

South Platte Basin Roundtable (SPBRT) Meeting
Tuesday, March 8, 2022
4:00-7:00 p.m. (MST)
Virtual Meeting

South Platte Basin Roundtable Business Meeting Minutes

South Platte Basin Website: <https://southplattebasin.com/>
CWCB SPBRT Website: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/about-us/basin-roundtables/south-platte-basin-roundtable>

1. Welcome and Introductions (Sean Chambers – 10 min)

The meeting started at 4:03 p.m. Sean Chambers welcomed everyone and noted that the SPBRT is working to get back to in person meetings.

In attendance: Gene Manuello*, Loretta Daniel*, Jim Yahn*, Garrett Varra*, Kirk Vincent*, Ken Huson*, Stephen Larson*, Lisa Leben*, Patrick Wells*, Kelsea Holloway*, Daylan Figgs*, Donnie Dustin*, John Kolanz*, Joe Frank*, Jim Hall*, Dick Elsner*, Larry Rogstad*, Deb Daniel*, Bruce Gerke*, Scott Griebeling*, Lynda James*, Sean Chambers*, Sean Cronin, Casey Davenport, Christy Wiseman, Robert Sakata, Russ Sands, Sam Stein, Megan O’Grady, Amy Mitchell, Alyson Gould, Dan Betts, David Rausch, Dawson Metcalf, Josh Kuhn, Kari Linker, Mallory Hiss, Matt Lindburg, Will Ettema, and multiple members of the public. 22 voting SPBRT members were present (* denotes a voting member).

2. Approval of February 2022 Minutes (Sean Chambers – 5 min action required)

Kirk Vincent made a motion to approve the February 2022 meeting minutes and Jim Yahn seconded. The motion passed unanimously without discussion or contest.

3. March 2022 Agenda Additions or Changes (Sean Chambers – 5 min action required)

There were no proposed additions or changes to the March 2022 meeting agenda.

4. Membership Updates

a. Alternates for SPBRT Members (Sam Stein – 5 min)

Russ Sands and multiple SPBRT members discussed whether the SPBRT can have alternates for voting seats. Sands noted that CWCB has not gotten an official opinion on this issue from the Attorney General’s office. CWCB mainly wants Roundtables to be consistent. Lynda James added that the SPBRT bylaws cover this topic clearly. However, other Roundtables have alternates for voting seats. Sands added that if Roundtables decide that this is a big policy priority, they can launch a grassroots effort. It’s important for the public to know what to expect from Roundtable meetings and how to participate in the process. Roundtables will need to coordinate among themselves about voting alternates and adding seats before suggesting any legislative changes. Sands estimates that it would take close to a year to have a holistic policy discussion about these issues with all the Roundtables. After

more discussion, Sean Chambers announced that the SPBRT will continue to operate on a business-as-usual basis until there's a greater policy discussion among the Roundtables.

5. Public Comment (5 min)

Sean Chambers opened the floor for public comment. Kirk Vincent commented on Marshall Fire recovery efforts and how it was nice to see support from West Slope communities and organizations. Sam Stein introduced Megan O'Grady as CWCB's new Senior Climate Adaptation Specialist. O'Grady hopes to attend SPBRT meetings going forward.

6. Colorado Water Trust Presentation: Instream Flow Acquisitions and Streamflow Restoration Update (Alyson Meyer Gould – 15 min)

Alyson Meyer Gould presented program and project updates from the Colorado Water Trust. After the presentation, Ken Huson praised the Colorado Water Trust as a great organization doing lots of good work across the state. Sean Chambers added that Greeley is a member of the Poudre Flows program; he is excited to see the plan going forward after many years of due diligence and collaboration.

7. BIP Implementation and Water Plan Update (Casey Davenhill and Jim Hall – 5 min)

Casey Davenhill reminded everyone that the PEPO Committee plans to use the "BIP at a Glance" document for public outreach.

Jim Hall spoke about coordinated efforts to bring projects to implementation. The Metro Roundtable and SPBRT are trying to strategically align WSRF funding with the final updated BIP. The Municipal and Industrial Committee (made up of both SPBRT and Metro RT members) is developing a framework for selecting projects. Each committee would propose projects and then come back to the Roundtables for feedback. WSRF and Water Plan grants will be the source of funds for some of the BIP projects so SPBRT members will have an opportunity to provide input. Davenhill added that it's the essential work of the Roundtables to be actively engaged in BIP implementation, in bringing projects forward, identifying proponents, leveraging relationships and resources, etc. Sean Chambers added that this process improvement will connect dollars to the BIP and create value to the BIP. In the past, grant dollars didn't always address BIP recommendations. The Roundtables want a data-driven approach. Hall clarified that the actual Roundtable committees (e.g., M&I, E&R, etc.) will propose specific projects, in addition to coordinating with external project proponents. Davenhill noted that once someone signs up for a committee, they should stay involved via this projects process. The Roundtables want to utilize committee members' expertise. Participation on committees is open to anyone interested, you do not need to be a voting member.

8. SPBRT Committees

a. Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF) (Garrett Varra, Scott Griebing, and Sam Stein – 10 min)

Garrett Varra announced that he had received one WSRF grant application thus far in advance of the April deadline. He expects four to five applications in total. Varra and Sam

Stein gave a WSRF account update. Varra learned from Ben Wade that applicants seeking both WSRF basin funding and Water Plan grant funding must get approval from CWCB staff before officially applying.

b. Public Education, Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) (Casey Davenhill – 10 min)

Casey Davenhill presented a PEPO update. She summarized a recent statewide meeting for all the Roundtables' PEPO Liaisons. CWCB increased the amount of funding available for PEPO activities through the Roundtables. Each Roundtable was allocated \$25,000 for PEPO, plus there is \$75,000 available for coordinated statewide messaging and programming to support the BIPs and Water Plan. PEPO Liaisons are excited to share experiences and plan how to use this money most effectively. The Colorado Watershed Assembly will develop a scope of work for PEPO; it's their intent to request \$50,000 (\$25,000 for both the SPBRT and Metro Roundtable), bringing in other partners as needed.

Davenhill noted that she was given direction and encouragement to work with the SPBRT and Metro Roundtable WSRF committees to set up documents and application review processes using the South Platte Basin website. In addition, the PEPO Committee wants to help the SPBRT with noticing committee meetings. Roundtable committee meetings are not noticed on CWCB's website. Davenhill is working on a form for committee Chairs to submit agendas and minutes in order to follow public meetings law.

The PEPO Committee is working with Water Education Colorado and other partners to develop events for the [Water 22](#) campaign.

Sean Chambers announced that Dan Gibbs and Becky Mitchell joined the meeting. Chambers invited them to speak. Gibbs and Mitchell provided a few brief updates on Water 11, IBCC efforts, the Nebraska canal proposal, and the importance of Colorado River Compact negotiations.

c. Environmental and Recreational (Kelsea Holloway – 10 min)

Kelsea Holloway presented the Environmental and Recreational Committee update. The E&R Committee met a couple weeks prior. The committee talked about whether it makes sense to create a separate committee focused on watershed health. E&R Committee members realized that a new committee would be duplicative in membership; therefore, they decided to focus their committee efforts on watershed health topics. Holloway provided a few examples: highlighting the issue of watershed health in the Water Plan update, educating the broader SPBRT (and other SPBRT committees) on watershed health topics by hosting outside speakers, compiling resources for both SPBRT members and the public, and using WSRF funding to target dollars to watershed health projects. At their next meeting, the E&R Committee will look at the updated BIP projects list through a lens of

watershed health. The committee wants to be strategic about spending funds and time while increasing membership and interest.

Sean Cronin mentioned that a few SPBRT members and other partners have been working on fire mitigation project proposals. Cronin offered to share written ideas about this collaboration with Holloway and the E&R Committee. Bruce Gerck and Casey Davenhill complimented Holloway on her leadership. Davenhill suggested adding a section to the Roundtable's Education and Action Plan (i.e., PEPO's work plan document) for watershed health.

9. Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC) Update (Jim Yahn and Sean Cronin – 15 min)

Sean Cronin provided highlights from the IBCC's hybrid meeting on February 23. The IBCC spent a large part of the meeting thinking about what they should focus on in the next couple years. Cronin volunteered to Co-Chair an IBCC subcommittee to put together a work plan on this. The next IBCC meeting is June 30 in Frisco. Jim Yahn added that IBCC members were encouraged to read through the IBCC's founding legislation, bylaws, and charter to remember what the group was originally charged to do. There is not a process to add voting seats on Roundtables in the original legislation. The SPBRT will continue to use committees to focus on issues and bring people in as necessary.

10. Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Update (Robert Sakata and Sam Stein – 10 min)

Sam Stein provided CWCB updates about various topics, including the BIP survey, in person meeting logistics, and upcoming meetings. Robert Sakata summarized the written report he submitted for the meeting materials folder. Sakata encouraged SPBRT members to contact him if there are issues to bring up at CWCB Board meetings. After congratulations from Sakata, Stein talked about the transition to his new position with CWCB. Stein will continue to help the Roundtables for the next few months while CWCB hires for his previous position.

Sean Chambers went over the upcoming meetings list and asked everyone to take CWCB's BIP survey. He thanked everyone for their time and participation. The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.