

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: January 20, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place - Zoom at <https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/84247552182>

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of September meeting (1:00 to 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:15)
4. Snake River Alliance, Leigh Ford, Acting Executive Director and Ian Cotton, Energy Program Director - Comments on Draft EIS for Proposed Versatile Test Reactor and update on removal of buried liquid waste. Other concerns, if any - (1:15 to 2:15)
5. New or old business (2:15 to 2:25)
6. Adjourn

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

January 21, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:00pm. Members present were Kerry McMurray, Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Gale Kleinkopf, Gary Bowman and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Mario d Haro Marti and Steve Hines U. of I. Extension Educators and Leigh Ford and Ian Cotton with the Snake River Alliance.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Gale Kleinkopf moved to approve the minutes. 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 for three months in the amount of \$550.00 per month. Duane Turner moved to pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Dan Suhr and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence. Bob said he sent thank you notes to Vince Alberti and Bert Stevenson for the time they served as our regional representatives to the Idaho Water Resource Board. Both sent back notes thanking us and saying how they enjoyed working with the Commission during their terms in office. Bob said he received a draft EIS from the DOE concerning the proposed Versatile Test Reactor at the INL and sent members the instructions for finding it online. He said he is continuing to read the draft at this time.

Lew introduced Acting Executive Director Leigh Ford and Ian Cotton of the Snake River Alliance to give us an update on the Buried Liquid nuclear liquid waste at the INL and give us their take on the proposed Versatile Test Realtor (VTR). Ian said he is new to the Alliance, but is learning fast. He said he had just attended a meeting concerning the subject so would tell us what he knows so far. He showed us a schematic of a conventional type reactor using a water cooling system. He next put up a second schematic of a reactor cooled with liquid sodium.

Ian said nuclear energy is far from clean energy and nuclear power is in decline nationwide. He said nuclear power is too slow to develop and too expensive to help with our climate change situation. It also creates high amounts of pollution which will need to be dealt with for years to come. He also said 58% of all new power generation is now being created from renewal resources, but only 2% from nuclear.

Ian said the proposed reactor is just a small module and is made for testing different types of fuel. They are wanting to test various fuels to find, what they believe is the best, for new

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Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: March 17, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

This will be an in-person meeting at the Twin Falls County office building

Bring your mask

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of September meeting (1:00 to 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:15)
4. Groundwater quality and quantity trend study for Mid-Snake region- Ken Skinner, USGS (1:15 to 2:15)
5. Discuss Representative Simpson's salmon proposal and county commissioner's recommendation (2:15 to 2:25)

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

March 17, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:01pm. Members present were Kerry McMurray, Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Arlen Morgan, Dean Edgar and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Mario d Haro Marti and Steve Hines, U. of I. Extension Educators and Aaron Trevino, DEQ regional office.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Kerry McMurray moved to approve the minutes. 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 two months in the amount of \$550.00 per month, mileage for \$28.56 and two new ink cartridges for \$77.37. Duane Turner moved to pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Dan Suhr and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence. Bob said he received an email from Josh Johnson of the Idaho Conservation League asking us to Join with their group and others to look at water quality needs in the region that could be funded through the Simpson salmon recovery proposal. Bob said he knew this was a hot political issue in Idaho so presented the proposal to the commission's executive committee. Bob said he received replies from the commissioners of Lincoln, Cassia and Twin Falls counties saying they were not in favor of the Simpson proposal and would not agree to working with the Idaho Conservation League. Bob also said he didn't get a reply from Gooding and our Jerome commissioner was out of town. Bob said that since he had received a negative reply from three of our five counties, he informed Josh that we would not be joining them in this effort. Bob also said that Dan Suhr had forwarded him a message from Aaron Trevino of our DEQ regional office saying that he would be replacing Irene Nautch as the DEQ representative to the commission.

Lew called on Ken Skinner of the USGS to give us an update on his water quality trend study for the region. Ken said he had already spoken to us on the data collection process he is using so he put up a map of all the collection sites he had looked at in the region. He said Cassia and Twin Falls counties can be bunched together because the data from those counties is very similar. The counties north of the river, however, are very different even within each county. He said he used two statistical tests for his study. The Regional Kendall Test evaluates the trends for specific areas and the Wilcoxon-Pratt assigned rank test which evaluates a step-trend or changes between two dates. Both statistical tests indicate increasing trends or no trends for both nitrate and phosphorus for most areas. Only the Jerome and southern Gooding area had a

decreasing phosphorus trend for 2010 to 2020, however within the Jerome/Gooding well network which resides at the most down gradient portion of the aquifer indicates an increasing phosphorus trend. Ken said several areas did not have enough data to do the statistical tests such as Cassia, Lincoln and northern Gooding county for the 2010 to 2020 trend period. The phosphorus trends are the first to be analyzed for this area which is great, but there are no other studies to compare to. He said nitrate trends are also increasing or do not have a trend for most areas, however, there are no definitive decreasing nitrate trends for any area. Ken said groundwater levels are also important to the trend analysis. He said groundwater levels have been decreasing in the A&B well network and the Jerome/Gooding network between 2000- 2009, but the Jerome/Gooding network has shown increasing levels since 2016. Next ken put up test results for wells in the region. The highest concentrations for both phosphorus and nitrates appear to be in Twin Falls and Cassia counties, but all counties are showing an increase. Ken said we should get our copy of the preliminary review in a week or so. We need to take a look at it and make comments. The final study should be published in July. The USGS will no longer be testing wells in the region after this year. It was asked what good this report will be if it can't be updated? Ken suggested we keep working with DEQ and others to see if this program could be continued in state.

Lew asked if there was an old or new business to come before the commission. Duane Turner asked about Blue Hear Springs. Bob said his daughter at the Idaho Department of Ag is taking the lead on this as it may involve an invasive specie. She will be checking it out this spring. Dan Suhr said phosphorus is increasing in the springs, so weed growth will continue. Ken Skinner said he hadn't heard about this development and was going to check it out.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: April 21, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

This will be an in-person meeting at the Twin Falls County office building
Bring your mask

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of March meeting (1:00 to 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:15)
4. Economic update for the region - Steve Hines, U.of I. Educator (1:15 to 2:15)
5. Update on Blue Heart Springs - Bob Muffley (2:15 to 2:20)
- 6: Update on Mid Snake WAG meeting: Dan Suhr (2:20 to 2:30)
6. New or old business
7. Adjourn

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

April 22, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:05pm. Members present were Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Arlen Morgan, Gary Bowman, Gale Kleinkopf and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Aaron Trevino, DEQ regional office and Gary Fornshell.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Dan Suhr moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Arlen Morgan 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 mileage for \$28.56. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Gail Kleinkopf moved to pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence. Bob said Duane Turner and Arlen Morgan need to be reappointed to the commission. He said he received an email from the Jerome County Commissioners recommending that Arlen be reappointed as one of their representatives. He has not, however, received a recommendation for Duane from Twin Falls County. Duane said he spoke with the commissioners who had told him he would first need the recommendation from the Twin Falls P. & Z. Duane said he had a meeting set up with the P. & Z. in May.

Lew said Steve Hines, who was scheduled to give us a regional economic update at today's meeting, was not in attendance and asked Bob if he knew about any problem. Bob said he hadn't heard anything from Steve which was totally unlike him. Obviously something urgent had occurred for him to not be here. Lew said we will go ahead with the rest of the agenda and see if Steve shows up.

Lew called on Bob to give us a report on the Blue Heart Springs cleanup. Bob said he spoke with his daughter, Bethany Ahlin, who is part of the Invasive Species section of the Idaho Department of Agriculture. She said the removal of Eurasian water milfoil from the spring began on the 6th and 7th of April. She showed pictures of the actions they were taking. They removed the milfoil using large suction equipment. They also had personnel skimming for any floating fragments. If any fragments got past them, there was also a large screen at the entrance to the spring area. She said they ended up removing 1,980 pounds of plants, but have more work to do. They are coming back in May to, hopefully, finish the cleanup operation.

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: May 19, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

This will be an in-person meeting at the Twin Falls County office building

Bring your mask

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of March meeting (1:00 to 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:15)
4. Review changes made to water quantity & quality portion of plan - (1:15 to 1:30)
5. Begin update of water quality portion of plan starting on page 29 - (1:30 to 2:30)
6. New or old business - (2:30 to 2:40)

Minutes

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

May 19, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:05pm. Members present were Dan Suhr, Duane Turner, Arlen Morgan, Gary Bowman, Gale Kleinkopf and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Aaron Trevino, DEQ regional office

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Dan Suhr moved to approve the minutes. 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 and mileage for \$28.56. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Gail Kleinkopf moved to pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Arlen Morgan and approved.

Lew said he just received a request for a support letter from Mario de Haro Marti, Extension Educator from Gooding. Our letter would support a Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education proposal. The proposal is titled "Managing uncertain water supply to ensure economic and environmental sustainability of corn silage production in the Western Region." The proposal addresses water usage reduction and water quality concerns, and crop quality with corn production. The people overseeing the study will be Dr. Mireille Chahine, Dairy Specialist, Steve Hines, Linda Schott, Howard Neibling and himself as co-investigators. Arlen Morgan moved to have Lew sign the support letter. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there was any correspondence. Bob Said he hadn't received any correspondence for the month other than an email from Steve Hines saying he couldn't attend our next meeting in June because of a conflict. He promised, however, that he would give the economic report in July.

Lew asked Bob to continue our review of the plan. Bob said it had been months since we last reviewed our changes to the plan so suggested we go back to the beginning and make sure the suggested changes to date are accurate. The commission reviewed the changes starting with the water quantity portion of the plan including pages 22 - 28 of the water quality portion. Bob started on page 29 of the plan to continue the review. At the bottom of page 32, Bob suggested that because of the lateness of the hour we continue our review at the next meeting. The water quality portion of the plan will be sent to all members prior to June meeting noting all changes to date.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: June 16, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of March meeting (1:00 to 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:15)
4. Discuss Ken Skinner's trend report - (1:15 to 1:30)
5. Begin update of water quality portion of plan starting on page 32 - (1:30 to 2:30)
Be sure to bring your plan and changes to the meeting.
6. New or old business - (2:30 to 2:40)
7. Adjourn

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

June 16, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:05pm. Members present were Dan Suhr, Arlen Morgan, Gary Bowman, Gale Kleinkopf, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Aaron Trevino, DEQ regional office.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Kerry McMurray said he was not shown as present. Bob said he would make the correction. Gale Kleinkopf moved that the amended minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Arlen Morgan 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 for \$28.56 and postage for \$3.00. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Dan Suhr moved to pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

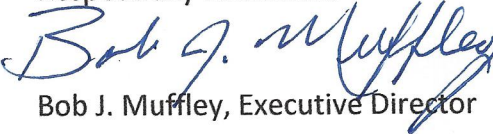
Lew asked Bob if there had been any correspondence? Bob said he had received the preliminary trend study from Ken Skinner which was forwarded to the membership for discussion. He said he also found out that he could no longer send or forward pdf files. Adoby Reader found out a new way of making money. In order to send a pdf file you need to pay a membership fee in the amount of \$180.00 per year. He's afraid that also means he will no longer be able to email documents to himself and forward them on because they come out as a pdf as well. He will do some more checking on this.

Lew moved on to a discussion of the draft trend study sent to us by Ken Skinner. After much discussion the commission asked Bob to let Ken know about our concerns. It was obvious that the draft had been written with the scientific community in mind and not the general public. While his draft did make sense to commission members, it was because he had gone through it with us and explained the meaning of various inclusions. The general public won't have this needed information. Several members suggest that maybe he could write two versions. One for the scientists and one for the public. Several member also said that they assumed the final analysis would include graphs showing the actual water quality trends in the various areas of the region. They believed graphs would be more easily understood by the public. Bob said he would contact Ken and let him know our concerns. Hopefully he'll be able to report back to us at our July meeting.

Lew asked Bob to continue with our updates to the plan. Before getting started Bob said there was a couple of items from the last meeting that he wanted to tell the commission. First he had changed the situation comments to comply with the listed impacts to water in the previous paragraph. He also added an explanation on those that had none. A change to the "climate change" explanation was suggest by Gale Kleinkopf. He said to take out the words "it would take years to collect enough data" and replace it with "sufficient impact data has not been generated". All agreed and the change was made. Bob said He also had a question at the last meeting on what state agency is responsible for permitting filtration ponds, french drains and injection wells. He found that IDEQ handles filtration ponds and french drains while IDWR does injection wells. Bob then began the plan updates starting at the bottom of page 32.

Lew asked if anyone had any new or old business. Hearing none the meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob J. Muffley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "M" and "L".

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: July 21, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of March meeting (1:00 to 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1:15)
4. Update on Ken Skinner's trend report - Bob (1:15 to 1:25)
5. Update on the region's economy and Economic portion of plan - Steve Hines, U. of I Extension Educator - (1:25 to 2:30)
6. New or old business - (2:30 to 2:40)
7. Adjourn

TIME FRAMES FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM LISTED ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

July 15, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:02pm. Members present were Dan Suhr, Arlen Morgan, Duane Turner, Gale Kleinkopf, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Steve Hines, U. of I. Extension, Aaron Trevino, DEQ regional office and Gary Fornshell.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Hearing none, Arlen Morgan moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Kerry McMurray 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 mileage for \$28.56. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Gale Kleinkopf moved to pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there had been any correspondence? Bob Said he and Lew responded to the initial water quality study by Ken Skinner. Bob said the response pointed out that the general public and our county commissioners may not understand the report because they weren't privy to the explanation he shared with the commission. We suggested that he either change the report or create a second report that could be easily understood by the public. Bob said he got a response from Ken stating that his superiors felt the same way about the report, so he would work on a revision. He will hopefully have it available for our review in September. Ken also said he would try to put together trend lines if he can come up with sufficient data. Gail Kleinkopf said trend lines would be difficult because data was taken by different parties and seldom covered the same groundwater sources.

Lew Introduced Steve Hines to discuss the most recent economic trends for our region. Steve said that he would be discussing the economic impacts of agriculture in the region at this meeting and present the economic impact to the region's water in September. He said the data he is presenting is for the years 2017 to 2018. He said he also had to include Minidoka county data since they are included in their six county region. The economic numbers shown in his report only apply to what is sold outside of our area. This will be why the numbers for hay and silage are low since most is sold within the region. He said the multiplier effect of a dollar is said to be 7 times within an economy, but in actuality is usually less than 3.

Steve said money is based on what we make, mine or grow within the region. Nearly 2 of every 3 dollars in sales are directly or indirectly create by exports from agribusiness. Dairy processing alone accounts for over 20% of the sales in the region and 1 in 7 jobs. Agribusiness brings 60% of the new money into the region and one-third of jobs are directly or indirectly created by ag. exports. Our region contributes 54% of Idaho's farm gate receipts. When looking at base sales of the region, ag. accounts for 49% of total sales but 60% of the export sales making it a major exporter. Nearly 50% of the export sales comes from dairy processing followed by potato processing at 12%, sugar processing at 9%. Beef is the only production in the top 5 exports. Dairy has total base sales of \$4.1 billion and has the highest multiplier at 2.93. Steve put up a chart showing the base vs Gross output for the region including all inputs of money to the region which included state and local government, household and manufacturing. Our 6 counties account for more than 24% of Idaho's GDP and processing accounts for over 50% of all ag industry sales. Idaho ranks 4th in the nation for dairy cow numbers and 70% are within this region. 40% of those are located in Gooding and Jerome counties. The Magic Valley is only 9% of the land in the state and 10% of the states population.

Most of our milk production in the region is sold to local manufacturers and it's their products that bring new money to the region. New money must be brought into the region to promote growth in all sectors. These manufacturers bring in the new money because their products are sold outside of the region. Steve said value added means adding value to the economy. When looking at value added to our economy, dairy contributes about 17% while dairy manufacturing contributes 42%. If we add in the potato and sugar processing the combined value added for the region is 59%.

Gross income considers costs to the producers of which the greatest cost is labor. Agriculture, including those who service the ag industry in the region, creates about 102,000 jobs. The ag. Industry only has about 21,400 jobs, but when looking at the total ag. Community it makes up about 42% of the jobs in the region. A good example is the dairy manufacturers in the region has only about 1,600 direct jobs, but also contribute to 16,400 indirect jobs through all sectors of the local economy.

Lew thanked Steve for his much anticipated report and asked Bob Muffley if he had any further updates on his computer problems. Bob said the only solution would be to pay \$180.00 per year to Adoby which he hated to do.

Lew asked if anyone had any new or old business. Hearing none the meeting was adjourned at 2:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: September 15, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of the July meeting (1:00 TO 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1: 10)
4. Changes to Economic portion of the Plan. Steve Hines, U. of I. Extension Educator
(1:10 to 2:00)
5. If time allows: Continue review of the water quality portion of the plan beginning on page 36.
6. New or old business - (2:30 to 2:40)

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

September 15, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:02pm. Members present were Dan Suhr, Arlen Morgan, Duane Turner, Gale Kleinkopf, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Steve Hines, U. of I. Extension and Aaron Trevino, DEQ regional office.

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

Lew asked Bob for the bills since the last meeting. Bob said the bills include his compensation in the amount of \$1,100.00 for two months and mileage for \$28.56. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Dan Suhr moved to pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Gale Kleinkopf and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there had been any correspondence? Bob said the only correspondence was an addendum to our contract with the USGS to extend the time needed to complete their report for another 3 months. Bob said he signed the addendum and returned it to the Boise office. We should have the completed report in December of this year.

Lew Introduced U. of I. extension agent Steve Hines to go over changes to the economic section of the Coordinated Water Resource Management Plan. Steve said he made changes to the cover page of the economic section recognizing both Bill Hazen and Bob Ohlensehlen for their efforts in developing the frame work for this section of the plan, but listed only those who are participating in the document at this time. He said he added a section on page one that discusses the 2015 Surface Water Coalition-Idaho Ground Water Appropriators, Inc settlement agreement between ground and surface water users. The purpose of this agreement is to mitigate injury from pumping to the Surface Water Coalition by stabilizing the ESPA. He also deleted a sentence on page 55 that spoke to the amount of money affecting the regional economy from hunting and fishing by the Idaho Fish and Game. He said the amount was based on an old study and none have been done since. Steve updated the figures in table one showing the farm gate receipts in our region. Three counties show increased receipts and three are less than that shown in 2018. The region is still responsible for 45% of the agricultural value of ag products sold for the state. He also added a clarifying sentence to the first paragraph below table 1 explaining why the number of jobs attributed to agriculture has decline be explaining how that could be a positive for the region. He then went through the changes to

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: October 20, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of the July meeting (1:00 TO 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1: 10)
4. Brian Olmstead, New member from our region to the Idaho Board of Water Resources: Update on Board activities during 2021, activities and action scheduled for next year, funding needs, if any, and any contingency actions if draught should continue. (1:10 to 2:00)
5. If time allows: Continue review of the water quality portion of the plan beginning on page 36.
6. New or old business - (2:30 to 2:40)

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

October 20, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:02pm. Members present were Dan Suhr, Arlen Morgan, Duane Turner, Gale Kleinkopf, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Brian Olmstead, Idaho Water Resource Board member and Aaron Trevino, DEQ regional office.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Before approval, Bob said he had mistakenly sent his draft minutes to everyone before they were corrected. He said the corrections were mostly grammatical and there was no changes to the content. Dan Suhr moved that 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 for and mileage for \$28.56. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Arlen Morgan moved to pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there had been any correspondence? Bob said the only correspondence were emails from commissioners Mark Bolduc of Gooding County and Brent Reinke of Twin Falls County commending Steve Hines for his work on the economic report for the region.

Lew Introduced Brian Olmstead, a recent appointee to the Idaho Water Resource Board, to give the commission an update on the work of the Board this year and any future plans. Brian said He has only been with the Board for 6 months and is still in a learning stage. He is very excited that they will begin to raise, by 6 feet, the Anderson Ranch Dam this year and recharge on the ESPA has been progressing well. The recharge program calls for 250,000 acre feet of water to be recharged when there is sufficient water in the system. He said recharge has priority on water that flows over Milner dam when all upper Snake reservoirs are filled and there is sufficient flows to meet the requirements the salmon flush. He said natural river flows are primarily used by the Twin Falls Canal Company. Pumpers must also furnish an additional 50,000 CFS per year to meet demand as part of their mitigation. He said the Board is still working with Idaho Power on their cloud seeding efforts. He said recent history has show that the cloud seeding efforts have added 10 to 15 percent to the annual snowfall. He said cloud seeding is used when clouds haven't enough density to produce moisture on their own. He said that this year, because of the low moisture content of our snows, they were only able to

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: November 17, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

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Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of the July meeting (1:00 TO 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1: 10)
4. Ken Skinner, USGS, Final quality and quantity trend report for region (1:10 to 2:00)
5. If time allows: Continue review of the water quality portion of the plan beginning on page 36.
6. New or old business - (2:30 to 2:40)
7. Adjourn

Minutes Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

November 17, 2021

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:02pm. Members present were Dan Suhr, Arlen Morgan, Duane Turner, Kerry McMurray and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present was Ken Skinner, USGS and Gary Fornshell.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Dan Suhr moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Kerry McMurray 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 for \$28.56 and \$38.15 for black printer ink. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Arlen Morgan moved to pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Duane Turner and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there had been any correspondence? Bob said he received no correspondence, but he and Lew had sent a letter of testimony to the DOD on their proposed microreactor. Bob said he sent a copy to the commission members and county commissioners prior to the meeting.

Lew Introduced Ken Skinner of the USGS to give us a report on his revisions to the water quality trend report. Ken said this latest version of the report should be more understandable to the reader. He said the first part of the document is pretty much the same. Most of the revisions are in the second half. He also noted that the IDEQ had also just released a report on trends for the nitrate priority areas in the state, six of which are in our region. Ken said this is the first time that all data from all appropriate agencies, of which there are seven, had been compiled and analyzed. He said all data was collected during the summer months which is the time of most activity. There are far fewer test sites in the region that have been checked for phosphorus over the years, however. He then described splitting the region into six general areas for his analysis. His study evaluated two trend periods: 2000-2009 and 2010 to 2020 and the report documents concentration trends over time for nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen and orthophosphate as phosphorus for the time periods shown above.

Ken went on to describe the two testing methods used in his report to analyze the data. The Regional Kendall statistical test method (monotonic) is a gradual change over time that is consistent in direction either up or down. The Wilcoxon-Pratt method (step trend) looks at an abrupt shift at a specific point in time. He said evaluating step trends along with monotonic trends is helpful for data sets with limited data available for trend analysis. Another factor in

Agenda

Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission

Meeting Date: December 16, 2021

Time: 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Twin Falls County Office Building at 630 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, Conference Room A or B. Enter the back of the building through to revolving door and turn right to the hallway. First or second door to the left.

Agenda Items:

1. Approve minutes of the July meeting (1:00 TO 1:05)
2. Approve Bills (1:05 to 1:08)
3. Correspondence (1:08 to 1: 10)
4. Restart Plan review starting on page 36 (1:10 to 2:30)
5. New or old business - (2:30 to 2:40)
6. Adjourn

**Minutes
Middle Snake Regional
Water Resource Commission**

March 16, 2022

The meeting of the commission was called to order by Chairman Lew Pence at 1:02pm. Members present were Kerry McMurray, Dean Edgar, Duane Turner, Arlen Morgan, Gale Kleinkopf and Bob Muffley, Executive Director. Also present were Steve Hines and Mario de Haro U. of I. Extension Educators and Roy Huber, Lincoln County Commissioner.

Lew asked if there were any changes or corrections to the previous minutes. Kerry McMurray moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Gale 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 \$1,650.00 for 3 months and mileage for \$59.67. Other bills are mileage for members who are present. Dean Edgar moved to pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Arlen Morgan and approved.

Lew asked Bob if there had been any correspondence since our last meeting. Bob said he had emailed Ken Skinner about the final completion of his water quality report for the region, but has, as yet, received a reply. He also said Duane Turner and Arlen Morgan had both been reappointed and would both serve until 2025.

Lew turned the meeting over to Bob to continue our review of the Coordinated Water Resource Management Plan. Bob suggested that, because Steve Hines was present that he, once again, go over the changes made to the economic portion of the plan since we failed to have a quorum at the last meeting. All agreed so Steve began the final review. Following this review Dean Edgar suggested that we should mention our region's population growth and it's impact to the region's water resources. Bob said he would get together with Steve to see about working that fact into the plan.

Bob said we need to continue our revision of the water quality portion of the plan beginning where we left off on page 36.

A motion was made and the meeting was adjourned at 2:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob J. Muffley, Executive Director

