

## **Minutes of NPBRT Meeting: 6-4-20**

Virtual meeting by GoToMeeting and call-in

### **Members/Liaisons Present**

\*Kent Crowder  
\*Blaine Evans  
\*Carl Trick II  
Curran Trick (Liaison to & member of CWCB)  
\*Barbara Vasquez  
\*Ty Wattenberg

\*Mark Hackleman  
Matt Sinclair  
Debbi Heeney (NRCS)  
\*Randy Miller  
\*Kari VanValkenberg  
\*Pat VanValkenberg  
Tara Wertz  
\*Rick Wyatt

### **Members/Liaisons Absent**

\*Mike Allnutt  
\*Wade Allnutt  
\*Jim Baller  
Paula Belcher (BLM)  
\*Coby Corkle  
Lauren Berrien (Water Commissioner)  
David Graf (CPW)

### **Others Present**

Kara Sobieski (Wilson Water Group)  
Scott Hoffner  
Russ Sands (CWCB)  
Sam Stein (CWCB)  
Matt Lindburg  
Kat Weismiller (CWCB)

## **I. Introductions/Agenda Review**

Agenda was reviewed and approved. This meeting was called on short notice and explains the limited attendance.

## **II. Repurposing Ross Reservoir WSRF Grant**

Scott Hoffner of Crosby Creek Ranch submitted materials to the Roundtable requesting a repurposing of the WSRF grant from the Ross Reservoir, on National Forest surface, to a new reservoir to be constructed next year with a non-jurisdictional dam on his property below the Ross Reservoir. Much of the history, as explained by Mr. Hoffner, of the Ross Reservoir and its dam was reviewed when he first applied for the grant. Mr. Hoffner explained he has been given to the end of this year to make required repairs to the Ross Reservoir dam but the Forest Service has imposed a new condition that he will not accept, the payment of annual rent for his use of the reservoir. He owns the water storage rights and the reservoir, since its construction, has provided a public amenity, a 6 acre spring-fed lake. He hopes the FS will continue to maintain the dam to provide this amenity. However, he is asking the Roundtable to support his request to repurpose the WSRF grant for the construction of a new, smaller reservoir on his property. He will have to apply for a new junior storage right, abandoning the 32 AF 1911 storage right associated with the Ross Reservoir.

There were two primary questions for Mr. Hoffner from RT members. Carl Trick pursued the question of the storage right for the new reservoir, concerned about supporting this request in absence of a new storage right. After much discussion and requests for clarification, Mr. Hoffner agreed to the requirement to have a conditional water right for the proposed 18AF new reservoir in hand before the grant funding could be released. Blaine Evans pointed out that the basin would be losing some storage under this proposal and asked why Mr. Hoffner didn't replicate the 32AF storage on his property. Mr. Hoffner explained that given the topography and the desire to avoid the requirements for a jurisdictional dam, that was the maximum he could store. Ty asked if there were any further questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for a vote of the members in attendance. The proposal was approved by the 5 voting members present. Ty will write a letter of support to CWCB for consideration of this repurposing request.

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### **III. NP-BIP Update—Proposal for method of work**

- Kara Sobieski, Wilson Water Group & NPB Local Expert

The COVID-19 physical distancing requirements have prevented in-person meetings since the last NPBRT meeting in February. Yet the July 10, 2020 deadline to submit finalized draft BIP update work plans remains in place.

In order to move the work forward, Kara suggested we form two subcommittees of small enough size that their meetings would conform with the limit of 10 or fewer people. The Subcommittee's purpose would be to dig into the details and provide recommendations to the full Roundtable for consideration and decisions on BIP update content. CWCB staff will help facilitate the call-in option for other RT members/liaisons or members of the public who wish to hear the proceedings of the subcommittee meetings.

The first of the two subcommittees, Ag + M&I, would work on the sections dealing with consumptive use and projects. Ty asked for up to 6-7 voting members to volunteer to work on this committee. Of the attendees at this meeting Carl Trick, Ty Wattenberg and Barbara Vasquez volunteered. The first meeting of this Subcommittee will be next Tuesday, June 9 from 7-9PM at the Wattenberg Center.

The second subcommittee, E&R, will work on the sections dealing with nonconsumptive use and projects lists. It will be composed of volunteer voting members plus the stakeholders/contacts for the project list in the 2015 BIP. The composition of the subcommittee will be determined in the next week or so and the date for the first meeting set.

Ty is asking for feedback from voting members interested and willing to serve on one or the other subcommittee. He emphasized that participation by a voting member in one subcommittee did not preclude them from participation in the other.

### **IV. Date for the next meeting**

The date for the next meeting of the full roundtable has not yet been set.