

**Yampa/White/Green River
Basin Roundtable
Meeting Draft Minutes
Wednesday March 8, 2017
VFW Post 4265
419 E Victory Way Craig, CO 81625
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Chair Mary Brown.
2. **Introduction of Members and Audience:** All members and guests took turns introducing themselves. See attached sign in sheet.
3. **Approve/Modify Agenda:** Mary Brown asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the agenda. The meeting proceeded without modifications.
4. **Review and Approval of January 11, 2017 Minutes:** Geoff Blakeslee motioned to approve the January draft minutes. Doug Monger seconded. Motion passed.
5. **Budget Report (CWCB)/ SWSI update:** Craig Godbout reported that according to the February 2017 summary there is \$818,949 in the Basin account and \$590,743 in the State account. In regards to SWSI, consultants and the CWCB Staff met last week. There will be limited public input. They will be using technical platform review methods used in previous SWSI's. To expand the scope they will be using data compiled from BIPs. Craig explained that the Technical Advisory Groups will be made up of people that are knowledgeable in the TAGs specific area. With one representative from each Basin. Doug Monger asked what the objective was. Craig explained that it is to look at gaps in M&I, ag and recreation, and supply and demand. Several members expressed concern that the gaps would be driven by IPPs, without input from the Roundtables. Jay Gallagher said that he would take the Roundtables concerns back to the board. Jackie Brown made a motion to send a letter to the CWCB, formally airing the concerns on how TAGs are being set up. Doug Monger seconded. The group agreed to send a letter.
6. **Public Hearings/ Public Input and Comment:** Jackie Brown was asked to read a letter from Todd Asbury on an ongoing algae problem on the White River (see attached). David Graf said that the problem has come to their attention and sampling has been done. They will be holding a meeting at White River Electric on April 4th at 1:00pm.
7. **Review At-Large Application:** Charles Whiteman (Chuck) gave a brief talk on his background and experience in water, and his interest to join the Roundtable. Alden Vanden-Brink spoke on Chucks behalf. Alden pointed out the difficulty in finding people to represent the White River, especially someone as experienced as Chuck. Jackie Brown

motioned to ask Mr. Whiteman to join the Roundtable, Alden seconded, all were in favor. Mr. Whiteman was welcomed to the Roundtable.

8. **Update from Wilson Water:** Erin Wilson and Lisa Wade updated the Roundtable on the BIP. Currently they are looking at certain IPPs, both existing and future, that could be used to meet consumptive needs. It is not meant to be comprehensive, but rather a way to be creative to meet needs. Erin took the model for the BIP and met with IPPs to find out how they see it operating. They are checking to see what demands the Roundtable wants to use. They were able to get through most consumptive needs, but did not get through non-consumptive needs, and will be holding a second workshop.
9. **Reports of Each Standing or Special Committee: (10 min. each) BIP Sub-committee**
 - a. **BIP Sub-Committee-** was discussed during the update from Wilson Water.
 - b. **IBCC Update-** has not met recently, but will be meeting April 20th.
 - c. **West Slope Technical Committee-** has not met recently, however discussion of Phase II is ongoing.
 - d. **PEPO/ Education Committee Update** – Kelly Romero Heaney directed members to the PEPO Update included in the packet. The PEPO Committee had a meeting prior to the Roundtable meeting to discuss starting the website. If any members have an opinion or would like to give input on how the website should look, please attend the next PEPO meeting.
 - e. **Grant Committee Update (20min)** - Steve Hinkemeyer updated the Roundtable on changes to the grant procedures and updates approved by the Roundtable in May 2016. Steve was recently notified by Craig Godbout that more changes needed to be made per changes with the CWCB. Steve changed the guidelines to adopt match changes from the Basin Account, and to adopt match changes to the Statewide Account. Steve asked if the Roundtable would approve these changes. Doug Monger made a motion to accept the changes, seconded by Geoff Blakeslee. Motion carried. Geoff expressed his gratitude for all of the hard work, and time, Steve has put into updating the procedures and application.
 - f. **DWR Update** - Erin Light spoke to the group about the St Jude's case. As a result there is a House Bill 17-1190 that, if passed, will add new language to protect existing water rights, and will only apply to direct flow appropriations. Erin spoke about the difference in beneficial use verses aesthetic and recreational purposes, when water is being diverted from a river or stream, to private property.
10. **New business:**
 - a. **Risk Study:** Mary Brown gave an update and summary of events leading up to the changes in scope of work to the Risk Study. Last year four West Slope Roundtables with participation from some Front Range Roundtables, joined together to complete Phase I. The group wanted to proceed to Phase II by integrating information from Phase I, with the Sate mod and CRSS to create a better modeling effort to assess risk and future curtailment. The Yampa White Green Roundtable gave \$10,000 to help fund the project,

with the Colorado River District being the fiscal sponsor of Phase II. However, Phase II was put on hold when the Front Range Water Council sent a letter to the CWCB encouraging them to not approve the request. The CWCB Director then reached out to members from all Roundtables, and worked towards changing the scope of work in a manner that would pacify all parties. A small tech committee was formed to work through varied stages. Phase II will now not be used in an effort to address interstate issues, but it will still give the Roundtable 90% of what was hoped for. It will be going before the CWCB for approval at the next meeting. There was a request that the results could never be used, but was denied. Therefore, the Roundtable could use the model to address scenarios in the future. Kevin McBride expressed his concern with another Roundtable trying to determine what is and what is not appropriate for this Roundtable to study. Stating "there is a real risk that a compact could be issued and we deserve to know how it would affect us".

b. CWCB PEPO Update (20 min): Mara Mackillop informed the Roundtable that she enjoyed a tour of the Basin this last winter. The CWCB has been sending out newsletters, to sign up for them please visit their website. Many other PEPO Committees are making similar strides as the YWG PEPO Committee. Mara spoke about getting all of the PEPO committees together recently, so that they could share what they are doing. YWG PEPO Committee members said it was a valuable experience. Mara continues to be a great resource for the Roundtables.

11. Announcements: There were no announcements.

12. Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings:

Next Meeting date is May 10, 2017 at 6pm

13. Adjournment: 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

April McIntyre

YWG Basin Roundtable Recorder