

**Interbasin Compact Committee  
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting  
Holiday Inn Express  
Montrose, Colorado  
November 19, 2018**

**Voting Members Present:**

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Steve Anderson	Industrial, CWCB Liaison
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Kathleen Curry	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Cary Denison	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Jay Jutten	Montrose County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Dixie Luke	At-Large Member
John McCloy	House and Senate Ag Committees
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Scott Murphy	Montrose Municipalities
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Greg Peterson	Saguache County
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
Steve Shea	Agricultural
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County

**Voting Members Absent:**

Patrice Alonzo	Crawford Water Conservancy District
Ray Hanson	Delta Municipalities
Jonathan Houck	Gunnison County
John Justman	Mesa County
Frank Kugel	At-Large Member
Dan Murphy	Hinsdale Municipalities
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
Mark Ritterbush	Mesa Municipalities

**Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:**

Craig Godbout (CWCB), Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Dave Kanzer (CRD Liaison), Bob Hurford (DWR Liaison).

**Public:**

Jake Hartter (Western Slope Conservation), Randy Sackett (SGM), Cindy Dozier (Chair, Club 20/Hinsdale County Commissioner), Ashley Hom (US Forest Service), Andy Mueller and Sonja Chavez (CRWCD), Russ Sands and Alex Funk (CWCB), Jim Plumhoff (UVWUA), Jason Ullmann (DWR-DNR).

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Chairperson Kathleen Curry.

### **Roll Call/Introductions**

After roll call it was declared a quorum was present.

### **Approve Agenda**

Kathleen Curry announced an additional agenda item regarding SWSI and the Basin Implementation Plan process to be placed after item 9.

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the Agenda as revised. Cary Denison seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Approve September 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

John McCloy requested two changes to the minutes. Tom Alvey also requested 2 changes to the minutes.

Ron Shaver moved to approve the September 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes as amended. Neal Schwieterman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Report from Educational Committee**

Marti Whitmore announced there was a short update from Dave Kanzer on the website.

Dave Kanzer stated they are looking for feedback on the email newsletter. They now have twitter accounts that will notify of news between newsletters. There was no newsletter in October since there is still no content manager. Dave's intention is for the newsletter to hit the week before the Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting to draw attention.

### **Report from the IBCC Representative**

Joanne Fagan reported on the IBCC meeting. The committee was updated on a state drought briefing that talked about how bad last year was. They were also updated on shortage strategies in both the upper and lower basin. One fact she noted was California was now taking some shortage but was not addressing structural deficit.

The bulk of the discussion was on funding for water projects. The Keystone group has been trying to put together how to approach getting more funding from the legislature or through a ballot question. A subcommittee of the IBCC has also been looking at what might get funded and how that money might get managed. A summary letter, which closes out the Keystone group, discusses funding recommendations moving forward, next steps, and working with legislature to develop a source of funding for water projects and the water plan. John McCloy added it is a framework for the types of projects that could be funded and includes discussion on how the funding could be raised. The letter is intended to be distributed to the Roundtables. It is not a final solution but is a summary of options.

### **Report from the CWCB Representative**

Steve Anderson reported on the September meeting in Steamboat Springs. There was a discussion on mapping. The western United States is lacking in accurate mapping coverage. Colorado received a \$5.6M federal grant to continue with this mapping. It will be another tool to help determine snowpack levels.

The Gunnison Basin had two Water Supply Reserve Fund grants approved at the meeting: 1) Deep Ward Dam rehabilitation project for \$50,000 basin and \$190,000 statewide funds; and 2) Tri-County Water and Dallas Creek Water Company received a \$50,000 grant to interconnect their domestic water systems.

The afternoon and evening discussion was about drought contingency plans and sideboards. Tom Alvey and Kathleen Curry were present.

At the November meeting it was announced the May 15-16, 2019 meeting of the CWCB will be held in the Gunnison Basin. The CWCB leased Ruedi water from the River District. At the time of the lease it was to be used for a stretch of river below Ruedi on the Frying Pan and Crystal Rivers. The Board approved it with some limitations to use the water in a 15 mile reach also.

The Board approved 20 water plan grants. The local grant was for Delta Brick and Climate Company to continue their efforts to mine sediment out of Paonia Reservoir and use the gas from Fire Mountain to feed the kiln. The grant was for over \$50,000.

The severance tax and the water supply reserve fund revenue stream are now projected to match historic levels. The next funding is July of next year. The Gunnison Basin fund right now is at \$387,285. For the water plan update in 2020 the staff is proposing to provide \$290,000 to each basin roundtable for the effort.

They discussed the recreation channel diversion project in Glenwood Springs. It is a complicated project, which has been contested by nearly everyone including the River District. Glenwood Springs has worked through the issues and stipulations. Colorado Parks and Wildlife had a lot of concern because of critical habitat for mountain sheep.

Steve said he was very relieved and happy the Board approved the policy statement for demand management. It did not have everything he would have wished, but will provide some meaningful sideboards for those discussions going forward. The work on demand management begins now. He will look to this Roundtable for guidance.

Steve announced most water users in Bostwick Park received WaterSMART grants. He thinks it is money very well spent.

### **Discussion Regarding CWCB Policy on Drought Contingency Planning/Demand Management**

Kathleen Curry led a discussion about the most recent CWCB policy which was adopted.

The draft policy was sent out to members with the agenda. It was adopted roughly as it was written. The way she read it, it left door open to look at alternate approaches, which is articulated at the very end under the compact administration policy statement.

Kathleen asked members for their reaction to the policy and if the Roundtable supports it. The Roundtable discussed the policy, and felt it was a decent policy statement which addresses all the parts the Gunnison Basin Roundtable wanted. It is not exactly as the Roundtable would have written it, but it at least agrees the Gunnison Basin Roundtable's concerns should be addressed. Members had some issues with paragraph 6 and the way it was written. Kathleen stated if as a group the Roundtable supports the policy, there should be a caveat to point 6. The key is sharing the shortages.

Marti Whitmore moved that the GBRT support the efforts of the CWCB in moving ahead with implementation of a drought management plan consistent with the demand management policy statement and the compact administration policy statement adopted by the CWCB in November, and continue to advocate for protection of west slope water uses and equitable curtailment of diversions and uses necessary to meet the drought contingency plan goals. Bill Nesbitt seconded. John McClow opposed the motion. The motion passed.

Kathleen asked if the level of involvement the Roundtable would like is to ask them to come to us to keep us informed, and then if something is going on that needs to be communicated to the Roundtable in between meetings, she will help send out information. There was a general consensus to this plan.

#### **Nellie Creek Toilet Retro Fit – Ashley Hom**

Ashley Hom, hydrologist with the US Forest Service, gave an update on the toilet retrofit project at Nellie Creek trailhead. The new facility is a composting toilet designed by Toilet Tech Solutions.

#### **Arch Ditch Project Report – Greg Peterson**

Greg Peterson gave an update on the Arch Ditch Project. The project goal was to improve the head gate at Arch Ditch. The main problem was trash, which was difficult to remove and a safety hazard. The new head gate will also allow for more efficient deliveries.

#### **BIP SWSI Update – Russ Sands**

Russ Sands gave a presentation titled "The Technical Update to the Colorado Water Plan". Mr. Sands is visiting all roundtables to give this presentation by the end of the year.

Mr. Sands discussed the timeline for the SWSI update. This time it will be a whole new methodology based on the 5 scenarios that were laid out in the Water Plan. There are 3 phases. Currently it is in Phase 1 which involves modeling and cleaning up some of the input going into the model and doing this roundtable tour. Phase 2 will begin in January. It involves an Implementation Work Group with one IBCC member and two members from each roundtable to attend a 1½ -hour phone meeting once a month from January through July to look at the recommendations for SWSI and the triggers that are called out. There will also be 4 to 5 technical webinars based on the subjects in the fact sheets. July is the release date for SWSI. Phase 3 will get all basin roundtables together at a statewide roundtable summit in September of

next year. The summit meeting will be a kick-off for the BIP updates. There will be \$290,000 to go to each roundtable for funding support for the BIP updates. Then finally there will be an update to the water plan itself.

Roundtable members discussed their concerns regarding how, in the last SWSI, the Gunnison Basin Roundtable was not satisfied our interests were covered. Members would like to see the document to look at it for accuracy and weigh-in before the statewide summit when it is too late to give any input. Kathleen Curry said she will follow up on this conversation.

### **Other Business**

Greg Peterson asked about the status of the Phase 3 of the Risk Assessment. Kathleen Curry replied the scope of work has been settled on and the consultant is working on the project. We are still trying to figure out how we are going to pay for all we want to do. There are going to be a lot of questions we want to address. Dave Kanzer added we are moving forward slowly. There are a lot of assumptions with hydrology and demands. We are expecting to see some preliminary data by January. Kathleen said she will provide update on this topic in January.

Kathleen Curry said she is starting to do some work in Denver during the legislative session to work on issues that are related to advocacy for the Western Slope. She is working as a volunteer lobbyist and not representing Gunnison Basin Roundtable unless the Roundtable wants her to do so. She feels the DCP demand management is a great risk for the Western Slope, and wants to hear everything the Front Range and the West Slope have to say.

### **Future Meetings**

The next Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting will be on January 21, 2019.

Water Summit meeting will be tomorrow at 7:30 a.m. at the County Event Center. Brent Newman from the CWCBC will give a presentation around 8:00 a.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



---

Mike Berry, Recorder

**Action Items**

Kathleen Curry will follow up on Gunnison Basin Roundtable checking the SWSI document for accuracy.