

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

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

Members in Attendance:

Barbara Biggs, Casey Davenport, Courtney Brand, Dave Holm, Dave Nickum, Eric Hecox, Janet Bell, John Kaufman, Lesley Sebol, Marc Waage, Mark Koleber, Randi Brazeau, Rick Marsicek, Scott Brink

Guests:

Don Ament, Darren Beck, Mary Gearhart, Jeannette Oden, Caitlin Coleman, Phyllis Thomas

CWCB:

Craig Godbout, Diane Kielty, John Stulp

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Approval of the Meeting Summary (Action Item)

No quorum

3. Agenda: additions or changes

Shifting agenda to agenda item 7 discussed before agenda item 6.

4. Public Comment

5. Committee Updates

- **WSRA Committee**

- 1. Progress on HB16-1256 (MRT Executive Committee)

- a. Action Plan timeline attached

- b. Scope of Work

A draft SOW has been distributed. MRT did approve funding go to the Statewide account for storage study. Eric Hecox received comments and submitted them to CWCB. There were comments of interest around the limit of the geographic area to be studied for siting of potential reservoir. A request was made to expand the scope of the geographic area. The target is to approve the study scope in September. The SPBRT requested that the study also look at demand. MRT is submitting this same request to study demand in our comments to SWSI. Does it make sense to ask the State to look at demand in both studies? A clarification was provided on the storage study. The idea is to take demands into account when looking at potential storage sites.

The money will all come from the Statewide account. MRT will have a technical advisory committee assigned to the study. Are there additional items MRT would want to be addressed and might be added if we put more money into the study? This would challenge the timeline of the study. We may want to visit this in the future as a phase II. Perhaps all basins could pitch in on a phase II. The Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District has agreed to be the fiscal agent. It's a short timeframe and is all clearly explained by the legislation.

- 2. Account Balance (Godbout)

- a. See WSRA fund balance sheet in meeting packet.

- 3. WSRF Criteria & Guidelines Revisions (Godbout)

There have been 2 meetings. The staff suggestions were compiled and IBCC members will receive a copy of this for next Wednesday's meeting. The format was scrapped. Policy information is going into a separate document. Many applicants haven't read the criteria documents. One primary change is that there is currently a 0 % match for basin account requests. For basin only request CWCB will ask for 25% match. This will require a Letter of Commitment or pending commitment from 3rd party if it is providing money. There may be a possible waiver to entities that cannot come up with 25% if they can demonstrate that their project has significant impact and that 25% would pose a significant hardship for the applicant. Staff is proposing to go from 25% to 50% match for the statewide account requests, 10% basin 10% applicant 30% anywhere. Any increase over the 25% for instance to 40% can get a waiver on the increase but CWCB will not waive on the original 25%. Several additional the new provisions were read to the MRT members

- **PEPO (Davenhill)**

The outcome of the June 7th group meeting was to develop a Scope of Work for a RT Coordinator and/or Basin Implementation Plan Coordinator position. The committee is working to come up with a blended summary of the two positions to create a new job description. There are a number of opportunities to share information using the South Platte BRT website. We have agreed to fund another Colorado Agriculture alliance workshop. It may take place in January.

PEPO requested that the Getches-Wilkinson Center Presentation (in the meeting packet) be presented at the MRT September meeting. Ann Castle has been taking this presentation to all of the roundtables. Where is it coming from? Assuming it's coming from the Center. There are other consultants doing this. How is this presentation different? She was invited by several members of the SPBRT. We were asked to bring it forward to the MRT.

1. Joint Metro/South Platte Environmental & Recreation Committee

- **Environmental/Recreation Committee (Schreiber)**

The Environmental/Recreational combined committee is reforming. Scott is lone representative. On Friday, August 19th they are having the initial meeting to bring new people in and get this launched. Scott had reached out to Barb on this committee. There are a team of consultants on the SWSI study. CWCB will be lead. This is technical platform for the CWCB.

6. Metro Mayor's Caucus Water Compact (Koleber)

A while ago the Mayors of the Metro area set up a water committee. They made comments on the Water Plan and BIP. They're continuing the committee and have changed the committee name to the Water Climate Committee. They are planning to update their compact (MOU) from 2004. (Memorandum of Understanding in meeting packet). It may be beneficial for the MRT to provide suggestions to the next Metro Mayor's Caucus which will be held on September 27th.

The MRT has been trying to engage local officials in a dialogue on water with little success. This may be that opportunity. Based on what we know we may be able to help the Caucus. What is the MRT process to assist with this? Do we need a committee? Can we find out who signed on to this recently and who signed the original MOU? We can get this information. Is there a budget to hire a technical writer to craft MRT suggestions? There may be money in the PEPO budget. We can pull from our existing documents to develop suggestions. Our intern can help gather the background documents. If anyone has comments beyond what is readily available in our existing documents, please send them to Marc Waage before our next MRT meeting. Marc will send this back to MRT before the September 8th MRT meeting for review.

7. Colorado River Development and Curtailment Risk Study (Hecox)

Primarily the study has been focused on education and how the basin operates. Three seminars have taken place. The MRT committee is looking at the mechanics for the study and focusing on the results side. There will be another technical meeting soon. The full presentation was provided in the meeting packet. Four slides from the full presentation were discussed highlighting where the study is at this time and the risks identified to date.

In the future, whether in this study or a Phase II study, the question is, "What is the goal?" Municipal providers already must incorporate a level of risk in their planning. Is it practical and realistic to get to

zero risk? They will be looking at reducing demands in the upper basin and programs to address options on how. They plan on wrapping this study up and have a report out in the next month or two. Then they will be asking about how to approach a Phase II. We should be prepared with suggestions on what scenarios we would like them to run in a Phase II. MRT also needs to prepare comments on the results from Phase I.

It was observed that the goal posts for this study have been moving. The study began with a concern that we are two years from a compact call. First the study was addressing curtailment. It has now changed its focus to concern around hydroelectric power levels. The study has been characterized as being an educational exercise for people on the western slope. It has moved beyond education. The study "to do list" now includes an action to set policy on demand management.

8. General Discussion

There is a paper soon to be released on the current drought suggesting it is being caused by warming as opposed to precipitation. We may want to request the presentation be given to this roundtable.

There was additional discussion on vacant seats on the MRT.

9. Meeting Schedule

- South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - Tuesday, August 9th, 2016, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Northeastern 18, Plainsman Grill, 17408 Hwy 14, Sterling, CO.
- MRT Meeting - Thursday, August 11th, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO.
- **IBCC** – August 17, 2016, dates and location TBD.
- Joint Metro/South Platte Basin Roundtable – Environmental & Recreation Committee Meeting – Friday, August 19, 2016 9 am – 12 noon, Boulder County Parks and Open Space Office, 5201 St Vrain Road, Longmont CO 80503
- South Platte Forum – October 26-27, 2016, Embassy Suites, Loveland, <http://www.southplatteforum.org/>
- Joint South Platte/Metro Basin Roundtable Meeting (following the South Platte Forum) – October 27th, Embassy Suites, Loveland

Meeting Adjourned – 6:00 pm