



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

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Arkansas Basin Roundtable Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes and Recorded Decisions

Wednesday November 8, 2023 10:30 am

Pueblo Community College, Student Center Building

900 W. Orman Avenue

Pueblo, CO 81004

1. Executive Committee/Guests Present

Abba Ahmed	Bob Hammel	Jonathan Paklaian
Al Tucker (online)	Gracy Goodwin	Terry Scanga
Tom Grasmick (online)	Sandy White	Bryce Ehrlich
Jeris Danielson	Steve Kastner	Sarah Mudge
Ariel Hacker (online)	Jeff Rodriguez (online)	

2. Greetings, Introductions, Establish Quorum

- **Steve called** the meeting to order noting there was a quorum present. Mark Shea and Kelly Rousch were excused from the meeting.
- **Steve** asked if anyone wanted to add to the Agenda.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting – Amendments and Approval

- Steve asked for amendments or changes to the August Minutes. Hearing none, called for approval of the October 11, 2023 Executive Committee Minutes.

4. Reoccurring Matters

- **Chair Comments** – Steve discussed changes in membership. Becky Mitchell had no issues with Kelly Rousch's appointment to the legislative seat. Steve asked if membership roster is on website. Al reported how he tracks attendance and mentioned reinstating yearly attendance report. Bob noted that the sheet is current for all members other than those appointed in October. Steve asked if the Roundtable would like to continue meeting in the current PPCC space or move to a different venue or town. Jeff will support the Roundtable's decision. Al mentioned CSU Pueblo as an alternative that the Roundtable used to use. Steve asked Jeff to book the convention center for the three months that PPCC is not available.
- C-9 Summit: Mileage and lodging can be reimbursed for ten Roundtable members per basin. Jeff can send the necessary paperwork to submit for reimbursement, so reach out to him if interested. Registration is still open at <https://engagewcwb.org/c9-summit> and agenda is available.
- **Outstanding Reports – Executive Committee Members**
 - CWCB is working hard on the events and agendas for events. They are interested in feedback at engagewcwb.org
 - Gracy asked for direction on project participation and letters of support. The CWCB has moved to obtaining all of the application materials prior to the deadline for grant submittals, which helps with the CWCB review process, but presents a challenge for Roundtables to provide letters of support because many projects are not developed enough at the start of the process to present at the Roundtables. The CWCB is trying to encourage projects to correspond with Roundtables earlier in the process. Jeff asked if



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the Roundtable would consider allowing less information to be presented for projects, perhaps a 1-page summary of the project to determine if the project meets the Basin Implementation Plan (BIP). Gracy has begun that process to adapt, and asks if the Executive Committee would be okay with receiving less information from applicants during the process. Sandy would like the opportunity to disapprove a project and is concerned about lack of information. Gracy would like more information on what would happen if the Roundtable would not want to support a project looking for CWCB funding. Jeff reminded the group that letters of support are not required for Water Plan Grant Program, but they are heavily considered, so there is a chance projects can be funded without a letter of support, but the CWCB Board takes Roundtable support very seriously. Jeff clarified the difference between WP Grants and WSRF Grants. If an applicant submits a WSRF grant without Roundtable approval, it will not be submitted to the CWCB Board until the Roundtable approved it.

- Jonathan encouraged everyone to attend the December 15th meeting to allow their input.

5. Roundtable Business

- Bylaws: Steve showed some of the markups for the bylaws that Steve and Mark have reviewed so far. Al commented that the 5-year membership limit was removed in a prior edition because it has been difficult to fill positions on our Roundtable so that members can serve continuously so that county commissioners do not have to vote every 5 years. Jeff responded that it was problematic due to state statute requirements. Al is concerned about having to go through the re-nomination process with county or political officials when those officials who nominated Roundtable members have left office, which could make it challenging for retaining Roundtable members. Al requests more analysis on issues such as this. Jeff cautions the Roundtable about bylaws that do not match state statutes, and encourages to reach out to other Roundtables for suggestions. He also encourages staggering elections so that only a few positions require voting per year. Sandy remarked that he feels it important to write the bylaws to minimize paperwork. Multiple members expressed concerns about reaching out to elected officials every 5 years because new officials are often not even aware of the roundtable's existence or dislike the roundtables, which could cause challenges or drama. The group moved on to discuss virtual and in-person attendance. Sandy does not feel virtual members should be able to vote on decisions. Al mentioned the open meetings laws. Also, not allowing participation by members attending via phone or virtual could affect meeting our minimum Quorum requirements for conducting business. Our Executive Committee requires five members present to be a quorum. Terry expressed that effective participation cannot take place for a group this size via virtual attendance. No solid deadline, but January 10th is the desired internal deadline for review on bylaws.

6. Upcoming Meetings

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – December 13, 2023
 - Executive Committee – 10:30am
 - Roundtable – 12:30pm
- Committees
 - Needs Assessment – TBD
 - PEPOW – December 21st



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- 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;** Steve, 11:50am