

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, January 11th, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Denver Water
1600 W 12th Ave
Denver, CO 80204

Members in Attendance:

Barbara Biggs, Bob Peters, Casey Davenhill, Cortney Brand, Dan DeLaughter, Darren Beck, Dave Nickum, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Jamie Hartig, Julio Iturreria, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Rick Marsicek, Rick McLoud, Larry Miegler

Guests:

Phyllis Thomas, Roya Koepsell, Tyler Dell, Tim Welman, David Pier, Blain Cormny, John Kuosman, ML Quennis, Lacey Williams, Greg Fisher

CWCB:

Megan Holcomb, Diane Kielty, John Stulp, Greg Johnson

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Approval of November 2017 Meeting Summary

Bob Peters motioned to approve, Casey Davenhill 2nd
All in Favor - Approved

3. Agenda: additions or changes

4. Public Comment

Water Provider Real Estate Information Disclosure Tool started their project on 1/10/2018. Four counties are participating - Douglas, Arapahoe, Denver, Adams

Tap-in – New program Trout Tank H2O. An accelerator and pitch program is accepting applications now. Registration deadline is February 9th.

5. WSRF (Hunt)

1. Funds Status Per Category (MRT WSRF 2018 Proposed Budget in packet)

- The balance has been increased since the material packet release due to a disbursement received of \$120,000, bringing the total WSRF fund to \$607,756.
- The new fund disbursement will be evenly distributed through the 5 WSRF categories. Each category will be at \$85,000 with reserve at \$122,000 for flexibility in allocation.
- We are using 2017 funds for two applications being reviewed during this meeting to start 2018 fresh.

Motion to approve allocation made by Lisa Darling, Julio Iturreria 2nd

All in favor - Approved

2. WSRF Balance Summary

Severance tax revenues have been reduced. There will be none for Tier 2 programs. WSRF is a Tier 2 program. CWCB was recently asked to provide a refund due to law suit. The 2017 projects did have a \$10 million backfill which helped address this deficiency and is where the recent disbursement was drawn. The April funds may be temporarily withheld until there is a better sense of the 2018 projects bill. There are approximately 20 projects under review for the Statewide accounts. For the water grant program there are remaining balances. You can request those amounts from Megan Holcomb.

3. New Grant Applications

1. SWIFT2 - South Platte Watershed One Water Infrastructure Sharing Initiative (John Kuosman & Greg Fischer)

The goal is to put a network in place to merge the existing infrastructure to leverage this for the rate payer in different and creative ways going forward. There is a need to make better use of existing supply and trade capacities between agencies that they want to explore. It's not a technological barrier as much as an agency barrier. Driving factors include the existence of several urban reservoirs and waste water facilities having tighter nutrient limits who want to explore creative distribution concepts to identify opportunities for reclamation and reuse. They plan to bring infrastructure providers together at the same table and overlaying opportunities to leverage the existing infrastructure and create new infrastructure.

The grant tasks are aimed at establishing the leadership structure through some type of formalized agreement among the lead entities. Presenter showed starting group of partners/agencies with a task to expand this group. A rough timeline was provided to include a winter meeting to develop an approach, summer will be spent identify opportunities, and in fall they anticipate they will be organized enough to present a request for a larger study. Mapping of the infrastructure is the largest task followed by identifying investments and gaps. The deliverables will be maps and fact sheets and recommended next actions.

What are the expectations for the final goal of this effort? The aim is to secure the formalization of group, e.g. MOU designed for agencies/partners to work together on projects and share resources.

What are the concerns with security and confidential information? They understand there is sensitivity. They will investigate confidentiality agreements to address this concern.

The MRT approved to move forward SWIFT2 to a full grant application request.

2. Regional Investigation of Salinity Management Options – Aurora Water, Denver Water & WISE Authority (Chris Muller & Klint Reedy)

This covers a large portion of the Denver Metro area. There are 3 Phases:

1. Phase 1 - Create trade agreements through planning and have infrastructure complete and in operation
2. Phase 2 - Deadline 2021 – Design permanent connection
3. Phase 3 - Deadline 2030 - Delivery

The Prairie Water Project Diversion was discussed. Salinity Management Investigation Scope of Work elements were reviewed. They plan on conducting in depth studies on reverse osmosis. They want to identify options and costs to build a plant, both build and operational costs. They're evaluating brine disposal issues and alternatives. They will investigate blending options as opposed to removal.

They provided funding sources and amounts and are asking for \$35,000 from MRT. There is a requirement for a statewide request to have 10% match from a RT.

The application is due February 1st. They requested that MRT allow them to submit their application prior to RT approval due to this deadline. This is an IPP identified project. The RT was asked to conduct a review of the final application via electronic vote. RT members agreed to an electronic vote due to special circumstances.

7. Colorado Water Plan Grants (Biggs/Hunt)

A draft process for MRT to address these grant letters has been created. Emily and Barb will have this draft available during February meeting.

7. Committee Updates

1. PEPO (Davenhill)

1. Education Action Plan

They are compiling event information on water festivals. They will be attending events throughout the year. Please share upcoming events with Lacey. Lacey is developing an article to talk about the Basin Implementation Plan.

The South Platte RT asked Lacey to create a press release to announce the projects they have approved. Suggestion made to be careful with how this is conveyed. Grants are not approved by MRT, but rather approved to move forward in the award process.

The South Platte Urban Waters Partnership may be a good place to participate and do a presentation to inform them of what the RTs are doing.

A request was made for a leadership committee to serve as oversight for website updates and inputs. This committee will be communicating directly with Lacey. Radio programming and journalism will be on the website. The SP Website Policy is needed to assure a formal process. The South Platte will use the same policy with a change to the name "Executive Committee" which does not exist. Content will be directed to State Level PEPO Coordinator, Ben Wade.

Do we host agenda materials and RT documents on the SP website? Not at this time, but they would like to do this in the future. Other RT's are doing this to alleviate email distribution of packet materials.

Motion to approve SP Website Policy with recommended language changes made by Dave Nickum, Lisa Darling 2nd
All in Favor - Approved

2. South Platte Data Platform Sub-Committee Update

1. Open Water Foundation has asked to interface with the SP Website Platform. This is a public interface to provide layers of data to tell stories of what RTs want to communicate to the public. It will be a challenge to simplify this demographic information. What stories do we want to tell and what data do we have to back up this story? Demonstrate the versatility of his tool by showing river flow, irrigated acreage and how it has changed over time. As a committee they want to be sure they have something useful at the end of the day. The South Platte Website will not be updating but simply housing and sharing.

2. Membership Committee (Biggs)

1. Bob Peters as Alternate for Jim Lochhead (legislative appointee)
2. IBCC Representation – Jim Lochhead (2016 reaffirmed)/Dave Bennett
 1. Jim has sent formal appointment to have Bob Peters be the MRT alternate.
 2. Jim would like to appoint Dave Bennett (Denver Water) as 2nd IBCC representative. He would be Jim's alternate on IBCC.

Jim and Dave plan to coordinate on covering these two positions and exchange of information. How will Dave be able to represent the MRT without understanding the conversations leading to MRT decisions? How will information going between MRT and IBCC be addressed? If Dave is going to represent this group would it be helpful to have him be present and participate in the group.

Should our expectation be that Dave will be attending MRT meetings? Dave should participate in the MRT and conceptual discussions and this is an expectation. The IBCC will meet 4 times this year. At the quarterly meetings if something comes up it would be good for Dave and Lisa Darling to both be there, especially for formal discussions.

Does MRT expect Dave to attend MRT on a regular basis and report back to the group? The intent is for Peter to bridge the gap. IBCC is not regularly scheduled at this time and it is expected to be front loaded this year. Lisa can help keep us informed when these IBCC meetings will take place. Does not want to see precedent set where IBCC rep isn't regularly attending RT meetings. If the RT is going to have a discussion on the framework there should be a formal request that Bob be here.

Lisa provided a summary from the November 2017 IBCC meeting. Three committees were formed; 1) on conceptual framework, 2) draft a letter to the next governor and, 3) new funding campaign and distribution. They will meet at the Water Congress followed by the next IBCC meeting on February 20th.

There is a 10-page meeting packet from the November 2017 IBCC meeting that will be shared out.

There is a publication on the CWCB website called, "Ripple Effect". This provides an implementation update showing where we are with goals on the water plan. A request was made to have a presentation on this report at the next MRT meeting.

West Slope Risk Study Phase II discussion. The West Slope Round Tables proposed a SOW for Phase II of the West Slope Risk Study in fall 2016. Due to concerns about implications for interstate and federal negotiations, CWCB Staff helped revise the original SOW, moving away from issues that are under the purview of the State (such as compact compliance and administration) and focusing on voluntary demand management and reservoir operations. The study is near completion and will be made widely available.

Brent Newman is new Section Chief of Interstate & Federal section. Will see Brent and Greg more. IBCC update at next MRT meeting.

3. Peter Nichols has resigned his seat. He is a Governor's appointee to the IBCC
4. Rick Marsicek is no longer with Douglas County. Lisa Darling has been asked to vacate her seat to become the Douglas County seat. This opens her At-large seat.
5. Julio Iturreria retired and will continue to attend while waiting for a replacement.
6. There are 2 At-large seats now open with Peter and Lisa vacating.

8. SWSI Update (Holcomb)

Update page is live at CWCB. Final documents are posted. Teams are beginning their work and doing analysis which will be delivered throughout the year.

9. South Platte Storage Study Update (Darling / Holcomb)

1. The final SPSS report is now on the southplattebasin.com website.
A presentation will be made at the February MRT meeting.

10. Meeting Schedule

1. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - Tuesday, January 9th, 2018, 4:00 pm – Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Road 24 ½, Longmont, CO.
2. Metro Roundtable Meeting – Thursday, January 11th, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
3. Future Joint RT Meeting – June 2018, TBD