

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Virtual Meeting
Roubideaux Room, 320 West 5th Street, Delta, CO
July 19, 2021**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Steve Anderson	Agricultural
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Justin Blair	At-Large Member
Sonja Chavez	At-Large Member
Kathleen Curry	Saguache County
Cary Denison	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Jonathan Houck	Gunnison County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Wendell Koontz	At-Large Member
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
Scott Murphy	Montrose Municipalities
Julie Nania	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Jim Plumhoff	Industrial
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Richard Udd	Delta Municipalities

Voting Members Excused/Absent:

Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Mike Cleary	Crawford Water Conservancy District
John Justman	Mesa County
Jay Jutten	Montrose County
Dan Murphy	Hinsdale Municipalities
Mark Ritterbush	Mesa Municipalities
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Vacant	Colorado River Water Conservation District

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sam Stein (CWCB), Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), David Kanzer (CRWCD), Bob Hurford (Division of Water Resources), Ryan Unterreiner, (CPW).

Public:

Mike Lane (Delta County Commissioner), Cady and Linda Daniels (Cimarron, CO), Luke Gingerich (J-U-B), Raquel Flinker (Colorado River District), Liz Smith (Gunnison County Commissioner), Jason Reimer, PE (SGM), Kurt Smeltzer (Mesa Conservancy District), Paul Kehmeier (CO Department of Ag), Martha Moore (Ed Committee, Public), Tanya Ishikawa (UWP), Steve Anders (USGS), Suzie Bilberry (Delta Conservation District), Kyle Vanderberg (Redlands Water and Power Co), Russ Sands, Kat Weismiller and Elizabeth Schoder (CWCB), Lindsey Griffith (Brown and Caldwell), Luke Runyon (KUNC), Heather Sackett (Aspen Journalism), Trisha Solberg (USGS),.

Welcome

The meeting was called to order just after 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Kathleen Curry.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call a quorum was declared not to be present but eventually more members arrived and a quorum was declared present.

Agenda Approval

The Agenda was approved by consensus of members present at the time.

Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2021, Meeting

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2021, meeting as presented. Tom Alvey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Report from the CWCB Representative (Steve Anderson)

Steve Anderson reported the last CWCB meeting held in May. The next meeting will be this Wednesday and Thursday, and a long conversation on demand management is planned.

At the last meeting the board approved a loan for a little over \$1M for the Redlands Power Plant (Grand Valley Power Plant). There was an interesting presentation by the head of gaming for Colorado. It looks like \$6M will go to the Conservation Board from gaming in Colorado. There was also discussion about updating the Water Plan.

Steve discussed the water releases due to the drought will be about 181,000-acre feet, and stated it was a win/win and positive for everyone.

Steve announced he will be stepping down from the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users at the end of this year. The UVWUA Board is actively seeking his replacement, but he will continue to participate with the “water world.”

Demand Management Framework Discussion

The Demand Management Committee held two discussions for the purpose of making comments and changes to the original draft of the CWCB Demand Management Framework. John McClow summarized the committee’s comments and his summary document was emailed to roundtable members for review and discussion. After some discussion there were no objections to the summary document. Once a quorum was declared, a motion was made.

Jonathan Houck moved to adopt the summary of the Gunnison Basin’s comments to the CWCB Demand Management Framework. Michael Murphy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Education Committee Report (Dave Kanzer)

Dave Kanzer announced that he is stepping back and is looking for new leadership on the Education Committee, which includes a PEPO liaison role and other educational outreach. Martha Moore is also stepping back. Neal Schwieterman will still be involved. The current members of the Education Committee are Dave Kanzer, Allen Distel, Marti Whitmore, Neal Schwieterman, Mark Roeber, and John McClow.

It was suggested the Roundtable revisit the search for grant money to augment the funds the Roundtable receives for education. Dave stated \$6,500 is not enough to fund everything in the plan. Dave also suggested reaching out to conservation districts and others for interest in the education committee.

They have been working on the EAP and Dave does not recommend much change to it for this next year but would like some direction. The EAP sets goals and objectives for the upcoming year.

A proposal was received from Friends of Youth and Nature. Neal Schwieterman said they had utilized the money well, leveraging it for additional funding, and he encouraged the roundtable to fund them again.

There will be some time dedicated on the September agenda to discuss funding needs versus what the roundtable would like to accomplish, as well as Martha Moore’s replacement to help with the website and social media. The EAP will be sent out again to members to review before the meeting. Kathleen Curry will send out a letter to organizations for funding requests.

IBCC Report (Joanne Fagan, Mark Roeber, Cary Denison)

Joanne Fagan reported the IBCC did not meet since the last GBRT meeting and will not meet again until October. Demand management and equities will be on the agenda.

Russ George has left and will no longer be involved with the IBCC and maybe not the CWCB. The DNR is in the process of looking for a new IBCC Director, which is appointed by the Governor.

Sam Stein said at the last meeting they sent out a survey to engage IBCC members on the equity and proportionality on the framework, and he thinks they will continue to discuss this topic and the results of the survey at the October 21, 2021, meeting.

It was suggested we discuss in September the equity and proportionality issues between the east and west slopes on how to share the shortages, and to give the GBRT IBCC representatives some feedback on what equity means to the GBRT.

BIP Update (Luke Gingerich)

Luke Gingerich reported on the status of Volume I and Volume II of the BIP Update. Volume I is a summary of the basin. Everyone should look at it before the September meeting and bring comments. It focusses on goals and remains very similar to the 2015 BIP, highlighting existing uses in the Gunnison Basin. Volume II is four technical memoranda, which highlight the items the Committee focused on in the Gunnison Basin.

The Roundtable will review the projects list at September meeting. Volume I and Volume II will be available for review online in mid-August. Luke said the project is now out of budget.

Code of Conduct Discussion

Kathleen Curry reminded members at the last meeting the decision was made to table this item and bring it back for further discussion at this meeting. Members briefly discussed the Code of Conduct and only comments in support were made.

Jonathan Houck moved to approve the Code of Conduct as presented. Neal Schwieterman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Grant Review Committee Report

Tom Alvey stated there were no grant applications for this meeting, and there is nothing in the works for projects now.

Sam Stein discussed the status for new funding. After the latest round of Covid stimulus there is \$5M to split between basin accounts and the statewide account, which will give \$200,000 to each basin account. Those funds will have to be approved by the May 2023 CWCB meeting. Those funds will be used first, before the current balance in the account. This means the GBRT will need to have those funds approved no later than the January 2023 meeting. This information should be put on the newsletter or on the website to let people know.

Public Comment

None.

Other Business

Justin Blair introduced himself as a new member of the Roundtable, offering to help where he can.

Tom Alvey thanked Dave Kanzer for everything he has done for the Roundtable.

Future Meetings

The next regular Roundtable meeting is September 20, 2021.

There will be a virtual zoom meeting called “Water with Your Lunch” on Colorado River issues. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 5, 2021, at noon.

The River District Annual Seminar is Friday, October 1, 2021, in person at CMU.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

Kathleen Curry will send out a letter to organizations for funding requests for the Education Committee.