

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Holiday Inn Express
Montrose, Colorado
June 5, 2017**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Steve Anderson	Industrial
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Rick Brinkman	Mesa Municipalities
Kathleen Curry	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Cary Denison	Environmental
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
John Harris	Montrose Municipalities
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Dixie Luke	At-Large Member
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Dan Murphy	Hinsdale Municipalities
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Greg Peterson	Saguache County
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
Steve Shea	Agricultural
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Rufus Wilderson	Gunnison County

Voting Members Absent:

Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Cindy Dozier	Hinsdale County
Ray Hanson	Delta Municipalities
John Justman	Mesa County
Jay Jutten	Montrose County
Henry LeValley	Crawford WCD
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Bob Hurford (DWR Liaison).

Public: Marcel Orton and Calvin Harward (Harward Engineering Co.); Karl Burns (Stewart Ditch Co.); Mike Drake (Consulting Engineer); Steve Anders (USGS); Monita and Danny Todd (Fruitland Irrigation Co.); Rose Smith (Jesse Ditch); Beth Karberg (CO Dept of Ag); Michael Dale (NPS – Black Canyon); Luke Gingerich (J-U-B Engineers, Inc.); Jim Plumhoff (UVWUA); Ken Leib (USGS); Wade Irion, Jason Thom, Dan Quigley (DOWL); Craig Godbout (CWCB).

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Kathleen Curry.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call it was declared a quorum was present.

Approve Agenda

Ron Shaver moved to approve the agenda as presented. Neal Schwieterman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Approve April 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Tom Alvey moved to approve the April 3, 2017 meeting minutes as submitted. Frank Kugel seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Report from the IBCC Representatives

Joanne Fagan reported she had attended the IBCC meeting. The discussions included what to do going forward. There were presentations on financing and what might happen at the legislature and a couple of presentations on different ways to fund projects and how to request funding for next year.

Rick Brinkman said he also attended the meeting. It was a whole day of updates on different projects. Eric Kuhn gave an update on Phase II which has been approved. They reported on CAWA activities, including stakeholder meetings they have been holding across the State to inform the agricultural community about the water plan and the potential impacts.

The group also discussed a couple of house bills and talked about surveys regarding ATMs. SWSI will be different this time. Greg Johnson, now with CWCB, told them it will be more data driven. CWCB staff will be doing the updates. There are technical advisory groups to review the data.

Projects bill HB1248 has been signed by the Governor. The goal is there will be \$25 million each year for the next 3 years; \$10 million for the water plan, \$10 million for water supply reserve accounts and \$5 M for water shed/restoration projects.

Ron Shaver moved to ratify the IBCC representatives' report. Frank Kugel seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Bill Nesbitt asked about minority reports from the last meeting, and who gets those reports. Craig Godbout said the minority reports need to go with the Chair's letter of recommendation to staff. Kathleen Curry stated she received the reports and she will distribute them to the Roundtable.

Appointment of New IBCC Representative and Alternate

Kathleen Curry asked if there was anyone interested in filling the open position of IBCC representative vacated by Rick Brinkman. Joanne Fagan said she was willing to fill the position. No one else volunteered.

Tom Alvey moved to appoint Joanne Fagan to the second IBCC representative seat. Greg Peterson seconded and the motion carried. Joanne Fagan abstained.

Cary Denison volunteered to be alternate IBCC representative.

Mike Berry moved to appoint Cary Denison to the alternate IBCC representative seat. Frank Kugel seconded and the motion carried. Cary Denison abstained.

Report from the Educational Committee

Marti Whitmore was not present to give a report on the Educational Committee activities. Joanne Fagan stated there had been no meeting of the committee since our last Roundtable meeting.

Cary Denison mentioned everyone should stay tuned into the website and send any information they may have for the website to Dave Kanzer or Sonja Chavez at the River District.

Report from the Basin Implementation Plan Committee

Frank Kugel reported there had been no meeting of the BIP Committee since the last Roundtable meeting. They are still working on assembling comments for project updates. Anyone involved in a project in the BIP should send updates to Frank and he will circulate them to the committee.

Report from the CWCB Representative and Update from Craig Godbout

John McClow was not present to give a report on the CWCB. Kathleen said John suggested members check the CWCB's "Confluence" newsletter for updates.

Craig Godbout gave an update on the projects bill, which was passed by the legislature and was signed by the Governor. He discussed new grant programs, what funds were going to be available and how those funds would be distributed. Craig also discussed new application forms, which are more focused. As of the September meeting only the new forms and Exhibit "A" will be accepted, however, any application which has already begun the process can still use the old forms. The forms are available on the CWCB website and Craig will supply a link to the packet.

Roundtable members asked questions about when the funding would be available and what opportunities would be available for the roundtables to participate in the development of the criteria guidelines. Members want to make sure there would be some way to ensure feedback from all basin roundtables.

Craig Godbout gave updates on new appointments at the CWCB.

1. Colorado River Risk Assessment, Phase II Update – Frank Kugel

Frank Kugel said there was an Outreach Committee call last week with John Carron of Hydros, who is the consultant for the project. John went over Phase I briefly and talked about the contingency planning to meet future shortages on the Colorado River. The second phase is reoperation of CRSP reservoirs to try to generate additional water to put into Lake Powell. If the first 2 phases don't work, the third phase will be demand management. There are dire predictions for the future to be able to keep sufficient water in Lake Powell for hydropower production. Tom Alvey added the Phase II focus is to fill in some holes from Phase I and to work with the CRSS River Model and the STATEMOD modeling software. The goal is to finish Phase II before the end of year.

2. WSRF Grant Requests – Tom Alvey

Tom Alvey introduced these items. There are 5 requests.

Leon Lake Reservoir: \$41,000 Basin funds.

This reservoir is an important part of the water system for the Upper Surface Creek area including both irrigation and municipal supplies. This is a trans-basin diversion bringing water into our Basin. The reservoir is under a current fill restriction by the State Engineer. The total cost of the repairs, which includes patching a sink hole on the upstream side of the dam, will be approximately \$96,000. The Reservoir Company will provide the balance of the cost above the \$41,000 grant request. This is recognized as a Tier 1 project in the BIP. Ron Shaver added this is a key reservoir. The Screening Committee is recommending approval.

Steve Shea moved to approve the request from Leon Lake Ditch & Reservoir Company for repairs to Leon Lake Reservoir in the amount of \$41,000 from Basin funds. Bill Nesbitt seconded. There were 21 votes in favor of the motion. Ron Shaver abstained. The motion carried.

Arch Ditch: \$20,096.25 Basin funds.

This request is for improvement and repair of an existing headgate. Improvements will increase efficiency of operation and enhance operator safety. The applicants will provide 25% of total project costs. This project will support the Basin goals of repairing aging infrastructure and preserving existing uses. At the suggestion of the Screening Committee, the applicants will look at the possibility of improving fish passage at the headgate. The Screening Committee is recommending approval.

Frank Kugel moved to approve the request from the Arch Ditch Association for the Arch Ditch Headgate Improvement Project for \$20,096.25 from Basin funds. Bill Nesbitt seconded. There were 20 votes in favor of the motion. Kathleen Curry and Greg Peterson abstained. The motion carried.

Fruitland Irrigation Renovation Project: \$750,000 State funds and \$150,000 Basin funds, for a total request of \$900,000.

This is a large project which will leverage Reclamation salinity money with State and Basin funds (less than 10% of total project cost of \$10 million+). If money from RCPP is awarded it will reduce the dollar amount from Basin, however it won't be known until our next Roundtable meeting if the RCPP funding went through.

The current system relies on two rock bore tunnels for delivery of water from Gould Reservoir. These tunnels are aging, dangerous and in need of replacement. In addition, several miles of earthen canal will be lined for significant water savings of 1,800 acre feet per year. Water quality will be improved in the Basin. This is a Tier 2 BIP project, which addresses several of the Basin goals; protecting existing water use, maintaining agriculture and repairing aging infrastructure for nearly 6,000 acres. The exact amount of the grant request is contingent upon both Reclamation and RCPP funding. The Screening Committee is recommending approval.

Dixie Luke moved to approve the request from Fruitland Irrigation Company for the Fruitland Irrigation Renovation Project in the amounts of \$750,000 from State funds and \$150,000 in Basin funds for a total of \$900,000. Ron Shaver seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Upper Stewart Ditch and Pipeline Project - Stewart Ditch and Reservoir Company: \$205,000 State funds and \$20,000 Basin funds.

This is another project which seeks to leverage Reclamation salinity money with State and Basin funds. This project would complete the piping of the Stewart Ditch, begun in 2010, with an additional 16,000 feet of pipe, reducing salt loading and increasing irrigation efficiency to 2,700 acres. The project supports BIP goals of protecting existing uses, improving infrastructure and maintaining agriculture. Like Fruitland, this project is contingent on obtaining Reclamation funding and would not be funded by WSRF if the salinity grant is not awarded. The Screening Committee is recommending approval.

John Harris mentioned the Basin funding doesn't match 10% of State funding. Tom Alvey suggested raising the Basin funds to \$20,500 to meet the 10% matching requirement.

Rufus Wilderson moved to approve the request from Stewart Ditch and Reservoir Company for the Upper Stewart Ditch and Pipeline Project, for \$205,000 from State funds and raising the requested amount to \$20,500 from Basin funds. Dixie Luke seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jessie Ditch Integration Project / Jessie Ditch Company: \$125,000 State funds, and \$75,000 Basin funds (originally \$150,000 State funds and \$80,000 Basin funds).

This is a complex project also leveraging funds from federal sources (NRCS). There are two ditch piping projects combined into one system; piping an existing ditch from Leroux Creek and creating a new pressurized pipe system for late season water. Although this project has many positive elements and deserves further consideration, the Screening Committee was concerned with 1) the overall cost may be underestimated, 2) acre foot savings and benefits are overestimated, and 3) cost per acre benefited (\$2,500) is high. The Screening Committee originally rejected the request because of the high dollar amount and felt the project was not well conceived. The Screening Committee recommended the applicants review their request to simplify the project and then reapply.

The stakeholders came back with another proposal to do only pressurized pipe, which encourages more efficient agricultural use. The applicants are now requesting \$125,000 from State funds, and \$75,000 from Basin funds. The total project cost is \$579,000.

The Screening Committee has not had a chance to consider the new submittal, but it does address most of the questions. The amount is still a little large, and it was suggested to move \$25,000 from Basin to State funds.

Cary Denison moved to approve the amended request from Jessie Ditch Company for a pressurized pipe system for \$50,000 from Basin funds and \$150,000 from State funds. Steve Shea seconded. There were 21 votes for the motion. Dixie Luke abstained from the vote. The motion carried.

Craig Godbout mentioned the applicant will need to submit an amended application and statement of work.

Other Business

None

Next Meeting

Cary Denison asked to add two items to next meeting agenda, 1) a project update and presentation for the Roubideaux Project, and 2) a discussion of basin-wide funding criteria. Cary said he would put together a summary of what other roundtables have done with funding criteria.

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 7, 2017, at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose.

It was brought up the timing of the meetings really pushes the deadlines for project application submittals. Adam Turner suggested a change of meeting to the last Monday of each month for better timing for grant requests. Tom Alvey said it may be difficult to get a date and suggested an email poll to try and find a better week for the meetings. The results of the poll will be discussed at the next scheduled meeting in August.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

Kathleen Curry will distribute minority reports from the April meeting to Roundtable members.

Cary Denison will put together a summary of what other roundtables have done with funding criteria.

Information for Gunnison Basin education website should be forwarded to Dave Kanzer or Sonya Chavez at the Colorado River District.

Jessie Ditch Company needs to submit an amended application to CWCB.