

SPBRT Roundtable Meeting Summary

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Time: 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

HYBRID: LIVE & VIRTUAL

Roundtable Voting Members in Attendance: Adam Gates, Bruce Gerck, Darren Beck, Donnie Dustin, Garrett Varra, Jim Yahn, Jim Hall, Joe Frank, John Kolanz, Julia Gallucci, Ken Huson, Kent Swedlund, Kirk Vincent, Larry Rogstad, Larry Ross, Lisa Leben, Loretta Daniel, Lynda James, Scott Griebing, Sean Chambers

Roundtable Non-voting Members in Attendance: Sean Cronin, Casey Davenhill,

Guests: Dale Parker, Angie Swanson, Heather Justus, Donald Frick, Lesley Sebol, Phyllis Thomas, Josh Kuhn, Greg Peterson, Yana Sorokin, Terry Plummer, Eric Engelnard, Dan Grant, Leland Gerck

CWCB: Robert Sakata, Sam Stein, Kat Weismiller, Jackie Daoust, Diane Kielty

1. Welcome/Introductions (Sean Chambers - 5 min.)

The meeting was called to order at 4:19 pm.

There was recognition of retiring SPBRT member Ken Huson.

2. Approval of Agenda: (Sean Chambers - 5 min.)

It was moved by to approve the agenda by acclimation.

3. Approval of [SPBRT Meeting Summary April 11, 2023](#) (Sean Chambers - 2 min.)

It was moved to approve the April 11, 2023, SPBRT Meeting Summary by Garrett Varra and seconded by Kirk Vincent. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comment (3 min.)

No comments.

5. WSRF (Garrett Varra - 90 min.)

1. WSRF Update and SPBRT Funds Status CWCB Basin Account Funds – Based on the most recent WSRF Balance Summary (March 2023), the South Platte Basin Account Balance is \$511,000. There is a balance \$0 in the “Stimulus Fund”. The Statewide account balance is \$8,188,249. The South Platte Basin Roundtable has three reserve accounts with the following balances: BIP Reserve with \$50,000, Education Reserve with \$23,500, and General Reserve with \$50,000. After accounting for reserves, the total available funding is \$387,500. The account will be refreshed on July 1, 2023, with an anticipated \$300,000.

2. WSRF Cycle 1 Applicant Committee Recommendations

- Agricultural Drought Resilience & Innovative Water Conservation – Phase 2 (10 min.)
The Basin ask is \$75,000. This is a multi-year funding package. They were asked to return to the RT with project updates. They are holding an Ag Water Summit in December and will be talking about these projects at the Summit.
A motion was made by Jim Hall to approve the Agricultural Drought Resilience & Innovative Water Conservation project to move forward for CWCB approval and seconded by Joe Frank. The motion carried unanimously.
- Augmentation Well Rehabilitation (10 min.)
The Basin ask is \$18,516. This is for 5 new augmentation wells to cover the depletion of 136 member wells that irrigated thousands of acres.
A motion was made by John Kolanz to approve the Augmentation Well Rehabilitation project to move forward for CWCB approval and seconded by Ken Huson. The motion carried unanimously.
- South Platte Basin Geologic Salinity Sources – Geologic Formation Chemical Characterization (10 min.)
The SPBRT ask is \$40,234.50. This is a partial characterization to inform the larger salinity

study headed by Dr. Timothy Gates. SPBRT members may be able to help with reaching out to landowners for samples.

A motion was made by Jim Hall to approve the South Platte Basin Geologic Salinity Sources project to move forward for CWCB approval and seconded by Garrett Varra. The motion carried unanimously.

- Diversion & Measurement Structures Replacement (10 min.)

The Basin ask is \$50,000. They will be applying for loans to lower the fees for landowners, and they plan to begin the project next year.

A motion was made by Scott Griebing to approve the Diversion & Measurement Structures Replacement project to move forward for CWCB approval and seconded by Garrett Varra. The motion carried with a recusal by Ken Huson.

- Flow Monitoring at Gold Lake and Left Hand Park (10 min.)

The Basin ask is \$66,885.

A motion was made by Jim Hall to approve the Flow Monitoring at Gold Lake and Left Hand Park project to move forward for CWCB approval and seconded by Joe Frank. The motion carried with recusals by Scott Griebing, Garrett Varra, and Ken Huson.

- Chambers Lake & Long Draw Reservoir Automation (10 min.)

The Basin ask is \$30,000. They are planning for installation and commissioning to take place in September/October.

A motion was made by Larry Ross to approve the Chambers Lake & Long Draw Reservoir Automation project to move forward for CWCB approval and seconded by Kirk Vincent. The motion carried with recusals by Sean Chambers and Donnie Dustin.

There will be an extra \$40,234.50 in the basin WSRF account due to a basin match share with MRT on the South Platte Basin Geologic Salinity Sources project.

6. Committee Updates (20 min.) [Roundtable Meeting Records – The South Platte Basin](#)

[Link to Announce a Meeting Form - Add a meeting – The South Platte Basin](#)

1. PEPO Committee (Casey Davenhill - 5 min.) (*No Summary*) The Committee has met a couple of times and identified two primary focus topics, the Wildfire Ready Watersheds Program and the Turf Replacement Program. The committee considered a literature search to identify what the municipalities are doing to support and engage these programs. Another survey idea was to reach out to homeowners regarding their impressions of the changes in the urban landscape due to turf changes. MRT was not interested in the second survey option. The direction is now to highlight what existing groups are doing to support the turf replacement effort. Writing and speaking engagements will be directed toward these two topics.
2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Larry Rogstad – 5 min.) (*Summary*) Kirk Vincent and Lynda James conveyed the presentation information regarding the Wetland Machine Learning Project.
3. M&I Committee (Jim Hall – 5 min.) (*No Meeting*) No report.
4. Colorado River/Demand Management (Sean Chambers & Kyle Whitaker – 5 min.) No report.

7. State Legislative Update (Sean Chambers – 20 min.)

1. [Colorado Water Congress State Affairs Committee 2023 Tracking Sheet](#)

The legislative session is over.

8. IBCC Update (Jim Yahn & Sean Cronin - 5 Min.) ([Link to IBCC Webpage](#))

There has not been a recent meeting of the IBCC. The upcoming Drought Summit is waitlisted. CWCB staff is evaluating this situation.

9. CWCB Update (20 min.)

1. CWCB Staff Report (Sam Stein – 10 min.) Reach out to CWCB staff if you would like to attend the Drought Summit. June 1st is the WSRF deadline. The PEPO grants are also due June 1st. July 1st is the deadline for CWP grants. The 1051 reporting deadline is June 30th. The C9 Summit is scheduled for November 14th, location TBD. Wildfire Ready Watersheds is now accepting applications. Colorado River Commissioner's Portal for comments - [Colorado River Commissioner's Corner |](#)

[Colorado Department of Natural Resources \(engagewcb.org\)](https://engagewcb.org)

2. CWCB Director Report (Robert Sakata - 10 min.) [Report 5.9.2023](#)
The CWCB Board meeting is May 17-18 and will be hybrid with the live portion at Northern Water, [\(HYBRID\) Board Meeting | May 17-18, 2023 | DNR CWCB \(colorado.gov\)](#)

10. Round Table Member Comments (5 min)

Darren Beck will be replacing Matt Jones as the Boulder County Representative. He has been elected by the Boulder County Commissioners. Darren will supply a letter from the Boulder County Commissioner's Office confirming his appointment.

ASO snow data flights over Boulder and Clear Creek took place today.

Adam Gates, Yuma County Commissioner introduced himself and is looking forward to participating in the SPBRT.

Cory Deangelis thanked all WSRF applicants and SPBRT members for their efforts.

South Platte Compact components were discussed.

Action: Add the SP Compact as a regular topic to the agenda.

11. Upcoming Public Meetings Schedule – See CWCB's [Online Calendar](#) and [EngageCWCB.org](#)

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Colorado Water Conservation Board Basin Roundtable Meetings

[Metro roundtable - 5/11/2023](#)

[Arkansas basin roundtable - 5/10/2023](#)

[Colorado basin roundtable - TBD](#)

[North Platte basin roundtable - 4/18//2023](#)

[Southwest basin roundtable - 4/27/2023](#)

[Rio Grande basin roundtable - 5/9/2023](#)

[South Platte basin roundtable -5/9/2023](#)

[Yampa/White basin roundtable - 5/10/2023](#)

[Gunnison basin roundtable - 5/15/2023](#)