



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

Arkansas Basin Roundtable Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes and Recorded Decisions
Wednesday May 8, 2024
Pueblo Community College, Student Center Building
900 W. Orman Avenue
Pueblo, Colorado 81001

Executive Committee / Guests Present

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Jeff Rodriguiz | Abba Aahmed | Matt Heimerich |
| Mark Shea | Lauren Duncan | Russ Sands |
| Ariel Hacker | Jeffrey DeHerrea | Jeris Danielson |
| Bob Hamel | Al Tucker | Gracy Goodwin |
| Terry Scanga | Cole Bedford | Jonathan Paklaian |

1. Greetings, Introductions, Establish Quorum

- **Mark called meeting to order** - quorum present with 6 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 with the Dredge & Fill Legislation (HB24-1379) which passed the House and on its way for the Governor to sign. This bill is a result of previous federal legislation and now puts the permit process in the Water Quality Control Commission. This Bill focuses on avoidance, *and* minimization of *adverse impacts* and *on* compensation for *unavoidable adverse* impacts of dredge and fill activity, and be at least as protective as the guidelines developed pursuant to section 404 (b)(1) of the federal "Clean Water Act".
 - Terry Scanga asked for clarification regarding exemptions. These are; certain activities exempt that are outside the permit program e.g. maintenance of ditches which had agricultural ownership, but municipal ownership it was felt didn't qualify for an exemption. Nevertheless Ag fell outside and therefore does not require a discharge authorization for, or otherwise require regulation of, such activities. The bill also excludes certain types of waters from the bill's regulatory requirements which would be storm water activities, or projects already permitted under Section 404 and stayed within that permit process.
- Mark discussed the issue of Admin support for the Roundtable. Mark has discussed this with Jean VanPelt and she is receptive to this. Everyone feels this is a very good opportunity to share the much needed Admin responsibilities who, like Jean understands our needs. Jeff Rodriguiz will look into this position with CWCB to ensure funding and position needs fit into the legislative guidelines.
- **Outstanding Reports** – None Reported

4. Roundtable Business –

- **Colorado Water Plan grant program information and discussion** – Lauren Duncan discussed the Water Plan Grant issuance requirements. First Staff in-kind grant issuance. Documentation is needed to ensure staff in-kind work was completed specifically to the



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particular project requiring the funds. The other item of discussion is regarding Water Re-use projects as it relates to water quality. These types of projects are still being developed in the Water Plan Grant Program. At issue on re-use water projects is the portable water quality when requesting a water plan grant. These are still being developed at this time.

- **Other**

5. Upcoming Meetings

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable – June 12, 2024
 - Executive Committee – 10:30am
 - Roundtable – 12:30pm
- Committees
 - Needs Assessment – May 15, 2024
 - PEPO – June 20, 2024 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)
- IBCC – June 18, 2024, Durango
- ARWC – August 12, 2024, Zoom
- CWCB Board Meeting – June 17-18, 2024, North Platte Basin
- C-9 Summit - October 1-2, 2024, Crested Butte

6. Adjourn

Mark called for adjournment