

Yampa/White/Green River Basin Roundtable
Draft Minutes
Wednesday May 9, 2018
Clarion Inn 300 S. Highway 13 Craig, CO 81625
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

1.Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:01 by Jackie Brown.

2.Introduction of Members and Audience: Roll call was taken, members not in attendance were Kai Turner, J Sheehan, Tim Winkler, Will Myers, Kent Vertrees, Travis Day, Vince Wilczek, T. Wright Dickinson and Chuck Whiteman. See attached sign-in sheet.

3.Approve/Modify Agenda: Jackie Brown requested that item 8d be moved before item 6. Frank Alfone motioned that the agenda be approved as modified. Mike Camblin seconded, the motion passed

4.Review and Approval of March 14, 2018 Minutes: Jackie Brown announced that a slight change had been made to item 8c on the March Draft Minutes. Doug Monger moved that the minutes be approved as modified, Burt Clements seconded, the motion passed.

5.Budget Report (CWCB), SWSI update: Craig Godbout reported that as of May, the YWG Basin Balance is \$1,047,180 and the Statewide Account Balance is \$2,160,957. The April 1st disbursement was not disbursed. Instead, half will continue to be held back and the other half (1.5 million) will be distributed in the same manner the other disbursements are distributed. Craig announced that the legislature approved 2 million in WSRF funds, and 7 million for the Colorado Water Plan grants, for the next fiscal year. There was no SWSI update.

6.Public Hearings/Public Input and Comment: There was none.

7.Reports of Applicable Standing or Special Committees (10 minutes)

a. Four Basin RT West Slope Caucus: The Four Basin Roundtable Caucus meeting was held April 25th in Grand Junction. The presentation that was given, may be given at the next YWG meeting. The Four Basins will be moving on with another study. The YWG Roundtable will get a chance to go over, and approve, the scope of work before it is approved. The ask amount is unknown but expected to be similar to the last ask. The YWG has asked Wilson Water what it would cost for them to represent this Roundtable, during the Phase 3 process. The Front Range Water Counsel, started their own study about the same time that the West Slope Risk Study started. They would like to use some of the findings from the WSRS and have invited some West Slope members to sit in on their meetings.

b. Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC): The IBCC agreed that the 7 points of conceptual framework are relevant in projects that affect the State. There was discussion on the South Platte project. With two varying opinions. A strong belief that State funds should not be allowed on projects that could result in more water being taken from the West Slope or result in a trans-mountain diversion. The second opinion was that Basins should have the freedom to make their own choices. Trying to dictate what other Basins are doing could result in other basins

wanting to do the same thing here. Jackie Brown suggested recirculating the white paper and discussing opinions, so that the Roundtable could create a unified position and stand behind it's opinions on issues such as this.

c. Integrated Water Mgmt Plan Scoping Project (IWMP): Nicole Seltzer discussed the progress that has been made concerning the IWMP scoping project. They have been looking into who should spearhead the IWMP, and how it should be done. If the Roundtable does the IWMP, it would move the BIP forward. Dan Birch with CBI conducted roughly 30 interviews. The interviews went well they received good and diverse feedback. There will be a meeting on June 20th at the Carpenter Ranch to discuss the findings, all interested parties are invited. They will also be discussing options for moving forward and will decide on recommendations to bring before the Roundtable at the July YWG Roundtable meeting.

d. Public Education & Participation Outreach (PEPO): Kelly Romero-Heaney introduced Patrick Stanko the new Agriculture Resource Coordinator for Community Ag Alliance and announced that a logo was approved and is in use. Patrick went over the events that were held in April and announced Friends of Yampa State of the Yampa, and the Yampa Basin Rendezvous June 5th and 6th at CNC in Steamboat. The Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes will be coming to the Yampa Basin to study climate change and how to build resilient communities that can adapt to climate change. PEPO will have more adds on the radio in May, June, July and September. They will be covering non-consumptive goals, ag goals, the grant process (when approved) and municipal and industrial goals. PEPO is also working on Education opportunities and engaging smaller groups.

e. Division 6 Water Resources: Erin Light went over current calls that DWR is administering. The State office is working on an Abandonment Guide for 2020. Water Commissioners will start reaching out to people this summer, who are on the abatement list. Erin pointed out that they do not go beyond their database when contacting individuals regarding abandoned water, they use their databases last known contact information. Doug Monger asked Erin if there was a way for Counties to work with DWR to connect water rights with property ownership. Erin was unsure but agreed that there is a disconnect between the two. Steve Hinkemeyer asked Erin if she could give an update on the Lysimeter project at the July meeting. Kevin McBride acknowledged his appreciation for the conversations that have been held on the Bear. Kevin stated that they have had two public meetings discussing operations, with roughly 40 people attending each.

8. Consideration/Action on Roundtable Projects:

a. Approve Wilson Water Final Report: Jackie Brown went over the history of the project. The BIP Sub-Committee has held meetings prior to Roundtable meetings for the past two years. They had great participation from both the upper and lower basin. Wilson Water has received great feedback on the rough draft that has been in circulation for roughly 60 days. The report can be found on the website. The report is a result of interviews and exploratory models, it is not prescriptive. It takes a look at different ways things could be done. As it is an educational tool only, it should be valued as such. The hard drive will be sent to Hunter Causey at the River District for safe keeping and will be made available to the public when requested. If it can be stored on the website, it will be made publicly available through that avenue as well. Jackie

noted that SWSI will not reflect this data. Kelly Romero- Heaney motioned to accept the final report and make final payment. Chuck Grobe seconded the motion, motion passed.

b. Approve Draft letter to public office candidates: Doug Monger re-scripted the IBCC Candidate letter after the March meeting, to fit the YWG Basin needs. Alterations were then made by the Executive Committee. The resulting letter is in the packet, one change will be made to correct the number of members. Doug motioned to approve the 2018 Local Candidate letter, Kevin McBride seconded the motion, motion passed.

c. Approve new grant process: Steve Hinkemeyer and Patrick Stanko gave a presentation on the outcomes from the April 10th Grant Work Session, and the Grant Committee meeting on April 23rd. These meetings resulted in the following proposed grant process. Applicants submitting a full YWG and WSRF application to Patrick and April (CAA), CAA working with applicants to make sure applications are complete. Completed applications would then result in a first reading in front of the Grant Committee and any interested Roundtable members, at an off-cycle grant meeting. This is where members would score applicants with a matrix and provide applicants with valuable feedback. Recommendations would be given to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the agenda for the second reading. CAA would ensure applicants are prepared for and informed of their second reading. The Roundtable would vote on whether or not to approve each applicant at the second reading. If approved the applicant would move forward to the CWCB at a January, March, or May meeting. The Grant Committee proposed a one cycle process. This would make the grant process competitive by nature. The Grant Committee also suggested capping the amount of awarded money to 30%, if WSRF funds are not awarded by the State Legislature this would split the current Basin funds into three years. They would like to take previously awarded grants and run them through the proposed matrix as trials. There were concerns on a one cycle process and how that would align with other funding opportunities. Craig was concerned with the workload this could put on his office. Several members felt strongly that there should be at minimum two cycles. After much discussion, no decisions were made. The Grant Committee will meet and work through more details and return to the Roundtable at the July meeting.

d. Approve Hunter Causeys Appointment: Moved up before item 6. Hunter was appointed to the Roundtable by the Colorado River District, however he is not currently living in the Basin. The Members discussed this. Doug Monger motioned to accept Hunters appointment, Chuck Grobe seconded, the motion passed.

e. Set Meeting location: Jackie Brown announced options for the next meeting location. Options were moving to the Elks Lodge with the American Legion, using the Pavilion in Craig, the Community Center in Craig, the Clarion Inn, rotating locations between towns, and the Community Center in Hayden. The group discussed pros and cons to these locations and decided to choose a permanent location at a later meeting, and only decide on a July location at this meeting. Kelly Romero-Heaney motioned to have the July meeting at the Clarion Inn, Chuck Grobe seconded, the motion passed.

9. New Business:

a. White River Storage Update: Steve Jamison and Brad McCloud gave a presentation to the Roundtable on the current status of the White River Storage Phase 2A project. While they were developing the Phase 2A scope of work they were asked what the maximum size of the project could be, and that is now included in all of their findings. They currently do not intend on making the reservoir the maximum size, the RBCD is looking for the most practical option. Phase 2A has continued involvement with the White River Modeling and Management Plan and Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO). They have worked out appropriate sizes of the sediment pool, recreation pool, and insurance pools for both options. The two current options are Wolf Creek Dam and White River Dam at Wolf Creek. Wolf Creek Dam would have a 15K AF recreation pool, a 20K AF working pool, a 3K AF Insurance pool and a 3K AF Sediment Pool. White River Dam at Wolf Creek would have a 24K AF recreation pool, a 20K AF working pool, and a 24K AF sediment pool. Recreation and Insurance pools are one-time diversions, and the sediment pool is used to size the dam/spillway it is not actually diverted. Wolf Creek Dam would be gravity filled, and water would be pumped up to the White River Dam, the nature of gravity fill requires an insurance pool, whereas filling via pump does not. They have not yet done any geo tech investigations. Pricing was done in 2014 and will need updated. Brad went over the different options they have in building both dams. They have held 23 stake holder meetings to date. Moving forward they are going to try to use a lean permitting process that is used by Toyota. This will enable them to make the permitting process more efficient. They hope to start that process next year.

b. Upper Yampa Morrison Cr. Reservoir: Kevin McBride discussed progress on the Morrison Creek Reservoir. They will now be moving forward with the permitting process. The proposed dam site is above Stagecoach Reservoir. It is a supply limited reservoir. They are looking at roller compacted concrete and have created a preliminary design. They used SWSI demands through a multi-year period, with everyone using their allotted water. With the creation of the Morrison Creek Reservoir, modeling shows that recovery from a drought happens much quicker than it would without it. Kevin asked the Roundtable for 100,000 for this project, however since no application process was gone through, he was directed to the grants committee.

10. Announcements: There were no announcements.

11. Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings: Next Meeting date is July 11, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

12. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:27