

Water Literate Leaders of Northern Colorado September 2018—May 2019

Objective

Convene current and emerging leaders from the region's communities to convey an understanding of basic water information and issues critical to future decisions that will have deep influence over their communities' long term economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

- Introduce participants to key regional and statewide players in water
- Impart information about key regional water institutions, policies and issues from multiple angles
- Provide opportunity for dialogue that delves deep into the region's water challenges and opportunities
- Showcase and examine examples of water leadership as a means of encouraging such leadership in participants

Session Content

- Debrief of previous session, including homework responses and questions remaining
- Class member book reports
- Presentations from key experts, Q&A led by class member session facilitators
- Leadership Challenge: key water leader(s) will meet with the group to tell a story about their water leadership experiences and engage with the class in an interactive dialogue about what we can learn from these stories to inform and inspire the leadership needed now as we face regional water issues

Post-Session Homework

Each session will include this homework:

Send an email to MaryLou **within one week of each session** answering the following questions:

- What did you learn today that encouraged you?
- What did you learn today that discouraged you?
- What did you learn today that surprised you?
- What did you learn today that you want to know more about?
- 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?

Book Reading Assignment

Each of you should choose a book or other selection from the reading list provided or some other source, pertinent to our course, to read and report to the class about. Your

report should be a tightly focused 2-3 minute overview, followed by your leading the class in a short discussion about a key point or two from the book.

We will set aside 30 minutes at each class session to discuss the books class participants read—3 participants/class, 10 minutes per book (including overview and facilitated discussion.)

Session Facilitation Assistance Assignment

We would like to give each of you the opportunity to assist with the facilitation of one of our class sessions. Please take a look at the class syllabus, and indicate below which session you would like to help facilitate, based on what interests you the most.

Responsibilities include:

- Meet with MaryLou and your fellow session assistants (usually scheduled for convenience to take place from 1—1:30 following the previous session) to review the agenda drafted by MaryLou and to determine which of the presenters you will be assigned to.
- Connect briefly with your assigned presenter ahead of time to introduce yourself, explain your role, and spend a few minutes with them on the phone so that you get to know them well enough to introduce them. (Forget the kind of introduction in which you cite bio info. More important is who they are, what they do in relation to our topic, and some interesting factoid that will pique the curiosity of our group. These are the tidbits that relationships/networking begins from!)
- Meet your assigned presenter when they arrive, load their presentation on the laptop, and introduce them at the appropriate time (no longer than one minute intro)
- Help your presenter stay within time limits (discuss ahead of time and have some timing strategy set up to communicate with them when they are close/done.)
- Facilitate class Q&A following your presenter's presentation and ask the class to thank them after the Q&A period
- Send your presenter a thank you email after the class session

Curriculum Overview by Month

- September 13—Introductions/Class Overview/Regional Water Leaders Dialogue
- October 11—Water Law/Water Administration
- November 8—Domestic Water Providers
- December 13—Agricultural Water
- January 10—C-BT Project and Proposed Storage Projects
- February 14—Environmental Concerns/Efforts
- March 14—Recreation and Business
- April 11—Economic Growth and Water
- May 9—Ag/Urban Historical Changes and Future Outlook