



# Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR  
WATER FUTURE

## Executive Committee Meeting Notes

January 8, 2020 – Pueblo Convention Center, Pueblo

[www.arkansasbasin.com](http://www.arkansasbasin.com)

### **Executive Committee Present:**

Mark Shea – Chair; Mike Weber – Vice-Chair Consumptive; Bob Hamel – Vice-Chair Enviro/Rec; Jeris Danielson, Terry Scanga & Tim Canterbury - IBCC; Abby Ortega – Needs Assessment Committee; Amber Weber – PEPO; Sandy White – Past Chair; Jack Goble & Ben Wade - CWCB; Chelsey Nutter – ARWC; Paul Fanning – Legislative Appointee

### **Executive Committee Absent and Excused:**

Amber Shanklin, Vice Chair Enviro/Rec Committee; Mike Fink – Recorder

### **Guests Present:**

Al Tucker, Alan Ward, Gracy Goodwin - Upper Ark, Russ George – IBCC; Elise Bergsten – RT Secretary

**Call to Order:** Chairman Mark Shea called the meeting to order at 10:30. Greetings and introductions were performed.

**Minutes:** Consensus approval of the December 11, 2019 minutes.

### **Chair Comments – Mark Shea**

- Jean Van Pelt is retiring from her PEPO duties. Mark expressed our deep gratitude for her work in the Arkansas Basin. Members agreed that they'd like to present a symbol of recognition to Jean.
- Mark would like the Exec Committee to discuss the RT relationship with the Arkansas River Basin Water Forum.
- Oral Histories with CO Water Leaders – have received some suggestions by email. More now?
  - Gary Barber
  - Ken Baker – upper basin
  - Sandy White
  - Jeris Danielson
  - Terry Scanga
  - Jay Winner
  - Alan Hamel
- Members agreed to choose two by emailing a survey to the membership and interested parties. It will include the above-listed candidates, others that have been emailed in and will also include a write-in opportunity.

### **ABRT BIP Update/Local Expert**

Mike had a conversation with Russ Sands & Greg Johnson. They are putting together a packet of support materials, including a sample RFQ.

Packet of support materials will be available by the end of this week. It will include core values and a scoring guide. We can add to it.



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## Timeline:

- Prior to January 28<sup>th</sup>, each RT should have a list of preferred qualifications.
- Post the RFQ request on each basin's website. Submittals will be due by Feb 28.
- March 20<sup>th</sup> selection. Interviews if we like.
- April 10<sup>th</sup> hired
- Working by end of April.

## Discussion Points Made:

- We're a little ahead of the game with Sandy's Scope of Work.
- Who wants to work on the RFQ preferred qualifications by January 28?
- Needs are quite varied in small communities, which will likely need more assistance in determining needs and identifying projects.
- There will be a lot of driving involved. Will need to reach out across the basin.
- What are the projects that will meet the current and future needs of the basin?
- How do we use what we have to meet our current and future needs?
- How do we take into consideration population growth?
- We need someone who can get out quite a bit and get that information from our constituents.
- How can we put it together as effectively as we can? Can we use resources available within the basin so that we're not paying someone to drive from Denver each time outreach is happening?
- \$290,000 over 2 years.
- Plan A – discuss with RT members first! Outreach is Plan B. Roundtable members must gather as much information as possible themselves.
- Need to have a pretty rigid winnowing process in order to include projects that can really be done.
- Need yield and cost information, which will be challenging for small communities.
- There is a grant app today that will support the BIP process, with Chelsey focusing on the upper basin and Amber focusing on the lower basin.
- Enviro/Rec: work has begun on ranking of projects.
- On the Ag side, we've looked at economic output in the past. We promised ourselves that we would update this information.
- Re Enviro/Rec – all the money could go to fire mitigation, and the cost varies. Everything changes every time there is a fire.
- The metrics for measuring success for projects that don't have a yield do exist already in the Colorado Water Plan.
- Pre vs Post-Event planning. How can we get out ahead and not just be reacting to circumstances? Fire, flood, water quality, population growth
- Is there an opportunity to work with CSU-Pueblo? Perry Cabot example.
- We will need to address the Scoring Matrix, which is designed for large municipal projects.

A sub-committee was formed to finalize the RFQ once the materials are received by the end of this week. Analysis of RFQ and suggested edits. They will provide input to CWCB regarding the RFQ.

Mark Shea, Mike Weber, Bob Hamel, Sandy White, Terry Scanga, Amber Weber.

Will send the draft to the Exec Comm once we've received the RFQ packet. Input back to CWCB by the 15<sup>th</sup>.



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## Other RT Business

IBCC - Russ George

Always ask yourself why this use of the public's money is justified. Keep an eye out for the legislation that makes rules for Sports Gambling, because money could still be taken away from water.

All blessings to the lovely folks that are RT members, and all those who attend the meetings, stay involved and interested, and keep the roundtable process dynamic.

PEPO – Amber Weber

The WSRA Grant for website improvements has about \$10k remaining. She would like to spend that money to hire someone to work 10 hours per week to make social media posts. This would be supervised posts, especially when questions are asked. This would tie in well to the Education to Action plan currently being formed. Exec Comm members were in consensus to approve this proposal.

Dwayne McFall will take over as Fremont County rep from Tim Payne as of next month.

Note: The ARWC board meeting that is included within the Exec Comm meeting will be moved to the beginning of the Exec Comm meeting as of next month.

Meeting adjourned at ~ 12:00 pm.

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