

# SPBRT Roundtable Meeting Summary

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Time: 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

**HYBRID: LIVE & VIRTUAL**

**Roundtable Voting Members in Attendance:** Daylan Figgs, Donnie Dustin, Garrett Varra, Gene Manuello, Jim Yahn, Jim Hall, John Kolanz, Julia Gallucci, Kirk Vincent, Halley Streavy, Larry Rogstad, Larry Ross, Lisa Leben, Loretta Daniel, Lynda James, Patrick Wells, Scott Griebing, Sean Chambers, Patrick Wells

**Roundtable Non-voting Members in Attendance:** Don Baggus

**Guests:** Kyle Whitaker, Darren Beck, Dave Thorpe, Gary Barkey, Brent Schantz, Carmen Farmer, Ken Curtis, Cory Deangelis, Ken Curtis, Erik Jorgensen, Esther Vincent, Ashley Mertz, Josh Kuhn, Jody Shadduck-McNally

**CWCB:** Robert Sakata, Sam Stein, Jeff Rodriguez, Kat Weismiller, Kelly Romero-Heaney, Diane Kiely

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**1. Welcome/Introductions (Sean Chambers - 5 min.)**

The meeting was called to order at 4:14 pm.

**2. Approval of Agenda: (Sean Chambers - 5 min.)**

It was moved by to approve the agenda by acclamation.

**3. Approval of [SPBRT Meeting Summary March 14, 2023](#) (Sean Chambers - 2 min.)**

It was moved to approve the March 14, 2023, SPBRT Meeting Summary by Jim Yahn and seconded by John Kolanz. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Public Comment (3 min.)**

No comments.

**5. WSRF (Garrett Varra - 5 min.)**

**1. WSRF Update and SPBRT Funds Status [CWCB Basin Account Funds](#)**

There is \$511,000 in the SPBRT WSRF account. The new WSRF guidelines include a pre-application period in March. Seven applications were received. Full applications are due by Friday. A review of applications was made, and questions were taken back to the applicants. There will be a recommendation letter from the WSRF Committee for each application at the May SPBRT meeting.

**Action:** Reserve 1 ½ hour for WSRF presentations at the May SPBRT meeting.

**6. 2020 Post-Fire Watershed Restoration Process Improvement Report (Esther Vincent, Northern Water – 25 min.) [2020 Post-Fire Watershed Restoration \(squarespace.com\)](#)**

A presentation on lessons learned from the East Troublesome and Cameron Peaks fires specific to policy, collaboration, and technical focus was shared. Challenges and observations were discussed. The presentation is available by request.

**7. Colorado Division of Water Resources Data Logger/Telemetry Installation Project Update (Brent Schantz, DWR River Operations & Compact Coordinator – 10 min.)**

[DWR Data+Logger+Telemetry+Installation+Project January 2023 WSRF+Grant+Progress+Report.pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#)

Progress was reported on the data logger/telemetry installation project grant. There will be 149 sites instead of the 114 due to water users purchasing their own equipment. The grant has 10 more telemetry sites remaining to install. There is a great demand from water officials and users to have real-time data. They are 98% complete. The goal is to finish the grant deliverables by June 30, 2023.

**8. 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 (Casey Davenhill - 5 min.) (No Summary)** No report.

**2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Larry Rogstad – 5 min.) ([Meeting Summary](#))**

There was good discussion at the committee meeting on the proposed stream restoration legislation that will be discussed later in this meeting.

**3. M&I Committee (Jim Hall – 5 min.) (No Summary)** A subcommittee met on the landscape project and decided to pause to hear more from the State Task Force created to address this same topic to determine if there should be coordination between the RT subcommittee and the Task Force.

4. Colorado River/Demand Management (Sean Chambers & Kyle Whitaker – 10 min.) A presentation was provided. Discussed comparison of SEIS alternatives. Thirty-six System Conservation Pilot Program proposals were received. No action has been taken on the proposals.

**9. State Legislative Update (Sean Chambers – 30 min.)**

1. [Colorado Water Congress State Affairs Committee 2023 Tracking Sheet](#)
2. Stream Restoration Legislation (DNR Policy Staff) [Stream Restoration \[Unedited Draft 3-28\]](#)  
Kelly Romero-Heaney provided a presentation and a link to [Colorado River Commissioner's Corner | Colorado Department of Natural Resources \(engagewcb.org\)](#). Discussed values of healthy natural stream systems and reviewed impacts to Colorado streams. Focused on water rights and stream restoration and the terms Diversion, Storage, and Unnecessary Obstruction. DNR is working to provide clarity in statute section 37-92-602, C.R.S. The stream restoration legislation would add a new subsection (9) describing the benefits and requirements for stream restoration projects. They are working toward a suitable cap on these types of projects.

**10. IBCC Update (Jim Yahn & Sean Cronin - 15 Min.) ([Link to IBCC Webpage](#))**

There was no update.

**11. CWCB Update (20 min.)**

1. CWCB Staff Report (Jeff Rodriguez – 10 min.)  
CWCB is hosting a drought summit on May 31-June 1.  
C9 Summit will take place tentatively on November 14th. SBPRT intends to move its regularly scheduled meeting to November 21<sup>st</sup> to allow member attendance at the Summit.  
USDA website has funding opportunities for farmers.  
Announced various grant cycles that can be found on the CWCB website.  
Drought Summit: <https://engagewcb.org/drought-summit>  
Flood Threat Bulletin: <https://www.coloradofloodthreat.com/>  
Wildfire Ready Watersheds: <https://www.wildfirereadywatersheds.com/>  
PEPO Statewide Initiatives:  
[https://dnrweblink.state.co.us/CWCB/0/edoc/220224/PEPOGrants\\_%20StatewideInitiativesFundPriorities\\_Feb2023.pdf?searchid=9d46baaf-5360-4405-90e9-288ec56d9c78](https://dnrweblink.state.co.us/CWCB/0/edoc/220224/PEPOGrants_%20StatewideInitiativesFundPriorities_Feb2023.pdf?searchid=9d46baaf-5360-4405-90e9-288ec56d9c78)  
C-9 Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K9DXHTV>

**APRIL CWCB UPDATES**

**Drought Summit**

- Save the Date
  - May 31, June 1
  - History Colorado

**Spring Forecast**

- 23 Counties in Drought
- Flood Bulletin

**C-9 Roundtable Summit**

- Save the Date
  - November 14
  - Denver, TBD
- Take the Survey

**Reminders**

- Wildfire Ready Watersheds
- Projects Bill
- WSRF
  - June 1 deadline (FY Cap)
- PEPO Statewide Initiatives
- Turf Program
- Technical Assistance



2. CWCB Director Report (Robert Sakata - 10 min.)  
The written report can be accessed here, [Sakata CWCB Report](#).

**12. Round Table Member Comments (5 min)**

- The Great Divide Production Company previewed five states including Colorado to air on Saturday on Channel 20.
- The Snowtel Airborne flights will fly in the next week or two in our basin. The group will be asking for additional funding.

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

**Meeting Adjourned – 7:36 pm**