



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

Arkansas Basin Roundtable Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes and Recorded Decisions

Wednesday August 9, 2023 10:30 am

Pueblo Community College, Student Center Building

900 W. Orman Avenue

Pueblo, CO 81004

1. Executive Committee/Guests Present

Mark Shea	Jonathan Paklaian	Rick Kienitz
Al Tucker (online)	Gracy Goodwin (online)	Bryce Ehrlich
Sarah Mudge	Sandy White (online)	Russ Sands (online)
Jeris Danielson (online)	Steve Kastner	Matt Heimrich (online)
Ariel Hacker	Jeff Rodriguez (online)	

2. Greetings, Introductions, Establish Quorum

- **Mark called** the meeting to order noting there was a quorum (5 of 9) present. Terry Scanga and Greg Felt were excused from the meeting.
- **Mark asked** if anyone wanted to add to the Agenda.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting – Amendments and Approval

- Ariel to temporarily fill in for Al for creating Meeting Minutes. Very kind words from Al.
- Mark asked for amendments or changes to the August Minutes. Hearing none, called for approval of the August 9, 2023 Executive Committee Minutes.

4. Reoccurring Matters

- **Chair Comments** – Mark Shea reached out to Heather Dutton of the Rio Grande Basin, and they are setting up a follow-up conversation. Mark requests that Roundtable members send a list of discussion questions and topics. Sandy had some questions ready.
- **Outstanding Reports – Executive Committee Members**
 - Mark reported that Congresswoman Petterson met with him, Robert Sakata, Christine Arbogast, Greg Felt, and Bob Hamel to identify priority topics for her attention regarding water policy and legislation and encouraged her to meet with Becky Mitchell. He highlighted that much of her district is on the eastern slope, but that knowing the value of western slope issues is still very important, especially because there are trans-basin imports to the Arkansas and South Platte basins. Topics discussed include Colorado River issues, PFAS and water quality issues, establishing MCLs and the challenges surrounding that, and water and wastewater treatment challenges. The public keeps using harmful commercial goods that water and wastewater treatment must react to in order to keep providing safe water for the public. Members in the meeting offered to provide more information for Congresswoman Petterson on NEPA projects and stay engaged with her on the topics discussed.
 - Al raised the topic of capturing attendance, maintaining sign-in, and quorum. He suggested tracking attendance over the course of a year and discussing this at the annual meeting. Al volunteers to be responsible for logistics and would like to continue conversations to discuss possible active/inactive status after 3 unexcused absences.



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- Steve suggests creating a presentation of what the Arkansas Basin Roundtable does and has accomplished, and requesting one from the Rio Grande Basin, as an idea for introductions. Topics raised so far have included House Bill 1041 implementation locally and regionally, wildfire, post-fire recovery, drought and its impacts on agricultural users, surface water exports, and funding sources.
- Roundtable members would like to see presentations or reports back from grant funding recipients to see what is being achieved with the allocated funds. Mark reached out to Greg Peterson with the Colorado Water-Ag Alliance to talk early 2024 about projects that received funding through the Roundtable and state and suggested that we could add some presentations to the end of 2023 meeting agendas. Jeff is working on updating this year's projects and provided the following link to CWCB's annual report: https://dnrweblink.state.co.us/CWCB/0/edoc/218847/WSRF_AnnualReport_FY21-22.pdf?searchid=a1caeb34-33b8-4c88-ad54-4f7d67e14b46, which includes a list of the Arkansas Basin projects. CWCB will create a similar document for water plan grants. CWCB and the Roundtable will coordinate updating the projects database. The annual report for water plan program is anticipated to be completed by the end of October. Part of Basin Implementations Plans in the Colorado Water Plan is to highlight these projects and show how they meet the needs identified in the Water Plan. Jeff suggested starting with projects in WSRF and will continue working to update and provide the full list. Jeff then updated the Roundtable on the upcoming C9 Summit. Jeff will send the recently created DNR Handbook for Roundtables and the CWCB Stakeholder Resource.

5. Roundtable Business

- October Election of Officers
 - PEPO Liaison: Ariel Hacker
- New members
 - Legislative Appointee Seat: Kelly Roesch
 - At Large Industrial: Aaron Hilshorst
 - Bent County: Kim MacDonnell
 - Interagency Liaison: Andy Klakulak, USGS

6. Upcoming Meetings

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – October 11, 2023
 - Executive Committee – 10:30am
 - Roundtable – 12:30pm
- Committees
 - Needs Assessment – October
 - PEPOW – October 5
 - Environmental/Recreation Committee – TBD
 - Agriculture/Municipal Committee – TBD
 - ARWC Board of Directors to reconvene – TBD
 - IBCC – at C-9 Summit
- C-9 Summit, November 14, Westin Hotel in Westminster, CO

7. Adjourn; Mark