

# Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, May 11, 2023

**Start Time**  
**2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

## Members in Attendance:

Andy Nye, Alex Davis, Barbara Biggs, Blair Corning, Bob Peters, Brian Tracy, Casey Davenport, Courtney Brand, Cynthia Lane, David Nickum, David Kamin, Dawn Jewell, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Jerod Henrickson, Julie Tinetti, Kim Gortz, Lauren Pulver, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Loretta Daniel, Morgan Lynch, Rick Marsicek, Rick McLoud, Sarah Borgers, Shaden Musleh, Susan Nedell, Tom Arnold

## Guests:

Brent Soderlin, Kayla Ranney, Jamie Krezelok, Michelle Danaher, Brian Craig, Brian McWilliams, Breanna Gonzalez, Heather Justus, Phylis Thomas, Juan Roberto Madrid, Greg Johnson, Brad Peters, Zach Salin, Sean Chambers, Eric Jorgensen, Matt Lindburg, Andrew Hawthorn, Jesse Clark, Dan Hill, Andrea Cole,

## CWCB:

Jeff Rodriguez, Robert Sakata, Russ Sands, Jenna Battson, Diane Kielty, Jackie Daoust

## Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

### 1. Welcome/Introductions (1 min.)

### 2. Approval of [April 13, 2023, Meeting Summary](#) (1 min.)

It was moved to approve the April 13, 2023, MRT Meeting Summary. Approved by acclamation.

### 3. Agenda: additions or changes (1 min.)

There will not be a presentation on the salinity project.  
Addition of RT project update.

### 4. Public Comment (5 min.)

None

### 5. Election of Chair/Vice-Chair (20 min.)

#### 2. Review of Committee Chairs / Membership

A motion was made by Bob Peters nominating Barb Biggs for Chair and Lisa Darling for Vice-Chair and was seconded by Devon Buckels. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 3. Membership

Committee chairs discussed needs for their committees. They are looking for additional members to participate on the WSRF committee. PEPO always welcomes more members. Env. & Rec. needs a new Co-Chair from the SPBRT.

**Action:** Create a new table for announcements and deadlines for WSRF grants.

- i. Attendance Review ([MRT Attendance Through April 2023](#))
- ii. Representative Recommendations Open Positions
  1. Recreation Representative position
  2. Two At-large Representative positions

A deadline was not included with the open position announcement. The deadline for applicants has been set as June 5, 2023. Selections will be made at the June MRT meeting.

### 6. 2020 Post-Fire Watershed Restoration Process Improvement [Final Report](#) (Sean Chambers & Brian Craig, Northern Water) (25 min.)

The new normal for fires in our watersheds are increasing acreage megafires. In 2020 there were four wildfires and are the largest now on record. Multiple landowner agencies are involved in larger fires that create more complex responses. Discussed black water events after fires that strain water providers. Whenever velocity picks up it brings down debris from fires and becomes an ongoing issue

for water providers. Costs for fire recovery were shared. Liability and other policy issues were discussed. Outreach, resources, and recovering community engagement take-aways were provided.

**7. Colorado Water Plan Letter of Support Request (Barb Biggs)(10 min.)**

1. [Big Dry Creek Restoration Project](#) (Michelle Danaher, City of Westminster and Mile High Flood District) Ecological restoration and nature education project near Westminster City Park. There is severe degradation and poor water quality. The project is approximately 1.7 miles. The full project costs will be in excess of \$15 million. They are asking for a CWCB CWP grant of \$650,000.

A motion was made by Alex Davis for MRT to approve the Big Dry Creek Restoration Project Letter of Support and seconded by David Nickum. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. WSRF Committee (B. Peters) (20 min.)**

1. WSRF Balance Summary was provided.
  - i. WSRF Project Proposals Final Approval
    1. [Open Water Foundation](#)  
Recommendation was made to approve the applicant to move to CWCB for approval. The proposal passed.
    2. [Wadley Farms](#)  
Recommendation was made to approve the applicant to move to CWCB for approval. The proposal passed.
    3. [Colorado Geologic Survey](#)  
Recommendation was made to approve the applicant to move to CWCB for approval. The proposal passed.
    4. [Colorado Ag Water Alliance](#)  
Recommendation was made to approve the applicant to move to CWCB for approval. The proposal passed.

**9. CWCB Update (20 min.)**

1. Jeff Rodriguez - 10 min.  
CWCB is exploring options to record the Drought Summit. 1051 reporting is due by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Colorado River Commissioner's Portal for comments - [Colorado River Commissioner's Corner | Colorado Department of Natural Resources \(engagecwc.org\)](#)

Drought Summit: <https://engagecwc.org/drought-summit>

Flood Threat Bulletin: <https://www.coloradofloodthreat.com/>

Wildfire Ready Watersheds: <https://www.wildfirereadywatersheds.com/>

Colorado River issues: <https://engagecwc.org/colorado-river>

1051 Portal Links: <https://cwc.force.com/s/login/?ec=301&startURL=%2Fs%2Fmy-reports>

New Registration: <https://cwc.force.com/s/registration-request>

## MAY CWCB UPDATES

### Drought Summit

- Waitlist
  - May 31, June 1
  - Draft Agenda

### Funding Deadlines

- June 1
  - WSRF
  - PEPO
- July 1
  - Water Plan Grants

### 2023 Legislative Session

- CWCB Project's Bill
  - Passed
- Governor's Budget
  - Passed
- Stream Restoration Bill
  - Passed
- Colorado River Task Force
  - Passed

### Reminders

- 1051 Reporting
  - June 30
- Wildfire Ready Watersheds
- C9 Summit
  - Nov. 14
- Draft SEIS
  - May 30
- Technical Assistance

There was discussion about forming a subcommittee to cover the Colorado River Basin issues and bring information back to MRT. A committee could inform the MRT on possible impacts in the Colorado River Basin on our basin and water users. This may be done jointly with SPBRT if there is interest. The committee would serve to educate MRT.

**Action:** Alex Davis, Rick Marsicek, Cynthia Lane, Emily Hunt, and Robert Sakata will develop a charter for the subcommittee and bring it back to MRT for consideration.

### **10. IBCC Update (L. Darling/R. Marsicek) (10 min.)**

An IBCC meeting is scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup> in Glenwood. The Landscape Transformation Scoping committee discovered the State Urban Landscape Task Force was formed. The project scoping is on hold. The Task Force is utilizing already existing information. The CWCB would like the Scoping Committee to consider moving forward on a statewide public perspective survey on this topic that could inform the work of the Task Force. Please reach out to the scoping committee if you have input on this idea.

### **11. Committee Updates (15 min.)** [Roundtable Meeting Records — The South Platte Basin](#)

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

1. PEPO Committee (C. Davenhill) (5 min.) (*No Summary*) The Committee has met a couple of times and identified primary focus topics, the Wildfire Ready Watersheds Program, and the Turf Replacement Program. The committee conducted a literature search to identify what the municipalities are doing to support and engage the turf programs. The survey idea from the project scoping committee is to reach out to homeowners regarding their impressions of the changes in the urban landscape due to turf changes. The direction for PEPO is to highlight what existing groups are doing to support the turf replacement effort. Writing and speaking engagements will be directed toward the two identified topics. Link to the GreenCo document:  
<https://dnrweblink.state.co.us/cwcb/0/doc/139038/Electronic.aspx?searchid=12c9b40f-be85-43c1-8db7-0536898c6325>  
<https://cwcb.colorado.gov/best-management-practices-bmps>
2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (D. Nickum) (5 min.) (*Summary 4.26.2023*) There was a presentation from the Colorado Natural Heritage Program on their machine learning tool for wetland identification.
3. M&I Committee (B. Peters) (5 min.) (*No Meeting*)

### **11. Round Table Member Comments (5 min.)**

The WEco Yampa/White Green River Tour will be June 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> and registration is now open.

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

- The North American Water Loss Conference is coming to Denver December 5-7, 2023.

DRAFT