



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. 9-20

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

September 17, 2020
Board Meeting No. 9-20

At 1:00 p.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
Cynthia Bridge Clark, Water Projects Section Manager
Mathew Weaver, Deputy Director
Wesley Hipke, Recharge Project Manager
Jennifer Strange, Admin. Assistant

Staff Members Via GoTo Meeting/Teleconference

Meghan Carter	Neeley Miller
Sean Vincent	Emily Skoro
Neal Farmer	Remington Buyer
Randy Broesch	Steve Stuebner
Doug Jones	

Guests Present Via GoTo Meeting/Teleconference

Ann Vonde	Clive Strong	Darrell Early
James Taylor	Tom Bassista	Mark Limbaugh
Lanie Paquin	Kresta Davis	James Carkulis
Norm Semanko	Lynn Tominaga	Keith Esplin
Dave Tuthill	Paul Arrington	Robin Lee-Beusan
Kevin Kasberg	John Roldan	Ashlee Teeter
Brandon McClean	Bryan Horsburgh	Callianne Harris
Carter Borden	John Williams	Devin Stoker
Heather Rice	James Bledsoe	Josh Aldred

Agenda Item No. 2: Agenda and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Patton stated there were three sets of minutes for approval. There was no discussion.

Mr. Alberdi moved to approve minutes 6-20, 7-20, and 8-20. 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 July 31, 2020 the Board's available and committed balances were as follows: Secondary Aquifer Fund—committed but not disbursed \$23,704,790 and uncommitted (\$494,235); Revolving Development—committed but not disbursed \$19,644,408, loan principle outstanding \$26,048,741, uncommitted \$8,504,877, and anticipated loanable funds available next 1 year \$12,004,877; Water Management—committed but not disbursed \$20,882,937 and uncommitted \$607,378. There was no discussion about the financial report.

Agenda Item No. 5: Lemhi Update

Mr. Barker moved that the agenda be amended. Mr. Stevenson seconded to allow agenda item 6 to be addressed before agenda item 5. Voice vote: all ayes. The motion carried. Agenda item 6 was addressed prior to agenda item 5.

Mr. Clive Strong and Mr. Norm Semanko discussed the progress by the Lemhi Settlement Working Group to address water use conflicts in the Lemhi River Basin. They provided highlights from the most recent meeting that was held in Salmon on August 12th. The topics discussed were: a definition of what "high flow general provision" means and how it applies; an overview of legal principles of the distribution of water in the basin; and a status report on negotiations. Chairman Chase and Mr. Raybould commented that they have been in attendance at these meetings and appreciate the work done by the group.

Agenda Item No. 6: Boise River Feasibility Study Update

Ms. Bridge Clark introduced Lanie Paquin of Bureau of Reclamation. Ms. Paquin addressed the current status of the Boise River Feasibility Study Project, provided details from the draft Environmental Impact Statement, and the Draft Feasibility Report. Four areas that she named "pillars" were evaluated: environmental feasibility, technical feasibility, economic feasibility, and financial feasibility. There was discussion among the board members. Some questions arose about the allocation of costs to different uses including recreation and road improvements.

Ms. Bridge Clark highlighted the upcoming schedule of events for the project and next steps. The critical next steps included the following: October 2020, submit final Feasibility Report for feasibility determination; December 2020, review and approval of the recommended plan by Dept. of the Interior; February 2021, release Final EIS; and May 2021, issue Record of Decision. She discussed the two options for contracting and recapped some details of the Water Storage Projects Committee Meeting.

Upon completion of this agenda item, the discussion moved back to Agenda Item 5.

Agenda Item No. 7: Mountain Home AFB Sustainable Water Project

Mr. Patton shared a letter from the Air Force to the Governor. It suggested that the State would construct the pump station and pipeline; the Air Force would construct the water treatment plant; and the State would ultimately gift the pump station and pipeline to the Air Force. The Governor had not made any decisions on the issues described in the letter. There was some discussion among board members. Mr. Stevenson asked about the water right. Mr. Patton said that the Board would retain ownership of the water right. Mr. Barker asked who would build this and what would happen if project costs exceeded current estimates. Mr. Patton suggested that since the State is expected to build the pump station and pipeline at this time, it would assume any additional costs. A resolution in the board book was discussed. It would authorize issuance of written notice to Simplot to extend the Snake River water rights beneficial use deadline as defined in the water rights purchase agreement between Simplot and the Board.

Mr. Raybould made a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Barker 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. 8: Priest Lake Update

Mr. Miller briefed the board members on phases 1 through 3 which concluded in August 2020. The authorization to issue funds not to exceed \$5 million was provided for phase 4, construction and construction management. Mr. Miller said there was a recent site visit by staff engineer, Emily Skoro, at the preconstruction meeting. The anticipated construction period for both projects is expected to be October 2020 through April 2021. Deputy Attorney General Ann Vonde is working with hydrology staff on securing a water right. Mr. Van Stone stated the preconstruction meeting went well. There was discussion on the process of change-orders. Chairman Chase asked if all of the access and right of way contracts have been completed. Mr. Miller said that they had been completed.

Agenda Item No. 9: ESPA Managed Recharge Update

Mr. Patton had a quick update regarding the ESPA managed recharge program. Activities for the season began on September 4th. The Surface Water Coalition assigned 58,300 (af) of excess storage water to the Board's recharge efforts in the Upper Valley. Staff will update the recharge totals once it receives the assignment of waiting storage water from the Coalition of Cities. Mr. Stevenson asked about regular winter updates. Mr. Patton stated the program manager, Mr. Hipke, would soon begin providing a weekly update.

Agenda Item No. 10: Proposed Meeting Dates 2021

Mr. Patton highlighted a draft that was provided to the Board on meeting dates for 2021. The final dates would be decided at the November meeting. There was some input on the meeting dates and how to hold the meetings considering the pandemic.

Agenda Item No. 11: Director's Report

Director Spackman provided a report to the Board. He attended a meeting on Sept 14th for the WD01 Rental Pool Committee. He thought that the draft procedures were acceptable, and the process began well in advance of the annual meeting. He also provided an update on budgeting and staffing. Under the current directive the Department would need to leave some vacancies in staffing; however the positions that needed to be filled related to the Board's projects would get rehired. Finally, he provided some highlights from a meeting on September 16th in Idaho Falls that included several key folks including the Governor, Speaker Bedke, and Senator Bair, where water issues were discussed.

Agenda Item No. 12: Non-Action Items for Discussion

Chairman Chase asked if there were any non-action items for discussion. Mr. Raybould provided more information on the previously mentioned September 16th meeting in Idaho Falls. Cloud seeding, managed recharge, and the possibility of establishing a moratorium were discussed at that meeting according to Mr. Raybould.

Agenda Item No. 13: Next Meeting and Adjourn

The next meeting was confirmed for November 19, 2020 in Boise and via an online platform. Mr. Van Stone moved to adjourn. Mr. Raybould seconded. Voice vote. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of November, 2020.



Vince Alberdi, *Secretary*



Jennifer Strange, *Administrative Assistant II*

Board Actions:

1. Adopted meeting minutes 6-20, 7-20, and 8-20.
2. Motion to amend the agenda by moving Agenda Item #6 to occur before Agenda Item #5.
3. Approved a resolution to extend the Snake River water rights beneficial use deadline.