

**WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION**

March 18, 1991

CONFERENCE CALL

**MINUTES**

**Commission members present:**

Lorna Stickel  
Cliff Bentz  
Roger Bachman

**Absent:**

Hadley Akins  
Jim Howland  
Mike Jewett

**Staff present:**

Bill Young  
Bev Hayes  
Jan Shaw  
Kent Searles  
Tony Justus  
Bob Main  
Randy Moore  
Tom Paul  
Steve Applegate

**Others:**

Audrey Simmons

The staff reports presented at this meeting, which contain the Director's recommendations mentioned in these minutes, are on file in the Office of the Director of the Water Resources Department, 3850 Portland Road, NE, Salem, Oregon. Written information submitted at this meeting is hereby made a part of this record and is on file at the above address. Audiocassette recording tapes of the meeting are also on file in the Water Resources Department office.

Bev Hayes reported on the latest activity at the Legislature.

Hayes said that the plumbing fixtures bill went to the floor of the Senate on Monday but was pulled back to committee for amendments from the Building Codes Agency. On Tuesday, the committee amended the bill and passed it out again. The amendments are not major in any sense, more minor.

(MORE)

On Thursday, the Senate Water Policy Committee considered SB 201, the water use reporting bill, and deleted all provisions of the bill except for one. This creates a dilemma for the Department in connection with verifying all water rights by the date now in statute which is much earlier than we can accomplish the task.

On Thursday, the committee considered three bills that the interim committee introduced--SB 325 (requiring builders to file a water availability form with WRD), SB 326 (requiring the Department to review comprehensive plans), and SB 327 (requiring water meters by cities by 1996). The committee is most interested in forwarding SB 327.

Sen. Dick Springer has asked the Department to draft some additional language for SB 325. SB 326 probably will not move forward because of the fiscal impact of a new program.

On the House side, the committee on Tuesday considered a bill (HB 2762) introduced by Rep. Denny Jones that would repeal the Department's civil penalty authority. Agency staff testified in opposition, with a good response from the committee. The committee conducted a work session on HB 2192, the critical groundwater bill. The Department has been negotiating with interest groups on that bill, and the staff has finally crafted amendments that satisfy most people except for the well drillers. Agency personnel will meet with them this week to try to satisfy their concerns.

The Department is continuing to negotiate on the hydroelectric fee bill (SB 240). That bill is scheduled before the Senate Water Policy Committee on Thursday.

The Department has been tracking some mining, forestry and land use bills, some of which were heard last week. The Department staff will continue to follow these bills.

This week, the House committee has nothing scheduled of interest to the Department. Next week, the committee will consider two bills of interest (HB 2909 and one introduced by Rep. Denny Jones). On the Senate side, the committee will hear HB 2188 tomorrow and on Thursday will consider SB 240.