

**Yampa/White/Green River
Basin Roundtable
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 13, 2019
Moffat County Pavilion
640 East Victory Way Craig, CO 81625
6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

1. **Call meeting to order:** The Meeting was called to order at 6:34 by Jackie Brown.
2. **Introduction of Members and Audience:** Members and guests introduced themselves. See attached sign-in.
3. **Approve/Modify Agenda:** Kelly Romero-Heaney motioned to approve the agenda, Doug Monger seconded, the motion was approved.
4. **Review and Approval of September 11, 2019 Minutes:** Doug Monger motioned to approve the September 11 draft minutes. Si Woodruff seconded, the motion passed.
5. **Budget Report CWCB:** Craig Godbout reported that the basins balance is currently \$761,344, and the state balance is \$3,315,590. The Basin account will receive \$120,000 in January and again in April. The 2019 WSRF report is now available on the CWCB website. The CWCB has created a committee to review its WSRF guidelines in 2020. A streamlined process for all 16 grant programs will be coming in the future, as well as an online portal for submitting grant applications.
6. **Public Hearings/Public Input and Comment:** There was none.
7. **Elections:** Kelly Romero-Heaney and Friends of the Yampa presented Jackie Brown with a picture and card in recognition of the work she has done as Chair. Jackie stepped into the position when the Roundtable tragically lost Mary Brown. Jackie has since helped step up the Roundtable's level of sophistication. Jackie thanked the Roundtable and noted her pleasure filling the position and being able to follow in the footsteps of the extraordinary mentor and ceiling breaker that Mary was. All applicants took turns introducing themselves and speaking about why they would like to have a seat on the Roundtable, and why they applied for a leadership position on the board. Voting was done by secret ballot, the results were as follows:
 - a. **Senate Seat:** Callie Hendrickson
 - b. **Out of Basin:** Pat O'Toole
 - c. **At-Large:** Doug Davis
 - d. **Chair/Vice Chairs/IBCC Reps:** Chair Alden Vanden Brink, Yampa Vice-Chair Mike Camblin, White Vice Chair Tim Winkler
8. **Reports of Applicable Standing or Special Committees:**
 - a. **BIP Update:** Jackie Brown gave the update. Basin Chairs from across the state selected Brown and Caldwell as the contractor for BIP updates. Wilson Water is on that team. Russ Sands will be coming to the January meeting to give a technical update to the water plan and go through the Yampa White basin work.

Several basins have had concerns about inconsistencies that came out of the technical update. Roundtables will not be updating their entire BIPs during the 2020 update process. The Roundtable can update goals or add new items if they so desire. Each Basin will get \$209,000 for the update, \$140,000 to Brown and Caldwell for IPP formatting. The new integration of BIP and IPP will be a living document that will be updated in real-time. If the Roundtable wants to hire a consultant that isn't Brown and Caldwell, the Roundtable should be able to find someone in their team. The funding will also cover hiring a local expert, who is expected to do administrative tasks, and operate the new costing tool. There will be \$10,000 for training and running the costing tool.

- b. IBCC Update:** Tom Gray reported that during the latest IBCC meeting, they discussed equity in demand management. There is a desire for it to be voluntarily compensated and proportional so that there are no winners and losers. There was also a DCP discussion and an agreement that its potential success should be questioned. Tom expressed his appreciation for discussing demand management at IBCC meetings because it allows each Basin to hear the perspective of other basins. Some basins think it should be determined on a percentage of native flows, and other Basins believe it should be a percentage of depletions. A representative from the front range spoke at the meeting and explained that it would be easier for the front range to come up with 50% than it would be for our Basin, in a demand management scenario. Tom explained that its feasibility still needs to be determined before it moves forward. The next meeting will be a combination meeting between IBCC and a demand management workshop that will be held in mid-March.
- c. PEPO Committee:** Patrick Stanko asked members to send in water-related meeting information so that it can be posted on the Roundtable website. Patrick explained that the CAA grant is coming to an end. If members have ideas for the future CAA grant, please send them to Patrick or Kelly.
- d. White River PBO Update:** Alden Vanden Brink gave the update. The White River Management plan and PBO started and stopped over the last 18 years, but has recently made much headway. The White River is one of the last primary tributaries on the West Slope of the Colorado River to complete a PBO. They have been working with Jennifer Wellman, the CWCB, the Ute tribe, and the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District. Wilson Water is their contractor. They have been working on future needs, availability studies, a salinity control program, a selenium study as it is essential to fish reproduction, and minimum stream flow recommendations. Contractor selection was a difficult process, but they are anticipating to issue a contract in the first half of this month. They will have a completed plan in 18 months. During this process, they have found that there was spawning happening in areas where it wasn't expected to be happening, which was exciting for all parties.

9. New Business:

- a. **Salinity Control Program:** Salinity Program Coordinator Paul Kehmeier presented. Paul explained that his job is to help people and organizations who are interested in accessing funds through this program. After seeing the high volume of salt that is being sent downriver, federal agencies decided that the most efficient way to handle the situation is to stop the salt from getting into the river in the first place. The program focusses on group owned ditches and helps people go through the process of applying for the Bureau of rec monies. For example, if the YWG or a subset of the area were interested in participating, they would need to notify the Bureau of Rec. If the Bureau received enough letters of interest, they would complete a study to decide how much salt is in the area. Depending on that outcome, they would help find funds to keep salt out of the river. The study maps all group-owned ditches and figures out how much water flows into ditches by reviewing diversion records. The study runs all data through computer modules and determines how much salt the ditch is contributing to the Colorado River system each year. That number or the "salt number" is necessary to compete with other ditch companies in Western Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico for grant money. Forty million in funding is given out every two to three years. Grants are awarded based on the lowest project cost for the highest return in the effort of keeping salt out of the river. When awarded, the Bureau of Reclamation pays for 100% of the project. These projects are typically piping and lining canals. Usually, the upper reaches don't have high enough salt outputs to compete. The Maybell ditch currently needs to complete a study, but cannot apply by itself because they are not in one of the 7 high impact areas of salinity, but if the whole Basin were interested the Bureau of rec is always looking for areas to branch out. Tom Gray stated that it is likely that this Basin doesn't have a high salt load, to begin with. T. Wright asked how the Roundtable could help in the lower part of the Yampa basin and its tributaries. It was determined that a letter of support from the Roundtable would be a great starting point, and carry some weight, and that a Conservancy district or other entity would need to pursue the study.

10. Consideration/Action on Roundtable Projects

- a. **IWMP Update & Approval:** Nicole Seltzer gave an update on the IWMP process. In September, the Roundtable approved a contract with the Wilson Water and JUB team for diversion infrastructure needs. The committee piloted five structures in October and plan on assessing another 40 to 50 next summer. The committee is working with the engineering team regarding what information will be included in the reports. Nicole encouraged members to join in on technical subcommittee meetings, chaired by Brian Hodge if they have questions. The IWMP project is now under contract and has \$435,000 in funding. The committee has started doing core team meetings every month. Tonight the IWMP committee is asking for approval of the [stakeholder engagement plan](#). This has been a bottom-up process. Frank Alfone motioned to approve the stakeholder



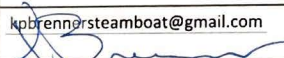
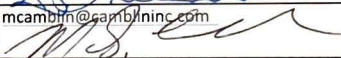

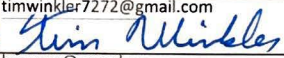
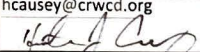
engagement plan. Ken Brenner seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Committee membership will be revisited in January. Please let Nicole know if you are interested.

- b. **Grant Committee 2020 Grant Allocation Approval & Meeting Update:** Chuck Grobe gave a grant committee [presentation](#). At the last Roundtable meeting, the grant committee recommended allocating \$330,000 in 2020 grant funding, but due to time constraints, the recommendation was not voted on. Chuck went over the possibility of adding funds to this grant cycle. Doug Monger motioned to approve the \$330,000 2020 allocation with the option of revisiting and increasing the allocation at a later meeting. Jackie Brown seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Chuck briefly outlined the two grant requests and the grant committee's recommendation to approve both as requested. In the interest of time, T. Wright Dickenson motioned to approve both grant requests as recommended by the grant committee. Members asked that each grant request give a 5-minute presentation following approval, Deidre Macnab seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. **UYWCD Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project:** Holly Kirkpatrick [presented](#). This grant request is for \$100,000, with a \$250,000 cash match. Tom Gray voiced his support as the Roundtable has had concerns that this grant process is cumbersome to smaller grant requests, this project will create an easier path for those applicants. This will essentially be a pilot type of process that will allow people to access smaller grants without jumping through so many hoops. Will Myers voiced his desire for the Roundtable to unofficially commit to giving the lower Yampa and the white the same amount of funding for a similar project in the future.
- d. **Elkhead Restoration Project:** [Presentation](#) by Kaitlyn Vaux. The restoration effort is a two-phased approach to restore a 9 mile stretch of bank. This project will focus on the 1st 5 miles directly below the reservoir. Landowners have expressed concerns. All landowners on the creek are in support of this project. A variety of agencies are contributing \$70,000, just over a million is still pending, the largest portion of funding is coming from the NRCS equip program. This request is asking for \$50,000 from this Basin and \$150,000 in state funding. It addresses 7 of the 8 BIP goals. The project's restoration designs have taken into account past hydrology data and include a long term monitoring plan.
- e. **Bylaw changes:** During the September Roundtable meeting, members agreed to make the long-standing tradition that the Chair does not vote unless breaking a tie, official. If approved, the additional language found in the [meeting packet](#), will be added to the bylaws. Doug Monger motioned to approve the addition to the bylaws, T. Wright Dickinson seconded, motion passed unanimously.

11. Announcements:

12. Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings: Next Meeting January 8, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

13. Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Membership of the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable 2019		Name	Term Exp.	Jan, 9	Apr, 10	May, 8	Jul, 10	Sep, 11	Nov, 13	Signature/email
1	Routt County Commissioners Appointment:	Doug Monger	2023	X	X	X	X	X		dmonger@co.routt.co.us 
2	Moffat County Commissioners Appointment: (IBCC Rep through 2019)	Tom Gray	2023		X	X	X	X		trgray7@gmail.com
3	Rio Blanco County Commissioners Appointment:	Si Woodruff	2023	X	X		X	X		si.woodruff@rbc.us 
4	Garfield County Commissioners Appointment: (Vaccant Never filled)									
5	Routt County Municipality Appointment:	Kelly Romero-Heaney	2023	X	X	X	X	X		kromeroheaney@steamboatsprings.net
6	Moffat County Municipality Appointment:	Stephen Hinkemeyer	2023	X	X	X	X	X		steve.hinkemeyer@trappermine.com
7	Rio Blanco County Municipality Appointment: (White Vice Chair through 2019)	Alden Vanden Brink	2019	X	X	X	X	X		aldenvb@yahoo.com
8	Upper Yampa Conservancy District Appointment: (IBCC Rep through 2018)	Ken Brenner	2023	X	X	X	X	X		kpbrennersteamboat@gmail.com 
9	Juniper Water Conservancy District Appointment: (Yampa Vice Chair through 2019)	Mike Camblin	2023	X	X		X	X		mcambin@camblininc.com 
10	Yellow Jacket Water Conservancy District Appointment	Shawn Welder	2023	X	X	X	X	X		packtrip@cmn.com 
11	Pothook Water Conservancy District Appointment:	J Sheehan	2023		X					gsheehan7321@gmail.com
12	Rio Blanco Conservancy District	Tim Winkler	2020		X		X	X		timwinkler7272@gmail.com 
13	Colorado River Water Conservation District Appointment:	Hunter Causey	2023	X	X		X	X		hcausey@crwcd.org 

14	House/Senate Appointment:		2023									
	At-large Appointments from above members			Jan, 9	Apr, 10	May, 8	Jul, 10	Sep, 11	Nov, 13		Signature/email	
15	Environmental Appointment:	Brian Hodge	2023	X	X	X	X	X			Brian.Hodge@tu.org	
16	Agricultural Appointment:	Will Myers	2023		X	X	X	X	X		will@headwaterengineering.com	
17	Recreation:	Kent Vertrees	2022	X	X		X		X		kent@friendsofthetampa.com	
18	Domestic Water Provider:	Frank Alfone	2022	X	X		X	X	X		falfohe@mwwater.com	
19	Industrial Water Interest:	Rich Thompson	2022	X	X		X				rthompson@tristategt.org	
20	At-Large Representative:	Jeff Meyers	2022	X	X	X	X	X			coyote@creek@comcast.net	
21	At-Large Representative:	Jackie Brown	2022	X	X	X	X	X			jbrown@tristategt.org	
22	At-Large Representative:	Jeff Comstock	2022	X	X	X	X	X			jcomstock@moftatcounty.net	
23	At-Large Representative:	Burt Clements	2022									
24	At-Large Representative:	Chuck Whiteman	2021	X	X		X		X		cwa@rioblanco.com	
25	At-Large Representative:	Deirdre Macnab	2021	X	X	X	X	X			didimacnab@earthlink.net	
26	At-Large Representative:	Chuck G. Grobe	2021	X	X		X	X			cgrobe@moftatcounty.net	
27	At-Large Representative:	Travis Day	2021	X	X		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		X	X		<i>[Signature]</i> brotywilczek@gmail.com
	At-large Appointments from above members			Jan, 10	Apr, 10	May, 8	Jul, 10	Sep, 11	Nov, 13	Signature/email
30	Green River Basin Representative	T. Wright Dickinson	2021				X			twd@vermillionranchlp.com <i>[Signature]</i>
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	Jackie Brown	no term	X	X	X	X	X		jbrown@tristategt.org

Guest Sign-In Sheet

Name	Affiliation
PATRICK O'TOOLE	Ladler Ranch Savery, WY
GRAIG GIBBOUT	GWGB
Patrice Stanko	CAA
LAINIE O'NEAL	Lower Elkhead ECR
Shelley Pankey	Lower Elkhead landowner
Keith Parker	Rancher, Lower Elkhead Creek
JUSTIN KOHL	ASSET GUARD PRODUCTS ^{RE WATER} CONSERVATION
Mary Ann Lewis	Lower Elkhead landowner
CHRIS KEISS	LOWER ELKHEAD LANDOWNER
Nicole Seltzer	River Network
Kaitlyn Vaux	Trout Unlimited
Clinton Whitten	NRCS
Holly Kirkpatrick	UWCD
Peter Fleming	Colorado River District
Paul Kehmerer	CO Dept of Agriculture
Jennifer Wellman	TNC
Mark Williams	CAA
Kelly Beal	TSGT
Billy Mitzelfeld	TwoHawks Ranch
Jim Martin	DWR

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→ OVER

GUEST SIGN IN (CONT.)

PAUL SCOLARI, DINOSAUR NATIONAL MON.

SHADEN MUSLEH, INTERA

Curran Trick, CWCB

Willie Summers, DWR

Lauren Blair, Aspen Journalism

Tyler McWilliams DWR Dist-46

Michele Meyer, Community Ag Alliance

GARY VAN TASSEL

Rancher

Geoff Kase TNC

Andy Bauer, Yampa River Fund

Doug Davis Student

Calli Hendrickson