

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee**  
**Blaine County Community Campus, Hailey, Idaho**  
**March 28, 2023**

The meeting started at 9:34 a.m. with most of the Advisory Committee members attending in person. Some committee members participated via Zoom video conferencing or telephone. See the attached list of attendees. After a brief introduction by Shelley Keen, presentations were given relating to 2022 Management Plan actions and updates.

Tim Luke demonstrated how to access and view various Management Plan reports on IDWR's website. Tim also updated the committee on corrections to Water District 37 and Groundwater District reports. Later in the meeting, both Tim and Dave Shaw reported that the Northwest River Supply Forecast Center 2023 April to September water supply forecast at the Hailey gage is 292 KAF, as of March 27, 2023. According to the Management Plan, this 292 KAF will have to be averaged with the NRCS April 1 forecast, but it appears that the average will exceed the 210 KAF necessary for an adequate water supply in 2023, thereby avoiding the need for additional 'dry-year' management actions.

Dave Shaw reported on 2022 Little Wood River diversions and flows. Sunny Healey reported on 2022 Water District 37 deliveries, including the accounting of Snake River storage water delivery through the system. Bill Simon reported on progress being made for aquifer studies in the Camas Prairie and indicated that there is a lot of snow on the Camas Prairie this year. Bill also shared that a particular irrigation well on the Camas Prairie was experiencing artesian flow in mid-January when the same well did not flow until mid-February last year. Larry Schoen reported that the CIEF Committee has yet to meet in 2023 due to a lack of submitted applications for funding. Larry stated the committee has an approximate fund balance of \$350,000.00 and that conservation and efficiency project proposals need to be submitted.

After a break, Kala Golden reported on the cloud seeding program. Mary Beth Collins reported on Galena Ground Water District activities, and Justin Stevenson reported on South Valley Groundwater District activities. In general, the Galena Groundwater District met its funding obligations, but it did not meet the following and consumptive use reduction obligations. South Valley Groundwater District reported that it met its fallowing and reduction obligations. Mike Peterson and Craig White of Idaho Fish and Game reported on beaver dam removal policies and activities.

The meeting transitioned to discussion relating to possible Management Plan adjustments, new business items, and other topics. South Valley Ground Water District water users suggested revising the Management Plan to reduce the obligations of ground water users during adequate water years, like 2023. BLWWUA water users expressed a desire to maintain the Management Plan through its three-year term to observe and evaluate the results in different kinds of water years. Shelley Keen noted that modifying the Management Plan would require IDWR to issue an order, which would potentially expose the Management Plan to administrative and legal challenges. Due to concerns about how long the meeting had already run (3.5 hours by

this time), the discussion moved to the new business without discussing proposed Management Plan changes in detail.

Tim Luke recommended that the Groundwater Districts submit any updated 2023 following plans at the beginning of May. Corey Allen stated that there will be a water conservation meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> and that invitations will be coming. It was agreed that the next Advisory Committee meeting should occur in early July.

The meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

**Big Wood River Ground Water Management Area Advisory Committee Meeting  
March 28, 2023, Attendance**

**Advisory Committee**

Corey Allen  
Cooper Brossy  
Pat McMahon  
Carl Pendleton  
Brian Yeager  
Justin Stevenson  
Pat Purdy (via ZOOM)  
Bill Simon (via ZOOM)  
Nick Westendorf (via ZOOM)

**IDWR Staff**

Shelley Keen  
Tim Luke  
Corey Skinner  
Corey King  
Sean Vincent (via ZOOM)  
Kala Golden (via ZOOM)

**IWRB Members**

Brian Olmstead  
Dean Stevenson

**Members of the Public**

Kevin Lakey  
Sunny Healey  
Keri York  
Fred Brossy  
Mary Beth Collins  
Brian Dillworth  
Dave Shaw  
Mike Peterson  
Craig White  
Chris Bromley  
Larry Schoen  
Mike Lawrence (via ZOOM)  
Judd McMahon (via ZOOM)  
Scott Westendorf (via ZOOM)  
John Arkoosh (via ZOOM)  
Kent Fletcher (via ZOOM)  
Neil Crescenti (via ZOOM)  
Chase Hendricks (via ZOOM)  
Eric Miller (via ZOOM)  
Zach Hill (via ZOOM)  
Greg Loomis (via ZOOM)  
Kira Finkler (via ZOOM)  
Brittany Gailey (via ZOOM)