

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, November 10th, 2016
1600 West 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

Members in Attendance:

Barbara Biggs, Casey Davenport, Dave Nickum, Janet Bell, Joe Stibrich, Rick McLoud, Lesley Sebol, Mark Koleber, Polly Hays, Rick Marsicek, Scott Schreiber, Susan Nedell, Tim Murell

Guests:

Amy Conklin, Phyllis Thomas, Darren Beck, Jeannette Oden

CWCB:

Craig Godbout, Diane Kielty

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Approval of September 2016 MRT Meeting Summary (Action Item)

All in Favor - Approved

3. Agenda: additions or changes

Addition of FRWC Letter concerning West Slope Basin Roundtable Colorado River Modeling to Joint West Slope discussion.

4. Public Comment

5. Committee Updates

- WSRF

1. WSRF Needs Committee Criteria Guidelines and Revisions – Approval
September 20th (Godbout) – (Guidelines in meeting packet)

Tim Murrell provided copies of update on funds available. MRT had expressed a desire to have reserve funds. No money was received in July. MRT could lower budget amounts in each of the WSRF categories by \$10,000. This approach would set aside \$44,400 in reserve.

Could the reserve fund be built up using a percentage of each fund as opposed to \$10,000 from each? This is an option. We're not expecting any funds to come in January 2017.

Motion made by Casey Davenport, 2nd by Mark Koleber to allocate \$10,000 from each WSRF category to a WSRF reserve fund to be held in reserve for potential new projects. **All in Favor – Approved**

Revisions are being made to the December 2015 MRT WSRF Guidelines to bring MRT in alignment with the updated State requirements guidelines. The WSRF committee has reviewed this and will bring the draft changes to the MRT January meeting. The Statewide account is currently at \$533,000. Gunnison resurrected a statewide account grant which is reflected in the new statewide account amount.

The South Platte Storage Study RFP was issued. Three proposals were received. Interviews were held on November 4th. The winning team was MWH. The Metro & South Platte Roundtables will need to form a joint Study Review Committee. Jeff Bandy, Rick Marsicek and Barbara Biggs volunteered to serve on this committee.

The Annual WSRA Report, IBCC Report, and Newsletter are available online if

anyone would like to contribute. There is a CWCB Water Plan Implementation website. Updates will be given via the Confluence newsletter.

2. Joint West Slope Study

Should this be a statewide study instead of being led by any one group? The Front Range Water Council (FRWC) has provided a letter stating their position on this issue. They want to pull their funding from doing any further analysis. They are not comfortable with the Scope of Work. The interest and impact is statewide. A general letter and technical letter was received by the MRT laying out the FRWC position. The current study is being interpreted as a State position as opposed to an independent study. If the State doesn't believe it should take this on, or determines to continue funding the current study, there is consideration of submitting an East Slope study. This could present a complication of having conflicting studies. The preference would be to bring the groups together to jointly develop a Scope of Work. This would still be a study being done by two regional groups and not the State.

Craig Godbout stated that the study will not cover the same tasks from the original scope of work. CWCB will play a major role in developing the Scope of Work. It will not get into curtailment. There will not be competing studies. The study is on hold. If it were to move forward, the earliest it would go to the CWCB Board is in January. CWCB does not know the Scope of Work at this time.

Has the State determined that they are willing to lead this study? If unsuccessful in getting the State to take the lead role in modeling, FRWC may undertake its own modeling effort. The FRWC request is for MRT to oppose the study. Is there an action MRT should make to address the FRWC Letter of Request to oppose the Phase II study? Should we defer taking action at this time?

Motion made by David Nickum, 2nd by Mark Koleber for MRT to submit a letter addressed to James Eklund with the CWCB stating that the MRT appreciates the WSBRT Group's efforts to study risks posed to Colorado River water users and allowing East Slope interests to review the study results, but believe this is a topic best led by the State of Colorado in the interests of all water users. The MRT encourages CWCB to oppose the WSBRT Group's request for funding for the Development and Curtailment Risk Study Phase II(a) and to urge the State of Colorado to lead Colorado River modeling efforts related to risk management and compact compliance and administration issues.

All in Favor – Approved.

- PEPO (Davenhill)
 1. Ann Castle Presentation on Land Use/Water Planning/Water Banking. Recommendations for implementation presentation addressing timing and flexibility concerns. Local land planning agencies should be given more guidance. Addressed concerns about ATMs. Revisited the use of water banks managed by a trusted entity. There are successful water bank programs in AZ, ID, WA. A resource page was provided in the presentation where case studies can be found. They did not look at water quality in their studies but this is closely regulated. The presentation highlighted Colorado River recommendations for drought contingency planning. For more information go to www.colorado.edu/law/research/gwc.
- Environmental/Recreation Committee (Schreiber & Nickum)

6. Chatfield Environmental Pool

- Grant application Letter of Support was distributed in packet. Executive Committee supported signing a letter of support.

A request made of MRT from the Greenway Foundation for a generic Letter of Support that the Greenway Foundation would use specific to the Environmental Pool. **Motion to approve by Rick Marsicek, 2nd by Scott Schreiber. All in Favor – Approved.**

Scott Schreiber made a request for a Letter of Support from MRT for a Stream Management Plan Grant Application for the Biological and Ecological Benefits from Chatfield Reallocation Environmental Pool Increased Releases to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program. **Tim Murrel motioned to approve, Casey Davenport 2nd, All in Favor - Approved**

7. SWSI Update (Godbout/Biggs)

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

Next meeting is November 29th, 2016.

9. Meeting Schedule

- South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - Tuesday, November 15th, 2016, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Building, 4209 Weld Cty Rd 24 ½, East I-25 Frontage Rd., Firestone, CO 80502.
- Colorado Water Conservation Board Meeting – November 16th & 17th, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, 1445 Market St., Denver, Colorado 80202
- Aq Water Summit – November 29th, 2016, Hosted jointly by the IBCC and CAWA at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 West 6th Ave., Frontage Rd., Golden, CO 80401. Free of charge.
- South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting – December Meeting Cancelled
- Metro Roundtable Meeting – December Meeting Cancelled