



IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT Notes 6-26

Brad Little
Governor

Jeff Raybould
Chairman
St. Anthony
At Large

Jo Ann Cole-Hansen
Vice Chair
Lewiston
At Large

Dean Stevenson
Secretary
Paul
District 3

Dale Van Stone
Hope
District 1

Albert Barker
Boise
District 2

Brian Olmstead
Twin Falls
At Large

Marcus Gibbs
Grace
District 4

Patrick McMahon
Sun Valley
At Large

Idaho Water Center
Conference Rooms 648-A
322 East Front Street, Boise, Idaho 83720

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September 2, 2026

Chair Jo Ann Cole-Hansen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda Item No. 1: Introductions and Attendance

Attendees included Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB/Board) Finance Committee Chair Jo Ann Cole-Hansen (online), Committee members Marcus Gibbs (online), Jeff Raybould (online), Dean Stevenson (online) and Dale Van Stone (online). Board member Al Barker (online) was also in attendance. Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) Staff members in attendance were Brian Patton, Ann Yirbar (online) Cynthia Bridge Clark, Wesley Hipke (online), Justin Ferguson, Neeley Miller (online), Mary Condon, Benjamin Camp, Jake Vermaas, and Milin Ream.

Guests at the meeting included: Tony Dixey with Bingham Groundwater District, Jace Poulsen with Bonneville Jefferson Groundwater District (online), Jeff Nelson with Kuna East Water Corporation (online), and Paul Montreuil with Dalton Gardens Irrigation District (online).

Agenda Item No. 2: Loan Applications

IDWR Engineer in Training Jake Vermaas provided a review and summary of the two loan applications received from Kuna East Water Corporation and Dalton Gardens Irrigation District. Mr. Vermaas further reviewed the corresponding draft resolutions that would be presented to the full Board for their consideration.

Following staff's report, Chair Cole-Hansen entertained a motion from the Committee.

Mr. Raybould moved to recommend the Board adopt the resolutions approving loan funding for the Kuna East Water Corporation and Dalton Gardens Irrigation District, as presented and discussed. Mr. Stevenson seconded. **Voice Vote:** Five ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 3: Measuring and Monitoring Grant Awards

IDWR Project Manager Justin Ferguson reviewed the three applications received for funding under the Idaho Water Resource Board's Measuring and Monitoring Grant Funding Program. The three applications represent a total funding request of \$499,217.

Following review, Chair Cole-Hansen entertained a motion from the Committee.

Mr. Gibbs moved to recommend the Board adopt a resolution to award funds in the matter of Measuring and Monitoring Support Grants, as specified in Attachment A. Mr. Raybould seconded. **Voice Vote:** Five ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 4: ESPA Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grant Awards

IDWR Engineer in Training Benjamin Camp introduced the agenda for the Committee's review and consideration. Providing a recap of the 10 applications received, Mr. Camp noted that the total funds to be awarded is \$616,499.67.

Following review and discussion, Chair Cole-Hansen entertained a motion from the Committee.

Mr. Raybould moved to recommend the Board adopt the resolution to award funds in the matter of Groundwater to Surface Water Conversion Grants, as presented and specified in Attachment A. Mr. Gibbs seconded. **Voice Vote:** Five ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 5: Aging Infrastructure Grant Awards

Introducing the agenda item, IDWR Project Manager Justin Ferguson reported that staff received 70 applications for grant funding and following a comprehensive evaluation and scoring process, per the criteria adopted by the IWRB, the total funding amount requested is \$39,366,435.66..

Following review, Chair Cole-Hansen entertained a motion from the Committee.

Mr. Van Stone moved to recommend the Board adopt a funding resolution in the matter of Aging Infrastructure Grants, as presented and specified in Attachment A. Mr. Gibbs seconded. **Voice Vote:** Five ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 6: Fiscal Year 2027 Water Management Account Spending Plan

IDWR Project Manager Supervisor Mary Condon provided a review of the Water Management Account Spending Plan and amendment considerations in relation to IWRB funding obligations, commitments and funding award requests for the current presented grant awards.

Ms. Condon shared a few tables, via PowerPoint, which illustrated staff's proposed amendment changes. At this time a brief discussion ensued.

With no further discussion, Chair Cole-Hansen entertained a motion from the Committee.

Mr. Raybould moved to recommend the Board consider approval of a resolution amending the Water Management Account Spending Plan, as presented and discussed (*adjusting \$5M from Conversions to*

Aging Infrastructure) from the FY 2027 Appropriations to the Water Management Account. Mr. Gibbs seconded. **Voice Vote:** Five ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 7: Fiscal Year Secondary Fund Budget Amendment

IDWR Project Manager Supervisor Mary Condon provided the Committee with a review of staff's recommendations for proposed modifications to the Fiscal Year 2027 budget for the Secondary Aquifer Planning, Management & Implementation Fund (Secondary Aquifer Fund).

Ms. Condon explained that the proposed modifications are related to Cloud Seeding Committee funding requests, including an additional \$200,000 for the Year 2 Bear River Basin Pilot Project, bringing the IWRB's contribution to \$1.2 million, and \$875,000 for an additional aircraft for cloud seeding operations in the Upper Snake River Basin.

Ms. Condon reported that the \$1.075 million increase will be funded by reallocating \$575,000 from within the Cloud Seeding portion of the budget and \$500,000 from the Recharge Infrastructure Improvement Projects portion. Following the IWRB's August 7 approval of \$6.31 million for the Bingham Ground Water District Weggland Ditch Recharge Basin project, approximately \$290,000 will remain available for future recharge infrastructure projects.

Mr. Gibbs moved to recommend the Board consider approval of a resolution amending Secondary Aquifer Fund, as presented and discussed. Mr. Van Stone seconded. **Voice Vote:** Five ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 7: Other Items

There was no other business to come before the Committee.

Agenda Item No. 8: Adjourn

Mr. Raybould moved to adjourn. Mr. Van Stone seconded. **Voice Vote:** Five ayes. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Committee Members: Chair Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Jeff Raybould, Marc Gibbs, Dale Van Stone, and Dean Stevenson.

Respectfully submitted by Milin J. Ream, Administrative Assistant to the Board.