

South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 2020
Southwest Weld County Building
4209 Weld County Road 24 ½, Longmont, CO 80504
4:00-7:00 p.m.

South Platte Basin Roundtable Business Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome/Introductions (G. Varra – 5 min)

The meeting started at 4:05 p.m. In attendance: Garrett Varra*, Christy Wiseman, Bill Szmyd*, Jason Roudebush*, Joe Frank*, Mary Hodge*, Gene Manuello*, Kent Swedlund*, Loretta Daniel*, Rich Belt*, Brent Nation*, Sean Cronin*, Lisa Leben*, Kelsea Holloway*, Allyn Wind*, Stephen Larson*, Deb Daniel*, Jim Yahn*, Bruce Gerke*, James Ford*, Dan Brown*, Kevin Lusk*, Jim Hall*, Larry Howard*, Daylan Figgs*, Craig Godbout, Hunter Hoshiko*, Ken Huson*, Mallory Hiss, Mark Thomas, Greg Peterson, Brent Schantz, Royal Koepsell, Corey DeAngelis, Dan Gallen, Stephen Kandell, Erik Jorgensen, Jeffrey Nathanson, Audrey Butler, and multiple members of the public. Randy Ray* was excused from the January meeting. 26 voting SPBRT members were present (* denotes a voting member).

2. Approval of November 2019 Meeting Minutes (G. Varra – action required)

Bill Szmyd made a motion to adopt the November 2019 meeting minutes and Larry Howard seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

3. January 2020 Agenda Additions or Changes (G. Varra – action required)

There were no proposed additions or changes to the January 2020 meeting agenda. Rich Belt made a motion to accept the agenda and Jim Yahn seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

4. The Poudre Heritage Alliance and the Colorado State University Water Resources Archive: Colorado Water Leaders Nominations (G. Varra – 10 min)

Garrett Varra announced Poudre Heritage Alliance (PHA) asked the SPBRT to nominate two people to be interviewed for the Water Resources Archive. After discussing the project's background, various SPBRT members suggested people to nominate, including: Robert Glover, James Ogilvy, Max Partial, Don Ament, Gregory Hobbs, Shawn Hoff, Jim Hall, Alan Berryman, Brian Warner, and Tom Cech. After listing potential nominees, SPBRT members agreed to nominate a list of several people instead of pairing it down to two. Garrett Varra agreed to email the nominated list to PHA.

5. At-Large Representative Vacancy Application: Hunter Hoshiko (G. Varra – action required)

Garrett Varra announced he received one application to fill the open At-Large water rights seat (previously held by Mike Shimmin). Hunter Hoshiko, the applicant, took the floor to give a personal background as well as explain his interest in the SPBRT. After Hoshiko spoke, Allyn Wind made a

motion to approve Hunter's application and Rich Belt seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest. SPBRT members congratulated Hoshiko on his new role as a voting member.

6. Committee Updates

a. South Platte Basin and Statewide Account Balances (C. Godbout – 10 min)

Craig Godbout reported \$649,615 for the South Platte Basin balance and approximately \$5,300,000 for the statewide balance, which includes January 2020 disbursements.

b. Public Education, Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) Workgroup (C. Davenport – 10 min)

Mallory Hiss, Program Assistant for Colorado Watershed Assembly, provided the PEPO update. She reported the PEPO committee met the first week of January and plan to attend a farm show at the end of January. They are making progress on the South Platte video concept with videographer Christi Bode and hope to film in spring. They're also looking at a potential partnership with the Live Like You Love It (LLYLI) Campaign through Colorado WaterWise. Garrett Varra asked for an update on the Statewide Water Education Action Plan (SWEAP); there will be an update at an upcoming meeting.

c. Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF) (J. Roudebush – 10 min)

Jason Roudebush reported the WSRF Needs Committee received five applications; one withdrew at the last minute.

7. WSRF Presentations

a. Colorado Nonprofit Development Center (CNDC) 10.10.10 Systems Mapping to Tackle Wicked Problems (Jeffrey Nathanson – action required)

Jeffrey Nathanson presented the 10.10.10 WSRF proposal. The 10.10.10 program catalyzes serial entrepreneurs to tackle wicked problems and develop new market-based solutions over 10 days. The upcoming program's wicked problems will center around water. The entrepreneurs, volunteer subject matter experts, and the 10.10.10 project team then present their final results to a few hundred attendees at an open forum. In addition to relying on large amounts of in-kind time donations, the 10.10.10 project has multiple sponsors and received a potential matching grant from the Metro RT if the SPBRT also approves a WSRF grant.

There was a large amount of discussion about the 10.10.10 proposal. SPBRT members applauded the program for its creativity, use of entrepreneurs, and leveraging of other funds. However, there was concern about level of input SPBRT members would have in picking the wicked problems, the return on investment from the basin's contribution, and the vagueness of the project's deliverables. Jason Roudebush noted the WSRF Needs Committee was split for and against recommending this proposal. SPBRT members agreed this was somewhat of an unorthodox proposal compared to other WSRF proposals. There was further discussion of the potential for the project to ask for statewide funds. After lengthy discussion, Sean Cronin made a motion to approve the proposal and Dan Brown

seconded. Eight members voted in favor of the motion and 15 opposed, for a total of 23 votes. The motion failed.

b. Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) Outreach and Capacity Building (Greg Peterson – action required)

Greg Peterson presented the Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) WSRF proposal. CAWA is planning workshops and other outreach activities in order to educate ditch companies and irrigators about Regulation 85. After Peterson's presentation, Jason Roudebush noted the WSRF Needs Committee had no concerns with CAWA's application. SPBRT members discussed Regulation 85 and salinity issues in the South Platte Basin. After a question about timing for a statewide account ask was answered by Craig Godbout, Deb Daniel made a motion to approve the proposal and Bruce Gerk seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest. Gene Manuello abstained from the vote.

c. Colorado Division of Water Resources (CWDR) Data Logger/Telemetry Installation Project (Brent Schantz – action required)

Brent Schantz presented DWR's Data Logger/Telemetry Installation Project WSRF proposal. The telemetry project has received both statewide and basin funding since 2008. This application is to expand the geographic area of the project by adding sites in District 6. Schantz explained how near-real-time stream flow data helps maximize the use of existing water supplies and helps us make more informed decisions. Various SPBRT members commented on the success of the project and applauded the perceived return on investment from basin funds. After Schantz and Roudebush clarified the project budget, Jim Yahn made a motion to approve the proposal and Allyn Wind seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

Break for dinner 5:56 – 6:23 p.m.

d. Colorado Trout Unlimited South Boulder Creek Stream Management Plan, Phase II and Infrastructure Design (David Nickum – action required)

Stephen Brant of Boulder Flycasters presented the South Boulder Creek Stream Management Plan, Phase II and Infrastructure Design WSRF proposal. The SPBRT funded phase one of the project; this is the second phase. Brant noted the City of Boulder, City of Lafayette, Denver Water, Trout Unlimited, and Boulder Flycasters comprise the project's main stakeholder group/steering committee and phase one results should be available in February. This project aims to reconnect seven of the nine miles of South Boulder Creek. After Brant explained the project's budget, SPBRT members asked a few clarifying questions. Sean Cronin commended the project for working with local municipalities. Bill Szmyd made a motion to approve the proposal and Daylan Figgs seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

8. SPROWG Update (J. Frank – 10 min)

Joe Frank provided a SPROWG update. The project consultants are working to get a draft report to the SPROWG Advisory Committee. The report will be finalized in March and includes a lot of great work.

9. IBCC Update (J. Yahn/S. Cronin – 5 min)

There has not been an IBCC meeting since the November SPBRT meeting. The next IBCC meeting is in March.

10. CWCB Update (J. Yahn – 5 min)

Jim Yahn summarized the last CWCB Board meeting, which was in November. The CWCB Board approved several Water Plan Grants and loans. Yahn provided examples of approved projects. Yahn also noted the CWCB Board is trying to align the various CWCB grant processes to streamline timing and application requirements. Yahn reminded the group Congress extended the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP) another 13 years. The program has had major success in boosting at-risk bird populations and expanding habitat along the South Platte River. Lastly, Yahn discussed a stock water issue in the Yampa; there is a question of whether CWCB's instream flow rights supersede historic, but un-decreed, livestock watering uses. Members discussed this issue and the general protocols of recognizing preexisting uses in water court.

11. SPBRT Elections – Chair and 2 Vice-Chairs (G. Varra – action required)

Garrett Varra led the SPBRT members through elections. After declaring he was open to serving as Chair again for 2020, Varra asked that a Vice-Chair be prepared to step up to move into the Chair role in the coming years. Rich Belt noted he is interested in being Vice-Chair again, but isn't necessarily interested in being Chair in the future. Varra reminded everyone the SPBRT will be in the middle of the Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) update next year. Newly appointed At-Large Rep Hunter Hoshiko nominated himself for Vice-Chair. Joe Frank made a motion to elect Varra as Chair, and Belt and Hoshiko as Vice-Chairs. Sean Cronin seconded. The motion passed without discussion or contest.

12. Public Comment (15 min)

Garrett Varra reminded everyone the February meeting will be a joint meeting with the Metro RT. Dan Gallen suggested Varra consider moving committee updates up in the agenda in order to spend more time on them. Bruce Gerk noted SPBRT members were going to discuss WSRF qualifications. Responding to Gerk, Varra and Roudebush replied the WSRF Needs Committee went through the guidelines at their last meeting. Roudebush will circulate draft changes to the WSRF guidelines to the Needs Committee and then to the SPBRT at large. Depending on the agenda, there may be time to discuss WSRF guidelines at the March SPBRT meeting. Sean Cronin announced Garrett Varra is now one of the Board members for St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District (SVLHWCD). Cronin announced SVLHWCD has a job opening. The 7th Annual Poudre River Forum is on Friday, February 28 in Loveland; SPBRT members are encouraged to attend. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.