

**EIWRC BOARD MEETING**  
**Thursday, February 5, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**  
**Parsons, Behle, and Latimer, 350 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, Idaho Falls, ID**  
**Minutes**

1. **Present:** Dean Mortimer, Payton Hampton, Keith Esplin, Tony LaRosa, Mayor Steve Adams, Dennis Leikam, and Princeton Lee.
  
2. **Administrative Business**
  - a. Motion to approve minutes of January 8 Board meeting. Motion passed.
  - b. Mayor Adams moved to pay Keith's invoice. Motion approved.
  - c. Discussion on the 2026 Sponsorship program deferred to when finance committee is present.
  
3. **Updates/Developments**
  - a. Keith discussed the current water outlook.
  - b. Reviewed many of the 2026 goals and plan. City representatives felt it was important to maintain a representative on the ESPA modeling committee. However, we need to meet with Thane and discuss goals. Dennis Leikam, Princeton Lee, and Dean Mortimer agreed to be on a subcommittee to review.
  - c. 2026 and 2027 Water College Tours with IWUA.
    - i. Determined the best place for the 2026 Legislative Water College Tour would be in the Fremont Madison area, starting from Rexburg. Initial committee members will include: Aaron Dalling, Mayor Steve Adams, and Mayor Jerry Merrill.
    - ii. Need to determine if we expand tour to include more local officials. Perhaps just include P&Z Chairs, Council Presidents, etc. to keep numbers manageable.
  - d. Reviewed IWUA Convention in Boise.
  - e. Discussed the Utah gas tax and refinery tax proposed changes along with Idaho's responses and a bill directing the IWRB to study development of Idaho's share of Bear River water.
  - f. Discussed other 2026 Legislative Issues.
    - i. Funding Issues: \$30 million, IDWR funding, IWRRI.
    - ii. Fixes to Domestic Well bill.
    - iii. Cloud Seeding – bill coming to eliminate.
    - iv. Combining Soil & Water Commissions with IDWR, from ISDA.
    - v. HB 537 Require public comment time at all open meetings.
    - vi. Shot Clock bill coming – 30 days to comment or accepted.
    - vii. Boise Geothermal.
  - g. Water District #01 will issue an order for all pumps directly on the Snake River to install measurement devices.
  
4. **EIWRC Directors' 2025 Schedule:**
  - a. March 5 Board Meeting, will be held at the Idaho Falls City Council Chambers if possible.
  
5. **Meeting Adjourned**