# Interbasin Compact Committee Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting Holiday Inn Express Montrose, Colorado May 20, 2019

#### **Voting Members Present:**

Thomas Alvey North Fork WCD

Steve Anderson Industrial

Bruce Bair At-Large Member Mike Berry Tri-County WCD

Kathleen Curry Upper Gunnison River WCD

Allen Distel **Bostwick Park WCD** Joanne Fagan **Ouray Municipalities** Steve Fletcher At-Large Member Jonathan Houck **Gunnison County** Jay Jutten Montrose County Grand Mesa WCD Austin Keiser Frank Kugel At-Large Member Dixie Luke At-Large Member

John McClow House and Senate Ag Committees

Scott Murphy Montrose Municipalities Bill Nesbitt Gunnison Municipalities

Greg Peterson Saguache County
Mark Ritterbush Mesa Municipalities

Mark Roeber Delta County
Neal Schwieterman Recreational
Ron Shaver Arricultural

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

Cary Denison Environmental Ray Hanson Delta Municipalities

John Justman Mesa County Chuck Mitisek Ute WCD

Dan Murphy Hinsdale Municipalities

Michael Murphy Hinsdale County

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

Craig Godbout (CWCB), Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Dave Kanzer (CRD Liaison), Jedd Sondergard (BLM), Bob Hurford (CDWR Liaison).

**Public:** Karen Wogsland and Tony LaGreca (Colorado Water Trust), Ron Nielson

(Public), Beth Karberg (Applegate Group), Ryan Unterreiner (CPW), Molly

McConnell (UGRWCD), Ken Besel (GMWCD), Ashley Bembenek

(Uncompangre Watershed Partnership, Alpine Environmental Consultants LLC), Kelsea MacIlroy (CSU Grad Student), Gary Kraai (Crawford Water Conservancy

District), Ed Millard (Montezuma County), Jason Ullmann (CDWR), Ryan Christianson and Erik Knight (Reclamation), Ken Dolezal (Montrose).

## Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Kathleen Curry.

### **Roll Call/Introductions**

After roll call it was declared a quorum was not present. Shortly after the beginning of the meeting several more members arrived and a quorum was then present.

### **Approve Agenda**

Frank Kugel requested to add an update from Kelsie McElroy on her project. The item was added after item 7.

Neal Schwieterman moved to approve the Agenda as revised. Ron Shaver seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Approve March 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Greg Peterson requested 2 changes to the minutes.

Marti Whitmore moved to approve the March 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes as revised. Neal Schwieterman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## **Report from the Educational Committee**

Dave Kanzer reported on the Educational Committee activities. There is now a Facebook page, Twitter page, newsletter and web page. Events are being kept up to date. Everyone is urged to provide information for the website.

They are initiating a "Meet Your Roundtable Member" section. Mike Berry will be the first officer to be featured. His profile should be up by the end of the month.

There will be some funds left in the budget. Let Dave know if there are any other justifiable outreach and educational expenses.

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## **Report from the IBCC Representative**

Joanne Fagan reported the IBCC hasn't met since the last Roundtable meeting. They are going to meet July 17-18 in the Arkansas Basin. The second day will be a joint meeting with the Conservation Board and IBCC.

Kathleen Curry said Russell George, who replaced John Stulp at the IBCC, would like to come to the Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting in July and talk about his vision for the IBCC.

### Report from the CWCB Representative

Steve Anderson reported the CWCB met in Gunnison on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. Tuesday before the meeting they took the board and staff to Taylor Dam. He thanked the Upper Gunnison River WCD for their support.

The following discussions and actions took place at the meeting:

- The change in funding for the Paonia Reservoir intake repair was approved.
- Weather modification cloud seeding in North Park led the way in Colorado with the first ever airborne measures. They shot flares off of specially designed aircraft. The project was funded by states in the lower basin.
- Drought contingency planning and demand management is on the radar of the board. Drought contingency plans were signed today at Hoover Dam.
- The work groups in all various areas, including an additional tribal work group, are being formed to study demand management. If you applied you should get a notice in a week to 10 days. The purpose is not to develop a demand management program, but to investigate what might work. The work group meetings will not be public; the idea is to try to promote free and lively exchange of ideas. Anything coming out of those work groups will be transparent.
- Two WSRF grants were approved in the Gunnison Basin. One was for Delta Brick and Climate Company. That grant was delayed at the previous meeting because they were concerned about awarding grants to private organizations. It was decided it would be okay if it was something framed in the water plan. The other grant was Trout Unlimited's grant for the Bostwick Park canal diversion.
- There was discussion on the Colorado Water Plan update. They have taken the acronym SWSI out; it is currently being called a technical update. It is still scheduled for a July release.
- They went through the water plan grant applications at this meeting. There were a number of grants for the Gunnison Basin. Several grants were not awarded and those applicants should seek out the representative staff to see what needs changed to be successful.

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Tom Alvey asked Steve if staff's recommendations determine successful funding for projects and, since the Gunnison Basin had more requests does this work against us? Steve said the CWCB relies on staff due to the volume of information given, but he didn't feel the amount of requests enters into the decision. Craig Godbout added they try to be fair geographically, but one of the criteria they look at is grants that are going to produce additional water. Steve said he would try to bring the criteria to the Roundtable.

Frank Kugel thanked Steve Anderson and staff for visiting Taylor Reservoir and coming to Gunnison for their meeting.

### **BIP Committee Project Report – Frank Kugel**

Frank Kugel reported the BIP committee has not had a meeting in a while; however there is an ongoing effort. He and Cary Denison are committee members on the Implementation Working Group, which is revisiting the basin implementation planning effort. The goal of the group is to increase transparency and develop guidance materials for individual roundtables in order to have more product uniformity and to meet planning and implementation goals. There will be a common consultant statewide to help with the initial screening effort. Individual roundtables will then provide their updates. The current schedule is to have a final BIP update sometime in 2022. There is a conference call approximately once a month and those recorded webinars are available on the CWCB website.

Kathleen Curry said all the roundtable chairs participated in a call on May 13 to talk about this process. There was conversation about having all of the roundtable chairs sit on the selection committee for the general contractor for this work. To sit on the committee would involve travel, reading of proposals, and providing input. If she participates she would like help with expenses. Craig Godbout said there is a stipend to help with travel expenses. Roundtable members felt they would like to have Kathleen participate in the process.

It was asked if any members have names for local consultants that could be provided to the general contractor. During the last process it was Wilson Water Group. Email any suggestions for local consultants to Kathleen before the deadline of May 31.

There was also discussion about the September 25 and 26 two-day statewide summit for all the roundtables, which they are calling the C9 meeting. It will be held in winter park and there is a registration fee of \$75. There is a pool of money the CWCB will distribute to all the roundtables to send people to the summit and to offset the costs for mileage, lodging and registration fee. The Gunnison Basin Roundtable will have about \$3,000 allocated.

#### **Introduction of Kelsea MacIlroy**

Kelsea MacIlroy is a graduate student at CSU in the Sociology Department. She is working on a project looking at community perceptions on demand management on the western slope. This is in conjunction with economic studies being done. She is in the middle of several weeks of data collection. If the information she is collecting is useful to the Roundtable she would like to come back to share it. She is planning to have a report ready later this summer and could bring it to the September Roundtable meeting.

### **Colorado Water Trust – McKinley Ditch Presentation**

Karen Wogsland gave a presentation on the McKinley Ditch project. Karen is from the Colorado Water Trust, a Denver-based non-profit organization dedicated to restoring stream flows to Colorado's rivers in need.

#### Phase 3 Risk Study Update

There will be an update on the Phase 3 Risk Study at the joint roundtable meeting at the Ute Water Conservancy on June 20, 2019 from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm. Time will be set aside on the agenda to discuss and come up with next steps and action items.

### WSRF Grant Revision - Governor's Basin Reclamation Project

Tom Alvey said at the last Roundtable meeting members approved the grant request, but only approved the Basin fund portion. Members did not vote on the State fund portion of the request which is \$13,000.

Marti Whitmore moved to approve \$13,000 from State fund for the Governor's Basin Reclamation Project. Neal Schwieterman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Comments from Audience**

There were no comments from the audience.

### **Other Business**

Craig Godbout gave a current update on fund balances. WSRF will be fully funded next year and the Gunnison Basin account will get \$400,000.

Jonathan Houck reported Gunnison County has formed a partnership to help manage impacts from recreation around Gunnison. Funds collected will provide an additional \$15,000 for the Cottonwood Pass toilets and there is more funding for other projects which contribute to water quality and quantity.

#### **Action Items**

Submit any local consultant names to Kathleen Curry before the deadline of May 31.

### **Future Meetings**

The State Roundtable meeting will be September 25-26, 2019.

The next Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting will be on July 15, 2019.

# **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m. The annual Colorado River Water Conservation District "State of the River" presentation followed the meeting, in partnership with the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District and the Uncompanyare Valley Water Users Association.

Mike Berry, Recorder