

PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

Minutes

Thursday, July 16, 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		Moscow: Tyler Palmer (Chair) Deputy Director, Public Works & Services
x	Pullman: Frank Mulcahy Public Works Director	v	Moscow: Kyle Steele Environmental Services Manager
v	Pullman: Nathan Weller City Council Member	x	Moscow: Bryce Blankenship City Council Member
x	Whitman County: Mark Storey Public Works Director	v	Latah County: Paul Kimmell County Representative
x	Whitman County: Chad Whetzel County Commissioner		Latah County: Tom Lamar County Commissioner
x	WSU: Jeff Lannigan (Vice-Chair) Facilities Services	x	UI: Lana Cohen Research Scientist
	WSU: Jason Sampson Asst Director, Environmental Services	x	UI: Lee Espey Associate Vice President, Operations
	WA, Dept of Ecology: Patrick Cabbage Unit Supervisor/Hydrogeologist	v	ID, Water Resources: Michelle Richman Regional Manager/Staff Engineer
v	WA, Dept of Ecology: Chris Beard Hydrogeologist		ID, Water Resources: Daniel Sturgis Hydrogeologist

Others in attendance: Mike Faupel, Tom Scallorn, Isaac Hall, Roopal Jani, Steve Robischon, Jeff Hansen, John Slagboom, Colt Shelton, Lance Sayers

2) Approval of Minutes

- a. May 21, 2026 meeting minutes Motion Whetzel/Second Espey, approved 2:02

3) Announcements

4) Public Comment on Items not on Agenda

5) Unfinished Business

6) New Business

7) Presentations & Discussion

- a. 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 a progress update; thes

were discussed in detail at the Technical Subcommittee meeting earlier in the afternoon.

8) Subcommittee Reports

- a. Communications – will meet July 21
- b. Technical – met earlier in the day, covered topics related to the potential supply target amount, potential points of diversion, and potential routing considerations
- c. Finance
 - i. 2026/27 budget
 - 1. A budget summary was provided to the committee
 - 2. Funds to be transferred to City of Moscow for HDR's Clearwater River diversion study were unspent and have been added to the new FY
 - 3. We're still projecting a good funds reserve at the end of the new FY
 - 4. *VOTE* - motioned Kimmell, seconded Whetzel, approved 2:07
 - ii. Annual invoices to member entites were sent this week

9) Other Reports and Announcements

- a. Staffing update – Mike updated on the search for a Water Conservation Project Coordinator. A well-qualified candidate has been selected by Paul and Mike and is in the University of Idaho hiring process. Erin Geslani is still providing support and will help with onboarding.
- b. ID legislative water college will be held in Moscow August 25. PBAC will provide a short presentation and the City of Moscow's Water Reclamation Facility will be featured.
- c. Jamie Short from WDOE will present at the August PBAC meeting regarding State of WA's regulatory environment; Michelle Richman will present at the September PBAC meeting regarding Idaho's regulations.
- d. The Palouse Basin Water Summit will be held October 29, 3 p.m. at the SEL Event Center in Pullman.

10) Next PBAC Meeting:

- a. Thursday, August 20 at 2:00 pm

11) Adjournment