

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Holiday Inn Express
Montrose, Colorado
November 18, 2019**

Voting Members Present:

Steve Anderson	Industrial
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Sonya Chavez	At-Large Member
Kathleen Curry	Saguache County
Cary Denison	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Jonathan Houck	Gunnison County
John Justman	Mesa County
Jay Jutten	Montrose County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Dan Murphy	Hinsdale Municipalities
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
Scott Murphy	Montrose Municipalities
Julie Nania	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Mark Ritterbush	Mesa Municipalities
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Ron Shaver	At-Large Member
Steve Shea	Agricultural
Bill Trampe	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County

Voting Members Absent:

Patrice Alonzo	Crawford Water Conservancy District
Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Ray Hanson	Delta Municipalities
Dixie Luke	At-Large Member
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Craig Godbout (CWCB), Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), David Kanzer (Non-Voting At-Large), Jedd Sondergard (BLM), Bob Hurford (CDWR Liaison)

Public:

Mike Lane (Delta County Commissioner), Gary Kraai (Crawford Water Conservancy District), Lauren Blair (Aspen Journalism), Hannah Holm (Hutchins Water Center at CMU), Ryan Unterreiner (CPW), Eric Krch and Randy Sackett (SGM), **Dan Penry** (Redlands Water & Power), Kent Kuster (Citizen), Jason

Ullmann (DWR), Kara Sobieski (WWG), Michael Dale (NPS), Luke Gingerich (J-U-B Engineers), Matt Lindburg (Brown & Caldwell), Russ Sands (CWCB).

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Chairperson Kathleen Curry.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call a quorum was declared to be present.

Approve Agenda

Ron Shaver moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Jay Jutten seconded and the motion carried.

Election of Officers

Bill Nesbitt nominated Kathleen Curry for Chairperson, Marti Whitmore seconded. Jonathan Houck closed nominations and moved to elect Kathleen Curry by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Mark Roeber, and carried unanimously.

Kathleen Curry nominated Austin Keiser for Vice-Chairperson. No other nominations were made. Kathleen Curry made a motion to close nominations and elect Austin Keiser by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Bill Nesbitt and carried unanimously.

John McCloy nominated Mike Berry for Recorder, Ron Shaver seconded. Mark Roeber moved to cease nominations for Recorder and nominate Mike Berry by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Ron Shaver and carried unanimously.

Approve September 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Jonathan Houck requested a change to page 6, Crystal River Augmentation Feasibility Study; last paragraph should read he would develop a draft comment letter on behalf of the roundtable.

Bill Trampe moved to approve the September 16, 2019 Minutes as amended. Dan Murphy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of At-Large Member

Two applications were received and the letters of interest were circulated for the open At-Large seat. There was a paper ballot vote and only appointed members of the Roundtable were able to vote. The applicants were Sonja Chavez and Kent Custer.

Sonja Chavez has worked for the past 17 years in the Gunnison Basin in water related positions. Sonja discussed her relevant experience.

Kent Custer has worked in water and retired in the last year. Kent discussed his experience and reason for wishing to serve on the Roundtable.

Sonja Chavez was elected by the statutory members of the Roundtable to replace Frank Kugel in an At-Large seat.

Report from the CWCB Representative – Steve Anderson

Steve Anderson reported on the CWCB meeting in Alamosa on September 17-19. The first day was the budget meeting. The bad news is severance taxes are down again. Steve does not know what the impact will be, but is sure there will not be a large contribution to WSRF grant funds.

They took a tour of Mitchell Farm outside of Monte Vista. He said it is an amazing operation.

The second day was the regular meeting. There was a presentation called Colorado River 101, which is basically on laws of the river.

The Board approved the 3 grant applications submitted by GBRT.

In the afternoon of the 2nd day they attended a ceremony for the new Doppler radar in Alamosa. There is some missing data near Gunnison and Steve hopes they are working to fix this problem.

On the third day there was a long discussion of the technical portion of the water plan update. They reviewed some work done by the CWCB. One interesting project was work being done on the Rio Grande Reservoir. They are fixing the valve on that reservoir and are doing the work in the winter. They have to drain the reservoir down, complete repairs and get ready for the refill.

There were continued discussions of demand management.

Bill Nesbitt asked about the **instream flow administration and historic stock water use** discussion. Kathleen Curry said the River District and the Cattleman's Association are active on this. There will be a meeting. If it gets to a point where there is something to talk about, the Roundtable can then decide whether to get involved. Bob Hurford discussed and explained the issue. Steve Anderson said the CWCB has made no decisions regarding this. It will be addressed at the next meeting. The Attorney General's office is involved as well. There will be an Agenda item and Steve will give an update at the next meeting.

IBCC Activities and Discussion – Joanne Fagan, Bill Trampe

Joanne Fagan reported there was a meeting about month ago. The meeting was short, just a morning meeting. The discussion focused on demand management. There was concern about what the working groups were doing. They were told the meeting notes would be on the website. Craig Godbout said there are 4 reports available on the website. He will send Kathleen the links so she can send out to the Roundtable.

They spent a couple of hours in subgroups trying to determine how to make demand management equitable. There were no solutions. Then they talked about curtailment vs. demand management. About half of the group felt like the State Engineer should provide some information on how they were going to administer curtailment.

Bill Trampe was unable to attend the meeting.

The next meeting will be March 4 and 5 in Denver.

Report from the Educational Committee – Dave Kanzer, Colorado River Water Conservation District

Dave Kanzer gave an update on the stats for the website. The stats are good. The newsletter and social media are driving people to the website. There is a 50% increase in visitors to the website since the first quarter of this year. They are spending about \$400 per month on the website.

Dave discussed the possible plan to use part of the education budget to get school kids to the Eureka Science Center in Grand Junction. Bussing kids turns out to be more expensive than they thought, plus there is a \$4 admission per head, which is a discounted rate. The budget for this plan is \$1,000 (plus a potential match from CPW), which is not enough money to send every school district. Decisions need to be made for which districts get to go. Dave asked for input on how to decide equitably who gets to go, and potentially a liaison for each district. Several members gave suggestions. The Education Committee will come back to the Roundtable with a recommendation.

Dave said another task for the Education Committee will be to update the Education Action Plan (EAP) with current information, goals and strategies. The Education Committee can do it but it will probably take several meetings. The Committee is small and will need some help from the Roundtable.

BIP/Demand Management Committee Report – John McCLOW

John McCLOW reported the Committee met this afternoon for a couple of hours. They went through and updated the Tier 1 project list, took off projects that are complete and added 2 potential projects. They will look at the Tier 2 and Tier 3 lists also to see if they are current. Anyone in the Roundtable who wants to supplement the list is welcome to do that. Once they get all the input on the current draft he will send it out to everyone on the Roundtable for input.

The Committee discussed the “basin expert” who the Roundtable is going to employ for the BIP technical update. There are 6 parties interested in the project. John said they were asked to wait patiently until instructions are received on how to go about this process.

Presentation on Colorado Water Plan/BIP Update Process – (Russ Sands and Greg Johnson)

Russ Sands (CWCB), Matt Lindburg (Brown and Caldwell), and Kara Sobieski (Wilson Water Group), gave their update on the Colorado Water Plan and BIP Update Process.

Phase III Risk Study Gunnison Basin Depletion Analysis

Kathleen Curry reported the UVWUA and North Fork Water Conservancy District have contributed funds to extend the contract for John Carron to do the depletion analysis for the Gunnison Basin. The Roundtable will get to see an example before they finish the whole thing. There will be no water reserve funds needed due to the funding sources.

WSRF Grant Applications – Tom Alvey

Tom Alvey sent an email to say there were no grant applications for this meeting; however there will be some for the January meeting.

Crystal River Augmentation Feasibility Study

Jonathan Houck drafted a letter in support of the Crystal River Augmentation Feasibility Study, as discussed at the last meeting. The challenge is the study would be occurring outside of this basin and this Roundtable, but has a connection to Gunnison County.

Roundtable members discussed the letter. Bill Trampe suggested adding to the letter a request for a little more collaborative effort in the discussions.

Cary Denison moved to accept the letter with general edits and adding a sentence to the end of the first paragraph. Allen Distel seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Audience

None.

Other Business

John McClow suggested 3 minor changes to the Bylaws. He will make the corrections and bring it to the next meeting. The proposed changes are 1) to change the annual meeting to November, 2) a change to the attendance provision, and 3) change the provision where there is no adjustment to the quorum if it is a missing at-large seat.

Action Items

Kathleen Curry will put the instream flow right administration versus historic stock water use conversation on the January 2020 Agenda.

The Education Committee will come back to the Roundtable with a recommendation on how to decide what school districts will receive funding for bussing kids to the Eureka Water Center.

Kathleen Curry will send out links to the reports on the IBCC working groups.

Kathleen Curry and Jonathan Houck will edit and add a sentence to the letter of support for the Crystal River Augmentation Feasibility Study, and submit it.

John McClow will make suggested changes to the Bylaws and bring it to the next Roundtable meeting.

Future Meetings

Montrose West Slope Water Summit, Montrose County Event Center, November 19, 2019.

The next Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting is January 20, 2020.

Adjournment

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

Mike Berry, Recorder