

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Members in Attendance:

Alex Davis, Andrea Cole, Andy Nye, Breanna Gonzalez, Brian Tracy, Casey Davenport, Cynthia Lane, Courtney Brand, Dave Wissel, David Nickum, David Kamin, Dawn Jewell, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Greg Johnson, Katie Garrett, Lauren Pulver, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Loretta Daniel, Rick Marsicek, Sam Caulkins, Sarah Borgers, Sarah Klahn, Shaden Musleh, Susan Nedell,

Guests:

Laura Belanger, Rich Vidmar, Zach Salin, Brennan Middleton, Brent Soderline, Heather Justus, Jarod Roberts, Erik Jorgensen, Chris Muller, Ashley Giles, Sean Flanagan, Phyllis Thomas, Lauren Burgess, Jamie Krezelok, Kate Bandel, James Eklund

CWCB:

Lauren Ris, Russ Sands, Robert Sakata, Jeff Rodriguez, Jackie Daoust, Kat Weismiller, Emily Zmak, Diane Kielty

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

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

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm.

2. **Approval of [November 9, 2023, Meeting Summary](#) (1 min.)**

It was moved to approve the November 9, 2023, MRT Meeting Summary. Motion approved by acclamation.

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

Agenda addition of Jarod Roberts standing for an At-Large seat.

4. **Public Comment (5 min.)** None.

5. **Colorado Water Plan Letter of Support Request (10 min.)**

1. Western Resource Advocates - Successful landscape transformation in Colorado CWP Request for Letter of Support (Chelsea Benjamin)
Colorado does not have a statewide landscape certification and training program. There has been a preliminary review of how other states certify professionals in this field. WRA has conducted surveys with Colorado landscape professionals. There is support for certification of state level certification, but professionals want more information before forming an opinion. This is one CWP grant, and the project is multi-year through 2026. Tasks for this grant application were presented and questions fielded.

A motion was made by Cynthia Lane to approve a letter of support for the WRA CWP application and was seconded by Lauren Pulver. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **MRT Chair and Vice Chair Nomination Process (20 min.) (Lisa Darling)**

MRT has received two letters of interest.

1. Open MRT Positions
 - i. Chair
With consent from the membership Lisa Darling will continue in the Chair position and a vote will take place at the regular May Annual meeting.
 - ii. Vice-Chair (2 are permitted)
Greg Johnson stood for this position. Greg Johnson will perform in this position and a

vote will take place at the regular May annual meeting.

iii. WSRF Committee Coordinator

- 1. Kim Gortz and Sam Caulkins stood for this position. They were approved and will Co-Chair.

2. Open MRT Member Seats (Annual May Meeting New Member Selections)

i. At-Large RT Seats (four open seats)

1. At-Large Water Quality Rep (Water Rights Owner)

- a. Heather Justus - Heather was introduced and she provided her background and interest in the position.

Heather Justus was approved as the At-Large Water Quality Representative.

2. At-Large Stormwater & Drainage

3. At-Large - Two open general At-Large

- a. Jarod Roberts – Jarod was introduced. He provided his background and interest in the position.

Jarod Roberts was approved as an At-Large Representative.

ii. The MRT Legislative Appointment is Greg Johnson with Denver Water

7. WSRF Committee (Open position now filled) (5 min.)

- 1. WSRF Balance Summary ([2023 Budget Summary MRT WSRF](#)) There has been no change in the balance.

8. City of Aurora Wild Horse Reservoir Project Presentation (30 min.) (Rich Vidmar)

Located near Hartsel in Park County and would store up to 93,000 acre feet. It is off-channel. Displayed the northeast annexation area and diversion areas. Project details were provided including location, configuration, permitting, timeline, and source water and dam information. They are currently at 30% design. Questions were fielded. Presentation is available by request.

9. CWCB Update (15 min.)

- 1. Jeff Rodriguez - 5 min.

JANUARY CWCB UPDATES

Climate Change in Colorado

- Final report released
- Interactive maps and charts on webpage

Soil Moisture Survey

- Open until 2/5/24
- Results to direct focus and funding



CWCB Stakeholder Guide

- In February CWCB Staff will be going on the road to get roundtable feedback

IBCC Meeting Dates

- First meeting 2/27/24
 - Denver area
- Continue with 3/yr
 - 3rd will be C9 Summit

Reminders

- **CWCB Deadlines**
 - WSRF Deadline Feb. 1
- **Wildfire Ready Watersheds**
 - Accepting Applications
- **Technical Assistance & Local Capacity**
 - Accepting Application
 - Both Programs (ARPA Funds)
 - Contracted by 12/31/24
- **CWCB Reports Coming in 2024**
 - ULCTF and BBC Turf Replacement Analysis



Soil Moisture Survey: This survey is open until February 5th.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScz5MVF_a1Ty_OUTDO1OrR_iaCi5-4ou385gQJ0AddRXgWBg/viewform

Wildfire Ready Watersheds: <https://www.wildfirereadywatersheds.com/>. Questions/interest contact Steve Reeves (steven.reeves@state.co.us)

Federal Technical Assistance and Local Capacity Grants:
Questions/interest contact Michael Regan (michael.regan@state.co.us)

Climate Change in Colorado: <https://climatechange.colostate.edu/>

Colorado River issues: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/colorado-river-commissioners-corner>

CWCB Director Ris announced that the CWCB Board is having a workshop on January 25th regarding the Shoshone Project. The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) will be held on Monday, January 29, 2024, commencing at 9:00 a.m. and continuing through Tuesday, January 30, 2024. This meeting will be held in person at The Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver Conference Center, 13200 East 14th Place, Aurora 80011 and virtually on zoom, you will be able to access the meeting through a link on the CWCB's website the day of the meeting.

Director Sakata was able to attend the Colorado River Water Users Association (CRWUA) Annual meeting in Las Vegas. The Upper Colorado River Commission met on the morning of the first day. There was a report from each state and tribe. They are working to formalize an agreement with the tribes. A series of general sessions covered all aspects of water use on the Colorado River. Commissioner Becky Mitchell stood firm stating that the overuse by the lower basin states has created the problem and that they need to address this.

This is the last meeting for Director Sakata to be serving as the South Platte Basin CWCB Board member. He thanked all for their hard work on the Roundtable and wishes everyone the very best moving forward. He was thanked for an exemplary job.

Emily Zmak provided an update on the Colorado River activities.

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

A meeting will be held on February 27th.

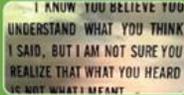
11. Committee Updates (20 min.) [Roundtable Meeting Records — The South Platte Basin](#)

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

1. PEPO Committee (C. Davenhill) (5 min.) (*No Meeting*)

CWA received a notice from CWCB to proceed on PEPO work in mid-December. The PEPO contract is focused on four categories of activities listed below. A recap was provided. PEPO will be at the Colorado Farm Show January 23-25. A volunteer sign-up sheet was passed to members.

PEPO Update January 2024

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|  | Coordination & Facilitation Engage and inform Roundtable leadership, BIP Work Groups, WSRF Committees and other Roundtable PEPO liaisons. |
|  | Communication Promote relevant programs, maintain and update southplattebasin.com website, provide social media curation, create articles for publication and reports to Roundtables, PEPO and CWCB. |
|  | Outreach Leverage existing outreach network and messaging to promote the goals of the Basin Implementation Plan and the Colorado Water Plan; curate social media posts and respond to stakeholder inquiries. |
|  | Project Management Communicate the annual plan, records maintenance, reporting and leveraging Water Supply Reserve Funds for outreach. |

2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (*D. Nickum*) (5 min.) ([Joint Env. Rec. Subcommittee Meeting Summary 12 7 2023 Final](#)) There was discussion on plans and goals for 2024. One topic being the nexus with agriculture. Mag Chloride was discussed as a “Wicked” problem on roadways to be further researched to bring information to the RT. A recreation map is under development to better quantify recreation use attributes and what is impacting these waters. They are also putting together a list of festivals that revolve around white water activities. Please send your event information to breealexig@gmail.com any river. The Committee will be following the State Dredge & Fill legislation.
3. M&I Committee (*A. Cole*) (5 min.) ([Meeting Summary December 22, 2023](#)) The meeting in December was brief to review goals for 2024. The committee will focus on developing RT type projects.
4. Urban Landscape Conservation Task Force (*Lisa Darling & Others*) (5 min.) The report is coming out soon.
5. Colorado River Committee (*Alex Davis*) (5 min.) (*No Meeting*) A meeting is scheduled for February 5th. The Committee is planning a speaker series of those engaged in the Colorado River activities.

12. Round Table Member Comments (5 min.)

- From the Office of Congresswoman Brittany Pettersen - [2024 Water Resources and Development Act One-Pager](#).

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