

# EIWRC BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 7, 2024, 11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

Parsons, Behle & Latimer, 350 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, Idaho Falls

## Meeting Minutes

**PRESENT:** Skyler Johns, Brad Buttars, Mayor Powell, Princeton Lee, Mayor Carroll, Roger Warner, Alans Jackson, Payton Hampton, Bob Turner, David Richards, Marynette Herndon; Zoom, Brady Long, Dean Mortimer; Tony Dixey.

### 1. Welcome – Roger Warner

### 2. Administrative Business

- a. Minutes of Oct 3 board meetings
  - i. Mayor Carroll moved to approve the October minutes; Dave Richards seconded; and the Motion carried.
- b. Bills to pay
  - i. Invoices rereviewed:
    1. Amy McKoon for Bookkeeping
    2. Keith Esplin
    3. RMEA
    4. Roger Warner
  - ii. Motion to approve by Mayor of St. Anthony; Seconded by May Carroll; and the Motion carried.

### 3. Updates/Developments

- a. IDWR / SWC Settlement Status – Skyler, Bob, Alan
  - i. Covered the details of the plan.
    1. 205,000 ac-ft reductions, proportioned to the districts based primarily on historic use; four-year block allocations; recharge credited at 1:1 in district and 12 miles surrounding; 2:1 max credit for recharge outside district with improved effect on reach; excess conservation over 205,000 ac-ft carries over into next four-year block.
    2. Storage water acquisition of 75K for two years, only delivered if needed; if 75K is used, then Districts must secure 82,500 ac-ft which is only used by SWC if needed.
- b. Domestic Well Issues
  - i. Keith and Roger have attended IWUA Domestic Well Committee.
  - ii. Some are seeing more power accruing to the Director to curtail domestic uses. This is probably an issue that the public should speak through their legislators.
  - iii. Discussion on water quality standards with community wells.
- c. Bear Lake Watch – Eurasian Milfoil
  - i. Brady Long:
    1. Discovered a high concentration of Eurasian milfoil.
    2. No treatment by Idaho last year
    3. This year, they surveyed the lake and found 275 acres and another 100 in the national wildlife area needed treatment
    4. Only 22 acres were treated.
    5. Bear Lake is a distribution center for this; it has been found in Soda Springs.

6. Damage is similar to Quagga mussels. It can grow so dense, that swimmers and boaters can't go through it. It could destroy the pumps. Would take massive volumes of herbicide to treat it.

- d. AquatereX Proposal – Marynette Herndon
  - i. This company has technology to find deeper aquifers.
  - ii. “Deep Seeded Water” is a term used to distinguish the water in deep waters.
  - iii. Much of the equipment is similar to that used in the oil industry.
  - iv. AquatereX has borrowed this information to find the deeper aquifers to access them.
  - v. Referenced the Governor’s recent call for newer ways to look at the issues on the ESPA.
  - vi. Company is on the internet.
  - vii. Worked with Abu Dhabi as well.
- e. Legislative Ideas with White Papers
  - i. Meeting a few weeks back. Efforts were put on pause because of the negotiations.
  - ii. Need to readdress these issues.
- f. Coalition Annual Meeting Tuesday Dec 10?
  - i. Location? Contact for donated room
  - ii. Topics and speakers:
    1. Details of Settlement Agreement:
      - a. Discussed topics for the meeting.
      - b. Want to have either Jeff Raybould or LTG. Bedke. TJ Budge or Skyler Johns as backups.
    2. May do a panel discussing what is needed for the plan to be successful
      - a. Financial backing, recharge, policy challenges, etc.
  - iii. Assignments for annual meeting sponsors
    1. Brad Buttars: 20-25 people we need to reach out to.
  - iv. List of board nominees
    1. Will do this immediately following the annual meeting.
- g. Other business from board members

#### **4. Goals for 2024**

- a. Participate actively in water legislation development and related political actions
- b. Conduct water education for legislators including ESPA GMA plans and a Legislative Water College Tour in Eastern Idaho
- c. Monitor and participate in the ESPA Groundwater Management Area process
- d. Continue to fund an expert to participate on the ESPA Aquifer Modeling Committee, but with abbreviated reports.
- e. Help non-city municipal water providers find a better path to be a part of the SWC agreement and ESPA GMA

#### **5. EIWRC Directors’ 2024 Schedule:**

- a. IWUA Annual Meeting Jan. 13-16
- b. Annual meeting December 10?

#### **6. Meeting Adjourns -**