

MEETING MINUTES
Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee
Lincoln County Community Center, Shoshone, Idaho
November 4, 2020

The meeting started at approximately 10:00 a.m. with an introduction by IDWR Director Gary Spackman followed by introductions of the members of the Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee and introductions of others in attendance and attendees who had called in via telephone (see attached list of attendees). Director Spackman said he will not facilitate the meetings, but that IDWR employees Tim Luke and Shelley Keen will serve as co-facilitators.

Mr. Luke and Mr. Keen then proceeded to lead the meeting and discussed meeting minutes and record keeping, ground rules for the meetings, and roles and responsibilities of the committee. Several individuals had questions and discussions were held relating to the sharing of information, meeting location and frequency, and goals of the committee. It was agreed upon that IDWR would facilitate the sharing of information via IDWR's website and some communication will occur through email. Website links will be sent later. A desire was expressed for more frequent meetings (approximately twice per month), but scheduling everyone at that frequency and during the upcoming holiday season may be problematic. It appeared that the Lincoln County Community Center was the most appropriate location for meetings, but there may be technology limitations that may hinder the ability to attend meetings remotely. IDWR committed to work towards some technology improvements. IDWR staff suggested the first few meetings will include presentations of background information (history, technical data, etc.) with subsequent meetings consisting of members working towards the development of a management plan.

Kevin Lakey, water master of Water District 37, gave a presentation of water sources in the district, how water is conveyed through the district, and how priority calls are determined for different sources and areas within the district.

Due to time constraints the scheduled presentation relating to historical events (GWMA creation, administrative actions, water calls, etc.) in the area was tabled for the next meeting.

The meeting was then opened up for public comments and questions. Discussions centered generally on groundwater use and user compliance with diversion and metering requirements. Potential items and topics for the next meeting were also discussed with interest expressed in a presentation relating to the Conjunctive Management Rules, information relating to exchange contracts between American Falls Reservoir District 2 and the Big Wood Canal Company, and information on conversion projects within the system(s). IDWR representatives committed to a presentation relating to the Conjunctive Management Rules. Carl Pendleton and Rod Hubsmith committed to presenting information relating to exchange contracts and conversion projects.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Next Committee Meeting
November 18, 2020, 2:00 p.m., Lincoln County Community Center

Meeting Attendees

Advisory Committee

Nick Westendorf - BWLWWUA
Cooper Brossy - BWLWWUA
Carl Pendleton – Big Wood Canal Co.
Rod Hubsmith – AFRD2
Kristy Molyneux – South Valley GWD
Sharon Lee – Individual
Pat Purdy - Individual
Pat McMahon – Galena GWD
Corey Allen – Sun Valley Co.
Brian Yeager – City of Hailey
Bill Simon – Camas Prairie, WD37B (via phone)
Sen. Michelle Stennett – Ex-Officio, Idaho Senate

Others Present

Bill Arkoosh - BWLWWUA
Kevin Lakey – WD37
Cindy McCowan – WD37
Chris Johnson – City of Bellevue
Chris Bromley - Attorney
David Shaw – Consultant, South Valley GWD
Ryan Telford - BWCC

Others on Phone

Peter Anderson – Trout Unlimited
Judd McMahan – Galena GWD
Heather O’Leary – Attorney, Galena GWD
Sean Vincent – IDWR
Mat Weaver – IDWR
Mary Beth Collin – Sun Valley Water & Sewer District
Larry Schoen – Wood River Collaborative (WRC)
Jim Speck – Attorney
Sarah Lien – Nature Conservatory
Emily Jones – Mt Express
Eric Miller – Consultant, BWCC & BWLWWUA
Lynn Tominaga – Idaho GW Appropriators
Kerri York – Wood River Land Trust & WRC
Pete Van Der Meulen – Idaho Water Resource Board
Kira Finkler – Trout Unlimited