

Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary

Thursday, September 8, 2022

New Start Time
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Hybrid – Live & Virtual

Members in Attendance:

Alex Davis, Andy Nye, Anne Beierle, Barbara Biggs, Blair Corning, Bob Peters, Casey Davenport, Cortney Brand, Chris Douglass, Cynthia Lane, David Rausch, Dawn Jewell, Devon Buckels, Emily Hunt, Jerod Henrickson, Julie Tinetti, Kim Gortz, Lisa Darling, Loretta Daniel, Morgan Lynch, Rick Marsicek, Sarah Borgers, Shaden Musleh, Susan Nedell

Guests:

Anthony Cline, Zach Salin, Heidi Pruess, Margaret Markey, Brent Soderlin, Brad Paterson, Dave Riordon, Rena Wilson, Tayloe Winchell, Benji Smith, Juan Madrid, Will Koger, Jeffrey Deems, Kate Burchenal, Steve Malers, Eric Jorgensen, Greg Johnson

CWCB:

Jeff Rodriguez, Diane Kielty

Metro Roundtable Business Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions (1 min.)

2. Approval of August 11, 2022 Meeting Summary (1 min.) (*Attachment 1*)

It was moved to approve the August 11, 2022 MRT Meeting Summary; approved by acclamation.

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

Steve Malers Open Water presentation was added to the agenda after item 6.

4. Public Comment (5 min.)

David Riordon, President, Colorado River Surfing Association will be submitting a grant proposal online by Colorado River Surfing Association (CRSA) for a task force to address water flows in the S. Platte River downstream from the Chatfield Dam. Friday, September 23rd in Bar 404 will be a celebration for CRSA. Flyer in room was provided.

The Yampa/White/Green Basin is hosting a minitour next Thursday in Haden. There was a request to have an MRT member attend. If you would like to attend, please contact Scott Williams.

5. WSRF Committee (B. Peters) (5 min.)

A meeting is coming up to review grant proposals for cycle 2. Account is at \$672,000. CWCB will be increasing this fund. Each basin will be brought up to \$1M. This is a one-time increase due to higher-than-expected severance tax revenues. New criteria and guidelines are being developed due to this infusion. It will go to the CWCB Board meeting this month. The statewide WSRF has been reinstated. There are joint meetings taking place with MRT and SPBRT to align WSRF guidelines to better manage funds.

1. [WSRF Joint RT Meeting Summary](#)

6. Colorado Airborne Snow Observatory Expansion (Taylor Winchell, CASM) (30 min.)

They are working to ensure improved snowpack measurements and water supply forecasts for better management decisions. CASM is co-led by CWCB staff, with local stakeholders. Displayed a suggested organization structure for CASM and ideal buildout of the program. They were awarded a CWP grant in March 2022 for \$1.9M. Presentation available by request.

1. [executive summary can be found here](#)

2. [full report can be found here](#)

7. **Open Water Foundation Basin Information Website - WSRF grant update (Steve Malers, OWF)**
Project goals are to demonstrate that integrated data and information for the Poudre (and other basins) as a community resource increases knowledge, collaboration, efficiency, and transparency; reduces costs to organizations and other projects; and leads to solutions for complex water issues. They are looking for funding to continue the technical work and add more basins. They believe water district level is a good focus size. Clear Creek Watershed and Bear Creek Watershed were suggested for inclusion. Presentation available by request. <https://poudre.openwaterfoundation.org/>

8. **CWCB Update (Jeff Rodriguez) (10 min.)** Chair update from Russ Sands below.
Recorder/Chair Meeting with CWCB Staff- A number of recorder positions have changed recently. CWCB made a review of the recorder responsibilities and provided updates including increasing recorder funds from \$5,000 to \$6,500/year. A Doodle Poll will be sent to find time to discuss with RT Chairs.

Hybrid Meeting Audio/Visual Support- CWCB has purchased [Meeting Owls](#) for each roundtable (if desired) to help enhance the online audio and visual experience for hybrid meetings. Please reach out to Jeff Rodriguez (jeff.rodriquez@state.co.us) for details.

Regional Water Plan Grant Program Managers- The four positions, which are still being hired, will focus on Water Plan Grant assistance throughout the application process. The application period is closed. Other duties could include regional communication and outreach. The Regional Program Managers will work closely with Water Supply Planning staff and Basin Roundtables to manage Water Plan Grant needs. These are new CWCB grant managers that can provide more localized support for Water Plan Grants.

Tailoring PEPO Duties to Meet Roundtable Needs- CWCB created a PEPO coordinator checklist to help facilitate basin discussions around what contracted PEPO work may look like. While some basins may want to use this entirely for education/outreach, other basins have expressed additional need for more recorder support and/or help track and advance projects. The checklist aims to help BRTs identify basin expectations for the PEPO Basin Coordinator scopes of work. If you have any questions, please reach out to Elizabeth Schoder (elizabeth.schoder@state.co.us).

Funding Updates-

- **WSRF-** The board approved a one-time transfer of \$17M into the Water Supply Reserve Fund (WSRF) in July. The program's criteria and guidelines are being updated for the board to review in September - this includes a plan to bring roundtables up to a \$1M balance, keeping some money in reserve as well as putting \$11.6M into statewide WSRF grants.
- **HB22-1379-** CWCB is working on criteria for the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funded Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act technical assistance grants and the Watershed Restoration Grants. This included \$5 million for Federal Technical Assistance (\$2.5 million for Local Capacity Grants, and \$2.5 million for CWCB technical assistance). For any questions contact Anna Mauss (anna.mauss@state.co.us).
- **SB 22-215-** The Governor's Office recently posted information online outlining the process to apply for matching funds that were made available to help obtain federal funds. They've shared information on the matching process and application on the [Colorado Forward website](#). If you have any questions about SB22-215, please reach out to Nate Pearson (nate.pearson@state.co.us).
- **Colorado Water Funding Opportunity Navigator** - DNR created a [water funding repository](#) that is updated monthly and contains both state and federal funding opportunities for water projects. If you have any questions, please contact Nate Pearson (nate.pearson@state.co.us).

CWCB Board Meeting- The CWCB Board will be meeting September 20-21 at Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO. For agenda and meeting information please visit the event page on the [CWCB Website](#).

Water Plan Public Comment Period- The public comment period for the 2023 Water Plan Draft ends September 30th. Please visit the [engagecwcb.org website](#) to submit comments, share your water story, and commit to action.

9. IBCC Update (L. Darling) (5 min.)

October 25th is the next scheduled IBCC meeting. Director Gibbs suggested IBCC members bring a project or several projects back to their RTs. Metro seems to already be doing this. MRT may not need this level of advocacy. The MRT process under development seems to fulfill this idea. If a topic comes up during an IBCC meeting, they will bring it back to the MRT.

10. Committee Updates (15 min.) (Due to the length of today's meeting, please contact the committee lead should you have questions.)

1. PEPO Committee (C. Davenhill) (5 min.) ([Roundtable Meeting Records — The South Platte Basin](#)) Information on the Farm to Faucet Film Screening a film by Christi Bode free public link was provided in chat. [Farm to Faucet Film Screening | Denver Botanic Gardens](#). There was discussion at the recent PEPO committee meeting to determine interest in a statewide video similar to the one created for the SPB.
2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (D. Nickum) (5 min.) ([8/31/2022 Meeting Summary](#))
3. M&I Committee (B. Peters) (5 min.) ([8/4/2022 Meeting Summary](#)) Had a meeting on Tuesday and will be putting together a presentation to deliver to MRT in October. The SPBRT will be presenting the same information. There will be an ask to members to get more involved in project scoping. You will not need to be a RT member to get involved.
4. Link to SPB/Metro Meeting Records - [Roundtable Meeting Records — The South Platte Basin](#)

10. Round Table Member Comments (5 min.)

The Cherry Creek Watershed Conference is coming up on September 23rd. Casey will send an invite to the MRT members. Part of it will be a tour and discussing maintenance on turf grass replacement.

CDPHE has determined that there are temperature issues downstream of recent prairie stream projects in Cherry Creek.

11. Meeting Schedule

1. [Metro Roundtable Meeting](#) – Thursday, September 8th, 2022, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Hybrid – Zoom Virtual & Denver Water, [Directions to Administration Building | Denver Water](#)
2. [South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting](#) – Tuesday, September 13th, 2022, 4:00 pm, Virtual/live - Hybrid
3. [CWCB Board Meeting](#) – Sept. 20-21, 2022, Hybrid-Fort Lewis College 1000 Rim Dr. Durango and virtually on Zoom
4. [South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting](#) – Tuesday, October 11th, 2022, 4:00 pm, Virtual/live - Hybrid
5. [Metro Roundtable Meeting](#) – Thursday, October 13th, 2022, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Hybrid – Zoom Virtual & Denver Water, [Directions to Administration Building | Denver Water](#)

MRT 2022 Presentation Topics

- Front Range Roundtable and Forest Health
- Salinity Study Update (Darling)
- Wildfire Ready Watersheds - Chris Sturm, CWCB
- Douglas County and Douglas County Wildfire Mitigation Program's