

SPBRT Roundtable Meeting Summary

Tuesday, July 11, 2023
Time: 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

HYBRID: LIVE & VIRTUAL

Roundtable Voting Members in Attendance: Adam Gates, Brent Nation, Daylen Figs, Donnie Dustin, Garrett Varra, Hally Strevey, Jim Yahn, Joe Frank, John Kolanz, Kevin Ross, Kirk Vincent, Loretta Daniel, Lynda James, Patrick Wells, Scott Griebing, Sean Chambers

Roundtable Non-voting Members in Attendance: Casey Davenport

Guests: Phyllis Thomas, Dan Gallen, Matt Lindberg, Quint Redmond, Heather Justus, Kyle Whitaker

CWCB: Russ Sands, Robert Sakata, Jackie Daoust, Jeff Rodriguez, Emily Adrid, Diane Kielty

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:13 pm.

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

It was moved by Kevin Ross to approve the agenda as presented and seconded by Garrett Varra. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of [SPBRT Meeting Summary June 13, 2023](#) (Sean Chambers - 2 min.)

It was moved by Scott Griebing to approve the June 13, 2023, SPBRT Meeting Summary with correction to the spelling of Kelly Romero-Heaney's. It was seconded by Kirk Vincent. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comment (3 min.) None

5. WSRF (Garrett Varra - 5 min.)

1. WSRF Update and SPBRT Funds Status CWCB Basin Account Funds was presented.
2. WSRF Application Submission Process Discussion

1. [Proposed MRT Application Deadline Table 6.29.2023](#)

To allow for more time for committees to process applications and allow more time for applicants to submit their full application, adjustments to the timeline of the process are recommended. The MRT will be voting on this recommendation Thursday. Recommendation to suggest to applicants that they also apply to MRT WSRF if there is cause.

It was moved by Lynda James to revise the WSRF process timeline and was seconded by Daylen Figs. Motion carried unanimously.

6. 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 Davenport - 5 min.) (*No Meeting*) The 2023 grant application was submitted. A number of events are coming up including the SP CURE annual October event, Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference in October, Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners Conference in August, and the Children's Watershed Festival in Sterling. PEPO is participating in the North Front Range Water Quality Planning Association (NFRWQPA) meetings to identify stakeholder processes already in place. NFRWQPA is working on developing an EPA 9-point watershed plan.
2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Larry Rogstad – 5 min.) ([Meeting Summary](#)) Kirk Vincent was in attendance. Hattie Johnson was the speaker from America Whitewater. The meeting summary is provided in the above Meeting Summary link.
3. M&I Committee (Jim Hall – 5 min.) (*No Meeting*)
4. Colorado River/Demand Management (Sean Chambers & Kyle Whitaker – 10 min.) An update was provided on the status of the Lake Meade/Lake Powell EIS. There are not a lot of details on the Lower Basin plan. The seven states continue to meet. Discussed lake levels and reductions. The

State has formed a Colorado River Drought Task Force as directed by SB23-295 and it is expected that task force meetings will be scheduled. . It was noted that the bill creating the task force was controversial in some stakeholder communities, it has been created to develop recommendations for state legislation that provides additional tools for the CWCB Board.

Article about the Colorado River Drought Task Force members:

<https://coloradosun.com/2023/06/22/drought-task-force-water-colorado-river-politics-appointed/>

Colorado River issues: <https://engagecwc.org/colorado-river>

Colorado River Commissioners Corner: <https://cwc.colorado.gov/colorado-river-commissioners-corner>

[Colorado is drought-free for the first time since 2019. Will it last? - The Colorado Sun](#)

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

The next IBCC meeting is TBD. It may be rolled into the C-9 Summit. The draft agenda for the C-9 Summit was discussed.

8. CWCB Update (20 min.)

1. CWCB Staff Report (Jeff Rodriguez – 10 min.)

Emily Adrid was introduced. She is the new CWCB Water Planning and Climate Impact Specialist. emily.adrid@state.co.us, Climate Change in Colorado: <https://climatechange.colostate.edu/>

i. Drought Summit Lessons Learned

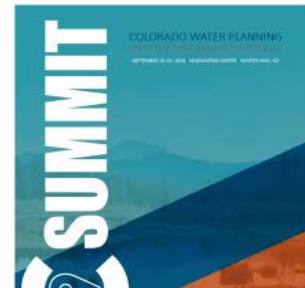
Drought Summit: <https://engagecwc.org/drought-summit>

ii. RT input on C-9 Summit Agenda – The draft agenda was presented, and feedback requested.

This will likely be a one-day event. Some topics may collapse together. Watershed health

2023 C-9 SUMMIT DRAFT AGENDA

1. **Roundtable Handbook Discussion**
2. **PEPO Workshop on Regional Collaboration**
3. **All Chairs Panel** (Board, IBCC or mix of BRTs, Board and BRT chairs)
4. **CO River Updates** + Colorado River Drought Task Force Report out?
5. **Drought Resilience** (could be across sectors)
6. **Climate Change**
7. **Funding**
8. **Water Conservation**
9. **Watershed Health**



JULY CWCB UPDATES

Funding Reminders

- **August 1**
 - WSRF
 - NRI Projects
- **Annual WSRF Allocations**
 - Available October 2nd
- **Wildfire Ready Watersheds**
 - Accepting Applications
- **Technical Assistance & Local Capacity**
 - Accepting Applications
 - CWCB Contractor Update
- **Both Programs (ARPA Funds)**
 - Contracted by 12/31/24
- **Turf Program Cycle 2 Open**
 - Closes 8/31

Climate Change in Colorado

- Expected in late 2023
 - Update to 2014 Report
- Visit the webpage

Reminders

- C9 Summit
 - Nov. 14
- Drought Summit Recap

would encompass forest health, wildfire, and watershed health. The funding topic has not been developed. Funding may be about how to access funding and capacity. Drought resilience may target innovation. Please email Jeff Rodriguez before the end of July if you have suggestions for the C-9 Summit agenda.

2. CWCB Director Report (Robert Sakata - 10 min.) [Sakata July 11 2023 Report](#) – The report was presented and can be found at the link. A Voluntary Groundwater Conservation Act was introduced today. [Bennet, Moran, Heinrich Introduce Bill to Create New Tool for Farmers and Ranchers to Combat Drought | Press Releases | U.S. Senator Michael Bennet \(senate.gov\)](#)
9. **Round Table Member Comments (5 min)** – A congratulations to Robert Sakata and the Sakata Family for a very informative news article. The Western Governors Association has started a conversation about more data driven solutions. The manual measurements from Snowtel are correlating very close to the ASO flight data. This is a good indicator that the flights warrant more investment.
10. **Upcoming Public Meetings Schedule** – See CWCB’s [Online Calendar](#) and [EngageCWCB.org](#)

Colorado Water Conservation Board Basin Roundtable Meetings

[Metro roundtable - 7/13/2023](#)

[Arkansas basin roundtable - 7/12/2023](#)

[Colorado basin roundtable - 7/31/23](#)

[North Platte basin roundtable - TBD](#)

[Southwest basin roundtable - 7/27/2023](#)

[Rio Grande basin roundtable - 7/11/2023](#)

[South Platte basin roundtable -7/11/2023](#)

[Yampa/White basin roundtable - 7/12/2023](#)

[Gunnison basin roundtable - 7/17/2023](#)