



# IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

**Brad Little**  
Governor

**Roger W. Chase**  
Chairman  
Pocatello  
District 4

**Jeff Raybould**  
Vice-Chairman  
St. Anthony  
At Large

**Vince Alberdi**  
Secretary  
Kimberly  
At Large

**Peter Van Der Meulen**  
Hailey  
At Large

**Albert Barker**  
Boise  
District 2

**John "Bert" Stevenson**  
Rupert  
District 3

**Dale Van Stone**  
Hope  
District 1

**Jo Ann Cole-Hansen**  
Lewiston  
At Large

## MINUTES MEETING NO. 10-19

Idaho Water Center  
Conference Rooms 602 B, C, D  
322 East Front Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
BOISE

November 14, 2019

At 8:03 a.m. Chairman Chase called the meeting to order. All members were present.

### Agenda Item No. 1: Roll Call

#### *Board Members Present*

Roger Chase, Chairman  
Vince Alberdi, Secretary  
Bert Stevenson  
Jo Ann Cole-Hansen

Jeff Raybould, Vice-Chairman  
Pete Van Der Meulen  
Dale Van Stone  
Albert Barker

#### *Staff Members Present*

Gary Spackman, Director  
Garrick Baxter  
Cynthia Bridge Clark, Water Projects Section Manager  
Sean Vincent  
Matt Anders  
Neal Farmer  
Emily Skoro  
Justin Shearer  
Jennifer Strange  
Brian Patton, Executive Officer  
Mat Weaver, Deputy Director  
Neeley Miller, Water Resource Sr. Planner  
Wesley Hipke  
Rick Collingwood  
Remington Buyer  
Randy Broesch  
Steve Stuebner

#### *Guests Present*

Ann Vonde  
Brian Horsburgh  
Molly McCahon  
Megan Sloan  
Lynn Jaynes  
Lynn Tominaga  
Darrell Early  
Scott Campbell  
Craig Hill  
Shaun Parkinson  
Kendra Kaiser  
Hal Anderson  
Peter Anderson  
David Blew  
Sarah Lien

### **Agenda Item No. 2: Executive Session**

Mr. Alberdi made a motion to resolve into executive session for the purpose of considering records that are exempt from disclosure. The topic related to Idaho Code §42-1737. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Roll call vote. All ayes. Executive session was closed to the public. No actions were taken.

Mr. Alberdi made a motion to resolve out of executive session. Mr. Van Stone seconded. Voice vote. All in favor.

### **Agenda Item No. 3: Public Comment**

Mr. Barker made a motion to amend the agenda to add "Public Comment" as it had not been included. Mr. Van Der Meulen seconded. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Hal Anderson of Idaho Water Engineering provided two updates for the Board. First, he said the Lost Valley Reservoir project has completed a preliminary study associated with the North Idaho Ground Squirrel and that mitigation may be a possibility. The next steps are a need for an environmental impact study and whether there is Board interest in water from the Lost Valley. The other update related to the Cat Creek energy project at Anderson Ranch Reservoir. Space is available in reserve for additional storage for the Board if there is interest.

### **Agenda Item No. 4: Agenda & Approval of Minutes 7-19, 8-19 & 9-19**

Mr. Patton presented three sets of minutes for Board approval. Mr. Raybould mentioned a name correction for the 7-19 minutes. No other corrections were suggested. Mr. Raybould moved to adopt the minutes from meetings 7-19, 8-19, and 9-19 with the mentioned correction. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. The motion carried.

### **Agenda Item No. 5: Financial Report**

Mr. Miller provided an update on the state of the Board's accounts. Mr. Raybould asked if the Aquifer Fund included any of the current year's cigarette tax monies, and Mr. Miller affirmed that it did. Mr. Alberdi asked if all the loans were current, and Mr. Miller stated that they were. Mr. Patton informed the Board that the Goose Creek Reservoir Company has asked the Board to review the interest rate of their loan. A Finance Committee meeting was suggested for discussing this matter.

### **Agenda Item No. 6 Boise River Feasibility Study Update**

Ms. Bridge Clark introduced Brian Horsburgh from the Bureau of Reclamation. He said the public scoping period completed. A graphic related to the comments received was presented to the Board. He listed the other steps in process. Next steps include a draft Feasibility Report and an environmental impact study. Mr. Raybould asked if budget updates come to IDWR staff, and it was stated that the updates are shared at regular meetings. Mr. Horsburgh provided a timeline of future events.

He had an update for the Cat Creek project from the Federal side: the Bureau has received information that needs to be reviewed; a final work plan has yet to be submitted from the project; and BOR has not seen a formal application to FERC.

Ms. Bridge Clark added an update on the Board's water right application related to the Feasibility Study. IWRB re-advertised the application due to problems with statewide publication which extended the protest period. Four protests were filed during the initial protest period from Suez, City of Boise, BLM, and Elmore County.

### **Agenda Item No. 7 Priest Lake Water Management Project**

Mr. Miller provided some background on the Priest Lake Water Management Project. The project is in the third phase and the schedule for this was presented. Mr. Van Stone introduced Molly McCahon, Executive Director of the Lakes Commission and Craig Hill a member on the commission's board. Ms. McCahon provided comments related to the outlet dam. She discussed some changes and the recent history of the lake levels and Priest River flows. Mr. Raybould commented on the chain of events that led to lake water released. She agreed that communication and planning would help. Mr. Van Stone suggested that a set date would be helpful for the winter draw-down. In the letter the Lakes Commission suggested some options to assist in management: such as installing gauges, weather forecasting, and water measurement. Mr. Raybould asked where the funding would come from related to a suggestion for USGS gauges. Ms. McCahon confirmed that the gauges would require an initial plus regular maintenance budget. Mr. Craig Hill offered further information about ways to improve the plan for the lake. He agreed that better communication available to the residents of the lake could help. Mr. Van Stone asked about a website for information for the citizens around the lake. Mr. Patton stated there is an area on the Department's website. Mr. Raybould asked if the Lakes Commission also had a website to provide information. Ms. McCahon stated that they do have a website and we can coordinate in the future Director Spackman shared some information from the Department's point of view.

### **Agenda Item No. 8 Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee Update**

Mr. Patton mentioned that the representatives for the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee were unable to attend the meeting and have requested a reschedule.

### **Agenda Item No. 9 ESPA Recharge**

Mr. Hipke provided a brief update on the ESPA recharge program, including current and predicted recharge volumes. Forecasted volumes could be impacted by available water, winter snow pack, and weather.

Mr. Broesch and Mr. Farmer presented the findings of an analysis of potential large recharge sites in the upper valley of the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. The areas analyzed included Lake Walcott, Aberdeen-Springfield, New Sweden, and the West Market Lake/Sage Junction/ Egin Bench areas. To characterize the sites, staff focused on basin features such as depth to water (DTW) criteria, retention, geologic features, limited land use/no species of concern, no impacts to existing infrastructure, and location on the ESPA. There was some discussion among board members. Mr. Raybould suggested this information go to the Aquifer Stabilization Committee for direction on next steps, with an eye toward whether the projects meet the "large scale" criteria.

Mr. Farmer and David Blew from Idaho Power Company presented a ten-year review of the cooperative ESPA dye tracing program.

### **Agenda Item No. 10 Water Transactions**

Ms. Sarah Lien with Friends of the Teton River provided information and a resolution to fund a project intended to support Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout by increasing base flows in the Teton River and decreasing water temperature. Mr. Raybould asked if the resolution should add information outlined in the memorandum related to the pricing structure. Mr. Barker recommended wording for the resolution.

Mr. Raybould made a motion to accept the resolution as recommended. Mr. Barker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alberdi: Aye; Barker: Aye; Cole-Hansen: Aye; Raybould: Aye; Stevenson: Aye; Van Der Meulen: Aye; Van Stone: Aye; Chairman Chase: Aye. Motion passed. The resolution was adopted.

**Agenda Item No. 11 Potential Legislation of Interest**

Mr. Garrick Baxter provided the Board with information related to upcoming and potential legislation of interest both proposed by IDWR and by other agencies. There was some discussion related to possible legislation for Bear River adjudication.

**Agenda Item No. 12 Administrative Rules Process Update**

Mr. Weaver updated the Board on the administrative rules process. He provided background on the steps that had occurred. In December, there will be agency training for rule presentation which was required by Division of Financial Management.

**Agenda Item No. 13 Director's Report**

Director Spackman spoke to the board on a few items. He complimented staff on their presentations and work for the Planning Department. Also, he provided information about IDWR's budgeting process and the financial position of the Board related to the Water Center.

**Agenda Item No. 14 2020 Proposed Meeting Dates**

Mr. Patton presented the Board with some proposed dates for 2020 regular board meetings. There was some discussion and the dates were accepted.

**Agenda Item No. 15 Other Items for Discussion**

Mr. Barker thanked the other members and staff for adjusting the meeting times and combining our work session and board meeting days. There was discussion that a special meeting would be needed to adopt the final version of the ESPA CAMP progress report and to hold a Streamflow Committee meeting.

**Agenda Item No. 16 Next Meeting and Adjourn**

The next regular meeting will be January 23 and 24, 2020 in Boise. Mr. Raybould moved to adjourn. Mr. Alberdi seconded. Voice vote. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020.

  
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Vince Alberdi, *Secretary*

  
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Jennifer Strange, *Administrative Assistant II*

Board Actions:

1. Mr. Barker made a motion to amend the agenda to add "Public Comment." Mr. Van Der Meulen seconded. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Mr. Raybould moved to adopt the minutes from meetings 7-19, 8-19, and 9-19 with the mentioned correction. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Mr. Raybould made a motion to accept the resolution as recommended for a water transaction project on the Teton. Mr. Barker seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alberdi: Aye; Barker: Aye; Cole-Hansen: Aye; Raybould: Aye; Stevenson: Aye; Van Der Meulen: Aye; Van Stone: Aye; Chairman Chase: Aye. Motion passed.