



# Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR  
WATER FUTURE

## ROUNDTABLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Wednesday 10, 2022 10:30 am  
Pueblo Community College  
900 W Orman Ave, Pueblo, CO 81004

### Executive Committee/ Guests Present

Mark Shea – Chair

Bob Hamel – Vice Chair Env/Rec

Jeris Danielson – IBCC

Al Tucker – Recorder

Sandy White – Past Chair

Jeff Rodriguis – CWCB

Greg Felt - CWCB

Gracy Goodwin – Upper Ark

Kat Weismiller – CWCB

Sara Mudge - ARWC

Terry Scanga – IBCC

Steve Kastner – Vice Chair Cons

Jonathan Palkaian - ARWC

- **Greetings and Introductions;**

- Mark called the meeting to order at 10:45 am following introductions and a Quorum present.

- **Minutes/Notes of Previous Meeting;**

- Mark asked for approval of the meeting's agenda. Hearing none agenda approved. Minutes approved by consensus after hearing no corrections or comments.

- **Reoccurring Matters:**

- Chair Comments - Mark Shea discussed the need for some of us to temporarily step up and share some of the duties that have been performed by Elise Bergsten due to her letter of resignation.
- Outstanding Reports – Executive Committee Members - Mark called on Greg Felt to report on the deadline coming up on Consumptive Use from the Bureau of Reclamation. Greg reported that currently there seems to be a lot dependent on the lower basins restrictive uses. Greg also reported on the Severance Tax funds available are at \$17M for water projects. Mark asked if there has been any letter from the lower basin states on water restrictions to the Bureau. Greg said he is not aware of a proposal from the lower basin states, but there could be one. Mark asked about division six coming up with better measurement rules and moving into divisions four and five for consistency going forward. Jeris pointed out that he had raised that matter at the IBCC meeting and it was not well received. Terry stated his concern that there seems to be the idea of money solving our drought and water consumptive issues. The question arose from Bob Hamel of the date that the lower basin states are supposed to reply to the Bureau of Reclamation. Mark stated he thought is August 15<sup>th</sup> or near that date.

Jeris raised the question of with the availability of additional funding shouldn't we as Roundtable members be promoting projects in our Basin. The matter is having our entities being aware of the processes for advocating their projects. Sandy pointed out the projects being listed on our project data base of not being kept current. The question of the project data base being kept current and its updates was turned over to Kat and this is something that needs addressing, but also it was never intended to be real time current, but it is still at the discretion of CWCB. The question is still how and who can login to do updates. Sandy questioned when did the BIP Data Base go from real time to annually? It's still not clear. Al pointed out that when we did have a BIP Coordinator, it was kept up in real time and that that the current usage is unreliable. Mark suggested to Kat that the new position of Grant Coordinator be the ones to work with CWCB on keeping the project

data base updated in a more real time prospective. Another option Jeris would reestablish a BIP Coordinator position. Terry suggested there is a way to get access to the data base and do some updates it involves eight steps but can be doable.

- **Roundtable Business;**

- Mark Shea – Nomination for an At Large Seat – Mark discussed moving to an At Large seat on the Roundtable and having his position become a sitting member. This will be done during the regular session.
- Roundtable Letters of Support Criteria – Mark asked Steve Kastner to open the discussion on Letters of Support. Steve brought up the Needs Assessment Committee's regarding what conditions are required to support projects being submitted. Do we have are specific gauges for letters of support. Steve referenced some water rights issues where some projects that may be submitted moving water from local jurisdictions that might fall into projects we don't wish to provide a letter of support for. Should we develop a document that defines what type of projects we may support vs projects we don't necessarily want to support. Jeris suggested that developing sideboards to what we will or won't support may not be in our best interest. Al suggested we develop a list of project types indicating varying levels with some being higher than others. Sandy suggested this should fall into the Chair's jurisdiction and if there is concern with any project it could come before the Executive Committee for a final decision. Mark suggested we hold off until the Grant Coordinator position comes on board then see how this situation develops. Terry pointed that we need to understand these projects being submitted for support if they conflict with other projects being done. It's important that the Roundtable be in the loop of these projects. Sandy pointed out the Needs Assessment Committee's purpose is not to be a filter but to assist in the process of obtaining funding.
- Transition of duties – Mark directed the EC members to give thought to our transition with Elise departing and how we will fulfill our obligations in the interim. These include mailing, website and continuing the records. Sandy suggested we get a job description? Mark will provide the list of duties Elise has performed with times and duties.

- **Upcoming Meetings**

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – September 14, 2022
  - Executive Committee – 10:30 AM
  - Roundtable – 12:30 PM
- Committees
  - PEPO – TBD
  - Environmental/Recreation August 29, 10:00AM
  - Agriculture/Municipal Committee – TBD Likely in November
  - ARWC – September TBD
  - IBCC – TBD
  - CWCB Board Meeting – September 20-21, Durango

- **Adjourn**

-----  
**Committee membership:** Mark Shea (Ch), Bob Hamel (VCh-NonC), Steve Kastner (VCh-Cons), Al Tucker (Rec), Sandy White (Past-Ch), Greg Felt (CWCB), Jeris Danielson (IBCC), Terry Scanga (IBCC), Tim Canterbury (IBCC Alternate), Abby Ortega (Needs Assessment), Paul Fanning (Legislative Rep), Amber Shanklin (ARWC Board Member), Sara Mudge (ARWC Board Member)

**Additional distribution:** Sam Stein (CWCB Staff), Elise Bergsten (Secretary), Jonathan Palkaian (ARWC Director)