

Administration and Accounting Work Group Meeting Summary

Work Group: Administration and Accounting Work Group Meeting #3 **Date:** April 16, 2020

Meeting Topics:

Agenda topics included: a review of the topics discussed, and issues identified at the IBCC/CWCB meeting held March 5, 2020. The Work Group had an opportunity to benefit from the cross-over meetings with the Law and Policy and Monitoring and Verification Work Groups. The Work Group then analyzed several hypotheticals related to administration and accounting resulting from various water rights that would participate in a potential Demand Management Program.

Key Take Aways:

A brief summary from the IBCC/CWCB Meeting held on March 4-5, 2020 was provided. The Work Group felt some topics applied and other did not. Of those that applied, the Group modified. Discussion included but was not limited to (a) Upper Division States in relation to Colorado's pool and what the target amount would need to be; (b) amount of DM participants modified to the number of structures and volume of water required; (c) acute or chronic: storage of small amounts of water over a longer period of time and/or develop a program that could acquire large amounts of water over short period of time; (d) reservoir storage options limited to storage in the initial units (Aspinall) or consideration of other reservoirs. Other factors considered: (i) hydrology (ii) being able to exchange water to Navajo or Flaming Gorge (UCRC purview); and (iii) compact compliance as a beneficial use.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing various hypotheticals related to administration and accounting matters as to demand management. The hypotheticals were not intended to advance any particular position but to think through elements of various on-the-ground scenarios. The Work Group was tasked with analyzing several water administration scenarios that included different combinations of factors including but not limited to the type of water right owner, the type of use, and priority date of the water right, in order to identify issues associated with each scenario and of those issues, those that the Work Group believed were in need of further analysis to include in the Report to the CWCB Board.

Additional technical, informational other needs:

For the next meeting, the Group will further consider the administration and accounting issues and challenges presented in the hypotheticals based on the type and location of participating water users, the amount of water to be conserved and mechanisms to administer and account for conserved water in relation to the Initial Units and accepted accounting practices within Colorado and throughout the Upper and Lower basins.

Other: Public comments were heard during this meeting including concern at the complexity of the issues related to the administration and accounting for a potential demand management program. The group is scheduled to meet via video conference for the final meeting on May 18, 2020.