

PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

Minutes

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 2:00 PM
 UI, FACILITIES SERVICES CENTER, JACK'S CREEK Room 151
<https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/89485239499> Passcode PBAC

1) Introductions

X: In-person attendance

V: Video attendance

	Pullman: Cara Haley City Engineer	x	Moscow: Tyler Palmer (Chair) Deputy Director, Public Works & Services
	Pullman: Frank Mulcahy Public Works Director		Moscow: Kyle Steele Environmental Services Manager
	Pullman: Nathan Weller City Council Member		Moscow: Bryce Blankenship City Council Member
	Whitman County: Mark Storey Public Works Director		Latah County: Paul Kimmell County Representative
x	Whitman County: Chad Whetzel County Commissioner	v	Latah County: Tom Lamar County Commissioner
x	WSU: Jeff Lannigan (Vice-Chair) Facilities Services	v	UI: Lana Cohen Research Scientist
	WSU: Jason Sampson Asst Director, Environmental Services	x	UI: Lee Espey Associate Vice President, Operations
v	WA, Dept of Ecology: Patrick Cabbage Unit Supervisor/Hydrogeologist	v	ID, Water Resources: Michelle Richman Regional Manager/Staff Engineer
	WA, Dept of Ecology: Chris Beard Hydrogeologist		ID, Water Resources: Daniel Sturgis Hydrogeologist

Others in attendance: Mike Faupel, Erin Geslani, Eileen Macoll, Colt Shelton, Roopal Jani, Tom Scanlon, Steve Robischon, Dean Edwards, Jeff Hansen (HDR), Max Winebrenner (Palouse Land Trust), Jake Bender, David Hall, Luke Kawamo, Scott Sumner (Moscow City Council)

2) Approval of Minutes

- a. February 19, 2026 meeting minutes: Motioned by Wetzels, Second by Lannigan, approved at 2:05

3) Announcements - none

4) Public Comment on Items not on Agenda - none

5) Unfinished Business -none

6) New Business - none

7) Presentations & Discussion

- a. Water Conservation outreach program update – Erin Geslani provided an update.

- b. HDR updates. These are related to their investigation of a diversion from the Clearwater River as a supplemental water supply. This is a contracted project with the City of Moscow on PBAC's behalf. Jeff Hansen provided an update.

8) Subcommittee Reports

- a. Communications – no March meeting
 - i. PBAC's Research & Technical Colloquium was conducted last week, with good program and feedback. 37 total people attended. Topics covered included technical updates on the potential Clearwater River diversion, an overview of Columbia Basin groundwater conditions, an overview of hydrological modeling of the Palouse Basin Aquifer, a presentation on determining water research priorities for the State of Idaho and a presentation on water resource governance.
- b. Technical – met earlier in the day, covered topics related to
 - i. the 10 cfs potential supply target, Clearwater River hydrographs, and potential seasonality of a diversion.
 - ii. Also discussed potential replacement of the City of Genessee well monitoring transducer. PBAC won't participate in this project for now, Mike will follow up with Idaho Department of Water Resources.
- c. Finance – Lee Espey provided a finance update, and was also named as Finance Subcommittee Chair

9) Other Reports and Announcements

10) Next PBAC Meeting:

- a. Thursday, April 16 at 2:00 pm

11) Meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm