

# **Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary**

Thursday, March 8th, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Denver Water  
1600 W 12th Ave  
Denver, CO 80204

## **Members in Attendance:**

Alex Davis, Barbara Biggs, Casey Davenport, Devon Buckels, Eric Hecox, Julio Iturreria, Janet Bell, Jim Hall, Bob Peters, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Rick Marsicek, Rick MCloud

## **Guests:**

Joe Frank, Dawn Jewell, Dave Bennett, Lacey Williams, Mary Presecan, Chris Douglass, Greg Johnson, Klint Reed

## **CWCB:**

Megan Holcomb, Diane Kielty

## **Metro Roundtable Business Meeting**

### **1. Welcome/Introductions**

### **2. Approval of February 2018 Meeting Summary (Action Item)**

Motion to approve by Eric Hecox, Rick MCloud 2<sup>nd</sup>  
All in favor, Approved

### **3. Agenda: additions or changes (Action Item)**

Agenda approved

### **4. Public Comment**

### **5. WSRF (Hunt)**

There are no grant request coming forward at this time.

### **6. Colorado Water Plan Grants (Biggs/Hunt)**

No Letters of Request have come forward.

### **7. Committee Updates**

#### **1. PEPO (Davenport / Williams)**

They had their first education committee meeting yesterday. Discussed SPBRT website. They are updating the site. It's a critical platform. Please review the website and provide comment. Working with the Open Water Foundation platform developing storylines with data. MRT members made a request to have the Foundation present the platform status to MRT at the April MRT meeting.

There is a need for both RTs to state concisely (2 sentences) our message. A suggestion was made to create a vision and mission statement. A basin survey is underway. An outside consultant has been hired to conduct this survey.

The Alliance Center has 48 organizations combined under the banner of sustainability. PEPO may work collaboratively with them to message water awareness. The Alliance has been attending water festivals and they plan to attend a retailer show in July. Next year they will do a farm show and the Poudre River Forum. Several articles have been written to be distributed to Media outlets.

Lacey requested information from MRT on projects that have been funded to create project summaries. MRT has not done a great job of tracking the grants. CWCB receives 6-month progress reports on all grants. These reports are not

posted on the CWCB website. Barb has asked to receive project completion notices from CWCB in the future.

2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Nickum)  
Lacey attended their last meeting. They're discussing how to use the data platform to measure stream attributes. They would like to have data visualization options in a format they can use.

## **8. IBCC Update (Darling)**

Dave Bennett and Lisa Darling shared a draft Letter to Candidates for Statewide Office. It was drafted by committee and is short. It's intended to go to those running for office as State Candidate for Governor and local candidates for statewide office. They're trying to be consistent across all of the RTs. CWCB is engaging RTs to get this letter to a wider audience to stress the importance of water issues. There was concern about CWCB involvement with a political issue. CWCB is supporting the effort with general information and links to the Colorado Water Plan website, which is not CWCB. Can a link be added to the South Platte Website? They're not sure.

Water Congress is also doing outreach. CWCB is working with them to coordinate efforts to get the message out to candidates before June. A request was made to consider sharing the mailing lists for this effort.

There is a Conceptual Framework Committee holding a March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. It is in the Water Plan and has been controversial. They're revisiting the framework to determine how to take it forward in a proactive, positive way. They intend to have an education and outreach effort and are asking if the MRT would invite a panel to discuss it. CWCB staff has also been asked to develop an education and outreach plan on this issue and will have staff presenting to all RTs. CWCB will be presenting in the summer.

## **9. Water Plan Implementation Update (Holcomb)**

A Ripple Effect publication was circulated. The Ripple Effect is a CWCB Water Plan implementation update report on the 2-year anniversary of the Water Plan. They will print the report on request. Many efforts were initiated before the Water Plan went into effect. They are coming up to important benchmarks this year such as SWSI. Discussed what the Water Plan is and is not. It is a strategy roadmap. It is a dynamic plan to be continually evaluated. This report highlights significant progress and follows closely chapters 6 through 9 of the Water Plan.

They catalogued the progress by identifying how many actions are in progress, have started, are complete or on-going. Not all of the activities are measurable. Highlights of interest to MRT were addressed. For more information, the Ripple Effect Report can be downloaded at, [www.cwcbweblink.state.co.us](http://www.cwcbweblink.state.co.us).

In storage we are nearing goal based on projects initiated before the water plan, but the plan provided support to help move them forward. A comment was made on the storage goal. There is additional work that needs to be done to get the next round of large storage projects on the books. In the meantime, the ASR process needs to be addressed and this could happen now.

Has there been any feedback on improving the process for permitting locally, regionally, etc.? A handbook was released to inform large storage projects up front what to expect. This handbook came out of a Lean process. There will be a rulemaking this November on the timing of permits. It has come down to minor issues. The State now realizes how critical it is for big projects to come to them early in the process. In the 401 process it's important to bring the Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan into the process earlier. There have been changes in the Water Quality Division on how they approach the 401 process that was a result of the Lean process.

## **10. South Platte Storage Study**

In 2015 a group was formed, South Platte Regional Opportunities Working Group (SPROWG). This group formed loosely to assess if coordinated projects could begin to

address the Basin Implementation Plan to tackle the many issues on the South Platte. The presentation focused on planning long-term water supply needs of the basin. Many of the original members of the working group were active in the RTs. The group has morphed and many of their ideas are coming forward. This storage study is an example of the ideas generated from SPROWG. A South Platte Regional Opportunities Working Group map was provided that covered Henderson, Kersey, Balzak, and Julesburg.

The group discussions were based on how to meet demand. Three concepts were formulated. There was a fourth concept that was not pursued, but it could be addressed later. The map showed proposed pipeline and conceptual exchange reach and storage along with demand gateways. The water analysis drove the nature of the thinking for the conceptual infrastructure. Dry-up points during call downs were addressed and shown using the legend under Water Availability Indicators. How to do projects in conjunction with each other using other sources of water has potential, based on this study.

Initial lessons learned were presented. They compared their concepts with the 11 planned elements in the Basin Implementation Plan and the SP Storage Study. Five of the eleven elements are addressed in SPROWG's study. From the SP Storage Study, they did use the same point data as is in the BIPs along with other SP Storage Study components. These are potential next steps open for discussion. They are looking into starting a task force and encouraging participation from other stakeholders who are not part of the RTs. They would like to identify funding sources to continue studying the concepts. Additional analysis needs to happen in a transparent environment. If they move forward they may develop a group to begin the grant writing process.

MRT comment was made that this is exactly what we need and what MRT is looking for with the WSRF grant funding. In developing a project of statewide significance it would look something like this concept putting forth the dual idea that we need to do this and we will have to look elsewhere. They will be presenting this to the SPBRT on Tuesday. A PowerPoint presentation is available for more information.

A motion to support the concept going forward made by Janet Bell, Casey Davenport 2nd All in Favor, Approved.

#### **11. Membership Update**

##### **1. At Large open position**

Chris Douglas – East Cherry Creek Water & Sanitation District

Chris is an engineer in the water/wastewater industry. He shared his background with the members. He could potentially serve as MRT representative on the Ground Water Technical Committee.

Motion made to invite Chris onto the MRT made by Rick Marsicek, Lisa Darling 2<sup>nd</sup>.

All in Favor, Approved

#### **12. Joint Front Range BRTs Summit - Arkansas, S. Platte & Metro**

##### **1. Wednesday, June 13, 2018, time and location TBD**

#### **13. Meeting Schedule**

1. Metro Roundtable Meeting – Thursday, March 8th, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
2. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting - Tuesday, March 13th, 2018, 4:00 pm – Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Road 24 ½, Longmont, CO.
3. CWCB Board Meeting - March 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, Broomfield, CO
4. SVLHWCD Annual Water Symposium – March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, Shupe Homestead, Longmont, CO
5. Metro Roundtable Meeting – Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
6. Future Joint RT Meeting – June 2018, TBD
7. Joint Front Range BRTs Summit - Arkansas, S. Platte & Metro – Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, time and location TBD