# **Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary**

Thursday, March 13, 2025 Start Time 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

### Members in Attendance:

Alex Davis, Andrea Cole, Blair Corning, Brian Tracy, Casey Davenhill, Cynthia Lane, Dawn Jewell, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Greg Johnson, George Teal, Jamie Krezelok, Jarod Roberts, Katie Garrett, Kim Gortz, Lauren Pulver, Lisa Darling, Loretta Daniel, Rachel Pence, Sam Caulkins, Shaden Musleh, Susan Nedell, Erik Jorgensen,

**Guests:** David Riordon, Donny Roush, Mark Matesak, Robert Sakata, Courtney Massey, Kerry Major, Heather Sackett, Phyllis Thomas, Lottia Villalba, Micaela Vondy, Mark Ritchie, Tommy Butler, Britta Strother, Audrey Seeny, John Crawford, Margaret Medellin, Jan Hiang

CWCB: Jeff Rodriguez, Jackie Carnao, Diane Kielty, Emily Adrid

# **Metro Roundtable Business Meeting**

- 1. Welcome/Introductions (1 min.)
- 2. Approval of <u>February 13, 2025, Meeting Summary</u> (1 min.) The February 13, 2025, minutes were approved by affirmation.
- **3.** Agenda: additions or changes (1 min.)
  The March 13, 2025, agenda was approved by affirmation.
- 4. Public Comment (5 min.)

David Riordon with the Colorado River Surfing Association is proposing a coordinated water release at the Chatfield Reservoir for a celebration of life river surfing event. They are working to coordinate with senior water rights holders to see if this could take place. They need about 300 cfs total combined. He asked for suggestions on how to get this coordinated. They have contacted the Water Commissioner's office. They have contacted the Chatfield Reallocation Mitigation Company.

Action: Recorder send letter of request to MRT membership.

Emily Adrid with CWCB provided a slide deck on the CWCB Climate and Water Workshops.

# Workshop 1: April 3, 2025 in Pueblo, CO at CSU Pueblo from 1pm - 5pm Workshop 2: April 23, 2025 in Grand Junction, CO at the Clifton Community Center from 1pm - 5pm Workshops are free to attend! Food and drinks will be available. Register for the event using this QR code!

### 5. WSRF Committee (Kim Gortz & Sam Calkins) (10 min.)

- 1. WSRF Balance Summary (WSRF Budget Summary)
- 2. WSRF 2025 Cycle 1 Applications Received.

### • 2050 Comprehensive Douglas County Water Plan

Lauren Pulver and Commissioner Teal with Douglas County provided a presentation on the County water plan. The County does not have a consolidated study of water users. They intend to develop and propose a 2025 Comprehensive Douglas County Water Plan. An RFP was issued in 2024, and a contract was issued in 2025. A Scope of Services was provided. Total project cost is \$472,600. This is a commissioner directed initiative. The request from MRT is \$250,000.

Would Douglas County consider submitting a Colorado Water Plan grant which has more funding, deadline July 1<sup>st</sup>. Suggestion made to separate the project into Phases where one phase comes from CWP and another phase WSRF funds.

The MRT provided a notice to advance the project to full application with a review of the request amount.

### CMWC ET Study and Floatovoltaic Design

A presentation was provided to conduct a study on evaporative losses and the Eddy Covariance as a method of reducing evaporative losses. This will be a pilot study with data sharing. They are asking \$100,000, \$50,000 from MRT and \$50,000 from SPBRT. The money would go toward purchasing Eddy Covariance Sensors and a Mooring System.

The MRT provided a notice to proceed to a full application with a review of the request amount.

## Willow Springs No 1 Reservoir Improvement Project

This is a request from the Red Rocks Country Club. Since 2012 Red Rocks has not been able to fully use its water rights for the golf course on the Willow Springs No 1 Reservoir due to dam safety. It is an earthen reservoir that they would like to line and prevent further water loss. The project would address dam safety concerns, prevent water loss, and fully exercise RRCC's water rights, stabilizing flows in Turkey Creek, and protecting homes from dam failure. The request is for \$125,000 to fund a portion of the project including design, geo tech review, surveying, package development, and construction. The estimated total cost of the project is over \$3M. The goal is to have the design completed in the fall. The RRCC has been reducing irrigated areas on a year to year basis for a decade. They will provide the exact numbers on their turf reduction. They will be looking at a loan for the majority of the project funding. This is a privately owned reservoir.

The MRT provided a notice to proceed to a full application with a review of the request amount.

### Youth Development Water Education and the Colorado Water Plan

Recent WSRF funds supported the launch of the Colorado Water Education Exemplars Program. They have received \$25,000 in donations and \$15,000 in cash contributions from partners. They are using the national standards as an educational assessment tool and training on water literacy for young Coloradans. They are reviewing existing programs to identify key features that include alignment with education standards. In June the first Youth and Water Convening event will take place in Greeley. The Water Education Exemplars from this effort will be amplified. They provided 5-year outputs and outcomes. Year 0 (2025) – set up system, 15

reviews, 9 youth reviewers. Years 1-4 – 100 reviews, 35 youth reviewers. Years 5 – amplification, expansion, replication, improvement of Water Education Exemplars All for <\$1 million – project budgets of no more than \$150,000 per year.

The MRT provided a notice to proceed to a full application.

Completed WSRF Project Letter: <u>Source Water Monitoring Program, Consolidated Mutual Water Company</u>

# 6. 2025 Legislative Session Update (Nate Pearson) (15 Min.)

Nate Pearson was not able to join the meeting.

# 7. IBCC Update (L. Darling/R. Marsicek) (20 min.) (Link to IBCC Webpage)

A PowerPoint presentation was provided on the Drought Resilience Action Plan. There are new members and staff. This is an opportunity to check in with the group. There may be an opportunity to pursue parallel efforts. The original 2013 No and Low Regrets Action Plan was reviewed. The strategies were not included in the 2023 plan update. These were designed on a 10 year horizon and much had changed. No and Low regrets 2.0 scenario planning is a key component moving forward. A visual was provided on integrating No and Low Regrets with other work. Phase I-Analysis and technical update, Phase II-Basin Plan Update, and Phase III-Comprehensive water plan update. CWCB expects input from IBCC on scenario review, water plan actions, and C9 Summit planning for information sharing. A committee was created to "crosswalk" documents to map where the information is found in the new document. MRT could use its BIP as the intersection to fold into what has been done and feed the information into the new Drought Resilience Action Plan. This exercise is to look forward to the new BIPs and Colorado Water Plan update. The IBCC Subcommittee assigned to do this work is meeting tomorrow at 9:00 am. This will be a strategy session. The public is welcome. The original No and Low regrets document is here, 24 (13).pdf.

C9 Summit Drought Resilience Ideas for Discussion

- 1. Support soil & streamflow measurement
- 2. Streamline CWSAs & support agriculture security
- 3. Invest in nature-based solutions for streams
- Incentivize development on less productive agriculture land to preserve more productive land
- 5. Investigate the reality of more storage projects
- 6. Educate elected officials and decision makers
- 7. Support specific funding for watershed health
- 8. Increase and prioritize water efficiency
- 9. Support collaborative projects
- 10. Promote water wise urban landscapes
- 11. Prioritize fire treatment using maps
- 12. Address the energy water nexus
- 13. Mentor the "next" water managers
- 14. Create consensus with stakeholders

# 8. CWCB Update (15 min.)

1. Jeff Rodriguez -

Greg Johnson has been elected as a new director on the CWCB Board. He is excited to get started. The first meeting is next week. Greg was the MRT Legislative Appointee on the MRT. This gives MRT an additional seat to fill. The MRT is looking at moving current members into open positions where possible in anticipation of the Annual MRT meeting in May.

There will be recordings available of the CWCB Climate and Water Workshops. These will not include the interactive exercises.

CWCB Board Meeting in Greeley on March 19th - 20th

Water Plan Progress Report: <a href="https://engagecwcb.org/water-plan-progress">https://engagecwcb.org/water-plan-progress</a>

10 Strategies to Protect Irrigated Agriculture Report: <a href="https://engagecwcb.org/10strategies\_to\_protect\_ag">https://engagecwcb.org/10strategies\_to\_protect\_ag</a>

CWCB Guide: https://engagecwcb.org/cwcb-guide

Ag Emergency Drought Response Program: <a href="https://cwcb.colorado.gov/funding/agricultural-emergency-drought-response-program">https://cwcb.colorado.gov/funding/agricultural-emergency-drought-response-program</a>

Diane Hoppe Scholarship: <a href="https://cwcb.colorado.gov/about-us/diane-hoppe-memorial-scholarship">https://cwcb.colorado.gov/about-us/diane-hoppe-memorial-scholarship</a> Climate & Water Workshops: <a href="https://engagecwcb.org/climate-water-workshops">https://engagecwcb.org/climate-water-workshops</a>

For more CWCB Event information: <a href="https://cwcb.colorado.gov/fullcalendar">https://cwcb.colorado.gov/fullcalendar</a> Colorado River issues: <a href="https://cwcb.colorado.gov/coloradoriver">https://cwcb.colorado.gov/coloradoriver</a>

- 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. Davenhill) (5 min.) (PEPO+Report+02.11.25.pdf) If anyone is interested in serving on the PEPO committee please contact Casey. The documents and materials for handouts are available, please request. The Water Exemplars Program has been a great collaboration with PEPO and is opening opportunities with the Poudre Learning Center. Another portion will be held at the Learning Innovations Center in Greeley. We were able to help the Hilldale Pines community in Conifer complete its project with the COSWAP program for wildfire mitigation in a local community. There is a new fact sheet for the South Platte basin. Casey asked that the members review this sheet to ensure the messaging is inclusive. There will be a statewide PEPO meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The TroutFest is coming up in June at Coors Field. PEPO will be showing the SPB film at this event. CWCB will have a table at TroutFest
  - 2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (*D. Nickum*) (5 min.) (<u>2/26/2025 Meeting Summary</u>) Lynda James is helping organize this meeting.
  - 3. M&I Committee (A. Cole) (5 min.) (No Summary) The meeting for march was canceled.
  - 4. Colorado River Committee (A. Davis) (5. Min.) (No Summary) Eric Wilkinson will be joining this meeting next week. He has been a water leader. He led Northern Water for many years.
- 10. Round Table Member Comments (5 min.)
- 11. Upcoming Public Meetings Schedule See CWCB's Online Calendar and EngageCWCB.org