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WATER RESOURCES  
WESTERN REGION

## Payette River Water Supply Bank

### Water District No. 65

Chairman: John Hartman

102 N. Main St.

Phone: 208-642-4465

Vice Chairman: Kevin Border

Payette, ID 83661

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Secretary: Matt Housley

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Treasurer: Ron Mio

Watermaster, Neil Shippy

### 2026 Annual Meeting

**Date:** January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** 1:30pm

**Location:** Emmett Church of the Nazarene, Aubrey Hall

**Attending:** See Attached

**Attending via** Tim Hoyt, Quest CPA's PLLC

**Phone:**

**Welcome:** Watermaster Shippy started off the meeting with a moment of remembrance for Roy Maxwell, a Key figure in the Payette Basin water community, who passed away this past year. Watermaster Shippy then welcomed everyone and announced the first order of business is to elect a Meeting chair and a recording secretary to conduct this meeting.

#### **Elect Meeting**

**Officers:** **Ron Mio moved to nominate John Hartman as the meeting Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mike Meyers, and the motion carried.**

**Ron Mio moved to nominate Ashley Dupree as the meeting recording secretary, the motion was seconded by Joan Howell, and the motion carried.**

#### **IWUA**

**Update:** Ron Platt reported on legislative efforts including Canal of Urban Concern Bill (potential 35% grants for urban canal projects), ongoing work to exempt canals from WOTUS rule, and updates on the Columbia River Treaty litigation and Nez Perce Agreement renewal.

Cloud seeding and domestic well exemption issues were discussed as part of the legislative season.

Announcement of the upcoming Idaho Water Users Association state convention.

**Review**

**Minutes:**

Chairman John Hartman directed attention to the minutes of the previous year's Annual meeting starting on the second page of the meeting packet. Chairman Hartman asked everyone to review the minutes of the 2025 Annual meeting in preparation for their approval.

**Stewart Russel moved, to approve the minutes as presented of the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Annual meeting. Doyle Fackler seconded the motion, and the motion carried.**

**Audit**

**Report:**

Chairman Hartman turned the floor over to Treasurer Ron Mio. Mr. Mio stated the Water District had recently completed its usual annual audit. He introduced Mr. Tim Hoyt via phone, from the Quest Accounting Firm to report on the results of the financial audit and the current financials status of the district.

Mr. Hoyt began by saying the Water District presented a complete and clean set of financial records in preparation for the audit. Mr. Hoyt reported that the audit has been conducted in accordance with the auditing standards that are generally accepted in the United States and to standards applicable to Government auditing. He reported he had audited the financial statements of the major funds of the Water District as of December 31, 2025 and believed them to be correct and accurate. He noted the district entered 2025 with a net position of \$649,327.00 and ended with profit of \$72,511.00 resulting an ending position of \$721,838.00. Mr. Hoyt reported the carryover funding of \$72,511.00 representing in a 21-month operating budget which is acceptable and is at a level the advisory board attempts to maintain. Mr. Hoyt asked if there were any questions about the district's finances. No questions were asked. Watermaster Shippy reported that some anticipated expenses (stream gauge payments) were delayed and will impact next year's budget.

Treasurer Ron Mio thanked Mr. Hoyt for his thorough report and turned the meeting back to Chairman Hartman. Chairman Hartman asked everyone if they were ready to accept the financial report.

**Joan Howell moved, to approve the financial report as presented by Mr. Hoyt. The motion was seconded by Mike Meyers and motion carried.**

**IDWR**

**Update:**

Hannah Adams presented on 2025 water supply.

2025 saw above-median snowpack, peaking in April but melting rapidly due to a warm, dry spring. July 7<sup>th</sup> was the allocation date (slightly earlier than the average July 10<sup>th</sup>), with high reservoir accruals and a healthy carryover for 2026. As of January 2026, snowpack is below average (78% of median), but overall precipitation is above normal; reservoirs are in good shape due to rain and some high-elevation snow.

The lowest operational loss on record was achieved, credited to efficient operations at Black Canyon Dam.

Nick Miller ( IDWR Water Administration Bureau Chief) explained the department's transition from water rights adjudication toward greater administration and protection of water rights. Mr. Miller explained new Bureau structure reporting water districts and implementing measurement/control orders; Water District 65 cited as a model for Idaho.

Phase-in of measurement devices requirements, with more clarity coming in a forthcoming amended order for IDWR. There are about 30 remaining diversions in the current area needing measuring devices by June 1, 2026. Failure to comply can result in curtailment of water deliveries, enforcement by the Watermaster at the director's instruction.

### **USBB**

#### **Update:**

Chairman Hartman introduced Ryan Alorn (acting Snake River Area Office Manager). Mr. Alcorn Summarized significant internal staff changes, including merging O&M management and transitioning from calendar to fiscal year billing

Ryan Hendricks was introduced; he remains the primary water operations contact. He presented a slide show showing the Payette System Inflow.

Flood rule curves at Cascade and Deadwood are being closely monitored; January forecasts suggested near-average run-off but with high uncertainty. Rule curves are set by the Corps of Engineers for some dams, and process for updating them is lengthy.

### **Watermaster**

#### **Report:**

Chairman Hartman called on the Watermaster, Neil Shippy for his 2025 Watermaster report. Watermaster Shippy covered the following topics:

1. District Operations Update: Phase five of district expansion is underway, adding roughly 370 new water rights; different thresholds for measurement, assessments, and administration set (e.g., below half-acre not assessed). We held town hall meetings in Donnelly and Garden Valley in October and there was very little turnout.
2. Measurement order in place: devices required for larger diversions; subdivisions with collective diversions also required to measure. Cost share program for measurement device continues; demand for funds remains high.
3. Plan to bill small users through counties to streamline collections; expected impact on audit timing as county collection timelines differ from the districts.
4. Administration of the District: Introduction of Rob Whitney (new seasonal deputy water master) and Ashley Dupree ( part-time secretary) both assist with fieldwork and customer records updates. The district office has moved to Emmett, and new website (waterdistrict65.com) is operational with resources, FAQ's, cost share forms, and meeting materials.
5. Rental Pool Report: Watermaster Shippy went over the reports on page 23 in the handout and then spoke about the storage water that Valley County is trying to procure for the BOR

**Budget**

**Committee:** Chairman Hartman asked Treasurer Ron Mio to go over the 2025 financial report. Mr. Mio went over 2025 financials. Mr. Mio then went over the proposed budget for 2026. Mr. Mio asked for suggestions or comments.

**Nomination**

**Committee:** Chairman Hartman directed attention to page 21 of the information packet and stated this list of Board Members and officers is recommended by the Nomination committee and is recommended to be attached to Resolution No. 6 to serve for the upcoming 2026 season. It was stated that Dan Surmeier for Black Canyon Irrigation needs to be replaced with Chris Clelland.

**Resolutions:** Chairman Hartman stated now is the time to act on the District's Resolutions. He asked the water users if they wished to vote on each resolution individually, or if they would be willing to adopt Resolutions #1, then resolutions #2-18.

**Doyle Fackler moved to adopt Resolution No. 1 as presented in the information packet. The motion was seconded by Mike Meyers and the motion carried.**

**Doyle Fackler moved to accept Resolution 2-18 as presented in the information packet. The motion was seconded by Joan Howell and the motion carried.**

**Next Annual**

**Meeting Date:** Chairman Hartman announced it was now necessary to set the date and time for the next annual meeting, and to select a location for that meeting.

**Mike Meyers moved to set next year's Annual Meeting date for January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2027, at 1:30pm at the same location, the Emmett Church of the Nazarene, Aubrey Hall. This motion was seconded by Doyle Fackler, and the motion carried.**

**Adjournment:** Chairman Hartman asked if there is any other business that should be brought before the 2026 Annual Meeting of Water District No. 65. Hearing none, Chairman Hartman thanked everyone for their participation and declared the meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted

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Neil Shippy, Watermaster

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Ashley Dupree, Recording Secretary