

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
January 17, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 12:01pm. Members present were Kerry McMurray, Dan Suhr, Jim Schlund, Gale Kleinkopf, Dean Edgar, Duane Turner and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Ken Skinner with the USGS, Mario de Haro-Marti and Gary Fornshell, U of I Extension Educators, and Sonny Buhidar and Kiley Mulholland with the DEQ.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Gale Kleinkopf moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation for December in the amount of \$550.00 and office supply for \$74.19. He also has his compensation for January in the amount of \$550.00, mileage for \$27.54, postage of \$49.00 and Jerome Print shop for printing of revised corrections to the plan in the amount of \$236.97. Other bills are mileage for the members who are present. Jim Schlund moved the Bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had received a few emails, but nothing of consequence.

Lew introduced Ken Skinner of the USGS to give us the results of groundwater testing he has just completed for our region. Ken said the USGS has been testing various wells in our region since the 1990's and two years ago added twelve springs along the canyon rim. He said they have networks of wells in Gooding, Jerome and Minidoka counties that they have been continually testing. The results of testing are published every 5 years. He's afraid, however, that they won't be testing the area again until 2022 because of budget constraints. He said they check for Temp, pH, salt conductivity, Dissolved Oxygen, nutrients, dissolved organic carbon, tritium and stable isotopes, and trace contaminants such as pesticides. He said they used to use the depth to the aquifer at the test sites, but now look at the altitude of the water. He said this method bests reflects the flows of the aquifer. He said Gooding and Jerome county have the greatest flow rate while the flow in Minidoka county is much slower. Stable isotopes (oxygen-hydrogen ratios) show that lighter water, which is mostly from snow melt and natural recharge, is found in Gooding County. Darker water, which is mostly from recent irrigation recharge, is found in Jerome and Minidoka counties. The aquifer below Burley is what is known as a closed aquifer system, but does gradually flow across the river into Minidoka and Jerome counties. The closed aquifer of Burley also has more water quality problems because it can't

clean itself through faster flows as found in Gooding, Jerome and Minidoka. Ken said their work over the years in this region show water levels in the aquifer dropping by 5 to 10 feet and even more in some areas. Over the last two years, however, the level appears to have stabilized. He credits this to the big winter of 2017 and an increased use of artificial recharge in the region.

Ken said nitrate levels in the central portion of Gooding County are good at under 2.2 parts per million. Jerome levels, however are showing between 2.2 and 5.4 parts per million. Phosphorous in test wells are ranging between .02 and .5 with the higher levels in the southern part of Jerome County. He said 12 springs were sampled in Jerome and Gooding counties over the past 2 years. He said they can show where nitrates and phosphorous are coming from and are finding bovine caused increased nitrates in the Biggs-Clear Springs area. He said microbial contamination is showing up in many of the springs, but the methodology used to determine this is still evolving experimentally. Coliform is also present at fairly high levels in one or two of the springs. He said they also checked for pesticides, but found these to be in the very low range at this time.

Ken concluded by saying they no longer have the funding to continue with their testing of wells and springs in this region. He said they may or may not be able to start again in 2022. The only way they can continue is by finding outside money. He said the testing costs about \$20,000 per year and they would need to get help from either the state, counties or both to continue. Lew Pence said we really need to have a disinterested party such as the USGS to collect this type of data for use in our decision making. After discussion, Bob Muffley said he would follow up on this. Lew thanked Ken for coming to Twin Falls to speak with us.

Lew asked Sonny Buhider for an update on the last meeting of the WAG concerning the TMDL. Sonny said the WAG had just completed phase 1 of the plan which discusses the area and history of the area to show why and where we are at this time. He said he had emailed the document to Dan Suhr who will be sending it to Bob. He hopes we can discuss it at our next meeting and let him know what we think. Sonny said the new TMDL plan will also look at the aquifer because of all the reports of higher levels of phosphorus coming into the springs. He said that one interesting thing he has found is that different labs looking at a sample are reporting different levels of nitrates and phosphorous. He said in one case there was a test sample from a well that showed very high levels of phosphorous. A duplicate sample sent to a different lab showed different levels and a third test by another lab showed near normal levels. He said this is a problem and all agreed. Lew asked Ken Skinner who tested their samples? Ken said the USGS has their own centralized lab.

Lew asked Bob about setting up public hearings in our counties. Bob said everything is finally ready and he now has copies of the, agreed to, changes to the plan. He said he has copies of the revised plan to hand out to the commission members to take to their respective counties. He said he would attend the hearing for each county as long as there were no conflicts. He wants the members to let him know when their county can schedule the hearing so he can

mark is calendar. Bob also gave members a copy of wording for the legal notice by each county.

Bob went on to the last item on the agenda which was a discussion on what we needed to show on our web sites archives. Bob said he had collected a number of reports from various agencies over the years and asked if we should put these on our site. Ken Skinner suggested we could also build a link for these reports and go directly to the archives of the various agencies. Bob thought that was a good idea unless the report had a particular historical value to the formation of our plan. He would continue to study the situation.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob J. Muffley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "M".

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: February 21, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)**
- 4. Lew Pence – Report on proposed U. of I. Center for Agriculture, Food and Environment (CAFÉ) (12:15 to 12:25)**
- 5. Bob Muffley – update on public hearings (12:25 to 12:30)**
- 6. Commission planning session (see enclosed authority section) (12:30 to 1:50)**
 - 1. Commission priorities for 2018 and beyond**
 - a. Information dissemination**
 - b. Interactions with county P. & Z's**
 - c. Interactions with county commissioners**
 - d. Interactions with local legislators**
 - e. Information and cooperation with state and federal agencies**
 - f. Develop task forces within commission to accomplish specific goals**
 - g. Other ideas and comments**
- 7. New or old business (1:50 to 2:00)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
February 21, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at noon. Members present were Kerry McMurray, Jim Schlund, Gale Kleinkopf, Dean Edgar, Duane Turner, Mary Davidson and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Roy Hubert, Lincoln County Commissioner, Mario de Haro-Marti and Steve Hines, U of I Extension Educators, and Irene Nautch, DEQ.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Jim Schlund moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, Mileage to the meeting for \$27.50 and mileage to the public hearing in Shoshone for \$17.28. Other bills are mileage for the members who are present. Dean Edgar moved the Bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had sent Ken Skinner a thank you note for his presentation at our last meeting. He also said he received an email from Gooding County Commissioner, Mark Bolduc which included an email he had received from John Nesbit, owner of 1000 Springs Boat Tours in the Hagerman Valley. Mr. Turner was concerned about the buildup of silt, weeds, algae growth and clarity of the Blue Heart Springs in the Hagerman Valley. Commissioner Bolduc had replied to Mr. Nesbit by saying the springs had all lost water and pressure because of ground water pumping and was no longer able to clean its catch basin. Mark asked me to also respond to the Nesbit email. My email to Mr. Nesbit supported the comment from Commissioner Bolduc's, but went on to talk about the impact of the hydro facilities on that reach of the river and the huge amount of sediment entering the river from last year's unusual spring runoff. I also told him about the work being done by IDWR and the Water Board to help bring back spring levels in the region. I concluded by telling him we have no regulatory authority but work closely with regulatory agencies in the region.

Chairman Pence said he and Bob had attended a presentation by Michael Parrella, Dean of the college of Agriculture and Life Sciences for the University of Idaho, at CSI last month. The presentation was concerning the purchase and construction of the Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (CAFÉ) to be constructed somewhere in Jerome County. The Dean said this would be a 2,000 head dairy using advanced technology and would also include 1,000 acres of farm land. A research center would be built to look for ways to improve wastewater

treatment and nutrient management. They would also develop a food processing facility and include laboratory space, offices and student housing. He said this will be the largest research dairy facility in the U.S. He also said the research done at the facility will ensure the economic viability and sustainability of the dairy industry in Idaho. Lew said he was impressed by what he heard, particularly the proposed research center and their research on waste management. He said he would like to write a letter telling them of our interest in their proposal. He also said the total cost of the facility is estimated to be about \$45 million. Lew then opened it up for discussion. There were several comments that dairies in the region may object because of added competition in a down market and if the research lab would be competing with private labs in the region such as the one recently built by Glambia in Twin Falls. Gale Kleinfopf suggested that we have a representative of the Idaho Dairy Association come to our meeting and give us their views. Bob said he would see if he could get someone at our next meeting.

Lew asked Bob about the schedule for county hearings on changes to the plan. Bob said that Lincoln County held the first hearing yesterday and Lew, Steve Hines and he were in attendance. There were no members of the public in attendance, however. He said the changes were reviewed and an excellent discussion ensued. He said Cassia County is Scheduled for next Monday the 26th at 11:00am, Jerome is scheduled for March 5th at 11:00am and Gooding set theirs for March 26th at 2:00pm. He hasn't heard from Twin Falls, however, but would check with them tomorrow.

Lew said the final item on the agenda is a planning session and establishing priorities for 2018 and beyond. The first item for discussion was information dissemination. Many suggestions were made such as using publications and social media by creating short entertaining videos for U-tube. Other ideas were to make presentation in the schools and speaking to various organizations in the region. Bob said a working group would need to be formed look at the various ways to reach the public, create a plan of action with strategies and decide what information to disseminate and to whom.

Lew went to the next discussion item which was our interactions with county planning and zoning commissions. Bob asked P. and Z. members on the commissions if our plan was being used when looking at changes in county zoning ordinances. The answers were mixed. Bob said we should probably review each zoning ordinance to see if we could help in certain areas. Bob said he would go to the county web sites and look at the zoning ordinances.

The next item discussed was the commissions interactions with county commissioners and legislators. Bob said the only time he interacts with the commissioners is when we have changes to our regional plan and when we hold informational sessions inviting our commissioners and legislators. Several comments were made concerning the benefits attached to these meetings and possibly we need to try to do this on an annual basis. Bob said he believes this as well, but the set up for these meetings need to begin early in the year and we also need to find the right speakers for the event. He said Jack Nelsen and Ami Bennett use to spear head this for the commission, but Jack is no longer with us and he isn't sure about Ami. If we want to do one this year, the planning and subject matter needs to be completed within the

next few months. Bob said he wanted to do one last year on the actions of the DOE, but after an exhaustive search was unable to locate a disinterested third party to discuss the issues.

The next discussion item concerned information and cooperation with state and federal agencies. Commission members believe the interaction with local agency representatives have been pretty good to date and we just need to keep the flow of information going.

The final item to be discussed was the formation of working groups within the commission to handle various tasks. By this time we had already discussed the need for a working group on information dissemination and the legislative update. No other needs for working groups were discussed.

Lew asked if there were any other ideas or comments concerning commission priorities for 2018. There were no other comments.

Lew asked if there was any other business to come before the commission. Irene Nautch said DEQ was reviewing the nitrate priority areas in the state and would probably have a new report out after this year.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: March 21, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)
2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)
3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)
4. Rick Naerebout, CEO Idaho Dairyman's Association (12:15 to 12:55)
 1. U. of I. CAFÉ proposal
 2. Short and longer term economic outlook for the dairy industry in the region
 3. Association's thoughts concerning regulation of 3rd party receivers
5. Bob Muffley – update on county public hearings (12:55 to 1:00)
6. Discussion - county land use plans, zoning, CAFO and subdivision ordinances (1:00 to 1:30)
7. Discussion – formation of special working groups for information dissemination and legislative update sessions (1:30 to 1:50)
7. New or old business (1:50 to 2:00)
8. Adjourn

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
March 21, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at noon. Members present were Kerry McMurray, Jim Schlund, Duane Turner, Ami Bennett, Dan Suhr and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Roy Hubert, Lincoln County Commissioner, Steve Hines, U of I Extension Educator, Irene Nautch, DEQ, and Cathy Harris, New Planning & Zoning Administrator for Gooding County,

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Jim Schlund moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Kerry McMurray and approved.

Lew introduced Cathy Harris who is the new P. & Z. Administrator for Gooding and also said Lincoln County had appointed a new member. Bob will be receiving the information on the new member from Mary Davidson.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, Mileage to the meeting for \$27.50 and mileage to the public hearings in the amount of \$105.84. He said we also got a bill from Marne Curtis for work on our web site in the amount of \$240.00. Other bills are mileage for the members who are present. Ami Bennett moved the Bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Dan Suhr and approved.

Bob said Marne hadn't been able to work much on the site for the past couple of months. Ami said she needed to get back with Marne as she'd sent her an email concerning videos on the web site. Bob said he had one of the videos, but not the other two. Lew said he would look and see if he had them.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had sent an email to the Attorney General asking him if he could meet with us at our next meeting or, if necessary a few of us could travel to his office in Boise. Bob just sent the email so he hasn't heard back.

Lew introduced Rick Naerebout, CEO of the Idaho Dairyman's Association to give the commission an update on the industry, their take on the proposed U. of I CAFA, and 3rd party receivers of animal manure. Rick thanked us for inviting him to speak and said his job, and that of the association, is to protect Idaho's dairy industry through environmental, legal and legislative leadership. He said they try to be both proactive and transparent because consumers and customers demand it. Rick said he represents both large and small dairy

operations in Idaho. 40% of the dairy industry are dairymen with 500 head or less and about 37% are 1,000 head or above. The largest dairy in Idaho has around 15,000 head. The Magic Valley has 60% of the dairies in Idaho and they expect Cassia County will soon replace Gooding as the number one producer very soon. He said the number one milk processor in the state is Glanbia and even though they get most of the press, Chobani is only number 7. Rick said in 1970 Idaho produced 1.5 billion pounds of milk and currently produce about 14.6 billion. He said the cost to produce is about \$16.00/cwt and while labor costs are increasing the feed costs have normalized. Milk prices for 2018 are running about \$14.97 to \$15.76/cwt so they aren't meeting their cost of production at this time. U.S. and Europe production is still increasing, however. When asked about the price for organic milk, Rick said that market is also very soft and some producers are trying to get back to producing non-organic. Jim Schlund asked about beef prices and Rick said they are very low as well. He followed up with a question about the life span of a cow. Rick said they will live about 5 years and will be productive about 3 years. Duane Turner asked about the cost of land for dairies. Rick said the costs vary, but are high, especially for land adjacent to the dairy. In summary, Rick said the dairy industry is responsible for about 39,400 jobs in the region, contribute about \$10.4 Billion to the state's economic output and contribute \$3.5 billion to the states GDP. At this time milk production is greater than the processing capacity and they are starting to see dairy depopulation. This will continue to put pressure on Idaho's milk price so they must identify a profitable product mix. They also need our free trade agreements, especially with Canada and Mexico to stay in place.

Rick said the labor market for dairies is tight and is getting tighter. Immigration reform is now the Associations hottest issue. The problem is there aren't enough votes in congress to get it done. They are looking for a way to get workers in the country that will be allowed to stay as long as they're working for a dairy and not just for a few months. Another problem, at this time, is having enough visas issued every year to fulfill the need. Jim Schlund said he wants them as well, but is afraid that some may eventually leave the dairy job and take jobs from others. Rick said that most immigrants are hard workers which creates another problem. If they aren't feeling well they will continue to work instead of getting medical help until it's too late. The problem for the worker is that they are not legally in the country so are afraid to seek medical help. The Association is working to educate workers on safety and preventative health care. When asked about automation Rick said it's not there yet. There are a few being used, but are very expensive and can't handle the numbers. He said, so far, I.C.E. has left the dairies alone. The I.C.E. representative in Boise told them they are only looking for those who are breaking the law. They aren't going out to search dairies or others. Employers do, however, need to be notified them when, they learn an employee may have committed a crime.

Rick said the Association fully backs the proposed U. of I. CAFÉ program and has committed two million dollars to the program. He said they want it because of the environmental component. The industry needs to deal with their waste in an environmentally friendly way both now and in the future. He said regulating third party receivers of waste, however, may not be a good idea. This could force farmers to use or overuse fertilizer instead. To regulate both manure and fertilizer would present problems to the regulator and the farmer.

Lew thanked Rick for speaking with us today and asked Bob to give an update on the public hearings. Bob said he attended hearings in all the counties except Gooding who will hold theirs on Monday of next week. So far all counties have agreed to the changes.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss what Bob had found when reviewing plans and zoning and CAFO ordinances of the counties. Bob said he had reviewed the items for Lincoln, Gooding and Cassia counties, but had left his notes on his desk. He said the big thing he noticed in all three counties was that the water plan was not shown on any of their web sites. He feels the water plan should be shown with the county comprehensive land use plan and be referenced along with that plan in the other documents. Otherwise there could be a legal issue if something is contested. He said Lincoln County didn't reference the plan, but did include a comprehensive list of water issues in their comprehensive plan. Cassia County had an excellent section on the water plan within its county comprehensive plan, but wasn't reference in their zoning and CAFO ordinance. Gooding County did an excellent job in working the plan into their zoning and CAFO ordinance and referenced it in their plan, but there was some incorrect wording. Bob said he would review the documents for Jerome and Twin Falls and give a full report at the April meeting.

Lew discussed the formation of working groups. A working group was put together for a possible legislative update session which would be made up of Mary Davidson, Ami Bennett and Bob Muffley. Nothing, however, was done with information dissemination.

Under new business Bob said Dan had attended a North Side Pumpers meeting yesterday and asked him if he could give us a report. Dan said the Idaho Water Board is way ahead on recharge, but a hydrologist told them that they will still need help from mother-nature for now and forever to bring aquifer levels up. He said all the recharge in eastern Idaho hits the river within six months. This water is the mitigation for the canal companies. Dan said there are pumpers in their district that still have not installed water measuring devices on their wells. The Board voted to fine pumpers who don't have measuring devices by the start of irrigation \$100.00 per acre foot used over their allocation for failing to cut back. If they don't pay, they will be thrown out of the pumpers association and would have to deal with mitigation on their own. He also said the Water Board will be developing Wilson Lake into the next recharge site.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob J. Muffley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: April, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)**
- 4. Update on Dairy Industry, CAFA and 3rd party receivers: Rick Naerebout, CEO, Idaho Dairyman's Association**
- 5. Review of counties comp. plans and zoning & CAOF ordinances: Bob Muffley**
- 6. Discuss formation of working groups**
- 7. New or old business (1:45 to 2:00)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
April 18, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at noon. Members present were Jim Schlund, Cathy Harris sitting in for Ami Bennett, Dan Suhr, Gale Kleinkopf and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Steve Hines, U of I Extension Educator and Irene Nautch, DEQ.

Lew announced that Cathy Harris , Gooding County P. & Z. Administrator would be sitting in For Ami Bennett for this meeting.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Dan Suhr moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Jim Schlund and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00 and his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50. Other bills are mileage for the members who are present. Gale Kleinkopf moved the Bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Dan Suhr and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had received an invitation by Idaho River United to attend a meeting they're having at Elevation 486 in Twin Falls. Lew said he received an invite as well and was going to try to attend. The meeting is tonight. Bob also received an email from Attorney General Wasden's office saying he could meet with us in Boise the second week in May. Bob said he would be out of town during that week and so would Dan. Bob said he would try to set something up for later in the month. Finally, Bob received an update report from Sonny Buhidar of DEQ on the TMDL situation. Sonny reported that there are six sections for the TMDL and he is currently working on section four. In this section he is discussing connectivity to the Mid Snake. He said there are currently about 288 inputs to the river between Milner and C. J. Strike reservoir and he is targeting the Lake Walcott sub basin, Big Wood River sub basin, Salmon Falls Creek sub basin and the Upper Snake Rock sub basin. He gave a brief description of each sub basin and said each has higher targets for phosphorous than the Mid. Snake. He said this would have to change if the Mid Snake was to meet its future target. He also discussed flow conditions in the river and noted the spring levels had declined since the last TMDL was put in place. According to the USGS the aquifer was dropping by about 215,000 acre feet of water annually since 1952. He said reductions in flow had also occurred in tributary streams since the current TMDL was established. He then showed a graph of the flow duration curve since 1966 at Milner Dam and

another chart showing the phosphorus levels at Milner during high and low flows. He said that 72% of the time Phosphorus loads exceed .075.

Dan Suhr reported that his last meeting with the advisory group assisting DEQ with its analysis of the Mid Snake was rather bleak. He said, if the EPA has its way there can be no future growth in the region. The cities are having a huge problem with phosphorus targets and the cost will be astronomical in order to meet EPA targets. He said the group he serves on is made up of scientists representing various groups and Brian who represents Idaho Power, said the group can't just rely on science based input, but must also have input from the public. Brian said they need to hear from people like Dan who is the only such member of the group.

Lew said he and Bob were looking at two old videos that were produced by our predecessor the Middle Snake River Study Group and we both felt the commission could benefit by their content. Both show the condition of the Mid. Snake in the early 1990's. Bob said it would take about 30 minutes to show the videos and believes they clearly show the betterment of the river between then and now.

Steve Hines said He's concerned that the Idaho Department of Ag has no control on manure applied as fertilizer. He said this could be a huge problem. Other applicators have to be certified to apply fertilizer, but no such rules exist for manure spreading and the equipment they use since it's non-regulated. Jim said we can't keep kicking this issue down the road.

Lew asked Bob for an update on the public hearings for changes to the plan. Bob said all five counties had approved the changes and he has made the changes to the plan. He said they have produced about 75 to 100 hard copies of the plan in the past and asked the members if this would be sufficient. He also asked if he should also produce the plan on CD's or thumb drives for the members. Gail said we should go ahead and with the usual copies and supply members with thumb drives. Jim said remember we're in an election year and we will have new county commissioners in many of our counties so education on the plan will be needed. Bob said he is always available to meet with both county commissioners and planning and zoning commissions when asked.

Lew asked Bob to update the commission on his review of planning and zoning ordinances in the member counties. Bob said he had now reviewed all comprehensive land use plans and zoning ordinances. He said all the counties had done a pretty good job of getting something about water quality and quantity concerns in their documents. The big problem, however, is that none of the counties show the Coordinated Water Resource Management Plan on their web sites and should also be mentioned in their zoning ordinances as well. Bob said the water plan has been individually adopted by each county and should be included on each web site. He will look into a remedy.

Lew said the next item on the agenda is back to working groups, education and Legislative update sessions. He said the Snake River Alliance is very active on the INL situation and are in the process of producing educational material on the DOE issue. He said they are trying to

working the human emotion angle. He said we need to work on our own educational efforts because many things are happening that people need to understand. Bob said one way is going to be through our commissioners and legislators. We need to get thinking on this whether it be this year or next and If this year, we'll need to figure out an agenda soon. Bob said people are always interested in the region's economy so that may be something we can use as a draw. Bob asked Steve if he would be around to sit down and talk about at update session and he said he would.

Under new business, Lew asked Steve if he had heard anything new about the proposed CAFÉ. Steve said he'll probably know at the same time we do. Nothing is firm at this time including a site.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: May 17, 2017

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: 1:00pm

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (1:00 to 1:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:15)**
- 4. Reopening of TMDL on Middle Snake – Sonny Buhider, Ph.D DEQ – (1:15 to 2:00)**
- 5. New Budget: Bob Muffley (2:00 to 2:10)**
- 6. Discuss educational opportunities - (2:00 to 2:35)**
- 7. New or old business: (2:35 to 2:40)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
May 16, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at noon. Members present were Jim Schlund, Gary Bowman, Ami Bennett, Dan Suhr, Gale Kleinkopf, Duane Turner and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Bert Stevenson, Idaho Water Resource Board, Roy Hurbert, Lincoln County Commissioner, Cathy Harris, Administrator Gooding County P. & Z, Steve Hines and Mario de Haro Marti, U of I Extension Educators and Irene Nautch, DEQ.

Lew said before we get started He wanted to congratulate Roy Hurbert on his recent reelection and turned the floor over to Roy to introduce our newest member from Lincoln County, Roy stood and introduced Gary Bowman as Lincoln Counties new appointee to the commission. He also told a few fun stories about him and Gary in the long ago past.

Lew welcomed Gary to the commission and asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Dan Suhr moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50 and supplies in the amount of \$133.50. Other bills are mileage for the members who are present. Duane Turner moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Jim Schlund and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had correspondence from Ken Skinner regarding a “real time” monitoring system the USGS had placed at the mouth of Briggs Springs just west of the Clear Lakes Country Club north of Buhl. He sent us the web address to see it in real time. Gale asked if Bob would send the information to him. Bob said he had several emails from the AG’s office regarding our upcoming meeting. He said he gave them a list of all attendees including Commissioner Hurbert who originally didn’t think he would be able to attend, but now can. Bob had also emailed Jim Jones concerning our upcoming visit with the AG and Jim replied that Lawrence is the only elected official who will support the enforcement of the Idaho agreement. He also said the AG has the legal basis for making the DOE toe the mark. He also wants us to let him know how the meeting goes and then he will call the AG to let him know how much we appreciated his strong stand.

Lew introduced Wesley Hipley who manages the recharge effort on the ESPA. Wesley said he is new to the Idaho effort but has about 25 years of experience overseeing recharge efforts in

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
May 16, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at noon. Members present were Jim Schlund, Gary Bowman, Ami Bennett, Dan Suhr, Gale Kleinkopf, Duane Turner and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Bert Stevenson, Idaho Water Resource Board, Roy Hurbert, Lincoln County Commissioner, Cathy Harris, Administrator Gooding County P. & Z, Steve Hines and Mario de Haro Marti, U of I Extension Educators and Irene Nautch, DEQ.

Lew said before we get started He wanted to congratulate Roy Hurbert on his recent reelection and turned the floor over to Roy to introduce our newest member from Lincoln County, Roy stood and introduced Gary Bowman as Lincoln Counties new appointee to the commission. He also told a few fun stories about him and Gary in the long ago past.

Lew welcomed Gary to the commission and asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Dan Suhr moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50 and supplies in the amount of \$133.50. Other bills are mileage for the members who are present. Duane Turner moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Jim Schlund and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had correspondence from Ken Skinner regarding a "real time" monitoring system the USGS had placed at the mouth of Briggs Springs just west of the Clear Lakes Country Club north of Buhl. He sent us the web address to see it in real time. Gale asked if Bob would send the information to him. Bob said he had several emails from the AG's office regarding our upcoming meeting. He said he gave them a list of all attendees including Commissioner Hurbert who originally didn't think he would be able to attend, but now can. Bob had also emailed Jim Jones concerning our upcoming visit with the AG and Jim replied that Lawrence is the only elected official who will support the enforcement of the Idaho agreement. He also said the AG has the legal basis for making the DOE toe the mark. He also wants us to let him know how the meeting goes and then he will call the AG to let him know how much we appreciated his strong stand.

Lew introduced Wesley Hipley who manages the recharge effort on the ESPA. Wesley said he is new to the Idaho effort but has about 25 years of experience overseeing recharge efforts in

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: June 20, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)
2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)
3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)
4. Kiley Mulholland, Water Quality Manager for DEQ Twin Falls office:
 1. Historical results of water quality monitoring of creeks in Cassia and Twin Falls counties flowing to the Snake and any existing TMDL's
 2. Future of monitoring efforts
 3. DEQ concerns and possible actions(12:15 to 1:00)
5. Update on meeting with A.G. Wasden on May 21st - Lew Pence (1:00 to 1:15)
6. Chemigation rules and requirements – Steve Hines or Bob Muffley (1:15 to 1:30)
7. New or old business (1:30 to 1:40)
8. Adjourn

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
June 20, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 12:04pm. Members present were Jim Schlund, Gary Bowman, Dan Suhr, Gale Kleinkopf, Duane Turner, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Kiley Mulholland, Water Quality Manager for Twin Falls DEQ.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Jim Schlund moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Dan Suhr and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50, lunch for attendees of A.G. meeting for \$86.78, Postage for \$50.00 and printing cost for new plans in the amount of \$1,197.95. Other bills include and a 3 year upgrade to our web site for \$251.64, web site management for \$165.00 and mileage for the members who are present. Gail Kleinkopf moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had correspondence from Gooding County Commissioner, Mark Bolduck. Mark had received another comment from the public concerning the possible protection of Box Canyon and Blue Heart Springs. Bob told Mark that when Phil Batt was governor the canyon and springs had been purchase from the owner, Earl Hardy for several million dollars and is now listed as a state park. A caveat of the sale was that the park be named for Earl Hardy. Bob said he had also been conversing with Steve Hines about the possible lack of regulation for dairies using their settling ponds for the purpose of applying the waste as fertilizer through chemigation to dairy owned property. It seems that people applying commercial fertilizer using this method must be schooled and licensed, but there is no such regulatory requirement for dairies. He and Steve will continue to look into this.

Lew introduced Kiley Mulholland, Water Quality Manager for the Twin Falls office of DEQ. Bob interjected that Kiley is taking over from Dr. Sonny Buhidar who is retiring when the new Mid. Snake TMDL is established. Kiley put up a screen showing an integrated water quality report on all water bodies in the state and said from this screen you can pick the stream or stream segment you want to look at and see the latest water quality information. Kiley handed out detailed instructions on how this is done. She said Bob had asked her to give us the latest reports for several of the larger creeks entering the Snake River from Cassia and Twin Falls counties. Kiley said every creek or segment they monitor is assigned beneficial uses and not all

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
July 18, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 12:03pm. Members present were Jim Schlund, Gary Bowman, Gale Kleinkopf, Duane Turner, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Duane Turner moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Jim Schlund and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00 his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50 and mileage for members who are present. Gary Bowman moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had back and forth emails with Ken Skinner of the USGS. He initially asked Ken if his report for last year's well tests on the north side and he said it has been completed and attached a web site name so I could get a copy. The final report is the same as the report he gave us in December. Bob said the report said nothing about long term trends so he emailed back and asked if he had this information. Ken wrote back and said he is trying to get some funding put together to do that. Bob wrote him back to ask how much was needed. He hasn't had a reply at this time, but will continue to work on it. Bob also received an email from Beatrice Brailsford of the Snake River Alliance asking how our meeting with the A.G. had gone. Bob said the meeting went well and sent her a copy of the summary he had done for the commission. He also received an email from Mario, the dairy extension educator in Gooding, which included a description of the phosphorous removal technology he and Gale had mentioned at our May meeting. Bob forwarded the email and attachments to all members. Several members commented on the technology and how it could be very useful in our region. It appears to be much more than we thought because it can remove all contaminates from a city sewage system or dairy lagoon resulting in clean water. Bob said there was no mention, however, on the cost except to say the larger the project the less expensive it would be. The last item under correspondence was an email Bob sent to Kiley Mulholland of DEQ thanking her for the report she gave us last month. Since she is new to the area he also gave her a brief description of the commission's purpose and gave her our web site information.

Lew went to the next item on the agenda which was a video presentation the commission had made several years ago called "Waters Above and Waters Below".

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: August 15, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)**
- 4. Ed Hagan, Ground Water Program Manager for DEQ – requirements, shortcomings and impact of CAFO/ lagoons in region and ground Water quality trends (12:15 to 1:00)**
- 5. Ken Skinner, USGS – proposed studies and discuss needs for region (1:00 to 1:30)**
- 6. Discuss topics for meetings with county P. & Z commissions (1:30 to 1:50)**
- 7. New or old business (1:50 to 2:00)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
August 15, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 12:03pm. Members present were Jim Schlund, Dan Suhr, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Cathy Harris, Administrator of Gooding P & Z, Steve Hines, U of I Extension, Ed Hagan and Irene Nautch, DEQ, and Kenneth Skinner, USGS.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Kerry McMurray moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Jim Schlund and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50, photo copies for \$28.93 and mileage for members who are present. Dan Suhr moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Kerry McMurray and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said the only correspondence was with the speakers on today's agenda.

Lew introduced Ed Hagan, Groundwater Program Manager for DEQ. Ed gave an overview of the department's ground water responsibilities. He said they are responsible for planning, monitoring and giving technical assistance. He said protecting groundwater is the state's responsibility and there are no federal standards. Idaho passed a ground water quality act in 1992 and a water quality plan was created. Agriculture wasn't included in the plan until 1996. He said many state agencies handle parts of the plan such as DEQ, ISDA and IDWR. He said all state and local agencies must incorporate the plan and are to prevent contamination to the maximum extent.

Ed went on to the regulation of CAFO's within the state. He said the Dairy Environmental Control Act says that the DEQ will consult with the ISDA on enforcement of regulations. A CAFO site evaluation team has been developed and is made up of people from DEQ, ISDA, IDWR and the county. When a CAFO wishes to locate in a certain county the team can be used to determine if the site is appropriate. A county is not required, however, to use the siting committee, but if a problem occurs the county will be responsible. Also the siting committee will review and agree to a nutrient management plan submitted by the proposed CAFO owner. Ed said the DEQ has an MOU with the Idaho Dairy Association but the ISDA regulates them.

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: September 20, 2017

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: 1:00pm

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (1:00 to 1:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:10)**
- 4. Mitch Vermeer – Manager, Idaho Department of Ag Dairy/CAFO Bureau,
Discussion topics: rules inspectors are governed by, How inspections are conducted,
Agencies actions when dairy or CAFO is out of compliance, How complaints from the
public are addressed. (1:10 to 2:10)**
- 5. Discuss change of meeting time – Requested by Duane Turner (2:10 to 2:15)**
- 6. Wag Meeting report – Dan Suhr (12:15 to 12:20)**
- 7. Lew Pence – Tour of INL waste site (2:20 to 2:30)**
- 8. New or old business: (2:30 to 2:40)**
- 9. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: September 19, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)**
- 4. Outline discussion topics with County P. & Z's (12:15 to 12:35)**
- 5. Outline discussion topics with county commissioners (12:35 to 12:55)**
- 6. Outline discussion topics for letter to legislators (12:55 to 1:15)**
- 7. Update on TMDL – Dan Suhr (1:15 to 1:30)**
- 8. New or old business (1:30 to 1:45)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
September 19, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 12:01pm. Members present were Jim Schlund, Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Gary Bowman, Gale Kleinkopf Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Steve Hines, U of I Extension.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Duane Johnson moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50 and mileage for members who are present. Dan Suhr moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Gary Bowman and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said the only correspondence was with Ken Skinner. He is still trying to come up with a cost figure to put a trend line on his spring data. Bob also said he had spoken with Ken Nealy of IDWR concerning trend data on ground water for each of our counties. Ken told him he could bring the information to our meeting in October.

Lew said He and Bob had been discussing the proposed meetings with county commissioners and Planning and Zoning members of each county. This is important since we have so many new county commissioners in each county and we have never gone to the local P. & Z. to find out their concerns regarding water. He opened the meeting up for discussion. After a lengthy discussion all agreed to the following topics

1. History and commission's authority
2. Concerns about the I.N.L.
 - a. summery of meeting with A.G.
3. Recharge
 - a. brief history and success
 - b. building recharge sites
 - c. need for continued funding by legislature

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: October 17, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)**
- 4. Ken Neely, IDWR – Ground water trends in Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka & Twin Falls counties. (12:15 to 1:15)**
- 5. Discuss letter to legislators. (1:15 to 1:35)**
- 6. Update on TMDL – Dan Suhr (1:35 to 1:50)**
- 7. New or old business (1:50 to 2:00)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
October 17, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 12:01pm. Members present were Jim Schlund, Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Gary Bowman, Gale Kleinkopf, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Ken Neely, IDWR, Mario de4 Haro Marti, U. of I. Extension and Irene Nautch, DEQ.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Duane Turner said he hadn't changed his last name to Johnson and asked that the minutes reflect this. After a good laugh, Bob said he'd do that. Duane also corrected the date and time for the Twin Falls P. & Z meetings to read the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. After noting the corrections, Duane Turner moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Jim Schlund and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to the meeting for \$27.50 and a bill from Marne Curtis on our web site for \$120.00. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Kerry McMurray moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Gary Bowman and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said, other than some incidental emails, there was none.

Lew introduced Ken Neely who heads up the ground water quality monitoring program for the Idaho Department of Water Resources. Ken said his program has been in existence for 28 years and their job is to collect data to keep watch over the water quality of the aquifers within the state. He said they have about 1,200 sites in Idaho and it's thanks to a lot of individuals who allow the department to monitor their wells. Ken shared part of a portion of a report he did about 8 years ago on the nitrate priority areas in Cassia and Twin Falls counties. He said they used to put out 50 page reports on their findings, but no longer do this. Instead, they added a program to their web site that allows people to go in and look at well data in the state. Bob Muffley said he had tried to use this program, but couldn't make it work. Ken said he believed a person needs to use a specific program such as Fire Fox to make it work. Ken went through various maps they had compiled in our region showing nitrate activity between 1992 and 2017. He said most of the high levels of nitrate are found in Twin Falls, Cassia and Minidoka counties and most of the hot spots are close to the river in the nitrate priority areas. He said they indicate that Twin Falls County has shown improvement in the quality of their groundwater, but Cassia and Minidoka have not. He said only seven wells in Gooding, Jerome and Lincoln counties are performing poorly for nitrates, but only four of the wells are located close to the

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: November 21, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)**
- 4. Brian Hoelscher, Idaho Power – His take on evaluating effects of nutrient boundary Conditions to TMDL. (12:15 to 1:00)**
- 5. Cathy Roemer – member of INL Citizens Advisory Board on environmental management (1:00 to 1:30)**
- 6. Discuss revised letter to legislators (1:30 to 1:45)**
- 7. New or old business (1:45 to 2:00)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
November 21, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 12:01pm. Members present were Jim Schlund, Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Gale Kleinkopf, Kerry McMurray, Ami Bennett and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Brian Hoelscher, Idaho Power and Irene Nautch, DEQ.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Dan Suhr moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to this meeting and the Twin Falls County P. & Z. meeting for \$55.00 and a bill for placing our meeting notice in the legal section of the newspaper for \$29.18. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Duane Turner moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Jim Schlund and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he'd received an email from Irene Nautch asking for a change to the August minutes. I'd left out an important part of Ed Hagen's presentation at the meeting. She asked the minutes be corrected to say: "Ken talked about the nitrate trend analysis report of nitrate priority areas which was a contract with DEQ. DEQ has begun the 5-year analysis of nitrate priority areas that will include more recent data 2012-2016. Instead of contracting with IDWR, DEQ is conducting the trend analysis in-house. Our Technical Services Division where we have several hydrogeologists with statistical expertise is doing the trend analysis". The report should be out soon." Irene said they will use all available data collected from various agencies. Lew asked for a motion to change the August minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved to amend the minutes.

Bob said other correspondence included an email from the Snake River Alliance saying they enjoyed our editorial on our meeting with the A.G. and had put it on their web site with some amendments. After discussing their email with Lew, I wrote back and said everything the commission does is public information, but if used, there could be no amendments within the editorial. They wrote back and agreed. They also asked us to partner with them on the proposed nuclear power plants. We told them that since we are a local governmental agency, we could not partner with any private entities. Bob said he also received an email from activist, Peter Rickards, telling us the A.G. had lied to us and he would like to work with us to get the truth. Bob said he and Lew had not yet made a reply and may not.

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: December 19, 2018

Meeting Place – Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A. Enter the back of the building through the revolving door and turn right to the hall way. First door on the left or 2nd door if meeting is moved to conference room B.

Meeting time: Noon

Agenda items:

- 1. Approve Minutes of previous meeting (noon to 12:05)**
- 2. Approve Bills (12:05 to 12:08)**
- 3. Correspondence (12:08 to 12:15)**
- 4. Randy McMillan, PhD, Vice President Clear Spring Foods, update on Southern Idaho Water Quality Coalition and Middle Snake River Improvement Plan - (12:15 to 1:15)**
- 5. Discuss revised letter to legislators - (1:15 to 1:30)**
- 7. New or old business - (1:30 to 1:40)**
- 8. Adjourn**

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

MINUTES
MIDDLE SNAKE REGIONAL
WATER RESOURCE COMMISSION
December 19, 2018

The meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at noon. Members present were Jim Schlund, Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Kerry McMurray, Gary Bowman, Dean Edgar and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Roy Hubert, Lincoln County Commissioner, Randy McMillan, Clear Springs Food and Gary Fornshell, U. of I. Extension

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Jim Schlund moved the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$550.00, his mileage to this meeting and the Twin Falls County P. & Z. meeting for \$55.00 and office supply for \$36.03. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Dan Suhr moved the bills be paid. The motion was seconded by Dean Edgar and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he'd sent an email to Randy McMillan asking him who had made a presentation to the TAK referring to the 15% point sources and 85% nonpoint sources. He then received an email back saying the comment was made by Sonny at IDEQ. Bob said this clarifies things for our letter to the legislators. Bob said he also received an email from our current member, Mary Davidson from Lincoln County, saying that because of injuries from a recent auto accident, she is no longer the P. & Z. administrator for Lincoln County. She said the new administrator is Gary Hopkins who the commissioner's may want to appoint in her place on this commission. Bob told her he would check with Roy Hubert concerning this matter. A few minutes later, Roy come into the meeting and said he would check with Gary Hopkins on this. Bob told Roy to let him know and he would send out the necessary paper work for the appointment. Bob said he spoke on the phone with Josh Bartlome, Executive Director of the Southern Idaho Solid Waste who has recently been appointed as a member of the Citizens Advisory Board for the INL. Josh called Bob after reading our comments in the paper and said he would like to visit with us as our concerns appear to be the same as his own. Bob said he had invited Josh to our meeting in January.

Lew introduced Randy McMillan of Clear Springs Foods who is working on the TMDL for the Middle Snake. Randy said he is president of a new group of stakeholders in the TMDL process which is called the Southern Idaho Water Quality Coalition. Randy said the group has some real concerns about how the proposed changes will impact water users in the region. He said the group meets one or two times per month and they have identified their challenges under the proposed TMDL. They have also identified the need for various projects along with critical flows in the river. He said the group is a broad coalition from throughout the region. They are representatives of cities, industries, conservation districts, the dairy association, canal companies, and even the Nature Conservancy. Randy said the proposed new phosphorus levels from the DEQ won't really improve the river. The problem with nutrient TMDL's is that,

