



IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

Brad Little
Governor

Jeff Raybould
Chairman
St. Anthony
At Large

Roger W. Chase
Vice-Chairman
Pocatello
District 4

Jo Ann Cole-Hansen
Secretary
Lewiston
At Large

Dale Van Stone
Hope
District 1

Albert Barker
Boise
District 2

Dean Stevenson
Paul
District 3

Peter Van Der Meulen
Hailey
At Large

Brian Olmstead
Twin Falls
At Large

MINUTES MEETING NO. 12-21

The Inn at Priest Lake
Main Floor Conference Room / Zoom Online
5310 Dickensheet Rd.
COOLIN, ID

September 16, 2021

Work Session

Agenda Item No. 1: Roll Call

Chairman Raybould called the work session meeting to order at 8:43 a.m. (PST) in Coolin, Idaho. Board members present were Al Barker, Roger Chase, Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Brian Olmstead, Dean Stevenson, Dale Van Stone, and Chairman Raybould; online was Pete Van Der Meulen. IDWR staff members present were: Brian Patton, Gary Spackman, Cynthia Bridge Clark, Neeley Miller, Matt Anders, Emily Skoro, Evan Roda, Shelley Keen, Steve Stuebner, and Jennifer Strange; and online was Kara Ferguson.

Guests present were: Ann Vonde, Senator Steve Vick, Roy Peckham, Shane Phillips, John Dawson, Molly McCahon, Steve Klatt, Bill McInerney, Marylou Duncan, and Karl Duncan; and online was Darrell Early.

Agenda Item No. 2: Executive Session

Board met 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. The executive session was closed to the public.

Ms. Cole-Hansen moved to resolve into executive session. Mr. Barker seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Barker, aye; Mr. Chase, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Olmstead, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; and Chairman Raybould, aye. 8 ayes. The motion passed. Mr. Darrell Early discussed North Idaho Adjudication, and Ms. Ann Vonde only discussed Priest Lake Water Rights. Recharge Water Right Applications topic was not discussed.

Ms. Cole-Hansen moved to resolve out of executive session at 10:52 a.m. Mr. Barker seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried. No actions were taken during the executive session.

Agenda Item No. 3: Priest Lake

- a. **Status of the Water Management Project:** Mr. Neeley Miller provided an update on the project.
- b. **2021 Operations Update:** Mr. Miller discussed the Priest Lake 2021 operations related to the lake levels and the Priest River discharge.
- c. **Long Term Operational Guidance Curve:** Matt Anders discussed the operational guidance curve for lake levels.
- d. **Comments from Bonner County:** Mr. Steve Klatt shared some pictures and comments about the project.
- e. **Priest Lake Water Management Video:** Steve Stuebner shared a video of the project.
- f. **Dam Operator Service Award:** Board member, Dale Van Stone of Hope, Idaho, presented an award to long time dam operator, Karl Duncan.

Agenda Item No. 4: Adjourn

The board recessed for lunch at noon. They went on a tour of the Priest Lake thorofare and outlet dam facilities from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

September 17, 2021
Board Meeting No. 12-21

At 8:00 a.m. (PST) Chairman Raybould called the meeting to order. All members were present.

Agenda Item No. 1: Roll Call

Board Members Present

Jeff Raybould, Chairman
Roger Chase, Vice-Chairman
Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Secretary
Albert Barker
Dale Van Stone
Dean Stevenson
Brian Olmstead

Board Members Present Online

Pete Van Der Meulen—joined after agenda item 2.

Staff Members Present

Gary Spackman, Director
Cynthia Bridge Clark, Water Projects Manager
Neeley Miller
Emily Skoro
Shelley Keen

Brian Patton, Executive Officer
Matt Anders
Steve Stuebner
Jennifer Strange
Evan Roda

Staff Members Present Online

Mathew Weaver

Mike Morrison

Kala Golden
Janet Garrett
Douglas Jones
Ethan Geisler

Meghan Carter
Remington Buyer
Lacey Rammell-O'Brien

Guests Present

Ann Vonde
Henry Jones
Sonja Maloney
Jason Peplinski
Michael Jones
Elaine Widman
Dan Ahlefeld
Rod Hoover
Jim Morris

Richard Gumaer
Barbara Rawlinson
Fred Enlow
Gary Cline
Bill McInerney
Don Widman
Tom Renzi
Tom Ramsey
Donna Harrett

Guests Present Online

Sean Costello
John Williams
Matthew Smith
John Stevenson
Bryan Horsburgh
Charles Corsi
Lanie Paquin
Norm Semanko
Larry Blackledge
Kresta Davis
Dylan Lawrence
John Simpson
Marty Anderson
Chris Keith
Laurie Smith
Larry Kull
Wendy Jackson
Brad Carlson
Autumn Ralph
Thor Burbach

Clive Strong
Kurt Newbry
Scott Pugrud
Kyle Radek
Ken Gibson
Robin Lee-Beusan
Darrell Early
Jennifer Lehn
Bradley Dawson
Devin Stoker
Derek Blestrud
Kira Finkler
Peggy Estey
Pat McMahon
William Papesh
Bud Belles
Pecky Cox
Edward Guthrie
Jonathan Quinn-Hurst
Breah James

Agenda Item No. 2: Agenda and Approval of Minutes 10-21 and 11-21

Mr. Patton noted that the agenda had been amended days prior to the meeting and that item 4 "Lemhi Basin Settlement Working Group Update" had been added. Chairman Raybould asked if the minutes had been reviewed and if there were any edits needed. For meeting minutes 10-21, Secretary Jo Ann Cole-Hansen recommended the following edits: the voice vote for agenda item #10—should reflect that Ms. Cole-Hansen had abstained from the vote. Mr. Olmstead noted a name correction on the guest list. Mr. Stevenson moved to adopt the minutes with the edits for board meetings 10-21 and 11-21. Mr. Van Stone seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. The motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 3: Public Comment

Chairman Raybould asked if there were any public comments.

Rod Hoover, a local resident, had concerns about the cold water siphon proposal that Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG) would be discussing later in the agenda.

Donna Harrett had concerns about the dam operations and water quality related to blue-green algae blooms. She also expressed concerns about IDFG's cold water siphon proposal.

John Williams provided an update on operations at Bonneville Power Administration. He discussed rate reductions, summer impacts, and litigation.

Tom Ramsey, a local lake resident, had concerns about IDFG's proposal.

Jim Morris, a Coolin resident, shared concerns about pending development and impacts to local wetlands.

Agenda Item No. 4: Lemhi Basin Settlement Working Group Update

Mr. Clive Strong stated that one participant of the September 10th meeting in Salmon expressed a refusal to join the settlement, which will result in a setback. Another meeting is planned for October 21st to focus on a voluntary approach to joining the settlement and to provide a proposal. Mr. Norm Semanko added information about the next meeting planned and his optimism for an accepted plan.

Agenda Item No. 5: Boise River Feasibility Study / Anderson Ranch Dam Raise

Ms. Bridge Clark said that negotiation sessions would begin on September 22nd. Ms. Lanie Paquin stated the primary focus would be to develop the federal cost share agreement. Negotiation sessions would be hosted by Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and more information can be found on a newly developed webpage specifically for the project.

Agenda Item No. 6: Financial Report

Mr. Miller provided the Board's financial report. The accounts as of July 31, 2021 were: Secondary Aquifer Fund: committed/earmarked but not disbursed \$22,210,213 and uncommitted balance \$4,527,917; Revolving Development Account: committed/earmarked but not disbursed \$18,614,656, loan principal outstanding \$20,489,997, uncommitted balance \$12,570,265, and anticipated loanable funds available next one year \$16,070,265; and Water Management Account: committed/earmarked but not disbursed \$72,484,362, and uncommitted balance \$7,588. Total committed/earmarked but not disbursed \$113,309,233; total loan principal outstanding \$20,489,997; and total uncommitted balance \$17,105,770.

Agenda Item No. 7: Administrative Rules

Deputy Director Mat Weaver provided an update on the ongoing Rulemaking process and the Zero-Based Rulemaking. Action requested was to adopt and authorize the publication of the board's temporary non-fee rules (Docket No. 37-0000-2000) and fee rules (Docket No 37-0000-2100) as proposed rules in the upcoming October 20, 2021, Idaho Administrative Bulletin. Options for the resolution were presented by Mr. Weaver and Ms. Ann Vonde. They decided to add at line 71: 37.02.01, Comprehensive State Water plan rules, and on line 72 add language for the Shoshone Bannock Tribal Water Supply Bank.

Mr. Barker moved to adopt the resolution with the discussed amendments. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. The motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 8: Cloud Seeding

Ms. Kala Golden discussed a resolution to provide a one-year authorization of local or statewide cloud seeding programs operating in Idaho.

Mr. Chase moved to adopt the resolution to authorize cloud seeding. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. The motion carried.

Ms. Golden provided an update on a contract for the operation of a cloud seeding aircraft in the Bear River Basin. Two quotes had been received; per the rules, North American Weather Consultants should be awarded as they were the “lowest responsive responsible bidder.”

Agenda Item No. 9: IDFG Priest Lake Cold Water Siphon Proposal Update

Chairman Raybould shared concerns that several audience members had expressed about the proposal. Mr. Chip Corsi of IDFG stated he would attempt address those concerns at the end of his presentation. He discussed a proposed project to siphon cold water from Priest Lake to be release into the Priest River to improve water quality in the river by keeping the temperature from getting too warm for bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout and other cold water fish. Board members made several comments and shared concerns with the study. Some members of the audience had follow-up questions and concerns.

Agenda Item No. 10: IDWR Adjudication Update

Mr. Shelley Keen and Mr. Evan Roda discussed the Department’s recent adjudication efforts including final Coeur d’Alene-Spokane River Basin Adjudication, filing of the Palouse River Basin Adjudication, Clark Fork-Pend Oreille River Basin commencement order, and the Bear River Basin Adjudication commencement.

Agenda Item No. 11: CSRBA Forest Service Settlement

Mr. Darrell Early sought action by the board to accept a stipulation and joint motion for order approving stipulation. He provided a brief overview of the issue. Mr. Barker stated that he had also been involved in the settlement.

Mr. Barker moved to approve the settlement stipulation. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. The motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 12: Director’s Report

Director Gary Spackman was impressed with the attendance in Coolin for the meeting. He recognized that many of the guests had concerns about IDFG’s cold water siphon concept. IDWR has an obligation to maintain lake levels, and stated that IDFG would have to get a water right to complete the proposed project.

He discussed IDWR’s budget proposal, which include a request for 15 full time positions. He stated that he would seek assistance from Board members in support of the budget.

Agenda Item No. 13: Non-Action Items for Discussion

Mr. Stevenson asked when a water supply bank committee meeting might happen next. Mr. Olmstead said that earlier in the month, he had toured Southwest Irrigation District, Burley Irrigation District, and Magic Valley District converted injection well sites. Mr. Van Stone expressed thanks and appreciation. Chairman Raybould echoed appreciation to staff and the community.

Agenda Item No. 14: Next Meeting and Adjourn

Mr. Patton stated the next scheduled meetings were November 18-19, 2021 in Boise and via an online platform. Mr. Barker moved to adjourn. Mr. Van Stone seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of November 2021.



Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, *Secretary*



Jennifer Strange, *Administrative Assistant II*

Board Actions:

1. Meeting minutes 10-21 and 11-21 were adopted.
2. Adopted an amended resolution related to Administrative Rules.
3. Adopted a resolution to develop temporary authorization of existing cloud seeding programs.
4. Motion to accept a settlement stipulation related to the CSRBA Forest Service Settlement.