

Next Steps Committee meeting notes
February 26, 2018

Mark Fuller	Nathan Bell, P.E., Mt. Sopris Cons. Dist.
Ken Ransford	Angie Fowler
April Long	Hannah Holm
Brett Jolley, Mt. Sopris Cons. Dist.	Stan Cazier
Heather Lewin	Laurie Rink
Hanna Holm	Dennis Davidson, Mt. Sopris Cons. Dist.
Greg Poschman, Pitkin BOCC	Carlyle Currier
Karn Stiegelmeier, chair	Oni Butterfly
Brent Gardner-Smith	Bruce Hutchins
Elizabeth Chandler, program coordinator, Mt. Sopris Cons. Dist.	Charles and Angela Ryden, Mt. Sopris Cons. Dist.

1. Upcoming meetings:

- a. March 26, 2018 CBRT roundtable meeting, Glenwood Springs Community Center from 12-4:00.
2. **WSRA Balance.** The CBRT WSRA Basin Account balance is \$322,020; of this, \$20,000 is set aside in reserve for an educational project, and \$150,000 in reserve for a basin wide project. It is unclear whether any additional money will be available for roundtable funding; it's up to the legislature to fund it, likely through an allocation from the General Fund.
3. **Update on April roundtable funding**—the CWCB does not know if any additional funding will be available. The CWCB now says it believes it could be \$10 million in the hole; it's up to the legislature to allocate funds to the roundtables and the IBCC. They expect the legislature to come through with some funds.
4. Karn recommended that the **CBRT send a letter to the legislature requesting funding for the roundtable process.** Karn said she'd ask Rep. Millie Hamner and Ken Neubecker said he'd contact Rep. Bob Rankin for advice when to deliver this letter. Carlyle currier recommended that we **reach out to the other roundtables, particularly the South Platte roundtable,** to enlist their support in this.
5. **Carlyle Currier suggested that we allocate the \$150,000 legacy basin-wide project reserve to the Middle Colorado stream management plan.**
 - a. Stan Cazier said he hoped that the legacy project could be one that left more water in the Colorado River that flowed down the river from Grand County to the state line.
 - b. Lane Wyatt said that has already been done with the Windy Gap re-routing.

- c. Richard Vangytenbeek said he favors the Middle Colorado watershed plan because it combines both consumptive and non-consumptive needs; it could serve as a demonstration project for the rest of the basin, and state-wide.

6. There is a **pending \$85,480 shortfall in funding for pending grant requests:**

<u>Available funds</u>		<u>Pending grants</u>		<u>Total</u>
CBRT basin fund balance	322,020	Antelope Reservoir - Ehler ranch	30,000	
Less: reserve for legacy basin-wide project	(150,000)	Roaring Fork watershed interactive map	37,500	
Less: reserve for educational project	<u>(20,000)</u>	Middle Colorado agricultural consumptive use study	<u>100,000</u>	167,500
Total available	152,020			
		Expected grants		
		Colorado River risk study	10,000	
		GVWUA master plan to rehabilitate Grand Valley irrigation system	<u>60,000</u>	
				<u>70,000</u>
Less: Pending and expected grant requests	<u>(237,500)</u>			237,500
Shortfall	(85,480)			

7. Ken Ransford made a **motion** which Mark Fuller seconded **to free up \$75,000 from the Legacy Basin Wide project to pay for the Middle Colorado agriculture consumptive use study and \$10,000 from the education reserve** to help pay for the Roaring Fork watershed interactive map to cover the shortfall. Stan Cazier pointed out that the \$60,000 Grand Valley Water User's association has not yet been received, nor has the \$10,000 Colorado River Risk Study grant been requested. Karn Stiegelmeier recommended against taking money from the \$20,000 education reserve. There was consensus to follow Ken Ransford's motion, but **no vote was held**.
8. Dennis Davidson said that **other conservation districts on the West Slope are eyeing the Middle Colorado IWMP**, and it already has taken on basin-wide and legacy status.
9. **Stan Cazier recommended that we approve all 3 of the grant requests, seconded by Ken Neubecker**, with discussion that the Ehlers should attend the March roundtable meeting to answer questions about the water rights, which have a priority date of 1915. The motion passed with no vocal dissent.