

Metro Roundtable Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Start Time

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Hybrid – Live & Virtual

Live Location: Denver Water

Members in Attendance:

Alex Davis, Andrea Cole, Andy Nye, Brian Tracy, Casey Davenport, Cynthia Lane, David Kamin, Dave Wissel, Dawn Jewell, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Greg Johnson, Heather Justus, Jamie Krezelok, Jarod Roberts, Kim Gortz, Lauren Pulver, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Loretta Daniel, Rachel Pence, Rick Marsicek, Sam Caulkins, Sarah Klahn, Shaden Musleh

Guests: Ona Buch-Leviatan, Audrey Seery, Meghan Bell, Courtney Massey, Erin Messner, Nate Pearson, Megan USGS, Audrey Brown & Caldwell, Kerry Major, Lottia Villalba (Aurora Water), Mark Shea, Rich Vidmar, Phyllis Thomas

CWCB: Jeff Rodriguez, Jackie Carnao, Jennalee Battson, Diane Kielty,

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions (1 min.)

2. Approval of [March 13, 2025, Meeting Summary](#) (1 min.)

The March 13, 2025, MRT Meeting Summary was approved by affirmation.

3. Agenda: additions or changes (1 min.) – Adjusted timing of presentations to accommodate schedules moving the Legislative Priorities and the Colorado River basin Update agenda items.

4. Public Comment (5 min.)

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

1. WSRF Balance Summary ([WSRF Budget Summary](#))

There is approximately \$500,000 in the account. The ask from Douglas County for \$250,000 is large ask. The County was approached about securing other funding from the CO Water Plan. They are looking at asking for only Water Plan funding at this time. They would not be permitted to use WSRF funds to match against a Water Plan grant. The CMWC ET Study & Floatovoltaic Design Project is being recommended by the Committee. The Youth Development Project is being recommended by the Committee. The Red Rocks Country Club Reservoir Improvement Project is being researched by the Committee for ties to the SPB BIP goals. This project is not being recommended by the Committee at this time.

If all requests were funded, the entire budget would be spent down. The Committee is considering a recommendation to set limits on amounts to award. The Committee plans to discuss limits which may involve guideline revisions. If MRT spends up to \$100,000 this cycle, then the fund would be fully replenished at the \$300,000 refresh. The Committee wants to ensure there are funds for the Spring Cycle. This is the reason for considering caps on project request amounts. There is 3 years' worth of annual fund refresh available for WSRF funds.

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

A briefing was provided on DNR budget issues in the Senate and House considering the upcoming business year. There was a suite of proposals regarding the utilization of severance tax funds. None of the severance tax changes will move forward.

The DNR efficiency measures is in Senate Appropriations.

SB25-054 – Mining Reclamation to facilitate abandon mine rock piles is in Senate Appropriations.

HB1115 – CWCB Supply Forecasting with a focus on snowpack is in Senate Appropriations.
HB1165 – Geothermal resources to clarify roles and responsibilities of permitting for geothermal resources and addresses historic hot springs was discussed.

There are three late bills.

HB1318 - Species Conservation Trust Fund passed forward to present to full House.

SB283 – Projects bill for funding river projects has not had its first Senate show.

HB1323 – Enhance recreation opportunities and protect natural resources. Expands CPW's ability to manage recreation in the State. Create program to clarify roles and coordinate with other state agencies and highlight execution of projects without impairing others' rights to water.

7. Dredge and Fill Municipal Perspective (Mark Shea, CO Springs Utilities) (20 Min.)

Draft Regulation arose out of changes at the Federal level when Waters of the United States were redefined and protection in the Federal 404 Program for gap waters changed. In the Colorado HB 24-1379 the State went beyond covering gap waters to cover all State Waters. The new State Control Regulation 87 is under development. The process and substance of the regulation was presented and discussed. Ongoing stakeholder meetings are underway, [Reg. 87 - Colorado Dredge and Fill Program Implementation \(HB24-1379\)](#) | [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment](#)

Draft Reg. 87 – Water Rights & Projects

- Summary of Potential Effects on Water Rights and Projects

1. Material injury to project water rights possible *IF* “mutually agreed to by the applicant and the division” = undue influence in permitting?
2. Long-term operation of water supply projects subject to dredge & fill construction permit conditions/requirements under “activity as a whole”
3. Individual permits for water supply projects required to be renewed every five years (similar to WWTF discharge permits)

8. IBCC Update (L. Darling/R. Marsicek) (15 min.) ([Link to IBCC Webpage](#))

The subcommittee continues to meet to cross walk discussions on the No and Low Regrets Strategy and C-9 topics of interest to focus on priorities for the C-9 agenda in June.

9. CWCB Update (10 min.)

1. Jeff Rodriguez (5 min.) – Jennalee Battson will be covering Jeff's responsibilities at MRT while he is on parental leave. Thirty projects in the Water Plan Program and sixteen in the WSRF Program were approved by the CWCB Board. One Water Day is June 20th, [One Water Day 2025 | CASFM](#). The Water Conditions Monitoring Committee will meet on April 22nd. Snowpack has been variable. They are anticipating a quicker melt out. They will have a projection on fire risks. 1051 data is due June 30th. CWCB offers free training on the required audit. The Climate and Water workshop occurred in Pueblo last week. The next one is April 23rd in Clifton. Registration closes on April 18th.
 - i. Water Plan Progress Report: <https://engagecwcb.org/water-plan-progress-report>
 - ii. 10 Strategies to Protect Irrigated Agriculture Report: https://engagecwcb.org/10strategies_to_protect_ag
 - iii. CWCB Guide: <https://engagecwcb.org/cwcb-guide>
 - iv. One Water Day: <https://tickets.botanicgardens.org/events/7c1895a6-b14b-a0dd-68d9-29f60d2c2800>
 - v. Ag Emergency Drought Response Program: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/funding/agricultural-emergency-drought-response-program>

- vi. Climate & Water Workshops: <https://engagecwcb.org/climate-water-workshops>
 - vii. For more CWCB Event information: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/fullcalendar>
 - viii. Colorado River issues: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/coloradoriver>
2. Greg Johnson (5 min.) – The March meeting was his introduction to the Board. Shoshone Water Rights will be coming before the Board, but there will not be an action item. It is likely that a hearing will be triggered which will trigger a mandatory 20-day timeline for the Board to address.

10. Committee Updates (30 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) (15 min.) ([Meeting April 8, 2025 at 3:30 pm](#)) – The next PEPO Committee meeting will take place on May 3rd from 3:00 – 4:00 pm. The Committee met on April 8th. The Colorado Watershed Assembly will be applying to continue the programs developed as the current PEPO Coordinator. The PEPO tasks are Committee Coordination, Organization, Facilitation, and Documentation, based on availability and capacity. The Committee is asking for input from the Roundtable to keep materials fresh and open to new ideas. The SPBRT received a presentation on the Platte River Recovery Implementation program that Wyoming, Colorado, and Nebraska has worked on for several years and it is working well. The Perkins Canal presentation may also be of interest to the MRT.
2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (*D. Nickum*) (5 min.) ([3.26.2025 Env Rec Watershed Meeting Summary Final](#)) – This Committee is in a rebuilding phase. No one stood for Chair. They are going to try a chair rotation approach.
3. M&I Committee (*A. Cole*) (5 min.) ([Meeting April 25, 2025, at 9:30 am](#)) – There was a robust meeting discussing RT led projects. They are circling back to develop questions that the Committee can ask of the CWCB leadership to ensure synergy working together. The questions will be brought to the Committee to review and prepare for the June C-9 Summit.
4. Colorado River Committee (*A. Davis*) (5. Min.) (No Meeting Summary) – The next meeting April 21st at 1:00 pm. This will be an assessment of the committee and its mission to ensure it is useful and meeting the mission.

11. Round Table Member Comments (5 min.)

The May meeting is the MRT Annual Meeting. Seats and committee roles and assignments will be reviewed. The membership attendance will also be reviewed.

12. Upcoming Public Meetings Schedule – See CWCB’s [Online Calendar](#) and [EngageCWCB.org](#)