

TIME REQUIREMENTS OF A NAMPA & MERIDIAN IRRIGATION DISTRICT DIRECTOR

The first thing that should be said about serving as a Director for Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District [NMID] is that due to the small size of the Board of Directors [three members] it is not a passive time commitment. The NMID Board has a long history of being very engaged and proactive on a number of fronts. For the purpose of sharing the responsibilities, and diverse points of view, active participation from all Directors is quite essential. The purpose of this document is to give the reader a general idea of the amount of time they would need to dedicate toward filling the office of Director.

To begin with the Board has regularly scheduled semi-monthly meetings at the District office in Nampa, Idaho. These meetings are usually scheduled for the first and third Tuesday of every month. Meetings begin at 9:00a.m. and on average last until mid-afternoon. Occasionally, special meetings [some on short notice] are also called for. There are also at least two days per year scheduled to tour District facilities. [26-30 regular meetings/year, minimum]

The most important working relationship that NMID has with other irrigation districts is the Districts involvement in the Boise Project Board of Control [BPBOC.] This relationship is too complex to explain in this document but, suffice it to say it is an operational relationship and requires that two NMID Directors represent the District at BPBOC meetings. This is a monthly meeting that requires three to six hours per meeting. This responsibility is usually shared by the NMID Directors on an annual rotating basis. BPBOC usually plans on two days in the fall to tour Project facilities. [14 meetings/year, minimum]

In partnership with the other member Districts associated within BPBOC, NMID has a vested interest in: [1] Lucky Peak Power Plant Project, [2] The power generation facility at Arrowrock Reservoir and [3] several Low Head Hydro-Power plants throughout the BPBOC system. These are three separate committees with one director from each of the five districts that guide the actions of these individual Power projects. It is common however for one NMID director to serve on all three of these committees. [10-12 meetings/year, minimum]

NMID receives/diverts its water from the Boise River. The Boise Rivers Drainage is Identified by the Idaho Department of Water Resources as: "Water District 63." NMID holds one Advisory Board position with Water District 63. Water District 63 also holds its annual meeting in January [1-3 meetings/year]

NMID is an active member of Idaho Water User's Association [IWUA.] Most professions have some sort of continuing education programs and IWUA conferences could be considered the continuing education program for irrigation district directors, employees and legal council to irrigation districts. It is critical for a NMID Director to stay current on the multitude of issues that face the District and the industry in general.

IWUA has two law conferences. One in late June and one in late November. Also, the annual IWUA meeting is held in January. [7-9 meeting days/year]

NMID is also active in National Water Resources Association [NWRA] which meets in early November for its annual meeting and for a Summer conference. [3-7 meeting days/year]

Nearly since the inception of Family Farm Alliance [FFA,] a NMID Director has either held a seat on the FFA Board of Directors or Its Advisory Committee. FFA is a very proactive grass roots organization from the Western United States that has over the years gained a great deal of respect in the Irrigation industry and in Congress. Most meetings are monthly conference calls and, an annual meeting in February. Membership in FFA has been very beneficial to NMID over the years. [approx. 12 conference calls and 3 convention days/year]

Water, is the lifeblood of the Treasure Valley and NMID is a major player of water delivery in the Valley. Likewise, there are many Local, State, and Federal entities involved in the water industry. Because of these often complex relationships it is in the best interest of the District to keep abreast of current activities relevant to the interests of the patrons of NMID. For these reasons the NMID Board of Directors finds it necessary to participate in various meetings and forums of interest as they arise. Some of these meetings are anticipated, others are not. None-the-less the Board usually finds it in the best interest of the District for one or more directors to attend certain meetings and report back to the full Board.

In summary, a beginning Director at NMID can expect to attend about fifty [50] days worth of meetings per year. As your knowledge and experience base goes up, a Board member could expect to work as many as 70 days.