

Joint WSRF Subcommittee Meeting Summary
Review draft Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Criteria and Guidelines

South Platte Basin & Metro Roundtables
August 18, 2022
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

In Attendance:

Bob Peters, Diane Kielty, Barb Biggs, Ken Lykens, Jim Hall, Scot Griebing

2:30 – Introductions

1. WSRF Guiding Documents

a. Align documents

Is there a reason the two roundtable WSRF guiding documents are not the same? Until the first BIP went into place in 2015, the two RTs operated independently. Once in place, the two began to operate in greater alignment. It has been an evolution.

2. Subgroup assignment to develop guiding document

a. SPB & MRT WSRF Guidelines Comparison and new CWCB 2022 Criteria for WSRF

- i. Is everyone okay with a small group revising the two RTs WSRF guiding documents to align? It was agreed that this would be a good approach. Garrett Varra and Bob Peters exchanged emails earlier and also agreed on the approach.

Those present in the meeting will be the WSRF Guidelines Alignment Review Committee.

Others on the SPBRT Needs Committee are Lynda James, Sean Chambers, Scot Griebing, and Jim Hall. There may be some additional SPB participating members.

3. Goals for a guidance document

a. Funding categories

The group agreed these categories should be the same for both RTs. Reviewed categories proposed during earlier discussions. Below are the six categories to go forward for review by both roundtables.

- Planning, studies, & permitting
- Water supply infrastructure
- Conservation, efficiency, & reuse
- Irrigated agriculture

- Watershed health, environmental, & recreational attributes
 - Education & Outreach
- b. Simplify guidelines
- Do the RTs need to continue to have money dedicated for each WSRF category? It does help with tracking equitable distribution of funds. Each project generally gets evaluated on its own merits. Categories have had their funding used up in the past, but those categories are then replenished. We could provide a summary at the end of each grant funding cycle showing what was allocated to each category.
- i. Direct applicants to website via links
- The goal would be to slim down the guidelines and make them less intimidating to applicants. Provide short explanations with a focus on the process. The rest of the guidance information could be linked to website pages with greater detail. There was agreement to this approach.
- c. Aligning the timing of grant submissions for both RTs
- The only difference in timing is an MRT additional 1-page submission in their review process. The applicant completes a form on the SPB Website. The applicant answers auto-populate in a master spreadsheet. After the submission deadline, the spreadsheet is distributed to the MRT Needs Committee for review. A timeslot is placed on the MRT agenda to invite the applicants to make 5-minute presentations on their concept to the entire MRT at the April/Cycle 1 and October/Cycle 2 MRT meetings. The Needs Committee lead for the each WSRF category shares their recommendation. The MRT conducts an informal approve/deny moving applicants forward to submit a full proposal on the CWCB portal. The applicants that move forward and submit a full proposal into the CWCB portal are reviewed during the November and May MRT meeting for formal motion to approve the application. South Platte representatives like the idea of the 1-page summary and asked for materials on the process to present to the SPBRT.

Action: Diane send the 1-page summary and sample materials to SPB representatives.

Next WSRF meeting in September to review latest draft of suggested guideline revisions for October RTs meeting.

3:15 pm - Adjourn