



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

Roundtable Meeting Notes

January 10, 2018

Pueblo Convention Center, Pueblo CO

(Presentations and reports may be found at www.arkansasbasin.com)

Welcome and Introductions

Mark Shea called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. 30 voting members were present.

Approval of Minutes of November 2017

A motion to approve the minutes of November 2017 was duly made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Public Comment – none

REPORTS

Executive Committee – Mark Shea

- Brett Gracely has left CS Utilities, and so has given up his various roundtable positions. He was El Paso County Muni and an IBCC Rep, in addition to being on a couple of committees.

IBCC – Jeris Danielson, Terry Scanga

Jeris - The IBCC met on November 30th. The meeting was very productive.

- Colorado River issues were looked at, including management of the balance of water between Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Mexico is working with the US on drought contingency, and probably will store some water in Lake Mead.
- Most of the day was spent identifying priorities for the IBCC.
- Briefing on CO River Risk Study. Phase 1 is done, moving into Phase 2. No idea when phase 2 will be completed.
- Re: Colorado River having personhood status. Lawsuit was withdrawn.
- HB 16-1256 storage sites on south Platte. 29 sites have been narrowed down to 8.
- If you go to the IBCC website, you can see the meeting summary.

PEPO/ARBWF – Jean Van Pelt

- Today's Funding Series speaker had to cancel. He will come back next month.
- DARCA will be holding their annual conference in Pueblo February 21 – 23. Darca.org
- The April Roundtable meeting will again be moved to the day prior to the Arkansas River Basin Water Forum, in La Junta. Tuesday, April 10th.
- PEPO has purchased a few copies of the WECO Citizens Guide (available to borrow)
- Jean will participate on the WECO Water Educators Network focus group in November. The purpose is to determine who education audiences are, where the gaps are and what educators need.
- WECO will host its 2018 Water Fluency program in the Pueblo area beginning in May. Jean will work with them on developing a local curriculum that will focus on policy & decision makers new to water. For more information: www.Yourwatercolorado.org
- Dr. Sam Ebersole is now working very closely with Rocky Mountain PBS on the narration of the documentary. We'll let you know when it will air on PBS. The next step is to develop an outreach plan for viewing the documentary throughout the basin.



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CWCB Report – Jack Goble

- CWCB met in Broomfield on November 15 and 16.
- CWCB provided an update for the two-year anniversary of the CO Water Plan.
- CO Water Plan grant applications were considered at the meeting.
- CWCB board members reviewed and approved the Projects Bill.
- The last round of applications are due to CWCB on February 1st.
- CWCB was informed that Severance Tax Funds have been more heavily impacted by the BP suit than expected, affecting Tier One and Two funding, including this fiscal year's funding, as well as next year.
- The Projects Bill has been approved by CWCB, at \$25 mil, but that funding will likely be impacted by at least half.
- Next CWCB meeting will be held Jan 22, 23, at the Denver Tech Center, on the Monday and Tuesday before Water Congress.

Ben Wade – Colorado Water Plan grant funding amounts remaining after January approvals:

Agricultural: \$48,000
Storage: \$1,400,000
Supply and Demand Gap: \$356,000
Environment/Recreation: \$154,000
Conservation & Land Use: \$716,000
Engagement & Innovation: \$129,000

Andy Moore retired at end of December. He was heading the ArkDSS project. Ben will let us know who will take that position over.

Mara McKillop is stepping back, and Ben Wade will be taking on education/outreach activities in our area.

Needs Assessment – Chelsey Nutter

- Today we'll review five grant applications for approval.
- If all grants are approved today, the Basin account balance will stand at \$95,065.

ARWC – Mark Shea, Carol Ekarius, Lisa Patton

- Lower Arkansas Valley watershed plan. Have been meeting regarding pollutant trade-offs.
- Will be meeting with CWCB board members to discuss the Watershed Restoration proposal that was submitted.
- Have been working with Gary and the Purgatoire Watershed group, as well as the Greenway Fund.
- The ARWC board met during the Exec Comm meeting and approved some preliminary ethics policies.
- Grant application will be heard at Jan CWCB meeting for ARWC funding.

Phase II Risk Study – Ben

Still in data analysis mode, doing simulations, looking at State Mod. SWSI info will need to be incorporated into their study.

BIP Coordinator – Gary Barber

- Presentation: see website
- Working on a grant that accesses match funds from El Paso County Planning Department, which is developing a first ever Water Master Plan, to do a site-specific project.



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PROGRAM (presentations may be found at www.arkansasbasin.com)

Water Supply Alternatives Study Town of Walsh Water Enterprise – Town of Walsh Municipal Water Supply Alternatives Study

Basin Fund	\$ 1,000
Statewide Fund	\$ 6,500
Matching Funds	<u>\$ 2,500</u>
Total Project Cost	\$10,000

Current Supply Well has Performance Challenges

“Walsh is down to one well. The well is now producing 350gpm down from approximately 600 a few years ago. When pumping the water level is at 190 feet. Total well depth is 210. Of course water restrictions are in place. There is no backup water source at the present time. We consider our water situation extremely serious.”

Project: Explore Alternatives. The population of Walsh is 500.

This application moved forward by consensus.

Cucharas Basin Collaborative Storage Study – Phase II Geotech Study & Water Court Application

Basin Fund	\$ 8,480
Statewide Fund	\$ 84,797
Matching Funds	<u>\$ 40,280</u>
Total Project Cost	\$ 133,557

The basin is water short, and is addressing the shortage through storage options.

Project Approach

At a reconnaissance level

- Assess the storage needs of all collaborative members and other stakeholders, and
- Develop options for collaborative storage development including, for example, the consolidation, rehabilitation or decommissioning of existing facilities and the construction of new multi-use storage.

Phase I

- 10 Collaborative meetings
- Completed June 2017
- Needs Assessment
- Water rights model
- Screening + Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Result: 5 Preferred Storage Sites

This application moved forward by consensus.

Parkville Water District – Mountain Lake Emergency Spillway Rebuild

Basin Fund	\$ 6,681
Statewide Fund	\$ 66,814
Matching Funds	<u>\$ 31,499</u> (includes in-kind)
Total Project Cost	\$ 104,994

This application moved forward by consensus.



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Town of Poncha Springs – Infrastructure Improvement Project-Well Development

Basin Fund	\$ 6,000
Statewide Fund	\$ 58,500
Matching Funds	<u>\$ 55,500</u>
Total Project Cost	\$ 120,000

Public Water System Responsibility:

“Ensuring the production of safe and reliable drinking water, one that is free of harmful bacteria and toxic material; as well as, adequate amounts of water and pressure available during times of emergencies, such as a fire.”*

Project scope

- 5,800 LF 12” Trunk line
- 2 new high production wells w/ treatment
- Elevated 400,000 gallon storage tank

This well development project is a small part of a larger infrastructure improvement project valued at \$2,494,941.20. Other phases have been funded through other grant and loan funding sources.

This project moved forward by consensus.

Lakeside Estates Preserve Homeowners Association, Inc. – Ice Lake Preservation & Augmentation Project

Basin Fund	\$ 2,891
Statewide Fund	\$ 26,019
Matching Funds	<u>\$ 14,286</u>
Total Project Cost	\$ 43,196

This project moved forward by consensus.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Next Meeting – February 14th, Pueblo Community College
- Adjourned at 2:10 pm
- We would like to hear your suggestions for presentations for future programs. We will be looking at an overview of water rights and projects in the basin, as well as more information regarding the Colorado River Basin. Let Mark Shea know.