



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

Executive Committee Meeting Notes

August 12th 2020 – GoToMeeting

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Executive Committee Present: Mark Shea – Chair; Mike Weber - Vice Chair; Mike Fink – Secretary; Abby Ortega – Needs Assessment Committee; Al Tucker, Jeris Danielson, Amber Weber – PEPO; Amber Shanklin – Secretary of ARWC; Chelsey Nutter – ARWC; Paul Fanning, Sandy White – Past Chair; Greg Felt - CWCBC Representative; Bob Hamel – Vice Chair; Brett Gracely and Wil Koger - Consultant; Russell Sands & Sam Stein – CWCBC; Sarah Mudge, Jack Goble.

Call to order:

Chairman Mark Shea called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM. Greetings and introductions were performed.

Minutes:

Consensus approval for the July 8th, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

ARWC Board Meeting:

- **Project update:** Chelsey states that Monarch is mobilizing equipment, video footage will be available and ARWC plans on having tours set up starting in the year 2021.
- ARWC is wrapping up work down in Hayden Pass Fire. They have realized that this project is a really great case study moving forward for other communities. ARWC and River Science is collaborating on a case study that will be available in written form and also placed in a story map.
- Decker Fire mitigation continues to move forward; they are working on projects and getting final designs approval from NRCS.
- ARWC experienced some flooding in Bear Creek, the county was out there right away fixing roads and providing support to help the community get in and out of their homes.
- 2 out of 7 EWP projects have been completed; they fully expect to finish these projects by the deadline.
- CDPHE grant continues to move forward ARWC plans to put in a low water crossing in areas that have some concerns. The other part of that grant is being used for Silver Hills Gulch which is a drainage for Bear Creek.
- The Spring Creek Fire area continues to get hit hard with flooding.
- ARWC continues to work with the sub communities on the BIP update.
- **Executive Director Update:** Chelsey expressed that the setup for the Executive Committee and the Roundtable members (acting as the Board of Directors for ARWC) just isn't working. She feels ARWC is doing a great job but feels that there might be a disconnect. Her suggestion to the board is to rethink about that structure and possibly build another board for ARWC that consist of folks that are interested in watershed health, forest health, and post fire recovery who feel like it's a benefit to the organization.
- Chelsey would like to request one more ARWC meeting towards the end of August, Chelsey has some projects she is wrapping up such as, Fire and Flood video, ARWC strategic plan, and the Annual Report for 2020 etc.



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Reoccurring Matters:

- **Chair Comments (Mark Shea):** No chair comments
- **ABRT BIP Update/Local Expert:** Brett briefly went through some activities that were outlined during the last 30 days. He will discuss these activities in more detail during the whole Roundtable membership meeting.
 - Local Experts drafted a work plan out and submitted it to CWCB general contractor.
 - Local Experts continue bi-weekly calls with the general contractor on Friday mornings.
 - Local Experts will go through the status of the projects data base and what's going on with that work, how many projects have been added, where the primary activity has been occurring and how that has been happening.
 - Local Experts will discuss the upcoming workshops with the 6 sub-regional planning areas that have been defined.
 - Local Experts will discuss how they will move forward with task order three (3).
- **Q:** Mike Fink notes that this Friday, August 14th is the closing date, but states that he's working with people in El Paso County to put together documentation for entry and it may not be done before Friday it may be sometime next week will you accept that?
A: Yes! The point of the task order was to start the process, there will be a cut-off date towards the end of the overall process where we really need to be in the final drafting of the BIP documents itself, and we can't have all the information changing at that point. Brett mentions if the board members would like to email a list of those projects, he can send the updated forms and enter those directly.
- Sandy White stated that they are having a hard time finding the time to fill out all applications. Sandy was wondering if Brett could contact the consulting engineer that did the 30% plans on our reservoirs, and Sandy will find time to do the rest, but it won't be ready by Friday, August 14th.
- Sandy also received an email from Chelsey about the BIP update and was wondering if the Local Experts could step-up the communication with Chelsey some more.
- **Q:** Bob Hamel wanted some more information regarding the outdoor recreation in other Basins "slowing down" and what that means for the general timeline expectation across the Roundtables?
A: Russ Sands doesn't think it changes the "overall" timeline, but instead shows that some Roundtables dug into their BIP earlier than others.
- Mark Shea mentions the need for the Roundtable to communicate to the Stakeholders on these projects and appropriately managing expectations to how that project information will be managed going forward after the BIP process is "complete". He doesn't think it would be another five (5) years to update the project information. Which this gets into the question; what happens to the project data base, and long term how do folks get their project information updated.
- Mike Fink wanted to remind the Executive Committee that they adopted a resolution that the Roundtable not act on any request for funding that were not the identifying projects on the BIP update, Mike agrees we need to work on a better way to process projects.
- Sam Stein (CWCB) wants the BIP update to be a living document, and that's the biggest push through this BIP update along with water plan effort to get better data surrounding these projects and have the availability to update the BIP.



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- **Other outstanding reports:** Amber Weber stated the funding for PEPO has an open funding of \$6,500.00 that comes directly from the state to help with BIP update on the website.
- The \$55,000 placed in the EIP was used to make our Roundtable meetings available virtual.
- PEPO closed out all the other grants to focus on the BIP and the story map. Amber will provide an update on the story map at the regular roundtable meeting.
- The Open Water Foundation has used already made data to create maps much as the DSS. The open Water Foundation is trying to put together a grant application in hopes to get it state wide and is asking for a letter of support from the Roundtable before they can go through a grant process. Amber will send that to the Executive Committee for review.
- Amber Weber resigned her Chair position at PEPO, but she will continue as a County Representative to the Arkansas Basin Roundtable.

New Business:

- None

Work Session:

- None

Old Business:

- None

Needs Assessment Meeting:

- None

Roundtable Business:

- None

Upcoming Meetings:

- Final report out with Chelsey- August 28, 2020 at 10 AM to 11 AM
- Future structure of ARWC- September 24, 2020 at 8 AM
- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – September 9, 2020
- Subcommittees
 - Enviro/Rec Comm.- August 31, 2020
- CWCB Board Meeting – July 15 (Finance Meeting) 16 & 17 Virtual Meeting with information to follow.

Mark Shea adjourned the Executive Committee Meeting at 12:15 PM.