



# IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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At Large

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**Jo Ann Cole-Hansen**  
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**Dale Van Stone**  
Hope  
District 1

**Albert Barker**  
Boise  
District 2

**Brian Olmstead**  
Twin Falls  
At Large

**Peter Van Der Meulen**  
Hailey  
At Large

## MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 1-22

Water Center  
Conference Rooms 602 C&D / Online Zoom  
322 E. Front St.  
BOISE

January 14, 2022

**Committee Members:** Chair Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Jeff Raybould, Dean Stevenson, and Dale Van Stone.

### **Agenda Item No. 1: Introductions & Attendance**

Chair Cole-Hansen called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM (MT) in Boise and online. Committee members present online were Chair Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Jeff Raybould, and Dean Stevenson.

IDWR staff members present were: Brian Patton, Gary Spackman, and Jennifer Strange. Online were Cynthia Bridge Clark, Sascha Marston, Wesley Hipke, Neeley Miller, Mathew Weaver, Sean Vincent, Meghan Carter, and Megan Jenkins.

Guests online included Jaxon Higgs, Braden Jensen, Paul Arrington, Kira Finkler, Daniel Steenson, Ann Vonde, Robert Turner, Barney Metz, and Robin Nimmer.

### **Agenda Item No. 2: Review Governor's Proposed Budget for IDWR**

Sascha Marston, IDWR's Fiscal Officer discussed the governor's proposed budget for IDWR for fiscal year 2023.

### **Agenda Item No. 3: Allowable Uses of ARPA Funds for Water Projects**

Brian Patton discussed the allowable uses of ARPA funds for water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. A total of \$250 million was proposed for IWRB projects. He stated there would be U.S. Treasury rules on the allowable uses. The funds must be allocated by federal fiscal year 2024 and spent by fiscal year 2026. He discussed potential projects that could qualify for ARPA funding, and he highlighted some of the limits placed on the qualifying projects.

**Agenda Item No. 4: Criteria for Large Water Sustainability Projects**

Mr. Patton provided a definition for projects to include on the statewide priority list. He stated it as: a project that helps achieve water resource sustainability on a regional, basin wide, or statewide basis. Mr. Raybould stated that the definition should be a threshold definition.

Jeff Raybould moved to adopt the definition and recommend to the full board. Dean Stevenson seconded. Voice vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

Paul Arrington shared appreciation and shared concerns with aging infrastructure projects.

**Agenda Item No. 5: Allocation of Funds**

Chairman Cole-Hansen discussed possible allocation of ARPA funds. She listed the Mountain Home AFB project, the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise project, and a large upper valley ESPA aquifer recharge project as qualifying projects for ARPA monies, should the legislature provide funding.

Dean Stevenson moved to recommend to the full board the proposed allocation of funds, should the funds be appropriated. Jeff Raybould seconded. Voice vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

Jeff Raybould recommended a discussion on the potential uses of general fund money for other worthy projects like aging infrastructure and sustainability projects.

**Agenda Item No. 6: Other Items**

There were no other items for discussion.

**Agenda Item No. 7: Adjourn**

Jeff Raybould moved to adjourn. Dean Stevenson seconded. Voice vote: all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Strange, Administrative Assistant to the Board.