

# Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, January 9, 2025

Start Time

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

## Members in Attendance:

Alex Davis, Andrea Cole, Andy Nye, Brian Tracy, Casey Davenport, Cynthia Lane, David Kamin, David Nickum, Devon Buckels, Heather Justus, Greg Johnson, Jarod Roberts, Jessica Brody, Kim Gortz, Lauren Pulver, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Loretta Daniel, Rick Marsicek, Sam Caulkins, Sarah Klahn, Shaden Musleh, Susan Nedell

**Guests:** Robert Sakata, Tom Cech, Blaine Dwyer, Kyle Whitaker, Jim Hall, Kerry Major, Silas Adams, Audrey Seery, Steve McCulloch, Katie Garrett

**CWCB:** Jeff Rodriguez, Amy Ostdiek, Jackie Daoust, Kat Weismiller, Diane Kielty

## Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

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

### 2. Approval of [November 14, 2024, Meeting Summary](#) (1 min.)

The November 14, 2024, minutes were approved by affirmation.

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

Add to agenda a presentation on the Shoshone & Trans Mountain Diversions by Kyle Whitaker. Agenda was approved with the addition by affirmation.

### 4. Public Comment (5 min.) No comments.

### 5. WSRF Committee (Kim Gortz & Sam Calkins) (5 min.)

1. WSRF Balance Summary ([WSRF Budget Summary](#)) – The summary was presented and discussed. After the March Board meeting, if all projects are approved, the Statewide fund balance will be back to \$0. This will bring the WSRF allocations back to the standard annual supplement amount. The Statewide account had been available for infrastructure and drought resiliency projects to leverage basin funds to use for more expensive projects.
2. The WSRF Cycle 1 2025 application period opens on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

### 6. Shoshone & Trans Mountain Diversions (Kyle Whitaker, Northern Water) (30 min.)

A presentation was shared on Shoshone Permanency activities regarding the Shoshone Power Plant in Glenwood Canyon. As the plant is being decommissioned, it is proposed that the water rights could be converted over time to instream flow rights through agreements with various entities. The Colorado River District is working to get the water rights purchased for this use. The historic mainstem operations agreements and Shoshone Outage Protocol were explained. Discussed avoiding adverse impacts to Recovery Program supplies and avoiding an EIS/EIA due to uncertainty and unpredictability. A key point is how to define status quo if status quo is to be maintained.

### 7. CWCB Update (15 min.)

1. Jeff Rodriguez - 5 min.  
There are two CWCB Reports soon to be released. A Water Plan Progress Report and the Ten Strategies to Protect Irrigated Agriculture. Both of these reports will likely be available at Water Congress.

The Regional Water Plan Grant Managers need the letters of support submitted with the applications when they are submitted.

Grants for ARPA funds that were submitted before the December 2024 deadline are in

contracting and now have 2 years to be completed.

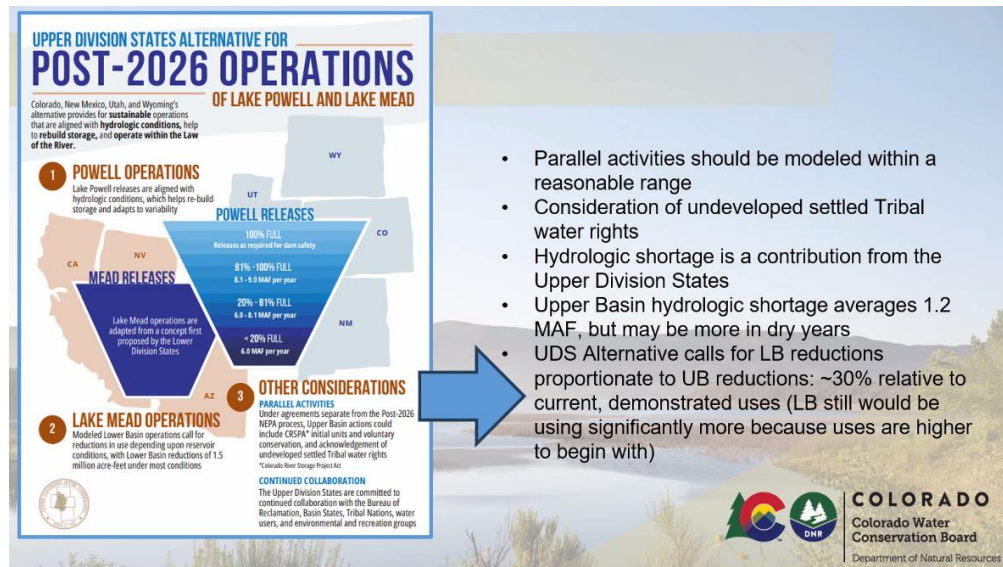
2. Jessica Brody – 5 min.

Representatives in Colorado and the Upper basin States have been working through the holidays to submit their proposals to the Bureau of Reclamation for Post-2026 Operations.

There will be an opportunity to share your perspective with the CWCB Board on the Shoshone Instream flow.

3. Amy Ost diek – 5 min. -

The System Conservation Pilot Program (SCPP) has not been reauthorized at this time. The Bureau of Reclamation has released a matrix of five potential alternatives on Post-2026 operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead. The Basin States discussions are continuing to find areas of consensus. Upper Division States refinements were developed and submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation on alternatives for lower basin reductions. Key refinements to the Powell Release Curve were presented and discussed. The Lower Basin States submitted their alternative that included the use of upper state storage units that are separate operations for different purposes to Lake Powell and Lake Mead. The Lower Basin States continue to ask for 1:1 cuts that the Upper Basin States do not feel are legally or hydrologically possible in the upper states.



8. IBC Update (L. Darling/R. Marsicek) (5 min.) ([Link to IBC Webpage](#))

1. MRT Priorities Development - Process and Goals (Lisa Darling) (15 min.)

The IBC has been discussing action areas in the CO Water Plan and agency actions, partner actions, and Basin Implementation Plans. No and Low Regrets Strategies have also been discussed. It was suggested that MRT have a workshop to bring specific project ideas to synthesize the CWP and the SPBIP. The SPBRT held a similar type of workshop. SPBRT formed a sub-committee meeting that developed an outline. The outline informed the scope of the workshop that was held during a regularly scheduled SPBRT meeting. This could be done during a regular MRT meeting. It would be helpful to have a facilitator.

There are two visions that have been presented to the MRT. One is the project list in the BIP (282 Projects are on the list) where MRT would extract projects within this list to support advancing. The second is the IBC request to identify projects, or a suite of projects, to help Colorado be more drought resilient. MRT could revisit the BIP and determine if the basin priorities have shifted. CWCB

could assist in breaking this down into more manageable pieces. MRT meetings could be used to do this evaluation as a group.

**Action:** A workshop on strategy building will be developed with CWCB.

**9. 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. Davenport) (5 min.) (**No Summary**)

Two reports have been sent to the Recorder on 2024 activities. The updates were presented.

[08.07.24 PEPO Report](#) / [12.08.24 PEPO Report](#)

2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (*D. Nickum*) (5 min.) (**No Summary**) – No update
3. M&I Committee (*A. Cole*) (5 min.) (**No Summary**) – The M&I meeting is next week.
4. Colorado River Committee (A. Davis) (5. Min.) (**No Summary**) – There will be a meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> for the next committee meeting. Brian McPherson will present on modeling.

**10. Round Table Member Comments (5 min.) - None**

**11. Upcoming Public Meetings Schedule – See CWCB's [Online Calendar](#) and [EngageCWCB.org](#)**