

Interbasin Compact Committee Basin Roundtables

Rio Grande Basin Roundtable

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District

623 Fourth Street

Alamosa, CO 81101

Chairman Coombs called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Those who were signed in/present were:

Ron Brink, Travis Smith, Peter Wise, Stan Moyer, Keith Holland, Pat McDermot, Christi Bode, Mario Curto, David Marquez, Peter Clark, Ralph Curtis, Jonathan Moore, Erin Minks, Orla Bannon, Jim Ehrlich, Karla Shriver, Charles Spielman, Wayne Schwab, Virginia Christensen, Heather Dutton, Eugene Jaquez, Kristine Borchers, Kevin Terry, Amber Pacheco, Gene Farish, Judi Perez, Chris Ivers, Brenda Felmler, Ronda Lobato, Matt Hildner, Ruth Heide, Don Thompson, Rick Bassagoitia, Jonathan Hernandez, Ryan Unterreiner, Emma Reesor, Brenda Anderson, Nathan Coombs, Lee Swenson, and Helen Smith

2) Approve Agenda

Chairman Coombs proposed two changes to the agenda. The first was to move the Division of Water Resources Presentation after Public Comment. The second was to add a video presentation from Christi Bode following item 5. Ron Brink made a motion to approve the changes and was seconded by Mario Curto. The motion carried.

3) Approve January 19th, 2018 minutes

Karla Shriver made a motion to approve the January minutes and was seconded by Keith Holland. The motion carried.

Chairman Coombs also noted a letter of intent to serve on the Rio Grande Roundtable from Virginia Christensen. After discussion, it was determined that there are two options for adding At-Large seats.

- a) create more seats
- b) enforce by-laws on attendance more strictly

After a motion and second from Jim Ehrlich and Keith Holland, it was agreed that the Executive Committee would explore these options further.

4) Public Comment

Travis Smith announced the passing of Melvin Getz and suggested the Roundtable send a card to his wife, Camille. This idea was accepted by acclamation.

Chairman Coombs closed the Public Comment period.

5) DWR Update: Pat McDermot

The Rio Grande Basin is currently at 20% of normal basin average. Forecasts continue to indicate high potential for a very dry year. Colorado is currently in debit status with the Rio Grande compact as well. Discussion followed on the merits of cloud seeding and early irrigation.

6) Funding Preview: Terrace Reservoir Outlet Repair Study- Virginia Christensen

The Terrace Reservoir Company is seeking to explore options for an outlet repair study. They have a bid in place from Deere and Ault Consultants Inc. for \$17,000. The total estimated cost is \$20,000. The request would come from the Basin Account. The official ask will follow at the March meeting.

7) Video Presentation: Christi Bode

A vignette on watershed health from MoxieCran Media was presented and was well received and applauded.

8) Letter of Support Requests: RWEACT and SLVWCD

Kristine Borchers, Program Manager for the Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team made a request to the Roundtable for a letter of support for the Upper Rio Grande Assessment.

Karla Shriver made a motion to approve the request and was seconded by Ron Brink. The motion carried.

Matt Hildner of the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District made a request for a letter of support for a joint pilot project of SLVWCD, Rio Grande Water Conservation District, and the Conejos Water Conservancy District for a Soil Moisture Study. Travis Smith made the motion to approve the request and was seconded by Wayne Schwab. The motion carried.

There was also a request from Water education Colorado that will be reviewed by the Education Committee.

RGWCD Habitat Conservation Plan Update: Chris Ivers

Chris Ivers gave a presentation/ update on the status of the Habitat Conservation Plan that RGWCD implements. After some questions, the update was complete.

IBCC Update: Keith Holland- The next IBCC meeting will be on February 20th, 2018 in Denver. The SWASI Fact Sheet is now available.

CWCB Update: Jonathan Hernandez-

The CWCB is working on a partnership with the Colorado Youth Corp. Association. The next CWCB meeting will be on March 21-22nd in Broomfield. There will be 32 WSRF grant requests heard. There has also been 11 million in funds reallocated to the other CWCB programs including 2 million to WSRF and 7 million to the Colorado Water Plan Grant Program to offset the impact of the severance tax issue. Funds are still available, just not in as high of quantities.

The meeting was adjourned.