IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

MINUTES OF TELEPHONIC MEETING

MEETING NO. 14-05
August 5, 2005, 8:35 a.m.
Idaho Department of Water Resources at the Idaho Water Center – 6th Floor
Conference Room A-D, 322 East Front Street, Boise, Idaho

Meeting No. 14-05 of the Idaho Water Resource Board was called to order via teleconference by Chairman Rigby
At the Idaho Water Center in Boise Idaho
(One Recording Tape)

Dirk Kempthorne
Governor

Jerry R. Rigby
Chairman
Rexburg
At Large

Terry T. Uhling
Vice Chairman
Boise
District 2

Dick Wyatt
Secretary
Lewiston
District 1

Leonard Beck
Burley
District 3

Bob Graham
Bonners Ferry
At Large

L. Claude Storer
Idaho Falls
District 4

Gary M. Chamberlain
Challis
At Large

Lawrence 'Vic' Armacost
New Meadows
At Large

Agenda Item No. 1, Roll Call

Board Members Attending

Jerry Rigby, Chairman
Terry Uhling
Dick Wyatt – Secretary
Gary Chamberlain
Leonard Beck

Board Members Absent

Bob Graham
Vic Armacost
Claude Storer

Department of Water Resources Staff

Crystal Calais, Admin. Asst. II
Brian Patton

Agenda Item No. 2, Approval of Minutes for 02-05, 03-05, 04-05, 05-05B

Mr. Wyatt moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Uhling seconded.
Voice Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 3, Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item No. 4, Howe Water District Loan Report

Chairman Rigby recused himself from this discussion since he

represents the Howe Water District.

Mr. Patton stated that the Howe Water District is requesting a loan in the amount of $10,000 to make improvements to their water system including a wireless telemetry system to automatically turn the pump on and off based on water storage levels in the tank. Howe is a small community located at the lower end of the Little Lost River midway between Arco and Mud Lake. It serves a population of 34 people. The current system is manually operated and on several occasions the tank has run dry. Staff recommends this project with a five-year repayment term. Mr. Uhling called for questions.

Mr. Wyatt moved that a $10,000 loan to the Howe Water District be approved. Mr. Chamberlain seconded.
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Uhling, Aye; Mr. Wyatt, Aye; Mr. Beck, Aye; Mr. Graham, Absent; Mr. Storer, Absent; Mr. Chamberlain, Aye; Mr. Armacost, Absent; Chairman Rigby, Abstain; 4 in favor, 1 abstaining and 3 absent members. Motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 5, Minimum Streamflows – Status Report

a. North Fork Clearwater

Mr. Patton updated the Board on the minimum stream flow applications on the North Fork of the Clearwater both above and below Dworshak Reservoir as part of completing the Nez Perce Agreement negotiations. He stated all the paperwork has been completed and filed.

b. **Parks & Recreation - Box Canyon Application**

Mr. Patton presented the stream flow water right application from Box Canyon. This is a one-mile long stream in the Thousand Springs area. There are two existing minimum streamflow rights on this stream; one held by Parks and Recreation pursuant to special legislation in the upper reaches; and the Board holds a minimum stream flow water right for 162 cfs at the mouth. Also, Clear Springs Foods diverts 300 cfs of Box Canyon flows for commercial fish production as well as incidental power production on the pipeline leading to the fish hatchery. Litigation has held up the processing of this water right application. However, Parks and Recreation has recently completed acquisition of property for a state park in this area. The Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation has sent the Board a letter asking that action be taken to perfect this water right application.

Mr. Patton pointed out that due to the time lapse from when the application was filed, changed spring flows, and the Board's 50% excedence criteria, it is probably advisable to re-evaluate the hydrology and determine whether the 550 cfs is still a valid amount. Chairman Rigby initiated a discussion on the issues and he recommended that the application be re-evaluated. Mr. Uhling agreed.

Mr. Chamberlain moved that the original application from Box Canyon be re-evaluated and the Parks and Recreation department be notified. Mr. Wyatt seconded.
Voice Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Agenda Item No. 6, Other items

Mr. Patton updated the Board on the Water 2025 grant from the Bureau of Reclamation to construct an aquifer recharge project on the North Side Canal System. Approval was received on

Wednesday. A meeting was held with the bureau yesterday to start negotiating contracts. Mr. Patton explained the grant to the Board. There was further discussion on the recharge issue.

On July 1 an additional $3 million was placed in the Board's Revolving Development account according to Mr. Patton. It is part of last year's appropriation bill H392 and is earmarked for the CREP program. This money will be used for one-time incentive payments to CREP participants and repaid by the ground water districts.

Mr. Patton noted that the first payment had been made for lease of the Bell Rapids water rights. Also, the first disbursement had been made on the IGUA water lease loan.

Ms. Calais asked about the retirement party for Joe Jordan who is scheduled for surgery.

Mr. Beck presented a report of the water bank committee. Committee members had questions about the existing rules, i.e., first in-first out, pricing structure, applications for rental and leasing. There was discussion of the oversight responsibility of the Board. Fur future discussions it was decided questions would go to Brian and then he would work with Mr. Beck.

Mr. Chamberlain stated he had a person contact him who was concerned about a well driller in Salmon and he had asked to appear before the Board and air his concern. There was a discussion on well drilling concerns and the Board's role. Mr. Patton agreed to research this issue.

Agenda Item No. 7, Next Meeting

September 15 and 16 in Boise is the date for the next meeting. Several members were not able to be there. Chairman Rigby suggested other dates. The next meeting was tentatively set for September 19 and 20 providing other members are available. Mr. Chamberlain said it was important to stop resetting the meeting dates. The location for the November meeting has not been set yet. Mr. Chamberlain suggested having the September meeting in Twin Falls to tour Bell Rapids. Chairman Rigby said the next meeting would be September 19 and 20 in Twin Falls to tour Bel Rapids and tour the recharge project.

Agenda Item No. 8, Adjourn

Mr. Uhling moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Chamberlain seconded.
Voice Vote: All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

Dated this 4th day of May 2006.

D. Richard Wyatt, Secretary

Patsy McGourty, Administrative Assistant II

Board Actions