

IBCC Colorado River Basin

1. September 24, 2018, 2018 CBRT Minutes.

1. **September 24, 2018, 2018 CBRT Minutes** – CDPHE Water Quality Control Commission presentation; Drought Contingency Plans of the Lower and Upper Colorado River basins; Las Colonias Park grant request.
2. **Next Meeting: Nov. 26, 2018, Glenwood Springs Community Center, 12:00 – 4:00.**
3. **Upcoming Meetings**
 - a. Oct. 22, CBRT Roundtable Next Steps Meeting.
 - b. October 23, Planning for an Uncertain Future: Drought Contingency Planning, Demand Management, and West Slope Agriculture, Colorado Mesa Univ., Grand Junction.
 - c. Nov. 14, CDPHE Nutrient Roadmap hearing in Glenwood Springs.
4. Reporter: These minutes were prepared by Ken Ransford, Esq., CPA, 970-927-1200, ken@kenransford.com.
5. **CBRT Members Present:** Steve Aquafresca, Nathan Bell, Art Bowles, Paul Bruchez, Stan Cazier, Kathy Chandler Henry, Steve Child, Angie Fowler, Mark Fuller, David Graf, Karl Hanlon, Mark Hermundstad, Diane Johnson, April Long, Jim Pokrandt, Ken Ransford, Dave Reinertson, Karn Stiegelmeier, Lane Wyatt
6. **Guests:** Patrick Bachmann CDPHE, Jeff Bandy Denver Water, Nathan Bell of Bell Consulting LLC, Oni Butterfly, Liz Chandler Bookcliff Conservation District, John Currier Colorado River District, Frank Daley Single Tree Ranch, Dennis Davidson, Carl Day ag water user, Scott Doderer Silt Water CD, Quinn Donnelly River Restoration, Sara Dunn Bookcliff Conservation District, John Eklund City of Grand Junction, Gary Galloway Holy Cross Cattlemen, Russ George CWCB, Luke Gingerich JUB Engineers, Paul Hempel Colorado Rural Water Association, Megan Holcomb CWCB, Patrick Hunter Carbondale environmentalist, Amanda Jensen CDPHE, Brett Jolley Bookcliff CD, Kathy Kitzmann Aurora Water, Eric Kuhn, Kirsten Kurath, Esq., Williams Turner & Holmes, Brendon Langenhuisen, Heather Lewin Roaring Fork Conservancy, Holly Loff Eagle River Watershed Council, Raymond Longstaff Bookcliff CD, Lisa McDonald Pitkin County, Margaret Medellin Aspen, Dave Merritt Colorado River District, Brent Newman CWCB, John Nicolodi MEWE, Dan Omasta Colorado Trout Unlimited, Amy Ostdiek Colo. Attorney General, Jay Pansing Blue River Watershed Group, Maria Pastore Colorado Springs Utilities, Casey Piscura Sunfire Ranch, Sam Potter West Divide WCD, Laurie Rink, Warren and Derek Roberts Open Heart Ranch, Jonathan Rose Bookcliff CD, Wendy Ryan Colo. River Engineering, Elizabeth Schoder Eagle River Watershed Council, Scott Schreiber Wright Water Engineers, Jordan Soldano Denver Water, Lisa Tasker Pitco Healthy Streams Board, Chris Treese CRD, Kent Whitmer Middle Park WCD, Tracy Wieland Grand Junction, Len Wright Eagle River WCD, Brad Zachman Glenwood Springs

7. **River Forecast.** The Colorado River is flowing 700 cfs at Dotsero, lower than the median flow of 1,300 cfs on this date. The Colorado River is flowing 1,400 cfs at Cameo, lower than the median flow of 2,100 cfs on this date.
8. **Six themes in Colorado River basin roundtable's basin implementation plan:**
 - a. Ecosystem health – protect and restore streams and riparian areas.
 - b. Agriculture – sustain, protect and promote agriculture.
 - c. Safe drinking water – secure and protect safe drinking water.
 - d. Conservation – ensure a high level of basin-wide conservation.
 - e. Land use – develop local water conscious land use strategies.
 - f. Basin administration – assure dependable basin administration of Shoshone and Cameo calls to keep water in the Colorado mainstem.
9. **WSRA grant.** There is \$137,416 remaining in the CBRT WSRA Fund. Karn Stieglemeier recommended approval of \$5,000 for the NWCOG QQ Committee to develop best practices for municipal conservation for West slope municipalities. It was seconded by Diane Johnson, and passed unanimously.
10. **Las Colonias Park River Restoration \$10,000 Grant Request,** Traci Wieland, City of Grand Junction. The Colorado River trail terminates at Las Colonias Park and will eventually connect to Palisade. In the 1920s, sugar beet workers lived here. Before 1972, it was used as a uranium mill. In the 1980s abandoned cars were city stored there. It was deeded to Grand Junction in 1997. They recently developed a regional sports park there. In 2013, the Lions Club gave a grant of \$300,000 to develop a park here. In 2017 the city built an amphitheater there, with fill dredged from the former river channel.
 - a. **Citizens asked for a water park, but this will interfere with endangered fish recovery efforts;** the property is at the downstream end of the 15-mile reach. They are hoping to restore former river channels and fish habitat, and they will re-vegetate the riparian corridor.
 - b. They **want the public to visit the river**—Orchard Mesa is adjacent to this parcel—and they are improving the river channel to do this. They **need year-round water flow, which they had trouble obtaining in 2018, a drought year.** They are going to scale back the recreation use component, and will install drip irrigation systems for plantings along the river channel to keep the vegetation alive in dry years.
 - c. Steve Child commented that they need to **secure more water to make the park work.** They're writing off the year 2018. In 2017, it would have fared better. The City of Grand Junction has water rights in the Gunnison River that aren't being exercised, so they might be able to **bring water to the site from the Gunnison River.** There are 4 monitoring wells on the property, and none are detecting contamination from the uranium tailings. The tailings are buried beneath 18" of clean fill dirt.

- d. The budget for this project is \$1.25 million, and **they are asking for \$10,000** from the CBRT, in part to bring the CBRT in as a partner.
 - e. David Graf said that there was **a lot of blue grass turf in the plan**, and suggested this wasn't appropriate for a desert environment; Traci Wieland said they were going around Grand Junction and **identifying places where blue grass can be dried up**, such as on highway medians that the public doesn't use, in order that there is **no net gain in blue grass** turf.
11. **Robinson Ditch Diversion Improvement Project grant request.** Quinn Donnelly, consultant with River Restoration, discussed the Robinson Diversion Modification. The Robinson Ditch **takes 49 cfs from the Roaring Fork River** where Lower River Road intersects Highway 82 about a mile west of Basalt. The rock weir placed across the river to raise the level high enough to **supply the ditch is the biggest navigation hazard on the Roaring Fork River**, and few people use this river reach because of this hazard.
- a. The current rock weir, which Donnelly called a "grade control structure," raises the river level, and they don't want to eliminate that. They want to flatten out the boulder passage and spread it out somewhat upstream. They don't plan to build a water park, but do **want to improve boat passage and fish passage upstream**, and also deliver water more efficiently to the Robinson Ditch. They are planning to improve the headgate and the grade control structure.
 - b. The **cost is \$800,000**; planning, permitting, and design is \$110,000; coffer dam construction will cost \$230,000, the grade control structures are \$225,000, the head gate diversion will cost \$150,000. **Pitkin County is contributing \$125,000, Eagle County is adding another \$40,000**, and other government agencies are contributing. They need to raise \$120,000 more.
 - c. The **Mid Valley Metro District is the primary shareholder**. The ditch right owners aren't contributing any funds to date, and **Ken Ransford recommended that the ditch company match any CBRT funds granted**. Liz Chandler commented that **farmers in the ditch company should not have to contribute** since it is not calling for the river improvements.
12. **Dan Omasta of Trout Unlimited and Jan Pansing, president of the Blue River Watershed Group**, are requesting the CBRT write a letter supporting a Colorado's Water Plan grant request by the watershed group.
- a. **Gold Medal designation was recently dropped on the middle Blue River downstream from Silverthorne**. Area 2 below Dillon Reservoir is the stretch that was delisted, in part because water temperatures are too high; there is a healthy fish population below Green Mountain Reservoir.
 - b. Area 1 is above Dillon Reservoir; Area 2 is from Dillon Reservoir to Green Mountain Reservoir, and Area 3 is down from Green Mountain Reservoir.

- c. Karn Stieglemeier said that the Blue River is a big part of Summit County, and encouraged the CBRT to approve the request. **Jim Pokrandt agreed to write the letter.**
13. **Water Quality Standards**— Angie Fowler, SGM, introduced Amanda Jensen and Patrick Bachmann of the Colorado Department of the Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE). They are with the “standards group.” Every few years the Colorado Water Quality and Control Division **updates the 303(d) list of impaired rivers in Colorado.**
- a. **Regulation 31** sets forth basic standards and methodologies for maintaining surface water quality, as well as **anti-degradation rules**. Their basic job is classifying uses, and assigning, implementing and reviewing standards.
 - b. **Designated uses of our water: Drinking water, recreation** (the first 2 are the core of the water quality Control Act, CWA Section 101(a)(2), agriculture, aquatic life, wetlands, and water supply.
 - c. The EPA just released **new selenium criteria**, and hearings are now being held around the state to discuss implementing these.
 - d. **Every 5 years the CDPHE evaluates every major river basin in Colorado.** They prevent degradation, protect current and downstream uses, and **ensure that water quality standards that are attainable are reached.**
 - e. 3 tiers of protection for preventing degradation:
 - i. **Outstanding Waters – water quality must be maintained** at the level it is at.
 - ii. **Reviewable Waters**, where **some degradation is permissible**. These require an alternatives analysis to determine whether degradation is justified to permit social development.
 - iii. **Degraded Waters**, where the **quality level needs to be upgraded.**
 - f. **Temporary modifications**—temporary changes to standards. They don’t want people spending a lot of money to reach a standard that has no scientific basis.
 - g. **Discharger specific variances (DSVs) are temporary variances that permit dischargers to fail to meet standards for a period of years.** For instance, these could be granted to a water provider while evaluating a new water treatment process. In Colorado, **smaller communities often have trouble meeting required drinking water standards** because high water treatment **costs cannot be borne by a small customer base**. Colorado is on the edge of this problem.
 - h. **Ambient standards** protect the highest attainable use.
 - i. **Criteria-based standards** protect the aquatic life likely to live in the region.

- j. **Feasibility-based standards** is the **highest attainable use that is feasible**. These standards are **developed for mines that leak heavy metals into rivers**; there is little federal money available to treat mine waste, and even less state money available, so standards are lowered or variances are granted because high water quality simply can't be attained.
- k. **Use attainability analysis (UAA)**: This is required to downgrade a use, or to eliminate an aquatic or recreational use from the list of attainable uses. **If a water provider planned to divert** water out of a river and affect aquatic life, a UAA would have to be done to estimate the social and ecological impacts of the diversion, and whether they could be ameliorated.
- l. **Temporary modifications**: If there's an existing permitted discharge, a predicted compliance problem, or there's an instream non-attainment problem, the water user can apply for a temporary modification. These last for under 5 years, and are evaluated every 2 years.
- m. **Temperature**: **DSVs have not yet been created for temperature increases**; they've only been done for selenium or ammonia. La Junta has a DSV for selenium. Their wastewater treatment center receives brine from their drinking water facility, and they have a 5-year variance permitting them to evade complying with discharge standards for the concentrated brine. They've hired engineers to study several new treatment processes recently developed to treat concentrated brine. In 5 more years, they'll review the results of the pilot studies. They're also looking at different wells for their source waters. Pulling from different wells can result in differing selenium levels.
- n. Different branches of the WCCC:
 - i. Assessment: 303(d) unit
 - ii. Non point-source control, which monitors pollution from diffuse sources such as runoff from agricultural fields or city streets, rather than from a single point source such as a pipe.
 - iii. TMDLs, Total Maximum Daily Loads, which measures the maximum permitted concentration of contaminants such as heavy metals or e-coli bacteria in river segments.
 - iv. Permits
 - v. Remediation/Superfund
- o. **33/37 Basin Review**. **33 refers to the Upper Colorado Basin, and 37 refers to the Lower Colorado Basin**. They consider any new information that could change the classifications of stream segments. They review all of the standards for temperature, nutrients, and anti-degradation, and decide whether anything is appropriate to upgrade or downgrade.

- p. A Nutrient Roadmap hearing will be held on November 14, 2018 in Glenwood Springs. A rulemaking hearing will be on June 10-11, 2019 in Grand Junction.
 - q. **The EPA recently released less stringent cadmium standards**, so they are investigating whether rivers now listed as impaired by cadmium can be removed from the list.
 - r. They expect new standards will be developed for cadmium and arsenic, ammonia, selenium, by 2027.
 - s. They **try not to overlap with water quantity decisions**; they do the best they can with whatever water is left in the stream. The standards division cannot keep up with the 100,000s of water diversions in Colorado. **If water can be legally diverted under the prior appropriation system, it can be diverted without regard to its affect on water quality in Colorado.** This is a big wall that the Water Quality Control Commission cannot breach.
14. **Update on Colorado River drought planning** – Brent Newman, Section Chief, Interstate, Federal and Water Information Division, CWCB. and Amy Ost diek, Colorado AG Office.
- a. We are in what may be the **19th year of drought for the Colorado River as a whole.**
 - b. Colorado River Compact obligations: Brent reported, “From a wholly accounting-based perspective, **the Upper Basin is no closer to falling out of compliance than in the history of the compact.**”
 - c. Brent emphasized that the Upper Basin has a “**non-depletion obligation**” – **if there isn’t enough water falling in the basin, Colorado and the Upper Basin are not required to find it.**
 - d. It’s not the past 10 years that matter, it’s the next 10 years.
 - e. Brent reported **the current 10-year flow into Lake Powell is 92,133,000 acre-feet.** The flow at Lee Ferry has never been less than the amount required by the Law of the River.
 - f. **What if the drought continues? BuRec predicts that CA, AZ, and NV will start having shortages in 2020—this is unprecedented.** The shortage we are now experiencing has never happened before, although it is not surprising water managers.
 - g. **Flows into Lake Powell in the past several years have been 5 maf lower than average.** Once water drops below 3,490 feet elevation at Lake Powell, power can only be produced by using the side tubes. Power revenues pay for special projects, and day-to-day operations on dams that deliver agricultural water in the

Gunnison Basin, and deliver water to many municipalities in West Slope communities.

- h. **Compact administration—no one knows what it will look like. Colorado prefers a pro-active approach, where people voluntarily take actions to conserve.** The Upper Colorado River Compact will tell states how much they need to curtail, but it is up to the states to decide how to do that. In Colorado, **Kevin Rein will be central in this discussion.**
- i. **Colorado's Water Plan** says, “**Colorado will support strategies to maximize the use of compact water while actively avoiding a Colorado River Compact deficit.**” Chap. 9.1.
- j. Who's involved: CWCB, Upper Colorado River Commissioner, Governor, Attorney General's Office, Division of Water Resources (Kevin Rein, State Engineer), and many water users and stakeholders.
- k. The 7 states are involved in drought contingency planning. The system faces a huge threat if Lake Powell drops below 3,525' (or 3,490'). Both the Upper Basin and Lower Basin are developing their own drought contingency plans. Demand management—using less water—is part of both plans.
- l. Lower Basin states must take shortages under the 2007 Interim Guidelines that were adopted over a decade ago; **for the first time, California is now agreeing to cut back its use** (it has the first priority to Colorado River since the Upper Basin must deliver 75 maf to Lake Powell every ten years, and Arizona agreed in 1968 that California's right is superior in return for Congress approving the Central Arizona Project to deliver water from Lake Havasu to Phoenix and Tucson). **The Lower Basin is using more water than is available.** If Lake Mead drops below 1,090,' California starts reducing its 4.4 million acre-foot water consumption by 200,000 af, and by the time the level drops below 1,025,' California will reduce annual water consumption by 1,100,000 acre-feet.
- m. **Upper Basin Drought Contingency Planning** does not commit the Upper Basin to practice demand management; **it just means we're looking into it.** They are investigating **temporary, voluntary, and compensated** use reductions. Demand management leads to lots of demanding problems. The discussion is just beginning: **work within the prior appropriation system, respect people's way of life, and allow users to cut back use on a volunteer basis.**
- n. The Compact Compliance Study is asking the State Engineer how demand management would be implemented. **The CWCB board** directed staff to travel around the state discussing demand management, asking about challenges and opportunities. They are **not developing any position regarding demand management**, and the CWCB hasn't endorsed any staff recommendation. **They're just trying to learn** about demand management. They aren't recommending any mandatory water cutback at this point, but there are 40 million

people relying on Colorado River water. Because of hydrology, there isn't enough water reaching Lake Powell. The conversation is happening out there, and people want us to talk about it.

- o. **In November, all 7 basin states will disclose their Drought Contingency Plans in Las Vegas.** Following that, they expect to introduce federal legislation.
 - i. Example – permit water to be stored in Lake Powell that can only be released downstream as agreed to by the Upper Basin state that deposited the water there. How to get water into this account is a much longer discussion.
 - ii. Accounting, and shepherding are very complicated. It's a huge lift.
- p. A KGNU reporter asked, “**What about weather modification and phreatophyte removal?**” Cloud seeding—we're going to keep doing this. CWCBC is taking a big role in this; the studies we've seen show this is “probably a good mechanism to develop more water, and it's the least expensive.” (In fact, studies show the **increase in runoff from cloud seeding is less than 3-5%**, and Eric Kuhn reports that it tends to work in wet years when there's already a lot of snow fall-ed.). Phreatophyte removal means removing non-native tamarisk and Russian olives. (BLM studies have shown this has limited benefit because **other water-loving plants such as willows replace the removed tamarisk**¹).
- q. Jim Pokrandt: What about **mandatory curtailment**? Brent Newman said the **CWCBC isn't investigating this**, but if it happens, **it would happen according to the prior appropriation system**.
- r. What is demand management? A **reduction in consumptive use** so more goes down to Lake Powell. **It's temporary, voluntary, and compensated**. The water bank work group is looking into this.
- s. Lisa Tasker asked about compensating farmers: big water providers from CA, AZ, and NV paid for it in one study.
- t. **The Lower Basin has been receiving 750,000 more each year for 10 years than permitted** under the Colorado River Compact, primarily **by failing to account for Lake Mead evaporation** that has been increasing with hotter temperatures; we can't curtail enough to meet that hole. The Lower Basin has been taking 9 maf; Eric reminded us that they have also cut back use to 7.5 maf for some years, and this is likely to recur with the current drought.
- u. **The 2007 Interim Guidelines haven't worked due to the ongoing drought.** The Interim Guidelines **used 1906-2002 to determine average water flow**. This

¹ Sharath, P., USGS, “Saltcedar (Tamarix spp.) and Russian Olive (Elaeagnus angustifolia) in the Western United States—A Report on the State of the Science,” 2010.

was the baseline. They didn't use paleo evidence. Since 2000, the drought has been worse than this. The Interim Guidelines' baseline is not consistent with today's hydrology.

- v. Rachel – **80% of population and legislators are on the Front Range**; demand management is painful when the West slope has to implement it. But, the Front Range isn't cutting back water use. **Isn't this greasing the skids for eliminating West slope agriculture? Brent said this still has to be worked out.**
 - w. The Drought Contingency Planning agreements address storing more water in Lake Powell; this is the only area where the Drought Contingency Planning addresses drought management. **The CWCB isn't agreeing on a demand management program between now and November.**
 - x. **The Upper Basin wants to be able to voluntarily store water in lake Powell that won't be released under the 2007 Interim Guidelines, and the Lower Basin States want the flexibility to move water between AZ, NV, and CA** as they decide, and not according to the Interim Guidelines. These are the negotiating points to which the Lower Basin and Upper States need to agree—if they can reach agreement, then the Drought Contingency Plans will be approved.
 - y. It would **take 2 more dry years like 2018 to dry up Lake Powell**. It's hard to come up with a lot more water in dry years—you need to have a bank of at least 1 maf, collected at a rate of 50-100,000 af per year, in Lake Powell. Newman said, "There will be **some evaporation loss**, but it's not much." (It's about **3% per year in Lake Powell, amounting to 4 million acre-feet over the ten years ending in Sep. 2018** according to the Bureau of Reclamation <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/24mo/index.html>. It's about 5% per year in Lake Mead due to its lower elevation, and about 10% per year overall from all CRSP (Colorado River Storage Project) dams in the Colorado River Basin-ed.)
 - z. A member of the audience asked **how much do they need to cut back** use each year? 10%?" Kuhn replied, "We're talking about consumptive use, and West slope municipal use is not very consumptive. **Front Ranch diversions are 100% consumptive**, so they have much more consumptive use. **Reducing hay or trans-mountain diversions are required to decrease consumptive use.**
 - aa. Kathy Chandler Henry asked if West slope agriculture has a seat at the table? Russ George said, "Yes."
15. Russ George presented the CWCB board perspective. "If drought persists—and we can't control it, we can only manage ourselves within it—how are we going to work together to share the pain. It's really that simple. **I don't think any part of the state is thinking, "How can we hurt the West slope."** We're not saying that about them. As long as we are all acting in good will, we'll figure this out. It means everyone does with less than what we've done with before. That's the way life is, and **you can't go back to the way things were.**"

- a. Agriculture everywhere is at risk, not just Western slope agriculture. None of the Lower Basin States think it's ok to dry up Colorado. There's a decency and equity at play, and **the constitution contemplates that we will be equitable and fair**. Data and modeling are the beginning of answers. You have to try. That's all we're doing here. We're probably going to have this problem for a while. **Every forecast we see, it's getting worse.**
 - b. Chris Treese – **what assurance or protections are there for us so the Front Range doesn't start coming over here to purchase West slope agricultural water?** Russ said he could not answer that question. It's a fair question. The farmers on the east slope aren't safe either. The Colorado River District and CWCB can participate in court hearings when water is sold and sent to the Front Range. **The courts will answer this question. That's the battle ground, and it's not a good one.** (CBRT roundtable members asked this question during the 7 Point Conceptual Framework discussion as Colorado's Water Plan was being finalized in 2015, and Eric Kuhn said **the Front Range would not agree to forego purchasing West slope agricultural water-ed.**)
 - c. **"I don't see buying and drying happening."** (However, farms in Rocky Ford in Crowley County has been dried up to deliver water to Aurora-ed.)
 - d. The Colorado's Water Plan has the force of law because the legislature approved it. It contemplates a sharing, so no one part of a system gains an advantage over another part of the system. **The West slope must demand that the Colorado's Water Plan be followed.**
 - e. We don't want the feds to dictate to us. If we fail to get along with the other Basin States, that's where I fear we are headed.
 - f. There is some good news: **severance tax collections are higher than forecast**, so there's more money available to fund the WSRA fund. We're looking into freeing ourselves from severance tax money—we're eliminating the difference between Tier 1 and Tier 2 programs. There's an effort to serve all equally. As new money is coming in, some will be held back in reserve. This will modulate the highs and lows of annual fluctuations.
16. **Colorado River Risk Study, Phase III.** The Colorado River District and Southwest River District are funding this, and **no CBRT grant money is being requested**. Phase III will model how demand management will work in Colorado—i.e., how much water will be delivered to Lake Powell depending on which farmers cut back water use. They hope to do this work in the spring, 2019. **StateMod technical cooperation is needed, and this could delay** the start of the project.
 17. **Mark Fuller has been a legislative appointee** since the roundtables started in 2005; he is resigning, and April is taking over his position at the Ruedi Water and Power Authority. She is interested in taking Mark's voting position on the CBRT roundtable.

Stan clarified that we are making a recommendation to the legislature to accept April, and that Pitkin County will identify someone to replace April Long.

- a. **Steve Cazier recommended April Long to replace Mark Fuller**, and Lane Wyatt seconded it. Jim said he would forward this recommendation to the legislative committee.
 - b. **Nathan Bell asked whether** we could expand this position to a larger geographic area; someone from **the Middle Colorado region could take the Pitkin County seat**. Jim will canvass the other voting members of the CBRT to see if there are some who have been visiting less and could be replaced in order to expand representation on the CBRT Roundtable.
 - c. Jim Pokrandt recommended that Nathan google the HB 2005-1177 legislation, or check the CWCB website to learn who the legislative appointees are. **The legislators have rubber-stamped all the approvals**; this is the first time they've been asked to approve a replacement.
 - d. Mark Fuller said he regularly reported to Rep. Kathleen Curry and Sen. Isgar between 2005-2008, but when they stopped serving in the legislature, their replacements weren't as interested in regular updates. So, Mark has had less interaction with their replacements. **The relationship with legislators has been dormant.**
18. Paul Bruchez reported that the **Gates Foundation and Walton Family Foundation** are meeting with a group to **investigate how to raise \$100 million per year for water projects recommended in Colorado's Water Plan**. Russ George said the Gates and Walton Foundations were willing to fund political polls to see if the public would support a bill to raise money for water projects. You need these polls to get people to contribute funds to support the campaign. **There have to be 5% more yes than no votes or people won't fund this.**
- a. Paul said there are no surprises; **we know what will be funded; it's in Colorado's Water Plan.**
19. Megan Holcomb of the CWCB encouraged CBRT members to take two polls on CWCB's website; Jim Pokrandt will send links to these surveys. They must be done by Monday, October 1.
20. April Long announced that the **Roaring Fork Watershed Group is holding a meeting on October 16 from 5:30 to 7::00 at the Third Street Center in Carbondale to meet local candidates including county commissioners** to talk with them regarding water issues.