

## Our Water. Our Future.

# IDAHO WASHINGTON AQUIFER COLLABORATIVE

iwac.us

P.O. Box 1822 Post Falls, ID 83877

Terry Pickel - President BiJay Adams - Vice President Rob Lindsay - Secretary Ron Wilson - Treasurer Dan Kegley – Past President

The Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) works to maintain and enhance water quality and quantity for present and future generations by developing management strategies which benefit the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer and the Spokane River watersheds.

April 11, 2023, Via Zoom - Representatives Present

	Organization	Representative	Email Address
	Avista	Chris Moan	chris.moan@avistacorp.com
	Avondale Irrigation District	Bob Chandler	bobchandlercda@gmail.com
	Bar Circle S Water Company	Rob Turnipseed	avondalecon@frontier.com
	City of Coeur d'Alene Water, Director	Terry Pickel	tpickel@cdaid.org
	City of Coeur d'Alene Asst. Director	Kyle Marine	kmarine@cdaid.org
√ √	City of Post Falls	John Beacham Craig Borrenpohl Alyssa Gersdorf	jbeacham@postfallsidaho.org cborrenpohl@postfallsidaho.org alyssag@postfallsidaho.org
	City of Spokane Water Department	Doug Greenlund	dgreenlund@spokanecity.org
	Coeur d'Alene Tribe of Indians	Rebecca Stevens	rstevens@cdatribe-nsn.gov
	Consolidated Irrigation District No. 19	Shane Sheppard	consolidatedirrigation@comcast.net
	East Greenacres Irrigation District	Ron Wilson	ron@eastgreenacres.org
	Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board	Ken Windram	ken@harsb.org
	Hayden Lake Irrigation District	Branden Rose	branden@haydenirrigation.com.
√ √	Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District	BiJay Adams Jeremy Jenkins	bijay@libertylake.org jjenkins@libertylake.org
	JUB Engineering	Cory Baune	cbaune@jub.com
	Moab Irrigation District	Scott Inch	moabirr20@gmail.com
	Model Irrigation District	Rick Neal	rickaneal@gmail.com
		Ryan Neal	ryan.o.neal509@gmail.com
√	Modern Electric Water Company	Jason Beesley	jbeesley@mewco.com
	North Kootenai Water & Sewer District	Paul Tucker	PaulT@nkwsd.com
$\sqrt{}$	SAJB Program Leader	Tonilee Hanson	sajbinfo@gmail.com

Spokane Co. Environmental Services	Rob Lindsay	rlindsay@spokanecounty.org
Spokane County Water District No. 3	Kelly Williquette	scwd3engr@comcast.net
	Justin VanDyke	jvandyke@scwd3.org
Vera Water and Power	Todd Henry	thenry@verawaterandpower.com
Whitworth Water District	Tim Murrell	tim@whitworthwater.com
	Matt Wright	matt@whitworthwater.com
 <b>IWAC Past President and GSI Consultant</b>	Dan Kegley	dmkegs@outlook.com
U of I Extension	Jim Ekins	jekins@uidaho.edu
 WA Department of Ecology	Chris Beard	chbe461@ecy.wa.gov
 Parsons Behle & Latimer	Norm Semanko	Nsemanko@parsonsbehle.com
 City of Spokane Valley	Henry Allen	hallen@spokanevalley.org

#### **AGENDA**

**Welcome and Introductions** – IWAC Vice President BiJay Adams welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.

Agenda Additions or Revisions – No changes.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes** – VP Adams called for additions or corrections to the March 14, 2023, meeting minutes. Ron Wilson moved to approve the March Minutes. Jeremy Jenkins seconded the motion. The March meeting minutes were approved by consensus.

**Financial Report** – Treasurer Ron Wilson reported that IWAC's 2022 tax filing was delivered to the accountants and is in process. The 2021 electronic tax filing was rejected for reasons that are not clear and Anderson Bros. is researching the issue. The ending bank balance as of April 2, 2023, was \$35,493.52. This total does not include the membership dues totaling \$8,000.00 that have recently been received. Many thanks to the following organizations:

- Hayden Lake Irrigation District
- HARSB
- City of Post Falls
- Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District
- North Kootenai Water & Sewer District
- Spokane County Water District 3
- Modern Electric Water Company
- City of Coeur d'Alene,
- Model Irrigation District #18

#### **Old Business**

**2023 DRAFT Budget** – The DRAFT 2023 budget was updated to include the purchase of Aquifer Atlas copies, the Water Conservation Media Campaign, and the Drippy the Water Drop Coloring Book. VP Adams opened the discussion of the 2023 draft budget. Past President Kegley asked if we had a sufficient number of the voting members present to pass a budget. It was determined that at least 10% of the members in good standing, (i.e., dues paid) were present and a vote could be taken. Jeremy Jenkins moved to approve the 2023 budget and Shane Sheppard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the 2023 budget was approved.

**Election of Officers** – Treasurer Ron Wilson, Secretary Rob Lindsay, and VP BiJay Adams are willing to continue serving in their current offices. The intention of IWAC is to have equal representation of officers from Idaho and Washington. So, the next IWAC President needs to represent Idaho. Terry Pickel has given July as a firm deadline for his retirement as IWAC's President and it is hoped that there will be some transition time for the new President. The election of a new IWAC President was extended to May.

**IWAC Goals Follow-up** – Members discussed the top three goals, identified in the recent survey, as the 2023 areas of consensus.

• 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Priority Goal: Develop a coordinated regional education and outreach program for water quality, quantity, and conservation goals. Develop materials for outreach. Identify partners, audiences, and delivery strategies.

**In Process**: The regional media campaign from April to October promoting the <u>Outdoor Watering Nerds</u> water conservation and protection website funded by IDEQ, SAJB, and SRF. See New Business for media campaign details.

2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Priority Goal: Locate funding for an updated SVRP Aquifer Study conducted by USGS or another
credible entity that is acceptable to both ID and WA purveyors. Develop a Bistate Aquifer (baseline) Status
Document. Validate objectively determined and scientifically supportable data on the quantity of the aquifer
water system.

**Questions to explore**: Where might funding of \$250,000-\$300,000 be available? Who would take the lead on grant writing? Are Ecology, DOH, or IDWR interested in a new aquifer study? Discussion focused on transferring data from the MicroFEM model to MODFLOW.

• 2023 3<sup>rd</sup> Priority Goal: Identify future impacts on water quality as the area population grows, and commercial and industrial uses diversify in our area. Include: Non-point sources, stormwater, potential contaminants, critical materials, gravel pits, PFAS, and other emerging concerns.

**Questions to explore**: How might the MicroFem data for wellhead protection and capture zones be repurposed using the MODFLOW model to analyze the potential flow paths of contaminants such as PFAS.

#### **New Business**

Outdoor Water Nerds - Each month April – October 2023, a coordinated media campaign is planned by IWAC and SAJB. Below are links to the sections of the Nerds website that will be featured.

Month	IWAC \$2,000 / Month	SAJB \$2,100 / Month
April	Protect the Aquifer Story Map	Sprinkler System Checkup
May	<u>Leak Detection</u>	Repair and Retrofit
June	Drought Tolerant & Native Plants	Smart Controllers & Sensors
July	Calculate Water Needs	Tips to Save Water
August	<u>Fertilizers, Pesticides &amp; Herbicides</u>	Calculate Water Needs
September	Drip Systems & Soaker Hoses	Backflow Protection
October	Home page	Protect the Aquifer Story Map

**Spokane River Forum Conference** Registration for the SRF Conference is open. Here is a link to the April 26-27, 2023, Agenda. The Ty Wick Award presentation has been moved to Thursday 4/27/23 opening session.

Department of Homeland Security Physical and Cyber Security Vulnerability Assessments – Steven Neal, DHS, offered to present at an IWAC meeting on the free vulnerability assessments available through DHS. Members are interested and Tonilee Hanson will work with Steven to schedule a presentation.

PFAS Testing and Response Testing for PFAS is underway in the Washington water districts. The detection level required to trigger reporting to the public is currently 15 PPT (Parts Per Trillion) and indications are that it may be reduced to 4 PPT. WA DOH, Stan Hoffman, recommended that water purveyors collaborate regionally to develop unified press release content, before it is needed, to address a potential PFAS detection event. Jeremy Jenkins shared links to regulatory information on PFAS. Tonilee Hanson will add the state agency information links to IWAC and SAJB websites.

WA https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/contaminants/pfas

EPA https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas

DEQ https://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/drinking-water/contaminants-in-drinking-water/ (Scroll halfway down the page, click to expand the header "Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) – PFAS")

### **Updates Around the Table**

BiJay Adams, LLSWD, shared that permit requests in the first 3 months of 2023 have already exceeded permit requests in all of 2022. Supply chain issues continue to be challenging especially for meter setters and expansion couplings.

Craig Borrenpohl, Post Falls Utilities, shared that this is the third year of enforcing cross connection control and the public upset with the program has subsided. Backflow testers have helped by providing information about the importance of the backflow device. Testers are still finding situations of improper installation such as being placed on the wrong side of the blowout. Reports from testers are accepted as paper copies, scanned PDFs, photos, and batched software. Syncta is a backflow testing software being used by some testers and accepted by purveyors. Cassell Utility Management is another platform that can link the backflow testing directly to a customer's billing account.

Adjourn - There being no further business this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023, VP Adams adjourned the meeting at 2:50 pm.

Vice President, BiJay Adams

Handouts sent via e-mail: IWAC Agenda, IWAC March Meeting Minutes, 2023 Draft Budget, Previous IWAC meeting agendas, minutes, supporting documents and presentations can be found at <a href="http://www.iwac.us/category/meetings/">http://www.iwac.us/category/meetings/</a>.