

South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, October 9, 2018
Weld County Adm. Services Center.
Longmont, CO
4:00PM-5:45PM

South Platte Basin Roundtable Business Meeting

The meeting came to order at 4:15PM.

1. Welcome/Introductions (Varra – 5 min)

In attendance were Garrett Varra, Matt Betz, Dan Brown, Joe Frank, Gene Manuello, Kent Swedlund, Allyn Wind, Sean Cronin, Lacey Williams, Joel Schneekloth, Bruce Gerk, Ken Huson, Jim Ford, Kevin Lusk, Jim Yahn, Sean Conway

2. Vacancy Application Deadline Reminder (*due Oct 15*)

Garrett Varra reminded those in attendance that two vacancies were still open and were open to applications from eligible persons living in the South Platte Basin. Varra reviewed the policy that applicants needed to live within the South Platte Basin, but not the Denver Metro area.

3. Approval of September 2018 Meeting Summary (Varra – action required)

Sean Conway moved to approve the September 2018 meeting summary and Jim Yahn seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

4. Agenda – additions or changes (Varra – action required)

It was noted that Colorado Open Lands would be providing the dinner presentation. Sean Conway moved to approve the agenda as amended and Jim Yahn seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

5. Committee Updates

a. Groundwater Subcommittee (Hall – 10 min)

Joe Frank reported no meeting of the Groundwater Subcommittee had taken place since the September South Platte Basin Roundtable meeting. Frank also reported there were approximately \$500k in funds designated to address high groundwater in the Gilcrest area.

b. SPBRT Basin & Statewide Account Balance (provided in meeting materials)

The balances were reported as unchanged.

c. WSRF Grants (Boring – 10 min)

A reminder was issued to all in attendance that the next WSRF applications were due in November.

d. Education Sub-committee (Williams – 15 min)

I. Education and Outreach Coordinator Draft Application

Lacey Williams took the floor to report on a reader that would be going out to 5th grade school children focusing on where water comes from. Williams then asked Roundtable members to explore concepts of a hands-on model of water in the South Platte Basin (indoor or outdoor). Discussion covered what models existed and could be used.

Lacey Williams drew attention to the South Platte Basin website, specifically identifying the significance of the Story Maps. Williams argued the Story Maps would be helpful in educating the incoming group of new legislators.

Lastly, an application for extension and expansion of the current Education and Outreach Coordinator position was discussed although not available for presentation. Part of the discussion was about how future projects and initiatives would be funded and directed. Varra also voiced a desire for the Roundtable to see draft applications for the position prior to submittal. Per a question from Bruce Gerk, Lacey Williams expanded upon what information was provided to Casey Davenhill for development of grant applications. Williams added that the Arkansas Roundtable had been used as a point of comparison on several topics such as how the position could be expanded and what sorts of materials could be developed. Discussion ensued as to what timing issues might arise from the development or submission of the applications. Varra and Sean Cronin discussed how funding could be carried over outside the standard application review processes.

6. South Platte Data Platform (Malers – 25 min)

Steve Malers took the floor to report on the South Platte Data Platform. The core takeaway Malers presented was a product available on the South Platte Basin website that used data visualizations to tell stories of water in the Basin. Data loads were discussed, as well as next steps, and small tweaks that needed to be made to the stories. Malers discussed limitations to the product due to technological and datalogical limitations. Clarification was made that the data sets came from CSV files.

7. South Platte Regional Development Concept (Frank – 10 min)

Joe Frank reported the project was approved at the CWBC Board meeting. Frank ran through the collection of deadlines and procedures that needed to be met in order to move forward with the funding. Reportedly 40 people had signed up for the Task Force, the role of which, would be to assist in selecting the vendor and moving the project forward.

8. IBCC Update (Yahn/Cronin – 10 min)

Garrett Varra shared a copy of a letter from the Arkansas River Basin Roundtable. Jim Yahn took the floor to report on the draft letter before the Roundtable. Several of the aspects were concerning, according to Yahn. Reportedly, the letter would be discussed in greater depth at the upcoming IBCC meeting. Kevin Lusk argued tying funding to the conceptual framework was worrying, as was the application of the Conceptual Framework beyond the IBCC. Discussion ensued as to the application and applicability of the Conceptual Framework in the Colorado Water Plan. Cronin and Lusk argued the Roundtable and its IBCC representatives had opposed integration of language in the Water Plan allowing it to be applied beyond trans-mountain diversions. Additional discussion explored how the Roundtable had originally addressed the topic and what documents and directives were issued to the IBCC. Lusk argued that despite the Roundtable's noted attempts to restrict applicability of the Conceptual Framework, a Subcommittee existed on the IBCC to broadly apply the Framework. Lusk asked the IBCC representatives to facilitate a statewide discussion of what the Conceptual Framework is and applies to. Bruce Gerk asked that the concerns be brought up to the Metro Roundtable.

9. CWCB Update (Yahn – 5 min)

Jim Yahn took the floor to report on the recent CWCB meeting in Steamboat, CO. The meeting involved a Finance component, which was an annual occurrence. Yahn discussed the 5-year anniversary of the 2013 flood and how the CWCB had administered much of the recovery funding. Additionally, WSRF applications were discussed—which were approved, where, and for what. Yahn also reported the meeting covered the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan, which drew considerable attention and input from the public. Discussion then moved into progress of an IBCC-led initiative to designate 500,000AF in Lake Powell to be separated from the equalization program tying Powell to Mead. Yahn reported some parties were in favor of designation prior to allocation and others were in favor of the inverse. NISP had also been approved for additional releases; three

loans had been approved out of the Projects Bill; CWCB staff were directed to develop a policy on how to allow a non-partner to rent space in the Chatfield Allocation Process.

10. Public Comment (10 min)

Dan Gallen reported there is likely a good nexus between the Story Maps on the SPBRT website and the looming BIP 2.0. Gallen also asked if discussion had been had at the IBCC on ways to call in. Sean Cronin responded saying the discussion had happened, but the consensus was to discourage IBCC members from participating virtually.

11. Meeting Schedule

- a. Next SPBRT Meeting: Nov 13 – Longmont, CO
- b. Next Metro Meeting: Oct 11 – Denver, CO
- c. Central Colorado Water Conservancy District Bus Tour: 8AM to 4PM – Oct. 5
Chatfield Reservoir + others (registration online: ccwcd.org - free)
- d. Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference: Oct 9-11 – Avon, CO
- e. Tap-in (info @ www.tapin.org): Oct 13 – Location TBD
- f. CWCB Board Meeting: Nov 14-15 – Denver, CO
- g. IBCC Meeting: October 18 – Durango, CO
- h. South Platte Forum: Oct 24-25 – Embassy Suites, Loveland, CO

Dinner Presentation from Colorado Open Lands