



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

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GLEN VORTHERMS – PRESIDENT ROBERT VANHOFWEGEN – VICE-PRESIDENT NOEL CARTER – SECRETARY DONOVAN NEESE – TREASURER BRIAN FICKETT – AT-LARGE ELSTON GRUBAUGH – AT-LARGE
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### **IEDA BOARD WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES - Draft**

October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – 12:00 PM

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irrigation & Electrical Districts Association of Arizona, Inc. (“IEDA”) was held on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

The following IEDA Members attended the meeting:

Mitch Basefsky – CAP (Virtual)  
Ben Engleby – AEPCO (Virtual)  
Brian Fickett – TOUA (Virtual)  
David Fitzgerald – AEPCO  
Darrin Francom - CAP (Virtual)  
Jordy Fuentes – Arizona Power Authority (Virtual)  
Ed Gerak - IEDA Executive Director  
Elston Grubaugh – Wellton-Mohawk (Virtual)  
Daniel Herder – Clark-Hill  
Leslie James – CREDA (Virtual)  
DeWayne Justice – ED7 (Virtual)  
Adam McAnally – SRP  
Donovan Neese – RID  
Daniel Pritchard - KR Saline & Associates (Virtual)  
Ken Saline – KR Saline & Associates (Virtual)  
Scott Saline - TID, HVPD, Aguilla  
Shane Sanders – AEPCO (Virtual)  
Russell Smoldon – B3 Strategies  
Bill Van Allen – ED6 (Virtual)  
Shelton Van Allen – ED6 (Virtual)  
Glen Vortherms – MWD, IEDA Board President  
Jeff Woner – Ocotillo (Virtual)

At 12:05 PM, due to lack of a quorum, President Vortherms invited Russell Smoldon to provide an update on state issues and discuss the propositions on the ballot.

President Vortherms opened the meeting to order at 12:30 P.M.

Based on a roll call, a quorum was established.

Moving to the board actions, a motion was requested for approval of the minutes for the September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Donovan Neese made a motion to approve the minutes. Scott Saline seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

Mr. Gerak presented the board for their approval the application from the City of Willams to join IEDA. A big thanks to Jeff Woner who helped recruit the city. Brian Fickett made a motion to approve their membership. Elston Grubaugh seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

The annual designation of representatives for the CREDA board is due. Mr. Gerak discussed the current representatives and turned the time over to Donovan Neese for his thoughts as the alternate. Brian Fickett made a motion to retain the current IEDA representation on the CREDA Board. Scott Saline seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

It is time to begin the process of formalizing the slate of officers for 2025. Mr. Gerak reminded the group of what the bylaws say regarding the executive committee. President Vortherms requested volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Donovan Neese, Brian Fickett and Elston Grubaugh volunteered.

Mr. Gerak informed the Board that it was time to renew the Directors & Officers Insurance. Donovan Neese made a motion to renew. Scott Saline seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

The IEDA 2025 Brochure was presented for one last review from the Board. Based on the discussion, the Board directed Mr. Gerak to finalize.

Due to the election cycle, not much has been occurring in DC. Mr. Gerak discussed the status of Congressman Grijalva and the likelihood of him stepping down prior to the end of this next term. The Help Hoover Dam Senate markup hearing has been rescheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gerak has requested that the house version be put on the suspension calendar in November. We have received commitments from both the democratic (Gallego) and republican (Lesko) sides of the aisle. The continuing resolution was extended to December 20<sup>th</sup>, which sets up for the likelihood of an omnibus bill. This would be the best path forward for the Help Hoover Dam Act to be signed into law.

Highlights of the Water Committee updates on multiple retirements by people in our industry. This includes Chuck Podolak from WIFA, Dan Keppen from Family Farm Alliance and Jack Murray from WAPA-DSW regional manager. Sheryl Sweeney asked if there was anyone who would be preferred to replace Jack. The group seemed to coalesce around Scott Lund or possibly John Paulsen.

The Farm Bill is getting support to try to be finalized by this year. The California Delta Conveyance project and the Snake River Dams report put out by DOE was also discussed.

On the power side, updates were provided regarding the resurgence of nuclear, Glen Canyon Dam and recent activities at WAPA.

Treasure Neese provided an overview of the financial situation.

President Vortherms opened the floor to member comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:39 P.M.