

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Wednesday, February 27, 2013
- TIME:** 1:30 P.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW40
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Denney, Vice Chairman Gibbs, Representatives Wood(35), Barrett, Moyle, Eskridge, Raybould, Andrus, Shepherd, Wood(27), Boyle, Vander Woude, Gestrin, Miller, Anderson(1), Pence, Erpelding, Ward-Engelking
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Reps. Moyle, and Wood(27)
- GUESTS:** Kent Lauer, Idaho Farm Bureau; Shirley Davis, BRS; Teresa Molitor, Great Feeder Canal Co.; Tom Arkoosh, Surface Water Coalition; Marie Kellner, Idaho Conservation League; Elizabeth Criner, NWFPA/FWAA;. Stephen Goodson, Gov. Office; Norm Semanko, IWUA
- Chairman Denney** called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Boyle** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2013 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- MOTION:** **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2013 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- H 38:** **Chairman Denney** stated this hearing would be for discussion purposes only and there would not be a vote taken today. He introduced **Ms. Helen Harrington, Mr. Brian Patton, Mr. Clive Strong**, Idaho Department of Water Resources, and **Mr. Norm Semanko**, Idaho Water Users Association.
- Mr. Clive Strong** stated that in response to the committee's concerns, the three areas in the Idaho State Water Plan (Plan) that were addressed were incidental aquifer recharge, instream water use, and implementation strategies. He also stated they are not establishing policy.
- In answer to questions from the committee, **Mr. Strong** stated the last time the water plan was written was in 1996 and was approved in 1997. It is a comprehensive plan which addresses current uses and how to achieve water policies in the future.
- Mr. Patton** stated the Board felt the policy should be in the Plan.
- In answer to questions, **Mr. Semanko** stated the Water Users support the plan as is. He stated it took two years to have language removed which gave the Board the ability to acquire water rights to use as permanent instream flow.
- Mr. Strong** said they consider the water policy as a whole and all the completed plans are included. He stated the law allows for the Plan to be done in components, when the Snake River Adjudication plan in the Treasure Valley is complete it will also be included.
- Rep. Boyle** thanked **Mr. Strong** and **Mr. Semanko** for their input on assisting Committee members reviewing this legislation.
- Rep. Wood(35)** stated that concerns were raised and had been addressed and she thanked them for their participation.

Chairman Denney stated that the committee will be asking for privileged status on Friday to introduce any proposed legislation regarding the Plan. He also clarified that if it is the will of the committee to make changes before proposed legislation is sent to print that it will not delay the process.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Representative Denney
Chair

Rosee Winder
Secretary