

Meeting Minutes

Advisory Committee for Malad Valley GWMA Meeting to Discuss Draft Water Management Plan

Date: April 14, 2016

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Malad City Council Room

Logan Alder, Steve Werk, Jared Simpson, Joan Hawkins, Josh Paskett, Tyler Hoopes, Dan Thomas, Brenda Daniels, Loyd Briggs, David Andersen, and James Cefalo (IDWR) were in attendance. Committee members reviewed the laws and rules relating to artesian wells. The group acknowledged that there is a large number of flowing artesian wells in the valley. Some of the wells may not be flowing any more because of aquifer declines.

It will likely be difficult and expensive for both the Department and the well owners to bring all of the flowing artesian wells into full compliance. There have been past attempts to identify all of the flowing artesian wells in the valley. The Department should not duplicate previous efforts, but should track down the information from the previous inventory.

The group suggested that before IDWR moves forward with enforcement actions against flowing artesian well owners, it should quantify the amount of impact the flowing artesian wells have on the aquifer. First, the Department and the proposed water measurement district should complete the previous inventory of flowing artesian wells in the valley. Then, the wells should be monitored for a year to estimate how much water is flowing on the surface. The Department should only dedicate resources to enforcement if the impact of the flowing artesian wells is significant.