



# Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR  
WATER FUTURE

## ROUNDTABLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Wednesday November 9, 2022 10:30 am

Pueblo Community College

900 W Orman Ave, Pueblo, CO 81004

### Executive Committee/Guests Present

Mark Shea – Chair

Bob Hamel – Vch Env/Rec

Gracy Godwin – NAC

Steve Kastner – Vch Cons

Greg Felt – CWCB

Jeris Danielson – IBCC

Sandy White – Past Chair

Jonathan Paklaian

Sam Stein – CWCB

Al Tucker – Recorder

Abby Aahmed – Aurora

Water

Jeff Rodriguez – CWCB

Tim Canterbury - IBCC

Matt Heimrich – AG @ Large

Dan Williams - CC

- **Greetings and Introductions;**

- Mark called the meeting to order at 10:30 noting a quorum was present.

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

- The minutes were approved by consensus

- **Reoccurring Matters:**

- Chair Comments - Mark Shea opened the conversation about sharing the duties vacated when Elise retired. Mark noted that so far everyone was picking up these extra duties. Mark also discussed the need for filling some of the Roundtable vacant seats due to recent turnovers. Aerial Hacker from El Paso County will be joining us at today's meeting. Commissioner Gerald Baldwin has appointed to represent Otero County, this still leaves us some vacancies in Chaffee and other counties.

Mark requested Roundtable members seek out through their constituents projects and interested individuals who may wish to become members.

Mark also pointed out that he and Jonathan attended a water summit in Frisco the focus was on watershed health in the prevention of fires with several organizations.

- Outstanding Reports – Executive Committee Members - Mark inquired if there is any other executive committee members who wish to report out.

Jeris inquired regarding news on the Water Plan Grant Coordinator position that's to be filled. Mark asked Jeff if there are any updates to this. Jeff replied that the Water Plan Grant Regional Coordinators have been hired. Jeff stated that Loren Dunkin will be assigned the Ark Basin position. She will start November 14<sup>th</sup>. Mark said nothing has been reported out to date.

Matt Heimrich updated everyone on the Conduit project going on, the project coordinators were grateful for the Executive Committee's support being offered.

Greg Felt also reported that the meeting with Southeastern produced their intentions that they don't intend to come and negatively impact funding to our basin. Importantly, funding needs not negatively impact communities.

Mark opened the discussion on Project Data Base vs Roundtable Data Base or Spreadsheet and how we use these two resources differently. One is updated and



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- **Reoccurring Matters Con't:**
  - current while the other is updated annually creating an issue of collaboration. Sandy felt this necessitates a BIP Coordinator position.
- **Roundtable Business;**
  - AWRC/PEPO WSRF grant contract amendment - Jonathan inquired regarding grant program support. Is this support only for water plan grants or do other projects qualify? Jeff responded that these positions were hired to specifically work on water plan grants. Even with the additional funding there isn't any staff increase to assist in administering these grants projects. The work still will rely on the Roundtable and PEPO individuals. There will be a contractor brought on board to assist with the federal grant programs to assist in guiding these grants to the proper portal. Greg added that these Regional Coordinators would be helpful if they could be one person per basin for individuals to go to for help would be valuable assets instead of those seeking grant assistance being told that's out of their scope of work. Greg said he will continue to pursue this going forward. Jeff offered to assist us with navigating this grant program. Sandy iterated that the less affluent counties need more than just an individual to assist with rural counties needing grant funds. We need someone who can come to these counties and help assist with the actual needs from identifying who and where to get assistance. Jeff pointed that there may be funds available for an individual such as a BIP Coordinator to do the type of assistance that Sandy is requesting. Gracy pointed out its not cut and dried that a grant for BIP Coordinator was turned away because of the matching funds didn't qualify. This process is still very unclear at this time.
- **Upcoming Meetings**
  - Arkansas Basin Roundtable – December 9, 2022
    - Executive Committee – 10:30 AM
    - Roundtable – 12:30 PM
  - Committees
    - Needs Assessment – December 2022
    - PEPO – TBD
    - Environmental/Recreation
    - Agriculture/Municipal Committee –
    - ARWC – 4<sup>th</sup> QTR Board December
    - IBCC – TBD
    - CWCB Board Meeting –
- **Adjourn;**
  - Mark called for adjournment

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**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), Gracy Goodwin (Needs Assessment), (Legislative Rep), Amber Shanklin (ARWC Board Member), Sara Mudge (ARWC Board Member)

**Additional distribution:** Sam Stein (CWCB Staff), Vacant (Secretary), Jonathan Palkaia (ARWC Director)