



## IRRIGATION & ELECTRICAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA, INC.

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R.D. JUSTICE – PREDSIDENT ELSTON GRUBAUGH – VICE-PRESIDENT VACANT – SECRETARY JEFF WONER – TREASURER
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### IEDA BOARD MEETING MINUTES - **Draft**

March 15, 2022 – 11:30 AM

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irrigation & Electrical Districts Association of Arizona, Inc. (“IEDA”) was held on March 15, 2022.

The following IEDA Members were present:

Alex Arboleda-TSL Law Group (Virtual)  
Mitch Basefsky-CAP (Virtual)  
Ken Baughman – Wellton-Mohawk (Virtual)  
Jason Brimhall – Safford (Virtual)  
Noel Carter – BWCDD  
Dennis Delaney-KR Saline (Virtual)  
Sheri Farag-SRP  
Darrin Francom-CAP (Virtual)  
Ed Gerak-IEDA Executive Director  
Elston Grubaugh – Wellton-Mohawk, Vice-President (Virtual)  
Leslie James – CREDA (Virtual)  
Dan Jones – Snell & Wilmer  
R.D Justice—ED7, President  
Doug Milligan - SRP  
Jason Moyes-Moyes, Sellers & Hendricks (Virtual)  
Donovan Neese-Roosevelt Irrigation District  
Paul Orme – Snell & Wilmer (Virtual)  
Bill Plummer – Guest (Virtual)  
Dan Pritchard-KR Saline (Virtual)  
Floyd Roehrich – ADOT (Virtual)  
Roger Rinehart – Wellton-Mohawk (Virtual)  
Ken Saline-KR Saline  
Scott Saline- KR Saline (Virtual)  
Shane Sanders – AEPCO (Virtual)  
Meghan Scott-Nobel Law Firm (Virtual)  
John Scremin-RWCD (Virtual)  
Russell Smoldon-B3 Strategies  
Sheryl Sweeney- Clark Hill  
Lori Taitano – SRP  
Bill Van Allen—ED6 (Virtual)

Robert Van Hofwegen – ED8 (Virtual)  
Glen Vortherms—MWD  
Elizabeth Whitney-Meguire Whitney (Virtual)  
Jeff Woner—HVPD & TID, Treasurer (Virtual)  
Brian Yerges – ED3 (Virtual)

President Justice called the meeting to order at 11:36 A.M.

Floyd Roehrich, Executive Officer with Arizona Department of Transportation, made a presentation to IEDA regarding “The Future of Electric Vehicle Charging in Arizona.” Given the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation, its emphasis on electric vehicles and the money dedicated to Arizona, it is imperative that IEDA participate in these discussions as this initiative will likely impact our members. Mr. Roehrich discussed Arizona’s allocation of the funding, the need to submit a deployment plan and the state’s focus on designated alternative fuel corridors. Mr. Roehrich discussed the upcoming stakeholder meetings and provided the contact information for Thor Anderson ([TAnderson@azdot.gov](mailto:TAnderson@azdot.gov)) for more information. Mr. Roehrich took questions, and members asked questions regarding location (e.g. a rest stop that is 9 miles from a substation) and who would be responsible for capitalizing the installation and maintenance. Mr. Roehrich said, that in his opinion, it would be a public private partnership. IEDA thanked Mr. Roehrich for his time.

Russel Smoldon provided an update on state legislative issues. Mr. Smoldon discussed the contention at the Capital and the likelihood that nearly half the body will turn over next year, making outreach for IEDA critical. Mr. Smoldon highlighted the Arizona Water Authority, the chance for a special “water” session and his opinion on the likelihood of passing at this time. He also discussed the deregulation bill, its failure in the Senate, and the filing for reconsideration by Senator Kerr. There were a multitude of bills that B3 Strategies was either able to amend or get IEDA exempted from and Mr. Smoldon discussed the litany of voting bills this year and how their passage could have impacted IEDA. Mr. Smoldon concluded by highlighting that Jim Sweeney will be before the Senate tomorrow for possible reappointment to the Arizona Power Authority Commission.

Mrs. Elizabeth Whitney updated the Board regarding the current issues in Washington, DC. The majority of the time was focused on the Omnibus bill that was recently passed. This \$1.5T bill was necessary to help fund some of the BIL initiatives that were stymied by being on CRs. In fact, the Omnibus bill was signed just before the meeting started. Unfortunately, the bill didn’t provide any emergency supplemental that we were requesting. Mrs. Whitney also mentioned that there has been a lot of discussion about Ukraine and how the focus on it is sucking the air out of the room for other things. The Democrats would still like to make a push for the climate/energy incentives that Senator Manchin is opening to consider. Speaking of Senator Manchin, Mr. Gerak updated the Board on his presentation at the APPA Legislative Rally and his hearing to interrogate FERC on their natural gas pipeline policy change.

We moved down the agenda to the water section and the floor was opened to discuss the Family Farm Alliance Meeting in February and any updates on Glen Canyon Dam. Mrs. Leslie James highlighted the benefit of the conference and all the hallway discussions that take place. Lake Powell is currently at 3525.08’, just barely over the trigger with no substantial precipitation or runoff in the near future. The Upper Basin Drought Operations Plan is not due until April, by which time Lake Powell will already be below the trigger level. Despite the low level, there is a push from AMWG members to have a Spring HFE. They were not happy that a Fall HFE was not performed despite having sufficient sediment. There is a growing concern regarding the inability to

meet Lower Basin release criteria if Lake Powell gets too low. Mr. Smoldon mentioned that Tony Davis, a reporter with the Arizona Star, contacted the City of Mesa to discuss the impacts of Glen Canyon Dam would have on their system. Mr. Paul Orme confirmed that ADWR is looking at possible limitations at Glen and recommended a fact sheet regarding release limits. Mr. Gerak mentioned that DOI Secretary Haaland and Assistant Secretary Tanya Trujillo were in Arizona for two days to discuss water issues with ADWR and state representatives. It seems that a main focus of the visit was with regards to tribal water settlements and the \$2.5B for Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund.

Mr. Gerak provided a brief update on the APPA Legislative Rally. There were 12 resolutions adopted, the Climate Change one received the most discussion. Two amendments were proposed, with the preamble being modified but not the points. Mr. Manchin also discussed his desire to restrict Russian imports of oil & gas, which shouldn't affect the US greatly, but the war in the Ukraine is drastically impacting the price at the pumps.

For the sake of time, Mr. Gerak referenced the Board Report and asked if there were any questions that people contact him.

Mr. Justice asked for a motion for approval of the minutes for the February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 board meeting. Doug Milligan made a motion to approve the minutes from February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 board meeting. Glen Vortheims seconded the motion. Mr. Justice called for a vote and the motion passed.

Following up on the Board Secretary vacancy, Mr. Gerak reported that he contacted Mr. Noel Carter to gauge his interest. Mr. Carter was willing and able to serve in this capacity. Therefore, Mr. Justice appointed Mr. Cater as the new IEDA Board Secretary.

Mr. Justice asked for a motion to move into executive session to discuss the Save the Colorado Litigation. Donovan Neese made a motion to move into executive session. Noel Carter seconded the motion. Mr. Justice called for a vote and the motion passed.

The Board exited executive session and the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 P.M.