

Metro Roundtable Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 12, 2023

Hybrid – Live & Virtual

Members in Attendance:

Andrea Cole, Andy Nye, Breanna Gonzalez, Brian Tracy, Casey Davenport, Cynthia Lane, Courtney Brand, David Nickum, Dawn Jewell, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Greg Johnson, Jessica Brody, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling, Loretta Daniel, Sam Caulkins, Shaden Musleh, Sarah Klahn

Guests:

Jim Hall, Brent Soderlin, Courtney Black, Eric Jorgensen, Kayla Ranney, Kerry Major, Spencer Timon, Dan Gallen, Renee Lewis, Raj Jesath, Heather Justus, Drew Beckwith, Mandy Lemig, Lucy Harrington, Britta Strother

CWCB:

Robert Sakata, Russ Sands, Kat Weismiller, Jeff Rodriguez, Jackie Daoust, Diane Kielty

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions (1 min.)

2. Approval of [September 14, 2023, Meeting Summary](#) (1 min.)

It was moved to approve the September 14, 2023, MRT Meeting Summary. Motion approved by acclamation.

3. Agenda: additions or changes (1 min.)

It was moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the Lena Ditch Water Quality Monitoring Program to the WSRF applicant summary presentations. Motion approved by acclamation.

4. Public Comment (5 min.) None.

5. Colorado Water Plan Requests for Letter of Support (Lisa Darling – 15 min.)

1. City of Westminster – Kentucky Bluegrass Replacement at City Hall (Drew Beckwith, City of Westminster)

The MRT voting members approved a letter of support.

2. Dominion Water & Sanitation District - Water Efficiency Plan (Britta Strother)

The MRT voting members approved a letter of support.

6. USACE Denver South Platte River & Tributaries Memorandum of Understanding (Lisa Darling – 5 min.) ([MOU attachment](#))

A motion to ratify the letter of support provided by Acting Chair Lisa Darling asking Congress to include language in the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 to help save time and money in the implementation of the USACE Denver South Platte River and Tributaries project was made by Cynthia Lane and seconded by Sam Caulkins. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. WSRF Committee (Open Position) (40 min.)

1. [Arapahoe County Water Supply Study Water Supply Reserve Fund Program Grant Progress Report #1](#) (Loretta Daniel – 10 min.)
This presentation will be moved to the November MRT agenda.
2. WSRF Application Summary Presentations
 - i. Clear Creek Watershed Post-Fire Hazards Data Gap (Kerry Major, City of Golden)
 - ii. Godfrey Ditch Measuring Structure (Daniel Gallen, Godfrey Ditch)
 - iii. KCWRWD Automated Meter Reading (Renee Lewis, Ken Caryl West Ranch Water District)
 - iv. Lena Ditch Water Quality Monitoring Program (Lucy Harrington, GEI)

All four projects provided presentations of their proposals. The WSRF Needs Committee recommended approving all four projects to move forward.

The MRT voting members approved all project proposals to move forward to submission of full CWCB applications and final approval at the November MRT meeting.

The WSRF 2023 Cycle 2 proposal summary submission period is open.

Application Steps	Cycle 1 Deadlines	Cycle 2 Deadlines
Online summary proposal via www.southplattebasin.com/grants	March 1	September 1
Draft Full Application Submittal on CWCB Portal	3rd Friday in April	3rd Friday in October
RT Award Decision	May RT meeting	November RT meeting
Final Application submittal on CWCB Portal	June 1	December 1
CWCB Approval Meeting	September	March

3. WSRF Balance Summary ([2023 Budget Summary MRT WSRF](#)) There is \$750,000 in the Metro RT WSRF account.

8. CWCB Update (25 min.)

1. Jeff Rodriguez - 10 min.

CWCB has a new Deputy Director, Anna Moss. Commissioner Mitchell has been elected as the IBCC Chair.

Money that was remaining in the reserve was added to the Statewide account.

OCTOBER WSRF UPDATES

Basin	Spending in '23 Grant Year	September Balance	Allocation for Grant Year '24	October Balance
Arkansas	\$566,551	\$433,449	\$316,551	\$750,000
Colorado	\$988,640	\$11,360	\$357,981	\$369,341
Gunnison	\$807,789	\$192,211	\$357,981	\$550,192
Metro	\$314,735	\$685,266	\$64,735	\$750,000
North Platte	\$420,828	\$579,172	\$170,828	\$750,000
Rio Grande	\$917,166	\$82,834	\$357,981	\$440,815
South Platte	\$769,636	\$230,365	\$357,981	\$588,346
Southwest	\$650,422	\$349,578	\$357,981	\$707,559
Yampa/White/Green	\$826,412	\$173,588	\$357,981	\$531,569
Basin Total	\$6,262,178	\$2,737,822	\$2,700,000	\$5,437,822
Statewide	\$8,382,606	\$2,646,583	\$6,577,922	\$9,224,505
WSRF Totals	\$14,644,784	\$5,384,405	\$9,277,922	\$14,662,327

OCTOBER CWCB UPDATES

CWCB Deputy Director

- New CWCB Deputy Director
 - Anna Mauss

WSRF Update

- Updated Balance Sheet
- Extra allocation to basins below cap
- Funds added to Statewide



IBCC Director

- The Governor Appointed New IBCC Director
 - Becky Mitchell

C-9 Summit

- Draft Agenda on EngageCWCB
- Westin Hotel in Westminster
 - Please RSVP



Reminders

- **CWCB Deadlines**
 - WSRF Deadline Dec. 1
 - WPG Deadline Dec.1
- **Wildfire Ready Watersheds**
 - Accepting Applications
- **Technical Assistance & Local Capacity**
 - Accepting Application
- **Both Programs (ARPA Funds)**
 - Contracted by 12/31/24
- **Climate Change in Colorado Report**
 - To be released in late 2023



<https://engagewcb.org/c9-summit>

Wildfire Ready Watersheds: <https://www.wildfirereadywatersheds.com/Questions/interest> contact Steve Reeves (steven.reeves@state.co.us)

Federal Technical Assistance and Local Capacity Grants:
Questions/interest contact Michael Regan (michael.regan@state.co.us)

Climate Change in Colorado: <https://climatechange.colostate.edu/>

Colorado River issues: <https://wcb.colorado.gov/colorado-river-commissioners-corner>

2. Jessica Brody – 10 min.

At the September CWCB Board meeting a finance meeting took place. There is a \$20M request from the Colorado River District that would impact all Colorado water users. Before the Board takes action, they will hold a public meeting.

A joint meeting is being planned between the CWCB Board and the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission regarding coordinating water quantity and water quality decision making. They are discussing holding a tribute to Barbara Biggs during this event.

3. Amy Ostdiek – 5 min. – Upper Basin commissioners have been considering whether to implement the System Conservation Pilot Program again this year. Based on input received from water users in Colorado and across the Upper Basin, the UCRC voted to move forward with SPP this year, but to implement a number of changes:

- i. This year's program will roll out in October this year - much earlier than last year.
- ii. They will have increased education and outreach.
- iii. They will develop a more straight-forward and transparent pricing mechanism.
- iv. There will be an increased opportunity to provide input and comments.
- v. This year's SPP program will prioritize projects that support innovative water conservation ideas and increase resilience to help water users develop the tools they will need into the future to continue to live within the means of the River and survive

prolonged drought

More information will be available soon on the Commissioner's Corner website and at a webinar hosted by UCRC tentatively scheduled for Oct. 27 (no time yet). In the meantime, please reach out to Amy Ostdiek with any questions.

9. IBCC Update (L. Darling/R. Marsicek) (10 min.)

No additional information.

10. Committee Updates (25 min.) [Roundtable Meeting Records — The South Platte Basin](#)

Link to Announce a Meeting Form - [Add a meeting — The South Platte Basin](#)

1. PEPO Committee (C. Davenhill) (5 min.) (*No Meeting*)

During 2023, PEPO continued to work to support the Water Supply Reserve Funding process for the Metro and South Platte Roundtables. Engaged with the Colorado Water Conservation Board funding portal to support the process and provide knowledgeable feedback to facilitate Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF) outreach in 2023.

CWA continued to assist the WSRF process for the Metro and South Platte Roundtables. They used the Inflow newsletter to promote the WSRF application cycle. They also provided support for Roundtable committee member recruitment, facilitated meetings of the PEPO, Environment and Recreation Committees and the newly created MBRT Colorado River Committee. They participated in PEPO Coordinator meetings and attended the Colorado Ag Forum, The Poudre Runs Through It, Greeley Chamber of Commerce, South Platte Urban Waters Partnership, Lower South Platte Watershed Association, and the Northern Colorado Fireshed Collaborative to promote engagement with the Roundtable process.

CWA staff and volunteers have participated in the planning and implementation of the Cherry Creek Watershed Conference, Lower South Platte Children's Water Festival, Confluence on the Confluence, the Rocky Mountain Association of Environmental Professionals' Envirofest, the South Platte Forum, and the upcoming 2024 Colorado Farm Show.

They have engaged with the Clear Creek Watershed & Forest Health Partnership, the Colorado Ag Water Alliance, and the North Front Range Water Quality Planning Association to bring funding proposals to the Metro and South Platte Roundtables.

The Metro and South Platte Roundtables have a new logo, a popup banner, bandanas, and an updated Fact Sheet. They engaged with the Republican River Water Conservation District by attending their annual meeting and contributing to the update of the Republican River Fact Sheet.



2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (*D. Nickum*) (5 min.) (*No Meeting*) A presentation by Alison Witheridge with Denver Water on LTPBR will take place at the October 25th Env./Rec. meeting.

3. M&I Committee (*A. Cole*) (5 min.) (*No Meeting*) Next Meeting will be October 18, 2023 starting at 9:00 a.m.

4. Urban Landscape Conservation Task Force (Lisa Darling & Others) (5 min.) They are continuing to meet and are wrapping up a report on their findings by the end of the year.

5. Colorado River Committee (Alex Davis) (5 min.) (*No Meeting*) The Committee met on October 9th. They reviewed topics that may be of interest to the RT. They came up with 8 topics and potential speakers on each topic. As they secure speakers they will invite the RT members to the committee

meetings. If a topic is of great interest, they will request the presentation take place during the regularly scheduled MRT meeting.

11. Round Table Member Comments (5 min.)

1. The RT can vote for a new Chair at any time. There was discussion on filling the Chair/Vice-Chair positions now or at the MRT annual meeting in May. If anyone would like to sit for Chair or Vice-Chair, please send your interest to Diane Kielty, Jeff Rodriguez, and Lisa Darling.
2. <https://www.southplatteforum.org/>

12. Upcoming Public Meetings Schedule – See CWCB’s [Online Calendar](#) and [EngageCWCB.org](#)

Colorado Water Conservation Board Basin Roundtable Meetings

[Metro roundtable - 10/12/2023](#)

[Arkansas basin roundtable - 10/11/2023](#)

[Colorado basin roundtable - 10/11/23](#)

[North Platte basin roundtable - TBD](#)

[Southwest basin roundtable - 10/26/2023](#)

[Rio Grande basin roundtable - 10/10/2023](#)

[South Platte basin roundtable -10/10/2023](#)

[Yampa/White basin roundtable - 11/8/2023](#)

[Gunnison basin roundtable - TBD](#)