IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

MINUTES
MEETING NO. 10-26

Water Center
Conference Rooms 602 B-D
322 E. Front Street
Boise

September 18, 2026
Board Meeting No. 10-26

Brad Little
Governor

Jeff Raybould
Chairman
St. Anthony
At Large

Jo Ann Cole-Hansen
Vice Chair
Lewiston
At Large

Dean Stevenson
Secretary
Paul
District 3

Dale Van Stone
Hope
District 1

Albert Barker
Boise
District 2

Brian Olmstead
Twin Falls
At Large

Marcus Gibbs
Grace
District 4

Patrick McMahon
Sun Valley
At Large

At 8:00 AM (MT) Chairman Raybould called the meeting to order in Boise Idaho and on Zoom. The meeting was live streamed on the Board's YouTube Channel after the executive session.

Agenda Item No. 1: Roll Call

IWRB Board Members Present:
Jeff Raybould, Chairman
Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Vice Chairman
Dean Stevenson, Secretary
Albert Barker
Marcus Gibbs, Online
Patrick McMahon
Brian Olmstead
Dale Van Stone

IDWR Staff Members Present:
Brian Patton, Deputy Director and IWRB Executive Manager
Cynthia Bridge Clark
Wesley Hipke
Erik Boe
Mary Condon
Matt Anders
Mike Morrison
Ben Camp
Justin Ferguson
John Loffredo
Neeley Miller
Nick Banish
Milin Ream
James Ceffalo, Online
Max Deckman, Online
Jake Verrmas, Online

Others Present:
Ann Yribar, Legal
Steve Stuebner
Brian Murdock, Murdock Farms
Douglas Jones, Idaho Water Engineering
Forest Atkinson, Rainmaker Tech.
Katie Wheeler, BB&A

Agenda Item No. 2: Executive Session

At 8:07 AM, Mr. Stevenson moved to resolve into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1) subsection (f) 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. Topic: Water Right Application No. 63-34753. Mr. McMahon seconded. **Roll call vote**: Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Mr. Stevenson moved to resolve out of executive session at 9:08 AM. Mr. Van Stone seconded. **Voice vote**: All in favor. The motion carried. The executive session was closed to the public, and no action was taken during the executive session.

Agenda Item No. 3: Agenda and Approval of Minutes No. 8-26 and 9-26

The agenda and minutes for Meeting Nos. 8-26 and 9-26 were presented for approval, as discussed.

Mr. Van Stone moved to approve the agenda for Meeting No. 10-26 and the minutes for Meeting Nos. 8-26 and 9-26. Mr. Stevenson seconded. **Voice Vote**. all ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 4: Public Comment

Brian Murdock, Murdock Farms, addressed the Board and provided general comments regarding the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), as well as related legislative matters.

Douglas Jones, Idaho Water Engineering, then addressed the Board regarding the recent denial recommendation of an Aging Infrastructure Grant application by the IWRB Finance Committee.

With no further comments, Chairman Raybould moved to the next order of business.

Agenda Item No. 5: Financial Report

IDWR Project Manager Supervisor Mary Condon provided the Board's financial status reports as of June 30, 2026, and July 31, 2026, including cash balances, revenues, committed and available funds, and outstanding loan balances for the IWRB's accounts. The report also included the status of the $250 million in ARPA funds, including amounts expended and remaining committed.

Following review, Chairman Raybould moved to Agenda Item 6.

Agenda Item No. 6: Fiscal Year 27 Water Management Account Amended Spending Plan

IWRB Executive Manager, Brian Patton advised that the item and resolution were presented, reviewed, and discussed by the IWRB Finance Committee on September 2, 2026, with a due-pass recommendation for the Board's consideration.

IDWR Project Manager Supervisor Mary Condon reviewed the resolution with the Board for their consideration.

Following the review, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Ms. Cole-Hansen moved to approve and adopt the resolution approving the Amended Fiscal Year 2027 Water Management Account Spending Plan, as presented. Mr. Stevenson seconded. **Roll Call Vote**. Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 7: Fiscal Year 27 Secondary Aquifer Planning and Management Fund Budget Amendment

IWRB Executive Manager, Brian Patton advised that the item and resolution were presented, reviewed, and discussed by the IWRB Finance Committee on September 2, 2026, with a due-pass recommendation for the Board's consideration.

IDWR Project Manager Supervisor Mary Condon reviewed the resolution with the Board for their consideration.

Following the presentation and discussion, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Mr. Van Stone moved to approve and adopt the resolution to approve Amended Fiscal Year 2027 Secondary Fund Budget, as presented. Mr. McMahon seconded. **Roll Call Vote**. Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 8: Upper Salmon Water Transactions

A. **Iron Creek Water**
B. **Valley Creek SNRA Busterback Water Supply Bank Rental**
C. **Pahsimeroi River Water Supply Bank Lease/Rental**

IWRB Executive Manager Brian Patton advised that this item and corresponding resolutions were presented, reviewed, and discussed by the IWRB Aquifer Stabilization Committee on August 26, 2026, with a due-pass recommendation for the Board's consideration.

At this time, IDWR Transactions Program Manager John Loffredo addressed the Board to review each resolution and address any Board questions.

Following review, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Mr. Van Stone moved to approve and adopt the subject resolution(s) related to Upper Salmon Water Transactions, as presented. Mr. Olmstead seconded. **Roll Call Vote**. Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 9: Measuring and Monitoring Grant Awards

IWRB Executive Manager, Brian Patton advised that the item and resolution were presented, reviewed, and discussed by the IWRB Finance Committee on September 2, 2026, with a due-pass recommendation for the Board's consideration.

IDWR Project Manager Justin Ferguson provided a review of the resolution presented for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Van Stone moved to approve and adopt the resolution to Award Funds in the Matter of Measuring and Monitoring Support Grants, as presented. Mr. Stevenson seconded. **Roll Call Vote**. Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 10: ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grant Awards

IWRB Executive Manager Brian Patton advised that the IWRB Finance Committee reviewed this item at its September 2, 2026, meeting, and provided a due-pass recommendation to the Board to adopt the subject resolution.

At this time, IDWR Engineer Benjamin Camp reviewed the subject resolution before the Board for consideration.

Upon completion of the discussion, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Mr. Olmstead moved to approve and adopt the resolution to Award Funds in the Matter of Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grants, as presented. Mr. Van Stone seconded. **Roll Call Vote**. Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 11: Aging Infrastructure Grant Awards

IWRB Executive Manager Brian Patton advised that the IWRB Finance Committee reviewed this item at its September 2, 2026, meeting, and provided a due-pass recommendation to the Board to adopt the subject resolution.

IDWR Project Manager Justin Ferguson provided a review of the resolution presented for the Board's consideration.

Following review, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Ms. Cole-Hansen moved to approve and adopt the resolution to Award Funds in the Matter of Aging Infrastructure Grants, as presented. Mr. McMahon seconded. **Roll Call Vote**. Mr. Barker, aye, with an abstention recorded due to an affiliation with the Boise Project BOC; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye, with an abstention recorded due to an affiliation with the Fremont Madison Irrigation District. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 12: Idaho Water Resource Board Loan Applications:

A. Kuna East Water Corporation Loan

B. Dalton Gardens Irrigation District Loan

IWRB Executive Manager Brian Patton advised that the Finance Committee reviewed this item at its September 2, 2026, meeting, with a due pass recommendation to the Board to adopt the subject resolutions, as presented.

At this time, IDWR Project Manager Justin Ferguson reviewed the subject resolutions with the Board.

Mr. Van Stone moved to approve and adopt the subject resolution(s), as presented authorizing Funding for Kuna East Water Corporation and Dalton Gardens Irrigation District's Loan Requests. Mr. Van Stone seconded. **Roll Call Vote**. Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Gibbs, aye; Mr. McMahon, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 13: Cloud Seeding Program Authorization and Reporting Criteria

IDWR Cloud Seeding Program Manager Nick Banish addressed the Board to review the item as well as to walk through a revised resolution for the Board's review and consideration. Mr. Banish reported that the Amended Authorization and Reporting Criteria document was updated, according to the Idaho Code which was presented and reviewed by the IWRB Cloud Seeding Committee on August 5, 2026, with a due-pass recommendation to the Board for adoption and approval.

Following review and discussion of the resolution for the Board's consideration, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Mr. McMahon moved to approve and adopt the subject resolution, as presented to Amend Criteria for the Authorization and Reporting of Cloud Seeding Programs in the State of Idaho. Mr. Van Stone seconded. **Voice Vote**. All ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 14: House Concurrent Resolution No. 34 – Bear River Legislative Report

IDWR Engineering Supervisor Mike Morrison briefly reviewed the first report submitted to the Idaho Legislature on June 1, 2026, and presented a summary of the second Bear River Legislative Report to the Board, which is scheduled for submission to the Idaho Legislature on September 30, 2026.

Mr. Morrison presented the factors staff considered in evaluating projects for further development of Idaho's compact allocation.

Following review, discussion, and Board direction to IDWR staff, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Mr. Barker moved to approve that staff finalizing and submitting the House Concurrent Resolution No. 34 Bear River Legislative Report to the Idaho Legislature by September 30, 2026, as discussed. Mr. McMahon seconded. **Voice Vote**. All ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 15: Administrative Rules Update

IDWR Resource Protection Bureau Chief Erik Boe provided a summary of the recent negotiated administrative rulemaking activities. Following his report, IDWR Eastern Manager James Ceffalo

discussed the proposed changes to IDAPA 37.01.01 and reviewed the subject resolution for the Board's consideration.

Following review and comments, Chairman Raybould entertained a motion from the Board.

Mr. Barker moved to approve the resolution to Publish the Proposed Rules in the October 2026 Idaho Administrative Bulletin in the Matter of the Board's 2026 Negotiated Rulemaking of IDAPA 37.01.01 Rules of Procedure, as presented. Mr. Stevenson seconded. **Voice Vote**. All ayes. The motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 16: Directors Report

There was no report under Agenda Item No. 16.

Agenda Item No. 17: Non-Action Items for Discussion

Board member Barker extended his appreciation to the team for the recent legislative trip to Washington D.C. and its success. Board member Gibbs extended his appreciation to the Board for its understanding with respect to his attendance via Zoom.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Agenda Item No. 18: Next Meeting and Adjourn

IWRB Executive Manager Brian Patton advised that the next regular Board meeting is scheduled for November 12-13, 2026, in Boise.

Following closing comments by Chairman Raybould, Mr. Raybould moved to adjourn. Mr. Van Stone seconded. **Voice vote**: 8 ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:16 AM.

Respectfully submitted this 13th Day of November 2026.

Dean Stevenson, *Secretary*

Milin J. Ream, *Administrative Assistant II*