

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Virtual and In-Person Meeting
Delta
January 29, 2024**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Mike Cleary	Crawford Water Conservancy District
Kathleen Curry	Saguache County
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Nancy Fishing	Montrose County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Wendell Koontz	At-Large Member
Mark LeValley	At-Large Member
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
Scott Murphy	Montrose Municipalities
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Jim Plumhoff	Industrial
Steve Pope	At-Large Member
Mark Ritterbush	Mesa Municipalities
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Dave Traylor	Ute WCD
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Richard Udd	Delta Municipalities
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Henry Woods	Hinsdale Municipalities

Voting Members Excused/Absent:

Steve Anderson	Agricultural
Sonja Chavez	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Bobbie Daniel	Mesa County
Cary Denison	Environmental
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Jonathan Houck	Gunnison County
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Vacant	Colorado River Water Conservation District

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Raquel Flinker (CRWCD), Jeff Rodriguez (CWCB), Bob Hurford (DWR), Jedd Sondergard (USBLM), Ryan Unterreiner (CPW).

Public: Jeff Hurd (Jeff Hurd for Congress), Cindy Dozier (Club 20/RMRI), Brandon Forbes (USGS), Bryan Moore (USGS), Steve Anders (USGS), Chann Fogg (Grand Mesa Water Users Association), Brett Speck (Crawford Water CD), Anita Evans (Friends of Youth and Nature), Paul Kehmeier (Colorado Department of Agriculture), Savannah Nelson (PEPO), Aleshia Rummel (Gunnison Conservation District), Beverly Richards (UGRWCD), Chris Jaros (public), Evan Jones (DNR), Richard Udd (CPW), Suzie Bilberry (DCD), Zach Dutra (LFVC), Mendy Stewart (Shavano CD).

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Wendell Koontz.

Wendell Koontz introduced Jeff Hurd, an Energy Law Attorney and a candidate for the 3rd Congressional District.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call a quorum was declared to be present.

Agenda Approval

There were no deletions or additions to the agenda.

Colorado Water Conservation Board Report (J. Rodriguez and A. Ostidek)

Jeff Rodriguez updated the Roundtable on the Climate Change in Colorado Final Report, the Colorado Open Soil Moisture Infrastructure and Monitoring project and survey, the CWCB Stakeholder Guide, some funding opportunity information, and a couple of CWCB sponsored reports coming out at the upcoming Water Congress meeting.

Emily Zmak gave an update on the System Conservation Pilot Program (SCPP) and discussed pushback received and clarification on the data for an infographic they are using.

Approval of Minutes from the November 20, 2023 Meeting

Neal Schwieterman requested a change in wording to indicate there was also a vote for Kathleen Curry as Vice-Chair.

Marty Whitmore moved to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 meeting as corrected. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Education Committee Report (Savannah Nelson)

Savannah Nelson reported the PEPO funding has been received. The Education Committee has been updating social media on the website, working on the newsletter, and working on the next PEPO grant application, which is due in June. Results from the PEPO survey will determine the next steps for the committee to focus on.

Presentations were given from the Water Education Grant recipients, which included Mendy Stewart (Shavano CD), Aleshia Rummel (Gunnison CD), Anita Evans (Friends of Youth and Nature), and Zack Dutra (LFVC).

There was further discussion regarding Tri County and Black Hills Energy partnering to do some energy education, updates to the handbook, and if anyone would be interested to serve on the PEPO committee.

Grant Review Committee Report (Tom Alvey)

Tom Alvey reported there are no applications to approve at this meeting. Tom discussed the current balance for WRSF funding and gave updates on funding issues for the Durkee Ditch and Airborne Snow Observatory projects.

Colorado River District Update (R. Flinker and D. Kanzer):

Raquel Flinker gave River District updates on post-2026 guideline negotiations and Drought Task Force recommendations. Raquel also touched on the State of the River meeting scheduled for March 18 in Montrose, the 2024 General Assembly which convened on January 10, the System Conservation Pilot Project 2024, and the Community Funding Partnership. Raquel then gave a presentation on Shoshone Water Rights preservation.

Dave Kanzer gave a follow-up discussion and update to Hydros Consulting's presentation in November on Phase IV of the Colorado Risk Study. This item will continue to be on future agendas. Dave will provide the slides for distribution to Roundtable members.

Colorado River Drought Task Force Summary (N. Fishing)

Steve Pope and Jim Plumhoff summarized the recommendations from the Colorado River Drought Task Force.

Gunnison Basin Snowpack Update (B. Richardson)

Beverly Richards from UGRWCD, discussed drought conditions, including precipitation for 30 and 60 days (upper and lower basin), 7-day precipitation forecast, accumulated precipitation in

the Gunnison Basin, soil moisture, snow water equivalent, and reservoir storage in the Gunnison Basin.

CWCB Water Plan Grant Applications (Ashley Garrison)

This item has been moved to the March 18, 2024 meeting.

Interbasin Compact Committee Report (Joanne Fagan, Mark Roeber)

There has been no IBCC meeting since the last GBRT meeting. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 27 in the Denver area.

USGS Stream Gauge Program (B. Forbes)

Brandon Forbes, Steve Anders and Bryan Moore from the USGS Colorado Water Science Center gave a presentation on the USGS Federal Priority Streamgauge (FPS) Network. Additional criteria are needed and they are looking for input. April 30th is the deadline to deliver to Congress. The goal is a 2026 implementation.

Public Comment

None.

Other Business

Bill Nesbitt, Tom Alvey and Raquel Flinker discussed expanding funding for aging infrastructure.

Future Meetings

The next regular Roundtable meeting is March 18, 2024 at the Event Center in Montrose from 3:00-5:30 p.m. The annual State of the River meeting will follow the Roundtable meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable the meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Adam Turner

Action Items

Emily Zmak or Jeff Rodriguez will provide a fact sheet on data being used for the infographic for circulation to the Roundtable members.

David Kanzer will provide the slides from his presentation for distribution to the Roundtable.