



SP CURE Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 19, 2023 – 9:00 am
Virtual Meeting

Meeting Summary

High Level Take-Aways

- Meeting attendees were supportive of taking initial planning efforts for the BOR WaterSMART grant opportunity.
- The Monitoring Committee will present the Arsenic Study to the Board at the December meeting, postponing the 10-Year Roadmap presentation.

Action Items

- BC to coordinate a group of volunteers to scope out what is needed, quantify grant management requirements, obtain cost estimates, and determine what could be done at three different tiers (\$100K, \$200K, and \$300K)
- Beth will request and invoice from WQF for \$250 contribution
- Beth will coordinate with Aimee Konowal to move the 10-year roadmap presentation to Spring 2024

1. Discussion and Approval of August Meeting

A revision was made to the meeting minutes to add a bullet to discuss the Division's Fee Setting meetings/efforts and the South Platte Basin issues scoping hearing. Dan Delaughter made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes with no changes. Sherri Scaggiari seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Beth Albrecht shared with the group that she would be transitioning into other BC projects and introduced Alex Ratcliff to the group who will be assisting Sarah with the facilitation and coordination efforts.

2. WQF Request for Funding – Discuss opportunity to sponsor WQF

On August 7th the Water Quality Forum (WQF) asked for contributions to assist in supporting the facilitator and events and suggested a \$250 contribution from nonprofits. SPCURE has not made contributions in the past. The board discussed potential increased involvement surrounding the efforts for streams and river nutrient standards. Sherri motioned to approve a \$250 contribution to the WQF. Curt Bauers seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The board noted this contribution would be evaluated on an annual basis.

3. Bureau of Reclamation – WaterSMART Grant / Project Opportunities

Alex provided an update on the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART grant opportunity. There are two opportunities under this announcement, a Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) and Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project (AERP).

CWMP Project:

- Examples of projects include watershed restoration plans, gathering data, modeling, technical assessments, etc.
- \$100,000 per year for up to three years
- No funding match required
- First round of applications due December 5, 2025
- Second round of applications due September 3, 2024

AERP Project:

- Examples of projects include study and design projects or construction projects
- \$500,000 up to \$20,000,000 for construction projects
- 35% funding match required
- Must partner with state, tribe, irrigation or water district
- Final round of applications due January 24, 2024

The Board discussed possible project ideas which included biological monitoring that would complement the current USACE stream restoration project.

The Board discussed who would be responsible for writing the grant application. Dan shared that South Platte Renew has recent experience with the BOR grant process and could assist. Julie Tinetti and Eric Marler supported the idea of taking initial steps to seek cost estimates for biological data collection to begin a grant proposal. Sarah Reeves noted that it will be important to maximize assistance and support from other to get the proposal written and suggested a subgroup. BC will coordinate a group of volunteers to scope out what is needed, quantify grant management requirements, obtain cost estimates, and determine what could be done at three different tiers (\$100K, \$200K, and \$300K).

4. **Other Topic**

a. Fee setting discussions with the Division

Sherri reported that the Division is likely approaching the fee setting in two phases but the stakeholder meeting on September 20th would help determine that based on feedback. She emphasized it was important for SP CURE members to be involved in these efforts.

5. **Project Updates**

a. Colorado Monitoring Framework – No update

b. CWQMC/CDSN - Jordan Parman provided an email update to Beth Albrecht sharing there were no major updates. The CDSN project coordinator just wrapped up a big push to get organizations' data uploaded as part of the South Platte Regulation #38 data call that was due on September 1st. He also shared that CDSN is working with Tammi Renninger to help develop more expertise in uploading data to the CDSN and conduct outreach to watersheds groups that aren't currently uploading data but might be interested.

c. BMW TMDL – No update

d. Monitoring Committee - Beth reported that the round robin was completed in Thornton this year. The committee will share the results of the Arsenic study during the December board meeting. The group decided to postpone presenting the Arsenic

Study at the next 10-year Roadmap meeting until Spring. During which time a Board Member volunteer will be needed to present.

- e. **Partnership Opportunities** – See Monitoring Committee update above.
- f. **Confluence at the Confluence** - Beth reported that planning for the event was well underway, and the last details were being taken care of. Sherri and Caleb Owen can help set up and Dan will work out sound/audio logistics with Civic Center staff ahead of the meeting.

6. **Budget Update**

The budget is up to date and there are no unplanned expenses.

7. **Other Topics and Announcements**

a. **Ches Arms (website maintenance) merged with Artifact**

Ches Arms who maintains SP CURE's website has merged with Artifact. There are no changes to the budget or functioning of the website.

b. **Feedback on WQF functionality**

The Board discussed how WQF is functioning and emphasized it should go back to how it used to operate, noting it should identify disconnects between the WQF and the Division. Some also noted that the WQF is not facilitating conversations ahead of time because the planned presentation. The Board also shared that it is important for the WQF to recognize virtual meetings are here to stay and in order to foster discussion it may be necessary for presenters to "plant audience members".

c. **Issues Scoping Hearing for South Platte Basin**

Dan reminded the group that the South Platte Basin Issues Scoping Hearing was scheduled to occur on November 13th with written comments due October 25th. At this time SP CURE does not need to provide comments.

8. **Next Meeting Dates**

October 17, 2023 – Confluence at the Confluence (in-person)

November 21, 2023 – Virtual

December 19, 2023 – Virtual

SP CURE Board Meeting: September 19, 2023
Attendance Record

Present	Name	Organization
	Juliana Archuleta	Adams County
X*	Sherry Scaggiari	Aurora Water
	Zachary Trabold	Aurora Water
X*	Julie Tinetti	Centennial W&S
	Alan Polonsky	City and County of Denver
	Jon Novick	City and County of Denver
	Michael Probasco	East Cherry Creek Valley W&S
	Sara Brewer	East Cherry Creek Valley W&S
X*	Curt Bauers	FRICO
	Brian Tracy	City of Golden
X*	Jim Dorsch	Metro Water Recovery
	Jordan Parman	Metro Water Recovery
	Mark Koch	Molson/Coors
	Gary Smith	South Adams County W&S
X*	Dan DeLaughter	South Platte Renew
	Nicole Laurita	South Platte Renew
	Tess Insalaco	South Platte Renew
X*	Eric Marler	Suncor Energy (U.S.A.)
X*	Caleb Owen	Thornton
	Shay Shih	Thornton
	Steve Materkowski	Mile High Flood District
	Christine Johnston	Xcel Energy
X*	Sarah Reeves	Coordinator, Brown and Caldwell
X*	Beth Albrecht	Brown and Caldwell
X*	Alex Ratcliff	Brown and Caldwell
	Erin Donnelly	Brown and Caldwell

*Joined virtually/by phone