



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

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SHANE LEONARD – PREDSEDENT ELSTON GRUBAUGH – VICE-PRESIDENT NOEL CARTER – SECRETARY DONOVAN NEESE – TREASURER
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### **IEDA BOARD WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES - Draft**

October 23, 2023 – 12:00 PM

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irrigation & Electrical Districts Association of Arizona, Inc. (“IEDA”) was held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

The following IEDA Members attended the meeting:

Andrew Campbell- RWCD (Virtual)  
Ed Gerak - IEDA Executive Director  
Elston Grubaugh, Wellton-Mohawk, Vice-President (Virtual)  
Brian Fickett – TOUA (Virtual)  
Daniel Herder – Clark-Hill  
DeWayne Justic – ED7 (Phone)  
Shane Leonard – Roosevelt Water Conservation District, President  
Doug Milligan – SRP  
Derek McEachern, ED4 (Virtual)  
Donovan Neese, RID, Treasurer  
Paul Orme – Salmon, Lewis & Weldon (Virtual)  
Scott Saline – TID, HVPD, Aguilla  
John Scremin – RWCD (Virtual)  
Sheryl Sweeney, Clark-Hill  
Lori Tatiano – SRP  
Bill Van Allen – ED6  
Glen Vortherms – MWD

President Leonard called the meeting to order at 12:01 P.M.

A motion was requested for approval of the minutes for the September 19, 2023 board meeting. Glen Vortherms made a motion to approve the minutes. Donovan Neese seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

The next item on the agenda was the by-law revisions. There was a request for a comparison between the original by-laws and the proposed version. Some other concerns were raised regarding the quorum and possibility for a small subsection of the group being able to make decisions. President Leonard requested that the comparison document be sent and that comments be submitted to the Executive Director. The goal is to get comments submitted in time for modifications to update the by-laws for review and action by the November meeting with a targeted vote at the Annual Meeting.

Donovan Neese reported on the Nominating Committee. Glen Vortherms was submitted as the Board President, Robert VanHowegen as Vice-President, Noel Carter as Secretary, Donovan Neese as Treasurer and Brian Fickett as an At-Large Member. One open At-Large spot was noted. Elston Grubaugh offered to participate for regional diversity. Due to current by-laws, the vote will take place at the Annual Meeting. Possible revisions may take place to move elections away from the Annual Meeting.

A presentation was walked through to request strategic feedback on IEDA. Priorities, as viewed by the Executive Director, were presented. It was recommended that IEDA develop a mission statement that would help focus its efforts. Donovan Neese and President Leonard offered to make a first stab at the mission statement. IEDA also discussed the possibility of establishing committees relevant to specific topics, like water, power, state and federal legislation. This idea received a favorable response and will be pursued further.

It was planned to review and approve the 2024 Dues allocation, but unfortunately one member notified IEDA that they would not be renewing their membership in 2024. Therefore this issue was tabled and options would be presented at the November meeting.

In response to the CREDA request, the discussion on IEDA representation for CREDA was discussed. Current representation is Ed Gerak as primary and Donovan Neese as alternate. The Board directed that the current representation be maintained.

It was discussed that IEDA doesn't currently have Directors and Officers insurance. The board directed the Executive Director to obtain this in the near future.

The floor was opened for member comments. None were provided.

The board moved into executive session for review of the Executive Director. Upon return to open session, the board will be working on a formal review process.

Moving into reports, Director Gerak updated the board on current federal issues. The house is still trying to nominate a new speaker, and have yet to select one. The IEDA fly-in was discussed and the topics reported. Lori Tatiano was present on the trip and provided a report. We were able to secure an appropriation bill amendment in the house, but received a note that we couldn't legislate through appropriations. Therefore, the amendment was not advanced, but there was enough support that a future stand-alone bill should be an option. The current hydropower bills in the House and Senate were highlighted. Also, the current changes in DC were discussed, including Rep. Lesko's retirement, Senator Sinema getting on Senate Appropriations and Rep. Crane gaining a challenger in District 2.

Water issues were reported. SRP led the request to Senator Kelly for a raw water exemption for PFAs CERCLA exemption. Recent issues in the Rural Groundwater Committee were discussed. The state has also canceled the Fondomonte lease.

Finally, an update on current national issues that could impact power were reviewed. The White House has directed federal agencies to expand the social cost of carbon calculation. Arizona has received \$13.3M from the Grid Resiliency Grant. The Bureau of Reclamation is analyzing Glen Canyon Dam operations and the possibility of invasive fish disruption. Also, seven hydrogen hubs have been awarded, but nothing in Arizona.

Upon conclusion of the reports, Donovan Neese made a motion to adjourn. Second by Glen Vortherms.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:53 P.M.