

Interbasin Compact Committee Basin Roundtable
Rio Grande Interbasin Roundtable
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
April 11, 2017

Attending - Those who signed in are as follows: *Ron Brink, Cathy Garcia, Kieth Holland, Ed Nielsen, Stan Moyer, Charles Spielman, Ralph Curtis, Nicole Langley, Brenda Felmler, Bethany Howell, Dwight Martin, Christi Bode, Wayne Schwab, Zeke Ward, Dale Wiescamp, Cleave Simpson, Dale Pizel, Judy Perez, Eugene Jacquez, Cary Aloia, Gene Farish, Laura McCarthy, Kevin Terry, Karla Shriver, Travis Smith, Robert Getz, Nancy Smith, Charlotte Bobicki, Megan Holcomb, Heather Dutton, Matt Hildner, Ivan Geroy, Emma Reesor, Andréa Bachman, Nathan Coombs.*

Welcome and Introduction: Chair Nathan Coombs called the meeting to order at 2:00pm at the offices of the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, in Alamosa, CO. A quorum was established, those in attendance were introduced, and all were welcomed.

Approve Agenda: One item – Dale Pizel with Colorado Parks and Wildlife - was added to the agenda. Ron Brink motioned to approve the amended agenda, Ed Nielsen seconded the motion and the motion carried. The agenda was approved.

Approve March 14, 2017 Minutes: Keith Holland moved to approve the March minutes. Judy Lopez seconded the motion, which carried unanimously

Public Comment: There were no public comments.

Dale Pizel, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission: Dale was present to explain House Bill 1321, the 2017 Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Financial Sustainability Legislation. This proposed bill includes a fee increase for CPW, which will help sustain CPW operations. Dale distributed an informational handout about the proposed bill. Dale explained the importance of the fee increase to wildlife management and state park operations, including the maintenance and repair of high-priority dams, which have a big impact on the San Luis Valley. Dale answered the Roundtable's questions about HB 1321.

Unspoken Film, Kevin Terry: Kevin with Trout Unlimited presented the short film *Unspoken*, about fishing and conserving Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. Kevin gave the Roundtable background on Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout and its importance to the SLV. *Unspoken* was created to inspire others to take action and get involved in efforts to protect the species. The film is also raising funding for on the ground projects to improve Rio Grande Cutthroat habitat. This year funding is going toward habitat restoration work on Jim Creek. The film can be viewed at: www.livingwatersflyfishing.com/unspoken

Education Committee Update, Judy Lopez: The Colorado Water Conservation Board has increasingly emphasized the importance of public education and public outreach (PEPO). This year they are allocating special funding for PEPO. Because of this the Rio Grande BRT will form an Education Committee to plan and implement PEPO efforts. If you want to be a part of the committee or have input related to PEPO, let Judy know.

CWCB Update: CWCB Program Manager Megan Holcomb gave an update on the current grant requests presented to CWCB. There were no requests at the March CWCB board meeting. There will be two at the May CWCB meeting which will be held in Pagosa Springs at the Parelli Natural Horsemanship (7 Parelli Way, Pagosa Springs, CO). New Water Supply Reserve Fund applications will be posted on the web next week. Applicants should use the new application, which will help streamline the process. The next IBCC meeting will be on April 20. The SWSI update process continues to move forward.

Nathan reported that he went with Kevin Terry to the Gunnison Basin Roundtable meeting this month and wanted to report how lucky we are to be a part of such a cooperative basin.

IBCC Update, Cleave Simpson and Travis Smith: Cleave reported that the next IBCC meeting will be on April 20 in Keystone. Travis gave a brief update of the Projects Bill. The bill will allocate \$10 million for implementation of the Basin Implementation Plans. At this point the bill has passed the House.

Subdistrict Update, Cleave Simpson: Cleave informed the Roundtable that the Rio Grande Water Leaders Course took place on March 27-31 at the RGWCD conference room. The event is hosted by the RGWCD in partnership with the SLVWCD, RGHRP, and RGWCEI and is a good opportunity to educate and increase local involvement in water issues.

Subdistrict No. 1 will finish its 5th year of operation this year and is currently working on submitting its plan of operation for the 6th year. Subdistrict No. 2 is finishing their plan of water management. Subdistrict 3 (Conejos) was approved by the judge in January and is currently working on Board of Managers appointments. Subdistrict No. 4 (San Luis Creek) is finalizing their petition process and will be submitting to the court for formation this month. Subdistrict No. 5 and 6 are currently completing the petition process. Forming the Subdistricts has been a long journey, but we are seeing success thanks to everyone involved.

The meeting adjourned.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: May 9, 2017 at 1:00pm
San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District
623 Fourth Street, Alamosa, CO

Next Roundtable Meeting: May 9, 2017 at 2:00pm
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