

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Virtual and In-Person Meeting
Upstairs at Precedence, Montrose, Colorado
May 16, 2022**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Steve Anderson	Agricultural
Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Mike Berry	Tri-County WCD
Justin Blair	At-Large Member
Sonja Chavez	At-Large Member
Mike Cleary	Crawford Water Conservancy District
Kathleen Curry	Saguache County
Cary Denison	Environmental
Allen Distel	Bostwick Park WCD
Joanne Fagan	Ouray Municipalities
Nancy Fishing	Montrose County
Steve Fletcher	At-Large Member
Jonathan Houck	Gunnison County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Wendell Koontz	At-Large Member
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
Scott Murphy	Montrose Municipalities
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:

John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees
Scott McInnis	Mesa County
Chuck Mitisek	Ute WCD
Dan Murphy	Hinsdale Municipalities
Julie Nania	Upper Gunnison River WCD
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), Raquel Flinker (CRWCD), Bob Hurford (DWR), Jedd Sondergard (BLM).

Public:

Marcel Orton and Calvin Harward (Harward Engineering), Mark LeValley (Grand View Irrigation), Jake Hartter (Western Slope Conservation Center), Hannah Holm (American Rivers), Tom Kai (Short Ditch Company), Shana Harness (Grand Mesa Natural Resource Consult), Nora Flynn (CWCB), Cindy Dozier (Club 20, COFWA, RMRI), Steven Morris (Applegate Group), Melissa Wills and Amy Moyer (Colorado River District), Lori and Randy Hobbs (Deutsch Domestic Water), Paul Kehmeier (CO Dept of Agriculture), John Justman (public), Cloe Lewis (SWCA), Megan O'Grady (CWCB), Suzie Bilberry (Delta Conservation District), Steve Pope (UVWUA).

Welcome

The meeting was called to order shortly after 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Steve Anderson.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call a quorum was declared to be present.

Agenda Approval

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the agenda as presented. Tom Alvey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from the March 21, 2022, Meeting

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022 meeting as presented. Jim Plumhoff seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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

The IBCC has not met since the last Roundtable meeting. The next IBCC meeting will be a hybrid meeting scheduled for the end of June.

CWCB Report (Steve Anderson)

The CWCB last met just prior to the last Roundtable meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for the next two days (May 17-18) in Breckenridge. The agenda topics of note are water from the South Platte River and the draft of the Colorado Water Plan and its public comment period.

Education Committee Report (Raquel Flinker)

Raquel Flinker reported the committee has met a couple of times. They are working on the application for PEPO funds. The deadline is June 1 to submit the application. The Education Committee to focus on school programs, newsletters, and website work. The Roundtable discussed outreach strategies, support of school programs, hiring someone for administrative assistance and putting more emphasis on advertising for the GBRT meetings.

Grant Review Committee Report (Tom Alvey)

Tom Alvey introduced these items.

Grandview Headgate and Water Optimization Project:

This request is for \$98,500 to complete parts of a large BOR/NRCS project to pipe the Grandview Ditch in the Crawford area. The Grandview Ditch needs funds for final parts of this project that the BOR/NRCS will not cover. They need funds for the diversion structure out of the Smith Fork, a small regulating reservoir and structures, and SCADA equipment. This is a needed project that will improve water use efficiency, reduce salinity and improve water management. It is a listed project in the BIP. The total project costs are \$3,794,906, with matching funds of \$3,633,712 from the BOR/NRCS and the River District and \$65,000 (\$40,000 cash, \$25,000 in kind) from the applicant. The Committee recommendation is for \$40,000 from the Basin WSRF account. The committee supports the project but feels the applicant should contribute more to the match.

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the committee recommendation of \$40,000 from the basin WSRF account for the Grandview Headgate and Water Optimization Project. Wendell Koontz seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Short Ditch Engineering Services:

This proposal is for a total project cost of \$27,000 for engineering to evaluate and make recommendations for the improvement of an upper section of the Short Ditch near Hotchkiss. The Short Ditch diverts water from the North Fork and irrigates approximately 2400 acres. Its upper section runs between the river, a county road and the railroad and is a danger due to leaking and rockfall. The Short Ditch Company would like to obtain an engineering design and evaluation of the risks for the Ditch. The Short Ditch is identified in the BIP for improvement. The Company is asking for \$24,000 from the WSRF and is contributing \$3000 to the project. The Screening Committee recommends funding \$12,000 from WSRF. The amount will allow the applicant to get started on the project and is more in line with what we would like to see for the company share. There has not been an engineering firm selected and the scope of the project is a little vague, so the total costs are uncertain.

Kathleen Curry moved to approve the committee recommendation of \$12,000 from the WSRF basin account for engineering and design services to improve an upper section of the Short Ditch near Hotchkiss. Nancy Fishing seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Deutsch Domestic Water Company (Randy Hobbs, CEO)

Randy Hobbs gave a presentation on their grant request for the Deutsch Domestic Water Company. They are requesting a letter of support for their CWCB water storage project grant application.

Cary Denison moved the Gunnison Basin Roundtable provide a letter of support for the Deutsch Domestic Water Company's storage project grant application. Wendell Koontz seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Amy Moyer, CRWCD)

Amy Moyer and Raquel Flinker gave a presentation on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Raquel gave an overview of other sources of water grant funding, types of funding, amounts, and when the application processes open and close.

Public Comment

None.

Other Business

Nancy Fishing mentioned Chris Stern who did a presentation on watershed mapping. Chris will be on our next meeting agenda.

Sonja Chavez announced she will be assuming the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District position on the Roundtable and leaving her At-Large position. She has also been appointed as a Commissioner on the Water Quality Control Commission.

Future Meetings

The next regular Roundtable meeting is at 3:00 p.m. on July 18, 2022 at the Roubideau Room in Delta.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.



Mike Berry, Recorder

Action Items

The Roundtable to provide a letter of support for the Deutsch Domestic Water Company's storage project grant application.