



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
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Arkansas Basin Roundtable Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes and Recorded Decisions

Wednesday April 10, 2024

Colorado State University – Pueblo

2200 Bonforte Blvd

Pueblo, Colorado 81001

Executive Committee / Guests Present

Jeff Rodriguez
Mark Shea
Ariel Hacker
Gracy Goodwin
Sandy White
Jeris Danielson

Greg Felt
Tim Canterbury
Russ Sands
Jonathan Paklaian
Al Tucker
Robert Sakata

Rick Kienitz
Sam Kaelin
Lauren Duncan
Terry Scanga
Jeffery DeHerrera

1. Greetings, Introductions, Establish Quorum

- **Mark called meeting to order** - quorum present with 5 executive committee members present

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting -

- **Mark asked for changes / amendments to agenda** – Agenda approved
- **Mark asked for approval of Minutes** – Minutes approved

3. Reoccurring Matters –

- **Chair Comments** – Mark opened the discussion with the State Dredge & Fill Permit Program before the Legislature focusing on the key points, such as enforcement of dredge and fill activities, which are necessary for those looking to develop infrastructure on wetlands. Up to 50% of Colorado's state waters were at risk after the Sackett ruling, which limited the federal permitting process.
 - House Bill 24-1379 would create a permitting program under the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for dredge and fill activities that impact state waters. The bill passed its first committee hearing April 8 after hours of testimony, with many stakeholders concerned about the potential for regulations that exceed the pre-Sackett level. The bill passed the House Finance Committee on Monday.
 - Another issue are the need for Healthy wetlands and streams which are essential for providing clean drinking water, wildlife habitat, and the overall health of our communities.
- **Outstanding Reports** - Mark discussed the Vice Chair Position, with Jeffery DeHerrera, Pueblo West who has expressed an interest in filling this position. Sandy White added with all the responsibilities required for this position, which may include stepping into the Chair role eventually may deter many as to the mandatory time required as a volunteer. Perhaps some sort of CWCB funding available may help with providing qualified applicants for these executive positions down the road. Russ Sands added that CWCB sees the Roundtables as a grass roots effort and money is available for a secretarial position, but to fund any type of executive position isn't available. The issues as pointed out by Sandy and Jeris are many who could fill these positions may not have



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available time away from work or any reimbursement for all the time and travel costs required with these jobs.

4. Roundtable Business -

- **Colorado Water Plan grant program information and discussion** – Mark mentioned that the Roundtable has begun to open the opportunity for Water Plan Grant applicants to come before the Roundtable and present their projects for funding support. Also, if an applicant's request for funding has been denied by CWCB not only will the applicant be told why but also the Roundtable will be brought into the discussion of why. This brings us into the position of better positioning project proponents for future funding opportunities. The issue of in kind matching that we would like to see better clarified. A meeting will be set up by Jeff and some of the Roundtable staff to see about clarifying "in kind matching funds".
- **Other**

5. Upcoming Meetings

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – May 8, 2024
 - Executive Committee – 10:30am
 - Roundtable – 12:30pm
- Committees
 - Needs Assessment – (as necessary)
 - PEPO – April 18, 10:30am (virtual)
 - Environmental Recreation Committee – June 24, 2024, 10:00am
 - Agricultural Municipal Committee – TBD
 - IBCC – June 18, 2024, Durango
 - ARWC – May 13, 2024 – 10:00am (virtual)
- CWCB Board Meeting – May 15-16, Colorado Basin (hybrid)
- C-9 Summit - October 1-2, 2024, Crested Butte

6. Adjourn

Mark called for adjournment at 12:10pm