

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, March 9th, 2017

Denver Police Protective Association (PPA)

2105 Decatur St, Denver, CO 80211

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Members in Attendance:

Barbara Biggs, Casey Davenport, Darren Beck, Dave Holm, David Allen, Eric Hecox, Janet Bell, Joe Stibrich, Julio Iturreria, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Marc Waage, Mark Koleber, John Kaufman, Rob Sakata, Scott Brink, Scott Schreiber, Susan Nedell, Tim Murrell

Guests:

Emily Hunt, Kathy Okan, Ronnie Crawford, John Stulp, Matt Lindburg, Lydia, Hooper, Laura Kroeger, Dan DeLaughter

CWCB:

Megan Holcomb, Diane Kielty

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

1. **Welcome/Introductions**
2. **Approval of February 2017 Meeting Summary (Action Item)**
All in Favor - Approved
3. **Agenda: additions or changes (Action Item)**
4. **Public Comment**
5. **WSRF (Murrell)**
 1. Biological and Ecological Benefits from Chatfield Reallocation Environmental Pool Increased Releases (In meeting packet)
Scott Schreiber presented with Matrix Design Group. Recused himself from vote. Environmental pool purchase for low flow periods that are not associated with call down. TU Associate presented analysis and recommendations for next steps and operational methodology to make releases most beneficial to all users evaluating discharge scenarios. They are creating a draft Stream Management Plan that is adaptive over time. Final deliverable will be the Stream Management Plan. Schedule is Spring 2017 to Spring 2018. Total budget \$45,000. They are requesting \$10,000 from the MRT Recreation Fund. Denver Trout Unlimited has \$10,000. CWCB has approved a \$20,000 grant.

Objective of this study is to evaluate the benefits of a reallocation and see how the water should be used. Is there any concern of instream flow rights challenges? Lowest flows, based on current data, are July and August, then again in January through March. These would likely be the times recommended to augment flow. The study will evaluate how to move it and when to move it. They will be using the Central Storage Right. The question of "is there a carriage agreement to get the water downstream" still needs to be addressed. Threshold question - The decision support system is impacted by a State Statute and it will need to operate within this structure. CPW will be the ultimate user of this plan. Having the materials to inform their obligation to this plan would be helpful in evaluating the project. CPW has been included in the discussions. A verbal update was provided at the February MRT meeting. Could this be considered a final decision to approve the study this evening. There were no objections to voting during this meeting.

Eric Hecox made a motion to approve allocating \$10,000 from WSRF Recreation fund to support the study, Mark Koleber 2nd. **All in Favor – Approved.**
 2. WSRF Balance Summary (In meeting packet)
Nothing has changed except the \$10,000 that was just approved.

6. Colorado River Risk Study Status Update (Biggs)

1. Final action to determine participation and funding for a Phase II Risk Study (Guidelines and SOW in meeting packet)

RT Chairs received a revised scope of the study from James Eklund this afternoon. Eukland asked to please communicate that the BRT structure has been able to keep “politicalship” out of the water. The concept to keep in mind on the revised interpretations of the scope is that aspects that affect sensitive policy issues will be governed by the State. It study will not be focused on administration. It does establish a Technical Advisory Committee. The CWCB will be on the Committee along with any other RT’s that want to contribute to the study. There are no statewide funds being requested for this study. Scrutiny of how other basins use their funds could set a new precedent. RT’s by statute have a right to study what they want to study.

It is important to recognize that the recommendations made by MRT from the last RT meeting were delivered to the West Slope. The WS chose to move forward. They worked extensively with CWCB staff to get the scope to a place where staff could be comfortable. There is hope that the MRT moves forward in a fashion that would build bridges. Taking steps with Arkansas and the South Platte RTs is a good direction. CWCB urged MRT to reach out to West Slope counterparts and speak with each other as opposed to speculating. It was reiterated that funds being used for this study are not statewide funds, they are basin specific funds. It’s important we get this right going forward. It also impacts IBCC actions.

CWCB staff efforts are greatly appreciated. It is important to limit the study to voluntary measures. This scope does reflect voluntary measures to be used by both slopes. This is ultimately about cutting back demand to maintain critical reservoir levels. It really is a statewide concern. We are being offered the same arrangement we were being offered the last time. Without a Management Committee, the MRT role would be largely confirming, no true input. It was made clear that the MRT understood that if we wanted a seat on a Management Committee it would come with money. CWCB recommended looking closely at the second to last paragraph of the revised scope. There is considerable language change regarding CWCBs role giving it increased involvement in the study. The WSRF basin funds are for the State of Colorado. When CWCB reviews any application, they ask if it is beneficial to all the people of Colorado.

CWCB is being made an equal partner. The West Slope is an equal partner. The East Slope is not being afforded this opportunity. There are 2 weeks before the CWCB Board Meeting. If the MRT can be included as an equal partner within this time frame we should work to that end. If not, we step back and let them perform their own study. Recommendation made that MRT speak directly to the West Slope to ask for an option for MRT to have meaningful input in the study. If this is not an option, do not make an MRT stand that this study be rejected, instead release it and leave it as a West Slope Study. Either MRT is involved at the start or we don’t get involved at all. A more direct discussion between the experts as opposed to going through the many discussions groups corresponding on this topic at the moment would be preferred at this point.

A motion was made by Eric Hecox to give the MRT Chair authority to reach out directly to their West Slope counterpart asking for a meeting prior to the CWCB Board Meeting with CWCB facilitating the meeting if the West Slope agrees, Mark Koleber 2nd. **All in Favor - Approved**

7. Committee Updates

1. PEPO (Davenhill)

- 1.Outreach Coordinator Position Status
Proceeding with a grant application to fulfill this need.

- 2.Communication Strategies Draft Document (In meeting packet)

Lydia Hooper, Fountain Visual Communications

Lydia has been involved in this process for quite a while working on public outreach and educating the public on the BIP. Her goal is to get the plan to a point of passing it off to a Coordinator once they are hired.

Julio Iturreria motioned to move forward on the Communication Plan and inform South Platte RT on this decision, Janet Bell 2nd. **All in Favor – Approved.**

2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Nickum)

8. SWSI Update (Holcomb)

1. Climate Change Evaluations

Greg Johnson with CWCB presented PowerPoint. CWP now in place as a guiding document. Changes and enhancements include building on BIPs this time around to inform next phase of BIPs and provide technical data and analysis to inform policy direction of CWP. Incorporating refined approaches to scenario planning that includes climate change models and other drivers. Currently underway is Phase I methodology development and Phase Ib data and information collection and review including BIP data. Forthcoming is Phase II technical evaluations and analysis and Phase III reporting.

To what extent are you looking for input on methodology? They are using a peer review process. Peer reviews will be reviewed by Technical Advisory groups. The direction is to keep the technical advisory groups small and efficient. They are in the process of notifying those they believe will be helpful on the advisory groups. The process is anticipated to be complete by May-June timeframe. The approach this time around is to be more streamlined. They do not expect great changes to the methodologies. The Scope of Review is asking for a fatal flaw analysis of the proposed methodologies.

9. South Platte Storage Study Update (Holcomb)

1. South Platte Study Workshop – March 17th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, SW Weld Co. Building

10. Nominating Committee (Koleber)

1. Adopt revised by-laws

1. Amend bylaws to allow for three additional positions

Mark Koleber made motion to adopt, Lisa Darling 2nd.

All in Favor – Approved

Dave Holm has resigned from the MRT. Mark Koleber is stepping down. A new Adams County representative will replace him. He does not know who will be replacing him. Mark asked MRT consider Emily Hunt be considered for MRT.

2. Introduction of Potential MRT Members

1. Laura Kroeger introduced and presented – At Large

2. Dan DeLaughter introduced and presented – Municipal Rep

3. Emily Hunt introduced and presented – At Large

MRT Appointed Members voted to approve Laura Kroeger, Dan DeLaughter, and Emily Hunt to the MRT membership. Lisa Darling motioned to approve, Tim Murrell 2nd. **All in favor – Approved**

Barbara asked for Vice Chair position to be filled. Mark Koleber nominated Tim Murrell, Joe Stibrich 2nd. **All in favor-Approved.**

Barbara asked for second Vice Chair position to be filled. Tim Murrell nominated Lisa Darling, Dave Holm 2nd. **All in Favor - Approved**

11. New Meeting Location Discussion

1. Beginning in May - DOW, 6060 Broadway Denver, free parking, free space

12. Meeting Schedule

1. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - Tuesday, March 14th, 2017, 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Building, 4209 Weld Cty Rd 24 ½, East I-25 Frontage Rd., Firestone, CO 80502.
2. CWCB Meeting - March 22nd – 23rd, 2017, 9:30 am – 5:00 pm, Greely, CO.
3. Metro Roundtable Meeting – Thursday, April 13th, 2017, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Denver Police Protective Association (PPA), 2105 Decatur St, Denver, CO 80211.