



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

**Arkansas Basin Roundtable Meeting
Minutes and Recorded Decisions
Wednesday March 8, 2023 12:30 pm
Pueblo Community College, Student Center
900 W Orman Ave
Pueblo, CO 81004**

Members/Guests Present;

Mark Shea	Krystal Brown	Terry Scanga	Will Koger
Bob Hamel	Mannie Colon	Greg Teter	Dwayne McFall
Jeff Rodriguez	Jeffery DeHerrera	Alli Schuch	Amy Mitchell
Gracy Goodwin	Jack Goble	Matt Heimerich (ex)	Sarah Mudge
Greg Felt	Ariel Hacker	Rena Griggs	Kevin Niles
Jonathan Pakliaian	Rick Kidd	Robert Sakata	Dan Williams
Tim Canterbury	Wayne	Jeris Danielson	Lauren Duncon
Spike Ausmus	Vanderschvere	Abba Aahmed	Kent Ricken (ex)
Jim Baldwin	Tom Verquer	Steve Kastner	Al Tucker
Jim Broderick	Sandy White	Rick Kienitz	Scott King

1. Welcome and Introductions – Mark Shea

- Establish quorum – Called to order quorum present
- Approval of agenda - Approved
- Approval of minutes – February 8, 2023 Approved
- Introductions – Mark called for introductions both members and guests.
- Public Comment - None

2. Reports – Executive Committee Members

- Executive Committee – Mark Shea went over some of the Executive Committee discussions first the project implementation and funding with providing stakeholders the support for acquiring grant funding both state and federal. We also suggested inviting Michael Reagan who administers these programs to provide more details on processes for grant applications. Second item discussed at this morning's meeting was the Conservation support program that is being set up for those interested in participating in the program. This program is being administered through the upper Colorado River group. This is for those who use this water they will be compensated for returning this flow into the river.
- CWCB Report – Jeff Rodriguez, Greg Felt - Mark called on Sam Stein to provide updates to the program. Sam reported that they've launched a new funding program with March 31st deadline for the first round of funding followed by a new round of funding in July. Next following the governor's directive there is a Drought Summit. These events will take place in May and June. There is a statewide Water Loss Committee being schedule for later in the



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- year. Bob Hamel questioned why our Basin isn't getting the support for airborne snow measurements that other basins are receiving. Mark suggested that many of our members are interested in this program and it would be beneficial to look into it and later give a report. Mark stated he has sent everyone the C-9 survey and would like everyone look at and fill it out so at our next C-9 Summit in November if there is any new items the members would like to have discussed it could be on the agenda. Next Mark called on Greg Felt for further updates on CWCB. Greg encouraged everyone to try and attend the C-9 and Drought summits this coming November. Greg reported on the changes the governor has done with CWCB Barbara Vasquez has now been appointed as well as Nathan Coontz also Laureli Cloud from the Southern Ute tribe has been appointed. We have a new emphasis on Ag with our new board members.
- IBCC Report – Mark called on Jeris and Terry to report on IBCC. Jeris reported they met recently and discussed the Colorado River issues and presently there isn't any solution. Jeris reported that he gave an update at the meeting on the Ark Basin. Funding issues were discussed and dollars are available to those who have projects and apply. The upcoming C-9 meeting he encourages all members to attend. Mark agreed our Basin is in good position for applying for these grants.
 - Needs Assessment Committee – Gracy Goodwin opened the grant presentation program stating there were five grant presentations scheduled for today's Roundtable meeting. There are around \$400K in Basin funds and \$918K in statewide funds being requested.
 - Amanda Atencio- Colorado City Metro District –Lake Beckwith Rehab – The reason for the request is Lake Beckwith is classified as a high hazard dam and important supply of water to the community. This is a six Task project;
 - Task 1 Project Mgmt
 - Task 2 Topographic Survey
 - Task 3 Geotechnical Investigations
 - Task 4 Final Design
 - Task 5 Permitting
 - Task 6 Bid & ProcurementProject approved to move forward with a letter of support.
 - Beth Helmke – Chaffee County Government – USGS Chaffee County - Applicant Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District – Project is a Groundwater Study – Beth presented the project overview which is to study 50 designated wells over 30 months. The study is necessary due to population growth, drought, increasing future demands for water use. The request is for \$325K WSRF and \$65K Basin funds.
 - Task 1 Well Network & Data Gaps Analysis
 - Task 2 Well Monitoring & Data Collection
 - Task 3 Water Data Analysis & 3-D Model Development
 - Task 4 Reporting & PublicationProject approved to move forward with letter of support.



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- Julie Knudson- Purgatoire Watershed Partnership - Baca Picket wire Ditch Concrete Lining Project. Funds requested are \$182K from Basin and \$315K WSRF state funds. Project approved to move forward with letter of approval.
- Matt Hayden- Huajatolla Valley Estates- Huajatolla Valley Infrastructure Improvement. Funds request is \$13K from Basin and \$93K for state funds. The following tasks are;
 - Task 1 Ensure a supply if/when spring dries. Reduce dependence on original spring.
 - Task 2 Replace original 1976 water lines
 - Task 3 Repair and improve automationProject approved to move forward with letter of support.
- Greg Peterson- Colorado Ag Water Alliance – Drought Resiliency program Funds requested are \$75K from Ark Basin with other Basins funds, and \$388 statewide. Project consist of multi-year support for the following:
 - Livestock Management
 - Alternative crops and forages
 - Soil health practices
 - Irrigation ManagementProject approved to move forward with letter of Support.
- Ag/Muni Committee – Matt Heimerich and Kent Ricken No Report
- Enviro/Rec – Bob Hamel, and Rena Griggs – Bob reported the project on Texas Creek is going forward with the legal hearings.
- Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative – Jonathan Paklaian reported work is continuing with the cleanup from the Spring Creek Fire. Other watershed programs are going forward and a virtual meeting is scheduled with a facilitator that was just hired.
- PEPO – Jonathan Paklaian reported that PEPO is moving forward with a change in the scope of work. This will assist with reaching out in the underserved communities.

4. Evaluation of Land Protection Measures within Ag to Municipal Water Transfers - Gerry Knapp, revegetation consultant for the LAVWCD

Study Parameters;

- Phase One – Review revegetation requirements
- Phase Two – Review status of dried-up lands
- Phase Three – Interview stakeholders
- Phase Four – Evaluate effectiveness of the decree requirements

Output;

- Compile suggested changes or additions to language of decrees
- Compile a “Revegetation Program and develop an Implementation Manual”

6. Adjourn – Mark Adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm



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5. Upcoming Meetings

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – April 12, 2023
 - o Executive Committee – 10:30am
 - o Roundtable – 12:30pm
- Committees
 - o Needs Assessment – TBD
 - o PEPOW – TBD
 - o Environmental/Recreation Committee – March 27, 2023 (10:00 am)
 - o Agriculture/Municipal Committee – March 9, 2023, Fowler @ AGRA office
 - o IBCC – June 8, 2023
- ARWC – Second Quarter Board Meeting - TBD
- CWCBB Board Meeting – March 15-16, Yampa/White/Green Basin
- Arkansas River Forum, April 24-26, Colorado Springs

6. Adjourn