

ARKANSAS BASIN ROUNDTABLE

September 15, 2016

REVISED February 20, 2017

Craig Godbout
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman St., Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: WSRA grant application - Arkansas River Basin Water Forum (ARBWF)
Implementing the Education & Outreach Goals of the ArkBIP

Dear Craig:

At the September 14, 2016 meeting the Arkansas Basin Roundtable evaluated and approved by unanimous agreement the Water Supply Reserve Account grant application from the Arkansas River Basin Water Forum (ARBWF) for implementing the Education & Outreach Goals of our Basin Implementation Plan. The Roundtable has approved the request of \$50,000, of which \$37,500 would come from the Statewide Account and \$12,500 from the Basin Account.

This grant application will fund the second year of the Arkansas Basin Public Education, Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) program. You may recall that the original scope of work was for 3 consecutive years (2016 – 2018) in which each year was to be funded through WSRA funds in the amount of \$50,000. The first portion (1 of 3) for the WSRA grant project was approved on February 5, 2016.

In collaboration with our PEPO committee, ARBWF requests funding to provide leadership in water education and promote education to action projects/programs that address four categories of need identified in the Basin Implementation Plan: storage, agriculture, municipal and environment/ recreation. Funding will be utilized to address these concerns, provide education and promote action through multiple outreach mechanisms geared to engage a vast audience. Those mechanisms include: the development and distribution of a basin documentary and webisodes, water festivals, library education program, and education-to-action programs highlighting specific projects. To ensure the smooth functioning of all this, ARBWF/PEPO plans to hire a part-time Project Coordinator. The Project Coordinator will work as a liaison to the ARBWF, PEPO and the Arkansas Basin Roundtable and will be responsible for organizing, coordinating and reporting on all proposed projects.

This project is important to the Arkansas Basin for a variety of reasons, including

- Compliance with the purposes of the public education, participation, and outreach working group functions under C.R.S. § 37-75-106.
- Furtherance of the goals described in the Colorado Water Plan “Outreach, Education and Public Engagement.”
- Accomplishment of the goal described in § 4.1.4 of the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan (April 2015) to “undertake a structured public relations

effort to maintain and improve relationships with individuals and organizations who have been engaged to date, while enhancing efforts to educate various stakeholder groups on the purpose and progress of the water planning process in the Arkansas Basin.”

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me either by telephone, 719-742-6164, or by email, sandy@white-jankowski.com.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael D. (Sandy) White
Chair