

**Interbasin Compact Committee
Gunnison Basin Roundtable Meeting
Virtual and In-Person Meeting
Delta
September 16, 2024**

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Alvey	North Fork WCD
Steve Anderson	Agricultural
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 Houck	Gunnison County
Austin Keiser	Grand Mesa WCD
Mark LeValley	At-Large Member
John McClow	House and Senate Ag Committees
Michael Murphy	Hinsdale County
Scott Murphy	Montrose Municipalities
Bill Nesbitt	Gunnison Municipalities
Mark Ritterbush	Mesa Municipalities
Dave Traylor	Ute WCD
Adam Turner	Local Domestic Water Supplier
Henry Woods	Hinsdale Municipalities
Jerry Young	Tri-County WCD

Voting Members Excused/Absent:

Bruce Bair	At-Large Member
Sonja Chavez	Upper Gunnison River WCD
Wendell Koontz	At-Large Member
Jim Plumhoff	Industrial
Steve Pope	At-Large Member
Mark Roeber	Delta County
Neal Schwieterman	Recreational
Martha Whitmore	Ouray County
Vacant	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Vacant	Delta Municipalities
Vacant	Environmental

Liaisons and Non-Voting Members Present:

Sharon Dunning (Assistant Recorder), Raquel Flinker (CRWCD), Jeff Rodriguez (CWCB), Bob Hurford (DWR), Ryan Unterreiner (CPW Liaison).

Public:

Randi Kim (City of Grand Junction), Paul Kehmeier (CO Dept Ag), Trisha Solberg (USGS Western Colorado), Curt Haskins (Juniata Ditch Company), Evan Jones (DWR), Ashley Garrison (CWCB), Nick Emmendorfer (J-U-B Engineers), Robert Sakata (CO Dept Ag), Tanya Ishikawa (Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership), Mike Fabbre (MCBWSD), Cindy Dozier (Club 20), Savannah Nelson (PEPO), Steven Crisp (Buckhorn Engineering),

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Kathleen Curry.

Roll Call/Introductions

After roll call a quorum was declared to be present.

Agenda Approval

Kathleen Curry requested an addition to the Agenda to discuss three legislative bills that have been put forward by the Water Resources and Ag Review Committee.

Allen Distel moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Bill Nesbitt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2024 Meeting

Tom Alvey moved to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2024 meeting as submitted. Bill Nesbitt seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Membership Update (Kathleen Curry)

Kathleen Curry gave an update on the vacant Environmental At-Large and Delta County Municipalities seats on the Roundtable. There were no applications received for either position and Wendell Koontz would like to advertise again. Roundtable members are encouraged to reach out to people they know who might be interested and eligible for these positions.

Education Committee Report (Savannah Nelson)

Savannah Nelson reported she is currently working on the letter to the editor campaign and compiling the fall newsletter, which will be sent out by the end of the month. Members should let her know if they have anything to include in the newsletter by the end of September.

Grant Review Committee Report (Tom Alvey)

Tom Alvey reported on the following two project proposals.

a. Juniata Ditch Enlargement Project

This is a request from the City of Grand Junction for \$32,000 from basin funds, and \$68,000 from state funds, for design work for piping and lining of the Juniata Ditch.

Allen Distel moved to approve the request from the City of Grand Junction for \$32,000 from basin funds and \$68,000 from state funds for the Juniata Ditch Enlargement Project. Nancy Fishing seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

b. Big Blue Ditch Diversion Rehabilitation and Piping Project

This is a request from Cimarron Valley & River Watershed Coalition (CVRWC) for \$40,000 from basin funds, and \$82,000 from state funds, to reconstruct the diversion and pipe the first 500 feet of the Big Blue Ditch in the Cimarron drainage area.

Bill Nesbitt moved to approve the request from Cimarron Valley & River Watershed Coalition for \$40,000 from basin funds, and \$82,000 from state funds, for the Big Blue Ditch Diversion Rehabilitation and Piping Project. Joanne Fagan seconded. Allen Distel abstained. The motion carried.

2024 WRSF Funding

Jeff Rodriguez gave an update on WSRF fund balances and anticipated future funding.

Colorado Water Conservation Board Report (Jeff Rodriguez)

a. CWCB Guide – Jeff Rodriguez

The CWCB is still looking for input/feedback on the draft CWCB Guide. Comments are due by November 1. They hope to submit the final at the November board meeting.

b. BIP Project Database Update – Kathleen Curry

The BIP Project Database update is underway. Roundtables will be updating their project lists with missing data. Current project lists will be sent to the Roundtable Chairs. Once available the GBRT project list will be sent out to members and updates will be discussed at the November meeting. Updates will be received through next spring and the lists will be completed sometime around July.

c. General Updates – Jeff Rodriguez

- The C9 Summit will be in Crested Butte this year. There is still space available and some funding is available for reimbursement for lodging and mileage.
- There are two grant programs open right now:
 - Colorado Ag Water Alliance Drought Resiliency Grants, accepting applications until December 13.
 - Turf Replacement Grant Program, open until October 31.
- Colorado Webinar Series is moving to every other month. The next webinar will be on October 17.
- A new program is being launched for standard infographics.

Colorado River District Update (Raquel Flinker)

Raquel Flinker discussed the following topics for the Colorado River District.

a. Shoshone Project Grant Application Letter of Support

The Colorado River District is requesting a letter of support for their grant application for funding through the Upper Basin Environmental Drought Mitigation (B2E) program to acquire and permanently protect the historic Shoshone water rights in Western Colorado.

Tom Alvey moved to issue the letter as submitted. Steve Fletcher seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

b. General Updates

- The Colorado River District’s annual seminar is this Friday, September 20, in Grand Junction. The cost is \$30 to attend.
- The River District board’s budget meeting will be Thursday, September 19, and the board meeting will be on October 16 and 17.
- The states are exploring a water conservation credit.
- Grant program funds are available for Gunnison Basin.
- Contributing entities and funding sources for Shoshone water rights acquisition.

Interbasin Compact Committee Report (Joanne Fagan, Mark Roeber)

Joanne Fagan reported there has not been an IBCC meeting and they will not meet again until next year.

a. No and Low Regret Strategies Document Feedback

The Roundtable is being asked to work with the IBCC members to come up with up to three additional ideas for each of the following action areas: Vibrant Communities, Robust Agriculture, Thriving Watersheds, and Resilient Planning. CWCB Staff will collect this information from IBCC members in December and it will be the focus of the February IBCC meeting. Roundtable members discussed various ideas. The topic will be discussed again at the November Roundtable meeting.

b. IBCC Appointment

This topic will also be addressed at the Roundtable meeting in November. Anyone applying should submit information for what they might want to do as the representative. There is an opening for a regular and an alternate IBCC Representative.

Water Resources and Ag Review Committee (Kathleen Curry)

Kathleen Curry reviewed three legislative bills related to water that have been put forward by the Water Resources and Ag Review Committee. They will be considering these bills in Denver on Wednesday, September 18.

Public Comment

None.

Other Business

- a. C9 Summit on October 1 and 2
- b. CAWA Drought Resiliency Program Request for Proposals

Future Meetings

The next regular Roundtable meeting is November 18, 2024 in the Roubideau Room in Delta, CO.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Roundtable, the meeting was declared adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Adam Turner, Recorder

Action Items

- Receive BIP project list from Jeff Rodriguez and email out to Roundtable members
- Issue Shoshone Project Grant Application Letter of Support
- No and Low Regret Strategies Document Feedback
- Receive letters of interest for IBCC Seats to vote on at next meeting
- Advertise two vacant member seats on Roundtable