

South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, April 11, 2017
4209 Weld County Road 24 1/2
Longmont, Colorado 80501
4:00PM-6:20PM

South Platte Basin Roundtable Business Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions (5 min)

Attendance: Sean Conway, Garret Varra, Jason Roudebush, Kevin Lusk, Jim Hall, Larry Howard, Jim Yahn, John Stokes, Mike Shimmin, Sean Cronin, Joel Schneekloth, Larry Ross, Julio Iturreria, Stephen Larson, Lynda James, Jeffrey Boring, Bruce Gerk, Joe Frank, Matt Betz, Craig Godbout, Randy Ray, Gene Manuello, Jim Ford, Ken Huson, Dan Brown, Bert Weaver, Burt Knight

Bob Miller joined the Roundtable, per introduction by Sean Conway.

Bob Miller spoke on the history and the Weld County Courthouse 100-year anniversary celebration.

2. Approval of Meeting Summary (action items)

Garret Varra made a motion to approve the minutes and Jim Yahn seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

3. Agenda – additions or changes (action items)

An amendment to the agenda was proposed to move agenda item #12 up to a new position as #4. Julio Iturreria made a motion to approve, Bruce Gerk seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

4. Future meeting Date & Locations Discussion (10 min)

- a. Joint Meeting of
 - i. Front Range roundtables (June/July 2017), or
 - ii. Metro & South Platte roundtables (October 2017 in conjunction with South Platte Forum)
- b. Alternative meeting locations (Late Spring through early Fall 2017):
 - i. Fort Morgan
 - ii. Bailey?

Craig Godbout proposed holding the May meeting in Bailey. An alternative to the Joint South Platte and Metro roundtable meeting in October was proposed: a joint East Slope Roundtable (Arkansas, South Platte, Metro) meeting in June (13th, 14th, or 15th at the Denver Police Protective Association) to accommodate all East Slope Roundtables. Godbout proposed hosting separate joint roundtable meetings in advance of, but on the same day as, the joint roundtable meeting. To follow, a meeting in Ft. Morgan was proposed for July. Per a question from Sean Cronin, Godbout explained there was no singular reason or urgent matter spurring on the move to bring all three roundtables together. Per a question from Stephen Larson, Godbout reported the proposed meeting would replace the joint meeting in October. Discussion ensued as to the potential for dates in June: Lynda James reported she would be unable to attend a meeting on the 15th, Joel Schneekloth and Stephen Larson reported they too had conflicts on the 15th. Jeffrey Boring reported he had conflicts with the 14th.

Mike Shimmin proposed discussing the education and outreach coordinator as well as implementing the Basin Implementation Plan ("BIP") and Colorado Water Plan ("CWP"). Sean Cronin proposed discussing Arkansas Alternative Transfer Methods ("ATMs"). Julio Iturreria proposed a State Water Supply Initiative ("SWSI") update. Joe Frank proposed discussing what an East Slope/ West Slope diversion would look like and how that would come together, as well as the role and direction of the IBCC. Shimmin proposed the State staff make a presentation on the implementation of the water plan. Cronin proposed hearing from John Stokes on the intent and future of the IBCC. Shimmin recommended making an announcement of a joint East Slope meeting and request for an update at the next IBCC meeting. Iturreria argued, and Shimmin supported, that a three-hour meeting would be too short.

Mike Shimmin made a motion to meet in Bailey on May 9 at 4PM if a location is identified. Stephen Larson seconded. The motion passed without contest.

It was clarified the meeting would run approximately 3-4 hours, or slightly more.

5. Committee Updates

a. Groundwater Subcommittee (Hall – 5 min)

Jim Hall took the floor to report on dewatering efforts of the LaSalle/Gilcrest area. Hall stated there was likely to be a large surge in the amount of water to be dewatered given local and environmental conditions. It was also reported that issues of water quality related to the dewatering efforts were recently raised by local community stakeholders. The pilot program from last year, which involved additional pumping, required agreements that were being formulated, Hall reported. There were also efforts to develop better methods of resource estimation for irrigators in the area.

6. Colorado River Risk Study (Yahn/Frank – 30 Min)

Jim Yahn took the floor to report on a follow-up from the March SPBRT meeting. Yahn reported that following direction from the March Roundtable meeting, the IBCC representatives from the East Slope roundtables crafted language for a letter that explained the East Slope wouldn't be weighing in on West Slope WSRF grants/grant-requests. The letter instead asked that the West Slope make clear their focus on a basin issue rather than a state issue and separate the state from the study in near entirety. Yahn reported \$10K from each of the four West Slope roundtables was committed (per individual basin WSRF funding) and approximately \$50K in applicant match was also committed. Yahn discussed the conversations that occurred around the topic of the statewide impact of the study and the West Slope's reiteration that it was purely an isolated basin matter. It was clarified that no State contribution had been or would be made. Mike Shimmin proposed the CWCB should refuse to accept the report and hold 10% retainage until the report makes a statement regarding limited future use.

Sean Conway thanked the IBCC for their hard work on the letter.

7. Education and Outreach – E&O Coordinator (Iturreria/Davenhill – 15 min)

a. Grant Application (Iturreria/Davenhill – 10 min)

Casey Davenhill took the floor to report on the Education and Outreach Coordinator. Davenhill reported she was in a unique position, given her background and involvement, to lead the discussion on and development of

an education and outreach position to support the Roundtables. The funding sources of the position were detailed, as were the particular duties of the Coordinator. Joe Frank addressed the possibility of the position, currently proposed to take advantage of available funding through December 2018, as eventually receiving additional funding from the CWCB for continuation beyond that date. Davenhill reported a waiver of cash match was being requested, but the position would be encouraged to identify sources of additional funding and additional cash match.

Jeffrey Boring reported on the WSRF reserves available to fund such a position, stating the request was below the current South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF education reserve amount. Boring also had questions about the Coordinator position itself, querying the ability of the Coordinator to act on a work plan that they themselves would be developing. Casey Davenhill responded saying the basin was large and complex and growing the work plan would largely educate the Coordinator on the nuances of the area in order to build and manage an effective brand. Joe Frank and Sean Cronin reported on the intent of the Coordinator position and their intended approach. Cronin argued the Coordinator would largely act as liaison between stakeholders and the roundtables themselves coordinating and facilitating discussion of interest and values, and intended goals and outcomes of the BIP. Frank argued the BIP even identified and prioritized the sort of education and outreach the Coordinator would be working on. Boring clarified that the Executive Committees from both roundtables would largely steer the Coordinator; Davenhill argued the Environmental and Recreational Committee would also provide guidance.

Casey Davenhill recommended the Coordinator report directly to the roundtables, participate in the agenda setting meetings, attend all roundtable meetings, etc. Bruce Gerk argued an informed community was absolutely imperative to making progress on the BIP. Gerk reiterated that education was the highest priority in effecting change on the topic of water. John Stokes argued the biggest flaw in the Coordinator proposal was a lack of financial resources. The amount of money committed to the cause, Stokes reported, would be easily burned through. Julio Iturreria asked the digital presence plan be redistributed to the Roundtable. Sean Cronin, per a discussion topic from Jeffrey Boring, argued in favor of a small committee to lead the Coordinator instead of a one or two person or large group leadership. Mike Shimmin made a motion to approve the Coordinator scope of work and Julio Iturreria seconded.

John Stokes proposed a friendly amendment to the motion to contribute \$5,000 from the South Platte Basin Roundtable WSRF funds and \$5,000 from the Metro to supplement the Coordinator position funds. The amendment was accepted by the proposed and seconder. The motion passed without contest.

Clarification: John Stokes noted that the intent of the motion and amendment of \$5k was that they be contingent on the same contribution from Metro.

8. South Platte Basin Storage Study Update (Frank – 15 min)

Joe Frank took the floor to update the group on the South Platte Storage Study. Frank reported that a workshop had recently been held and that comments were

being requested, to be submitted to him within the week. Another meeting was planned for July 12 to discuss the Study and its direction, to be held at the regular Roundtable meeting location.

9. Stream Management Planning (Davenhill/Stokes – 10 min)

Casey Davenhill took the floor to provide an update on stream management planning. Davenhill reported a meeting would be held on May 3rd in Berthoud, CO to discuss the intent of stream management planning and its relationship to the CWP. Additionally, various stakeholders would participate in the conversation and discuss success stories from other areas on what makes effective management plans and planning strategies. John Stokes recommended all attend the meeting as it was a less celebrated necessity of watershed management. Stokes also proposed Chris Sturm of the CWCB make a presentation at the joint East Slope meeting.

Sean Cronin argued in favor of engaging these types of meeting regardless of your position on such efforts. Cronin reported the Colorado River Basin has applied for WSRF monies to develop framework for how such management plans developed in that basin.

10. SWSI Update (Godbout – 10 min)

Craig Godbout took the floor to update the Roundtable on the State Water Supply Initiative. Godbout reported the technical advisory groups had been formed, but the member lists not distributed. Additionally, Godbout reported CWCB may adjust its grant application manager to an entirely online system, similar to the Colorado DOJ.

11. Legislative Update (Frank – 5 min)

Joe Frank reported there was only about one month left in session and no new reports were available. A request was made for the status of the projects bill. Don Ament reported that bill was progressing.

12. Colorado Water Conservation Board Meeting Recap (Yahn – 20 min)

Jim Yahn took the floor to update the Roundtable on recent CWCB tours of Chimney Hollow and the surrounding area. Yahn thanked all those involved for their help and support. It was reported the CWCB granted an easement to the city of Englewood for the use of a diversion structure below Chatfield Reservoir (Big Dry Creek). Additionally, floodplain mapping in Estes Park was discussed as it was being redone, much to the dismay of many in the area. Yahn also reported on funding, outlining the various breakdowns of the total \$3M budget. An Executive Session followed the regular meeting of the CWCB at which, administrative matters were discussed. Yahn reported on these administrative matters stating they discussed WSRF requests and the departure of James Eklund from the CWCB. Jim Yahn reported the CWCB director position was open to applications and they hoped to fill the position by June 1. Rush George was also no longer with the CWCB and Ty Waltberg has assumed his role.

13. Public Comment (5 min)

Casey Davenhill sought to add two dates to the calendar. CAWA tours at Greeley/Front Range on May 10 and Denver/Front Range on June 13.

14. Meeting Schedule

- a. Next SPBRT Meeting – May 9, 2017 – Location and Venue TBD
- b. Next Metro RT Meeting – April 13, 2017 – Denver Police Protective Association 2105 Decatur Street, Denver CO
- c. Next CWCB Board Meeting – May 17 & 18 – Pagosa Springs
- d. Next IBCC Meeting – April 20 – Summit County, Keystone Conference Center.

Motion to adjourn made by Jim Yahn and seconded by John Stokes. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

Dinner (45 min)