

Interbasin Compact Committee  
**Southwest Basins Roundtable Meeting**  
Durango Public Library  
Durango, Colorado  
October 12, 2016

**Members Present:**

Ken Beegles	Industrial Representative	April Montgomery	CWCB Representative
Steve Fearn	San Juan County	Ann Oliver	At Large Member
Sonny Frasier	Dolores Municipalities	John Porter	Southwestern WCD
Karen Guglielmone	San Miguel Municipalities	Mike Preston	At Large Member
Steve Harris	Legislative Appointee	Don Schwindt	Dolores WCD
Dan Huntington	La Plata WCD	Doug Stowe	Dolores County
Tim Hunter	Recreational Representative	John Taylor	Hinsdale County
Phil Johnson	Montezuma Municipalities	Ed Tolen	At Large Member
Gary Kennedy	Mancos WCD	Jim Wells	San Miguel WCD
Eric Kuhn	Colorado River WCD	Bruce Whitehead	Animas-La Plata WCD
James Lambert	Montezuma County	Val Valentine	At Large Member
Carrie Lile	Domestic Water Representative	Ed Zink	La Plata County

**Liaisons Present:**

Craig Godbout (Colorado Water Conservation Board), Peter Ortego (Ute Mountain Ute Tribe)

**Public:**

Russ Anderson (Michael Baker International), Tom Browning (Michael Baker International), Travis Custer (Mancos & High Desert Conservation Districts), Bill Frownfelter (Russell Planning & Engineering), Kate Greenberg (National Young Farmers Coalition), Gregg Johnson (Morrison Consolidated Ditch Company), Ralph Klusman (Morrison Consolidated Ditch Company), Ann McCoy-Harold (U.S. Senator Cory Gardner), Martin Moses (Sambrito Wetlands Project), Katherine Ortega (Sambrito Wetlands Project), Warren Rider (Rider Resources), Scott Savy (Public), Laura Spann (Recorder), Jean Taylor (Public)

**Introductions & Review Agenda**

Chairman Mike Preston called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Introductions were made.

**1. Administrative Reports**

**Minutes Review and Approval**

Minutes from July 13, 2016 were approved. Roundtable meeting documents and other files for reference are housed online for public and Roundtable use at <http://swwcd.org/resources/southwest-basin-roundtable>.

**Officer and IBCC Representative Reports**

At the August IBCC meeting, the primary discussion focused on vehicles for funding water plan implementation, including a container fee. Eric Kuhn presented the results of the Joint West Slope Colorado River Risk Assessment Study at the meeting. The IBCC also provided comments on the CWCB's WSRA Criteria and Guidelines, including establishing a requirement that grants to Roundtables greater than \$100,000 will require a Request for Proposals for Roundtable work funded via WSRA, a conflict of interest policy addressing Roundtable involvement in projects up for funding, and a waiver for applicants that don't meet the minimum matching funds criteria. CWCB is looking at potential legislation to backfill \$10 million in WSRA funding, \$5 million annually to the Watershed Restoration Grant Program, and \$50 million in one-time funding for development of a repayment guarantee fund through the Colorado Water Resources & Power Development Authority to subsidize loans for water projects. The next IBCC meeting is November 29.

The CWCB distributes an email newsletter after each board meeting that provides an update on the board discussions and actions. At each meeting, the CWCB board gets a report on water plan implementation progress, which is also shared on the CWCB website.

## **Basin WSRA Fund Balance**

Craig Godbout reported that the fund balance was approximately \$324,805.

## **2. Election of At Large Agricultural Representative**

The At-Large Agricultural Seat is now vacant, with Brian Sheffield's departure from Pine River Irrigation District. Public notices soliciting interested applicants were published in area newspapers in early September, with applications due on October 5. No applications were received. The position will be noticed in papers, via Roundtable members, and on the Roundtable website by December 1, with applications due January 4, 2017. Roundtable members were encouraged to reach out to those they think might be interested.

## **3. Colorado River Development and Curtailment Risk Study**

Eric Kuhn provided a final update on the Colorado River Development and Curtailment Risk Study, and referred to the memo drafted for the River District board. Meetings were held across Colorado on the study. Roundtable members were encouraged to contact Eric with any questions. The final report of Phase I will be distributed via the CWCB and the River District once finalized. Eric presented the questions to answer in Phase II of the study, and each of the four West Slope Roundtables will be asked to contribute \$10,000, combined with financial support from the River District and SWCD. Phase II will kick off with transition meetings from Phase I to Phase II. It was suggested to hold a pre-Roundtable meeting workshop on Phase II of the study before the January meeting. Steve Harris moved to approve participation in the amount of \$10,000. Steve Fearn seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

## **4. Southwest Basin Roundtable Education Action Plan 2017**

Ed Tolen reported that CWCB has allocated \$6,500 to Public Education and Public Outreach activities for the 2016-2017, based on activities scheduled in the proposed Education Action Plan. Ed attended a Statewide PEPO meeting in early October. Bruce Whitehead moved to approve the Education Action Plan as corrected. John Porter seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

## **5. Update: San Miguel Stream Management Plan Pilot**

Ann Oliver reported that the consultant, Lotic Hydrological, presented his analysis of environmental needs in the San Miguel Basin, and accepted questions and comments from the sub-committee. The consultant will likely present at the January Roundtable meeting. Additional input is still welcome. The San Miguel Watershed Coalition has begun outreach related to the management plan process. The next sub-committee meeting is scheduled for November 4 to discuss recreational needs.

## **6. Approval of WSRA Review Criteria**

Carrie Lile reported that the BIP implementation grant has received the official Notice to Proceed. The sub-committee comprised of 10 Roundtable members met several times to propose updates to the WSRA criteria, the addition of an application flow chart and a proposed application review committee.

There was general consensus not to organize a review committee, but rather direct applicants to seek application support from roundtable members in their geographic area or relevant use (eg. agricultural, industrial, and environmental) via the roster provided on the SW Basin Roundtable webpage. There was also consensus to provide the option of presenting a concept proposal if applicants want initial Roundtable feedback before completing the full WSRA application, but the concept proposal is not required.

Carrie will update the application process flow chart to remove the review committee, add that attendance at the Roundtable meeting is required and in-person attendance at the CWCB meeting is strongly encouraged, especially if funds are being requested from the Statewide WSRA.

Carrie detailed the "Southwest Basin Roundtable's Concepts for Basin Evaluation" document, specifically highlighting the requirement of a 25% match of the total project cost, with no more than a 10% in-kind match of the total project cost, and a maximum for Basin WSRA requests at \$50,000. Either requirement can be waived on a case-by-case basis.

After some discussion, there was consensus to direct the sub-committee to clarify and define “in-kind” for the Evaluation document. There was the suggestion to change the name of the document to exclude “Prioritization.”

Several minor revisions to the “Southwest Basin Roundtable’s Evaluation Questionnaire” document were also suggested. It was suggested to pare down the Questionnaire to avoid redundancy with questions asked on the full WSRA application, and direct applicants to a portion of the Colorado Water Plan for reference, not the full plan, for inclusion in the application.

There was general consensus to finalize edits to the SW Basin Roundtable WSRA Criteria and Guidelines for discussion by the sub-committee and review via email by the Roundtable to provide to applicants for the January meeting.

## 7. Review of WSRA Applications and Concept Proposals

### WSRA Application: Morrison Consolidated Ditch Company

Gregg Johnson presented the application for \$10,000 from the Basin Account in support of installing two automated gauging stations with wireless satellite telemetry to monitor and regulate irrigation water, eliminate waste and improve ditch efficiencies. Ditch shareholders will contribute \$4,100 of the total \$14,100 project cost. Roundtable members asked questions. Bruce Whitehead moved to approve the WSRA application for \$10,000 from the Basin Account. Don Schwindt seconded. Ed Tolen recused himself as a shareholder. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

### Concept Proposal: Town of Norwood Raw Water System

Jim Wells presented the concept proposal in support of delivering a portion of current agricultural water shares to Norwood water customers for lawn and garden irrigation purposes. This project is designed to increase Norwood’s water security during draught, lessen demand upon the Norwood water treatment plant and defer the need for plant expansion, and to provide chloramine-free water for gardens, lawns, trees, shrubs and other irrigation needs. The Town’s immediate goal is to complete construction of Phase 1, which consists of the full build-out of the Raw Water System within Norwood Town Boundaries, for water supplies to be provided at a raw water shack. The project has received approval for a \$175,000 grant from SW Water Conservation District. Norwood will request \$50,000 from the WSRA in January. Roundtable members asked questions. There was consensus to recommend a full application be submitted at the January meeting. Jim Wells recused himself as a Roundtable member.

### Concept Proposal: Sambrito Wetlands Project

Marty Moses presented the concept proposal in support of replacing failing infrastructure (headgates, culverts, water control structures) to restore hydrology to existing wetland areas in the Sambrito Wetlands Complex, installing new infrastructure at locations suitable for creation of new wetland areas, and conducting earth work (excavation and berm creation) to restore the existing and create the new wetland areas. This project will enhance 16.73 acres of wetland habitat. The proposal suggests asking the State WSRA Account for \$25,000 of the \$155,000 project budget. There was the suggestion to seek Bureau of Reclamation funding as part of the application. Roundtable members asked questions. There was consensus to recommend a full application be submitted at the January meeting.

## 8. Upcoming Events

SW Basin Roundtable Meeting	January 11	Cortez	Dolores WCD
SW Basin Roundtable Meeting	April 12	Durango	Durango Public Library
SW Basin Roundtable Meeting	July 12	Cortez	Dolores WCD
SW Basin Roundtable Meeting	October 11	Durango	Durango Public Library

## 9. Adjournment

Chairman Mike Preston adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.