

**Yampa/White/Green River Basin Roundtable
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday May 11, 2016
-American Legion's Shadow Mt. Clubhouse-
1055 CR7, Craig, CO 81625**

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Called to order by Chair Mary Brown at 6:16 p.m.
2. **Introductions of Members and Audience:** All members and guests took turns introducing themselves.
3. **Approve/Modify Agenda:** Mary Brown asked if the agenda needed to be modified. It did. Craig Godbout asked if he could add an update. Mary asked if he could add the update to his budget report.
4. **Review and Approval of March 9, 2016 Minutes:** **MOTION** by Alden Vanden Brink **SECONDED** by Jackie Brown to approve minutes from the March 9, 2016 meeting. Vote Unanimous.
5. **Budget Report (CWCBC):** Craig Godbout reported Basin balance as \$1,185,624. Statewide account balance as nearly \$2.1 million. Craig also reported that the State Supreme Court ruled against the State of Colorado in favor of the oil and gas industry. The state may now owe the oil and gas industry money. How much and how it will be paid back is currently unknown. This decision will also affect future funding of water projects, as the revenue is generated by oil and gas severance taxes. The group discussed the need for something more consistent as a funding source, than severance tax.
6. **Appointments (5 min.):** Mary Brown explained to the members that one of the out of basin seats has gone without being filled for many years. Amy Willheit from Excel Energy has submitted a letter of interest to fill this position. Mary asked if the Roundtable members wanted to allow Amy to fill this seat. Two more out of Basin seats will come open later this year. Members discussed the difficulty in advertising these seats. Members also discussed how difficult it is for out of Basin seat holders to attend meetings. Kevin McBride made a motion to appoint Amy. Jackie Brown seconded it. Motion passed.
7. **Public hearings/public input and comment:** Public comment was asked for. There was no public comment.
8. **Reports of each standing or special committee (10 min. each)**
 - a. BIP Sub-committee – Dan Birch reported that the consultant is now under contract, the task order was executed yesterday May 10, 2016. During discussion a suggestion was made that the committee convene and talk about needs. Doug Monger asked what was happening with the River District. There will be 3 Joint West Slope Roundtable Risk Study Webinars. They will all have the same agenda, so people who want to attend only need to participate in one. Eric Kuhn would like to have something later this summer as a follow up to the tech presentation, where power points from the webinars and notes will be available. Mary Brown will forward the Webinar information to April McIntyre, who will then forward it on to everyone on the notification list.
 - b. IBCC update – Kevin McBride went over the Draft agenda for the May 24th IBCC meeting. The discussion at the upcoming meeting will be revolving around funding.
 - c. West Slope Technical Committee – Was covered in the BIP update and discussion.

- d. Non-Consumptive Needs update – Geoff Blakeslee was not present, no update.
- e. PEPO/ Education Committee update – Kelly Romero Heaney let the board know that CWCB has a new education coordinator. They are waiting for grant approval before the committee can move forward with the education action plan. The John Stulp tour had a good turnout. He was also able to tour some water projects and learn about the challenges this Basin has.
- f. Grant Committee update – Stephen Hinkemeyer gave an update on the application and guideline documents that the committee has created. The guideline document outlines how to apply for a grant in a three-step process. The group discussed the need to amend these documents as criteria changes. The group also discussed whether or not, to require 2 readings or allow some projects 1 reading. It was suggested that the Roundtable do as they see fit, case-by-case. Jackie Brown made a motion to accept the documents as currently written. Mike Camblin seconded, motion passed.

9. Consideration/Action on Roundtable Projects: (15 minutes each)

- a. Watershed Grant 2nd reading – Kelly Romero Heaney presented the 2nd reading to the Roundtable. At the first reading she was asked to look for other funding, she did and was able to find a \$5,000 match. The requested grant amount has now changed from \$26,000 to \$21,000. Kelly outlined how the Watershed Grant follows the Roundtables goals. There was discussion on what water rights would be researched, and how previous water right research could be added to this project. There was also discussion on how this plan will work with modeling. Alden Vanden Brink made a motion to accept the grant, Doug Monger seconded, motion passed.

10. New business (15 min. each)

- a. Little Snake River Presentation – Larry Hicks came from Wyoming to give an update to the Roundtable on what is happening on the Wyoming side of the Little Snake. Larry showed the group pictures of a river restoration project that was started 5 years ago. It is currently the largest river restoration project in the Rocky Mountains. A result of this restoration project is that the Little Snake is turning into a world-class trout fishery. Larry and others will be back in the future to talk to the Roundtable about the possibility of supplemental storage.
- b. Yampa Valley Sustainability Council Grant request 1st reading – Sarah Jones gave a first reading grant request presentation for the Yampa Valley Sustainability Council. They are asking for \$30,000 over three years to develop a water conservation education campaign. They will raise awareness of rebates for water efficient appliances at events and through local and social media. They will also implement a showerhead replacement program. Currently during energy audits residents who are Atmos natural gas customers are given new showerheads and faucets. YVSC would give residents who are not Atmos customer's new showerheads. Sarah went over how the project supports Roundtable goals. There was concern on whether or not the showerheads would be used, and a concern with needing more of an investment from the water supplier. Jackie Brown suggested checking with the CWCB for a Grant that fit the project better. Mary Brown asked if the project should come back for a second reading. There were 6 aye's and 11 no's. Project will not come back for a second reading.
- c. Maybell Irrigation Ditch Grant request 1st reading – Ann Franklin presented a first reading for the Maybell Irrigation Ditch. They are asking for \$107,000 to install an automated waste gate and a measuring flume, stabilize a hillside, and install check gates. Ann discussed how the project aligns with YWG goals. Alden Vanden Brink asked if the NRCS is involved in the project. Mike Camblin said they are willing to be involved in helping with the design, but not in funding. Jay Gallagher asked about the involvement of Fish and Wildlife Service. Mike said they are still in

negotiations over the placement of the head gate, there is a potential for more funding which would change the amount of the WRSA grant request. Jackie Brown made a motion to approve that the Maybell Irrigation Ditch come back for a second reading, with the stipulation that they come back with exact numbers. Chuck Grobe seconded. Motion passed.

- d. Changes to Bylaws – Was discussed after the Watershed Grant 2nd reading. Jackie Brown pointed out the major changes in the Bylaws. 1- addition of a preamble, 2- inclusion of Rio Blanco District (Garfield was allotted a rep, but the seat has never been filled), 3- currently 30 members, 4- need 16 members for a quorum, 5- simple majority on all votes, 6- equal voting rights, 7- election selection process. Jackie asked that all of the members read the Bylaws. They will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting. Discussed the possibility of sending out a document compare, so it would be easier to see the changes between the original bylaws and the revised bylaws.
- e. Water plan funding – Will be discussed at the next meeting. After information is gathered from the upcoming IBCC and WCB meetings.

11. Old Business

- a. Dr. Gates Final Report Discussion – Mary Brown asked the Roundtable if they would like to proceed further, they do not. It was the opinion that they had obtained what they needed.

12. Announcements: Chair Mary Brown asked that requests to be added onto the July agenda, be made in June. April McIntyre will remind Mary to send out an email asking members to send in their requests early.

13. Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings:

- a. Next meeting date is July 13, 2016 at 6PM

14. Adjournment: 9:29

Respectfully submitted,

April McIntyre
YWG Basin Round Table Recorder