



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

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ARKANSAS BASIN ROUNDTABLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING NOTES Wednesday January 12, 2022

Executive Committee/Guests Present:

Mark Shea – Chair

Al Tucker – Rec

Sandy White – Past Chair

Jeris Danielson – IBCC

Steve Kastner – Vch Cons

Lindsey Griffith – Brown and Caldwell

Sam Stein - CWCB

Tim Canterbury – IBCC Alt

Terry Scanga - IBCC

Bob Hamel – Vch Env/Rec

Amber Shanklin - ARWC

Jonathan Paklaian – ARWC EX Dir

Russ Sands - CWCB

1. Greetings and necessary introductions:

Mark called the meeting to order at 10:30AM stating that we had a quorum.

2. Minutes/Notes of Previous meeting:

Mark called for any comments or changes to the December 8, 2021 Executive Committee Minutes hearing none approved the minutes by consensus.

3. ARWC Matters:

- **Executive Director Updates** - Jonathan reported that ARWC has hired Margaret Strozyk as the new Fuels Mitigation Specialist she will be focusing on the Wet Mountains initially having secured grants for this area. He is also working on our upcoming ARWC Board meeting on February 17th. He will pass it on to Mark for distribution an before long. He has also been meeting with the natural resources damages trustee council regarding the California Gulch proposal that has been submitted. A report is being submitted to the CHE regarding the Idlewild project which is now complete. Monarch is now complete and a final invoice is being submitted. Mark added that several items will be discussed at our upcoming ARWC Board meeting including sustainable funding and Bylaw's review.

4. Reoccurring matters:

- **Chair Comments** – Mark Shea reported on previous meetings with water providers held in 2021 focusing on multiple year water quality initiatives that includes several of our Water Conservancy Districts in the Arkansas basin. The focus will be on water quality dashboards to better understand water quality issues. Mark asked if any questions regarding water quality issues with Steve Kastner commenting on the lower Ark presentation presented previous and Kansas concerns regarding water quality. Mark replied that several areas will be monitoring water quality with the most eastern several miles within the Kansas state line.



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Outstanding Reports – Executive Committee Members Bob Hamel opened the discussion regarding Nebraska’s funding several canal projects on the South Platt focusing on improving their water availability. The issue being compact flows required for Colorado’s delivery. Mark brought to Bob the Utah Railroad proposal and its effect on Brown’s Canyon. Bob responded that this appears to be an ongoing issue.

5. **ABRT BIP Update** – Public Comment period ended November 15. Lindsey Griffith reported on the Public comments received prior to November 15th. Her edits to Vol’s I & II should be completed by end of week. Her edits on the document should be ready by the scheduled Water Congress the end of January.

Lindsey has compiled BIP comments for other Basins to compare public reactions. Many of the comments received were observations and not necessarily changes to our BIP. One of the modifications to the BIP was Section 8 now referred to Education and Outreach for better clarity. Section 9 is changed to the BIP Executive Summary resulting from some of these comments. Many of these comments came from an organization called Water for Colorado. Bob Hamel asked for clarification regarding this organization. Jonathan posted that it appears to be a coalition of non-profits and community organizations.

Sandy White asked if this document and its modifications will be approved by the Roundtable and will that be a special meeting? Mark suggested that our next scheduled meeting February 9th may be a good date for approving. Terry Scanga agreed with Sandy’s earlier comments on how a few projects are being listed that have not gone through the Roundtable but are listed anyway. Terry has concerns on approving the entire document as it currently being presented. Mark suggested approving Vol’s 1 & 2 separately. Sandy suggested data base where these projects are listed should be separate from the state listed projects. Russ Sands suggested to add caveat language to clarify project not Roundtable projects.

Mark suggested we proceed to discuss Volume II. Lindsey stated this volume is developed mostly from our 2015 BIP. She has highlighted some of the statements that she felt could be updated for today’s issues and concerns e.g. “water sharing” being misleading to today’s environment. Other wording with how water used in agricultural areas as being not conducive for today. Several issues about agricultural water being transferred to non-ag use is penitent to some of today’s concerns. Lindsey wrapped up the discussion on basically wording and whether or not include current basin projects in volume 2.

6. Roundtable Business:

- Demand Management Discussion
- Mark opened the discussion on our 2022 Program topics that Steve Kastner will be providing in our upcoming Roundtable General Sessions. Steve Kastner shared his list of ideas for topics of discussion in these meetings for 2022. Steve asked if any of us knew any subject matter experts on any of these topics. Terry suggested we add the Colorado River as it affects other basins and would like to have a knowledgeable person discuss what is happening with the Colorado River and its effect on our Basin. Bob Hamel suggested having the Arkansas River Cooperative which is



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a funding organization created by the Arkansas River outfitters do a presentation at one of our upcoming meetings.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Arkansas Basing Roundtable – February 9th.
 - Executive Committee – 10:30 AM
 - Roundtable – 12:30 PM
- Committees –
 - PEPOW
 - Enviro/Rec Comm. Last Monday of the Month January 22, 2022
 - Ag/Municipal Comm.
- IBCC –
- CWCBC –
- Colorado Water Congress –

Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned @ 12:06