

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Virtual and In-Person Meeting
Montrose Pavilion
May 19, 2025**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Sonja Chavez	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Mike Cleary	Crawford Water Conservancy District
Kathleen Curry	Saguache County
Bobbie Daniel	Mesa County
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Nancy Fishing	Montrose County
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Jonathan Hare	Environmental
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Wendell Koontz	At-Large Member
Mark LeValley	At-Large Member
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees
Scott Murphy	Montrose Municipalities
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Jim Plunhoffs	Industrial
Steve Pope	At-Large Member
Mark Ritterbush	Mesa Municipalities
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Dave Traylor	Ute WCD
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Henry Woods	Hinsdale Municipalities
Jerry Young	Tri-County WCD

Voting Members Excused/Absent:

Steve Anderson	Agricultural
Jonathan Houck	Gunnison County
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
William Tedrow	Delta Municipalities
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Vacant	Colorado River WCD

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Raquel Flinker (Colorado River Water Conservation District), Jeff Rodriguez (Colorado Water Conservation Board), Ryan Unterreiner (CPW Liaison).

Public: Riley Scott (Jeff Hurd's office), Bill Ketterhagen (Freshwater Trust), Steve Hale (Shavano Conservation District), Ashley Garrison (CWCB), Cally Hale (Delta Conservation District), Cindy Dozier (Club 20, RMRI), J Writer (unknown), Kestrel Kunz (American Whitewater), Rachel Sralla (CPW), Robert Sakata (CO Dept Ag), Savannah Nelson (PEPO), Cheryl Cwelich (River Network), L. Griffith (unknown), Amy Ostdiek (CWCB), Chris Herman and Megan Kent (The Colorado Rivermap).

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Wendell Koontz.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call a quorum was declared to be present.

Public Comment

None.

Agenda Approval

Wendell Koontz added 2 items to the Agenda: a presentation on the Colorado Rivermap Project, and Steve Hale from Shavano Conservation District on Z-Drip Technology.

Neal Schwieterman moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from the March 17, 2025 Meeting

Mark Roeber was added for attendance at the last meeting.

Nancy Fishing moved to approve the Minutes of the March 17, 2025 meeting as amended. Sonja Chavez seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Basin Implementation Plan Update (K. Curry, T. Alvey, W. Koontz)

Roundtable members reviewed and updated the BIP list for Gunnison County. The Roundtable will review the list for Delta County at the next meeting. The goal is to have all lists for the Gunnison Basin reviewed and updated by the end of the year.

Once the Roundtables have completed their updates the CWCB will review all the BIPs. The CWCB plans to hire a contractor for BIP list improvements in 2026-27.

PEPO Committee Report (Savannah Nelson)

The PEPO Committee focused its efforts on updating the Gunnison Basin Handbook, with a revised draft expected in July and a final version in September. The Committee is planning 3 events and the topics have been identified (dates to be determined). Next year's PEPO grant application is due June 1, requiring a letter of support. The newsletter is expected to be sent out within the following couple of weeks.

Steve Hale - Shavano Valley Conservation District

Steve Hale gave a presentation on low pressure N-Drip technology developed in Israel. The Shavano Valley Conservation District is requesting a letter of support from the Gunnison Basin Roundtable for a grant application to CWCB for a demonstration project covering 500 acres with the N-Drip low-pressure drip irrigation technology.

Nancy Fishing moved to provide a letter of support to Shavano Valley Conservation District for the N-Drip demonstration project. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion carried.

The Colorado Rivermap (Chris Herman and Megan Kent)

Chris Herman spoke to the Roundtable about The Colorado Rivermap project. The goal is to enhance recreation, stewardship and safety along Colorado's major rivers.

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies (Anna Greenburg)

Anna Greenburg, Wetland Program Manager for the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, gave a presentation on wetland habitat management guides they are creating for wetland habitat management. The purpose is to advance private lands wetlands conservation. They are applying for a CWCB PEPO Statewide Initiative Grant for this project and are asking the Roundtable for a letter of support.

Sonja Chavez moved to provide a letter of support for the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies for their grant request. Neal Schwieterman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Grant Review Committee Report (Tom Alvey)

Tom Alvey presented the following project application:

a. Cabin Reservoir Outlet Pipe Replacement

This project application is for \$12,000 from Basin funds for the Cabin Reservoir outlet pipe replacement. This reservoir is owned by an individual and Austin Keiser and the Grand Mesa Water Conservancy District stepped in to sponsor this item.

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the request from the Grand Mesa Water Conservancy District for \$12,000 from Basin funds for the Cabin Reservoir outlet pipe replacement. Kathleen Curry seconded and the motion carried. Austin Keiser abstained.

Colorado Water Conservation Board Report (Jeff Rodriguez and Amy Ostdiek)

Jeff Rodriguez gave updates on the following:

- Fluvial Hazard Mapping Training Survey
- CWCB has 2 new positions in these sections:
 - Flood and Watershed Protection
 - Water Supply Planning
- New info graphics available in print and electronic formats
- Upcoming CWCB deadlines:
 - June 1 WSRF deadline – PEPO Basin Coordinator and PEPO statewide grants
 - July 1st Water Plan Grant deadline

Amy Ostdiek gave an update on the Colorado River negotiations and the NEPA process, the Upper Division Refined Alternatives, and the BOR Alternatives Report. A draft EIS is expected by the end of the year.

Colorado River District Update (R. Flinker)

Raquel Flinker updated the Roundtable on the following:

- Reg. 87 Dredge and Fill stakeholder meeting
- 2025 Colorado General Assembly adjourned
- Shoshone Water Rights preservation project
- CMU Ruth Powell Hutchins Water Center seeking applications for Director
- CRD Annual Water Seminar will be October 3, 2025 in Grand Junction
- CRD Joint Funding Agreement
- Taylor Park Reservoir - 2025 Water Supply Forecast
- DARCA (Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance) non-profit supporting water users

Interbasin Compact Committee Report (K. Curry, M. Roeber)

The IBCC has not met since the last Roundtable meeting. Kathleen Curry had nothing new to report. Joanne Fagan is filling in on the IBCC subcommittee, which is currently working on a new version of the No and Low Regrets document. The next meeting will be June 25 in Grand Junction.

Legislative Update (K. Curry)

Kathleen Curry reported on the following legislative items:

- Budget concerns and several water-related bills.
- Upcoming summer legislative meetings: June 30, TBD August, September, and October.
- Senate Bill 40 establishes a task force for water bill funding discussions.

Gunnison Basin Snowpack update (Sonja Chavez)

Beverly Richards, Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, gave an update on the Gunnison Basin Snowpack. The report shows almost all of the western slope is experiencing drought conditions.

Other Business

John McCLOW mentioned his concern about the small amount of water plan grants being made for agricultural projects. Money is available and Ashley Garrison can help with the application process.

Jeff Rodriguez mentioned the public comment period on Shoshone at the CWCB meeting will be during the second half of the first day.

Future Meetings

The next regular Roundtable meeting is July 21, 2025 at the Montrose Pavilion.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting was declared adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Adam Turner, Recorder

Action Items

- PEPO Grant letter of support.
- Grant letter of support for Shavano Valley Conservation District's N-Drip Technology Studies.
- Grant letter of support to the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies for their CWCB PEPO Statewide Initiative Grant request.