



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. 6-20

Idaho Water Center
Conference Rooms 602 C, D / GoTo Meeting Online
322 East Front Street, 6th Floor
BOISE

July 30, 2020
Board Meeting No. 6-20

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Chase called the meeting to order. This meeting was conducted at the address listed above via an online meeting platform.

Agenda Item No. 1: Roll Call

Board Members Present Via GoTo Meeting/Teleconference

Roger Chase, Chairman
Jeff Raybould, Vice-Chairman
Vince Alberdi, Secretary
Pete Van Der Meulen
Bert Stevenson
Dale Van Stone
Jo Ann Cole-Hansen
Albert Barker

Staff Members Present

Gary Spackman, Director
Brian Patton, Executive Officer
Jennifer Strange, Admin. Assistant

Staff Members Via GoTo Meeting/Teleconference

Meghan Carter	Cynthia Bridge Clark
Neeley Miller	Caitlin McCoy
Sean Vincent	Craig Tesch
Matt Anders	Wesley Hipke
Neal Farmer	Rick Collingwood
Remington Buyer	Randy Broesch
Jennifer Sukow	Mike McVay
Brian Ragan	Steve Stuebner
Noah Stewart-Maddox	Ryan McCutcheon

Guests Present
Darrell Early

Guests Present Via GoTo Meeting/Teleconference

Sam Eaton	Michael Orr	Ann Vonde
Brian Horsburgh	Scott Campbell	Brian Liming
Lynn Tominaga	Travis Thompson	Hal Anderson
Kurt Newbry	Paul Arrington	Dave Tuthill
Hattie Zobott	Jessica Krueger	Rob Sepich
Lanie Paquin	Sam Eaton	Claire Cowan
Clive Strong	Brandon McClean	Ashley Newbry
Devin Stoker	Keith Esplin	Marie Kellner
Doug Paddock	Joe Kozfkay	Dylan Lawrence
Mark Zirschky	Ron Manning	John Williams
Todd Gerratt	Carter Borden	Curtis Elke
Dan Stanaway	John Simpson	Kylie Turner
Norm Semanko	Dan Murdock	

Agenda Item No. 2: Agenda and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Raybould made a motion to amend the agenda and allow Agenda Item #5 to move before the current agenda item. Seconded by Mr. Barker. Voice vote. All ayes. The Board moved to a discussion with Sam Eaton regarding Mountain Home Air Force Base Sustainable Water Project.

The Board took up approval of meeting minutes. Mr. Van Stone moved to approve minutes 4-20 and 5-20. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Voice vote. All ayes. The minutes were approved.

Agenda Item No. 3: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item No. 4: Financial Status

Mr. Miller provided an update on the Board's accounts. As of June 30, 2020 the Board's available and committed balances are as follows: Secondary Aquifer Fund—committed but not disbursed \$10,662,779 and uncommitted \$8,546,976; Revolving Development—committed but not disbursed \$18,210,941, loan principle outstanding \$26,578,649, uncommitted \$7,809,468, and anticipated loanable funds available next 1 year \$11,309,468; Water Management—committed but not disbursed \$20,893,116 and uncommitted \$691,180.

Agenda Item No. 5: Mountain Home Air Force Base Sustainable Water Project

Mr. Sam Eaton from the Governor's Office spoke prior to agenda item #2 per an adopted motion. He provided a brief history on the Mountain Home AFB Sustainable Water Project. He discussed some of the funding issues with the project. He stated that the Governor recently had a discussion in DC with the assistant secretary of the Interior. They are looking for other Federal funding sources.

Agenda Item No. 6: Raft River Project

Mr. Craig Tesch provided background and project summaries for the Raft River Project. He presented a resolution for entering into an agreement with the Department of Energy to accept \$832,000 in funding for two tasks to be completed over the next three years: drilling monitoring wells and collecting water quality samples. There was some discussion about funding.

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to accept the resolution as recommended. Mr. Van Der Meulen seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Alberdi, aye; Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Raybould, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; Chairman Chase, aye. 8 ayes. Motion passed. The resolution was adopted.

Agenda Item No. 7: Boise River Feasibility Study Update

Ms. Bridge Clark introduced Ms. Lanie Paquin from BOR. Ms. Paquin provided updates on the release of the DEIS with Draft Feasibility Report. She shared key milestones forthcoming for the study. In October 2020 the final feasibility report will be submitted; in December 2020 the Department of Interior to review and approve the recommended plan; in February 2021 final EIS release; May 2021 record of decision. There was no discussion.

Ms. Bridge Clark highlighted that the draft EIS documents will be available and there is a plan for future discussion on the documents.

Agenda Item No. 8: ESPA Management Updates

a. Aquifer Storage

Mr. Mike McVay discussed storage changes as shown through water-level data. He stated the storage-change methodology has changed to address managed recharge: some wells were removed to prevent over-estimation of storage changes; some were added due to new installation or monitoring; some missing water levels were estimated via correlation in order to modify interpolation errors; and finally water-levels dates were adjusted in wells with transducer data. The new methodology moderates the volume-change estimates. He concluded the following: the aquifer gained 350,000 acre-feet from 2019 to 2020; the overall water levels in the ESPA have risen significantly from 2015-2020, which showed a gain of 2,200,000 acre-feet of storage; the increase in storage from 2015 to 2020 represents a good start to a long-term solution; undulations due to weather are to be expected; and the ESPA “leaks”, and aquifer storage gains are transitory.

b. Reach Gains and Spring Flows

Mr. Matt Anders updated the Board on the spring flows and reach gains along the ESPA. Discharge from springs is controlled by the water level in the ESPA. Higher water levels in the aquifer increase discharge at springs, and vice versa. He discussed his methodology for estimation. Since 2015 the water levels have been increasing.

c. SWC Settlement Agreement Update

Mr. Brian Ragan discussed the latest activities with the Surface Water Coalition Settlement Agreements. He presented the targets and reductions for the City Settlement Agreements and IGWA Agreements. Analysis of the current sentinel well levels indicate that ground water levels have been increasing. Mr. Lynn Tominaga of IGWA stated that they are compiling standards and protocol for ground water users.

d. ESPA Water Level Change Animation

Mr. Noah Stewart-Maddox presented an animation to illustrate the ESPA water level changes over time by using data from transducers.

Agenda Item No. 9: Flood Mitigation Grant Funding Awards

Mr. Miller provided summaries and a resolution to fund flood management grant awards with an attached ranking sheet. He mentioned that the July 8th Finance Committee discussed these rankings, but did not make a recommendation, and he informed the Board that due to past incomplete projects, there can be some funding carryover. Mr. Alberdi provided a recommendation that projects 1-12 on the ranking sheet

be funded. There was discussion about which projects to fund based on criteria and based on funds available. Mr. Stevenson asked if the motion should include using rollover funds. Mr. Barker had questions about previous projects. There was discussion about whether Board members can vote for parts of resolution. Deputy Attorney General, Darrell Early stated members may not submit a partial vote.

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to accept the resolution with a recommendation to fund 1-12 and to use rollover funds. Mr. Raybould seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Alberdi, abstain; Mr. Barker, abstain; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Raybould, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; Chairman Chase, aye. 6 ayes. Motion passed. The resolution was adopted.

Agenda Item No. 10: Lost Valley Reservoir Project

Ms. Bridge Clark provided a brief history of the steps for the Lost Valley Reservoir Project. She spoke to the items in a draft resolution that requests subordination of a portion of the IWRB's water right application no. 67-7590 to Lost Valley Reservoir Company's water right no. 67-7938.

Mr. Van Stone made a motion to accept the resolution that the Board would subordinate its water right to the Lost Valley Reservoir provided specific conditions are met. Mr. Raybould seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Alberdi, aye; Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Raybould, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; Chairman Chase, aye. 8 ayes. Motion passed. The resolution was adopted.

Agenda Item No. 11: Priest Lake Water Management Update

Mr. Miller had a brief update for the Priest Lake Water Management Project. He discussed the bids that had been received for the outlet structure and the thorofare project. He provided a budget recap, and there was some discussion among the Board.

Ms. Ann Vonde discussed the water right process associated with the dam raise at Priest Lake. She provided historical content for water rights on the lake. The application would need to be filed prior to the completion of construction. The hope is approval could happen prior to construction completion.

Agenda Item No. 12: Lemhi Update

Mr. Clive Strong stated there have been two meetings related to the Lemhi Basin issues. He said there have been points of agreement with the users which he thinks is a good starting point. The biggest obstacle in the working group is finding a level of trust among the water users. He suggested that adding Norm Semanko to assist in the Lemhi Settlement Working Group would be beneficial to the process. He mentioned that a webpage on the Idaho Water Resource Board's homepage would be created and regularly updated to provide information on the issues and process. There was some discussion. Mr. Barker stated that the Legislation allowed for inclusion of Mr. Semanko to the team.

Mr. Raybould made a motion to authorize the Board's Executive Officer, Brian Patton, to draft a contract to hire Norman Semanko to assist with the Lemhi Settlement Working Group. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Alberdi, aye; Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Raybould, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; Chairman Chase, aye. 8 ayes. Motion passed and was adopted.

Agenda Item No. 13: Director's Report

Director Spackman stated that reports on the status of the aquifer were promising and it was good to work with the Board and water users on ESPA management efforts. He also mentioned an upcoming meeting on rental pool procedures.

Agenda Item No. 14: Non-Action Items for Discussion

The Board congratulated Rick Collingwood on his retirement.

Agenda Item No. 15: Executive Session

Mr. Alberdi made a motion to move into Executive Session 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. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Alberdi, aye; Mr. Barker, aye; Ms. Cole-Hansen, aye; Mr. Raybould, aye; Mr. Stevenson, aye; Mr. Van Der Meulen, aye; Mr. Van Stone, aye; Chairman Chase, aye. 8 ayes. Motion passed. Mr. Barker left the meeting to avoid any conflicts related to the topic. The topic discussed by Deputy Attorney General Michael Orr was American Falls.

Mr. Alberdi made a motion to move out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Stevenson and agreed upon by voice vote in favor. No actions were taken by the Board in Executive Session. The session was closed to the public.

Agenda Item No. 16: Next Meeting and Adjourn

The next meeting was confirmed for September 17, 2020 in Boise and via an online platform. Mr. Raybould moved to adjourn. Mr. Van Stone seconded. Voice vote. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 17th day of September, 2020.



Vince Alberdi, *Secretary*



Jennifer Strange, *Administrative Assistant II*

Board Actions:

1. Approved a motion to adjust the agenda.
2. Adopted meeting minutes 4-20 and 5-20.
3. Approved a resolution for the Raft River Project.
4. Approved a funding resolution for Flood Mitigation Grant Funding Awards.
5. Approved a resolution for the Lost Valley Reservoir Project.
6. Adopted a motion in support of drafting a contract to hire Norman Semanko on the Lemhi Basin Settlement Working Group.
7. Adopted motions to move in and out of Executive Session.