



SPBRT Roundtable Meeting Summary

Tuesday, September 9th, 2025

Time: 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Roundtable Voting Members in Attendance: Brent Schantz, Donnie Dustin, Garrett Varra, Jason Gemmer, Jim Hall, Jim Yahn, John Kolanz, Julia Gallucci, Kevin Ross, Kirk Vincent, Larry Rogstad, Lisa Leben, Loretta Daniel, Lynda James, Scott Griebing, Sean Chambers, Stephen Larson

Roundtable Non-voting Members in Attendance: Casey Davenhill, Esther Malers, Mathew Schultz

Guests: Adam Kremers, Alana Helin, Carmen Farmer, Corey DeAngelis, Emily Villines, Greg Johnson, Jarod Roberts, Janice Marchman, Karen Schlatter, Kathi LaPoint, Krystle Morey, Micaela Vondy, Michael Welsh, Laura Chartrand, Lottia Villalba, Nels Bjarke, Noelle Fillo, Orna Buch-Leviatan, Patrick Wells, Skylar Zilliox, Tom Cech

CWCB: Jeff Rodriguez, Zach Salin

1. Welcome/Introductions (Sean Chambers – 5 min.)

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Sean Chambers at 4:00pm.
2. SPBRT thanked the [Upper South Platte Water Conservancy District](#) for hosting the tour and the monthly meeting. Tour participants visited the London Mine near Alma, CO where hard rock mine drainage is treated to remove metals before release into the headwaters. Then, the tour group visited Montgomery Reservoir where Colorado Springs Utilities staff provided an overview of their Blue River system and plans for an expansion of the reservoir.
3. New Member: Dawn Jewell- Arapahoe County Municipal Representative. The SPBRT welcomed Dawn Jewell (not in attendance).

2. Approval of Agenda (Sean Chambers – 5 min.)

It was moved by Scott Griebing to approve the agenda and seconded by Jim Yahn. The motion carried.

3. Approval of [SPBRT Meeting Summary August 12, 2025](#) (Sean Chambers – 2 min.)

Kirk Vincent moved to approve SPBRT Meeting Summary August 12, 2025. It was seconded by Larry Rogstad and the motion carried.

4. Public Comment (3 min.)

1. Noelle Fillo, a field trip attendee, expressed appreciation for the experience and recommended the annual tradition continue.
2. Kirk Vincent thanked Metro RT members for joining the tour and meeting. Specifically, Jarod Roberts was highlighted as an active participant in the joint ER&W meetings. The SPBRT values opportunities to partner and collaborate with the MRT.
3. Senator Janice Marchman, representing the Senate District 15 introduced herself (later in the meeting after the CWCB update). She will serve as chair for the Interim Water Resources and Agriculture Review Committee.

6. WSRF (Garrett Varra – 5 min.)

1. WSRF Update and SPBRT Funds Status CWCB Basin Account Funds: \$388,000 are in the account, to be allocated during Cycle 2 of 2025 and Cycle 1 of 2026.

2. [Cycle 2 Applications](#) Update: Eight applications have been received on the SPBRT website with a total ask of \$772,919 (almost double what is available in the account). Two applications need adjusted because they do not satisfy the WSRF requirement that the WSRF ask is at least 25% less than the total project cost. That revision would bring the total ask for Cycle 2 to \$733,000. The WSRF/Needs committee will meet and provide the memo of recommendations in advance of the November meeting. The RT is glad to have so many applicants.

Application Steps	Cycle 1 Deadlines	Cycle 2 Deadlines
Online summary proposal via www.southplattebasin.com/grants	March 1	September 1
Draft Full Application Submittal on CWCB Portal	3rd Friday in April	3rd Friday in October
RT Award Decision	May RT meeting	November RT meeting
Final Application submittal on CWCB Portal	June 1	December 1
CWCB Approval Meeting	September	March

The Cycle 2 Deadline for the online summary proposal was extended to Sept. 5, 2025

7. Committee Updates (25 min.) [Roundtable Meeting Records — The South Platte Basin](#)

[Link to Announce a Meeting Form - Add a meeting — The South Platte Basin](#)

1. PEPO Committee Update (Casey Davenhill – 10 min.)
PEPO- Public Education and Public Outreach
 - [08/28/25 meeting summary](#)
 - SPBRT's Arapahoe County Municipal Rep, Dawn Jewell, has connected PEPO with Michaela Vondy to develop engaging graphics and visuals for the "What is a Roundtable?" document. The document provides a background for what the RTs do and highlights the WSRF process to encourage membership, participation, and attendance. Other ideas to that end included more tours and a mentoring program for RT "veterans" to help newcomers integrate. Using the materials being developed for outreach, the South Platte Urban Waters Partnership (SPUWP) would likely hold a wealth of potential participants in Metro and SPBRT meetings. Jarod Roberts of the MRT was complimented for his participation in PEPO meetings.
2. ER&W Committee Update (Larry Rogstad – 10 min.)
ER&W- Environment, Recreation, and Watershed Health
 - [08/27/25 meeting summary](#)
 - ER&W discussed irrigated ag in the South Platte and its influence on wetlands. As requested by Casey Davenhill, CWCB created a separate document for [Appendix B](#) of the BIP; "Environmental and Recreational Focus Area Mapping Update." ER&W will try to summarize it. In the next meeting, ER&W will discuss the effects of converting riparian habitat as well as a topic presented by Jarod Roberts; beneficial recharge vs "nuisance water."
3. M&I Committee Updates (Jim Hall – 5 min.)
M&I- Municipal and Industrial
 - [08/28/25 meeting summary](#)
 - Aptly timed with the upcoming C9 Summit, M&I is seeking to better understand the committee's role in coordination with the RTs, IBCC, and CWCB since their goals often overlap, especially with municipal efficiency and conservation. The committee has developed questions to discuss with CWCB staff. The next virtual meeting is scheduled for 09/26/25 at 9:30am.

8. Membership Development (Casey Davenhill – 15 min.)

1. [What is a Roundtable?](#) Draft Document: The executive committee asked Casey Davenhill to develop an informational flyer about the RT to encourage new membership participation and increased attendance at meetings. From initial efforts and iterative feedback, Davenhill recommends the RT clarify the requirements and necessary qualifications for each seat and develop more digestible materials than the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act. For instance, the RT needs to disclose requirements like residential restrictions; for which seats are members obligated to reside within the SPB? Can residents within the Metro Basin boundaries join the SPBRT? *All feedback on the draft document (linked above) must be sent to Casey Davenhill before the C9 Summit.*
 - SPBRT guest, Noelle Fillo, suggested that the document or accompanying graphic representation portray different "tracks" of participation in the RT demonstrating the different roles: voting

member, non-voting member, guest, committee participant.

- CWCB liaison, Jeff Rodriguez, can provide additional resources about the RT structure and purpose. Additionally, the boundaries of each basin can be found with the "[CWCB Data Viewer](#)" (see layer "Basins_IBCC").
- Director of the Colorado Water Center, Karen Schlatter, shared an event focused on building understanding about local engagement opportunities: "Colorado Water Center is hosting a [Water Leadership Summit](#) on September 23, 2025 at CSU Spur. One of the sessions is about serving on water boards, commissions, etc., and the overall focus is to bring in folks and give them tools to get engaged in the water leadership space." Events like this are great opportunities for partnership and networking.
- At Large Industrial Representative, Brent Schantz, is developing a water education site and hopes to acquire WPG funds. The facility could partner with Front Range Community College and/or AIMS to develop water professionals (e.g. technicians installing data loggers). The facility will also serve as a museum, displaying items like chart recorders, vertical recorders, headgates, etc..

9. IBCC Update (Jim Yahn & Sean Cronin – 10 min.) ([Link to IBCC Webpage](#))

1. Next meeting- [C9 Summit](#) (October 28th & 29th, 2025): This will be a great event for RT, IBCC, and CWCB discussions. Tours like the September 9th field trip are valuable and yet another way to bring diverse stakeholders together for quality discussions.

10. "No and Low Regrets" / Drought Resilience Action Plan Discussion (Sean Chambers, Jeff Rodriguez, Pat Wells – 15 min.)

1. Update: The IBCC subcommittee (SC) continues to meet, will meet again before C9, and has added 3 or 4 new members. The focus is to create materials to facilitate discussions at the RT level. Those drafts are being reviewed by the SC members for feedback. A discussion of storage, originally planned for C9, has been postponed to allow the SC to finish their materials and for the IBCC to provide feedback. The goal is to identify "low hanging fruit" strategies to secure a more resilient water future for Colorado. The RTs and IBCC will contribute to this future by informing the BIPs, Colorado WP update, and technical update.

11. CWCB Update (20 min.)

1. CWCB Staff Report (Jeff Rodriguez – 10 min.):
 - [C9 Summit](#): Registration is [OPEN](#).
 - 10/28 will be conference styled and 10/29 will be a workshop.
 - Travel and reimbursements are available for BRTs.
 - Free to attend, but RSVP is required.
 - [Draft Agenda](#).



- Colorado River website (coloradoriver.com) has been launched and has great information.
- Water Supply Update:
 - No longer in D4.
 - 5% decrease in drought designations.
 - Precipitation is 84% of median.

- Reservoir storage is 78% of median.
- Emergency Wildfire & Flood Impacts
 - \$10M available for loans.
 - Emergency declaration needed.
 - Rolling applications accepted.
 - Contact Matt Stearns (matthew.stearns@state.co.us) with questions.
- Reminders:
 - WSRF Deadline 10/1/25.
 - WPG Deadline 12/1/25 (\$12M available and \$25M up for review in Board's September agenda).
 - TAFC Open – Rolling.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Final [Fluvial Futures](#) – 10/14/25.
 - Final [AG PWR](#) – 9/23/25.
 - [WCMC](#) 9/23/25.
 - CWCB Board Meeting ([agenda](#)) & [Shoshone Hearing](#) 9/16-18/25.
 - IBCC Meeting 10/29/25 at C9 Summit.
- ~~2. Director Wind Update (10 min.)~~ Not in attendance.

12. Member Updates (10 min.)

1. Lynda James reported that water law is being taught in a school in Conifer. If possible, it would be positive to inform the school about the RTs and learn what is being taught.
2. As a result of [HB25-1332](#), Sean Chambers was appointed to the "State Trust Lands Conservation & Recreation Work Group."
3. As a result of [SB25-040](#), Jim Yahn was appointed to the "Future of Severance Taxes & Water Funding Task Force."
4. Scott Griebing reported that ASO will have a 5% increase in costs.
5. 10/02/25 [Ag Water Summit](#) at AIMS Community College in Greeley.
6. 10/03/25 [South Platte Forum](#) at AIMS Community College in Greeley.

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

1. The October 14th meeting will take place at Northern Water.
 - More details to come, but a limited number of attendees will be given a tour of Chimney Hollow before the meeting (tentatively 1:45pm – 4:00pm).
2. The Southwest Weld County Building will be *closed* for Veterans Day (11/11/25).
 - *Instead*, SPBRT will meet at the Southwest Weld County Building on the **third Tuesday of November, 11/18/25.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:38pm