

**Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary**  
Thursday, October 11th, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Denver Water  
1600 W 12th Ave  
Denver, CO 80204

**Members in Attendance:**

Alex Davis, Barbara Biggs, Chris Douglas, Dan DeLaughter, Dave Nickum, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Eric Hecox, Gary Thompson, Jamie Hartig, Bob Peters, Laura Kroeger, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Rick Marsicek, Rick McCloud, Rob Sakata, Scott Brink, Susan Nedell

**Guests:**

Phyllis Thomas, Brent Newman, Russ Sands, Ramsey Kropf, Zach Smith, Ryan Gilliam, Kate Ryan, Dawn Jewell, Amy Ostdiek, Walter M. Sharp

**CWCB:**

Megan Holcomb, Diane Kielty, Lacey Williams

**Metro Roundtable Business Meeting**

1. **Welcome/Introductions**
2. **Approval of August 2018 Meeting Summary (Action Item)**  
All in Favor - Approved
3. **Agenda: additions or changes (Action Item)**  
All in Favor - Approved
4. **Public Comment**
5. **WSRF (Hunt)**
  1. Final approval of the Thunderbird grant  
In July they requested \$15,000 for a feasibility study to connect to Dominion. They made the November deadline and have a complete application in to CWCB. They may not meet matching requirements. If so, they will need a letter of explanation for not meeting the match requirement. Megan sent out request for verification. They do have matching funds bringing them to 25%.  
  
Motion to approve Barb moved, Emily 2<sup>nd</sup>, All in favor - approved
  2. Funds Status Per Category Update  
Emily read current status of all fund categories which was included in the meeting packet.
  3. WSRF Balance Summary in meeting packet.
6. **Committee Updates**
  1. PEPO (Davenhill)
    1. PEPO Pre-Proposal Letter 2019  
They held an education committee meeting and discussed upcoming projects. Casey provided a draft proposal letter in the meeting packet. The grant for PEPO money for line item addressing the South Platte Regional Development Project is for additional outreach. The PEPO proposal needs to be coordinated with the Scope of Work for the South Platte Regional Development Project. PEPO should move forward with drafting the Scope of Work in the proposal letter.
    2. Read story maps and provide feedback at - [southplattebasin.com](http://southplattebasin.com)  
Steve will be presenting at the MRT November meeting. Three stories are ready to go. The membership is being encouraged to go online and review the story maps. They are adding a line item in their PEPO budget grant request to manage, update and improve the South Platte website and the story map material.

2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Nickum)

1. The Chatfield Environmental Pool Stakeholders has finished the draft report for the final stakeholder meeting. It's currently being reviewed by CPW, CWCB and Roundtable staff. They will be releasing a draft for review in the next week or so. They will present their findings on November 8th at 9:00 am at Wright Water Engineers in Denver. Once the draft is ready they will distribute it.
2. Trout Unlimited will be submitting a Stream Management Plan grant submittal in Boulder Creek. This would fit in with our IPP. David hopes to see more Stream Management Plan submittals in our area.

8. **Colorado Water Trust - Poudre River (Zack Smith)**

The City of Fort Collins recently produced a Poudre River Report Card on river health. The flow assessment in this report reads it as non-functional. A collaborative effort has been launched that intends to create an environmental water market dependent on the underlying use.

To restore flows to the Poudre while addressing the needs of water users, the Colorado Water Trust has partnered with the Cities of Fort Collins, Greeley, and Thornton, the Cache La Poudre Water Users Association, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, Colorado Parks & Wildlife and the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District to create a water market for the environment. Under the project as conceived, water users will be able to donate, sell, or lease their water to the river, restoring flows while also receiving compensation for any production loss.

The project has been divided into three Phases: Phase I is due diligence (a legal and technical feasibility study), Phase II is setting up the legal and financial structures (receiving approvals, establishing a managing entity, the water court process, and financing the project), and Phase III is implementation of the project. They are at the end of Phase I and starting the activities that make up Phase II.

Currently they are drafting a MOA to determine how this will be managed in the future. They're looking into identifying or creating a management committee with oversight. They will be going through the CWCB acquisition process in November for water delivery agreements with Fort Collins, Thornton and Greeley. Water court will follow. Will this water displace NISP water? They would stack together.

9. **CWCB Update (Holcomb)**

1. SWSI/BRT Planning – SWSI Update Presentation (Russ Sands)  
In Chapter 11 of CWP is a timeline. The new SWSI process is driven by the stakeholder process based on the Colorado Decision Support System using linked model with many more demand scenarios and identification of shortages. They have created fact sheets outlining the methodologies, where the numbers are coming from and where we are headed. They're now starting to get the numbers back and doing fact checking. A draft of projections was provided showing what to expect from the projection scenarios. Ultimately this information will go back to updating the BIPs. They hope to have information released by December for RTs to work with in their planning. They are being thoughtful on providing a toolbox that is easily accessible and usable for those who want to dive deeper into the analysis. They're also considering improving the cycle of updating SWSI and reducing the acronyms. The next phase of the process will be data visualization followed by an initial data release. They will be looking for data visualization tools to simplify the information as it's presented. They plan to have an Implementation Working Group for 6 months with diverse interests (3 participants from each basin) sharing what they want to see from SWSI to help write the final chapter. Upon completion a RT summit might be a good idea after the launch of SWSI.

Is the latest SWSI used to help accomplish the current goals of the Water Plan? Its embedded in the methodology. SWSIs are used to provide inputs to the IPPs. This can be improved upon to lay a better foundation to apply for additional funding for projects working with a common methodology. This provides much more detail to pick and choose where and how to place projects.

2. Colorado River Drought Contingency Planning (Brent Newman, DNR and Amy Ostdiek, CO Ag Office)

Colorado River Compact was discussed specific to delivery obligation and depletion. We're not in danger of falling out of compliance with the compacts. We do have challenges with managing the river. Under "historical" hydrologic conditions, we will not face curtailment in the near future. Hydrology has been worse than predicted. Lower basin states are facing an unprecedented shortage declaration based on reservoir levels. The upper basin has been able to rely on storage. Current realistic predictions are for increasing demand and supply. Lake Powell unregulated inflow graphs were provided. Lake Powell is below its minimum power pool to the dam creating a trickle-down effect on those who rely on the power. This could cause loss of funds for construction of projects that come from power projects. Compact administration could be reactive with imposed voluntary curtailment or proactive voluntary actions to conserve. We want to avoid a reactive approach. The approach to be proactive is being handled through interstate drought contingency planning and intrastate planning and implementation efforts.

A drought contingency planning update was provided discussing DCP ongoing coordinated effort of the 7 basin states and the federal government and planning for drought response. The DCP guidelines are an overlay of the laws of the river. They need these Upper DCP guidelines as an interim to get us to 2026. This is done to keep the critical levels of the dams stable. It involves supply augmentation and drought response operations for CRSP. Lower Basin DCP is aimed at contingency and sustainability planning. This is in draft form. There are challenges working with prior appropriation system and respecting Colorado River water users. There are numerous intra-Colorado efforts aimed at addressing the multitude of issues around demand management. CWCB is conducting an intense outreach initiative to inform the state on demand management issues and gather input from stakeholders. They are developing a Board review draft DCP policy statement to be presented in November. Drought Contingency Planning allows us to study demand management. A Demand Management program is more long term. How are we coordinating with Upper Basin states (Wyoming and Utah)? There is a work group at the Upper Basin level and a great deal of communication.

## 10. IBCC Update (Darling/Bennett)

### 1. Funding Task Force Update

#### 1. Discussion of joint Front Range Roundtable Comments

Recently we distributed the IBCC funding task force proposal that was to be commented on by December 1st. Denver Water commented and provided a clarification. The incoming Chair of Ark RT is asking for joint RT comments. They are feeling uninformed and left out. The draft Ark comments were distributed. It was sent out today.

The funding subcommittee was working on a July 9<sup>th</sup> document. This is the document that Arkansas is commenting on in the letter distributed to the MRT with the Ark comments. This letter from the Arkansas reveals that we should be more transparent on this topic and this should be addressed going forward. One Ark comment on infrastructure was in regard to any project, a blanket statement of concern. Also, from an organizational aspect, who would manage the fund should be a topic of discussion. A comment was raised stating we should have a 6<sup>th</sup> category on compact compliance. Arkansas may be asking for a pause to consider these comments before going forward on the funding conversation. The recommendation is to not move forward at this time, review the Arkansas comments, and have a more transparent dialogue.

## 12. Meeting Schedule

1. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting – Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 2018, 4:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Rd 24 ½, Longmont
2. Metro Roundtable Meeting – Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
3. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting – Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 2018, 4:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Rd 24 ½, Longmont
4. Metro Roundtable Meeting – Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
5. SPCRE Confluence at the Confluence - October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Englewood Community Room, 1000 Englewood Pkwy, Englewood, CO