

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, February 11, 2016
1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

Attendees:

RT Members: Barbara Biggs, Casey Davenport, Janet Bell, Mark Koleber, Julio Iturria, Scott Schreiber, Eric Hecox, John Kaufman, Tim Murrell, Dave Holm, Jordan Dimick, Susan Nedell, Joe Stibrich, Sarah Dominick for Marc Waage, Peter Nichols, David Nickum

CWCB Staff/Recorder: Craig Godbout, Diane Kielty

Guests: Rick McLoud, Amy Conklin, Ronnie Crawford, John Davenport, Scott Brink

1. **Welcome/Introductions (5 min)**

2. **Approval of the Meeting Summary (5 min)**

Motion to approve made by Joe Stibrich, second by Eric Hecox
All in Favor Unanimous - Approved

3. **Agenda: additions or changes (5 min)**

Peter Nichols suggested MRT consideration of participation in a Front Range Round Table Executive Committee meeting to include MRT, Arkansas, and South Platte. Members concurred.

Remove Horse Creek Restoration Update from this agenda.

4. **Public Comment (5 min)**

An independent survey request was received by MRT members regarding identifying value and knowledge of RT members now that the Water Plan has been released. Hard copy was provided and distributed to the MRT members. This is not a survey from the CWCB. The survey language suggests it will be a synthesis of knowledge. David Marcum is the requesting agent and is not affiliated with CWCB. This is a Post Doctorate project.

Not everyone on the MRT received the survey request. Should MRT membership participate in survey? After discussion, the RT agreed that the South Platte BIP is a synthesis of our values and priorities, but he is welcome to present to the MRT to explain the need and purpose for the survey. Chairman Biggs will respond to Mr. Marcum's e-mails regarding the survey with that consensus.

J. Paul Brown spoke at the South Platte RT meeting on a Colorado House Bill (55?) proposal regarding additional storage options in the front range. He is encouraging maximization of our systems and is an advocate.

Chris Treese with the River District spoke at the South Platte RT meeting and presented a "West Slope Study" on Colorado River water availability.

During the SPRT meeting, Jim Yahn made a motion that Joe Frank meet with the other RT chairs to discuss being part of a technical committee and request the ability to contribute financially, Lisa McVicker seconded. South Platte RT approved.

Does MRT want to participate and help fund this study? How will this help the State with what they are working towards in the Water Plan? This type of study has been tried before and any discussion of compact compliance was segmented out and handled under a separate study under the direction of the AGO.

A motion was made by Peter Nichols that MRT would be interested in participating in the study, including funding, if the study moves forward, but only with the blessing of the Attorney

5. Committee Updates (45 min)

a. WSRA Committee (Murrell - 40 min.)

- Concept Review

- 1. Trout Unlimited - John Davenport presented

Scott Schrieber commented that the TU project aligns with BIP and introduced John. John conducted a demonstration on the installation of temperature monitoring stations. He provided equipment to view and a description of the process.

Members suggested TU coordinate with others on this effort. There are dozens of existing temperature monitoring locations coordinated by SP CURE. John stated this project would report to the Trout Unlimited network. TU is not trying to replace or duplicate existing systems. They are working to get their membership involved to identify fisheries to restore based on temperature variations.

Members asked what is to be gained by the collection of this data? What does it mean? What does TU plan to do with it? TU has been involved with many stream improvement projects. They want to know how these improvements being made are improving the streams and where so TU may suggest appropriate locations for fisheries. Looking for baseline data to track the success.

This will be year round data collected every 6 months. The primary question for Trout Unlimited is identifying warm or cold water fishery. The data collection is not targeting discharges but rather where best to consider fisheries and best fishery locations. Long-term goal is to have a stream that is fishable that the city can be proud of. Trout Unlimited wants to do their part with a public database.

Temperature is a serious problem for permitted wastewater utilities who already run vigorous data programs to comply with regulations. MRT suggested that further monitoring to engage the public should include other partners who could help with this effort including SP CURE and the Colorado Data Sharing Network where much information already exists. Temperature in the South Platte, given the number of treatment facilities, is a very sensitive issue. Also, much monitoring is already being conducted. It was recommended TU contact the SP CURE Chair or Coordinator to collaborate and possibly leverage this effort.

This is a first review. Comments provided suggesting TU take opportunity to seek opportunities to leverage existing monitoring and do further research to identify existing data, and if there are gaps, where Trout Unlimited might fill those gaps. Work with Tim Murrell to address comments.

- WSRA grant funding discussion

A Basin Budget Funding worksheet was handed out to MRT members. A discussion took place on what WSRA would like to consider for grantees given the Fund is reduced. Also, reserve funds is an additional topic for MRT consideration.

Many of the Statewide requests are multi-basin requests. For example, the Reuse Colorado project has many basins involved.

MRT categories as broken out is an important tracking method that helps with decision making. A reserve would ensure that MRT WSRA can accommodate what is in the WSRA project queue. MRT has established their priorities and will track to ensure there is no overspending in any category. MRT would prefer a greater buffer with the reserve but for now what is in place is a prudent approach.

If MRT gets a rush of applications, this category approach with reserve also built into each category, is a comfortable approach. If MRT wants to, as a RT, initiate

a study, MRT could pull funds out of a WSRA fund. This may involve issuing an RFP and would still need to be approved by CWCB, the fiscal agent. An MRT application would be subject to the same process that other applicants use to request funding.

- Account Balance

1. MRT WSRA Basin Account balance \$322,637 / Statewide Account balance \$3,302,083

Most current numbers as of this meeting, \$314,337 in Metro account, Statewide \$3,322,013. Have request for 3.6 million - \$290,000 short which does not include a reserve. CWCB staff is considering a reserve. At the moment there is not enough money to cover statewide requests. Next year CWCB anticipates approximately a 50% reduction.

- b. PEPO (Davenhill – 10 min)

MRT website is great opportunity to identify priorities for the MRT. Four priority elements are listed on the site. Those entities that want to submit for WSRA funding should refer to the site in determining probability of their application advancing for CWCB consideration.

HDR shared basic costs for hosting and maintaining site. The site has not been updated but it is clean and easy to navigate. The Committee has reviewed the costs of maintaining and are requesting \$230 of budget to renew the domain and hosting agreement. This approach will give them a few months to evaluate the analytics of the site.

A map of the SP Basin was provided by Janet Bell highlighting the reservoirs. The Committee will be asking approval from the group for a map of the watershed be core to the upgraded site. The potential for the map includes showing prospective IPPs and other demographic information. They will continue to reach out to broaden the education committee and request in-kind support from community / government entities to upgrade the website.

There has been general agreement around the Workshop Forum and the outcome of 11 elements from the sessions. This has helped groups keep their focus on goals. A map being integrated into the website provides spatial representation which translates well each chapter of the plan.

Membership was asked to help collect reservoir information missing from current map. Committee is also asking for feedback on this map from the MRT membership. Carolyn Fritz CWCB is the mapping technical advisor.

The Committee has identified several surveys that will help with crafting MRT / SPRT messaging.

Reminder that the Water Fluency Program which is a 4 session training, and is sponsored by many MRT member organizations, is coming up. A handout on the program was passed out. The program targets educating elected officials. The Foundation for Water Education is putting on this fluency program. It was very successful last year. It has been moved north this year but is highly worth attending. Only 10 spaces are left.

6. MRT By-Laws Discussion (Biggs - 10 min)

- a. RT members required to reside within the MRT's boundaries

The Metro RT By-Laws currently require all members of the RT to reside within the boundaries of the RT. It was discussed that this provision has not always been enforced in the past and will make it difficult for entities, such as the El Paso County Municipalities, with a statutory seat on the Metro RT, to appoint a member. After discussion, it was agreed that the residency requirement was a legacy provision held over from the early

days of the RT and is no longer needed.

Eric Hecox made motion to amend MRT Bylaws to delete any reference to a requirement that members reside within the boundaries of the RT, Mark Koebler 2nd,
All in Favor Unanimous - Approved

It was noted that the By-Laws require 2-week notice of any changes. The action taken at this meeting will constitute notice to the RT members that this change is being contemplated. A final vote to approve the revision to the By-Laws will be needed at the March 10 RT meeting.

7. SWSI Update (0 min)

Contractors have been selected and secured for SWSI 2016 update. This will be the technical platform for future updates to the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan, and work will begin very soon. All contractors have signed contracts and draft Task Orders. Delivery targeted for mid-2017.

8. IBCC Update (5 min)

A meeting is scheduled on February 23rd, 2016. Details are forthcoming. They will be looking at the financing options in the Water Plan.

9. Basin Implementation Plan Update (30 min)

- a. Roundtable IPP Update

10. Meeting Schedule

- a. Annual Governor's Forum on Colorado Agriculture - February 17th & 18th, 2016, Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec St., Denver, CO 80207
- b. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - Tuesday, March 8th, 2016, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Road 24 1/2, Longmont, CO.
- c. MRT Meeting - Thursday, March 10th, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO.
- d. Climate and Colorado's Water Future Workshop - Friday, March 11th, 2016, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Foundation for Water Education, 4001 Discovery Dr., MacAllister Building, Suite S101, Sustainability, Energy and Environment Complex, Boulder, CO 80303.
- e. WaterReuse Colorado "Reuse Rendezvous" April 14, 2016, 5:30-7:30, Mile High Station.

Meeting Adjourned 6:15 pm