



IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES 5-14

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor

Idaho Water Center
Conference Rooms 602 B, C, and D
322 East Front Street, PO Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720

Roger W. Chase
Chairman
Pocatello
District 4

May 16, 2014

Chairman Roger Chase called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 am. Pete Van Der Meulen was absent. All other Board members were present.

Peter Van Der Meulen
Vice-Chairman
Hailey
At Large

Agenda Item No. 1, Roll Call

Board Members Present

Bob Graham
Secretary
Bonners Ferry
District 1

Roger Chase, Chairman	Jeff Raybould
Bob Graham, Secretary	Chuck Cuddy
Vince Alberdi	Bert Stevenson
Albert Barker	

Charles "Chuck" Cuddy
Orofino
At Large

Staff Members Present

Gary Spackman, Director	Mat Weaver, Deputy Director
Brian Patton, Bureau Chief	Helen Harrington, Section Manager
Liz Cresto, Hydrologist	Cynthia Bridge Clark, Engineer
Mandi Pearson, Admin. Assistant	Neal Farmer, Special Projects Coordinator
Remington Buyer, Water Supply Bank Coordinator	
Clive Strong, Deputy Attorney General	
Harriet Hensley, Deputy Attorney General	

Vince Alberdi
Kimberly
At Large

Jeff Raybould
St. Anthony
At Large

Guests Present

John J. Williams, Bonneville Power Administration
Jon Bowling, Idaho Power
Peter Anderson, Trout Unlimited
Walt Poole, Idaho Fish and Game
Bob Geddes, Idaho Farm Bureau
Anita Hamann, Idaho Division of Financial Management
Ray Houston, Idaho Legislative Services Office
Dan Temple, A&B Irrigation District
Roger Warner, Recharge Development Corporation
Lynn Tominaga, Idaho Ground Water Association
Dave Tuthill, Idaho Water Engineering
Shelly Davis, Barker Rosholt & Simpson
Les Stark, US Bureau of Reclamation

Albert Barker
Boise
District 2

John "Bert" Stevenson
Rupert
District 3

Agenda Item No. 2, Executive Session

At approximately 7:30 am the Board resolved into Executive Session by unanimous consent pursuant to Idaho Code Section 67-2345 (1) subsections (c) and (f), for the purposes of considering the acquisition of an interest in real property not presently owned by a public agency and to communicate with legal counsel regarding legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. No action was taken by the Board during the Executive Session. The Board resolved out of Executive Session and into Regular Session at approximately 9:00am.

Agenda Item No. 3, Agenda and Approval of Minutes

There were no additions or deletions from the agenda. Mr. Barker made a motion that the minutes for meeting 3-14 be approved as printed. Mr. Cuddy seconded the motion. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 4, Public Comment

Chairman Chase opened up the meeting for public comment. Mr. Dan Temple of A&B Irrigation District (ABID) provided an update to the Board on the Lake Walcott Recharge Project. He discussed cost overruns on the project and asked the Board to consider additional funding for the project. He also discussed the possibility of ABID seeking a loan from the Board. Mr. Temple stated that ABID is committed to finding a way to complete the project. There was discussion among the parties regarding ABID's in-kind services, the funding needed for the project, and the loan application.

Mr. Roger Warner of the Recharge Development Corporation (RDC) addressed the Board. He introduced a Proposal to Implement a Public Private Partnership for Managed Ground Water Recharge in Idaho. He discussed short-term, mid-term, and long term strategies proposed by RDC.

Mr. John J. Williams of Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) addressed the Board. He provided an update on current issues that BPA is addressing. There was discussion among the parties regarding the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife amendments.

Agenda Item No. 5, Idaho Water Supply *(Liz Cresto, Staff)*

Ms. Liz Cresto provided a water supply update to the Board. She discussed snowpack levels and precipitation to date, and shared the precipitation and temperature outlook for the summer, as well as streamflow forecasts. There was discussion among the parties regarding drought emergencies.

Agenda Item No. 6, Water District 02 WaterSmart Grant Update *(Neeley Miller, Staff)*

Mr. Neeley Miller provided an update on the WaterSmart grants for PhaseOne and PhaseTwo of the Water District 02 project to assist with the installation of measuring devices and telemetry equipment for diversions in the district. Installation and calibration of equipment is on-going and will continue through summer/fall 2014 for PhaseOne of the project. The application for PhaseTwo of the project has been submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and staff anticipates BOR will announce funding awards sometime in May/June 2014.

Agenda Item No. 7, Committee Reports

a. Water Resource Planning *(Helen Harrington, Staff)*

Ms. Harrington provided an update on recent Water Resource Planning Committee activity. The Committee has been reviewing proposed changes to several State Water Plan policies and working on developing a Water Sustainability Policy. At the meeting held on April 15, 2014, the Committee heard panel discussions on Water Sustainability. The Committee also met on May 13, 2014.

Mr. Raybould discussed the limited number of proposed changes to the State Water Plan and the cost of having public hearings on these proposed changes. There was discussion among the parties regarding the requirement of public meetings on the proposed changes to the State Water Plan. Mr. Barker suggested the Board review the proposed changes and pass a resolution stating that the Board agrees with the intent of the proposed changes but will not amend the State Water Plan at this time.

Mr. Barker moved that the Board not adopt any changes to the State Water Plan and instead attempt to develop a resolution in response to the concerns raised by the legislature. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. There was discussion among the parties regarding the Committee's review of the proposed changes. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Ms. Harrington discussed the draft document on Sustainability. There was discussion among the parties regarding the document, including prioritization of projects and funding, meeting the intent of the Governor's guidance, and future work to be done on the document.

b. Upper Snake River Advisory (*Liz Cresto, Staff*)

Ms. Cresto provided an update on the most recent Upper Snake River Advisory Committee Meeting held on April 11, 2014. Among the topics discussed at the meeting were reservoir operations, current snowpack levels, Idaho Power operations, reach gains above and below Blackfoot, current irrigation demand, recharge operations, and projected 2014 flow augmentation releases. There was discussion among the parties regarding the Bureau of Reclamation releases.

Agenda Item No. 8, Water Supply Bank and Rental Pools (*Remington Buyer, Staff*)

a. Rental Pool Annual Report

Mr. Buyer presented a summary of the 2013 Rental Pool Report. There was discussion among the parties regarding specific types of rentals for Water District 63 and powerhead rentals.

b. Committee Appointments

Mr. Patton discussed the Rental Pool Local Committee Appointments. There was discussion among the parties regarding the ability to approve all five in one motion. Mr. Graham moved to approve the committee appointments. Mr. Raybould seconded the motion. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 9, Use of the Secondary Aquifer Fund

a. ESPA Recharge Plan (*Brian Patton, Staff*)

Mr. Patton presented on the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) Managed Recharge Plan. He discussed the recharge goal to stabilize the ESPA, declining aquifer storage, recharge water availability and potential recharge site locations. Mr. Patton presented the conclusions for how to best do recharge on the ESPA, including recharge driving factors for water supply availability, best site rankings in the Minidoka-to-Milner reach, and the value of recharge above American Falls. He discussed a general strategy, including utilizing winter-time flows at Milner, utilizing Lower Valley canals and off-canal facilities, utilizing winter-time Little Wood River water supplies, and utilizing Upper Valley canals in above-average water years. Mr. Patton presented estimated costs of recharge, an estimated build-out schedule, and planned facilities and 5-year retention. He discussed other recharge program factors including water quality monitoring and staffing needs. Mr. Patton discussed other aquifers in the state that also need stabilization, and discussed prioritization considerations and the possibility of creating an Advisory Committee to provide advice and feedback on ESPA recharge and other uses of the Secondary Aquifer Fund.

b. Hydrologic Modeling and Monitoring (*Rick Raymondi, Staff*)

Mr. Raymondi provided an overview of the Aquifer Planning and Management Fund. The fund was created for several purposes, including for technical studies and hydrologic monitoring and measurements. Mr. Raymondi discussed the expenditures from 2009 to present for monitoring, model, plan development, and personnel. He also discussed Trustee and Benefit Fund expenditures. He discussed modeling and monitoring efforts in the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, the Lewiston Groundwater Management Area, the Treasure Valley Aquifer, the Wood River Valley, and the ESPA.

Mr. Patton discussed the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management, and Implementation Fund. The Secondary Aquifer Fund now has two defined revenue streams: the Pristine Springs loan payment and the Cigarette Tax distribution. Staff is proposing that the revenues from Pristine Springs loan payments be dedicated to the statewide aquifer monitoring, measurement, and modeling effort, including staff expenses, now being paid by the Aquifer Planning Fund. The Aquifer Planning Fund was a one-time appropriation that is nearing exhaustion. There was discussion among the parties regarding Pristine Springs hydropower revenues being directed to RathdrumPrairie and Treasure Valley projects. There was discussion among the parties regarding alternatives to fund the program, a budget for the yearly revenue, and staff's suggestion to use the Pristine Springs loan repayment funds rather than the cigarette tax funds. There was further discussion among the parties regarding requesting funding from the legislature, as well as a time frame for the funding allocation.

Mr. Raybould moved to adopt the resolution allocating Pristine Springs loan repayments to the statewide aquifer monitoring, measurement and modeling effort. Mr. Cuddy seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Cuddy: Aye; Mr. Alberdi: Aye; Mr. Stevenson: Aye; Mr. Raybould: Aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen: Absent; Mr. Graham: Aye; Mr. Barker: Aye; Chairman Chase: Nay. Motion passed.

Mr. Patton requested that the Board amend the agenda to address Agenda Item No. 16, Director's Report, next. Mr. Barker made a motion to amend the agenda to move up the Director's Report. Mr. Raybould seconded. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion Passed.

Agenda Item No. 16, IDWR Director's Report (*Gary Spackman, Director*)

Director Spackman addressed the topic of requesting funding from the legislature. He discussed the need for stewardship of the funds that have been allocated. There was discussion among the parties regarding the legislative statute and the allocation of funding for the monitoring, measurement, and modeling projects. Director Spackman also addressed the proposal that a committee be assigned to review the progress that the Board and Department staff are making towards accomplishing the aquifer stabilization assignment given by the legislature.

Agenda Item No. 10, Financial Programs

a. Status Report (*Brian Patton, Staff*)

As of February 1st, the Board has about \$17.6 million committed by not disbursed for various loans and projects, about \$16 million total loan principal outstanding, and an uncommitted balance of about \$5 million. Mr. Patton and Mr. Graham discussed potential loans.

Agenda Item No. 11, Aqua Life Hatchery (*Brian Patton, Staff*)

Mr. Patton provided a brief update on the Aqua Life Hatchery. The Purchase and Sale Agreement has been executed. The lease agreement with SeaPac is being put into writing. There was discussion among the parties regarding the lease agreement and improvements that need to be made to the property.

Agenda Item No. 12, Pristine Springs (*Brian Patton, Staff*)

Mr. Patton provided a brief update on Pristine Springs. The supply pipeline is fully completed. The total cost came in higher than anticipated, and Mr. Patton asked the Board if they would be willing to increase the amount of funding they had committed to the project. There was discussion among the parties regarding the unanticipated construction issues that caused the extra costs.

Mr. Patton also provided an update on ongoing discussions with the College of Southern Idaho regarding the Pristine Springs property. Mr. Patton stated that there are other lease and sale possibilities with Pristine Springs. There was discussion among the parties regarding possible options.

Agenda Item No. 13, Recharge Update (*Neal Farmer, Staff*)

Mr. Farmer provided an updated on ESPA recharge activities. He discussed managed recharge operations for spring 2014. At this time, 10,435 acre-feet has been recharged. Mr. Farmer also discussed additional recharge capacity development, including canal system modifications for winter recharge, the Walcott Recharge Site, the Milner Pool, and the Richfield Aquifer Recharge Site. There was discussion among the parties regarding potential upcoming opportunities for recharge and expanding recharge capacity.

Agenda Item No. 14, Storage Studies (*Cynthia Clark, Staff*)

Ms. Clark provided a status report on storage water studies. She discussed the Weiser-Galloway Project and the status of the Operational Analysis. The Corps is also completing hydraulic, economic and cost analyses for the project. There has been significant interest in the project by the media and several inquiries from the general public for project details. In response to this, Chairman Chase, Mr. Barker, and staff provided an update to city and county officials on May 1, 2014. A Water Storage Projects Committee meeting is tentatively being scheduled for August. There was discussion among the parties regarding the support of elected officials for the project, as well as the need for real-time flow data. Ms. Clark presented a draft resolution to the Board to commit funding for the Weiser Hydropower Integration Analysis and to provide signatory authority for an agreement to carry out the Analysis. There was discussion among the parties regarding the studies for the preliminary permit. Mr. Graham suggested that the phrase "may be shared" in the resolution be changed to "will be shared." There was further discussion among the parties regarding the budget for the project and the Weiser River Trail.

Mr. Graham moved to approve the resolution with the suggested correction. Mr. Barker seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Cuddy: Aye; Mr. Alberdi: Aye; Mr. Stevenson: Aye; Mr. Raybould: Aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen: Absent; Mr. Graham: Aye; Mr. Barker: Aye; Chairman Chase: Aye. Motion passed.

Ms. Clark stated that the final Operational Analysis is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Ms. Clark discussed the Boise River Feasibility Study. An Environmental Impact Statement will be completed through the feasibility study process. Ms. Clark discussed public scoping meetings that have been held in Garden City, Boise, Caldwell, and Idaho City. The Corps hopes to complete the feasibility study by the fall of 2017. There was discussion among the parties regarding the public scoping meetings.

Ms. Clark provided an update on the Henrys Fork Basin Study. The final report was completed in April 2014. IDWR staff is compiling a supplemental report to summarize the findings of the Basin Study and generate recommendations to move forward with potential projects. Ms. Clark discussed the possibilities for engaging the public, including a possible advisory committee.

Agenda Item No. 15, Idaho's Missing Mountain Water (*Charlie Luce, USFS*)

Mr. Luce gave a presentation on climate change effects and how climate change will affect Idaho water supplies in the future. He discussed trends in water yield quantities, declines in runoff, low-elevation precipitation, and the correlation with regional westerly wind speed. Mr. Luce discussed

climate change effects such as more rain and less snow, earlier runoff times, summer low flows, and longer wildfire seasons with greater extent. There was discussion among the parties regarding public response to this information, reservoir fill, long-term storage, streamflow, and stream temperatures.

Agenda Item No. 17, Other Non-Action Items for Discussion

Mr. Graham discussed the upcoming Board meeting in Bonners Ferry. Mr. Barker provided an update on Mr. Van Der Meulen. Copies of House Bill 479 and House Bill 547 were handed out to the Board per Mr. Barker's request. Mr. Patton discussed a possible meeting with the regional manager for the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the Island Park project.

Agenda Item No. 18, Next Meetings and Adjourn

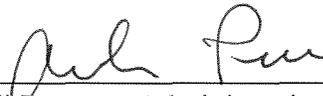
The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 17th and 18th in Bonners Ferry. A field trip is scheduled for June 25th in Sun Valley. There was discussion among the parties about moving the field trip to the afternoon of June 24th. Mr. Stevenson made a motion to Adjourn, and Mr. Raybould seconded the motion. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion Carried.

The IWRB Meeting 5-14 adjourned at approximately 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of July, 2014.



Bob Graham, Secretary



Mandi Pearson, Administrative Assistant II

Board Actions:

1. Mr. Barker made a motion that the minutes for meeting 3-14 be approved as printed. Mr. Cuddy seconded the motion. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion passed.
2. Mr. Barker moved that the Board not adopt any changes to the State Water Plan and instead attempt to develop a resolution in response to the concerns raised by the legislature. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion passed.
3. Mr. Graham moved to approve the committee appointments. Mr. Raybould seconded the motion. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion passed.
4. Mr. Raybould moved to adopt the resolution allocating Pristine Springs loan repayments to the statewide aquifer monitoring, measurement and modeling effort. Mr. Cuddy seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. 6 Ayes, 1 Nay, 1 Absent. Motion passed.
5. Mr. Barker made a motion to amend the agenda to move up the Director's Report. Mr. Raybould seconded. Voice Vote. All were in favor. Motion Passed.
6. Mr. Graham moved to approve the resolution in the matter of the Weiser Hydropower Integration Project with the suggested correction. Mr. Barker seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. 7 Ayes, 1 Absent. Motion Passed.