



**SPBRT Roundtable Meeting Agenda**  
**Tuesday, April 9, 2024**  
**Time: 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

**HYBRID: LIVE & VIRTUAL**

**Roundtable Voting Members in Attendance:** Adam Gates, Brent Schantz, Brent Nation, Bruce Gerk, Daylen Figgs, Deb Daniel, Donnie Dustin, Garrett Varra, Jim Hall, Jim Yahn, Joe Frank, Julia Gallucci, Kirk Vincent, Lisa Leben, Lynda James, Noelle Fillo, Richard Elsner, Scott Griebing, Sean Chambers

**Roundtable Non-voting Members in Attendance:** Sean Cronin, Casey Davenport, Don Baggus

**Guests:** Lauren Hix, Jessica Swindon, Brenan Bloyd, Laura Quattrini, Courtney Massey, Robert Sakata, Karen Schlatter, Carmen Farmer, Sarah Paschal Gerenday, Quint Redmond, Pat Wells

**CWCB:** Brad Wind, Kat Weismiller, Jackie Daoust, Diane Kielty

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sean Chambers at 4:08 pm.

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

It was moved to approve the agenda by Garrett Varra and was seconded by Jim Yahn. Approved by acclamation.

**3. Approval of [SPBRT Meeting Summary March 12, 2024](#) (Sean Chambers - 2 min.)**

It was moved by Kirk Vincent to approve the March 12, 2024, SPBRT Meeting Summary with a correction to the Colorado River update of "BLM" to "Bureau of Reclamation", and it was seconded by Scott Griebing. The motion carried.

**4. Public Comment (3 min.)** CWCB Board Member Brad Wind joined the meeting at the live location and was welcomed as the Basin's representative to the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Mr. Wind shared a few comments on the importance of the CWCB and its remaining connected to the Roundtables.

**5. WSRF (Garrett Varra - 15 min.)**

1. A WSRF SPBRT Funds Status and CWCB Basin Account Funds balance was provided. The WSRF committee will be speaking to the applicants this week to ensure the requests fit within the funds available. Application due dates were provided. The SPBRT will hear 12 WSRF applications and 1 Colorado Water Plan grant application at the May SPBRT meeting.

**6. Legislative Session Updates (Sean Chambers) (10 min.)**

The SPBRT does not take a position on legislation. It does track legislative items. The last 30 days of the session are here. Members were encouraged to review the legislation.

Among the bills that members are tracking is the Colorado Water Conservation Board projects bill HB 24-1435 [https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024A/bills/2024a\\_1435\\_01.pdf](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024A/bills/2024a_1435_01.pdf)

Also, discussed was a bill to create measures to incentivize graywater use/reuse though the bill HB24-1362

Two bills are being tracked regarding the creation of a state of Colorado dredge and fill program in response to the regulatory gap created in the Sackett vs. EPA US Supreme Court case earlier this year. Roundtable members expressed frustration with the limited stake holding process as it does not appear that the RTs were consulted regarding this legislation's development. Members suggested that it may help to have some type of after action review on where the information sharing broke down. This could be a topic for the IBCC.

Conservation Easement Bill SB 24-126 - Link: [Conservation Easement Income Tax Credit | Colorado General Assembly](#). Bill regarding conservation easements increase to the tax ceiling which would reduce the amount a landowner can claim for a conservation easement.

Proposition 272 - Proposition DD revenues have exceeded what was anticipated. This proposition addresses what to do with the excess funds.

**7. SPBRT Membership Solicitation for Vacant and Inactive Seats and Meeting Locations (Sean Chambers) (20 min.)**

1. Outreach to counties and municipalities to identify participants – Each member should be reaching out to encourage people to fill the SPBRT vacancies. It is important for the SPBRT to be inclusive and seek broad participation across the basin. The Boulder County municipal seat and several other counties has been empty for a while. There may be a perception that this RT requires senior staff to participate, which is not true. A new approach has been to contact mid-career people across the breadth of the basin with the draw of professional advancement and networking. The empty seats were also brought to the Colorado Water Congress POND meeting and the Water Resource Association to share the opportunity. The perception is the same regarding experience needed for representation. There will be an outreach effort to encourage young professionals' participation. An outline of what to expect as a RT member will be drafted collaboratively. Outreach should include encouraging staff to attend the RT meetings and will include discussion on work in the water business, and a future Open House to invite and engage the public.

There was a discussion on how members are elected to the RT. Municipality representation is more complex due to multiple representation where the representative may not have a connection to any number of the represented entities.

*Section 4a of the RT bylaws was read. From HB 1177: ONE MUNICIPAL MEMBER FOR EACH COUNTY LOCATED IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHIN THE BASIN ROUNDTABLE, WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED JOINTLY BY THE GOVERNING BODIES OF ALL MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN THAT PORTION OF THE COUNTY THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN THE ROUNDTABLE*

2. Open House event planning – Sean Cronin is the contact for this event. SPBRT is looking into holding an open house in connection with a regular meeting of the SPBRT and with CWCB financial support and sponsors for beverages. More information is forthcoming.
3. Meeting twice annually in other areas of the basin, starting with the Republican basin hosting meeting - June 11th is the confirmed date. The live SPBRT meeting will likely be in Yuma, pending location confirmation. They will get back to SPBRT about location and logistics.

**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 Meeting*) A display booth was setup at the Weld County location. PEPO was invited to participate at the Confluence event on August 1<sup>st</sup> in Boulder County. PEPO did receive a good quantity of materials from WEco about where water comes from in both English and Spanish. If you have distribution outlets, please contact Casey Davenhill. Casey attended the Upper South Platte meeting of conservation districts last month. They're working to operate more from a watershed perspective. This is a quarterly meeting. PEPO is collaborating with the conservation districts and will be at the South Weld meeting this Thursday. Casey has reached out to the Source Water Protection Program at CDPHE for materials. A water guide for students targeting the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level has

been updated. PEPO ordered 100 copies. If any SPBRT members belong to the Live Like You Love It Council, please contact Casey. It is expensive for PEPO to become a member in order to receive Live Like You Love It materials. It would be helpful if RT members could provide access to these materials. The Colorado Geologic Survey has excellent materials and publications on their website that can be either ordered or printed. A USGS groundwater atlas is available ([ON-010 Colorado Groundwater Atlas - Colorado Geological Survey](#)). A link was sent to Casey. The Well Owners Association also has good materials.

2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Larry Rogstad – 5 min.) (*No Meeting*) There has not been a meeting in a while. Lynda James will reach out to David Nickum, the Committee Chair.
3. M&I Committee (Jim Hall – 5 min.) (*No Meeting*) There is a meeting scheduled on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. [M&I Committee Meeting – The South Platte Basin](#). There is an effort to continue the work started when Bob Peters was Chair of the committee to advance RT developed project concepts that align with the CWP.

**9. IBCC Update (Jim Yahn & Sean Cronin - 5 Min.) ([Link to IBCC Webpage](#))**

A meeting is scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup> in Durango.

**10. CWCB Update (10 min.)**

1. CWCB Staff Report (Jeff Rodriguez – 10 min.)
  - C9 Summit – October 1-2, 2024.
    - HB24-1435 Water Projects Bill**
  - Introduced last week. Appropriation highlights -
    - \$23.3M for Water Plan Grants for next fiscal year
    - A request for flexibility in the ARPA federal technical assistance programs.
      - Originally there was \$2.5M for Local Capacity Grants (direct grants for grantees to hire contractors to apply for federal grants) and \$2.5M for CWCB Technical Assistance (where grantees use the CWCB hired contractor).
      - The proposed action would give CWCB flexibility to respond to market demands and award the remaining 2.3 million in the Technical Assistance bucket to either bucket in the program rather than capping each at 2.5 million.
    - \$2.0M to extend the Turf Program.
  - Full appropriations list available on the bills website
    - Link: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb24-1435>

**IBCC Meeting**

- The next IBCC meeting will be in Durango on Tuesday June 18th.
- They have some work products that came out of the February IBCC meeting that they would like to get the roundtable's input on.  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WXMJ6SZ>

Additional information on the IBCC can be found here -  
<https://cwcb.colorado.gov/about-us/interbasin-compact-committee>

Topics being considered by the IBCC membership can be found on the YouTube recording from the February 27 meeting -  
[https://youtu.be/ODPRsnq\\_2Lo?si=F328hqvlHAXxIXgV](https://youtu.be/ODPRsnq_2Lo?si=F328hqvlHAXxIXgV) (Start at 4:52:20 – end at 5:21:27)

The survey references a couple of documents; links are provided in the survey but can also be found here -  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Nc9hb0eF00iW775HNByOAPf9O06fX5IU/view>  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KixVRj7T2Rc5cRYkonjCfS0oPGFazNAg/view>

**CWCB Guide**

- CWCB staff are still making their way around to the roundtables highlighting some of the topics in the guide and ensuring the guide is addressing questions the roundtables have. The CWCB Guide will serve as an onboarding and reference document for the CWCB Board, Roundtables and IBCC. They

expect to have a draft out in May to share at the May board meeting. Please let Jeff know if you have questions or ideas highlighted in the guide.

#### **TLC Challenge**

- Governor Polis and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) [announced](#) the second year of the [Transformative Landscape Change \(TLC\) Challenge](#) program. This is a partnership with Resource Central who is running the program. If your water utility or municipality is interested visit [Resource Central's website](#) to submit an application - due by June 1, 2024. The challenge is for local communities to reimagine their public spaces and embrace waterwise landscaping and convert water-intensive landscapes into climate-appropriate, low-water-use, and attractive spaces. 15 applications will be selected to get up to 2,000 sq ft of turf and receive low-water xeriscape plants to plant.

#### **Water Conditions Monitoring Committee**

- For those who follow snowpack, reservoir storage, and precip indicators - check out the Water Conditions Monitoring Committee's monthly meeting on April 23. ([Please find the meeting agenda here](#)). Going into the runoff season, across the state we are seeing fairly close to median reservoir storage and slightly above median snowpack.

#### **Reminders**

##### **1051**

- Deadline June 30th - a grace period will be extended to those who need some additional time to comply with new reporting requirements. Please coordinate with Sam Stein for any questions on this.

##### **WSRF**

- WSRF deadline June 1

##### **WPG**

- WPG deadline July 1

#### **Federal Technical Assistance & Local Capacity Funding – (ARPA funds)**

- Technical Assistance funding is now available (CWCB Contractor is under contract). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through the CWCB Grants Portal. The funds must be awarded by 12/31/2024 and spent by 12/31/2026. Michael Regan is the contact for this program, and he is willing to present more information on this program at BRT Meetings if there is interest.

#### **Wildfire Ready Watersheds**

- Accepting applications
  - Applications by Mid-September
  - Contact Chris Sturm's team

### **11. Member Updates**

The Aerial Snow Observation (ASO) Snow measurement flights along the Front Range watersheds will likely take place next week. The Bureau of Reclamation has made an announcement for future funding opportunities for ASO. The Northern Colorado ASO group intends to apply and will be looking for letters of support and match funds. There have been other areas in the state who have expressed interest in this program. More info on Colorado ASO at: <https://coloradosnow.org/blog/2024-aso-snow-survey-season-kickoff>

There is a "Watershed Summit" at Denver Botanic Gardens that will discuss the One Water movement. [Watershed Summit | Denver Botanic Gardens](#)

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