

Inter Basin Compact Committee Basin Roundtables
Rio Grande Basin Roundtable
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 2:00pm
Rio Grande Water Conservation District
Alamosa, Colorado

Call to Order

Kevin Terry, Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

A quorum was determined to be present. The agenda was approved as presented.

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The minutes of the August 8, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.

Public Commit:

Erin Minks, with Senator Bennet Office commented that the Farm Bill will be finalized in a few weeks. Senator Bennet is proposing to dedicate funds to Rio Grande Basin through the farm bill. Please contact Erin with any input on the farm bill.

Anna Greenburg, Bird Conservancy of the Rockies announced that their Landowner Workshop October 12, 2023, and will cover a range of natural resource concerns. Lunch will also be provided.

Carry Aloia – S270 Workshop will be held before the Roundtable meeting in October. There will be no education meeting in October.

Jeff Rodriguez, CWCB staff, gave an update on the new CWCB Director. He also reminded the group that the C9 Summit will be November 9 at the Westin Hotel in Westminster from 8 am – 8pm. There will be no November Roundtable meeting. Annual WSRF Allocations will be announced Oct 2nd, Wildfire Ready Watersheds is accepting applications, as well as the technical assistance and local capacity grant programs.

Craig Cotton, Colorado Division of Water Resources gave an update on the Rio Grande Basin. The dry summer months has changed curtailments significantly. The United State Supreme Court case with New Mexico, Texas and Mexico has been ruled in the states favor. Special master has overruled the United States objection.

The Education Committee has organized several tours this fall. October 6th will be a Potato Harvest and Quinoa Processing tour. November 8th will be a tour of a Water Treatment plant in Denver.

Peyton Valentine, Conejos Water Conservancy District, presented the Las Mesitas for Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Funding. The project consists of Irrigation System Improvements, services 2,000 acres. The current ditch system has a around 25% ditch loss. The project will install 1,226 feet of pipeline. WSRF funding request is \$78,981. Keith Halland moved to approve the project. Virginia seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50.