

Swan Falls Implementation Group

October 13, 2022, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

IDWR State Office 6th Floor Conference Rooms

Introductions / Attendees In Person:

Scott Pugrud, IPC, Kresta Davis, IPC, Sandra Holmes, IPC, John Simpson, IPC, Jamie Neill, Gov. Office, Gary Spackman, IDWR, Mat Weaver, IDWR, Shelley Keen, IDWR, Matt Anders, IDWR, Kara Ferguson, IDWR, Cynthia Clark, IDWR, Lacey Rommell-O'Brien, IDWR/OAG, Ethan Geisler, IDWR, Sean Vincent, IDWR, David Hoekema, IDWR, Brian Patton, IDWR, Jeff Raybold, IWRB, Clive Strong, ID Atty Gen. (Retired), James Tucker, IPC (Retired), Garrick Baxter, ID Atty Gen., Darrell Early, ID Atty Gen., Michael Orr, ID Atty Gen., Megan Jenkins, IDWR,

Introductions / Attendees Remote

Norm Semanko, atty, Brian Olmstead, IWRB, Ann Yribar, ID Atty Gen., Bob Turner, IGA, David Blew, IPC, Meghan Carter, ID Atty Gen., JoAnn Cole-Hansen, IWRB

Matt:

Overview of Agenda, introduction of Jim Tucker and Clive Strong. Overview of the rest of the agenda, today cover question one. Update on Questions 2-4 and a discussion on Question 5.

Clive Strong and Jim Tucker:

Clive and Jim provided the group with an overview of the Swan Falls Agreement and the 2009 Reaffirmation. (See recorded meeting for full overview).

Both Clive and Jim expressed the importance of meeting and having an ongoing dialogue.

Discussion on current amount of water available. Basically, depends on when but in reality, there is no water available for development. Issues to be dealt with include water rights with term limits, need to be fair in dealing with all water rights, public interest and political interest.

Question regarding providing the presentation to new incoming legislators. Clive suggested that it needed to be done through the Natural Resources Committee.

Gary Spackman:

Discussion on the Snake River Moratorium.

Background on moratorium. Starting in 1990-1992 timeframe, trying to interpret what had been written and rules promulgated. Several applications were in process, however with the start of a drought period and the significant efforts associated with SRBA activities the processing of water rights ceased. Later, a moratorium for the Snake River Basin above Weiser was contemplated. 2017, was a flood year so the draft got shelved. Given the current water supply

conditions, the Director has begun working on it again. The goal was July now pushed back because it will be scrutinized, and someone will appeal it. Done basin by basin with a lot of background work. We are close. Has some benefit bringing consistency and to send a message that we need to look more carefully at these applications, the other component is the companion process in the surface water call and ground water users, there will be some difficult discussion in the next 6 months and the negotiation of those trust water rights will be central and what remedies need to be implemented.

Ethan Geiser

Presentation on Swan Falls AADF Update – please refer to PowerPoint Presentation presented by Ethan.

Matt

Questions 2-4 will be discussed at the next meeting.

Question 5 – will require guidance from the SFIG. SFTWG will come back to the next meeting with a proposal to address the question.

The next meeting will be held on November 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjourn