# Interbasin Compact Committee Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting Virtual and In-Person Meeting Roubideaux Room, 320 West 5th Street, Delta, CO January 17, 2022

## **Voting Members Present:**

Thomas Alvey
Steve Anderson
Bruce Bair
Mike Berry
Sonja Chavez
Kathleen Curry
Cary Denison

North Fork WCD
Agricultural
At-Large Member
Tri-County WCD
Saguache County
Environmental

Allen Distel Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan Ouray Municipalities
Nancy Fishering Montrose County
Steve Fletcher At-Large Member
Jonathan Houck Gunnison County
Wendell Koontz At-Large Member

John McClow House and Senate Ag Committees

Scott McInnis Mesa County
Chuck Mitisek Ute WCD
Michael Murphy Hinsdale County

Scott Murphy Montrose Municipalities Bill Nesbitt Gunnison Municipalities

Jim Plumhoff Industrial
Mark Roeber Delta County
Neal Schwieterman Recreational

Adam Turner Local Domestic Water Supplier

Richard Udd Delta Municipalities
Martha Whitmore Ouray County

#### **Voting Members Excused/Absent:**

Justin Blair At-Large Member

Mike Cleary Crawford Water Conservancy District

Austin Keiser Grand Mesa WCD
Dan Murphy Hinsdale Municipalities
Julie Nania Upper Gunnison River WCD

Mark Ritterbush Mesa Municipalities

Vacant Colorado River Water Conservation District

#### **Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:**

Sam Stein (CWCB), Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Raquel Flinker (CRWCD).

#### **Public:**

Cindy Dozier (Club 20), Robert Sakota (Sakota Farms, Brighton), Russ Sands (CWCB), Steve Pope (UVWUA), Hannah Holm (CMU Water Center).

#### Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Chairperson Steve Anderson.

# **Roll Call/Introductions**

After roll call a quorum was declared to be present.

#### **Agenda Approval**

There was no motion requested for approval of the agenda.

## Approval of Minutes from the November 15, 2021 Meeting

Steve Fletcher moved to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2022 meeting as presented. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## IBCC Report (Joanne Fagan, Mark Roeber, Cary Denison)

Joanne Fagan stated the IBCC had not met since the last GBRT meeting and she had nothing new to report. The next IBCC meeting will be February 23, 2022.

#### **CWCB Report (Steve Anderson)**

Steve Anderson reported the CWCB had a virtual meeting. The Board approved all the WSRF grants that came forward from the GBRT. There will be another meeting next week. A major topic for the meeting is Nebraska is going after Platte River water. Also, there are two instream flow requests in the Gunnison basin; Italian and Lottis Creeks in the Taylor Watershed.

#### **Education Committee Report (Raquel Flinker)**

Raquel Flinker reported there will be a CWCB PEPO check-in meeting later this week with all the PEPO representatives to discuss funding changes in the Water 22 education campaign that is being coordinated by Water Education Colorado. Raquel and Sonja Chavez are continuing to work with Cindy McKee regarding her proposal to act as PEPO Committee Chair, update the website and other responsibilities outlined in the EAP. They are getting help from the CWCB to develop a contract for these services. They are planning to schedule a PEPO Committee meeting soon.

### **Grant Review Committee Report (Tom Alvey)**

There were no applications to review at this meeting. Tom Alvey stated there is an application ready for the March meeting. Tom gave an update on the Leroux Creek Pipe Lining Project approved January 2019 and finished this fall. This project was only possible because State funds were available.

### **Public Comment**

None.

# **Other Business**

The Roundtable recognized Tom Alvey who is stepping down from the River District. Mark Roeber will be taking over his position. Roundtable members thanked Tom for his service.

Steve Anderson mentioned he went to the Four States Irrigation Council Meeting in Fort Collins to present Dennis Veo with an award, which recognizes Colorado's water leadership. Steve was also given an award for his work at the UVWUA.

Steve Anderson and Tom Alvey discussed revenues and the need to figure out a long-term solution for funding the water plan. Kathleen Curry discussed SMART ACT and funding priorities for water.

Roundtable members discussed a WOTUS (Waters of the US) proposal. Cary Denison provided the following link for more information: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of-wotus">https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of-wotus</a> <a href="https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of-wotus</a> <a href="https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of-wotus</a> <a href="https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of-wotus</a> <a href="https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of-wotus</a> <a href="https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of-wotus</a> <a href="https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/revised-definition-of

Tom Alvey suggested the Roundtable continue discussing demand management and where it stands. The River District put together a demand management market structure memo, which he offered to provide for distribution to the roundtable and suggested it be put on the March meeting agenda. Someone from the River District could come to the meeting to discuss it.

There was discussion regarding Senator Kerry Donavan and Senator Coram introducing a bill on curbing water speculation, which is in the general assembly right now.

Joanne Fagan brought up a Water Congress call she attended where they discussed how funds were being disbursed. Demand management will be on the next IBCC meeting agenda in February.

Raquel Flinker reminded GBRT members of the federal infrastructure funding application deadline. There will be other application opportunities over the next 5 years. Cary Denison mentioned a list of federal funding focus areas and projects that are already being considered or funding that have been rescinded. Nancy Fishering discussed the infrastructure bill and the USFS coming to Colorado to discuss how they will spend their money, some of which will be helping with watershed health.

Raquel Flinker said the River District along with the Delta Conservation District are organizing a SCADA Workshop to be scheduled in early March.

# **Future Meetings**

The next regular Roundtable meeting is March 21, 2022.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Mike Berry, Recorder

# **Action Items**

There were no action items from this meeting.