

MINUTES  
**SENATE RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

- DATE:** Friday, January 27, 2012
- TIME:** 1:30 P.M.
- PLACE:** Room WW55
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Pearce, Vice Chairman Bair, Senators Cameron, Heider, Tippetts, Werk, and Stennett
- ABSENT/EXCUSED:** Senators Siddoway and Brackett
- NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies, and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.
- CALL TO ORDER:** **Chairman Pearce called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.** He announced that Sharon Kiefer, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, has provided the members of the Committee with the latest "Wolf Management Update" and it is in the blue folder on your desk.
- MOTION:** Making the **motion** for the approval of the minutes for January 20th was **Senator Heider**. The motion was **seconded** by **Vice Chairman Bair**. The motion **passed** by unanimous voice vote.
- Chairman Pearce** then called on **Vice Chairman Bair** to present **Senator Brackett's** RS in his absence.
- RS 20941:** **Vice Chairman Bair** said this proposed legislation will require applicants for state grazing leases to submit a grazing management proposal as part of the application. It allows the Department to conduct a preliminary analysis of whether or not an applicant's proposed use is consistent with the Department's resource objectives and management expectations for the lands applied for. The grazing proposal submitted by the successful applicant then becomes the grazing management plan for that lease.
- MOTION:** **Senator Tippetts** made the **motion** to send RS 20941 to print. The motion was **seconded** by **Senator Heider**. The motion **passed** by unanimous voice vote.
- RS 21053C1:** **Senator Heider** presented his RS. He said the purpose of this legislation is to propose an amendment to Article I of the Constitution of the State of Idaho, by adding a new Section 23, Article I, that the right to hunt, fish and trap shall be preserved for the people.
- MOTION:** **Vice Chairman Bair** made the **motion** to send RS 21053C1 to print. The motion was **seconded** by **Senator Tippetts**. The motion **passed** by unanimous voice vote.
- INTRO-DUCTIONS:** **Mr. Brian Patton, Administrator, Planning and Technical Services Division, Department of Water Resources**, introduced the following **Gubernatorial appointees** to the **Idaho Water Resources Board**: **Robert "Bob" Graham, Peter D. Van Der Meuden, and Jeffery D. Raybould**.
- SPEAKER:** Speaking first to the Committee was **Mr. Graham** who is from Bonners Ferry and is being reappointed. His term commenced January 1, 2011 and will expire January 1, 2015.

According to his biography, his family moved to Bonners Ferry in 1972 where he was the District Ranger for the U.S. Forest Service for the Bonners Ferry Ranger District.

He graduated from Washington State University with a bachelor degree in Forestry in 1958, after a two year break in the Army. Mr. Graham then went to work with the Forest Service and spent all but two years stationed in various assignments in Idaho. They lived in Priest Lake, Sandpoint, Orofino, Pierce, North Fork of the Clearwater, on the Salmon River at Slate Creek, and Bonners Ferry. Almost his entire career was in Administration and Fire Control, including a stint as a smokejumper. He retired under the Fire Control and Law Enforcement program.

Mr. Graham has been a County Commissioner for Boundary County and was Chairman of that Board. He also served as Secretary/Treasurer of the North Water and Sewer District Board and is currently serving as a representative of the Idaho Homeland Security Bureau, as well as the Incident Commander for emergencies for Boundary County. Mr. Graham was appointed the contact for the County for Homeland Security Federal Grant programs.

At the present time, he does forest consulting work for Northern Idaho forest owners and is the resource advisor to county officials.

He and his wife have six children - all of them born and educated in Idaho.

**Senator Stennett** inquired of Mr. Graham as to what he thought would be the most difficult thing he will face while serving on the Board. Mr. Graham responded by saying that getting up to speed on the water problems of Northern Idaho, which are different from those of Southern Idaho.

After being interviewed by the Committee, **Senator Keough (District 1)** spoke on behalf of Mr. Graham. According to the Senator, some of Mr. Graham's attributes are: a good listener; has a calm demeanor; and has a good understanding of the issues.

**SPEAKER: Mr. Peter Van Der Meulen**, residing in Hailey, spoke next.

He received a B.S. in Engineering from Stanford University and is now a retired Licensed Professional Engineer, after having employment with Idaho Power, MK, and Alpha Engineers. Mr. Van Der Meulen served in the United States Marine Corp from 1961 to 1966, and was honorably discharged.

From 1976 to 1999, he was founder, president and CEO of Power Engineers, Inc. The company currently has 1,350 employees and 32 offices worldwide. Presently, he is a cattleman and farmer, with a cow-calf operation, as well as growing hay and grain.

Board affiliations include: The Idaho Company; Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation; The Community School; Laidlaw Park Grazing Association; First Bank of Idaho, (Founding); Croy Canyon Ranch Foundation; Blaine County Soil Conservation District; and Water District 37 and 37 M. Presently, Mr. Van Der Meulen serves on the Board of Trustees for Blaine Manor and Webb Landscaping, Inc.

**Senator Cameron** asked Mr. Van Der Meulen to share his opinion about recharge - when it should be done, how it should be done, and how it will be paid for. **Mr. Van Der Meulen** stated that recharge is the biggest issue that they face, and "where" is the most delicate of the issues. He said that he understands that a group at the University of Idaho will make that determination. Mr. Van Der Meulen said that his wish is to do the best for the aquifer, with the best science that is available to them. The cost issue on recharge is that some seed money will be provided for five years for a pilot project and he feels that is the right direction to go.

After being interviewed by the Committee, **Senator Stennett (District 25)** spoke on behalf of Mr. Van Der Meulen and thanked him for his years of public service. His term for the Water Resource Board commenced April 28, 2011 and will expire January 1, 2015.

**SPEAKER:**

The following biography was submitted for **Mr. Jeff Raybould**, whose term for the Water Resource Board commenced April 28, 2011 and will expire January 1, 2015.

Jeff has played an active role in the agricultural industry for over 30 years, both as a farm owner and as an industry representative. In 1977, Jeff joined Raybould Brothers Farm, located in Madison and Fremont Counties, which consists of 2,800 acres and produces yearly crops of potatoes, small grains, and hay.

Jeff serves as a member on the Board of Directors of Egin Bench Canals and a member of the Board of Directors of Fremont-Madison Irrigation District, serving as Chairman of the Fremont-Madison Board since 1996. Jeff is a member of the cofacilitation team for the Henry's Fork Watershed Council and is a member of the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Planning and Implementation Committees.

As of March, 2010, Jeff serves as an alternate on the Committee of Nine, the advisory committee to Water District 01. In April, 2011, Jeff was appointed to the Idaho Water Resource Board by Governor Otter.

Beyond his commitment to protecting and managing Idaho's water resources, Jeff's service also includes supporting the potato industry in various leadership roles at the state and national level, including the National Potato Council (NPC), the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Lab Advisory Committee, and the Idaho Potato Commission. In 2003, Governor Dirk Kempthorne awarded Jeff a Certificate of Highest Merit for distinguished service to the potato industry and a Commendation for Distinguished Public Service.

**Senator Cameron** spoke on behalf of Jeff and also commended his father, Representative Dell Raybould.

**Vice Chairman Bair** inquired about deep wells and also asked Mr. Raybould how he could best facilitate recharge in the state. **Mr. Raybould** responded by saying that some farmland in the Rexburg area owned by them is irrigated by deep wells and other land is irrigated by surface water. With regard to recharge, the Board authorized a plan for a five year pilot recharge program in the state (as Mr. Van Der Meulen indicated) and staff was instructed to put together the framework for how the program will move forward. **Vice Chairman Bair** asked where the \$300,000 annual cost would come from (as indicated in the Resolution). **Mr. Raybould** said the funds would come from a secondary aquifer management account and it is an approximate amount. Recharge may only take place two or three years out of the five years, due to the snow pack.

**Chairman Pearce** thanked the three gentlemen for appearing before the Committee and said voting would be held next Monday on their appointments.

**INTRO-  
DUCTIONS:**

The **Chairman** then welcomed and introduced the **Gubernatorial appointees** to the **Idaho Fish and Game Commission, Kenneth Anderson and Fred Trevey**. He asked Mr. Anderson to speak first.

**SPEAKER:**

**Mr. Anderson's** appointment to the Idaho Fish and Game Commission commenced July 5, 2011 and will expire June 30, 2015.

According to his resume, he has always lived in Eastern Idaho and loves the outdoors and mountainous terrain that their area has to offer. He is an avid snowmobiler, dirt biker, horseman and hunter. His hunting and fishing has extended to Canada and Alaska harvesting moose, caribou, dall sheep, grizzly bear and salmon. Mr. Anderson also fishes for steelhead with his father-in-law on the Oregon coastal rivers. He is a member of the National Rifle Association and graduate and lifetime member of Front Sight Defensive Training in Prhum, Nevada.

Professionally, Mr. Anderson is the founder, president, and owner of Anderson Cabinet and Millwork, Inc., with an average of 35 to 45 employees. His company manufactures cabinets, mouldings and countertops. Commercial jobs include LDS churches nationwide; large multi-unit complexes; state and local schools; hospitals; clinics; courthouses; municipal projects; and other professional buildings. His licenses include Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI) Premium Certification; Leed certified; Forest Stewardship Council (FSC); Idaho Public Works; and Bid and Performance Bonds up to \$1,000,000 per job.

**Senator Tippetts** asked Mr. Anderson what the biggest challenge facing the Commission is. **Mr. Anderson** said that there are many concerns that the Idaho Fish and Game Commission will have to deal with over the next few years. The second wolf season has been implemented in the state and how they are dealt with is critical. Game population is down and hunter participation in buying tags for elk and deer are down by about \$12,000. He stated that the motorized vehicle rule is very debatable, due to where one can and can't go. Auctioning off of tags is a big issue also. Mr. Anderson said it is a difficult time, as well as a great time, to serve on the Commission.

The **Chairman** thanked Mr. Anderson, then called on **Mr. Fred Trevey** whose reappointment is from June 30, 2011 to June 30, 2015..

**SPEAKER:**

**Mr. Trevey** was first appointed to the Idaho Fish and Game Commission for the Clearwater Region August, 2007. He has also been a board member of the Cougar Ridge Water and Sewer District. His education includes a Bachelor of Science in Forestry and Wildlife Management and has 40+ years professional experience in natural resource and wildlife management. Mr. Trevey is also a life-long hunter and fisherman.

**Mr. Trevey** stated that the past four and one-half years has been almost nonstop dealing with the wolf issue. He said they called on the expertise of Wildlife Services and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and did wolf control through depredation processes. They were able to do some hunting and trapping. Being able to bring logic and direct control has been quite a challenge during the past four years stated Mr. Trevey.

**Chairman Pearce** said that he sees the grizzly bear as a great issue, perhaps larger than the wolves. He asked what can be done, what needs to be done, anything that hasn't been done as a Legislature? **Mr. Trevey** said that they have led efforts in the Clearwater Region to discourage bears as they are a nonessential population and the problem is on the horizon.

**DISCUSSION:** **Chairman Pearce** invited the Idaho Fish and Game Commissioners to a "round table discussion" with the Committee members. In attendance, in addition to the two appointees, were Tony McDermott, Bob Barowsky, Wayne Wright, and Gary Power

**Chairman Pearce** thanked the Commissioners for the short discussion (due to time constraints). He announced that the winter feeding program will be presented on February 3rd.

**ADJOURN:** He then adjourned the meeting at 3 P.M.

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Senator Pearce  
Chairman

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Juanita Budell  
Secretary