

**Yampa/White/Green River
Basin Roundtable
Draft Minutes
Wednesday July 11, 2018
Quality Inn & Suites 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:** Members and guests introduced themselves.
See attached sing-in sheet.
- 3. Approve/Modify Agenda:** Alden Vanden-Brink motioned to add a Letter of Support for the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District, to the agenda after item 6. Mike Camblin seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved as modified.
- 4. Review and Approval of May 9, 2018 Minutes:** Frank Alfone made a motion to approve the May Draft minutes, Kelly Romero-Heaney seconded, the motion passed.
- 5. Budget Report CWCB, SWSI, BIP update:** Craig Godbout reported that as of July the Statewide Account balance is \$1,950,141 and the YWG Basin Balance is \$1,108,976. The Statewide Account balance and the Metro and South Platte Basin balances have increased, due to a previously approved grant no longer needing funding. Craig gave a brief SWSI update. SWSI is undergoing technical evaluations in Phase 2. A task group is looking at what needs updated. Reporting will come in Phase 3. The SWSI report is scheduled for July 2019, BIP updates with IPP's will come in 2020.
- 6. Public Hearings/Public Input and Comment:** There was none.
- 7. RBWCD Letter of Support:** Alden Vanden Brink asked the Roundtable, for a letter of support as the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District (RBWCD) enters the pre-permitting phase of their Project. When Alden initially submitted draft language to the Roundtable for the letter of support, he was surprised and concerned with questions regarding the appropriateness of supplying a letter of support before the permitting process or after. Please see attached letter regarding said concerns. Jackie Brown suggested that the RBWCD be added to the September agenda, with ample time for Q & A. Tom Gray motioned that the Roundtable provide a letter of support as requested in concept of WCRP at this pre-permitting phase for the CWCB Grant that the RBWCD is applying for. Chuck Whiteman seconded the motion. Alden abstained, motion passed unanimously. Geoff Blakeslee asked that Alden share the grant application with the Roundtable, when completed. Alden encouraged members to reach out to him with any questions regarding this project. Jeff Devere encouraged the Roundtable Members to address full support language, as it is a policy question that has never been addressed.
- 8. Reports of Applicable Standing or Special Committees**
 - a. PEPO - Public Education & Participation Outreach (5min).** Patrick Stanko announced two new newspaper adds, and two new radio adds that were rolled out in June. Kelly Romero-Heaney reminded the Roundtable that the Education Action Plan update is coming soon. The Committee will work on it after the August 21st

PEPO workshop and may bring the updated EAP in September. The PEPO Committee is also working on a video for the YWG Basin, if anyone is interested please reach out to the PEPO Committee or attend their meetings.

- b. Division 6 Water Resources (10min) Erin Light asked that the Lysimeter update be given at the Roundtable meeting in September. She reported that the CoAgMET station is up and running, if interested data can be found on the CoAgMET website <http://www.coagmet.colostate.edu>. Erin encouraged everyone to check out the DWR website for updates as they update the site regularly. USGS will be taking measurements this week. Erin also announced that CPW entered into a loan agreement in 2010, to release water into the White River to maintain flows. They recently held a kickoff meeting and if possible, it will be done again this year.

9. Consideration/Action on Roundtable Projects:

- a. IWMP - Integrated Water Mgmt Plan Scoping Project (10min) Nicole Seltzer briefly went over the history of the Yampa IWMP and the work that was done by the Consensus Building Institute. The recommendation for Phase 2 from the IWMP Committee to the Roundtable is a result of CBI's findings. The Committee recommends moving forward with Phase 2 and approving up to \$30,000 in funding. During Phase 2 the overall goals and leadership of an IWMP would be defined, stakeholder groups within each of the four segments would and work with them to identify the goals and tasks most relevant to their segment would be developed, as would budgets for the identified tasks. Phase 2 will also identify funding options including writing a grant request to CWCB's Watershed Restoration Program in November 2018. A Contractor would be hired to facilitate Phase 2. Jackie Brown asked if the remaining \$37,000 from Phase 3 of the BIP could be rolled over and utilized. Jay Gallagher suggested that the original scope of work could be amended, as this would be a continuation of the technical work that was done. This was the desired way of approving the \$30,000 with the understanding that if it could not be accomplished the funding would still come from Basin funds. Kent Vertrees motioned to approve \$30,000 for Phase 2 as well as the proposed tasks to hire a paid contractor for scope development, refining goals and leadership, developing stakeholder groups in 4 segments to help identify goals and tasks, to identify funding options, and develop the projects scope of work and bring it back to the BRT for approval. Frank Alfone seconded this motion. Motion passed with one vote in opposition. For the full recommendation please see attached.
- b. Yampa River Leafy Spurge Project 2nd Reading (30min) Routt County Commissioner Tim Corrigan presented to the Roundtable on behalf of the YRLSP. Tim thanked the Roundtable for the feedback they were given during their first reading, this feedback resulted in significant changes to their project. They will now be working with the University of Wyoming to develop a spatial data set that documents the distribution of leafy spurge, develop predictions where new leafy spurge invasions are likely to occur, quantify current seed load produced by LS in specific riparian habitats along the Yampa, study and evaluate best management practices for reducing cover and seed production in diverse riparian systems, develop a map of known biological control sites, as well as work with the Colorado Department of Agriculture to develop protocols for a future program that would engage local 4-H clubs, schools and other youth organizations. During Q & A it was

pointed out that resulting solutions from this project would be applicable and available to the rest of the State of Colorado. Jeff Comstock voiced his support for the revised application. Jeff stated that nothing that has been tried in the past has worked, but that this project outlines a good strategy to deal with Leafy Spurge moving forward. Kelly Romero-Heaney also voiced support for this project as it aligns with BIP goals specifically water quality. Jeff Comstock motioned to approve the \$89,000 Basin ask and the project as presented. Geoff Blakeslee seconded. The motion passed with two votes in opposition.

- c. White River Ranch Irrigation Project 2nd Reading (30min) Forest Nelson presented to the Roundtable for a second reading. This project will install a sprinkler pivot to irrigate 82.9 acres that are currently flood irrigated, cutting the amount of ditch water needed in half. The extra irrigation water would then be used on a minimally irrigated lower field. Forest also discussed building one or two embankment ponds where the irrigation water returns to the river. This would create a nesting area for waterfowl and could be drained during low flow times to benefit other water users. The current application does not include hydro cost, this part of the project would be done at a later time and cost roughly \$50,000. Forest stated that USFWS is interested in the ponds, but he does not know the dollar amount that they may be willing to contribute. Forest also stated that this ranch has been in his family for 67 years, to ensure that it remains a ranch, they put it in a conservation easement. During Q&A it was noted that this grant application is not eligible for a State ask which changes the grant ask to a \$19,000 Basin ask, instead of the original ask of \$19,000 from the Basin and \$19,000 from the State totaling \$38,000. Doug Monger noted his original concerns and critical opinion of this project have changed in light of the conservation easement. Installing a pivot would help improve the future sustainability of the ranch. Doug motioned to approve the \$19,000 ask and project as presented. Mike Camblin seconded the motion. The legality of creating ponds with the Ranch's current water rights were brought into question. It was noted that private water rights should not be discussed during a public meeting. Tom Gray asked if the project would include the ponds, as the water rights were uncertain. Doug amended his motion to include approval contingency on the project successfully going through the CWCB vetting and approval process. Mike Camblin seconded, motion passed with 5 votes in opposition.
- d. White River Algae Study 1st Reading (5min) Steve Hinkemeyer introduced the White River Algae Study. Due to the strong and complete application submitted by Callie Hendrickson, and to save time at this meeting, the Grant Committee asked the Roundtable to bring this project back for a second reading at the September meeting. This is allowable under the current Grant guidelines. Alden Vanden Brink motioned to bring the White River Algae Study back in September for a 2nd reading with a full presentation. Chuck Grobe seconded the motion, Travis Day abstained, motion passed. Steve suggested that any questions for this project be funneled through April McIntyre prior to the September meeting, so that Callie can come with answers.

- e. Approve new grant process (30min) Steve Hinkemeyer presented the Grant Committees new proposed grant process. Under the new process the Roundtable will decide how much money to allocate for grant cycles at the September Roundtable meetings. Up to two large (over \$10,000) grant cycles will be held per year, with the second cycle being contingent on remaining funds from the first cycle. The new process will have three small (under \$10,000) grant cycles per year. Applicants will have two readings. The first reading will be at a Grant Committee meeting and will be where questions are asked and the matrix is scored. The second reading will be held at Roundtable meetings for a yes/no vote. The Grant Committee shared charts detailing the applicant's steps, the process and timelines. The Committee recommends that Letters of Support be submitted to the Executive Committee. These should contain a description of the project, need for the grant, and draft verbiage that they desire the Roundtable to use in the LOS. Letters would need to be submitted before the Agenda is finalized so that they can be included in meeting materials. The letter would then be voted on by the Roundtable. The Grant Committee is working on the matrix to make it precise, and also make it available online for applicants to use as a self-assessment tool. Jackie Brown reminded the Roundtable that if they are unhappy with this process it can be modified in the future. Doug noted that the only time the matrix will truly be useful is with a full roster of applicants. Tim Winkler motioned to approve the new grant process as presented, Mike Camblin seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Please see the attached charts for more information.


10. New Business:

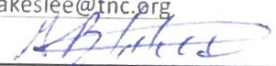



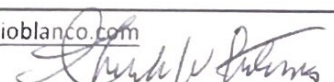
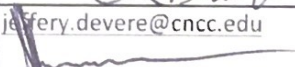
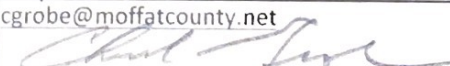
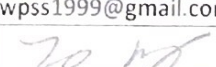
- a. Colorado River 101 Presentation CWCB Brent Newman (40min) Brent Newman gave a presentation to the Roundtable that covered drought management planning and status in Colorado. Covering inter and intrastate water issues and planning, water law and the Colorado River compact, conservation, drought, management strategies and steps moving forward. You can find the full presentation [Here](#).

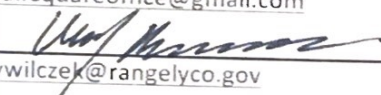

11. Announcements: Jay Gallagher announced that the next CWCB Board meeting will be held in Steamboat September 18th – 20th

12. Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings: Next Meeting date is September 12, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

13. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:13.

Membership of the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable 2018		Name	Term Exp.	Jan, 10	Mar, 14	May, 9	Jul, 11	Sep, 12	Nov, 14	Signature/email
1	Routt County Commissioners Appointment:	Doug Monger	2018	X	X	X	X			dmonger@co.routt.co.us 
2	Moffat County Commissioners Appointment: (IBCC Rep through 2019)	Tom Gray	2018	X	X	X	X			trgray7@gmail.com
3	Rio Blanco County Commissioners Appointment:	Jon Hill <i>SI WOODRUFF</i>	2018							jon.hill@rbc.us <i>SI WOODRUFF</i> <i>SI WOODRUFF@RBC.US</i>
4	Garfield County Commissioners Appointment: (Vacant Never filled)									
5	Routt County Municipality Appointment:	Kelly Romero-Heaney	2018	X	X	X	X			kromeroheaney@steamboatsprings.net <i>Kelly Romero-Heaney</i>
6	Moffat County Municipality Appointment:	Stephen Hinkemeyer	2018	X	X	X	X			steve@trappermine.com <i>Steve Hinkemeyer</i>
7	Rio Blanco County Municipality Appointment: (White Vice Chair through 2019)	Alden Vanden Brink	2018		X	X	X			aldenvb@yahoo.com <i>Alden Vanden Brink</i>
8	Upper Yampa Conservancy District Appointment: (IBCC Rep through 2018)	Kevin McBride	2018	X	X	X				kmcbride@upperyampawater.com
9	Juniper Water Conservancy District Appointment: (Yampa Vice Chair through 2019)	Mike Camblin	2018	X	X	X	X			mcamblin@camblininc.com <i>Mike Camblin</i>
10	Yellow Jacket Water Conservancy District Appointment	Kai Turner	2018							kaimturner@gmail.com
11	Pothook Water Conservancy District Appointment:	J Sheehan	2022	X	X					gsheehan7321@gmail.com
12	Rio Blanco Conservancy District	Tim Winkler	2020		X		X			timwinkler7272@gmail.com <i>Tim Winkler</i>
13	Colorado River Water Conservation District Appointment:	Hunter Causey	2018	X	X	X				hcausey@crwcd.org

14	House/Senate Appointment:		2018									
	At-large Appointments from above members			Jan, 10	Mar, 14	May, 9	Jul, 11	Sep, 12	Nov, 14	Signature/email		
15	Environmental Appointment:	Geoff Blakeslee	2018	X	X	X	X			gblakeslee@tnc.org 		
16	Agricultural Appointment:	Will Myers	2018	X	X		X			will@headwaterengineering.com		
17	Recreation:	Kent Vertrees	2022	X	X		X			kent@friendsoftheyampa.com		
18	Domestic Water Provider:	Frank Alfone	2022	X	X	X	X			falfone@mwwater.com		
19	Industrial Water Interest:	Rich Thompson	2022	X	X	X	X			rthompson@tristategt.org 		
20	At-Large Representative:	Jeff Meyers	2022		X	X				coyotecreek@comcast.net		
21	At-Large Representative: (Chair through 2019)	Jackie Brown	2022	X	X	X	X			jbrown@tristategt.org 		
22	At-Large Representative:	Jeff Comstock	2022	X	X	X	X			jcomstock@moffatcounty.net 		
23	At-Large Representative:	Burt Clements	2022		X	X				burtclements@gmail.com		
24	At-Large Representative:	Chuck Whiteman	2021	X	X		X			cwa@rioblanco.com 		
25	At-Large Representative:	Jeff Devere	2021	X		X	X			jeffery.devere@cncc.edu 		
26	At-Large Representative:	Chuck G. Grobe	2021			X	X			cgrobe@moffatcounty.net 		
27	At-Large Representative:	Travis Day	2021		X		X			wpss1999@gmail.com 		

28	At-Large Representative:	Bill Badaracca	2021	X	X	X	✓			fairsquareoffice@gmail.com
29	At-Large Representative:	Vince Wilczek	2021	X	X					 vwilczek@rangelyco.gov
	<i>At-large Appointments from above members</i>			Jan, 10	Mar, 14	May, 9	Jul, 11	Sep, 12	Nov, 14	Signature/email
30	Green River Basin Representative	T. Wright Dickinson	2021	X	X					twrightdickinson@vermillionranchlp.com
31	Non Voting that live outside the Basin that hold water rights in the Basin		2021							
32	Non Voting that live outside the Basin that hold water rights in the Basin		2021							
33	Non Voting that live outside the Basin that hold water rights in the Basin		2021							
34	Non-Voting Colorado Water Conservation Board Representative	Jay Gallagher	no term	X	X	X	X			jaygalla@comcast.net 

Guest Sign-In Sheet

Name	Affiliation
Jessie + Dwayne Zimmerman	Moffat County Residents
Paul Anderson	Moffat Co. Land Owner
Alyssa Clarida	Colorado State Conservation Board
Callie Hendrickson	White River + Douglas Creek Conservation Dist.
Reed Kelley	White River Alliance, Rio Blanco Herald Times
David Graf	CO Parks & Wildlife
Hender Mannab	citizen, 4M RANCH
Claire Sollars	Interested citizen, Star
Tim CORRIGAN	ROUTT COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PATRICK WALSH	NATIONAL PARK SVC - DINOSAUR NM
Brent Newman	CWCB
CRAIG GODBOW	CWCB
Douglas Davis	Student
Patrick Jenko	CIAA
Ben Beall	Yampa River LIFT SPURGE PROJECT
Forrest Nelson	White River Ranch
Orla Bannan	Western Resource Advocates
Nicde Seltzer	River Network

If you would like to join our notification list, please add your email address below.

Name	Email Address
paulanderson@Centurylink.net	Paul Anderson
Alyssa Clarida	alyssa.clarida@state.co.us

Yampa Integrated Water Management Project Scoping
Phase 1 Recap and Phase 2 Recommendation
July 11, 2018

1. Overview of 3-Phase Process:

In 2017, the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable (BRT) approved a scoping process to clarify the purpose, need, and sideboards necessary to implement Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) goals through an Integrated Water Management Project (IWMP). Since 2017, the BRT has held three workshops to learn more and better define its activities. In March 2018, the BRT approved a 3-Phase scoping process with go/no go decision points at each phase.

Phase 1: Stakeholder Assessment and Convening (March-July 2018)

With \$25,000 from TNC and River Network, the Consensus Building Institute (Dan Birch and Ryan Golten) interviewed ~40 stakeholders to identify possible goals, geographic scope and sideboards of a Basin Roundtable-led IWMP effort that stakeholders could support, if any. On June 20, 2018, CBI facilitated a half-day meeting to review the interview results, identify potential IWMP goals, scope, and sideboards, and decide whether and how to move forward with Phase 2.

A majority at the June 20th meeting encouraged the BRT to begin Phase 2 and supported the BRT leading a project to assess existing and desired future conditions to identify voluntary management strategies and/or multi-purpose projects that will protect in-basin water uses and protect and enhance the health and economic opportunity of the Yampa River and its tributaries.

Stakeholders focused on four river segments as ripe for scoping, with the following focal points:

- Upgrading infrastructure, especially multi-purpose diversion rehab/upgrade projects
- Enhancing understanding of existing river corridor health (flow, stream structure, habitat, riparian condition) and identifying projects/strategies to protect or enhance
- Advancing an integrated system of current/new storage and releases to meet both consumptive and environmental needs
- Addressing flow management needs for endangered fish recovery
- Developing river access and recreation projects

Based on this input, the BRT will make a go/no go decision for Phase 2 at its July 11 meeting.

Phase 2: Scope of Work and Budget Development (July-November 2018)

Based on discussions over the past several months, culminating with the June 20th meeting, the BRT's IWMP Committee recommends that it conduct the following activities in Phase 2:

- Refine the overall goals and leadership of an IWMP
- Develop stakeholder groups within each of the four segments and work with them to identify the goals and tasks most relevant to their segment
- Develop budgets for the identified tasks
- Identify funding options, including writing a grant request to CWCB's Watershed Restoration Program in November 2018

The BRT should make the go/no go decision to proceed to Phase 3 by mid-October.

Phase 3: Implementation (2019-2021?)

If funding is received, IWMP Committee(s) will implement tasks outlined in Phase 2 Scope of Work.

2. Phase 2 Recommendation

The IWMP Committee recommends that the BRT approve proceeding with Phase 2 and providing up to \$30,000 for its tasks using the following framework as a guideline.

Overall goal:

Assess existing and desired future conditions to identify management strategies and/or multi-purpose projects that will implement the Basin Implementation Plan's goal of protecting in-basin water uses and protecting and enhancing the health and economic opportunity of the Yampa River and its tributaries.

Geographic Scope:

IWMP Scopes of Work will be explored in four segments: Yampa headwaters (Bear River and its tributaries) from the Flattops to Stagecoach Reservoir; Yampa mainstem from Stagecoach Reservoir to Elkhead Creek; Yampa mainstem and Elkhead Creek from confluence to Deerlodge; Elk River and major tributaries.

Leadership:

The BRT will be the project sponsor and is responsible for approving all Scopes of Work and funding requests. The IWMP Committee (through a fiscal agent) will hire a Contractor to lead scope development this summer. River Network will continue in the role of project coordinator. The Contractor will identify local leads (sub-basin coordinators) that, after additional funds are raised in 2019, can implement IWMP tasks in each segment, with overall direction from the IWMP Committee and a project manager. Specific recommendations on leadership and BRT coordination will be included in the Phase 2 Scope of Work for BRT approval in October.

Summer 2018 Tasks:

1. Contractor will assess the ripeness/energy of local residents to be involved in developing an IWMP for their segment through additional stakeholder meetings.
2. Contractor will review priority issues with residents, water users and other stakeholders in each segment. Are these the right priority issues and are there others that are also important?
3. TNC will compile existing data/information relevant to priority issues in the segments.
4. Contractor will recommend, based upon 1-3, whether scope development should proceed in some or all segments.
5. Of those segments that move into scope development, Contractor (supported by TNC) will work with residents, water users and other stakeholders to ID additional information/assessments required to understand the priority issues and develop implementable management strategies and project recommendations and what funds would be required.
6. Of those segments that move into scope development, Contractor will identify the person/organization best suited to be sub-basin coordinators and what funds would be required to support them.
7. Based upon 5-6, Contractor will develop a scope of work for BRT approval.
8. River Network will develop the grant applications needed to request funds in 2019 and beyond.

Scan and put into minutes



July 11, 2018

The RBWCD was asked to come before the BRT for a letter of support for this Pre-Permitting phase as the objectives they have been pursuing align with the YWG Basin Round Table BIP and felt with the financial support and repeated formal updates with the group over the past several years, a Letter of Support was applicable. However, some of the comments over the past few days have made me ask myself if the BRT is ready to come forward with support of this Pre-Permitting task for the White River Storage Project or is it best to come back at the end of this Pre-Permitting Phase to seek support. I find this concerning as the RBWCD has strived to maintain transparency keeping the BRT informed while making genuine progress to meet the Goals and Objectives identified and agreed upon by this group.

As always, the RBWCD has maintained if you or your organization have questions we are more than happy to take time and answer them. We have offered this open and transparent courtesy to many of you on the BRT and many other interested parties throughout this process. Several of you have taken us up on this offer and unfortunately there are some who have expressed interest but then not, for one reason or another, followed up on our offers, even though we have made numerous attempts to contact and schedule with them.

Given the very full agenda we have this evening I do not feel that this meeting is the appropriate place and time to deal with a long discussion or "questions and answer session," but the RBWCD team and I are more than happy to set up a time for a meeting, a call, etc. at a later mutually agreeable time.

So, as I stated in the beginning, if the BRT is prepared to provide a letter of support for this Pre-Permitting phase of the project we greatly appreciate that. If it is determined that this group is not, then we will return when the BRT is prepared to do so.

The White River Storage Project is far too important with a proven identified "need-to-great" for others to hijack for their own personal and political agendas. Causing anyone to lose sight of the fact the original and main purpose of the project is for beneficial health and quality of life for the residents of Rangely, Colorado and residents of the Lower White River in Rio Blanco County.

Thank you for your time...



Alden Vanden Brink

Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District

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YWG RT Grant Process/Timeline

