



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

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R.D. JUSTICE – PREDSIDENT ELSTON GRUBAUGH – VICE-PRESIDENT NOEL CARTER – SECRETARY DONOVAN NEESE – TREASURER
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### **IEDA BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Draft**

September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 – 11:30 AM

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irrigation & Electrical Districts Association of Arizona, Inc. (“IEDA”) was held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.

The following IEDA Members were present:

Mitch Basefsky – Central Arizona Project (Virtual)\*  
Andrew Campbell – RWCD\*  
Sheri Farag – SRP\*  
Jordy Fuentes – Arizona Power Authority  
Ed Gerak - IEDA Executive Director\*  
Elston Grubaugh – Wellton-Mohawk, Vice-President (Virtual)\*  
Daniel Herder – Clark Hill  
Taylor Howerter – RID\*  
DeWayne Justice – ED7, President\*  
Shane Leonard – RWCD\*  
Derek McEachern – ED4/CAIDD\*  
Ron McEachern – ED4/CAIDD\*  
Frank McRea – Southwest Public Power Agency  
Doug Milligan – SRP (Virtual)\*  
Jason Moyes – Moyes, Sellers, Hendricks\* & (Virtual)  
Donovan Neese – RID\*  
Paul Orme – Salmon, Lewis & Weldon (Virtual)  
Emily Rice – B3 Strategies  
Scott Saline - KR Saline  
Ken Saline - KR Saline (Virtual)  
Meghan Scott - Nobel Law Firm (Virtual)\*  
John Scremin – RWCD\*  
Ryan Serote – Meguire Whitney (Virtual)  
Russell Smoldon - B3 Strategies  
Jim Sweeney - Arizona Power Authority (Virtual)  
Sheryl Sweeney – Clark-Hill (Virtual)\*  
Shelton Van Allen – ED6  
Glen Vortherms – MWD\*  
Brian Yerges – ED3\*

(\* Indicates Participation in Work Session)

President Justice called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.

The group went into the work session to discuss 2023 Budgets & Contracts

The regular meeting was opened to the public at 1:15 PM

Ryan Serote provided the latest issues in DC. He spent time discussing the permitting reform competing bills between Senator Manchin and Senator Capito. Despite getting assurances from Schumer for Manchin's support of the IRA, Manchin's bill has faced opposition from fellow Democrats. Capito presented an alternative that attempts to codify Trump-era reforms.

With the end of the fiscal year on September 30, Congress is considering a Continuing Resolution through Dec. 16. It is unclear if permitting reform will be included in the CR and whether that will be palatable to enough Senators and House members to get enough votes. Congress will break after next week until after the November 8<sup>th</sup> election.

Both Ryan and Russell Smoldon discussed their visits back in DC this week. All the offices that they met with are sympathetic to our message that we need to get assistance for hydropower customers. Sen. Sinema staff suggested that an emergency supplemental appropriations bill before the end of the year may be a possibility. Sen. Kelly was receptive and met with us right before going to a meeting with Sen. Hickenlooper (D-CO) and others to discuss Colorado River challenges including hydro. Nick/Sen. Kelly expressed appreciation for all we have done to provide support to S. 4232 and Sen. Kelly's efforts on this.

Offices visited included:

- Sinema
- Kelly
- O'Halleran
- Stanton
- Schweikert
- Gallego
- Lesko
- Biggs

BOR announced IRA bill listening sessions to take place on Sept. 30 to hear ideas on how best to use \$4 billion in funding, and Ryan shared a copy of the Rep. Grijalva letter to force Colorado River cuts went out on 9/22.

Russel Smoldon discussed some local issues including the possibility of having "Public Power" meet with the candidates for Governor in Arizona soon. This time of year, candidates are in heavy fund raising mode.

Ed Gerak discussed the ongoing issues with regards to water, including a report on Sinema's Water Advisory Committee meeting the occurred on 9/20.

Regarding power issues, the scariest takeaway from the CREDA meeting in Denver is that the enviros are pushing for four months of by-pass for temperature control to stifle the small-mouth bass downstream of the dam. CREDA passed a resolution resisting any by-pass given the drought situation.

Another item discussed at the CREDA meeting was the push from Tri-State and Platte River to support the SPP initiative. Recent developments include a majority of the PNW moving towards SPP, as well as Arizona entities AEPCO, APC, SRP & TEP. Some discussion was held regarding DSW joining the CAISO and how this recent move by Arizona entities may affect that. It is likely still to proceed, but a transition may occur down the line. The investment in joining CAISO will likely not be wasted, as this hardware could possibly be used in either market.

IEDA sent in a letter of support for the AEPCO Finance Application with the ACC. California passed legislation to allow for the life extension of Diablo Canyon for 5 years (until 2030). Governor Newsom was looking for 10 years.

In a scary move, FERC report supported removal of 4 dams on the Klamath River. Glen Canyon Dam has been targeted for removal in the past and any traction in dam removal is disheartening.

The board report was sent out with the meeting information, providing more items and details regarding relevant items.

Moving into the Board Meeting, President Justice asked for a motion for approval of the minutes for the August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 board meeting. Glen Vortherms made a motion to approve the minutes from August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 board meeting. Donovan Neese seconded the motion. President Justice called for a vote and the motion passed.

Ed Gerak requested approval of the Budget as discussed in the work session. President Justice asked for a motion for approval of the budget for 2023. Glen Vortherms made a motion to approve the 2023 budget. Donovan Neese seconded the motion. President Justice called for a vote and the motion passed.

Ed Gerak requested permission to send the draft scope of work contract to KR Saline for 2023. Donovan Neese made a motion to send the contract to KR Saline. Glen Vortherms seconded the motion. President Justice called for a vote and the motion passed.

Ed Gerak requested permission to send AMPUA a letter regarding the unification process. After some discussion, the board directed Ed to meet with Russell Smoldon of AMPUA to work out a mutually beneficial arrangement that could be brought back to the board for review and approval.

Ed Gerak reported to the board that IEDA received its letter of acknowledgement as a 501©6 from the IRS. Ed also informed the board of the Save the Date for the IEDA Annual Meeting that is in the board materials.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:22 PM.