

Water Literate Leaders
Homework
October 6, 2017

What did you learn today that encouraged you?

- It was something that Robert Ward said. I don't remember the exact quote, but it was about solving our water issues with optimism and innovation.
- I was encouraged by the group as a whole as the back grounds and expertise is extensive and will motive me to be engaged to learn from others and to share ideas. I appreciated Dick Wolfe's comments about working with others and not to take legal actions or statements of opposition personally as there can be other perspectives. That is how I try to work with my staff – to not take difficult issues personally.
- That everyone acknowledged the need for relationship to succeed in water.
- I enjoyed the first class and learned a tremendous amount of information about water and the numerous entities involved in water delivery. I liked the introductions for the class members and the presenters. I especially look forward to interacting and learning more about water and how it impacts one another. The interactions between class members will help us to better understand others and whom they may represent regarding water especially for Northern Colorado.
- It was great to hear how many folks are working on water together, and to see that different stakeholders really are talking with each other more. The issue of water in CO (or at least, on the Front Range) seems slightly less antagonizing a topic than it was even 4 years ago.
- The knowledge and leadership of the panel members that where present for our first session.
- I was encouraged simply by the willingness of busy people to dedicate time to this topic.

What did you learn today that discouraged you?

- I learned that I don't know as much as should about water issues in our region.
- I wasn't really discouraged by anything. The item that I seem to have on my mind is the length of time it takes to get approvals for a project is sometimes a career, and not hearing anything yet that may shorten the time frame is a concern to me.
- Honestly, nothing I heard discouraged me at all. That said, as Heather spoke I was reminded how disappointed I was that the shared vision process did not ultimately continue. I still grieve over that situation. I also was reminded of the disappointment about the bypass flow issue Sean shared. The unreasonableness astounds me at time.
- There was nothing that discouraged me as I know there are many challenges with water. I was not discouraged but it was reinforced how

much collaboration is imperative, but collaboration takes time. Building relationships takes time and too often the time it may take is a limiting factor.

- “The South Platte is over-appropriated.” Worrisome, especially given stats on anticipated development.
- Population could double on the Front Range. With the finite sources of water just about all developed, it is hard for me to imagine where the additional water will come from.
- I realized how much I don’t know. It wasn’t discouraging so much as daunting.

What did you learn today that surprised you?

- I learned a lot about Colorado-Big Thompson water. Most of my water knowledge is about Fort Collins and the Poudre River.
- It surprised me a little bit that there is a wide difference of knowledge of water, and how some elected officials have little knowledge. Therefore, we need to help them to learn about these issues. Getting an audience with them can be a challenge.
- How Heather, being not only from Northern Colorado but the country as a whole, was able to make such a positive impact simply because she had a seek first to understand mindset. Would love to sit at her feet and learn.
- I would say I was not surprised by what we learned. Water is complex and challenging!
- I thought Sean Cronin’s “love story” was fascinating and I had no idea of any of the history of the USFS claiming a need for river flows to help manage the forest.
- The presentation by the Water Commissioners and that at the present time, they are only able to allocate water to 1880 water rights and none to more junior rights, even in this current year of relative plenty.
- I was surprised to see actual people behind real decisions. For instance the actual folks that through the switches on who gets the water and who doesn’t. That was cool.

What did you learn today that you want to know more about?

- Everything. I'd like a glossary of terms to better understand some of the concepts. I'd like to know more about the history, and where we go from here.
- After the conclusion of the session last week I briefly visited with Reagan about how the many participants in the group are associated with different organizations or municipalities and at some point we have to protect our interests which could be at odds with others. This is a leadership challenge as how to work through these cases and retain working relationships. I refer back to Dick Wolfe’s comments about not taking it personally and try to be objective.
- The details of tracking water rights on the river. The river commissioners

- job astounds me.
- I enjoyed hearing the stories from the field by the panel. They have real stories and experiences which puts the topic into practice. I am sure whatever the issue there are challenges that must be addressed and leaders are the people who are looked to help resolve the issue. Building upon or adding greater understanding of an issue can only help leaders make better decisions.
 - Non-consumptive water rights and how to increase the # of these held.
 - The work of a Water Commissioner and how the allocations are done.
 - I want to learn more about all of it – I especially want to learn more about the specific needs of each area and each user type in the region.

Was there anything today that captured your attention to the extent that you could see yourself engaging in it further – to study it further, to play a leadership role in bringing it to the attention of others?

- As a councilmember, I'll need to engage further about a lot of these topics, the effects of diversion, peak flows, what makes a healthy river, etc.. Specifically, I like to know more about these issues so that I can create good policy.
- I look forward to the tour on October 6th, I have heard we are going by Milton-Seaman Reservoir, and the next session on domestic water providers.
- I know this might sound selfish but the idea I shared concerning the creation of a regional water provider is something I am very interested in and probably the main reason I wanted to be a part of this class. I really believe this is an issue that can help Northern Colorado reach and experience its potential.
- I am excited to learn more. Coming into this class I know the importance of water and I look forward to building upon my present knowledge.
- Again, I would like to learn more about non-consumptive water rights and possibly get more engaged there. I would also like to find or form some communication nexus or conduit so that all the many organizations working on water in CO could better know what each other is doing. It seems like there's a fair amount of repetition across some organizations (not those presenting today, but between some of these organizations and others from which I've heard).
- The programs being developed for the schools on water. These could be then expanded to programs for the public. In the career I retired from, I did technical presentations to all levels of personnel and could see myself engaging these skills.
- Seeing the various people in the room each representing different interests made me wonder if there is a role for me in helping bring those interests together toward beneficial regional outcomes.

What do you want to hear from municipal providers?

- I would like to hear from them areas of current cooperation that are working and areas they believe are low hanging fruit for further cooperation.
- I do not have much knowledge or a strong background un urban or domestic water needs or requirements. The next session will be very informative to me gaining greater appreciation and understanding. I look forward to learning how municipalities plan for growth and development, and how to meet future water needs. I believe drought is eminent so learning about this will be great.
- From the Municipalities I would like to hear about how needs and priorities vary from city to city – Ft Collins, Greeley, Timnath, Windsor, Wellington, Johnstown, Loveland, Eaton, Ault who am I missing?