

**Yampa/White/Green River
Basin Roundtable
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 8, 2020
Moffat County Pavilion
640 East Victory Way Craig, CO 81625
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Alden Vanden Brink.
- 2. Introduction of Members and Audience:** Members and guests introduced themselves. See attached sign-in.
- 3. Approve/Modify Agenda:** Deirdre Macnab asked if she could distribute information to the Roundtable members. Ken Brenner motioned to approve the agenda, Callie Hendrickson seconded, the motion passed.
- 4. Review and Approval of November 13, 2019 Minutes:** Doug Monger motioned to approve the November 13 draft minutes. Tom Gray seconded, the motion passed.
- 5. Budget Report CWCB: Craig Godbout** reported that the basin balance is currently \$682,291, and the Statewide balance is roughly \$5.3 million.
- 6. Public Hearings/Public Input and Comment:** There was none.
- 7. Reports of Applicable Standing or Special Committees:**
 - a. Big River Committee: (15 min)** Jeff Meyers reported that the BRC meetings discussion centered around a recent report regarding perceptions of demand management. By the end of this year, the committee will be able to create a statement that supports practices around demand management that the entire Roundtable approves of. The committee will meet again in February. Jeff reminded members to get on the Big River Committee email list if they are interested and not already on it. The BRC will give a presentation at the March meeting.
 - b. PEPO Committee Update & EAP Approval: (15 min)** Kelly Romero-Heaney/ Patrick Stanko reported that he brought 75 copies of the Headwater magazine to this meeting for distribution. Patrick pointed out that there is an article on demand management inside the magazine. The PEPO Committee is asking that the Roundtable approval of the Education Action Plan (EAP) that is located in the meeting packet. Essentially this EAP looks like 2019s EAP with the addition of youth education via Yampatika. There is a budget of \$6,500 that PEPO uses to primarily cover advertisement, the remaining funds used for the EAP come from the PEPO CAA WSRF grant, which expires in August 2020. There will be a new PEPO CAA WSRF grant request coming before the Roundtable in March. Jackie Brown motioned to approve the EAP with an update to the membership list. Ken Brenner second. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Grant Committee: (5 min) Steve Hinkemeyer reported that there is \$133,000 left in the grant fund. The Upper Yampa grant request will be heard at the next CWCB meeting. Steve reminded members that March 22nd is the deadline for the next grant cycle. Those grants will be heard for a first grant meeting on February 12th. The grant committee has only received one grant request at this time.

d. DWR Update: (15 min) Erin Light discussed the Water Education (WECO) article that came out. Erin explained that she and Mike Camblin both felt misrepresented and felt that they were misquoted, and together they responded to the article. Erin asked that members read the follow-up letter to the editor that they wrote. The deadline to submit records was in November. Erin reminded members of how crucial records are. Erin explained the amount of work that water commissioners put into tracking where the water goes, how it's delivered, and inputting records. Two cases recently went before Judge Ohara. Records were reviewed going back several years, despite the water commissioners' efforts in documenting these records, the records were considered inadmissible. The absolute water right could not be substantiated because the landowner had not recorded his use. Erin explained that while trials are rare in Division 6, it was a good learning opportunity. Keeping this scenario in mind, Erin encouraged water users to check their records, and to record their highest diversion and provide that data to their water commissioner. Alden Vanden Brink asked if water users under "free river conditions" needed to have a water right to divert the water and use it. Erin answered no. Erin explained that if someone is diverting above their water right and putting it to beneficial use, they can do that. If they are diverting under "free river conditions," they do not need to measure that use and provide it to Division 6, but it would be beneficial for them down the road if they wanted to make it an absolute right.

8. New Business:

a. Technical Update Findings BIP Next Steps: (60 min) Russ Sands, Greg Johnson, Matt Linberg, Kara Sobieski, and Lisa Brown gave a [presentation](#). This group, along with Basin Roundtables, will be working on updating Basin Implementation Plans over the next two years. This process is the first statewide water initiative since the water plan. The group noted that this was the first time we've been able to put needs on equal footing. A mixture of IBCC and Roundtable members helped drive this process. A local expert will be hired part-time; they will report to the general contractor and will have a set of deliverables to meet. There is \$120,000 in funding for a local expert, \$20,000 for a subject matter expert, \$140,000 to the general contractor, and \$10,000 for workshops to get the local expert up to speed. The group went over data and gaps that can be found in the presentation. Next steps include releasing the RFQ in January with a February 28th closing date. The Roundtable will submit their final rankings to B&C by March 27th. B&C will hire local experts and contract with them by April 10th. There will be a three-day local expert workshop that Roundtable Chairs can attend April 28th – April 30th. There will be a draft BIP work plan by July 10th. Ideally, they are looking for someone

from the Basin that can work with the Roundtable. That can gather information on IPPs, is a good communicator, has technical analysis skills unless the Basin utilizes people from the tech team for analysis. A packet will be sent to the Roundtable that outlines duties; the Roundtable will have the opportunity to add to that. The local expert does not have to be from the Basin. When asked how this Basin should handle the complexities between the white and the green, they determined that this Basin may need to hire a lead local expert and a part-time second expert. It was noted that completed projects can be integrated into the cost tool.

b. Y & W BIP Modeling Next Steps: Alden reminded members that 2014 was when the Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) was completed, he encouraged members to familiarize themselves with the document. The Roundtable cannot undertake compact issues in the BIP review process. If the Roundtable wants to undertake those specific issues, it will have to be done through other funding means. Alden reminded members to review the 8 goals outlined in the BIP, and encouraged members to share any other ideas they may have. Jackie Brown pointed out that measurable goals and outcomes will build on the IPP portion of the database. The Roundtable was reminded of the demand management study that is ongoing, the meetings are open to the public. By way of hand 8 members indicated their interest in participating in a BIP Committee, the recorder will send out an email for members to confirm their desire to participate. The group discussed a potential workshop for Roundtable members that would allow newer members to get up to speed. If this could be done, the Roundtable would prefer to pay Wilson Water to come up and dive into the work that has already been done. The workshop could also include funding to get the tech chair up to speed.

c. Demand Management: Alden Vanden Brink stated that this item was for general discussion. The Big River Committee has been working through this topic and is hoping to come up with a policy definition. Jeff Meyer is steering this effort. The committees desire is that demand management conversations should be revolving around feasibility. The Big River Committee is planning to hold a meeting in February to discuss further. Jackie Brown also shared that the CWCB has built workgroups for demand management. There are 7 working groups, with the 8th being the IBCC. Each group has met at least once. If members attend water congress, they will have the opportunity to hear from one person from each group. All of this information can be found on the CWCB website. It's on one of the main pages, or demand management can be searched. All the meetings are public. Kent Vertrees expressed his concern about the amount of water that we could potentially send downstream in the future, without having accurate data on how much water we are currently using here. Kent expressed his desire for members to support the ag community in their efforts to get devices on their ditches, sooner rather than later. As the recreation representative he emphasized the need for ag to be fully functional and thriving, in order for recreation to be possible. It was noted that if this Basin is trying to keep as much water in Colorado as possible, then it needs to have verifiable proof of its use. Kent reiterated his desire for Roundtable members to make an effort to help the ag community get devices into place, so that in the future when we are no longer a free river,

this community doesn't lose its water. Tamara Newman supported Kent's rec comment and stated that the same is true for every environmental interest on the river. She suggested that first, the conversation needs to shift from supplying a piece of equipment that people can't afford to purchase objects that protect people's water rights. Upper Yampa is in the process of securing funding to help fund structures, Roundtable members were encouraged to share that information with people. It was pointed out that the Basin is also missing expertise, as ag producers they know they have a problem, but may not know what to do about it. It's also really hard to find a contractor to install devices.

9. Consideration/Action on Roundtable Projects:

a. IWMP Reappointment of Committee Members/Chair & Update: (15 min) Nicole Seltzer gave the update. The IWMP Committee piloted the assessment process on five structures last fall. They will work on a priority matrix over the next month or so. Segment coordinators have been conducting interviews with irrigators. The next IWMP meeting is tomorrow afternoon January 9th the committee will be discussing tributaries, will receive its 1st financial report from the River District, the Roundtable will get a similar financial presentation in mid-2020. The group will discuss methods that Friends of the Yampa, Community Ag Alliance, and Segment Coordinators will use to track data, the RFP for environment and rec assessments, the committee's function, and suggestions on how the committee could function better. Of the committees, 22 members 21 of them would like to be reappointed. Geoff would like to be reappointed as the Committee Chair, Doug Davis would like to be added to the committee, Doug Monger moved to approve the recommended appointments, with the addition of Doug Davis and to approve Geoff Blakeslee as Committee Chair. Kelly Romero-Heaney second, the motion passed unanimously.


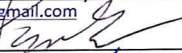

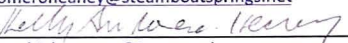
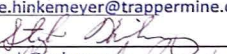
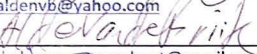



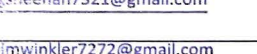
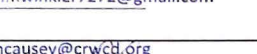

b. Yampa River Fund Appointment: (10 min) Kelly Romero-Heaney reported that the Yampa River Fund has launched, their steering committee is hoping to release application in early February. The Yampa River Fund wants to reach \$4.75 million dollars in funding by the end of 2021, as of December 2019 the fund had already reached \$3.7 million in pledges. The Roundtable needs to appoint a member to sit on that committee. Ken Brenner nominated Will Myers, Doug Monger seconded, all were in favor.

10. Announcements: Alden Vanden Brink announced that the Roundtable is seeking recommendations for two individuals, one from the Yampa and one from the White. These individuals will be participating in a CSU Water Archives Oral History Video. Alden encouraged members to send their recommendations to himself, Jackie Brown, or April McIntyre by January 31st. Erin Light addressed extension requirements for installing measuring devices. The Division 6 office wants to help water users come into compliance. If a water user needs an extension, they need to request the extension from Erin via email, with a date that the device can be installed. Erin's office has issued roughly 100 extensions so far. Patrick Stanko announced that PEPO is hosting the State of the River on March 31st in Craig, April 1st in Steamboat. As well as the White River Water Expo on January 17th, in Meeker from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Kent Vertrees

announced Friends of the Yampa was invited to visit Washington DC. During their trip, they will be discussing the Yampa Basin and the Clean Water Act. In following up with the handouts Deirdre passed out at the beginning of the meeting, Deirdre stated she believes everyone on the Roundtable has the same goal, which is to find efficient "need" means. She encouraged members to read her hand out pertaining to the opposition of the Colorado Division of Water Resources, in response to the court filing for conditional water rights on the Wolf Creek Reservoir. As the Roundtable is financially contributing to the feasibility study, Deirdre believes that this information should be shared with Roundtable members. The March 11th Basin Roundtable meeting will be held at the Clarion Inn & Suites.

11. Dates and Agenda Items for Future Meetings: Next meeting March 11, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Membership of the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable 2020		Name	Term Exp.	Jan, 8	Apr, 11	May, 13	Jul, 8	Sep, 9	Nov, 11	Signature/email
1	Routt County Commissioners Appointment:	Doug Monger	2023							<u>dmonger@co.routt.co.us</u> 
2	Moffat County Commissioners Appointment: (IBCC Rep through 2019)	Tom Gray	2023							<u>trgray7@gmail.com</u> 
3	Rio Blanco County Commissioners Appointment:	Si Woodruff	2023							<u>si.woodruff@rbc.us</u> 
4	Garfield County Commissioners Appointment: (Vaccant Never filled)									
5	Routt County Municipality Appointment:	Kelly Romero-Heaney	2023	X						<u>kromeroheaney@steamboatsprings.net</u> 
6	Moffat County Municipality Appointment:	Stephen Hinkemeyer	2023	X						<u>steve.hinkemeyer@trappermine.com</u> 
7	Rio Blanco County Municipality Appointment: (White Vice Chair through 2019)	Alden Vanden Brink	2024							<u>aldenvb@yahoo.com</u> 
8	Upper Yampa Conservancy District Appointment: (IBCC Rep through 2018)	Ken Brenner	2023	X						<u>kpbrenner@steamboat@gmail.com</u> 
9	Juniper Water Conservancy District Appointment: (Yampa Vice Chair through 2019)	Mike Camblin	2023	X						<u>mcamblin@camblininc.com</u> 
10	Yellow Jacket Water Conservancy District Appointment	Shawn Welder	2023							<u>shawnw@cmn.com</u> 
11	Pothook Water Conservancy District Appointment:	J Sheehan	2023							<u>jsheenan7321@gmail.com</u> 
12	Rio Blanco Conservancy District	Tim Winkler	2020							<u>timwinkler7272@gmail.com</u> 
13	Colorado River Water Conservation District Appointment:	Hunter Causey	2023	X						<u>hcausey@crwcd.org</u> 

14	House/Senate Appointment:	Callie Hendrickson	2023									callie.districts@gmail.com <i>Callie Hendrickson</i>
	At-large Appointments from above members			Jan, 8	Apr, 11	May, 13	Jul, 8	Sep, 9	Nov, 11		Signature/email	
15	Environmental Appointment:	Brian Hodge	2023	X							Brian.Hodge@tu.org <i>Brian Hodge</i>	
16	Agricultural Appointment:	Will Myers	2023	X							will@headwatersengineering.com <i>Will Myers</i>	
17	Recreation:	Kent Vertrees	2022	X							kent@friendsoftheyampa.com	
18	Domestic Water Provider:	Frank Alfone	2022								falfone@mwwater.com	
19	Industrial Water Interest:	Rich Thompson	2022								rthompson@tristatetg.org	
20	At-Large Representative:	Jeff Meyers	2022								cayotetree@comcast.net <i>Jeff Meyers</i>	
21	At-Large Representative:	Jackie Brown	2022	X							jbrown@tristatetg.org <i>Jackie Brown</i>	
22	At-Large Representative:	Jeff Comstock	2022								jcomstock@moffatcounty.net <i>Jeff Comstock</i>	
23	At-Large Representative:	Doug Davis	2022								ddavis@gmail.com <i>Doug Davis</i>	
24	At-Large Representative:	Chuck Whiteman	2021	X							cwa@joblaxco.com <i>Chuck Whiteman</i>	
25	At-Large Representative:	Deirdre Macnab	2021								didmacnab@earthlink.net <i>Deirdre Macnab</i>	
26	At-Large Representative:	Chuck G. Grobe	2021								cgrobe@moffatcounty.net <i>Chuck Grobe</i>	
27	At-Large Representative:	Travis Day	2021								wpss1999@gmail.com	

28	At-Large Representative:	Bill Badaracca	2021									fairsquareoffice@gmail.com
29	At-Large Representative:	Vince Wilczek	2021	X								brotwilczek@gmail.com <i>Vince Wilczek</i>
	At-large Appointments from above members			Jan, 8	Apr, 11	May, 13	Jul, 8	Sep, 9	Nov, 11			Signature/email
30	Green River Basin Representative	T. Wright Dickinson	2021									twd@vermillionranchlp.com
31	Non Voting that live outside the Basin that hold water rights in the Basin	Patrick O'Toole	2021									h2otoole@gmail.com
32	Non Voting that live outside the Basin that hold water rights in the Basin		2021									
33	Non Voting that live outside the Basin that hold water rights in the Basin		2021									
34	Non-Voting Colorado Water Conservation Board Representative	Jackie Brown	no term	X								jbrown@tristategt.org <i>Jackie Brown</i>

Guest Sign-In Sheet

Name	Affiliation
Dale Peterson	CNCC
Courtney Black	INTRA

Want to join our notification list? Add your email address below.
Please remember to mark yampawhitegreen@gmail.com as safe so our emails find their way to your inbox

Name	Email Address
Dale Peterson	dwpeterson65@gmail.com
Courtney Black	cblack@intra.com