 12th, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO.
- c. IBCC Meeting - Tuesday, May 24th, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Location TBD.