

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Holiday Inn Express
Montrose, Colorado
January 15, 2018**

Voting Members Present:

Patrice Alonzo	Crawford Water Conservancy District
Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Steve Anderson	Industrial
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Barbara Bynum	Montrose Municipalities
Kathleen Curry	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Cary Denison	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Dixie Luke	At-Large Member
John McCLOW	House and Senate Ag Committees, CWCB Liaison
Dan Murphy	Hinsdale Municipalities
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Greg Peterson	Saguache County
Mark Ritterbush	Mesa Municipalities
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
Steve Shea	Agricultural
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Rufus Wilderson	Gunnison County

Voting Members Absent:

Ray Hanson	Delta Municipalities
John Justman	Mesa County
Jay Jutten	Montrose County
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Dave Kanzer (CRD Liaison), Bob Hurford (DWR Liaison), Craig Godbout (CWCB Staff Liaison).

Public: Beth Karberg (CDA-Salinity Program), Hannah Holm (Hutchins Water Center at CMU), Jack Brungardt (Sampson/Frasier Ditch), Randi Kim (City of Grand Junction Utilities)

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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

Neal Schwieterman moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Approve December 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Tom Alvey moved to approve the December 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes as presented. Greg Peterson seconded and the motion carried. Kathleen Curry and Neal Schwieterman abstained from the vote.

Welcome to Patrice Alonzo, Crawford WCD and Michael Murphy, Town of Lake City

Kathleen Curry introduced new members Patrice Alonzo with Crawford Water Conservancy District and Michael Murphy with the Town of Lake City.

Report from Educational Committee

Marti Whitmore stated there was nothing to report from the Educational Committee.

Report from the IBCC Representative

Joanne Fagan said the IBCC has not met. They have set up 3 task forces to work on conceptual framework, funding, and a letter to legislative candidates and the new governor. These subtask forces will meet in next few weeks. The IBCC is scheduled to meet next on February 20.

Report from the CWCB Representative

John McClow reported there has been no CWCB meeting since the last GBRT meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for January 22nd and 23rd at the Denver Tech Center.

Report from the Basin Implementation Plan Committee

Frank Kugel stated he has no report from the Basin Implementation Planning Committee. Cary Denison provided some updates to the projects list for the Bostwick Park. Kathleen Curry asked when the Roundtable will know the BIP reflects all the project updates. Frank said the committee will have a report by the next meeting.

Craig Godbout updated the Roundtable on next steps. After SWSI is completed there will be the next round of BIPs. The work may be funded through WSRF, so the Roundtable may want to save some basin money for this purpose.

The SWSI number crunching and preliminary analysis will be finished towards the end of this fiscal year. The reporting will be completed in the fall of next fiscal year. SWSI looks at the gaps; water availability versus demands.

Cary Denison asked about project progress reports and where we stand on those. Craig Godbout replied a general requirement is a progress report back to the Roundtable is due every six months. Copies should be sent to him and the Roundtable members. Craig provided Tom Alvey and the committee with a list of all of the applications approved by the CWCB Board.

Kathleen Curry asked about project approval letters. Craig responded the letters should be sent to him with a copy to the applicant to say the project has been approved by the Roundtable.

Update on WSRF funding – Craig Godbout, CWCB

Craig Godbout gave a quick update on the basin and statewide accounts. February 1 is the deadline for WSRF applications for the March meeting. There is about \$1.2 million in funding requests. If there are not enough funds available everyone will share burden of the shortfall.

Severance tax revenues have plummeted. After the April disbursement no more WSRF distributions are expected for this (State) fiscal year, and it does not look good for the next several years. The April disbursement may be delayed depending on what the Board decides to do. John McClow added all funds are at risk for next fiscal year.

Roundtable members discussed how to distribute the current funds if there will be no more funding for the near future and what the Roundtable is going to work on if there is no money. Kathleen Curry suggested a future discussion on how to stretch out basin funds for the long term.

WSRA Grant Request – Tom Alvey (Turner Lone Cabin Ditch Project)

Tom Alvey stated the applicants for the Turner Lone Cabin Ditch Project withdrew their application because they did not get approved for their BOR salinity grant. This was a major part of their project but they plan to keep trying to get the project accomplished.

Procedural Item: Threshold for Email Action

At the October 2017 meeting there was no quorum and the Roundtable decided to support two projects via email from members. The vote had to reach a total of 90% of seated members, which meant 28 votes were needed. This process was a challenge and Kathleen said she rather not repeat the effort. She asked members what they think of 90% of quorum vote rather than seated members who might be absent a meeting. If agreed, it would require a change to the Bylaws.

John McCloy said these issues only come up because of CWCB grants and deadlines and asked if, other than funding, is anything else that urgent. Roundtable members felt there should be something in place for an extraordinary event and the Roundtable should not lower the bar on quorum. Barbara Bynum suggested using Survey Monkey or some other polling program. Another suggestion was to somehow make use of the website. No consensus was reached.

Joanne Fagan moved to table the discussion. Bill Nesbitt seconded, and the motion carried. There were 2 opposing votes by Kathleen Curry and Greg Peterson.

Other Business

Allen Distel – Cimarron Watershed

Allen Distel said he is trying a different approach to find funding through the Federal Comprehensive Watershed Program through a WaterSMART Grant. They can combine stakeholders in the Cimarron Watershed area as a group, and then request funding for various projects in the watershed area. Phase 1 is actually to set up the watershed group with all the stakeholders within the prescribed area so they can apply for funding. Phase 2 is a 50/50 cost share program. Allen is asking the Gunnison Basin Roundtable for a letter of support for their grant application. Cary said they have put in considerable effort to modernize their system in the past couple of years.

Tom Alvey moved to have the Roundtable supply a letter of support for the Cimarron Watershed Group. Frank Kugel seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Kathleen Curry will send a letter of support within the next few days.

Future Meetings

Four West Slope Roundtable Meeting

Bill Trampe joined the meeting via telephone to discuss a memo he sent to the Roundtable. Bill said the memo is intended to give some understanding of what might be happening before Eric Kuhn and John Carron speak to them about the risk study. The River District took the lead on the data and analysis risk study work and is going to have information they would like to share. John and Eric may come to speak at the March meeting.

Kathleen Curry said she was on a call with the Chairs of the other west slope roundtables (Yampa, Colorado and San Juan), IBCC members, and the Colorado River District staff and Board. The purpose was to discuss the idea of bringing the 4 west slope roundtables together again for another West Slope Caucus to discuss the ongoing risk study, looking at how big river shortages could impact us in a demand management scenario.

The 4 roundtable meeting is scheduled for April 24 or 25, probably in Grand Junction at Ute Water. Everyone will be welcome. It will be an interesting and controversial meeting with conversations about joint strategies, joining forces, shortages, etc. They will want to know where the GBRT stands. Kathleen suggested an agenda item for the March meeting to discuss these items.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2018, at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

Kathleen Curry will send a letter of support for the Cimarron Watershed Group within the next few days.

BIP Committee will report on the projects list updates at the next meeting.